



UNITED NATIONS
VIET NAM



2022 UN COUNTRY
ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

VIET NAM

March 2023



FOREWORD BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR



2022 was a year of return. Although there was a return to what seemed like a state of normalcy, the societies we returned to are not the societies we left behind. We learned, adapted and – perhaps most of all – we changed.

So has our world. **Crises are more frequent and unpredictable.** The geopolitical power dynamics are shifting, and the triple planetary crisis is accelerating at a pace in which people, planet, peace and prosperity are at imminent risk.

In Viet Nam, 2022 was a year of reopening after two years of closure. We marked the **45th Anniversary of United Nations (UN) and Viet Nam relations** with a visit from UN Secretary-General António Guterres. Celebrations reflected on Viet Nam's remarkable development journey from a recipient of humanitarian aid to a top contributor to peacekeeping efforts in less than a generation. The Secretary General's visit spared no effort to communicate a sense of urgency to strengthen multilateralism in the midst of the global crises we face. **There is a need to act now.**

Together with the Government of Viet Nam, the UN launched a new five-year Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for the 2022–2026 period. In the first year of implementation, COVID-19 response and recovery remained central. With over 92 percent of the population over five years of age receiving a primary dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, UN support for the procurement and rollout of vaccines paved the way for Viet Nam to reopen and recover from the pandemic. The pandemic also underscored the need for comprehensive social protection for all. UN support helped expand its access, especially for communities at risk of being left behind.

Over the past few years, we have seen Viet Nam's position rise globally. **The country's leadership on the multilateral stage will deepen and evolve its partnership with the UN.** In 2022, Viet Nam was selected to the Human Rights Council for the 2023–2025 term. A few months later, Viet Nam became one of three countries globally to enter the Just Energy Transition Partnership. The partnership will generate US\$15.5 billion to propel the country's renewable energy capacity. This, together with Viet Nam's ambitious COP26 commitment, shows great political will to actualize a greener future.

Viet Nam remains one of the 20 most vulnerable countries to climate change. It has one of the fastest-growing rates of per capita greenhouse gas emissions. There is a rapid decline in biodiversity, depletion of natural resources and damaged ecosystems.





With the imminent threat posed by climate change, **it is clear that the development models that brought us to this point are not the models that will bring us into a green, sustainable and equitable future.** Systems need to be transformed. The UN is not exempt from this. Rather the opposite: we need to walk the talk. The UN in Viet Nam has long been at the forefront of working together. We will continue to push the envelope to deliver the highest-quality support, in the most agile manner.

In 2023, Viet Nam will present its **Voluntary National Review**. This offers an excellent opportunity to take stock of progress and discuss challenges for actualizing the 2030 Agenda in Viet Nam. Currently, **Viet Nam is on track to achieve four of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.** One key stumbling block is the lack of financing. Despite recent improvements in official development assistance (ODA) management regulations, UN agencies faced significant delays in 2022. Unlocking available ODA resources will be central to realizing Viet Nam's development priorities, along with mobilizing new financing.

Viet Nam is at a crossroads. The stakes are high. Viet Nam can use this opportunity to become an example for other countries on the graduation pathway and continue to show the world its unwavering commitment to development. It can showcase how a green, just transition is done by leveraging international partnerships, galvanizing the power of new technologies and tapping into its dynamic workforce, in parallel to pursuing its goal to become a high-income country by 2045. By doing so, Viet Nam can continue to demonstrate that crisis is an opportunity for change; an opportunity to leapfrog into a more just, fair and green future for all.

On behalf of the UN family in Viet Nam, I would like to reaffirm our commitment to support the Government of Viet Nam by accompanying them on this journey.



Pauline Tamesis

UN Resident Coordinator

March 2022



LIST OF ACRONYMS



BAU	Business-As-Usual	GOVN	Government of Viet Nam
BIOFIN	Biodiversity Finance Initiative	GSO	General Statistics Office of Viet Nam
BR	Biosphere Reserve	MPTF	UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund
CAF	Centre for Analysis and Forecasting	MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
CBDRM	Community-Based Disaster Risk Management	MSM	Men who have sex with men
CBO	Common Back Office	MTBBE	Mother Tongue-Based Bilingual Education
CCA	Common Country Analysis	NAP WPS	National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security
CDC	Center for Disease Control and Prevention	NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women	NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
CEMA	Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
CHS	Commune Health Stations	NSCC	National Strategy on Climate Change
COP26	26th UN Climate Change Conference	NTP	National Targeted Programme
CSO	Civil Society Organization	ODA	Official Development Assistance
CSE	Comprehensive Sexual Education	OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
DOH	Department of Health	OPD	Organization of Persons with Disabilities
DRM	Disaster Risk Management	OSP	One Strategic Plan
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	PAPI	Provincial Governance and Public Administration Performance Index
EDSP	Education Development Strategic Plan	PCDPC	Provincial Committee for Disaster Prevention and Control
EIP	Eco-Industrial Park	PrEP	Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	PwD	Person with Disabilities
FSW	Female Sex Workers	PWID	Person Who Injects Drugs
FTA	Free Trade Agreement	RG	Results Group
GAL	Gender Affirmation Law	SADD	Sex, age and disability
Gavi	The Vaccine Alliance	SBI	Social Impact Business
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	SDGF	SDG Fund
GCF	Green Climate Fund	SEDEMA	National Target Programme on socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	SEDP/S	Socio-Economic Development Plan/Strategy
GEF	Green Environment Facility	SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
GEL	Gender Equality Law	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	TGAY	Thematic Group on Adolescents and Youth
GHG	Greenhouse Gases		
GOUNH	Green One UN House		



TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training	•	MPSARD	Master Plan for Social Assistance Reform and Development
UN	United Nations	•	UNAIDS	The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme	•	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UN-SWAP	UN System-Wide Action Plan	•	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
GTG	Gender Thematic Group	•	UNDIS	UN Disability Inclusion Strategy
HCMC	Ho Chi Minh City	•	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
HDI	Human Development Index	•	UNDS	UN Development System
I4.0	The Fourth Industrial Revolution	•	UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	•	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IFI	International Financial Institution	•	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
ILO	International Labour Organization	•	UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
ILSSA	Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs	•	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
INFF	Integrated National Financing Framework	•	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
IOM	International Organization for Migration	•	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
IPSARD	Institute of Policies and Strategies for Agriculture and Rural Development	•	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute	•	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
ISPONRE	Institute of Strategy, Policy on Natural Resources and Environment	•	UNPRPD	UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ITC	International Trade Centre	•	UNRCO	UN Resident Coordinator's Office
JETP	Just Energy Transition Partnership	•	UNSDCF	UN Strategic Development Coordination Framework
JP	Joint Programme	•	UNV	United Nations Volunteers
JSC	Joint Steering Committee	•	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
JWP	Joint Work Programme	•	UPR	Universal Periodic Review
LGBTIQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex, Queer and Others	•	UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
LNOB	Leave No One Behind	•	VASS	Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	•	VCCI	Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	•	VDMA	Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority
MDP	Multidimensional Poverty	•	VGCL	Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour
MECBA	Multi-Employer Collective Bargaining Agreement	•	VNR	Voluntary National Review
MOET	Ministry of Education and Training	•	VWEC	Viet Nam Women Entrepreneurs Council
MOJ	Ministry of Justice	•	VWU	Viet Nam Women's Union
MOLISA	Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs	•	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
MOND	Ministry of National Defense	•	WHO	World Health Organization
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	•		
MOPS	Ministry of Public Security	•		
MPCA	Multi-Purpose Cash Allowance	•		
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment	•		



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UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM IN VIET NAM



22 UN entities including 17 resident and five non-resident agencies, funds and programmes comprise the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Viet Nam.

The UNCT in Viet Nam is working towards Viet Nam's achievement of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), along with the national development agendas through the **One Strategic Framework for Sustainable**

Development Cooperation between the UN and the Government of Viet Nam for the period 2022–2026 (CF). The UNCT coordinates closely with the Government of Viet Nam (GOVN) to implement the CF in order to deliver four outcomes, which are in line with Viet Nam's Socio-Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) for 2021–2030 and Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) for 2021–2025.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES OF THE 2022–2026 VIET NAM-UN COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

Inclusive social development

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will benefit from inclusive, gender-responsive, disability-sensitive, equitable, affordable and quality social services and social protection systems, will have moved further out of poverty in all its dimensions and will be empowered to reach their full potential.

Climate-change response, disaster resilience and environmental sustainability

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will benefit from and contribute to a safer and cleaner environment resulting from Viet Nam's effective mitigation and adaptation to climate change, disaster-risk reduction and resilience building, promotion of the circular economy, provision of clean and renewable energy, and sustainable management of natural resources.

Shared prosperity through economic transformation

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will contribute to and benefit equitably from more sustainable, inclusive and gender-responsive economic transformation based on innovation, entrepreneurship, enhanced productivity, competitiveness and decent work.

Governance and access to justice

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will benefit from and contribute to a more just, safe and inclusive society based on improved governance, more responsive institutions, strengthened rule of law and the protection of and respect for human rights, gender equality and freedom from all forms of violence and discrimination, in line with Viet Nam's international commitments.



UN ENTITIES IN VIET NAM



KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN VIET NAM



The UN in Viet Nam has established strong partnerships with a wide range of government agencies at both central and local levels, civil society, the private sector, international financial institutions and development partners. These valuable partners have contributed technical expertise and financial resources alike to CF implementation and SDG acceleration in Viet Nam (see <https://uninfo.org/location/37/funding>).

The UN collaborates with more than 30 bilateral **development partners** including various government ministries and organizations of Australia, the United States, Korea, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom, Norway, Canada, Sweden, Switzerland, New Zealand, Ireland and Finland. Bilateral partners contribute almost 35 percent of the current available budget for the CF. The European Union and the UN collaborate especially in the areas of governance and justice, climate change and energy, with current contributions amounting to about 4.8 percent of the available budget for the CF.

In addition to bilateral partnerships, UN agencies jointly participated in 14 **global, regional and thematic funding opportunities** covering priorities in climate change, environment, COVID-19 response, HIV/AIDS, immunization, social protection and disability inclusion. Collectively, the

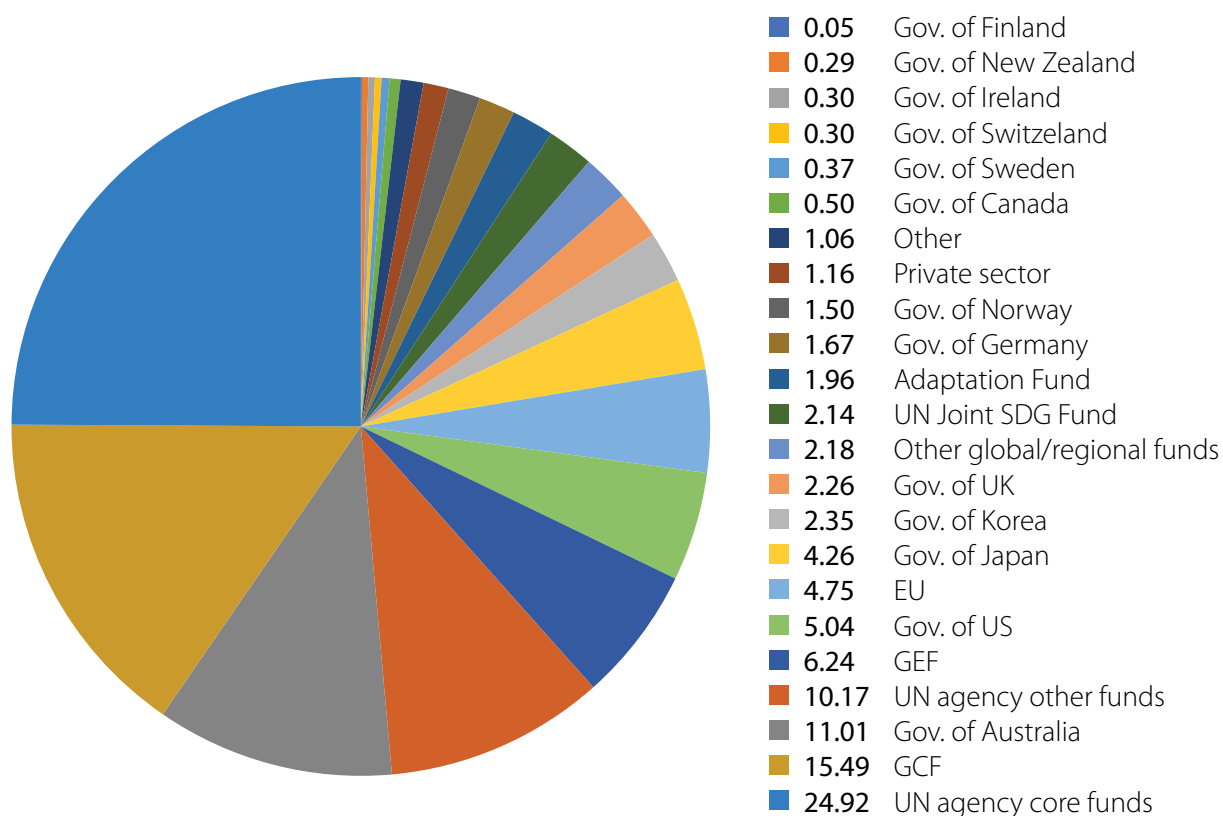
Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Adaptation Fund, UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund and Joint SDG Fund contribute 28 percent of the current UN budget.

In Viet Nam, the UN works with a number of **ministries** including the Ministries of Health; Planning and Investments; Foreign Affairs; Education and Training; Culture, Science and Technology; Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs; Industry and Trade; Home Affairs; Public Security; National Defense; Natural Resources and Environment; and Agriculture and Rural Development. Other close partners include the Central Economic Commission, Vietnam Women's Union, Vietnam Farmers' Union, Youth Union, Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vietnam General Confederation of Labour, Vietnam Cooperative Alliance and numerous committees of the National Assembly and research institutions.

The UN Resident Coordinator co-chairs the Informal Ambassador Group on Development Cooperation, Development Partner Group and Informal Ambassador Group on Gender Equality. In co-convening key **coordination mechanisms**, the UN is able to pursue strategic approaches and influence policy on crucial development issues with a wide range of development partners



FIGURE 2. TOP FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO CF 2022-2026 (BY END 2022)



including international financial institutions (IFIs) such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, academia and civil society organizations. Areas of engagement cover socioeconomic development priorities, including climate change and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), energy transition, human capital development, women’s empowerment, eco-industrial park development, protection from human trafficking and exploitation, and COVID-19 response and recovery.

Importantly, the UN in Viet Nam has expanded its dialogues to engage the Vietnamese **private sector** in SDG implementation, by both contributing resources and incorporating the UN principles of responsible business in their operations. Vital Strategies Health Systems (Asia Pacific) Ltd., SOVICO, Coca Cola Foundation and Merck Sharp & Dohme (Asia) Ltd. are among these private partners collaborating in the areas of health care, culture, gender and reproductive health. Private sector contributions comprise 1.16 percent of the CF budget to date.

CHAPTER 1:

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN VIET NAM AND IN THE REGIONAL CONTEXT

2022 POPULATION:

99.46
MILLION PEOPLE

2022 GDP GROWTH RATE:

8.0
PER CENT

2022 MULTI-DIMENSIONAL POVERTY RATE (NATIONAL):

3.6
PER CENT

2022 INFLATION RATE:

3.2
PER CENT

2022 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:

2.3
PER CENT

2021 HDI:

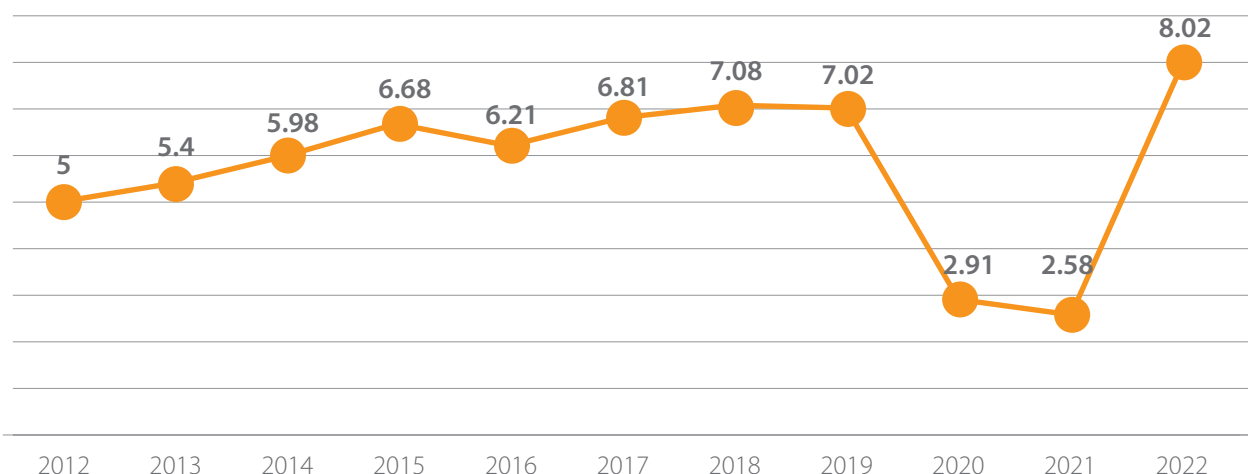
0.703, 115/191 COUNTRIES,
AT HIGH-LEVEL

Driven by its remarkable COVID-19 vaccination rollout and the resumption of social and economic activities, Viet Nam’s **economy** rebounded strongly in 2022 despite the impact of the overlapping crises of the war in Ukraine and rising global food and energy prices. According to the General Statistics Office, the gross domestic product (GDP) in 2022 grew by 8.0 percent, contributed mainly by the service sector (56.7 percent) followed by industry (38.2 percent) and agriculture (5.1 percent). The unemployment rate also decreased to 2.3 percent in 2022. Viet Nam’s human development index (HDI) value in 2021 was 0.703, which essentially remained unchanged from the 2019 value of 0.704 – reflecting the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the surge in global fuel and food prices and supply chain disruptions in the first half of 2022, consumer price **inflation** in 2022 edged up

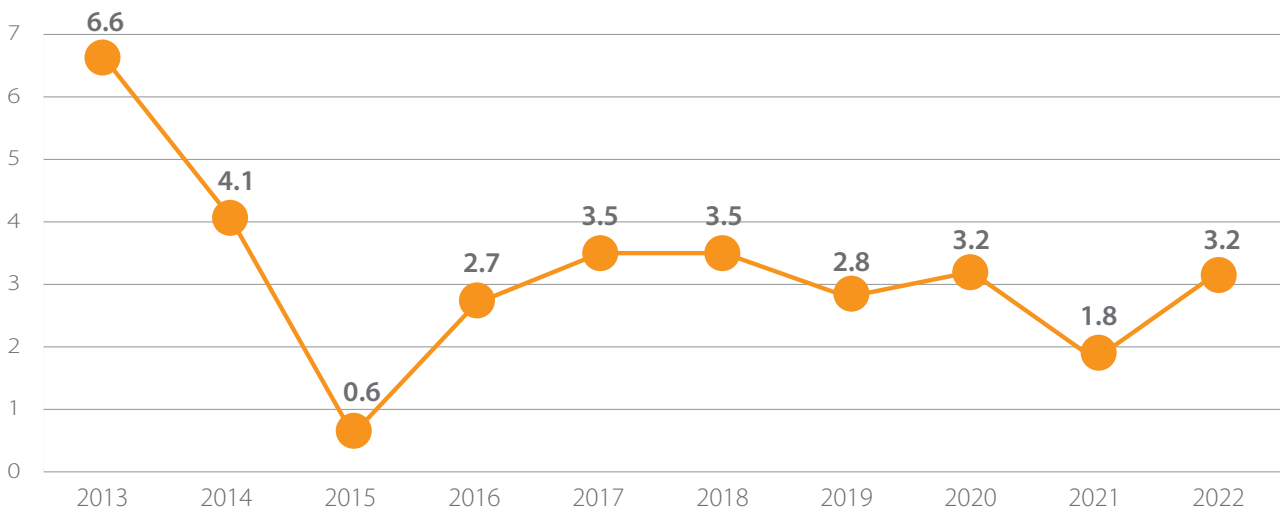
only slightly to 3.2 percent, which was lower than the State Bank of Viet Nam’s target of 4.0 percent. This indicates the limited passthrough of global inflation to the Vietnamese economy, ensuring macroeconomic stability and alleviating pressures on people’s purchasing powers and livelihoods. In 2022, the country’s financial conditions remained accommodative, and there was ample liquidity in the banking system. To support economic recovery, loan forbearance policy was extended until June 2022 and credit growth picked up significantly. This has posed systemic risk to the financial sector where banks have considerable direct exposure to the real estate sector in their loan portfolios and indirect exposure through the holding of corporate bonds issued by real estate companies.

FIGURE 3. VIET NAM’S GDP GROWTH RATE (PERCENT)



Source: General Statistics Office, 2022

FIGURE 4. VIET NAM'S ANNUAL INFLATION RATE (PERCENT)



Source: General Statistics Office, 2022

The **state budget** deficit in 2022 was estimated at US\$18.4 billion, equivalent to 4.5 percent of GDP, which remained under the set threshold of 5.0 percent. Public debt at the end of 2022 was estimated at 44 percent of GDP, which also continued to be lower than the threshold of 60 percent set by the government. As stated in the 2023 budget resolution adopted in December 2022, the public debt will be capped at around 40 to 41 percent of GDP and direct debt repayment at 18 to 19 percent of the state budget in 2023.

Notably, Viet Nam's multi-dimensional poverty decreased from 9.0 percent in 2016 to 3.6 percent in 2022. However, disparities in poverty between regions or provinces exist, particularly for the North Mountainous and Highland regions. Ethnic minority people experience a rate of **multi-dimensional poverty** that is approximately two to three times higher than the national average, as do other vulnerable groups such as children, women, older persons, migrants and persons with disabilities (PWDs). In the country's effort to fight against hunger, poverty and malnutrition, the Government of Viet Nam (GOVN) is now developing the National Action Plan for Food Systems Transformation towards

Transparency, Responsibility and Sustainability by 2030 (NAP-FST).

While 2022 has largely been a year of return in Viet Nam, the COVID-19 pandemic has left a lasting mark on **social indicators**. As a result of the health system's shift towards COVID-19 response, there was a marked drop in routine immunization coverage for children under one – falling to 67 percent as of November 2022 compared with over 80 percent in previous years. Nutrition continues to be a challenge, with almost one in five children under five years of age experiencing stunting.¹ Access to safely managed water and sanitation is still low in rural areas, especially in remote and climate change-affected areas like the Mekong River Delta. An estimated 7.7 million children still lack adequate access to clean water and sanitation at school.² After COVID-19 mobility restrictions were removed, children gradually returned to classrooms, with schools focused on recovering lost learning and social-emotional skills, particularly among children living in poor households with no access to online learning.

1 Ministry of Health, 2022

2 Ministry of Education and Training, 2022



Children studying. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Tran Van Tuy

Social protection continues to pose a further challenge. Although health insurance coverage was high at 91 percent in 2022, only 38 percent of the working age labour force had social insurance and the majority (68.5 percent) of employment was informal. The COVID-19 impact has highlighted the importance of strengthening the social protection system with a focus on the most vulnerable populations such as children, women, older persons, PWDs, people living with HIV/AIDS, victims of violence and abuse, vulnerable migrants and victims of trafficking. During his visit to Viet Nam in October 2022, the UN Secretary-General António Guterres invited Viet Nam to join the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, potentially as a pathfinder country, as it matches well with Viet Nam's initiatives, aspirations and capacity.

Bottlenecks in **public financial management** also remained in 2022, causing inefficient budget allocation and utilization and resulting in budget gaps in social sectors such as nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and social assistance. Despite recent improvements, lengthy and cumbersome official development assistance (ODA) management procedures have caused delays in ODA-funded development projects and programmes. It currently takes an average of one to two years to obtain approval for UN projects.

There are 25 UN projects and programmes pending in the appraisal and approval process, causing a high risk of losing US\$47.6 million and at the same time jeopardizing ongoing efforts to accelerate achievement of the SDGs.

Climate change is a priority concern for the achievement of the SDGs, with Viet Nam ranked as one of the most vulnerable countries to its impact. In 2022, Viet Nam experienced some of the worst impacts it had seen since 2007 from typhoon Noru and tropical storm Sonca. Moreover, the country is facing the challenges of deteriorating biodiversity, overexploited natural resources, damaged ecosystems and water scarcity, making it more vulnerable to climate change. Although Viet Nam is not among the largest greenhouse gas (GHG) emitters globally, it has shown one of the fastest growth rates in per capita GHG emissions as its economy is primarily powered by fossil fuels. In line with Viet Nam's net zero commitment by 2050 and pledges at COP26, its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), updated in October 2022, increased the national GHG emissions reduction targets with domestic resources from 9.0 percent to 15.8 percent by 2030 and with international support from 27.0 percent to 43.5 percent by 2030, compared to business as usual (BAU).³

3 GOVN, 2022, "Nationally Determined Contribution", Hanoi. Accessed at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-11/Viet%20Nam_NDC_2022_Eng.pdf

In December 2022, Viet Nam entered a Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) with the International Partners Group (IPG). Under the agreement, Viet Nam will receive US\$15.5 billion to propel its renewable energy capacity to reach a share of 45.0 percent by 2030, while phasing out coal-fired power plants.

In November 2022, the Viet Nam Communist Party promulgated Resolution No. 29 on **industrialization and modernization** to 2030 with a vision to 2045, which is the first specialized Party resolution to implement the Socio-Economic Development Strategy's priority to become a modernized, high-income country by 2045. Resolution No. 29 sets the goals to fundamentally and comprehensively transform the economy and social life, founded mainly on the development of industry and services on the basis of science, technology and innovation, and the development of ecological agriculture with the application of advanced technologies.

Viet Nam also made progress in 2022 on **digital transformation** which has a direct effect on Vietnamese citizens' access to basic services and justice. A new digital ID was issued and linked to the newly launched national population database and the online application process for passport and residential registration.

About 8,000 individuals who were either stateless or of undetermined nationality had their legal status issues resolved with UN support⁴, under the broader work aimed at strengthening access to **civil legislation and improving the legal framework** to address statelessness. Nevertheless, legislative progress to provide legal protection for transgender and broader LGBTQI+ persons need to be fostered, including by drafting the Gender Affirmation Law. This is of particularly noteworthy as Viet Nam was elected to the Human Rights Council for the 2023-2025

4 UNHCR, 2022



High-tech agriculture.
Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Nguyen Thi Thuy Hang

mandate, with pledges to promote human rights and gender equality.

The **anti-corruption campaign** undertaken since 2022 provides an opportunity to promote socioeconomic development. At the same time, it has sent shock waves across various management levels of the Government and Party, although overall political stability is maintained. Consequently, there have been significant changes in senior leadership of the government, which is viewed as the reason for paralysis in decision making on major public services. The health sector was noticeably affected by the delays in procurement of medical supplies, vaccines and medicines including antiretroviral drugs.



CHAPTER 2:

UN IN VIET NAM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES



OVERVIEW OF COOPERATION FRAMEWORK RESULTS

2022 was a pivotal year for the UN in Viet Nam and marked the first year of implementing the new UN Cooperation Framework (CF) 2022-2026. As Viet Nam emerged from the pandemic, the UN prioritized its joint efforts on COVID-19 response and recovery, advancing inclusive social development by focusing on quality education, affordable healthcare and inclusive social protection, promoting green energy and energy efficiency, mitigating climate change impacts and environmental degradation, advancing prosperity through economic and digital transformation, and strengthening governance and access to justice.

Through 170 interventions in 2022 – each linked to SDG goals and targets – with a total budget of US\$100.8 million, the UN made important progress towards achieving four priority CF outcomes which are highlighted in the following sections of this report. Measuring progress against 46 outcome and 57 output indicators, the UN's efforts towards the achievement of targets show that 56.3 percent made good progress, 9.7 percent were partially on track and 4.9 percent did not make progress. The remaining 29.1 percent of indicators lacked data to measure progress as either the data was not available or there was no target planned for 2022 (see Annex 1).

The UN in Viet Nam continued to prioritize and strengthen **joint work** this year, as evidenced by approximately one third (32 percent) of its interventions being jointly implemented, of which there were 12 joint programmes. In 2022, UN joint work focused primarily on strengthening human rights and gender equality, social protection and leaving no one behind (LNOB), rights of the most vulnerable people (including persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, LGBTQI+, migrants, women, children, older persons and youth), action against gender-based violence, COVID-19 response in agricultural value chains, as well as climate action.

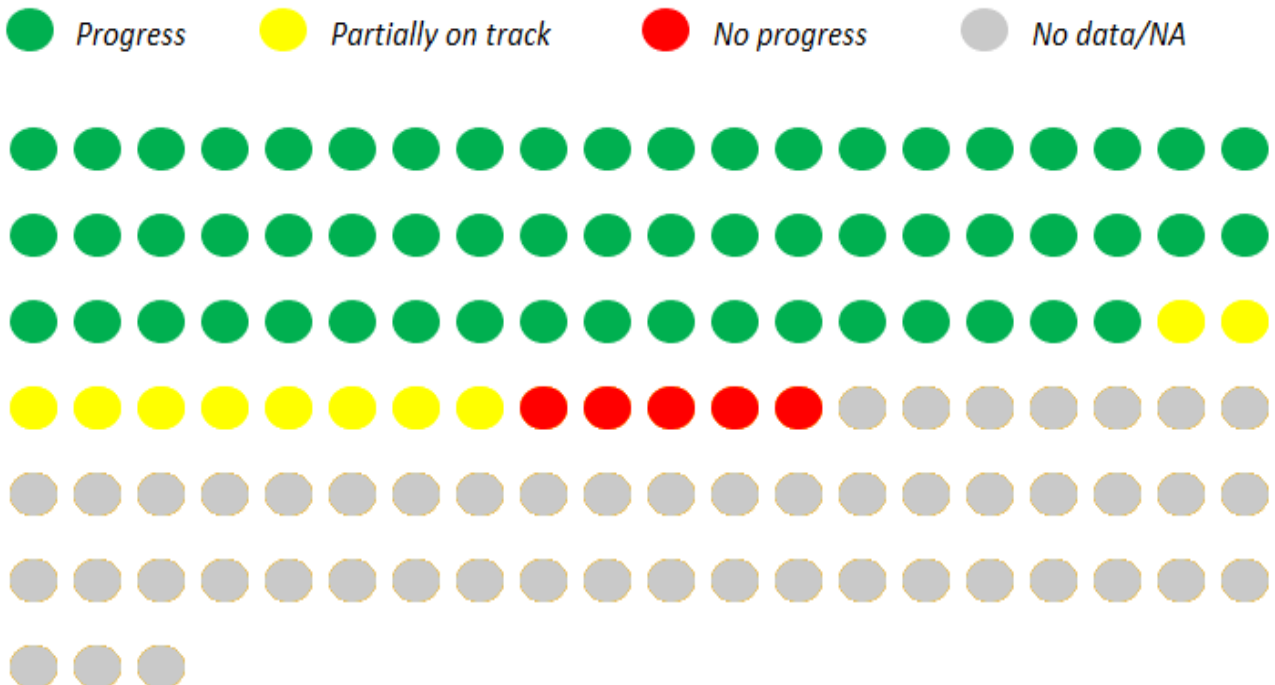
In this first year of the new CF, the UNCT worked in close collaboration with the GOVN to initiate the development of the Resource Mobilization and Partnership Strategy for financing the CF and the SDGs. At the same time, the UN coalesced to unblock the barriers to existing ODA regulations by the GOVN, which have caused significant delays of up to 18 to 24 months in the appraisal, approval and implementation of UN development assistance in the country. The delays have resulted in the UN's lowest disbursement rate in the last six years, reaching only 67.9 percent in 2022.



FIGURE 5. DISTRIBUTION OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES BY SDG.



FIGURE 6. PROGRESS OF SDGS ACHIEVEMENT IN VIET NAM.





OUTCOME 1. INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will benefit from inclusive, gender-responsive, disability-sensitive, equitable, affordable and quality social services and social protection systems, will be free from poverty in all its dimensions and empowered to reach their full potential.

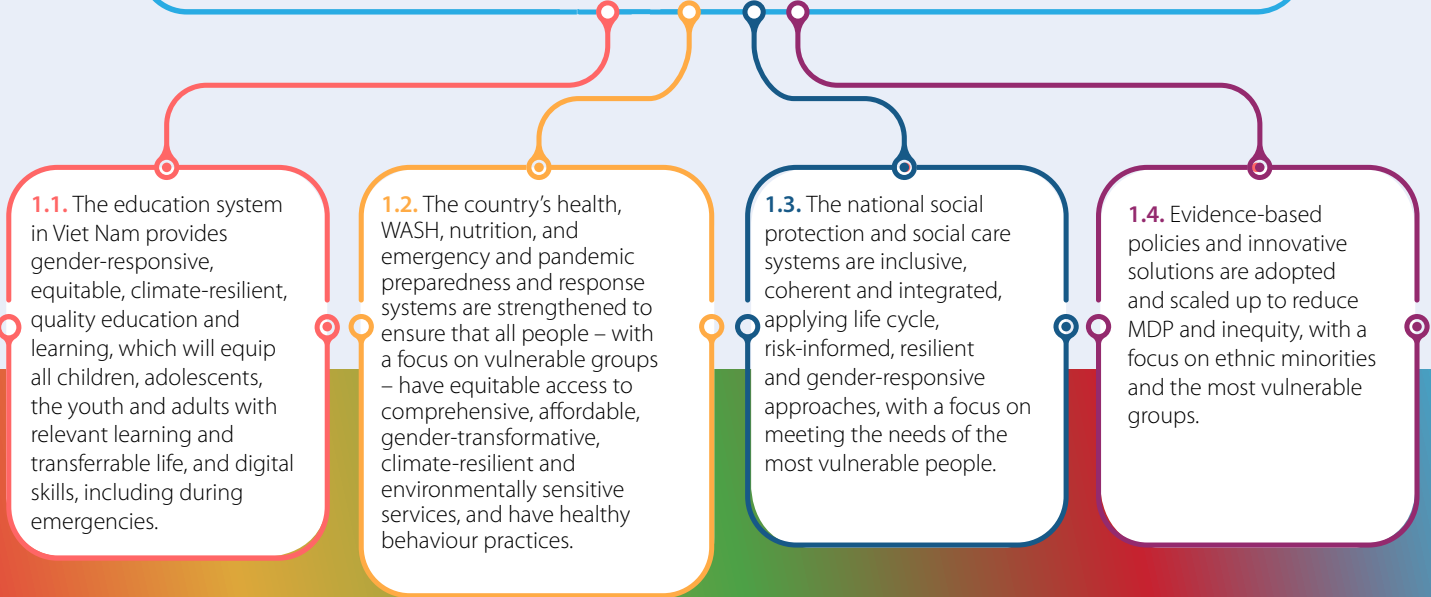
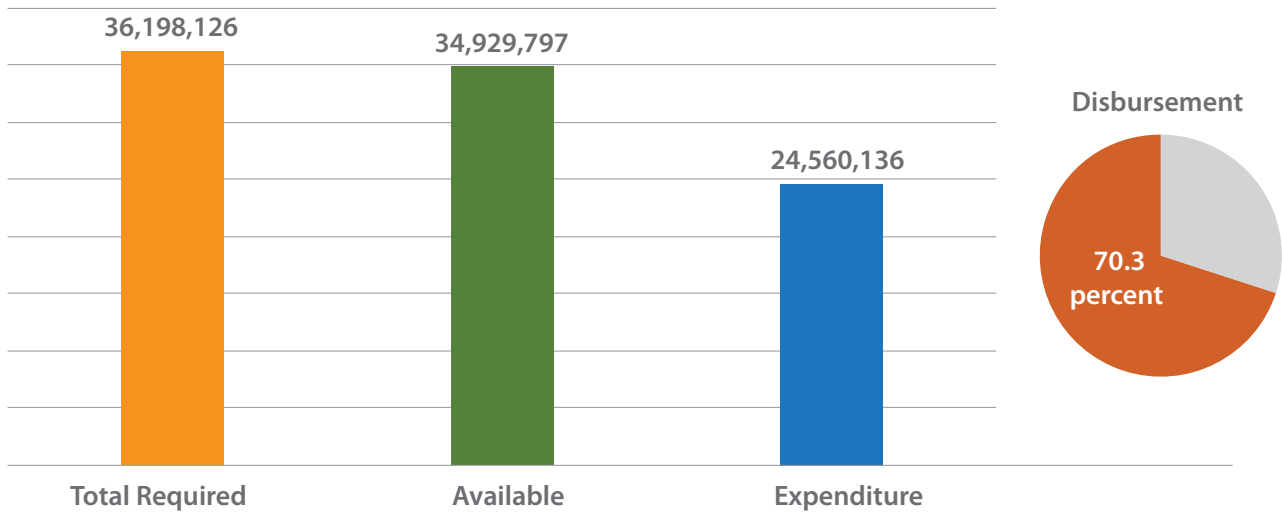


FIGURE 7. OUTCOME 1 BUDGET IN 2022 (US\$)

Outcome 1. Inclusive Social Development



Building gender-responsive, equitable, climate-resilient and quality education

In line with SDG 4, the UN, led by UNICEF, UNESCO and UNFPA, supported national and local capacity improvements in strengthening education policies, planning, monitoring and financing for gender-transformative, innovative, equitable and inclusive learning for all.

Gender and ethnicity-disaggregated evidence

on adolescent mental health, learning crises during COVID-19, education gaps and clean energy for climate-smart schools was generated to inform education policies and to recommend a path towards transforming the education system – especially for the most vulnerable groups. For example, the draft Education Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) addresses the needs of disadvantaged populations at all levels of education and the amendment of Viet Nam’s Law on Persons with Disabilities clearly reflects inclusive learning to meet the specific needs of persons with disabilities.

The UN also supported the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) to reopen schools following COVID-19 closures with an emphasis on **building back better** through more resilient and crisis-informed planning and, among other areas, a focus on adolescent student mental health. This included the training of 150 core school health workers and teachers on mental health prevention and programming. Mother tongue-based bilingual education (MTBBE) was reactivated at the national level and in eight provinces to improve learning outcomes and social inclusion of ethnic minority children. The UN’s support significantly increased the proportion of schools and other education facilities with access to disability-friendly infrastructure between 2019 and 2022 – from 27.9 percent to 37.1 percent at primary schools, 20.7 percent to 28.9 percent at lower secondary schools and 13.8 percent to 19.9 percent at upper secondary schools.⁵

5 MOET (2022)

KEY RESULTS

Education Sector Analysis (ESA) 2011-2020 developed

Education Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) 2021-2030 and vision to 2045 finalized

GOVN participation supported in the **UN Secretary-General-led Transforming Education Summit** in New York

150 core school health workers and teachers trained on mental health prevention and programming

Viet Nam's **Law on Persons with Disabilities** amended

Circulars on the operation of boarding and semi-boarding schools for children of ethnic minorities and mountainous areas revised

Training packages integrated into the TVET curriculum in TVET institutions for **171 teachers and 900 students (60 percent girls)**

One **model with toolkits on the empowerment of ethnic minority girl students** and one **e-learning course for educators on gender-responsive school counselling** developed

To reach adolescents not currently in secondary school, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) to strengthen capacity of **technical and vocational education and training** (TVET). Training packages were integrated into the curriculum offered at TVET institutions and rolled out to 171 teachers and 900 students, of whom 60 percent were girls.⁶ The UN further contributed to promoting gender equality and girls' education in the ethnic minority areas of three provinces under the UNESCO Malala Fund for Girls' Right to Education.

In addition, the UN helped strengthen **comprehensive sexuality education** (CSE) by providing materials and training courses for all teachers in the country through the MOET Learning Management System. As a result, the percentage of schools providing basic education programmes

about sex education, violence prevention, abuse prevention and HIV-related knowledge increased by four to five percent across all education levels.

Improving health care

Through the efforts of WHO, UNICEF, FAO and UNAIDS, the UN in Viet Nam made further strides in advancing improved health outcomes towards SDG 3. The UN supported national and subnational capacity to promote healthier populations including through immunization, nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment and mental health by advancing evidence generation and the development of policies and guidelines to improve people's health, animal's health and environmental health.

The UN continued to support the GOVN's efforts to strengthen health system capacity to **respond**

6 MOET (2022)

to and sustainably manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through dedicated technical support from WHO and UNICEF, key national action plans were developed for COVID-19 prevention and control, together with various public health and social measures, materials, guidelines, surveillance systems, laboratory testing, risk assessments and intra-agency action reviews. UN support for the procurement and rollout of vaccines significantly contributed to Viet Nam's impressive immunization results with 85.6 million people aged five years old and above (92.4 percent) receiving a primary dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and a further 963,928 children below the age of one (67.4 percent) receiving routine immunization. A total of 63,323 border residents accessed COVID-19 vaccines through direct support from IOM.

Led by UNICEF, the UN also provided intensive technical and advocacy support to the Government to increase resources and focus on **nutrition** at the national and subnational levels. As a result, funding allocations for nutrition were included in all three National Targeted Programmes (NTPs), a National Plan of Action on Nutrition 2022-2025 was developed and a Ministry of Health (MOH) circular was issued to regulate government and provincial authorities to allocate budget to implement health and nutrition benefit packages at commune health centres. The UN also advocated for a Sugar Sweetened Beverages (SSB) tax through its technical support to address the emerging trend of obesity. Nevertheless, over the last few years, there have been signs of a slowdown in the decreasing malnutrition rate and especially in the stunting rate – from 19.6 percent in 2020 to 19.2 percent in 2022. This, together with the large discrepancy in the rate between ethnic minority populations and the national average, which is almost two times higher for ethnic minorities, is posing a significant challenge for the UN to support the GOVN in addressing malnutrition.

Other 2022 achievements included the UN's contributions to the development and revision of **major legal documents**, including the revised Law on Examination and Treatment to improve access to and quality of health services, the National Action Plan for Maternal and Child Health 2021-2025 and the National Action Plan

KEY RESULTS

MOH **National Action Plan** to implement GOVN **Resolution on COVID-19 Prevention and Control** developed

MOH **National Scenario-based Response Plan for COVID-19** developed

Procurement of **85 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines** and associated injection devices supported

14,000 children under the age of one received routine immunization

44,816 pregnant women received antenatal care at least four times per trimester

73,601 mothers supported by skilled birth attendants

67,492 newborns received early essential newborn care

MOH **'Safe Journeys' media campaign** reached >60 million people to build confidence in COVID-19 vaccines

6,900 women migrants, ethnic minority women, poor and near-poor women, women living with HIV, women survivors of violence and women in disaster-prone areas received COVID-19 prevention kits

Government Resolution No. 104 issued which **includes HPV vaccination** in the National Expanded Immunization Programme from 2026

for Child Mortality Reduction 2021-2025. Notably, the Government Resolution No. 104 issued in 2022 includes HPV vaccination in the National Expanded Immunization Programme from 2026.

Supporting the GOVN to improve **data and evidence** for effective health monitoring, policy advocacy and policymaking was another focus area. This consisted of WHO's support with the National Survey of Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Risk Factors (STEPS) report and the Global School Health Survey (GSHS) to provide key indicators for monitoring progress of NCD prevention and control in Viet Nam among adults and adolescents. UNAIDS also supported the finalization of the national Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan for the National Strategy to End the AIDS Epidemic by 2030 and HIV case verification in 15 provinces, which helped improve not only the quality and the accuracy of the data reported but also the achievement of the first and second 90 targets.⁷

Across its health initiatives, the UN in Viet Nam continued to pay special attention to specific **vulnerable populations** including ethnic minorities, adolescents and youth, migrants, sex workers and people living with HIV/AIDS. The UN contributed to increasing vulnerable populations' knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights information, comprehensive sexuality education and life skills education, public health (for safe resumption of international travel), HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence and sexualized drug use (chemsex). A key example was the implementation of the multi-day take-home methadone doses national pilot (2021-2022) under UNODC, UNAIDS and WHO support, which has resulted in the institutionalization of multi-day take-home methadone doses in a consolidated HIV Decree to be developed in 2023.

7 90-90-90 targets: 90% of people living with HIV know their HIV status; 90% of people diagnosed with HIV are on sustained treatment; 90% of people on HIV treatment are virally suppressed.



Clean water came to the village.
Photo credit: UN Viet Nam/Pham Huy Dang

All of these efforts contributed to a decrease in Viet Nam's infant mortality rate to 12.1 cases per 1,000 live births (from 14 cases in 2019).⁸

Environmental health was another key area of UN support in 2022 with the UN strengthening national capacity for implementation and investment in **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**. Through UNICEF and WHO support, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) circular on rural water safety planning was issued, which stipulates a legal basis to ensure water safety in rural areas. Communication campaigns on WASH by MARD – with the UN's support – reached more than 100 national and local officers and 7,223 students and teachers. This has strengthened their knowledge of emergency response, risk assessment and appraisal for WASH. UN support has contributed to the steady increase in the percentage of Vietnamese households with access to clean water (98.1 percent in 2021) and toilets (95.6 percent in 2021).⁹ An additional 20,000 people, including girls and women, are expected to have access to clean water and safely managed sanitation by 2023.

8 MOH (2022)

9 MARD (2021)



Duck Sampling. Photo credit: FAO Viet Nam

One Health Partnership: Prevention of Future Pandemics

In a post-COVID world, there is heightened interest in zoonoses, or infectious diseases that have jumped from a non-human animal to humans. They represent a major public health problem around the world due to our close relationship with animals in agriculture, as companions and in the natural environment. In Viet Nam, there is a significant risk of zoonoses emerging from the commercial trade and consumption of wildlife. Spillover of wildlife-borne pathogens into humans can occur in wildlife farming, production and marketing systems, in trafficking of wildlife across borders for food and medicinal purposes, or via the exotic pet trade industry.

Led by FAO and jointly with WHO, UNODC and UNEP, together with members of the One Health Partnership, UN supported Government of Viet Nam's efforts to prevent future pandemics by managing the human-animal-ecosystem interface. The UN focused on restricting the trade and consumption of high-zoonotic-risk wildlife species. How? Four priority actions have been taken:

- Engaged with communities to foster understanding of the risks of wildlife trade and consumption, and cultivated positive social and behavior change;
- Strengthened law enforcement to close down illegal wildlife trade operations and sites of illegal wildlife sales and consumption, including illicit advertising of wildlife on social media and e-commerce platforms;

- Developed legislation that prohibits possession, storage, transport, advertisement, trade and consumption of wildlife with high risks for human health. Technical assistance included assessments of which species are safe and under what conditions and recommendations to ban the supply chains of species and practices not on this list; and
- Regulated biosecurity requirements to be met by wildlife farming and trading facilities, transporters, and sellers, including physical market locations, and properly enforced these requirements to protect public health and the economy.

With FAO support, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) built capacity to collect and update information on captive wildlife facilities distribution, type of animals, animal numbers, and protected groups. The data is then used to enforce state regulations, improve the efficiency of registration and licensing management, and consequently to reduce fraudulent practices. Together with UNODC, FAO identified wildlife families suspected to play a critical role in the transmission of zoonotic pathogens in the Asian wildlife supply chain, and in facilities characterized by a high-risk of zoonotic spillover. The facilities identified included captive breeding facilities (including wildlife farming), wet markets (selling wildlife), zoos, primate breeding facilities, pet markets, and wildlife cafes.

Collective action increased awareness of the risk of pathogens emergence and spill-over from the commercial trade and consumption of wildlife in both public and management authorities. The concerted efforts by the UN, NGOs, development partners and government authorities to update regulation on the management of wildlife helped to minimize zoonotic risk and ensured bio-environment safety for humans from the captive wildlife.



Delivering COVID-19 Services to the Hardest to Reach

Ms La is from the Hmong ethnic minority and lives in a remote part of Ha Giang Province, in the northern mountainous region of Viet Nam. She works hard to raise her two children and provide for her family – mostly growing produce and selling crafts at the market, but she is extremely poor, receiving few social benefits.

People like Mr La often dream of a different life for their children: that they will finish school (even when 80% of Hmong children don't), get a job, and have access to clean water, a toilet, and decent housing. They hope their daughters will be protected from the domestic violence which afflicts 3 in 5 of their peers.

Viet Nam is a very dynamic place, full of potential and opportunity – but there are still many challenges, especially for people like Ms. La. Her province is one of the poorest in Viet Nam – partly due to the remote, mountainous terrain and a harsh climate, now increasingly vulnerable to extreme weather events.

The UN's work to improve the lives of Ms. La and others like her is complex and challenging. For ethnic minorities such as the Hmong, some development indicators are profoundly concerning. But through UN's collective efforts, pre-COVID, things were improving: more children were going to primary school, routine vaccination rates were increasing, and stubbornly high rates of newborn and maternal mortality were starting to trend downwards. And then the pandemic hit.

In Ms. La's village, transportation and movement were restricted, and markets were closed. Ms. La was unable to sell her produce or crafts, severely affecting the household income. Children couldn't go to school, or most could not access digital learning. Food was scarce, and essential healthcare services suffered. Ms. La would have witnessed neighbours unable to get medication for their chronic illnesses, and more women and children experiencing domestic violence.

To give just one example of the UN's support for the COVID-19 response, UN agencies worked in hugely successful partnership with government, donors and others, to rapidly procure and deliver vaccines across the country [with the two-dose vaccination rate for adults increasing from 16% to over 70% in just three months]. Importantly, the UN advocated strongly for



A Hmong woman got her second COVID shot at a local health center in Xin Man, Ha Giang province, 2021. Photo credit: WHO Viet Nam

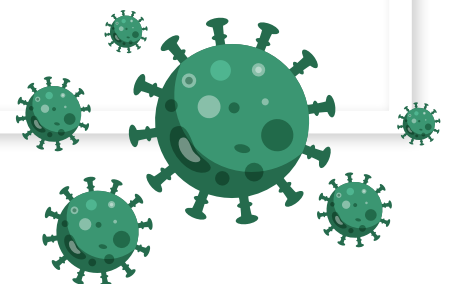
equitable access to vaccines, helping to ensure that the roll out reached vulnerable groups, including those in remote areas such as Ms. La's.

These efforts of course protected health, but also enabled the economy to restart – enabling people like Ms. La to again start providing for their families.

Today, Ms. La and communities like hers face greater challenges than before. COVID-19 did not create the inequities which are their lived experience, but it did exacerbate them. Addressing these inequities will require a concerted focus – and increased and sustained effort from us all – to strengthen quality social services.

Inclusive social development is one of four priority outcomes in UN Viet Nam's Cooperation Framework for 2022-2026. Joint work focuses on four key areas – social protection; poverty reduction; education and skills training; and health, nutrition, and WASH – with a vast range of programs underway in each of these areas.

UN Viet Nam supports Viet Nam's post COVID-19 economic and social development, and helps ensure their benefits are distributed equitably, so that in the future, communities like Ms. La's are places where people's dreams for their children do come true.



Advancing effective social protection and social care

In 2022, the UN in Viet Nam continued to advocate for improved social protection and social care. Despite the impact of COVID-19 and some existing inefficiencies in Viet Nam's social protection systems, from 2020 until 2022 social insurance coverage increased from 32.6 percent to 38.0 percent of the working age labour force, health insurance coverage increased from 90.9 percent to 92.0 percent and unemployment insurance coverage increased from 26.8 percent to 31.2 percent of the labour force. These encouraging results are in part due to the UN's technical assistance and advocacy to **prioritize the most vulnerable groups** of the population.

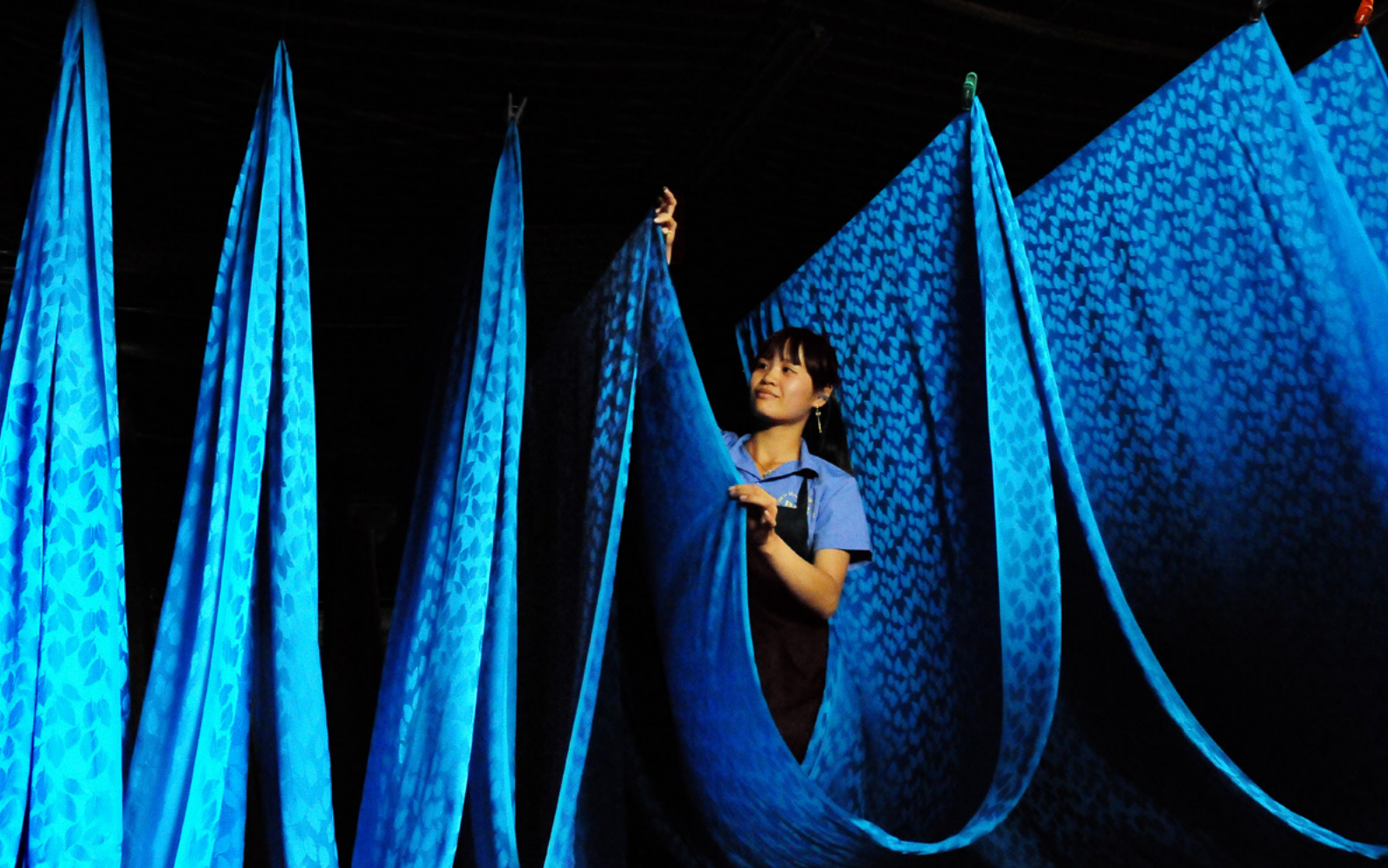
The joint UN report "Strengthening Social Policies in Viet Nam: A Joint UN Synthesis Report on Social Protection" concretely demonstrated the impact of collective technical expertise and policy advocacy efforts of ILO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, IOM and UN Women. The UN report was presented and discussed at a high-level policy dialogue co-led by the Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator on social policy and human capital development to accelerate progress towards the SDGs and achieve the Government vision to become a high-income country by 2050. The joint UN report's evidence-based policy recommendations on social protection for older persons, children, vulnerable women and labourers contributed to the revision of the Party's Resolution No. 15 on social policies and to the development of a new Party Resolution on social policy to 2045.

Individual UN agencies were also proactive in **evidence-based advocacy for improving social protection policies** in their mandate areas. Under the leadership of ILO, the UN in Viet Nam continued to provide technical assistance to the ongoing revisions of the Social Insurance Law and the Law on Employment. UN support focused on addressing social protection challenges, including

child labour, violence and abuse against women and children, children without parental care, vulnerable migrants, informal workers and social care for older persons and persons with disabilities. Importantly, the UN's support emphasizes ensuring tripartite engagement of workers, employers and national authorities in lawmaking processes.

ILO and UNICEF also continued to support Viet Nam's efforts to eradicate child labour through the country's role as a pathfinder country for Alliance 8.7 – the global partnership for eradicating forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour around the world. UNICEF produced a social protection policy brief which included key advocacy messages on the importance of investing in **child-sensitive social assistance**, strengthening **shock-responsive social protection** through the implementation of cash transfers in emergencies and **gender-responsive social protection**. The advocacy messages have been well received by both Government and development partners. A UNICEF case study on how and why (or why not) gender-responsive approaches were incorporated into social protection reform policies – specifically in the Master Plan for Social Assistance Reform and Development (MPSARD) and Decree 20 – revealed a low level of financial, human, evidence and knowledge resources for gender mainstreaming. This suggests the need to strengthen gender mainstreaming capacity among related stakeholders.

UNDP, in partnership with Government and the private sector, furthered the social assistance agenda by successfully testing the **digitalization of social assistance** self-registration and management of social assistance transfers in eight provinces. The scaling up and replication of the tested solutions in other localities was also advocated. In parallel, UNDP conducted policy research for identifying the most feasible options to expand social assistance coverage.



Silk drying. Photo credit: UN Viet Nam/Nguyen Ngoc Hai

Social care for **migrant workers** and their families was another key focus area for the UN in 2022, led by IOM. More than two million migrant workers and their families, especially informal sector workers, looked to return to their home provinces after prolonged COVID-19 lockdowns. This reverse migration continued into early 2022 and overwhelmed the ability of local frontline authorities to properly receive and support return migrants and their families in vulnerable situations. IOM played a key role in coordinating with the provincial authorities to equip migration reception facilities and strengthen the capacity of 405 frontline officers and practitioners. A Multi-Purpose Cash Allowance (MPCA) was also provided by IOM as well as medical and psychological support as needed to 2,565 migrants (1,120 women) who were assessed to be vulnerable and in need of emergency assistance. Further counselling and referral support for reintegration into their home provinces was provided to 506 migrants (267 women).

KEY RESULTS

400 caregivers for older persons trained

23 instructional videos on home-based and community-based care for older persons developed

700 social welfare officers and frontline workers from the five most COVID-19-affected provinces gained improved knowledge and skills on case management for alternative childcare and mental health and psychosocial support

600 children orphaned due to COVID-19 assessed, of which **100 children** received support

As population demographics in Viet Nam shift to a rapidly ageing society with low birth rates, it is important for the UN to focus on building national capacity for **social care for older persons**. While a million older persons need daily care, the current institutional care system can only provide support for 10,000 older persons.¹⁰ Both UNFPA and UNICEF were proactive in capacity development for this area by developing guidelines and conducting trainings for 400 caregivers on community-based care for older persons and strengthening capacity of the Network for the Development of Business Services for Older Persons to foster engagement of the private sector in providing care services for older persons.

Likewise, the needs for **social care of vulnerable children** are evident, with 72.4 percent of children aged 1–14 years having experienced violent discipline and an estimated 1.7 million children identified as child labourers, victims of violence and abuse, children without parental care and children in conflict with the law.¹¹ The UN, led by UNICEF, improved capacity for the social welfare system to provide better care and support to children without parental care, especially orphans and children affected by COVID-19. As a result, 600 children orphaned due to COVID-19 in these provinces were assessed, and among them 100 children received necessary support. UNICEF also supported the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) in its reviews of current adoption procedures and emphasized the need to apply social work in adoption, as well as with providing recommendations to ensure the best interests of adopted children.

10 UNFPA (2022)

11 UNICEF (2021)

KEY RESULTS

KEY RESULTS

MOLISA Circular 09/2022 issued, guiding livelihood development using UNDP livelihood models

CEM Circular 01/2022 issued, guiding monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the National Targeted Programme (NTP) on Socio-economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas, supporting **10.2 million targeted beneficiaries**

Government Decree 27/2022A issued on management and outcome-based monitoring of the NTPs, shifting the poverty reduction approach from financial assistance to capacity building, benefiting an **additional 10 million people**

Addressing multi-dimensional poverty and inequity

The UN continued to support the GOVN in 2022 in its efforts towards SDG1 by addressing multi-dimensional poverty and inequity in the country. Convened by UNDP, the UN developed policy proposals and innovative solutions in 2022 based on multi-dimensional poverty **data and analysis** to reduce poverty and inequity for ethnic minorities, disabled populations and vulnerable groups.

Through UN technical assistance, a legal framework was established to guarantee livelihood development and ensure accountability of NTPs to deliver outcomes. As a result, the multi-dimensional poverty rate was reduced to 3.6 percent compared to 4.8 percent in 2020 and the multi-dimensional child poverty rate declined to 10.9 percent from 14.5 percent in 2018.¹² The GOVN also adopted the new multi-dimensional poverty measurement, which has enabled an additional 10 million people to receive social benefits. Nevertheless, existing inequalities among the most vulnerable groups living in “poverty pockets” in ethnic minority and mountainous areas remain a challenge to address.

12 GSO (2022)

Making maternity protection a right for all women in Viet Nam

It's 6:30 am and 36-year-old H is hard at work in a -20° Celsius frozen storage room, arranging ice cream pints into foam boxes. Working with her husband in a small business to supply wholesale ice cream to retail stores across Thanh Hoa city, H spends an average of 2 hours every day in the room under this extreme temperature. Just one month after welcoming her first child in 2012, H was back to her daily routine in the frozen storage room, much to the worries of her mother. It's traditional Vietnamese belief that women should avoid exposure to the cold during the postpartum period.

While H knew that going to work would affect her health, she had no other choice. "Back then, I had a cousin who worked in the garment factory and gave birth to a child, she got paid maternity leave. But for me, taking such a leave would mean my son would go hungry."

Health problems began in the year to follow for H. Sinus, allergies, continuous runny nose, she says, are perhaps the result of the daily confinement in the cold. Worse still, she then suffered a total of 5 miscarriages before being able to give birth to her second child after costly treatment.

H is just one example among the hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese women giving birth each year but who are not entitled to cash maternity benefits to compensate for the loss of income due to taking a break after delivery. According to the international labour standards, women who are absent from work on maternity leave shall be entitled to a cash benefit which shall be no less than two-thirds of her previous earnings in a minimum period of 14 weeks to ensure an adequate rest and recovery time for the mother.

In Viet Nam, the maternity benefit is regulated in the Social Insurance Law and only applies to workers in the compulsory scheme. The benefit allows female workers to take six months of leave with monthly cash benefits equivalent to 100% of the average salary of the six months prior to maternity leave.

Although the maternity benefit in Viet Nam is considered to be one of the most generous in the region in terms of both duration and benefit level, the majority of women cannot access to it due to the limited coverage of the compulsory social insurance scheme. According to the ILO, only 30 per cent of women in the labour force were covered for maternity¹³. Considering that not all women

13 ILO (2019), McClanahan, Shea, Bjorn Gelders and Betina Ramírez López. A focus in families: A short-term benefit package for the extension of multi-tiered social security coverage in Vietnam. Ha Noi



"She told me to rest more. [If I didn't take good postpartum care and keep working like this], my health would suffer later when I am older", H shared. Photo credit: ILO Viet Nam

are in the labour force, the effectiveness and the level of protection are low.

The ILO and the Viet Nam Women's Union, together with other stakeholders, are advocating for the adoption of a multi-tiered maternity benefit which would make maternity protection a right for all women in Viet Nam, regardless of their employment status.

The cost of the maternity benefit for uninsured women is estimated at less than 0.04 per cent of GDP in 2020, declining to 0.02 per cent of GDP in 2030¹⁴. Another study estimates the cost of providing a monthly allowance equal to the basic salary for six months to all uninsured women is about 0.10 per cent of GDP over the long term, which represents less than 50 per cent of the cost of social insurance maternity benefits in the short-term, and less than 30 per cent in the long term¹⁵. With such a maternity benefit system in place, mothers like H will be supported with more time to care for themselves and for their babies, employment stability, and income security, all of which is very important for their well-being, socio-economic position, and labour trajectories.

14 ILO (2019), McClanahan, Shea, Bjorn Gelders and Betina Ramírez López. A focus in families: A short-term benefit package for the extension of multi-tiered social security coverage in Vietnam.

15 ILO. 2019 (unpublished), *Technical Note on Maternity Benefits in Viet Nam*.



OUTCOME 2. CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE, DISASTER RESILIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will benefit from and contribute to a safer and cleaner environment resulting from Viet Nam's effective mitigation and adaptation to climate change, disaster-risk reduction and resilience building, the provision of clean and renewable energy, and the sustainable management of natural resources.

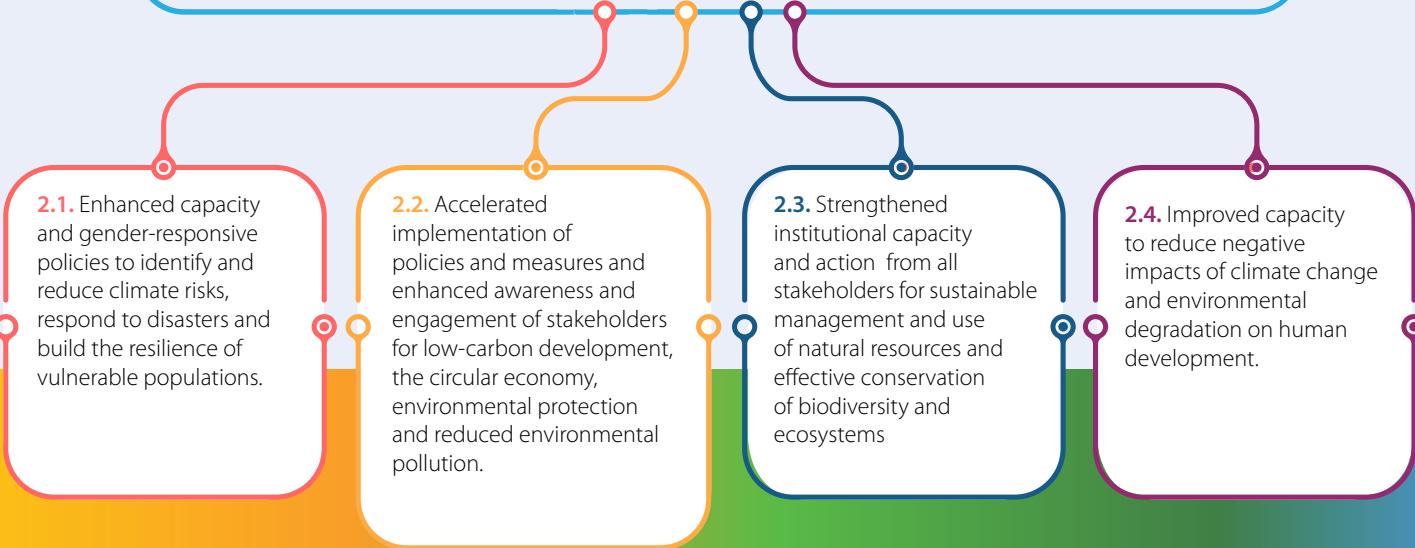
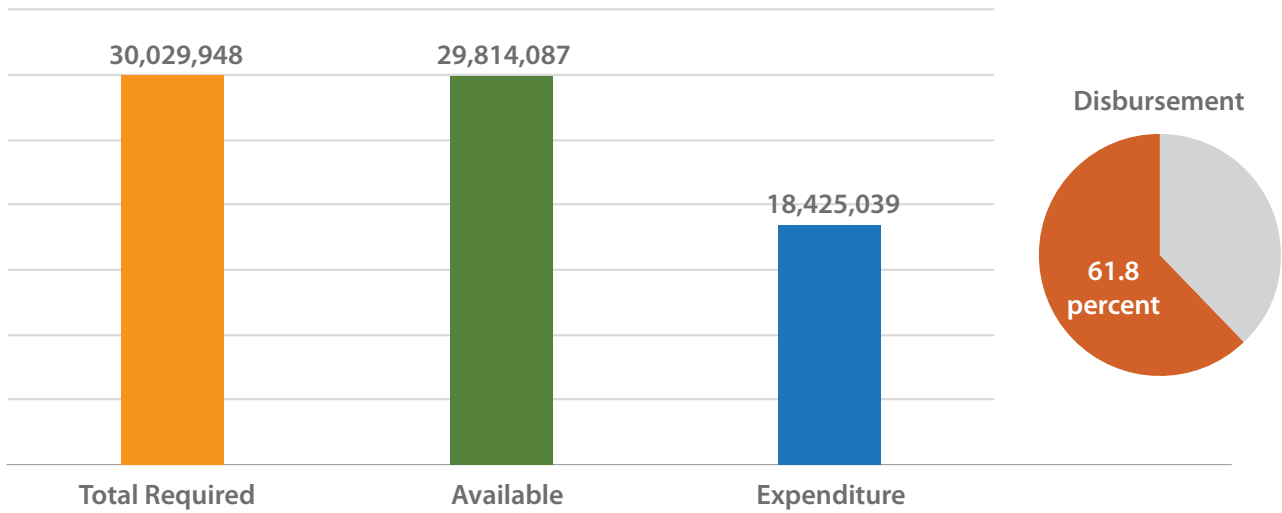


FIGURE 8. OUTCOME 2 BUDGET IN 2022 (US\$)

Outcome 2. Climate Change & Environment



Identifying and reducing climate risks, responding to disasters and building the resilience of vulnerable populations

The impacts of typhoon Noru and tropical storm Sonca served as important reminders of the critical need to build capacity for reducing climate risks, responding to disasters and ensuring resilience in Viet Nam, especially for vulnerable populations. In 2022, important results were achieved in this area. The UN Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Technical Working Group, under the technical leadership of UNDP with FAO, IFAD, IOM, UNDP, UN Women, UN-Habitat, UNICEF and WHO, supported the Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority (VDMA) in conducting a gender-sensitive mid-term review of the Sendai Framework for DRR in Viet Nam. The review assessed implementation progress and recommended actions to be undertaken for 2023–2030 and beyond, with a focus on vulnerable groups, especially children, older persons, persons with disabilities and the poor.

KEY RESULTS

17,035 people (47 percent women) from 158 communes have enhanced capacity on Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)

18,616 people (50 percent women) benefited from farmer field schools on climate-resilient agriculture and sustainable water use

1,816 people (34 percent women) benefited from vulnerability and risk assessment trainings

200 people (51 percent women) in the Central and Mekong Delta Regions gained improved knowledge of DRR and climate change adaptation application to business plans

1,000 children (51 percent girls) and 4,000 family members from 10 schools in Quang Nam province trained on tsunami evacuation

760 policymakers and experts benefited from trainings on greening agriculture towards low-carbon and resilient development

252 people (51 percent girls) benefited from a simulation exercise for anticipatory action

New **National Strategy on Climate Change (2021-2030)** developed with a section on **ensuring social security and gender equality**



BEAT THE INTERNET

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE ACTIONS

Da Nang, 10/2022



“Beat the Internet” TV gameshow on climate change and disaster risk reduction for children organized in 2022.
Photo credit: UNICEF Viet Nam

Efforts by multiple UN agencies including UNICEF, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UN Women and UN-Habitat to develop institutional and individual capacity on **disaster risk reduction** (DRR) also **focused on vulnerable groups**. A noteworthy area of support from UN Women and development partners made sure that for the first time, a section on ensuring social security and gender equality was integrated into the new National Strategy on Climate Change (NSCC) 2021-2030 in 2022. This is also the first instance that gender equality is mentioned as being central to a NSCC.

The COVID-19 pandemic additionally emphasized the value of **community engagement and risk communications in disaster prevention**. Over the past year, the UN supported the VDMA and key partners in conducting communications and outreach activities on disaster risk reduction. The support aimed at raising awareness and encouraging community participation in preventing disasters and adapting to the impact of climate change. The innovative media campaign “Together we act – For a safe, clean and green Viet Nam for every child” organized by UNICEF and the Standing Office of the National Steering Committee on Disaster Prevention and Control (NSCDPC) attracted more than 33,000 participants and 1.6 million viewers. It included activities such

KEY RESULTS

5,000 students joined the **“Beat the Internet” TV gameshow** on climate change and disaster risk reduction for children

8,590 videos created, reaching **26,000 Facebook members** as part of the **1-minute Green Video Challenge**

“Descendants of Hai Ba Trung” podcast highlighted the voices of women and girls on the climate crisis

50,053 students from 555 secondary schools in all provinces and cities of Viet Nam participated in the **Green Shield Contest 2022**

as the TV gameshow “Beat the Internet” and the “1-minute green video challenge”. Through the campaign, children learned about climate change, disaster risk reduction and green actions. Public awareness of the central issues children face from climate change and natural disasters were also raised.





Cuộc thi LÁ CHẮN XANH

Tìm hiểu về phòng chống thiên tai
và biến đổi khí hậu

THAM GIA THI >>



The Green Shield Contest to promote the knowledge of natural disaster prevention and response and climate change.
Photo credit: UNDP Viet Nam

Two other innovative events were organized by UNDP in 2022. The first was the “Competition on Innovative Communication Solutions to Reduce the Impacts of Climate Change and Increase Resilience to Disasters”, which received 416 submissions from the students of 43 universities across 34 provinces and cities. The second was the “Green Shield Contest” to promote the knowledge of natural disaster prevention and response and climate change, which saw the participation of 50,053 students from 555 secondary schools in all provinces and cities of Viet Nam.

National and provincial capacity for **disaster monitoring** was also strengthened through proactive UN support across agencies. UNDP provided technical assistance to the VDMA for the revision and application of the Provincial Disaster Management Indicators (PDMI), as well as training on the indicators, which was approved

by the Prime Minister in Decision 09/QĐ-QGPCTT. FAO and UN Women further supported VDMA to collect disaggregated vulnerability data on sex, age and disability (SADD) for disaster monitoring. This included FAO support to VDMA to provide training on data collection to 300 disaster management officials who then carried out data collection in all communes of Quang Binh and Thua Thien Hue provinces. UN Women’s support ensured that 290 disaster management officials of Ha Tinh and Quang Tri provinces were trained and able to collect disaggregated data to guide actions and fulfil the promise that no one is left behind in disaster response. FAO then worked with VDMA to integrate the collected data into the Viet Nam Disaster Monitoring System (VDMS) to improve the prediction of potential disaster impact. Through UNICEF’s leadership, the Children’s Climate Risk Index (CCRI) was also deployed in three targeted provinces for scale up across the country, along

KEY RESULTS

300 households (648 people, 64 percent women) received water-tight drums to protect food and assets

300 households (887 people, 56 percent women) received unconditional cash to purchase food

73 new storm- and flood-resilient houses built in Quang Binh



UNDP shares the resilient housing model with UN Secretary-General António Guterres during his visit to Viet Nam in October 2022. [Read the story.](#) Photo credit: UNDP

with the development of a multi-sectoral regional Disaster Risk Management Plan for the entire Mekong Delta Region.

In the wake of typhoon Noru and tropical storm Sonca that hit Central Viet Nam in September and October 2022, the UN in Viet Nam delivered **humanitarian support** by providing assistance to the most impacted communities. UN support shifted from ex-post to ex-ante in DRR by focusing on anticipatory action and social protection through capacity development and strategic planning. FAO activated anticipatory actions ahead of typhoon Noru on 28 September 2022. Through these actions, 300 vulnerable households (648 people, 64 percent women) received water-tight drums to protect food and assets in Thua Thien

Hue province and an additional 300 vulnerable households (887 people, 56 percent women) received unconditional cash to purchase food and water-tight drums to protect food and assets in Quang Tri province. Post-distribution monitoring indicated that the beneficiaries were less likely to resort to negative coping mechanisms and strategies in the aftermath of the storm. Moreover, by building on the successful experience of constructing 4,000 flood and storm-resilient houses for vulnerable coastal communities, UNDP initiated a crowdfunding campaign to mobilize resources for the construction of 73 new resilient houses in Quang Binh. These houses will help poor and near-poor households cope with disasters and protect their lives, livelihoods and assets.

Resilient Housing for most vulnerable coastal community – local solution to global challenge

Over the past three decades, Viet Nam lost on average 1 to 1.5 per cent of GDP annually to climate-related disasters. In the coastal areas, storms and floods are occurring more frequently, leading to loss of lives, homes, personal assets, and livelihoods. Vulnerable communities are most in need to cope with climate-related risks and impacts.

One way to cope with shocks is to build resilient houses. Ms. Hoang Thi Thoan, 70 years old, in Phong Chuong commune, Phong Dien district, Thua Thien Hue province, is a recipient of a resilient house. In the past, every storm season was a season of anxiety for Ms. Thoan. Her old, dilapidated house could no longer protect her family. She used to have to evacuate, leaving her house and everything destroyed every year. With her new resilient house, Ms. Thoan, she feels safe. “When the storm season comes, I don’t have to worry anymore! I am so grateful for the support!” said Ms. Thoan.

So far, more than 7,100 resilient houses have been built for most vulnerable coastal families, especially women-headed households, people with disabilities and the elderly. According to a recent study by UNDP and the Ministry of Construction, over 110,000 families still live without safe housing across 28 coastal provinces. There is an urgent need to scale up this successful model to most vulnerable families across the coastal provinces in Viet Nam. By using locally available materials and mobilizing locally trained masons, each house could be built at less than US\$4,000, which is affordable for replication.



During flooding, Ms. Hoang Thi Thoan in Thua Thien Hue province stayed on the garret and received food from the rescue team.
Photo credit: UNDP in Viet Nam

This storm and flood resilient housing model was featured during the visit of UN Secretary-General António Guterres to Viet Nam in October 2022, as a concrete example of how the UN supports resilience of the vulnerable coastal families to natural disasters and climate risks.



Women take part in entrepreneurship activities for climate-resilient livelihoods under UNEP's EmPower project.
Photo credit: UN Women Viet Nam/Hoang Thao

Accelerating low-carbon development, the circular economy, environmental protection and reduced environmental pollution

In 2022, UN agencies made a number of contributions to the GOVN's work on building a circular economy, enhancing environmental protection, advancing low-carbon development and reducing environmental pollution.

Creating an enabling environment for a **circular economy** remained a top priority for the GOVN and the UN in Viet Nam in 2022. With leadership from UNDP, UN efforts laid the foundation for developing a circular economy National Action Plan. This support included the development of criteria, a roadmap and incentive mechanisms necessary for a circular economy to take root in Viet Nam, including in the country's legal framework (such as in Articles 138-140, Section 3 of Decree No. 08/2022/ND-CP on the elaboration of several articles of the Law on Environmental Protection). UNDP also supported the development of technical guidelines on a

circular economy and the operation of Viet Nam's Circular Economy Hub together with the Institute of Strategy, Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE).

The UN further worked in promoting circular economy and to advance **sustainable production and consumption** in 2022. Through UNIDO's leadership, the UN enhanced the regulatory conditions for an eco-industrial park (EIP) transition and the establishment of new eco-industrial parks in Viet Nam by supporting the amendment of Decree 82/ND-CP to Decree 35/2022/ND-CP on the management of industrial parks and economic zones. Guidelines were developed for the reuse of industrial solid waste, steps were proposed to reuse solid waste in industrial parks and regulations were proposed on water management towards a circular economy. In addition, UNIDO supported the integration of an EIP approach into other relevant policies and strategies including the Sustainable Production and Consumption Strategy to 2030, the National

KEY RESULTS

Viet Nam's Circular Economy Hub has 40 organizational members, 2,200 monthly visitors and 156 enterprises trained to apply circular business models

10,707 people (65 percent women) benefited from workshops on solid waste and plastic management

152 lecturers, managers, technical staff and students trained on the circular economy

156 businesses trained and **23 circular business models** developed and implemented

330 people (55 percent women) with enhanced knowledge and skills on e-mobility and green transport

Blue economy scenarios for Viet Nam released at the International Conference on Sustainable Ocean Economy and Climate Change Adaptation

"Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2022" Special Report developed

2,387,602 tons of CO₂e circumvented through rehabilitation and planting of mangrove forests

1,678 people (39 percent women) with improved knowledge on eco-industrial park through 20 workshops and trainings

278 eco-industrial park opportunities being implemented which could result in CO₂ emission reduction of 1,173,517t CO₂/year

Green Growth Strategy and Action Plan, the scheme on circular economy development in Viet Nam and the scheme on tasks and solutions to implement the results of the COP26. A set of national EIP indicators related to environment, economy, society and park management aspects were developed and tested in industrial parks. Beyond EIPs, the production of standard biochar using green pyrolysis technology was promoted in Viet Nam through awareness raising and technology transfer events with government stakeholders, agro-tech manufacturing companies and potential users of the technology.

Equally important as its circular economy work, was the UN's efforts to support **environmental protection** in 2022. Led by UN-Habitat, the UN provided support to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) in implementing Decision 287/QĐ-TTg on Mekong Delta Planning period 2021-2030 with a vision to 2050 in which people and water resources are considered as the centre. Investment in small-scale infrastructure interventions and technologies was also initiated by UN-Habitat with an aim to

sustainably manage water resources and protect coastal areas, while also enhancing the resilient and adaptive capacity of coastal communities and ecosystems against the impacts of climate change and sea level rise. To achieve these aims, sustainable eco-human settlements were promoted in Tra Vinh and Bac Lieu provinces.

Looking towards the sustainable use of ocean resources, together with the Viet Nam Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI), UNDP supported the development of **blue economy** scenarios for Viet Nam. These were released at the International Conference on Sustainable Ocean Economy and Climate Change Adaptation with 400 offline and 1,000 online participants including government leaders, ministers and experts from 44 countries. The event's livestream broadcasts were viewed by more than 50,000 people. The Strategy covers six key economic sectors and highlights the benefits of applying blue scenarios in terms of GDP and gross national income (GNI). UNEP also supported ISPONRE in the development of criteria for a sustainable blue economy and collaborated with the Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI)

in undertaking a rapid assessment of Viet Nam's readiness to transition to a sustainable blue economy.

On the **climate** front, UNDP provided technical support to the GOVN through MONRE to realign its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2022 in order to reflect the increased ambition of the mitigation commitments that Viet Nam made at COP26. A total of 2,387,602 tonnes of CO₂e has been circumvented as a result of UNDP support to rehabilitate and plant mangrove forests, contributing towards the achievement of Viet Nam's NDC.

Recognizing **the critical role youth play in the climate transition**, the "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2022" Special Report was launched by UNDP in collaboration with the Department of Climate Change from MONRE. The report was co-written by 24 young authors from across Viet Nam and includes important information on youth in climate policy and decision-making processes, accelerating the transition towards the circular economy, climate change mitigation for net zero and climate change adaptation/DRR. The report underscores the importance of engaging youth in discussions and initiatives surrounding climate change.

Led by UNDP, the UN also accelerated **decarbonization** of the transportation sector in 2022 through electrification and the promotion of e-mobility. Three critical technical standards were produced: charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, battery swapping stations for electric vehicles and the National Action Plan on environmentally-friendly passenger transport.

UNEP, through the EmPower Project, also set up financing mechanisms for and installation of renewable energy systems to support women's entrepreneurship for climate-resilient livelihoods. More than 1,000 women reported that their livelihoods improved because of the use of renewable energy.

Narrowing in on the wood processing sector, ILO conducted an analysis of the major constraints faced by enterprises in the sector and identified the need for technical support on decarbonization as the main issue. The push towards decarbonization in the sector is driven by the increasing demand for low-carbon wood in the global market and by emerging requests to supplier companies in Viet Nam to comply with mandatory decarbonization targets that will be introduced in 2023. Yet, little information about the specific requirements and on the changes needed in the production process is available to export-oriented companies. ILO will provide support to the sector in 2023-2025 to address these gaps. To support the transition towards greener chemical and pharmaceutical industries, the capacity of trade unions in Viet Nam was also strengthened by ILO.

Strengthening sustainable management of natural resources and effective conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems

The UN contributed towards SDG 15 in 2022 by supporting the GOVN to build institutional capacity to strengthen the sustainable management and use of natural resources and enhance its conservation efforts. Led by FAO, the UN worked with MARD and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) to start developing a national

KEY RESULTS

Circular No. 17/2022/TT-BNNPTNT on silviculture measures approved, contributing to improved forest management

378,600 hectares of forest and marine protected areas restored, created or under improved sustainable management practices

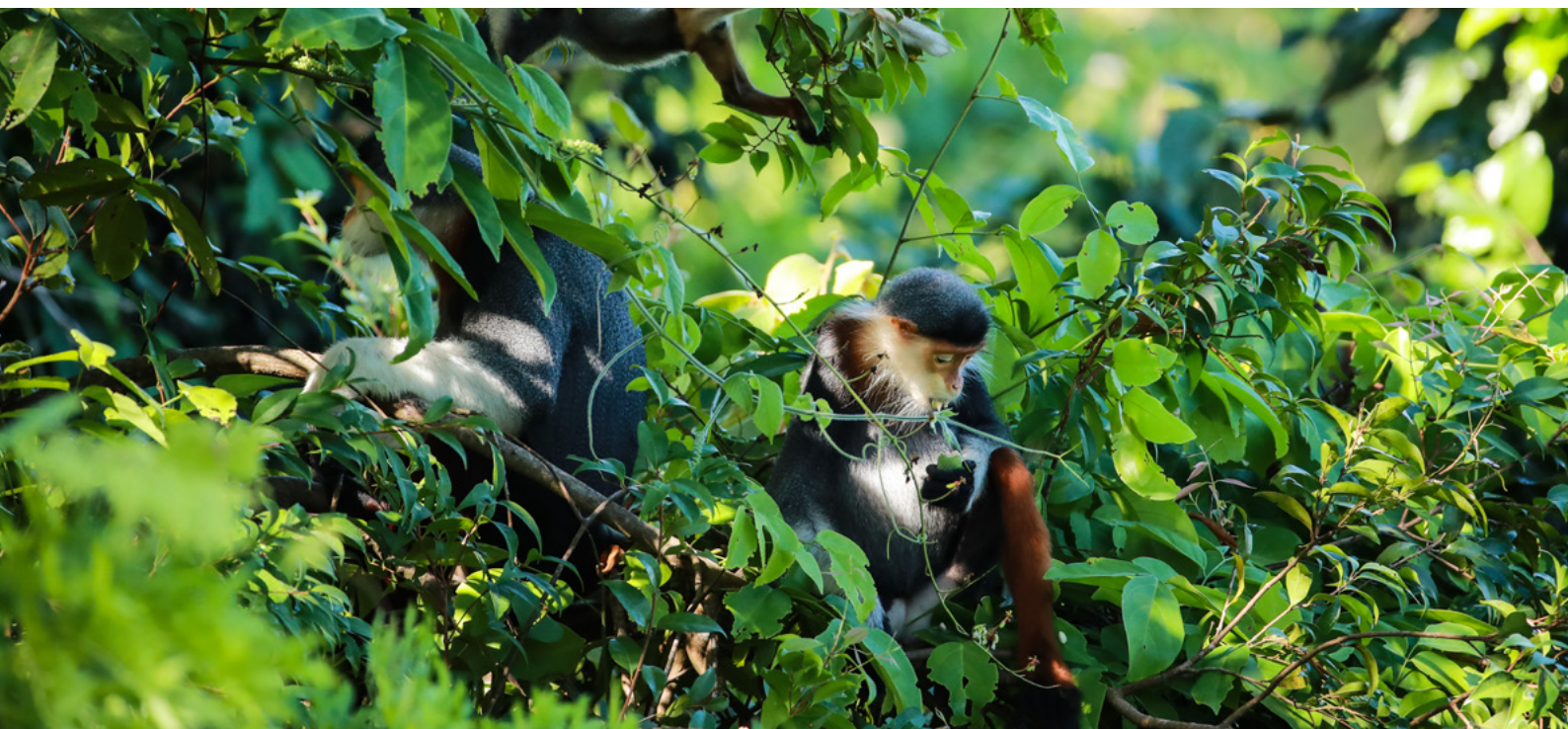
Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for GHG-emissions in the rice sector.

The main focus has been to identify technical requirements and methodologies to monitor emissions reliably and transparently, as well as to develop requirements to support various stakeholders – especially farmers – to adopt new technologies and practices. The work on the MRV system is feeding into MARD's efforts to formulate the Scheme on the Sustainable Production of 1 Million Hectares of High-Quality Rice in the Mekong Delta, which aims to transform one million hectares of rice-farmed land into low-emission and high-quality rice production. This would improve the value of rice and the incomes of rice farmers, ensure food security and enhance processing and export capacity. The initiative also involved the exploration of financing options, including public financing, impact-based instruments and blended finance with the private sector.

Through its “soft infrastructure” interventions, UN-Habitat supported MONRE to develop risk and vulnerability assessment guidelines and associated training materials, as well as to organize trainings for local authorities and communities.

At the national level, Circular No. 17/2022/TT-BNNPTNT which amends and revises some of the Articles in Circular No. 29/2018/TT-BNNPTNT on silviculture measures was approved with UNDP support, contributing to improved **forest management**. Regulations on the management of the Biosphere Reserve (BR) system in Viet Nam were integrated into Decree 08/2022/ND-CP and Circular 02/2022/TT-BTNMT to enhance the effectiveness of BR management and operation in Viet Nam. With UNDP support, 378,600 hectares of forest and marine protected areas were restored, created or under improved sustainable management practices in 2022.

At the provincial level, UNDP worked with Binh Thuan province to develop innovative financial solutions for better **management of biodiversity and ecosystems** through the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN). The initiative aims to design a tourism fee system for sustainable community-based ecotourism development and to develop a financial mechanism for a sustainable fisheries co-management model, which is expected to be approved and implemented in 2023.



Happiness in the old forest. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Ngo Tran Hai An

Reducing negative impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on human development

As one of the 20 most vulnerable countries to climate change, Viet Nam's human development is significantly impacted by climatic and environmental changes. With this in mind, the UN in Viet Nam worked to improve capacity to reduce these negative impacts in 2022, especially for the most vulnerable. A model for resilient commune health stations (CHS) with flood and storm-resilient features was developed to build **resilience to the impacts of climate change** and **enhance adaptive capacity** of the most vulnerable in Thua Thien Hue, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh provinces. These resilient CHS, which will break ground in 2023, will include provisions and equipment so that services can continue in the event of disasters, rooftop solar panels to reduce GHG emissions and "grassroots telehealth function rooms" with necessary IT equipment and the "Doctor for Everyone" software installed and ready to use.

This is the continuation of the successful "Doctor for Everyone" digital telehealth system model by the MOH and UNDP which operates in eight provinces, 87 districts and 1,259 wards/communes, with 4,198 healthcare workers trained to use the system. The model enables commune health staff to seek consultation from their colleagues at the district and higher levels and enhances people's access to quality health diagnoses and treatment right at the commune health station – reducing overloads at district and higher-level health facilities. More than 45,000 community members now have "Doctor for Everyone" accounts and 661 people have had their first health examination appointments with commune health stations.



The UNDP and MOH "Doctor for Everyone" digital telehealth system is used in Ban Phung commune, Hoang Su Phi district, Hà Giang province. *Photo credit: Nguyen Thanh Ha/UNDP*

KEY RESULTS

Resilient commune health stations model developed

45,000 community members have "Doctor for Everyone" accounts and **661 people** had their first health examination appointments with commune health stations

4,198 mountainous grassroots healthcare workers (44 percent women) gained enhanced capacity for healthcare service provision through the "Doctor for Everyone" telehealth system

Building resilience to natural disasters through Anticipatory Action

Ms. Hoang Thi Do

Quang Tri Province

When Typhoon Noru hit Central Viet Nam, 58-year-old Do, was living in a commune next to the Thach Han River in Quang Tri province. Typhoons like Noru are common occurrences in her commune where flood waters can rise quickly.

Do used to be an avid rice and vegetable farmer, often raising pigs, ducks and chickens alongside the rice paddies. But today her hands and legs “fail me”, in her own words, and she finds herself tending to a small home garden, providing enough for her and her mother who just turned 86. But this life is extremely frail to the whims of natural hazards such as typhoons.

Three days prior to Typhoon Noru making landfall, she “received warnings through the loudspeaker with local information about what to do. I had enough time to prepare before it [the typhoon] came. I knew it was coming”. Like most years during typhoon events, she quickly packed her key personal and essential items and moved her mother to the upper floor of her house, thanks



Hoang Thi Do, Quang Tri Province. Photo credit: FAO Viet Nam

to the support of the community volunteers.

Two days before the typhoon hit, Do received cash and a watertight drum from FAO to help her enduring the adverse consequences of the typhoon. “I was able to buy fresh vegetables and tinned fish, rice and spices quickly at the market, which I often cannot purchase once the waters start to rise. I also bought plastic sheets to cover the roof and it often leaks when the rains come in and can ruin everything.” With the watertight drum she “put the clothes, blankets and pillows inside to keep them dry”.

Building resilience to natural disasters through Anticipatory Action

Ms. Hoang Thi Thuan

Quang Tri Province

Hoang Thi Thuan, 59, and her sister, Hoang Thi Xuan, 55, are no strangers to typhoons and their yearly occurrence. In the past, when the flood waters would rise after a typhoon, local volunteers would gather their boats to bring her and her family to a safe space to escape the water. Now Hoang has a “resilient house”, made from wood and concrete that allows her and her family “to move upstairs and keep ourselves and our personal items dry by putting them up high.”

Like others in her community, Thuan was thankful to receive the early warnings in time “through the loudspeakers as I have no phone or radio.” She received the warning 5 days before Noru made an impact and “government volunteers came and helped us move everything in time and prepare the house. The warnings from the local government are really good and on time. We always have enough time to prepare.”

But what made an extra difference this time, was the extra support she received two days before Noru hit. “I had a means of ensuring we were not only safe but we could eat and buy some extras”.



Hoang Thi Thuan, Quang tri Province. *Photo credit: FAO Viet Nam*

Building resilience to natural disasters through Anticipatory Action

Le Thi Vi & Nguyen Hue

Quang Tri Province

Le Thi Vi & Nguyen Hue, both 84 years old, are still farming. Vi points out that they used to work on bigger rice paddy fields but now “work on only what we need to take care of our chickens and ducks with some vegetables to keep us going.” We also get a small grant through the social protection system for retirees around US\$ 15 each per month.

During Typhoon Noru, Hue recalls “when the first warnings came through over the loudspeakers, we went to take shelter nearby in a stronger neighbours house with a second story, we only have a one story house here and it is weak. We sat through the night hearing the strong winds blow through”

When moving to the new location to bunker down for Typhoon Noru, FAO supported the couple by providing cash and a watertight drum for their personal goods. For future events, support to “make structures stronger like our house or the poultry shelter would be really useful. But for now, this support was really helpful and we can use the drum again when the next warning reaches us.”

The stories of Ho, Hoang, Vi and Hue, provide clear evidence that anticipatory action can be a crucial component of disaster risk management strategies, mobilizing support ahead of a forecast hazard. AA interventions deliver preemptive support to protect people’s lives and livelihoods ahead of forecast shocks. The success of AA depends on the existence and implementation of risk monitoring systems, and the identification of triggers for action as well as suitable support actions for the most at-risk population. Evidence shows that anticipating crises can increase the resilience of vulnerable communities, while providing a more efficient and more dignified approach to managing crises.

With the project “Increasing capacities and scale for Anticipatory Action including through Social Protection systems” funded by DG ECHO, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is working towards upscaling the AA approach by building government and partner capacities, while supporting the uptake and institutionalization by relevant national stakeholders as well as ensuring community engagement. Anticipatory actions were



Nguyen Hue, Quang Tri province. Photo credit: FAO Viet Nam

activated ahead of typhoon Noru on 28 September 2022, with the delivery of water-tight drums and unconditional cash to 600 households, such as Ho, Hoang, Vi and Hue.

Under the project, FAO has developed an AA protocol (AAP) for drought and an AAP for typhoons. The AAP for drought targets 6 provinces in the Mekong River Delta and Central Highlands, providing guidance to humanitarian and development partners on how to monitor drought indices and implement specific anticipatory actions to protect people’s lives and livelihoods ahead of forecast drought effects. The operationalization of the AAP for droughts and its integration with Provincial Disaster Management Plans in vulnerable provinces provides the opportunity to avoid the worst impacts on vulnerable people’s livelihoods.



OUTCOME 3. SHARED PROSPERITY THROUGH ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will contribute to and benefit equally from more sustainable, inclusive and gender-responsive economic transformation based on innovation, entrepreneurship, enhanced productivity, competitiveness and decent work.

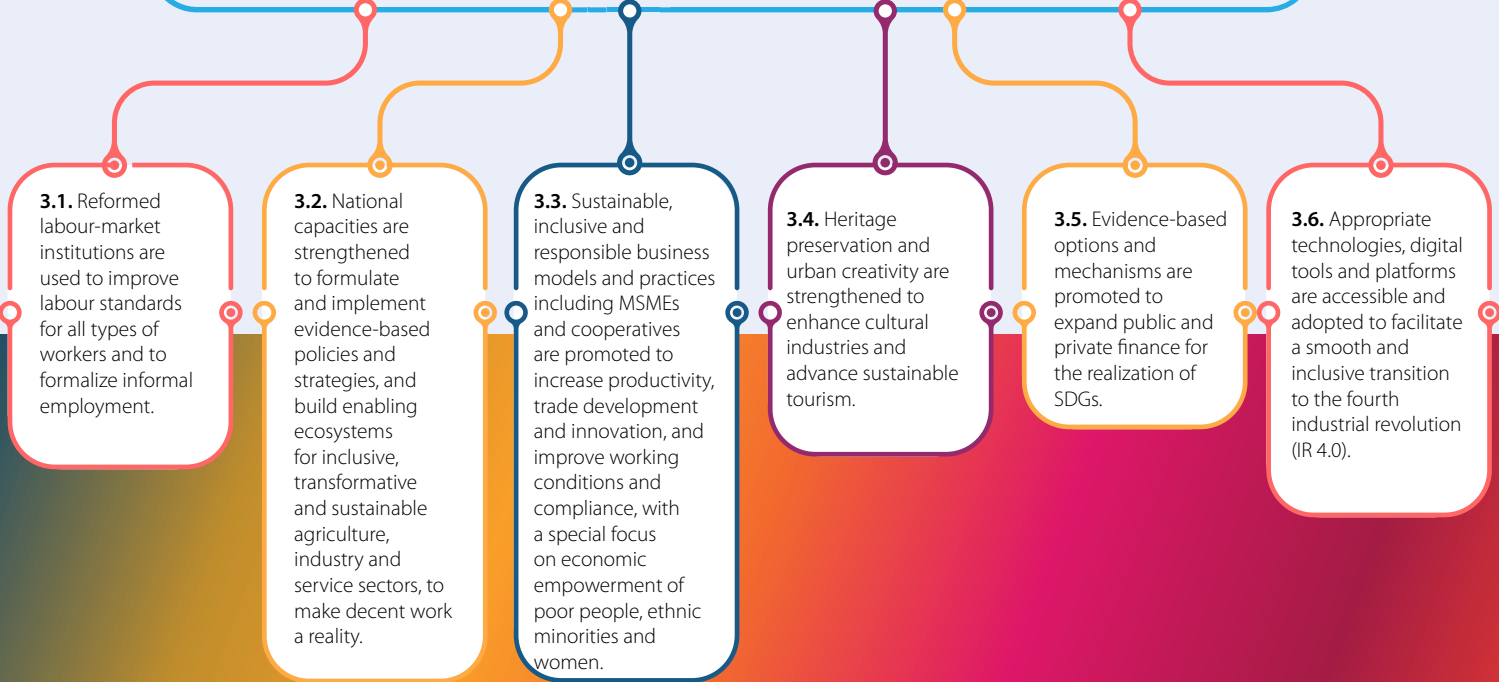
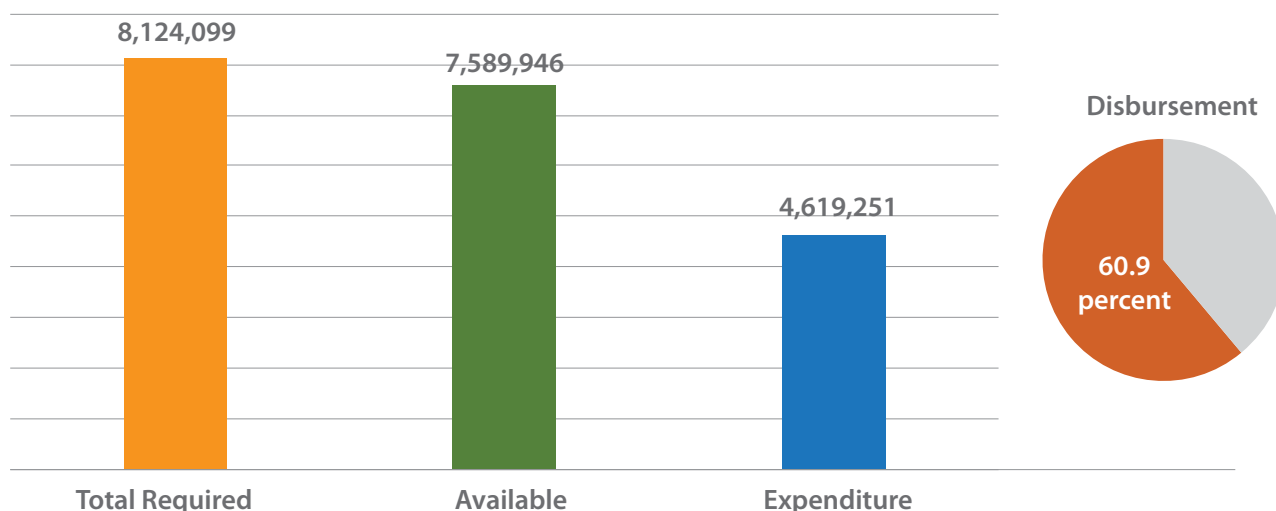


FIGURE 9. OUTCOME 3 BUDGET IN 2022 (US\$)

Outcome 3. Shared Prosperity



Reforming labour-market institutions

In 2022, ILO led the UN’s efforts in setting and promoting **standards and fundamental principles and rights at work**, creating greater opportunities for women and men to access decent employment and income, enhancing the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all and strengthening tripartism and social dialogue. The revision of major laws including the Social Insurance Law, the Cooperative Law and the Employment Law (unemployment insurance component) benefited from UN technical expertise. In particular, ILO’s technical comments were integrated and reflected in the amended draft Cooperative Law scheduled to be approved and endorsed by the National Assembly in the second quarter of 2023.

In addition to legal frameworks, UN expertise was deployed to support key sectors, such as coffee farmers’ access to social protection and occupational health services. To support continued strengthening of the tripartism institution on social dialogue and labour, ILO further reinforced the capacity of the National Industrial Relations Committee (NIRC) to oversee all newly arisen industrial relations issues and

challenges and to provide relevant and timely actions to address them. ILO also supported the piloting of an electronic case management system (ECMS) at both national and subnational levels to enhance the capacity and efficiency of the labour inspection system.

Strengthening inclusive, transformative and sustainable agriculture, industry and service sectors to make decent work a reality

In 2022, UNIDO and IOM jointly contributed to the UN’s work to strengthen national capacities across sectors to make decent work a reality and achieve progress towards SDG 8. UNIDO provided technical support to MARD to develop a proposal on the Food Innovation Network for **transforming the food system** in Viet Nam as a means to realize the GOVN’s commitment made at the UN Food System Summit 2021. UNIDO also provided policy advice to the newly issued Resolution No. 29-NQ/TW on continuing to promote **industrialization and modernization** of the country until 2030, with a vision to 2045.

IOM partnered with the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry – Ho Chi Minh City (VCCI-HCMC) to conduct a study on the impact of

KEY RESULTS

Gender-responsive MPI Circular 06/2022 developed

Public Procurement Law amendment incorporated gender

15 Vietnamese companies won Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Awards

1,325 users (825 women) trained on women's leadership, entrepreneurship management and sustainable development

816,071 workers with improved working conditions through improved labour compliance of **467 factories**

31 Social Impact Businesses (SIBs) provided with technical and financial support to test new solutions, products and services to cope with the impact of COVID-19

COVID-19 on the employment of internal **migrant workers** and roles of stakeholders by looking at the apparel, footwear and electronic sector as a case study. Building on this study, IOM discussed and agreed with the Department for Overseas Labour (DOLAB) under MOLISA on a detailed plan to strengthen the management of international recruitment towards better protection of Vietnamese migrant workers. Targeted activities were identified, including the dissemination of Law 69 on Contract-Based Vietnamese Overseas Workers, to support 170 recruitment agencies and officials of 33 Employment Service Centres in Viet Nam. Support activities are in the form of multi-purpose cash assistance, referral services, psychological support, health examination and health care support, and the building of various skills for returned migrant workers towards safer labour migration and reintegration upon return.

Building sustainable, inclusive and responsible business models and practices

Through UN support in 2022, various business models were introduced, piloted and scaled up to increase productivity while at the same time ensuring sustainability and the economic empowerment of poor people, ethnic minorities

and women. Pyrolysis technology was also promoted by UNIDO and adopted as a green technology to minimize agricultural waste through the production of energy and biochar.

UNIDO provided technical support to increase quality and standards compliance capacity of the mango and pomelo fruit value chains in the Mekong River delta to facilitate their market access. As a result, quality infrastructure systems (including residue monitoring, traceability systems, testing labs, harmonized standards) were enhanced to facilitate export. In addition, 10 Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) were developed and applied by 725 value chain actors to be compliant with the quality requirements of five important target export markets (China, EU, Japan, Korea and US).

UNDP further worked to strengthen the capacity of **social impact businesses** (SIBs) and social impact intermediaries to be more resilient against COVID-19 impacts through product and process improvement, better business management skills and access to markets. The implementation of **ethical and responsible recruitment practices** was also enhanced through IOM's rapid assessment and development of tools for natural stone businesses and service enterprises. Eight capacity

building events on responsible recruitment were held to share due diligent toolkits with eight suppliers located in Viet Nam.

Gender was a key component of UN support for **inclusive business models** in 2022. UN Women supported the development of the gender-responsive Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) Circular 06/2022 which guides some provisions of Government Decree 80/2021 on regulating details of the SMEs Supporting Law, and supported the incorporation of gender in the Public Procurement Law amendment. The Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Awards were also organized in 2022 to recognize enterprises with strong gender equality policies and practices in the workplace, marketplace and community. Fifteen Vietnamese companies won WEPs Awards in 2022. To promote women's leadership, entrepreneurship management and sustainable development, a total of 25 e-learning lectures on these topics were developed (see <https://learn.vietnamsme.gov.vn/> and <https://lms.hvpngv.edu.vn/>) and 1,325 users (825 women) were trained through the lectures. A textbook on "Gender in Economics and Management" developed with UN Women's support was further used by 1,819 students in 2022.

Labour law and standards compliance was also advanced in 2022. The UN, through the work of ILO, improved the compliance of 467 garment, footwear and electronics factories to the national labour law and international labour standards, contributing to the improved working conditions of 816,961 workers as part of the Better Work Vietnam and Electronics Advisory Programme.

KEY RESULTS

Social Insurance Law, Cooperative Law and Employment Law (unemployment insurance component) revised with UN technical support

Electronic case management system piloted to enhance labour inspection system

Resolution No. 29-NQ/TW to **promote industrialization and modernization** issued with UN policy advice

Ha Noi city resolution on a strategy to develop the cultural industries adopted

40 members in both Hoi An and Trang An signed up for the **UNESCO Sustainable Tourism Pledge**



Nung people making traditional incense.

Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Nguyen Huu Thong

Strengthening heritage preservation and urban creativity

The UN also leaned into the nexus of preserving Viet Nam's rich heritage and catalyzing urban creativity to advance shared prosperity in 2022. The UNESCO-led joint project Ha Noi Rethink, participated in by UNIDO and UN-Habitat, showcased a successful model of mobilizing public and private partnerships and engaging youth in the new **urban planning** process, which placed culture at the heart of development and fostering urban creativity. The joint interventions by UNESCO, UNIDO and UN-Habitat contributed significantly to the capital city's visioning exercise. A major Ha Noi city resolution was adopted for the period 2021-2025 on a strategy to develop the cultural industries in correspondence with UNESCO's designation of a Creative City of Design.

In line with this strategic vision, a number of trainings and initiatives were supported to build the capacity of youth and women. Successful initiatives included a large campaign redesigning industrial heritage sites around the city, creative design contests in which cultural heritage inspired new contemporary designs, the strengthening of local Fab Labs' capacity on industrial design and I4.0 technologies to promote creativity and innovations that are rooted in Ha Noi's cultural heritage. A notable three-week event, the Ha Noi Festival of Creative Design held in November 2022, was co-hosted by Ha Noi City and the UN. The event attracted around one million participants and contributed to building new city branding in association with the leading urban creativity organizations in Southeast Asia.



Participants take part in one of the creative craft fairs co-organized by Ha Noi City and the joint UN team of UNESCO, UNIDO and UN-Habitat in August 2022. *Photo credit: UNESCO Viet Nam*

KEY RESULTS

24,585 people gained skills on digital literacy and data analysis

Digital manual for implementation of the National Targeted Programme for Socio-economic Development in Ethnic Minority Areas rolled out in **54 provinces**

Sustainable tourism that builds on Viet Nam's rich cultural heritage was a second key area of focus for the UN in 2022. UNESCO supported the successful early COVID-19 recovery of two major heritage destinations – Hoi An Ancient Town and Trang An World Heritage Sites. Besides significant promotional activities to mark the reopening of all major destinations, UNESCO activated large discussions and partnerships with the tourism private sector in Quang Nam and Ninh Binh provinces. The effort achieved a consensus among tourism businesses, local officials and sustainable tourism experts that business as usual was not an option. Instead, they opted for greener, smaller scale and more sustainable heritage-based tourism packages. The transformation that has occurred in Hoi An Ancient Town is explained in more detail in a [documentary video](#). By late 2022, the number of tourism businesses in the two locations that had signed up for the UNESCO Sustainable Tourism Pledge doubled, reaching 40 members at each location.

Expanding public and private finance for SDG realization

The UN continued to promote evidence-based options and mechanisms to expand public and private finance for the SDGs through its joint work and the work of individual agencies. As part of the culminating activities of the **Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF)** joint programme, the UN Resident Coordinator, with support from UNICEF, UNEP, UNDP and UN Women, conducted a high-level discussion with the MPI on taking forward sustainable financing for the SDGs in Viet Nam. Under the joint programme, UNDP conducted policy research which provides

evidence for aligning financial resources and development objectives, increasing efficiency of public investment and raising competitiveness of the private sector to crowd-in development finance.

Individual agencies also made important contributions to promoting **evidence-based mechanisms**. First, UNDP reports on establishing M&E mechanisms for the National Targeted Programmes (NTPs) were incorporated by the MPI into the preparation of Government Decree 27 on NTP management and implementation. Second, UN Women actively strengthened the capacity of relevant stakeholders to mainstream gender into Viet Nam's financial strategies to 2030 and to advocate for the development of an integrated financial framework towards achieving the SDGs in Viet Nam. Finally, UNICEF engaged the private sector in taking greater responsibility for preventing and mitigating child labour, upskilling young workers and promoting family-friendly policies through awareness raising, capacity building, policy review and enforcement.

Supporting the accessibility and adoption of technologies, digital tools and platforms for an inclusive transition to I4.0

In its efforts to promote access to new markets, the UN, through UNIDO and IFAD, helped to strengthen women and youth-led mango and pomelo value chains. Joint UN technical assistance facilitated the integration of digital tools, supported the creation of an enabling business environment and enhanced competitiveness, safety and sustainability for mango and pomelo production. Read the story below to learn about



Local artisans and youth entrepreneurs participate in a training led by UNESCO in Hoi An on sustainable tourism products.
Photo credit: UNESCO

the impact this technical support has had on Chanh Thu, a women and youth-owned business in the Mekong Delta.

IOM's e-learning platform (see www.congdanso.edu.vn) – initially developed in partnership with Microsoft and officially promoted to the nationwide TVET system in coordination with MOLISA – continued to attract users to its 22 free-to-access and self-paced learning courses. In 2022, the courses that attracted the most users were on **digital literacy and data analysis** as provided and certified by Microsoft (24,585 people completed the course), soft skills (2,213 people completed the course) and job application skills (520 persons completed the course). The platform will be further promoted to low-skilled workers to support their upskilling, in collaboration with the Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) and Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI).

UNDP's support to the development of a digital manual for the implementation of the National Targeted Programme for Socio-economic Development in Ethnic Minority Areas (NTP SEDEMA) led to a change in mindset, approach and procedures for managing and implementing the NTP with less cost and greater efficiency. The Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) has taken ownership of the manual and rolled out corresponding training to 54 provinces under NTP SEDEMA coverage.

First batch of Vietnamese pomelos are exported to the United States

After nearly six years of negotiations, Viet Nam's first batch of pomelos from Ben Tre Province in the Mekong River Delta was exported to the United States on 28 November 2022. This pomelo export is a pioneering effort by Chanh Thu Fruit Import-Export Group JSC (Chanh Thu) to a country with very strict pest control requirements. It was made possible through the joint efforts of pomelo value chain actors including exporters, farmers, researchers and other business providers.

UNIDO and the Institute of Agricultural Engineering & Technology After Harvest (VIAEP) were on the ground providing direct technical support in post-harvest treatment to this batch, under the framework of the SECO Global Quality and Standards Programme and the COVID-19 MPTF.

Chanh Thu, a women and youth-owned business in the Mekong Delta, received financial support from the IFAD AMD project and technical assistance from the COVID-19 MPTF project to build a new pomelo processing and preservation model with a capacity of five tons per hour. The new coating technology developed under the MPTF support extends shelf life by up to three months without using plastic wrap. The use of international standard traceability software was also adopted by Chanh Thu to improve the reputation and competitiveness of products in the global market.



The container truck that transported the first batch of Chanh Thu's pomelo exports to the US. Photo credit: UNIDO

Building on this success, Chanh Thu, UNIDO and IFAD Viet Nam will continue to work together to enhance international market access for Vietnamese fruits and to build innovative and sustainable value chains to strengthen the country's rural economy.

Enhancing Digital Skills of Vulnerable Groups

Launched during the pandemic, the e-learning platform congdanso.edu.vn reached over 13,000 Vietnamese learners, most of them internal women migrant workers. 70% of jobs in Viet Nam is at risk of automation. Female workers and low-skilled workers are expected to be the most affected. The e-learning platform aims to improve access of low-skilled workers to essential digital, soft and entrepreneurial skills through 22 online courses, and to help them adapt to a digital working environment while boosting their resilience to change.

IOM in partnership with Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour promotes the e-learning platform to almost 2,000 workers including migrant workers in industrial zones of four target provinces: Binh Duong, Dong Nai, Quang Nam, and Thai Nguyen to expand their access to lifelong learning opportunities.

Ms. Huynh Bich Ngoc, a 46-year-old female worker in a garment company in Go Vap District, Ho Chi Minh City said: "I find the courses are very useful though I am a slow learner as I am old already and working as workers for so long inhibits my learning capacity." She regretted not having computer skills before, which would have opened up better job opportunities in her early age. "I would encourage other workers in my factory, especially younger ones, to acquire digital skills. Digital machines will replace our jobs in the future, so it is an opportunity for younger workers in our factory to thrive," she emphasized.



"The platform is very user-friendly. You only need a phone to connect to the Internet and you can learn anywhere, at any time. I always take these courses during my break," said Ms. Nguyen Thi Tham, a young worker at the YKK company in Dong Nai. "I found the sales skills in online entrepreneurship course very useful. In the future, I plan to open my own business and I can use the knowledge I gained through this course for many purposes." *Photo credit: IOM Viet Nam*



The platform promotional event in Thai Nguyen with the participation of more than 500 workers. *Photo credit: IOM Viet Nam*



Summer joy. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Nguyen Linh Vinh Quoc

5 GENDER EQUALITY

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

OUTCOME 4. GOVERNANCE AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind, will have benefited from and contributed to a more just, safe and inclusive society based on improved governance, more responsive institutions, strengthened rule of law and the protection of and respect for human rights, gender equality and freedom from all forms of violence and discrimination, in line with Viet Nam's international commitments.

4.1 An enabling environment is created for innovative, responsive, accountable and transparent national systems that promote the participation of vulnerable groups in the sustainable development process.

4.2 National institutions and systems are enhanced to strengthen the rule of law, expand access to justice and combat discrimination with a focus on vulnerable groups and in a child-, youth- and gender-sensitive manner, in line with international human rights norms and standards

4.3 The social, institutional and legal environment is enhanced to accelerate the achievement of gender equality, the empowerment of women and their participation in decision-making and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, girls and LGBTQI persons.

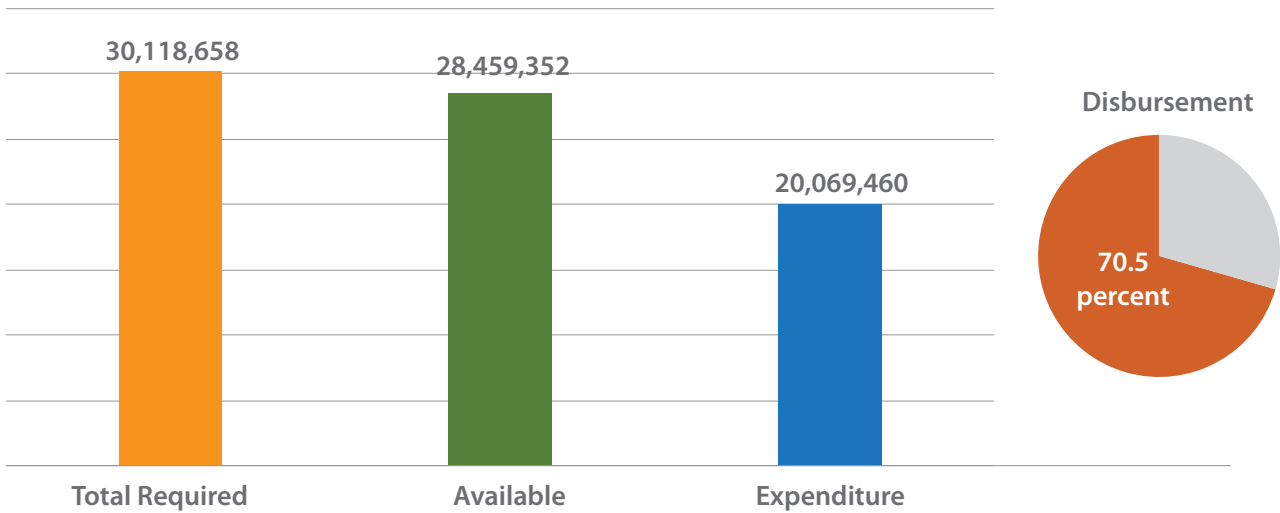
4.4 Socio cultural attitudes and practices, accountability, and legal and policy frameworks are transformed to eliminate gender-based violence and all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination against vulnerable groups.

4.5 National legislation, policies and agencies are strengthened to prevent and address trafficking in persons, migrant smuggling, illicit drugs, wildlife trafficking, corruption and money laundering, and to ensure equitable access to protection systems for victims, witnesses and other vulnerable groups, especially migrants, women and children.

4.6 Data production, analysis and use are strengthened to inform evidence-based and rights-based policies, planning, budgeting.

FIGURE 10. OUTCOME 4 BUDGET IN 2022 (US\$)

Outcome 4. Governance and Justice



Enabling inclusive governance

Inclusive governance is a cornerstone of the UN’s work in Viet Nam and 2022 marked several important contributions to ongoing efforts in this area, particularly in advancing the inclusion of **persons with disabilities and youth**.

The UN contributed to the country review on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which will inform the ongoing and planned revision of relevant sub-laws (such as Directive 20 on childcare, education and protection). The National Assembly, Association of People with Disabilities and National Youth Advisory Group also strengthened their capacity on several fronts through joint support from UNDP and UNFPA. They were supported to raise awareness, promote participation, enhance voices and political rights of vulnerable groups (especially persons with disabilities) and young people in the sustainable development process and policy dialogues, and advocate for policies supporting sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and rights, including access to SRH education and services.

KEY RESULTS

9 plans of action issued by ministries and 43 resolutions issued by provinces to implement revised Youth Law and National Strategy on Youth 2021-2025

Marrakesh Treaty accession confirmed

National Intellectual Property Law amended to improve access for persons with print disabilities

As a result of UNFPA support on youth development, nine plans of action were issued by ministries and 43 resolutions were issued by provinces to implement the revised Youth Law and the National Strategy on Youth 2021-2025. As a result of UNDP support to advance the rights of persons with disabilities, Viet Nam confirmed its accession to the Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print disabled and amended the National Intellectual Property Law in June 2022 to improve access to published works for persons with print disabilities.

KEY RESULTS

251 companies and 358 business players and educators trained on responsible business practices

8,500 legal professionals with enhanced capacity to promote children's access to justice

160 members of the National Assembly Committee for Social Affairs, provincial elected people's representatives and line ministries trained on responses to HIV and drugs

339 members of local Gender-Based Violence Rapid Response teams (GBVRTs), law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges with enhanced capacity on gender-responsive delivery of essential services to survivors of violence

155 investigators, prosecutors, judges and members of the National Legal Research Group on Child Sexual Exploitation trained to deal with child sexual exploitation

150 healthcare workers from prisons and pre-trial detention centres trained on HIV rapid testing, counselling, care and treatment and **100 criminal justice officers** with enhanced capacity to manage prisons

Supporting rule of law and access to justice

Capacity building is an important component of the UN's development cooperation in Viet Nam, including capacity building to achieve SDG 16 which includes access to justice for all. In 2022, the UN conducted various trainings on strengthening the **rule of law**, expanding **access to justice** and **combatting discrimination** with a focus on vulnerable groups. The UN extended assistance to the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Procuracy, key Ministries on Public Security, Finance and Justice, as well as the National Assembly.

Issues covered by these capacity building efforts ranged from promoting responsible business practices (UNDP) to children's access to justice (UNICEF); implementation of the Bali Process Toolkit to improve the national civil registration system (UNHCR) to gender-responsive delivery of essential services for survivors of violence (UNODC) and dealing with child sexual exploitation (UNODC and UN Women). UNODC and UNAIDS also delivered sector-specific training to build awareness among lawmakers and policymakers on critical areas in the national response to HIV and drugs, HIV rapid testing, counselling, care and treatment, and enhancing management of prisons and implementation of international standards and norms in these detention establishments.

Highlight results of these capacity building efforts included UNHCR's support to the MOJ to prepare a draft proposal on accession to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness in alignment with the Prime Minister's Decision No. 402/QD-TTg on the Implementation Plan of the United Nations' Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. UNDP's technical assistance to the draft National Action Plan on Responsible Business Practices in Viet Nam was also noteworthy, with trainings provided to 251 companies and 358 participants, including business players and educators. To provide first-stop legal guidance at courts for legal aid beneficiaries, the Supreme People's Court and the MOJ with support from UNDP signed a coordination Programme on Legal Aid Providers on Duty at Courts, establishing an inter-agency mechanism to provide this guidance. Finally, in collaboration with ILO, MOLISA released Decision 250/QD-LDTBXH detailing the ministry's plan for studying and ratifying Convention 87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize, in which the dossier will be submitted in 2023 for review. MOLISA also finalized the dossier for Convention 131 on minimum wage setting, which will be submitted in 2023 with support from ILO.



Father's joy in the vaccination day. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Pham Quoc Hung

heard, and their needs met. To illustrate, more than 500 representatives from line ministries, civil society and social organizations and LGBTQI+ groups participated in a series of workshops to discuss the GEL amendment through UN Women's support. UN Women also brought multiple stakeholders together to discuss the importance of having a responsive and high-impact National Action Plan on women, peace and security for Viet Nam and shared international good practices of NAP models. As a result, there is a strong commitment from the GOVN to develop the first NAP WPS for Viet Nam in 2023 and to continue to discuss magnitudes and measures to address emerging non-traditional security issues such as cybersecurity and the needs of women and girls in crisis situations.

In support of the development of the GAL, UN Women assisted MOH in undertaking a study on international legislative reform experience in **addressing transgender issues** and implications for Viet Nam, and in organizing various policy dialogues and consultation workshops. This has resulted in enhanced awareness of government line ministries and agencies, development partners, practitioners

and technical experts about public expectations to advance formulation and approval of the GAL. These efforts are critical for Viet Nam, as the country was elected as a member of the Human Rights Council for the term 2023-2025 with strong commitments to protect vulnerable people, including LGBTQI+ people.

The UN simultaneously launched different **pilot initiatives** for enhanced gender equality and women's empowerment. A Pilot Programme on Resilient Livelihoods for Rural Women in the Northern Mountainous Region was launched with FAO and the Government of Ireland's support to increase access to sustainable and resilient agricultural livelihoods in the Tuyen Quang province, especially for ethnic minority women. To promote women's leadership and equal participation in decision making, UNDP supported the establishment of three women's leadership networks in Nghe An, Thai Binh and Kon Tum provinces and 33 young women leaders from Ho Chi Minh City to be trained in the "Young Women Ready" programme. The Gender Equality and Returns (GEAR) initiative on empowering women for leadership has been continuously scaled up in

different garment and footwear factories supported by the ILO Better Work Viet Nam programme.

Eliminating violence and discrimination

In 2022, with UN support through UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNAIDS and UN Women, a number of significant **legal documents** were adopted to eliminate gender-based violence and all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination against vulnerable groups. The amendment of the Gender Equality Law in relation to gender-based violence and harmful practices and the drafting of the Gender Affirmation Law, mobilized collective UN support. At least 17 institutions were supported by the UN, ranging from government ministries and provincial departments to NGOs and networks, to build capacity for addressing gender-based violence and all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination against vulnerable groups. With support from UN Women, the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) in providing coordinated services among survivors of violence and human trafficking was developed and adopted by the Ministry of Public Security (MOPS), MOFA and MOJ and used as a tool for enhancing the quality of support services and bringing the services closer to victims. Specific support was also provided in conducting training courses for social workers, engaging boys and men in addressing gender-based violence (GBV) and supporting the operation of the national VNMenNet and over 20 men's advocate clubs in Dien Bien, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City.

UN Women and UNFPA, in coordination with government ministries and other partners, designed and implemented a number of **evidence-based initiatives and interventions** to address gender-based violence and prevent all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination against vulnerable groups. As a result, six community-based networks on safe migration were established and operationalized in Thanh Hoa, Nghe An and Lao Cai provinces to increase community awareness of the risks of GBV and to share information on how to

KEY RESULTS

UN-SUPPORTED INITIATIVES FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AND DISCRIMINATION:

Men Engagement Initiative mobilized men to advocate against violence against women

Connect with Respect Model and Safe Campus Initiative addressed school and campus GBV

Safe Cities Initiative addressed sexual harassment in public places

Six community-based networks on safe migration increased community awareness of GBV during migration

Three One-Stop Service Centers (OSSCs) established in Thanh Hoa, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City to provide integrated essential services to support GBV survivors

Fatherhood Programme in Bac Ninh, Lam Dong and Da Nang city mobilized young men's participation in raising awareness and changing behaviour away from the preference of sons and undervaluing of girls



The experiment was a success. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Ho Anh Tien

prevent and respond to different forms of violence during the migration pathway.

The UN also stepped up its **innovations in communications** to raise public awareness on violence against women and gender-based violence, with a particular emphasis on disability inclusion and discrimination against persons living with HIV/AIDS. These activities included running races, TV commercials, broadcasting voice news through loudspeaker systems, concerts and more. A joint social communication campaign and 107 offline events nationwide supported by the UN reached 10,300 people directly and 53,929 people online, generating 8,222 engagements, 2,247 reactions and 430 shares and comments (as of 11 January 2023) and receiving coverage from 193 media outlets.

Under the 2022 UN Free & Equal Campaign “Take Pride in Kindness for Safer Schools for LGBTI People”,

the UN collectively promoted the rights of LGBTIQI+ persons, in coordination with other partners. The Free & Equal campaign promoted comprehensive sexuality education for a safer learning environment and raised awareness about diversity in sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). More than 78,000 people were reached and 4,900 post engagements (as of 8 February 2023) were recorded in the four-week social media campaign – mainly on Facebook and Twitter. The UN also celebrated the diversity, freedom and rights of all LGBTIQI+ persons on the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) 2022, and as a partner of Ha Noi Pride 2022, which reached over 200,000 people both offline and online.

LUẬT PHÒNG CHỐNG BẠO LỰC GIA ĐÌNH: KINH NGHIỆM QUỐC TẾ

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND CONTROL LAW: INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE



<https://vietnam.unfpa.org/en/video/domestic-violence-prevention-and-control-law-international-experience>

The new Law plays a significant role to eliminate Domestic Violence in Viet Nam towards the achievement of SDGs by 2030

While the first Domestic Violence Prevention and Control (DVPC) Law of 2007 signaled the country's strong commitment to addressing domestic violence, violence against women (VAW) has remained prevalent in Viet Nam. According to the 2019 National Study, nearly two in three women (62.9%) experience at least one form of violence in their lifetime, and most survivors of violence (90.4%) do not seek any help from authorities¹⁶. The Study also revealed that VAW was costing Viet Nam 1.81% of GDP in 2018. An independent review commissioned by UNFPA on behalf of the Government in 2017 also documented several gaps in the DVPC Law, and recommended the introduction of a robust, survivor-centered, gender-transformative, and rights-based approaches in the Law.

In November 2020, the Government officially decided to amend DVPC Law. Since then and particularly in 2022, extensive consultations took place, co-led by MoCST and the UNFPA, with different Ministries, state agencies, local authorities, civil society organisations, UN agencies and the international community. It was the role of the UN to help the Government bring in such diverse stakeholders at the table for discussion to reach a consensus, and the UN agencies collectively shared technical expertise and international best practice.



"The revised DVPC Law plays a very important step towards the prevention and control of domestic violence. It strengthens the legal framework for DVPC, and institutionalizes the domestic violence survivor-centered approach. We also expect that with the approval of the amended DVPC Law by the National Assembly, domestic violence will be better controlled and reduced," said Madam Trinh Thi Thuy - Vice Minister of MoCST. Photo credit: MOCST/Nguyen Duc

¹⁶ The national study on violence against women in Viet Nam 2019, MOLISA, GSO and UNFPA

The new Law plays a significant role to eliminate Domestic Violence in Viet Nam towards the achievement of SDGs by 2030

Of particular importance is the participation of civil society, and its policy recommendations were fully incorporated in the drafting of the amended DVPC Law. National stakeholders including key members of the National Assembly also received exposure to lessons learned in countries such as Australia and the Republic of Korea. It helped them to reflect on debated issues such as contact prohibition, multi-sectoral coordination, and the provision for integrated services per the UN Essential Service Package (ESP) guidelines, and they played a key role in lobbying and advocating for the amended Law. The international community remained fully engaged in support for the entire process.

The national consultation and consensus development were not by any means easy. Criminalisation in line with the Criminal Code, contact prohibition, provision of stipends for survivors of violence, and clear roles and responsibilities by duty bearers at all levels were among the contentious issues, and prolonged negotiations did take place. However such a strong commitment and

ownership by the Government, the supportive approach by the UN, and engagements by the international community helped the MoCST and the drafting team to stay the course without stepping back on key rights-based issues towards the approval. Every comment received, and every input posted in the Government portal in the draft Law, were carefully assessed and reflected in the final DVPC Law, in line with a participatory and consultative principle.

In November 2022, at the fourth session of the 15th National Assembly, 93.37% of the total number of legislators agreed to adopt the revised Law, which was the highest approval rate for all Laws in the year, and the new Law will take effect on July 1, 2023. It was one of the best 2022 examples of the UN Viet Nam influencing and making a difference in Viet Nam's policy and decision-making, working as a team not only just as the UN, but also together with the Government and the international community. It was a landmark Law towards SDGs!



"The amendment of the DVPC Law has institutionalized views, guidelines and policies on effective and strict management of social development, ensuring social and human security, and it implements the progress of social justice..." Madam Nguyen Thuy Anh - Chairperson of the National Assembly's Social Committee. *Photo credit: Ho Long.*

Combatting transnational organized crime

The UN also supported the GOVN to address transnational organized crime in 2022 through a number of initiatives. With UNODC support, legislative actions were taken to align national laws with the relevant UN standards and principles, as evidenced by the revised Law on Inspections and Law on Anti-Money Laundering adopted in 2022 in alignment with the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols.

UNODC, UNDP and IOM also provided sustained support to national law enforcement agencies, as well as key national and subnational stakeholders, that enhanced their capacities to prevent and address **trafficking** in persons and migrant smuggling, illicit drugs, wildlife trafficking, corruption and money laundering. To build law enforcement capacities that counter trafficking, the Viet Nam National Border Guards developed a training curriculum on Trafficked Victim Identification, Referral and Protection, with IOM support, which is the first Trainer Incentive Program (TIP) training curriculum formally endorsed by the Ministry of National Defense (MOND) for border guards officer training. Ten Master Trainers selected from the National Border Guard Academy and MOND are now certified, and the first round of trainings for border guards were successfully rolled out in 10 provinces.

In line with the National Program on Human Trafficking Prevention and Combat 2021-2025 (NPA 2021-2025), UN agencies continued to support national and subnational-level awareness-raising campaigns to prevent and protect Vietnamese people from the increasing risks of human trafficking and people smuggling. On 30 July 2023, the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons and also the National Human Trafficking day in Viet Nam, IOM supported the Ministry of Public Security to organize a national campaign under the global theme of the year, "Use and Abuse of Technology". The TV broadcast and online livestream of the event reached more than 350,000 people on the day and initiated subsequent online and offline interactions for sustained impact.

KEY RESULTS

1,512 law enforcement and criminal justice officers have strengthened ability to combat various forms of illegal activities

National roundtables held discussing Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling Protocols to support Viet Nam in joining the UN Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air

One new multi-agency Border Liaison Office (BLO) established, resulting in **22 BLOs at international border gates** for criminal detection and interdiction

120 judges and people's jurors (35 percent women), 95 prosecutors (30 percent women) and 86 additional prosecutors, judges and people's jurors (33 percent women) trained in dealing with cases of trafficking in persons

262 persons (8 girls, 118 women) benefited from programmes to prevent and address child labour, trafficking and forced labour

Viet Nam Business Integrity Index developed

HIV sentinel surveillance and behavior (HSS+) piloted

LGBTI Inclusion Index developed

Supporting evidence-based policy

The UN continued its support to relevant government institutions and agencies with **data production, analysis and use** to inform evidence-based and rights-based policies, planning and budgeting. The areas that improved in data production and analysis in 2022 included business integrity, HIV incidence and surveillance data for transgender women, ethnic minority children's education, nutrition and WASH, LGBTQI+ inclusion, national population statistics and labour statistics.

Business integrity data was advanced through UNDP's support to the development of the Viet Nam Business Integrity Index (VBII) and its webpage by enabling companies to self-assess their level of business integrity and identify areas for improvement. HIV incidence and surveillance data was also supported through the technical assistance of UNAIDS to the Vietnam Authority of HIV/AIDS Control on the annual Global AIDS Monitoring (GAM) reporting and modelling estimates, which generate disaggregated data to be used to report on incidence of HIV and to measure the progress towards ending AIDS by 2030. Support was further provided for the piloting of HIV sentinel surveillance and behaviour (HSS+) together with population size estimates for transgender women in Ha Noi. In the nutrition and WASH space, UNICEF completed two studies on costing to inform sectoral planning and budgeting. UNFPA also developed metadata for the national statistical system, focusing on population indicators. Finally, the LGBTI Inclusion Index, developed by UNDP, has improved the availability of data and evidence on LGBTQI+ inclusion in Viet Nam.

MAIN CHALLENGES IN DELIVERING CF RESULTS



In 2022, the consequences of the **COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters** continued to be felt and to present challenges to UN operations across many fronts. Efforts to accelerate implementation of UN-supported activities that were postponed and delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic faced added challenges relating to project management and resource mobilization.

UN agencies faced significant delays due to lengthy and complicated **ODA management procedures**. On average it takes one to two years for UN projects to be approved. Currently, 25 UN projects and programmes are pending in the appraisal, approval and extension processes, causing a high risk of losing US\$47.6 million. The UN disbursement rate was – at 67.9 percent – at its lowest level ever in 2022 despite the UN's consistently high resource mobilization rates of greater than 90 percent. These delays are both prominent and unique among the countries in the region. The UN, led by the Resident Coordinator, is working with government counterparts to address these issues, including by simplifying ODA management procedures to create an enabling environment for development.

2022 also brought significant **changes in senior leadership** across the Party and GOVN in the implementation of its commitment to fight corruption. The anti-corruption campaign is perceived as the cause for delays, if not paralysis, in decision making. Leadership changes have led to delays in the implementation of government programmes, as well as UN-supported activities. The change in MOH leadership, for example, resulted in delays in the procurement of medicines, vaccines and supplies, including antiretroviral drugs, that could negatively impact the achievement of targets as per the National Strategy to End AIDS by 2030. The dissolution of the National Assembly Social Affairs Committee's Sub-Committee on HIV, Drugs and Prostitution Prevention and Control could further impact the operation of the national HIV/



AIDS response programme. This could hinder the multi-sectoral approach to the HIV response and risk reinforcing stigma related to drug use and sex work. Similarly, restructuring in the MARD has led to the downscaling of the Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority. This has created uncertainty about the institutional framework for disaster risk management.

Furthermore, in the past year, **the space within which CSOs and NGOs can operate** has become narrower with the exercise of greater government control over civil society activities. This is in line with Government Decree 80/2020/ND-CP on non-ODA aid, Decree 114/2021/ND-CP on ODA management and PM Decision 06/2020/QD-TTg on organization and management of international meetings and workshops in Viet Nam. As a result, many organizations have shied away from seeking accreditation as CSOs/NGOs and instead look for different legal modalities for their organizations to be able to legally operate. Many have chosen to become social enterprises. Greater government control has also discouraged CSO partnership with the UN, especially in the areas of protection of and respect for human rights, gender equality and freedom from all forms of violence and discrimination, rule of law and governance for a more just, safe and inclusive society. Both government partners and NGOs expressed their reluctance to work on human rights as a thematic area or to engage with international human rights treaty bodies, topics or mechanisms. This is taking place in the context of Viet Nam’s election to the Human Rights Council for 2023-2025, with pledges to promote human rights and gender equality.

Within the UN in Viet Nam, agency-specific and joint UN programming **resource mobilization** continued to be a significant challenge. UN agencies’ core funding accounted for only around 25 percent of the current total CF budget. About half of the UN agencies have received no core funding for their operation in Viet Nam, but are instead entirely dependent on externally mobilized sources. This challenge is compounded by tough competition and limited available resources after the COVID-19 pandemic and global economic downturn.

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND - HIGHLIGHTS



Towards gender equality and women’s empowerment

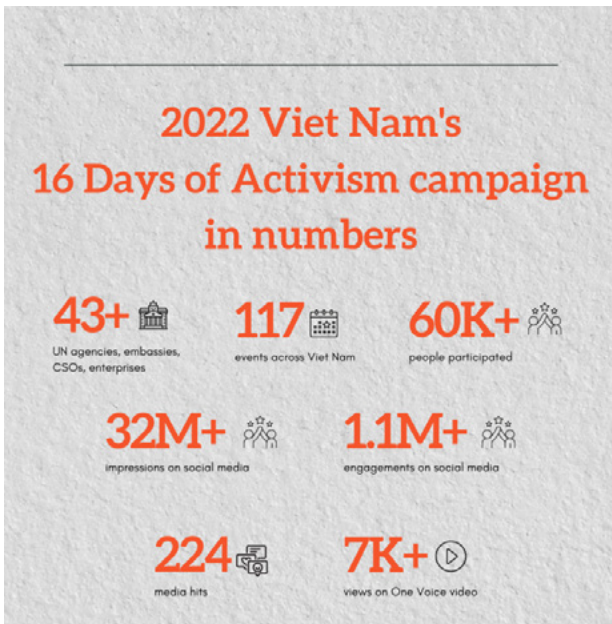
According to the UN-SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard reporting in 2022, the accountability and performance by the UN Country Team in Viet Nam towards gender equality and the empowerment of women (GEWE) has improved, with 87 percent of monitoring indicators exceeding or meeting minimum requirements (up from 80 percent in 2021). The improvement shows in the mainstreaming of gender into joint programmes; nevertheless, a regular mechanism to monitor gender parity in UN staffing remains to be instituted.

Within the 2022 UN Joint Work Plan, 75 percent of UN activities fulfil the principle or significant purpose of advancing GEWE, or are classified as Gender Marker 2 or 3, which exceeds the global target of 70 percent. In total, the UN spent US\$26 million or 38 percent of its 2022 expenditure on GEWE-related activities.

TABLE 1. UN-SWAP GENDER EQUALITY SCORECARD

Ranking	Number of Gender Scorecard Indicators	
	2021	2022
Exceeds Requirements	7	7
Meets Requirements	5	6
Approaches Requirements	2	1
Missing	1	1





2022 Viet Nam's 16 Days of Activism campaign in numbers. Reported by UN Women as of 15 January 2023.

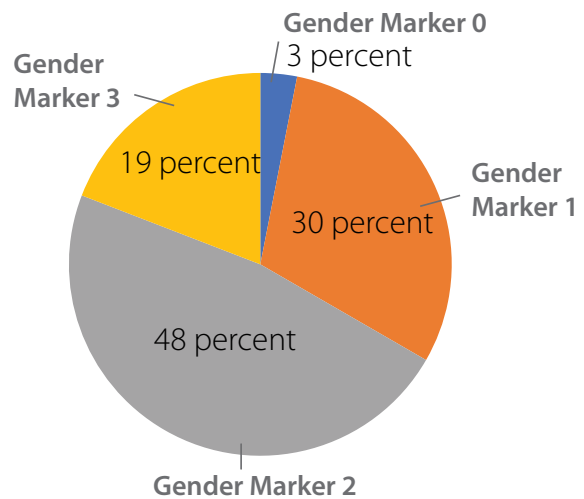
Supported by the Gender Thematic Group (GTG), the UN significantly strengthened its ability to strategically **coordinate and integrate gender** across UN programming in Viet Nam. Gender equality is fully mainstreamed in all outcomes of the CF 2022-2026 and guidance on mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in UN joint programmes was developed and will be finalized in early 2023. Moreover, a gender-responsive approach was mainstreamed in Government budgeting and procurement, education, health care, social protection, DRR, rule of law and access to justice, and in the elimination of violence and discrimination.

The UN's **joint public advocacy** was highlighted by the successful organization of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign "UNiTE! Activism to End Violence Against Women and Girls" in 2022 with the theme "respect women and children", which ran from 25 November until 10 December 2022. Together with other campaigns and UN capacity building activities, the 16 Days of Activism raised awareness, engagement and active partnership from different stakeholders including the Government, UN agencies, embassies, CSOs, the private sector, specific groups and individuals.

Internally, the GTG continued to clarify its functions

and operational modalities to integrate gender as a cross-cutting priority in the CF. With revisions to the GTG terms of reference, the group now includes at least 50 percent senior staff. To strengthen the **gender capacity of UN staff**, the GTG successfully delivered training on the Violence Against Women (VAW) Prevention Programming: RESPECT Implementation Package, an information sharing session on gender-responsive prosecution for cases of violence against women and children (linked to the Domestic Violence Law revision) and a refresher training session on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) for UN Staff in Viet Nam.

FIGURE 11. CF GENDER MARKER 2022.



Advancing disability inclusion

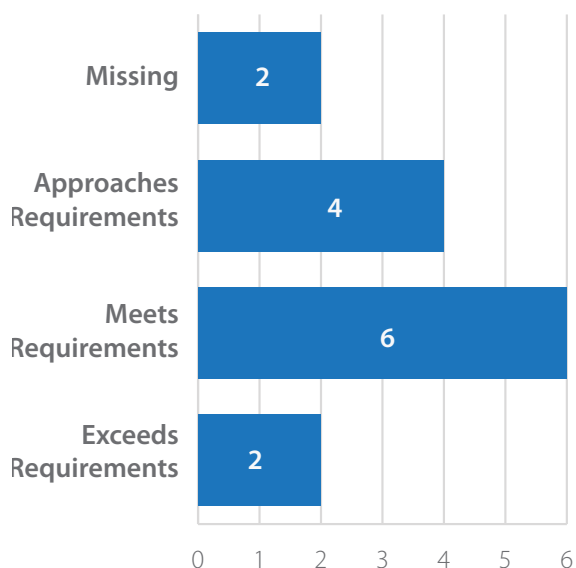
The 2022 UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) Scorecard showed that the Green One UN House (GOUNH) and its services are accessible to all UN staff and constituents with disabilities. The UN in Viet Nam adopted a disability-inclusion **accessibility** plan for common premises and services in line with ISO 21542 and the maintenance of the braille path. UN Viet Nam communications also focused

on featuring persons with disabilities in the UNCT website, publications and annual reports, as well as on integrating the human rights of persons with disabilities into the UN Communication Group's annual workplan. A communications campaign on disability inclusion was undertaken during the week of International Disability Day 2022.

The UN Country Team leadership also **championed disability inclusion** through the Disability Inclusion Coordination Mechanism to ensure sustainable and transformative progress on disability inclusion across all pillars of the UN's work. They ensured issues of disability are analyzed and integrated in the CF and CF M&E Framework, UN Annual Results Reports and the Common Country Analysis, as well as in public remarks at different forums. Disability inclusion is further mainstreamed in the UN Country Team Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan or Humanitarian Response Plan. Importantly, the UN in Viet Nam fostered its interaction with and support to the community of persons with disabilities through a number of activities. This included a sign language training held for staff and trainers from the deaf community by the South Carolina Association of the Deaf in February 2022. Organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) were also consulted on the Disability Inclusion Strategy, the GOUNH accessibility and the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PRPD) project. An accessibility standards checklist for UN events in external venues was developed and applied this year. Currently, four persons with disabilities are employed as UN staff in Viet Nam.

The UN will continue in 2023 and subsequent years to enhance disability inclusion in all UN joint programmes, as well as in the UN Country Team human resources practices by introducing a common UNCT non-discrimination employment statement that explicitly refers to persons with disabilities, which still needs to be put in place.

FIGURE 12. UNDIS SCORECARD – NUMBER OF INDICATORS BY LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT.



Promoting youth rights, engagement and development

With support from the Thematic Group on Adolescents and Youth (TGAY), the UN in Viet Nam continued to accelerate its results towards promoting and advocating for youth rights, engagement and development. The UN Common Country Analysis (CCA) includes a gendered, youth situational analysis which specifies national legal and policy frameworks and programmes for youth, gaps in policies and programme coverage, quality and equity, and causal analysis and bottleneck analysis of the gaps.

With the UN's active **advocacy and policy advice** through the Thematic Group on Adolescents and Youth, a number of important instruments were developed and promulgated in 2022 to promote the rights of youth and adolescents, including the

The GOUNH: An inclusive working environment for all

In response to the Secretary-General's launch of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) to make the United Nations an inclusive organization for all, the UN in Viet Nam is creating an equal working environment for all. Working in the Green One UN House (GOUNH), staff with disabilities shared their thoughts about what makes a workplace inclusive:

"Perfect ramps for independence of wheelchair users. The doors are wide enough, and the ramps are good enough for me and my "iron horse" to move comfortably"

- Luu Thi Hieu, Disability Inclusion Offer,
UN Resident Coordinator's Office

"Where people with visual impairment can walk independently, feel confident with tactile paving. UN is an inclusive work environment that has helped me discover and develop my capacity to protect the rights of persons with disabilities"

- Dao Thu Huong, UNDP Disability Inclusion
Coordinator

"I smile a lot because I am constantly energized by positive energies and from people's smiles or touching stories when attending events at the Green One UN House"

- Nguyen Minh Chau, UNDP Disability Inclusion
Coordinator

"A place with an accessible and supportive work environment. An accessible and supportive work environment with no distinction between colleagues is what I felt when I first joined UN"

- Nguyen Thi Thanh Thien, UNFPA Programme
Officer on Sexual and Reproductive health for
persons with disabilities



"A place where I'm completely comfortable going anywhere because there are braille instruction boards and sound systems in the elevator. I appreciate the efforts to inclusion, as diversity is the spice of life."

- Nguyen Yen Anh, UNICEF Education Officer

"Where even though I have my hearing lost, I have never felt being left behind. It is such a proud feeling to wake up every day and know your effort is making for every child in Vietnam and leaving no one behind. It is also such a grateful feeling to work in UN environment to know the real feeling of not being left behind due to your disability."

- Bui Thi Hai Anh, UNICEF Child Protection Officer

"Where we are dedicated, creating values and positive impacts for the community. I am very proud and grateful to work at UNICEF, an inclusive and accessible environment for all."

- Do Thi Huyen Trang, UNICEF Child Protection
Officer

DIALOGUE
UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL H.E. MR. ANTÓNIO GUTERRES WITH VIETNAMESE YOUTH
“Innovation and Participation for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future”

ĐỐI THOẠI
TỔNG THƯ KÝ LIÊN HỢP QUỐC ANTÓNIO GUTERRES VÀ THANH NIÊN VIỆT NAM
“Đổi mới sáng tạo và sự tham gia của thanh niên vì tương lai bền vững và bao trùm”

Ha Noi, October 22, 2022

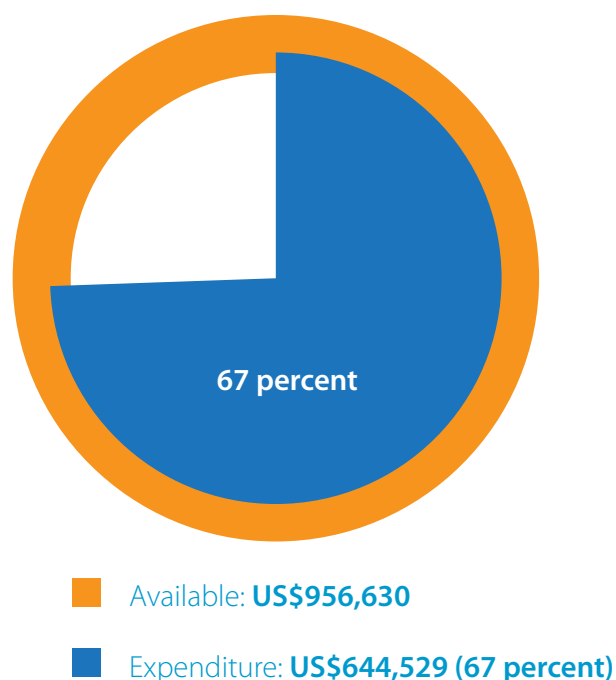


Vietnamese youth sat down for a dialogue with the UN Secretary-General to discuss the role of young people in building an inclusive and sustainable future. *Photo credit: UN Viet Nam*

approval of nine plans of action at the ministry level and 43 resolutions at the provincial level to implement the revised Youth Law and the National Strategy on Youth 2021-2025. Efforts also included capacity building activities for the National Youth Advisory Group as a platform to promote the participation of young people – especially vulnerable youth – in policy dialogues.

A number of campaigns and events were conducted by the UN in coordination with the National Youth Advisory Group and government partners to advocate for youth’s voices and participation. Notably, in celebration of International Youth Day 2022, a series of events were organized including a youth exhibition, a youth craft fair and a consultation workshop. The consultation workshop brought together over 100 offline young participants and over 500 online participants from across the country, together with participants from Government authorities such as the National Assembly, MOLISA, MOET, MOHA and Central Youth Union. Alongside the previous consultation held in July 2022, this was a unique opportunity to **amplify youth’s voices** to duty-bearers including Government representatives, the UN and other stakeholders to ensure the inclusion

FIGURE 13. 2022 CF BUDGET FOR YOUTH-RELATED ACTIONS



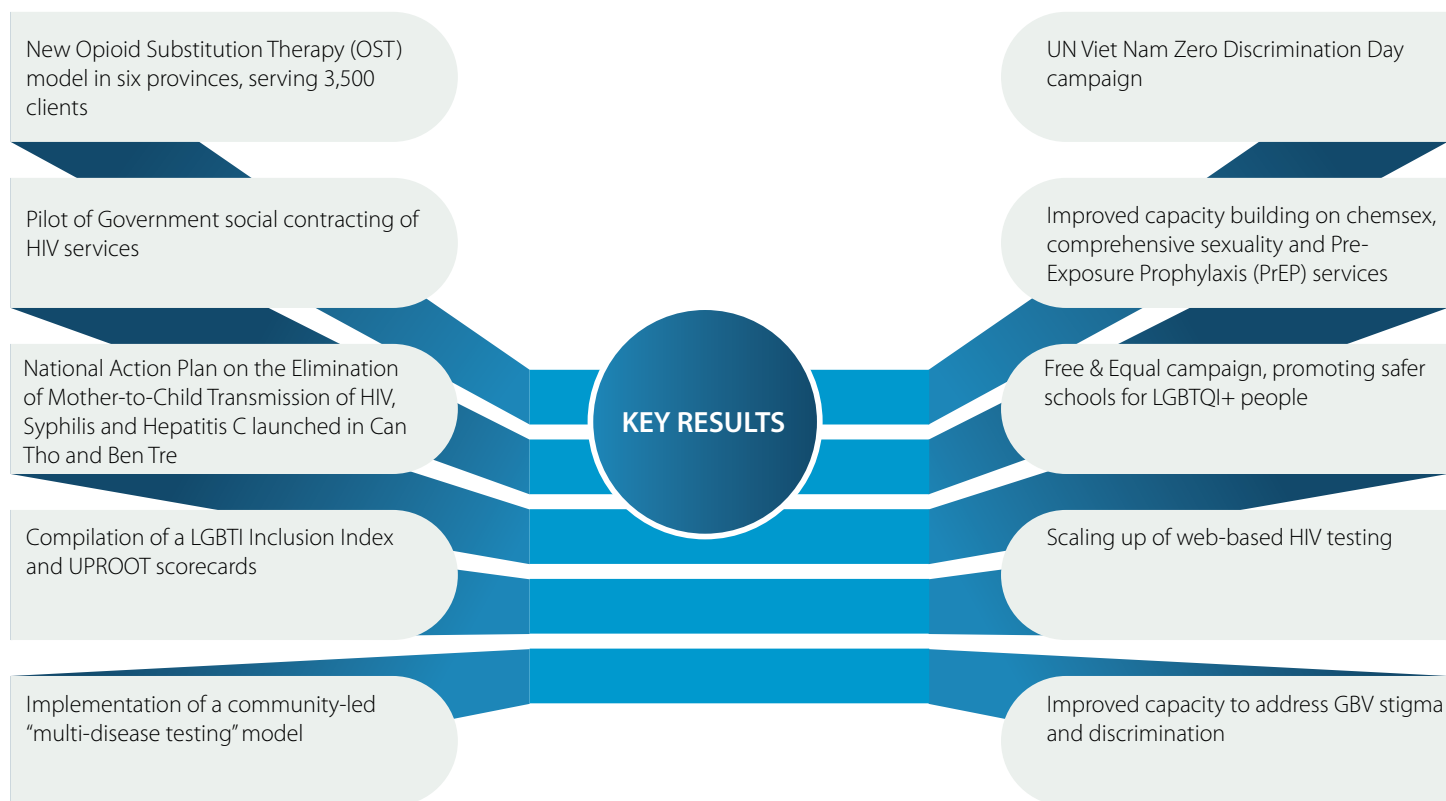
of youth – particularly youth with disabilities, young LGBTQI+, young ethnic minorities and youth from remote and rural areas – in policymaking and monitoring.

In September 2022, the UN TGAY also supported the Youth Internet Governance Forum Viet Nam 2022, which was endorsed by the UN Internet Governance Forum (UNIGF). The event convened 92 youth ambassadors and produced a youth recommendation letter which was sent to Vietnamese policymakers via the Vietnam Internet Network Information Center, an affiliate of MOIC.

Progressing the National Strategy to End HIV/AIDS

The UN continued to support Viet Nam in the implementation of the National Strategy to End the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, sustaining the Government’s strong political commitment to and progress towards ending AIDS as a public health threat. Thanks to the HIV Thematic Group’s coordination, the UN successfully implemented the Joint UN HIV workplan 2022 and contributed to the overall **protection of the health and well-being** of people living with and affected by HIV. For Key results, see Figure 14.

FIGURE 14. KEY RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2022 TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH AND AFFECTED BY HIV.



Ending HIV-related discrimination to uphold equality

Duy and Lien (not their real names) are a married couple living with HIV. They face discrimination due to their HIV condition – including from their families. HIV-related stigma and discrimination, including violence, have threatened Duy’s property rights and exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities the couple face.

According to the Stigma Index 2020-2021, more than four percent of 1,623 respondents in Viet Nam reported experiencing rights abuses in the past 12 months, and 45 percent reported not knowing any law protecting people living with HIV from discrimination.

“We have been receiving, through the hotline service, stories of people living with HIV being subject to stigma, discrimination and violence,

including verbal and physical violence,” said Nguyen Anh Phong, a representative of the Viet Nam Network of People Living with HIV (VNP+). Phong and his team have been operating a hotline to provide counseling and support to community members for many years. “People living with HIV and the wider community both need to speak up and take action to address stigma and discrimination. You are not alone. We are not alone.”

Putting an end to stigma and discrimination around HIV is the key to stopping violence against people living with and at a higher risk of HIV and ensuring everyone’s equal rights to property ownership, education, health care, work, access to justice, privacy, family, bodily autonomy and other rights. Equality needs to be upheld to empower HIV key populations to live with dignity and respect.



Women in Hoa Binh province participate in community-led HIV response. *Photo credit: UNAIDS Viet Nam*

SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA



The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF) 2022-2026 embodies the joint commitment of the UN system and the Government of Viet Nam to deliver the 2030 Agenda. To accomplish this, existing partnerships need to be nurtured and new partnerships need to be forged.

In 2022, the UN family implemented nine **joint programmes**. Six of these focused on translating the principle of **Leave No One Behind** into a reality. As ensuring that no one is left behind requires a multi-sectoral approach, these joint programmes addressed the needs of specific and diverse populations at risk of not being included in the development trajectory of Viet Nam – especially people living with HIV/AIDS, persons with disabilities, women and girls.

With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic still evident, there was a particular focus in 2022 on strengthening partnerships in the **health sector**. Collaboration for pandemic preparedness and response deepened between the UN agencies and bilateral donors, including with USAID, DFAT, the Embassies of the United Kingdom and New Zealand in Viet Nam, as well as through coalitions such as Gavi and PATH for COVID-19 and routine vaccinations. Noteworthy developments included three **innovative partnerships formed with the private sector** to accelerate SDG 3 on health and well-being for all. UNFPA, with a second-year grant from Merck Sharp & Dohme (Asia) Ltd., supported capacity building of ethnic minority midwives in six provinces. UNICEF, together with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, provided clean water and safely managed sanitation for 20,000 people. Through this work, WASH initiative partnerships have been strengthened with the World Bank, international NGOs and the private sector. The

UN also piloted energy and water efficient “net zero” toilets in Soc Trang province with a private company from Thailand. In the nexus between health and climate change, UNICEF forged, for the first time in Viet Nam, a partnership with the Israeli Embassy to promote climate-resilient WASH technology. This latter example reflects the changing donor landscape in Viet Nam.

Partnerships with **local communities and vulnerable groups** also provided lessons on enabling inclusive, safe and resilient local development. UNDP, the Viet Nam National Mine Action Centre and KOICA launched the Korea – Viet Nam Peace Village Project (2022-2026) aiming to reduce the impact of explosive ordnance on local communities and supporting them to improve their livelihoods and health. IOM, together with the Government of Viet Nam, Japan and the Republic of Korea, focused on the improvement of migrant workers’ health, which has been made more vulnerable by pandemic and socioeconomic risks. UNEP, UN Women and Sweden also joined forces to empower women to nurture climate-resilient societies by strengthening capabilities to respond to disaster and climate risks.

Working with **youth, schools and academic institutions** expanded the UN’s engagement and outreach. The 2022 UN Free & Equal Campaign, in collaboration with the Viet Nam National University and LGBTQI+ community-based organizations, promoted safer schools for LGBTQI+ people. UNICEF, in close collaboration with VCCI, Save the Children International, the Centre for Child Rights and Business and the Human Rights Institute of Ho Chi Minh National Academy on Politics, promoted children’s rights and the fight against child labour.

The UN focused this year on leveraging partnerships to overcome challenges. ODA and financing for development projects remain constrained, particularly for middle-income countries like Viet Nam. To ensure collective and strategic resourcing of the CF specifically, and of Viet Nam’s long-term national development goals generally, the UN and



the GOVN initiated the process of developing a futures-informed **Resource Mobilization Strategy** to accompany the CF. The strategy aims to design a holistic approach to resourcing by considering the financial, intellectual and political capital needed to deliver the CF outcomes, as well as pathways for resourcing SDG acceleration.

The UN also continued to foster key partnerships for **financing SDG achievements**. Inadequate investments and resourcing for the Goals remains a central stumbling block to achieving the SDGs in the country. The **Integrated National Financing Framework** (INFF) joint programme played a pivotal role in 2022 to address these challenges. The joint programme delivered important development financing assessments and diagnostics. By doing so, it developed the first building block for an integrated national financing framework to inform the mobilization, allocation and tracking of resources to achieve the SDGs. The joint programme also contributed to the formulation of a financing strategy focused on human capital development. The financing strategy underscores the accountability of public investments in the government's National Target Programmes (NTPs) in nutrition and water supply and sanitation for the rural and mountainous areas, thus advancing the leave no one behind (LNOB) agenda. Moreover, the UN joined forces with international financial institutions and development partners to advocate for **investments in human capital and children**. As a result, the Viet Nam National Financing Strategy (2021–2030) recognized the importance of investing in human capital, with priority given to the most vulnerable including children, people living in poverty and ethnic minorities.

The joint programme on Jobs and Social Protection made further contributions by mobilizing significant additional **finance for social protection reform** in Viet Nam.

RESULTS OF THE UN WORKING MORE AND BETTER TOGETHER: UN COHERENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY



ONE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
AND THE UNITED NATIONS

FOR THE PERIOD 2022-2026



The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF) 2022-2026 was approved in 2022. The CF formalizes the partnership between the GOVN and UN and reaffirms the UN's collective support to Viet Nam to achieve key SDGs and national development priorities in the period from 2022 until 2026.

The CF outlines the UN system's comparative advantages and key contributions to the SDGs in



a coordinated and integrated way, reflecting the principles of leave no one behind, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, in addition to embodying the UN system's obligations to international standards and treaties. The CF has four outcome areas which are in line with Viet Nam's Socio-Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) for 2021–2030 and Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) for 2021–2025.

In early 2022, the UNCT formed the UN coordination architecture to deliver CF results. To optimize coherence and collaboration, the architecture was designed in a more streamlined and compact manner compared with the last United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2017-2021. The Joint GOVN-UN Steering Committee (JSC) is the highest-level coordination structure between the GOVN and the UN. It also consists of four Results Groups (responsible for each CF outcome), four cross-cutting Thematic Groups (Gender, HIV/AIDS, Human Rights and Youth), an Operations Management Team (OMT), a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Group, a Communications Group, a Common Back Office, an ad hoc Programme Management Team (PMT) and an ad hoc Disaster Response Management Team (DRMT).

The **2022-2023 Joint Workplan** details sub-outputs by individual agencies or jointly by multiple agencies to deliver CF outcomes. The UN Info database captures both programmatic and financial information, and is published through the UN Info public dashboard on the UNCT website.

Through its Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group, the UN maintained its support and progress towards SDG mainstreaming, monitoring, data and reporting. In 2022, two key engagements are worth highlighting. First, as part of support to the **2023 Voluntary National Review (VNR)**, the UN together with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) delivered the SDG progress tracker and LNOB analysis. Other contributions included finetuning of the VNR main messages and preparations for policy dialogues. The report, which is expected to be completed in early



Drying incense. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Nguyen Quoc Huy

2023, also provides the basis for prioritizing efforts and investments in accelerating the 2030 Agenda in Viet Nam. Part of this process is the collective UN mobilization to find solutions to overcome significant challenges in the timely appraisal, approval and implementation of its projects and programmes due to various ODA-regulation barriers. The UN therefore came together in 2022 in a second key area to engage with the Prime Minister and the leaders of the MPI (the GOVN focal point on ODA management), MOFA and MOF in **simplifying management procedures for UN ODA grants**.

The UN also continued to emphasize the importance of joint work and made substantive efforts to formulate and implement new **joint programmes (JPs)** in 2022. A total of 12 JPs (\$32.2 million), detailed below, were being implemented in 2022. The JPs cover all four CF outcomes and include five JPs supported by UN global funds on social protection, the INFF, mitigating the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19, advancing the rights of persons with disabilities and assessing the socioeconomic impacts of the war in Ukraine.

The UN in Viet Nam remains a **pioneer in advancing all three key pillars of the Secretary-General's Efficiency Agenda**.

In 2022, the Green One UN House (GOUNH) achieved a 100 percent full occupancy rate and reached an annual cost avoidance of US\$414,832 and reduction of per desk cost of 25 percent as compared with 2018 figures. Since 2015, through common premises in the GOUNH, the UN in Viet Nam avoided US\$2.1 million in costs. From 2022 to 2026, US\$2.9 million in cost avoidance is estimated for common premises and the Business Operations Strategy (BOS). The GOUNH client satisfaction rate for 2022 remained high at 4.9 out of a 5-point scale.

The UN in Viet Nam is a global pilot for the Service Now Delivery Platform, with lessons and innovations from the Viet Nam common back offices (CBO) model feeding into the design of the 2.0 version of CBOs.

Digital transformation is taking place in the GOUNH. UN Viet Nam re-designed the information and communication technology setup and moved data to the cloud, simplified network management and decreased equipment and the carbon footprint from 30 servers to three, avoiding US\$1.3 million on equipment set-up costs.

The GOUNH is an ecological front runner. In 2022, the UN Viet Nam was awarded Lotus Bio Platinum certification by the Vietnam Green Building Council (VGBC) and also received an ISO14001 re-validation. The GOUNH is now comparable with the top green buildings recognized nationally and internationally.

TABLE 2. JOINT PROGRAMMES IMPLEMENTED IN 2022.

No.	Title	Participating UN Agencies	Budget (US\$)	No.	Title	Participating UN Agencies	Budget (US\$)
1	EU Justice and Legal Empowerment Programme (EU JULE), PAGOda mechanism	UNDP, UN Women	8,665,105	7	Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence	UNWOMEN, UNODC, WHO, UNFPA	1,000,000
2	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS	UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, UN Women, WHO, UNESCO	1,850,000	8	Assessing the Socioeconomic Impacts of the War in Ukraine on the Agriculture and Rural Development Sector of Viet Nam	IFAD, FAO, UNFPA, UNIDO	264,000
3	Supporting Viet Nam towards the 2030 Integrated Finance Strategy for Accelerating the Achievement of the SDGs	UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women	1,235,266	9	Strengthening Human Rights and Gender Equality through Climate Change Action and Disaster Risk Reduction (EmPower-Women for Climate Resilient Societies)	UNEP, UN Women	2,418,284
4	UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities MPTF	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF	700,000	10	Joint SDG Fund on Social Protection and LNOB	ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP	2,800,803
5	Building Forward Better (COVID-19 MPTF Call 2)	IFAD, UNIDO	2,980,000	11	Strengthening Justice for Children in Viet Nam	IOM, UNICEF	759,800
6	UN-REDD	FAO, UNDP, UNEP	2,273,809	12	Elimination of Violence Against Women and Children	UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF	7,229,833



ACCELERATING VIET NAM'S TRANSITION TOWARD INCLUSIVE AND INTEGRATED SOCIAL PROTECTION

The Joint SDG Fund Joint Programme in Viet Nam advocates for inclusive and integrated Social Protection Reform to reach every child, every mother, every elderly, every worker and every ethnic minority woman with quality package with a life-cycle, gender-sensitive and shock-responsive approach.

The UN Joint Programme on Social Protection and Leaving No One Behind was launched in January 2020, disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic which has had a disproportionate impact on people in vulnerable groups

including those in poor or near-poor groups, informal workers, children, persons with disabilities and older persons in Viet Nam. They have lost incomes, access to education, access to social services as well as adequate social care and protection as the COVID-19 pandemic continued with its new waves throughout 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the already vulnerable social protection system in Viet Nam, with 70% of women and informal workers have no access to cash assistance. Among 11 million elderly people, more than 65% has no access to pension. There are 20

million children without social care support. Among 6.2 million people living with severe disabilities, only 1.2 million are receiving social assistance accounting for around 20% of total persons living with disabilities. The pandemic only further revealed the needs for quality expansion and change in the social protection system for Viet Nam and its people.

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the UN Joint Programme, *Accelerating Viet Nam's Transition towards Inclusive and Integrated Social Protection* implemented during the last 29 months has generated significant results from bringing in multi-tier system with life-cycle, gender-sensitive and shock-responsive approach for Viet Nam's reform on social protection system to advocate for expansion of the social protection coverage in integrated and inclusive manner with minimum burden to the fiscal capacity for the state budget.

The Joint Programme in Viet Nam is implemented by ILO, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF under the Resident Coordinator's leadership and overall coordination support from RCO, together with the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) and other national bodies such as Vietnam Social Security (VSS), Vietnam Women's Union (VWU) as well as grassroots and local-level organizations.

Some of the key results of the UN Joint Programme are: A new regulation on extension of Social Assistance, prepared with technical support from the UNJP has been endorsed by the Prime Minister on 15 March 2021. The new Decree, effective from 1st July 2021, regulates the increased in social protection coverage for its vulnerable population, including groups of children, older persons and people with disabilities. This is a significant result as it demonstrates the Government's commitment to leaving no one behind and realizing the right to social security for everyone. Another key result is real-time data analysis of the COVID-19's impacts on vulnerable people for timely policy action, which helps identify multiple gender gaps and vulnerabilities of aging and informality for gender-responsive social protection. Enhanced national capacity on social care services for older persons and enhanced the legal framework for child protection services and developed an inter-sectoral protocol for addressing violence against children are also our UN Joint Programme's achievement.

The full article is available at: <https://www.jointsdgfund.org/article/accelerating-viet-nams-transition-toward-inclusive-and-integrated-social-protection>

WORKING TOGETHER FOR AN INCLUSIVE FUTURE – IMPLEMENTING THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION IN VIET NAM.

Viet Nam has laws to protect the rights of persons with disabilities (PwDs). Nonetheless, they don't fully align with the international standards as stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Specifically, there are disparities among the definitions of PwDs in the Law on Persons with Disabilities (LPD) and in the CRPD. Vietnam is currently using a medical approach model of disability which overlooks many individuals with invisible disabilities, leading to only 7.2 percent of the population being recognized as PwDs (compared to the global average of 16 percent). The UN Joint Programme (JP) on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2022-2024), funded by the UNPRPD trust fund and implemented by UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, aims to support the GoV, organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) and other stakeholders (including service providers), in building a more CRPD-compliant legal framework. The key partners of this JP includes MOLISA, MOET, MOH, MOCST, the Vietnam Blind Association, and the Vietnam Federation of People with Disabilities.

Since 2022, through this JP, the UN has been able to enhance the capacity in advocacy, developing disability-inclusive policies, addressing gaps in development programs, and analyzing Viet Nam socio-economic plan for CRPD compliance of approximately 400 members of OPDs, government officials, policy makers, members of publish houses and other stakeholders. At the same time, five studies with 1,307 interviews were conducted to identify existing gaps in the legal framework and its implementation as well as best practices from other countries in legal reforms. The increased capacity and evidence from these studies have been fully utilized for the undergoing review of the Law on Persons with Disabilities (LPD) and policies on the rights to access information, inclusive education, and sexual and reproductive health. As a result, recommendations to improve the legal framework in line with CRPD will be made. The voices of PwDs were also raised with government officials and policy makers through two JP-supported events, including the workshop "Roles and



Celebration of the Day of PwDs at Vietnam National Committee for PwDs. Photo credit: UNDP

contributions of PwDs in SDGs" and the forum "Listen to the voice of PwDs" to celebrate the Day of PwDs. These events attracted the participation of 370 people who are OPD members, government officers, representatives of associations of parents of children with disabilities.

Under the JP support, an international scientific conference on disability inclusion was organized at Binh Duong University for 106 stakeholders to review disability inclusion in the National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2021-2025 and Viet Nam SDGs. This conference generated 65 scientific articles containing recommendations to support disability inclusion in Viet Nam's development agenda which served as inputs for disability-inclusive policy making. By supporting the second National Survey on PwDs and making relevant recommendations for enhancing disability-disaggregated data, the JP supported for the better monitor of the SDGs' achievements on Leaving No One Behind.

Most impressively, the JP supports contributed to the amendment of the Intellectual Property (IP) Law which includes provisions on copyright exceptions for persons with print disabilities and Viet Nam's accession to the Marrakesh Treaty which widens PwDs' access to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), a global body of knowledge.

ONE STRATEGIC PLAN (OSP) 2017-2021 EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSE ACTION PLANS



In 2021, the UN Country Team in Viet Nam completed the final evaluation of the OSP 2017-2021. The evaluation provided important information for **strengthening programming and results**, specifically in the planning and decision making for the CF 2022-2026 and in improving UN coordination. The management response was finalized by the

UNCT in coordination with Government and included 24 follow-up actions (see Annex 2).

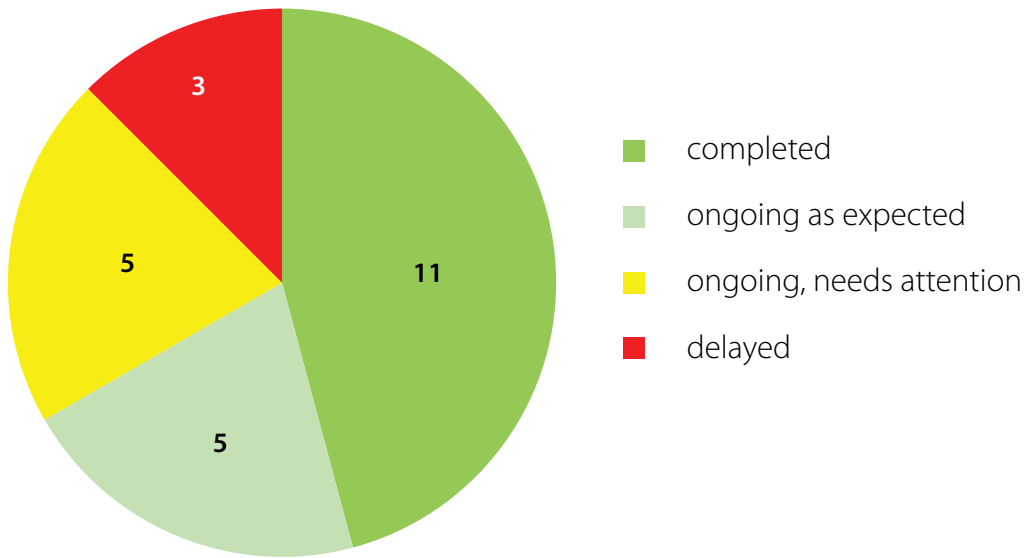
By the end of 2022, the UN Country Team had completed 11 out of the 24 actions, mostly pertaining to the CF formulation, its M&E framework and coordination architecture. Five actions are ongoing: (i) enhancing the UNCT position and common messaging on the UN normative agenda; (ii) implementing the CF governance and management structure; (iii) re-designing Results Groups' terms of reference as necessary; (iv) mainstreaming cross-cutting priorities and LNOB into CF indicator frameworks; and (v) strengthening GOVN engagement in the design and implementation of joint programmes.



New day, new smile. *Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Nguyen Quoc Huy*



FIGURE 15. IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSE ACTION PLAN IN 2022
(NUMBER OF ACTIONS)



The UN Country Team needs to accelerate the implementation of four actions:

- Strengthen the **coordination of the CF's Joint Steering Committee (JSC)** towards strategic discussions and more active GOVN participation. In 2022, the JSC was unable to meet. Plans are underway to convene in 2023 and preparations have been initiated through technical discussions on ODA issues and development of the partnership and resource mobilization strategy. In the past, the JSC met once annually for information sharing between the UN and the GOVN.
- Improve the **strategic role of Results Groups** in identifying areas for collective efforts and potential joint programming/programmes through joint work plan (JWP) processes. Significant improvements have been made through the 2022-2023 joint workplan development and review. Improved inter-agency cooperation and collaboration in the CF implementation remains critical.
- Enhance **joint programming** through the analysis of good practices and lessons learnt from joint work by Results Groups and subsequently at the UN Country Team level. In 2022, the review of the INFF joint programme provided important lessons. Similar reviews need to be conducted across joint work.
- Improve **joint UN communications and advocacy**, particularly on the normative agenda and common strategic messages through the UN Country Team website and other media tools. Various communications channels were used to convey key messages and information on CF priorities and implementation, as well as to integrate LNOB issues. Strategic improvements and innovations are required to optimize the UN's collective advocacy and results.

Additional actions for 2023 include: (i) strengthening the JSC's strategic coordination; (ii) establishing a UN pooled fund to accompany the new CF to catalyze joint work; and (iii) supporting efforts for accelerating SDG financing.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION



2022 budget and expenditure

In total, the UN in Viet Nam was able to mobilize approximately US\$100.8 million – accounting for 97.5 percent of the 2022 total required budget (\$104.5 million). This is a remarkable achievement in the context of declining ODA in the country and demonstrates the continued focus of the UN in Viet Nam to accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

The biggest share of resources mobilized in 2022 went to Outcome 1 on Inclusive Social Development, which accounted for 34.7 percent of total resources. Both Outcomes 2 and 4 on Climate Change and Environment and Governance and Access to Justice each generated 29 percent of total resources. Outcome 3 on Shared Prosperity was responsible for 7.5 percent of the total available budget.

In terms of expenditure, by the close of 2022, UN agencies had delivered US\$68.5 million, resulting in a disbursement of 67.9 percent against the total available budget of US\$100.8 million. This is the lowest level of spending recorded compared to previous years, and is attributed to delays in the approval and implementation of UN programmes and projects due to COVID-19 restrictions and ODA management-related challenges.

2022 UN budget by agency and funding source

The 2022 budget consolidates funding from 16 UN agencies and other sources. Seventy-five percent of the budget mobilized by the UN is from non-core funding (i.e., bilateral donors and global/regional funds, including the UN Joint SDG Fund).

FIGURE 16. 2022 AVAILABLE BUDGET BY AGENCY (MILLION US\$)

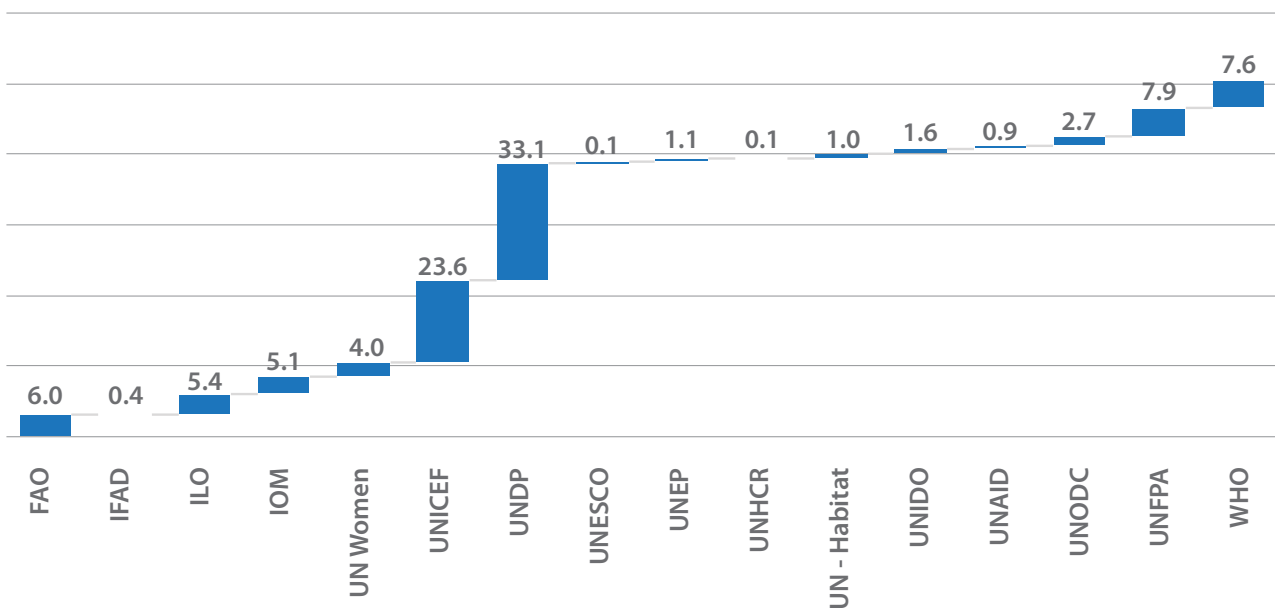
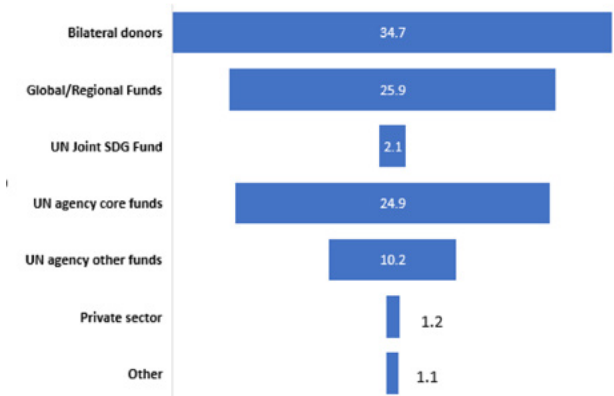


TABLE 3. 2022 UN FINANCIAL OVERVIEW (US\$)

Outcomes	2022			
	Total required	Available	Expenditure	Disbursement (percent)
Outcome 1	36,198,126	34,929,797	24,560,136	70.3
Outcome 2	30,029,948	29,814,087	18,425,039	61.8
Outcome 3	8,124,099	7,589,946	4,619,251	60.9
Outcome 4	30,118,658	28,459,352	20,069,460	70.5
TOTAL	104,470,831	100,793,182	68,459,025	67.9

FIGURE 17. CF FUNDING SOURCES BY END OF 2022 (PERCENT)



The 2022 budget consolidates funding from 16 UN agencies and other sources. Seventy-five percent of the budget mobilized by the UN is from non-core funding (i.e., bilateral donors and global/regional funds, including the UN Joint SDG Fund).

UN Viet Nam SDG Fund

The UN Viet Nam SDG Fund (SDGF) was established at the end of 2018 and was planned to be closed at the end of 2021 after disbursing all the outstanding balance. However, the implementation of the SDGF experienced delays and re-prioritization due to the COVID-19 pandemic, thus has been extended to 31 December 2022 by the MPTF Office at the JSC’s request. The extension period to the end of 2022 enabled the initial implementation of the first year of the UNDIS Action Plan’s activities and

other coordination activities, including a part of the Governance and Access to Justice portfolio. All 2022 planned activities were completed at the end of 2022. This is considered the final report of the SDGF.

TABLE 4. VIET NAM SDG FUND’S BUDGET (US\$).

Year	Approved Budget	Expenditure	Balance
2019	120,904	54,197	66,707
2020		52,247	14,460
2021	131,872	36,017	110,315
2022		109,209	1,106
Total	252,776	251,670	1,106

The 2022 expenditure was recorded at US\$109,209 out of a total 2019-2022 accumulated expenditure of US\$251,670. This expenditure covered the contractual services and general operating expenses for those who provided coordination assistance to the UN Country Team and different substantive inter-agency groups (including the Results Groups) in implementing the above-mentioned activities.

The closing balance of US\$1,106 by 31 December 2022 will be refunded to the MPTF-Office to undertake necessary steps for the fund’s financial closure in due course.



CHAPTER 3:

THE UN STRATEGIC FOCUS IN 2023



Learning together. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Ho Anh Tien.

Looking ahead to 2023, **spearheading collective efforts to accelerate SDG progress** is the highest priority for the UN in Viet Nam to bring the SDGs back on track. Key critical challenges facing Viet Nam's sustainable development journey include the global economic slowdown, financial condition tightening, prolonged war in Ukraine and accelerated climate change (as revealed by the 2023 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report). Recognizing these profound challenges, the interventions and efforts of the UN in Viet Nam will be embedded with multilateralism to invigorate solidarity and collaboration with partners across Viet Nam with the aim of accelerating attainment of the SDGs by 2030.

1. Integrated policy solutions

Voluntary National Review (VNR). The UN's priority is to support the GoVN to prepare the second VNR to be presented at the High-Level Political Forum in New York. The UN will invest in support to the GoVN beyond the production of a high-quality VNR report, but in the creation of a process whereby the country can take stock of SDG progress, discuss challenges, identify emerging

issues and seize opportunities to accelerate SDG implementation. Through the VNR process, data and analysis will be used to develop specific evidence-informed investment cases and policy recommendations for hastening the investments in SDGs where progress is under threat.

SDG policy dialogues. The UN will convene a series of policy dialogues with government partners, development partners, think tanks, CSOs, the private sector and other stakeholders. As part of the VNR process, the policy dialogues will be conducted to explore and identify potential priority areas for interventions that can accelerate SDG progress across the board, particularly where the goals are far behind and may risk the reversal of progress in other goals.

SDG data and monitoring. The UN will support Viet Nam to close the data gap in tracking and assessing SDG progress. Support will focus on generating and using data for SDG monitoring as per recognized international standards on methodology and disaggregation. UN support to this initiative will help surface disparities, vulnerabilities and exclusion across regions and population groups such as ethnic minorities, vulnerable children, persons with disabilities,

women, migrants and others whose realities are often masked by national averages.

SDG Summit. As 2023 is the mid-point of implementing the 2030 Agenda, the UN will support the GOVN to participate in the SDG Summit to be held during the UN General Assembly High-level Week in September 2023. As Viet Nam will be presenting its second VNR at the High-level Political Forum, the SDG Summit serves as a unique opportunity to showcase the country's achievements and challenges, and to assure its strong commitments to accelerating SDG achievements by 2030.

2. Unlocking SDG financing and investments

Unblocking ODA to catalyze investments in the SDGs.

The UN will work closely with the GOVN and development partners to support the GOVN to simplify the ODA management process to facilitate the implementation of ODA-funded projects, or to use ODA to catalyze additional investments in development priority areas. The ODA management and approval process has been a hurdle, slowing down the implementation of development programmes and projects in Viet Nam. The country has missed the opportunity to use millions of dollars in ODA to implement various development programmes that are beneficial to the country's development progress.

SDG financing strategy. The INFF joint programme, executed by the UN in partnership with the GOVN, has delivered key development financing assessments and diagnostics. It has formed the first building block of an integrated national financing framework to help inform the mobilization, allocation and tracking of financial resources required to achieve the SDGs. Following this achievement, the UN's priority is to further support the GOVN to put in place a full-fledged and actionable INFF to unlock the financing and investments needed to achieve the SDGs by 2030.



My dear friend. Photo credit: UN in Viet Nam/Tran Van Tuy

Catalyzing additional resources and innovative financing for development.

The UN will focus on helping the GOVN to bridge the SDG financing gap by testing new and innovative financing instruments. While domestic financing through increased state budget and the domestic capital market can be expanded, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of public investments and public-private partnerships is key. The UN will also support the GOVN to increase access to climate finance, blended finance and innovative financing instruments through the formulation and implementation of the SDG financing strategy.

3. Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) towards Viet Nam's net-zero commitment by 2050

Viet Nam is one of three countries globally that has signed up to the JETP – a multi-stakeholder partnership initiative that can help Viet Nam to move away from fossil fuel-based energy towards sustainable and green energy in order to reduce its

carbon emissions to zero. The UN is positioned to provide technical support to the implementation of the partnership, including in the set-up of the JETP Secretariat, the preparation of the Resource Mobilization Plan (RMP) and the implementation of demonstration projects. In addition, the UN can contribute to facilitating a common understanding and commitment towards making the “just” in the energy transition partnership a reality.

4. CF outcome priorities for 2023

Outcome 1 – Inclusive social development.

Driven by the country’s need through the request from the GOVN, the UN will provide support to shape the Government’s social development policy and vision by advancing evidence-based analysis, policy advisory and programming interventions. The work under this outcome area will contribute to **accelerated investments in universal health coverage (UHC), quality education, water and sanitation, social protection and ending violence against children and women** to ensure that the people of Viet Nam are protected and that no one is left behind as the country aspires to become an upper middle-income country by 2030 and a high-income country by 2045.

Outcome 2 – Climate change response, disaster resilience and environmental sustainability.

To support Viet Nam in the transition towards a low-carbon economy and greater climate resilience, the UN will help **accelerate institutional capacity building, formulation and implementation of climate-friendly policies and strategies for sustainable natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, green growth, circular economy initiatives and climate change adaptation and mitigation**. The UN interventions will build broad-based partnerships and investments for disaster risk reduction and environmental protection with a stronger focus on gender-responsive action plans that mitigate the

risks posed by natural hazards and climate change.

Outcome 3 – Inclusive economic transformation.

Aligned with Viet Nam’s national development goals of becoming an upper middle-income country and achieving the SDGs by 2030, the UN will continue to support **job creation, skills development and productivity and competitiveness enhancement**. Specifically, the UN will focus on **gender-sensitive improvements in labour standards and markets, TVET programmes, quality compliance, agro-value chain upgrading and promotion of digital transformation, science, technologies and innovations towards I4.0 in all sectors**. To ensure Viet Nam’s economic transformation is inclusive, the UN will continue supporting the creation of economic opportunities for vulnerable groups such as informal workers, ethnic minorities, women, migrants, youth, persons with disabilities and people living with HIV, among others.

Outcome 4 – Enhanced governance and access to justice.

In line with Viet Nam’s national aspirations of becoming a more just and inclusive society and its international commitments, the UN will continue to support governance improvement, institutional responsiveness and accountability, women’s empowerment and gender equality, freedom from all forms of violence and discrimination and protection of and respect for human rights. The UN will provide technical assistance and advocate for the **strengthening of national legislations, policies and institutions and deepening an enabling, transparent and inclusive environment for the participation of people – especially vulnerable groups – in a gender-sensitive sustainable development process**. This will be supported through the convening of multiple stakeholders including government partners and the production and use of data and analysis for evidence-based and rights-based policymaking, planning and budgeting.

ANNEX

ANNEX 1. CF 2022-2026 INDICATORS

OUTCOME 1: INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT			
Outcome 1: Outcome Indicators			
Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Proportion of schools and other education facilities with access to: (a) the Internet for pedagogical purposes, (b) computers for pedagogical purposes, (c) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities, by education level (VSDG 4.8.1) [UNESCO lead reporting, UNICEF support]	2019 (VSDG report 2020) Pre-primary: (a) Internet:10 percent; (b) computers: 10%; (c) disability-friendly infrastructure: 5% Primary: (a) Internet: 82.7%; (b) computers: 79.1%; (c) disability-friendly infrastructure: 27.9%; Lower secondary: (a) Internet: 88.1%; (b) computers: 87.9%; (c) disability- friendly infrastructure: 20.7%; Upper secondary: (a) Internet: 85.5%; (b) computers: 88%; (c) disability- friendly infrastructure: 13.8%	Pre-primary: (a) Internet:95.83%; (b) computers: 94.27%; (c) disability-friendly infrastructure: NA; Primary: (a) Internet: 90.85%; (b) computers: 87.84%; (c) disability- friendly infrastructure: 37.11%; Lower secondary: (a) Internet: 89.3%; (b) computers: 88.96%; (c) disability- friendly infrastructure: 28.93%; Upper secondary: (a) Internet: 88.53%; (b) computers: 88.87%; (c) disability- friendly infrastructure: 19.94%	2025 (VSDG roadmap/ MOET decision 2257/2019) Pre-primary: (a) Internet: 20%; (b) computers: 20%; (c) disability-friendly infrastructure: 9% Primary: (a) Internet: 85%; (b) computers: 85%; (c) disability- friendly infrastructure: 65% Lower-secondary: (a) Internet: 100%; (b) computers: 95%; (c) disability-friendly infrastructure: 65% Upper-secondary: (a) Internet: 100%; (b) computers: 95%; (c) disability-friendly infrastructure:65%
Percentage of schools which provide basic education programmes about sex education, violence prevention, abuse prevention and HIV-related knowledge (VSDG 4.7.2) [UNESCO lead reporting, UNICEF support]	School year 2019–2020 (MOET) Kindergarten: 9.8% Primary: 68.8% Lower secondary: 72.7% Upper secondary: 67.8%	Kindergarten: NA; Primary: 73.58%; Lower secondary: 74.67%; Upper secondary: 71.89%	90% (2025–2026, MOET)
Prevalence of stunting among children under five disaggregated by ethnicity (VSDG 2.2.1) [UNICEF lead reporting]	2020: Total: 19.6; EM: 32	19.2	2025: Total: 16; EM: 27
Infant-mortality rate (IMR) by sex (VSDG 3.1.5) [UNICEF lead reporting]	14 per 1,000 live births Male: 15.8; female: 12.0 (2019, Pop. census 2019)	12.1	Total: 12.5 per 1,000 live births (2025, VSDG Roadmap)

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Maternal mortality ratio (VSDG 3.1.1) [UNFPA lead reporting]	Total: 46 per 100,000 live births (2019)	NA	42 (2025) (Source: MOH Maternal Mortality Surveillance Studies and reports)
Number of deaths from traffic accidents (VSDG 3.5.1) [WHO lead reporting]	6,700 (2020, GSO Stat. yearbook/VSDG report 2020)	6397	Decrease by 5-10% p.a.
Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected people, by sex, age and key populations (VSDG indicator 3.2.1) [UNAIDS lead reporting]	0.05 per 1,000 population Total cases: 5,200; male (15+): 3400; female (15+): 1400; children (0–14): < 500 (2019, UNAIDS Global report)	5,700 [5,000 - 6,200] (2021)	Decreased by 80% compared with 2010 data (0.18 per 1,000 population or 16,000 cases) (2025, UNAIDS estimated target)
Proportion of rural population using safely managed water service. (SDG 6.1.1) [UNICEF lead reporting]	51% (2020, MARD report)	NA	55% (2025, MARD decision #4019/2019 on VSDG roadmap)
Adolescent birth rate among women aged 15–19 years per 1,000 women in that age group (adjusted VSDG 3.6.2) [UNFPA lead reporting]	Total: 35 (2019); Urban: 16; Rural: 45 (Pop census 2019)	NA	33 (2025, VSDG roadmap)
Proportion of married women aged 15–49 years who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (VSDG 3.6.1) [UNFPA lead reporting]	72.8% (2020, SDGCW survey)	68.1 (2021, VNR)	75% (2025, SDGCW survey)
Viet Nam Human Development Index [UNDP lead reporting]	0.704 (2019)	0,703 (2022, UNDP)	Remain above 0.7 or with a high HDI by 2030 (SEDS 2021–2030)
Multi-dimensional poverty rate by national standard (VSDG 1.1.1) [UNDP lead reporting]	4.8% (2020, GSO Viet Nam Households living standards survey (VHLSS) report)	3.60%	Decrease of 1–1.5% annually until 2026 (VSDG roadmap)

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Multi-dimensional child poverty rate (total, sex, residence, ethnicity and disability status (VSDG 1.1.3) [UNICEF lead reporting])	Total: 14.5% Urban: 5%; Rural: 18.6%; Kinh/Hoa: 6.8%; Ethnic minority: 46.4% children with disabilities: 43.0% (2018) Male: 14.8% Female: 14.2% (2018, GSO-UNICEF Report)	10.90%	Decrease of 1–1.5% annually. (2025, VSDG Roadmap)
Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/ systems (SDG indicator 1.3.1) [ILO and UNFPA co-lead reporting]	(1) 32.6% (or 15.03 million) of the labour force participates in social insurance, of which 1.07 million participate in voluntary social insurance (2020, VSS); (2) 90.85% health insurance coverage rates (2020, VSS) (3) 13.27 million workers (or 26.82% of the labour force) participate in unemployment insurance (2020, VSS) (4) 3.041.731 million or 3.41% of the population receive monthly social allowances (2020, VSS) (5) 4.9 million people at retirement age (42.8%) received pension or social insurance allowances and social pensions (Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs [MOLISA] 2020)	(1) 38.07% (or 17.50 million persons) of the labour force participates in social insurance; (2) 92.03% health insurance coverage rates (or 91.1 million persons) (3) 31.18% of the labour force (or 14.3 million persons) participate in unemployment insurance (4) 3.3% of the population (or 3.6 million persons) receive monthly social allowances (5) 42.8% (or 5.57 million older persons) of older persons receive pension or social insurance allowances and social pension	(1) 45% of the workforce participates in social insurance (2025, Resolution No. 28 / NQ-TW); (2) 95% of the population is covered by health insurance (2025, Resolution No. 28 / NQ-TW); (3) 35% of the work force participates in unemployment insurance (2025, VSDG roadmap); (4) 3.5% of the population are beneficiaries of monthly social allowances (2025, VSDG roadmap); (5) About 55% people at retirement age receive pension or social insurance allowance and social pension (2025, Resolution No. 28 / NQ-TW)
Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work (VSDG 5.4.1) [ILO and UN Women co-lead reporting]	Male 8.9 hour/week Female 18.9 hour/week, 2.1 times as compared with that of the male counterpart (2019 Labour force survey (LFS)/ VSDG report 2020)	1.9 (2021, VNR)	Reduce the average number of hours spent by women in unpaid housework and family care work, as compared to the spent by men, to 1.7 times by 2025 and 1.4 times by 2030 [National strategy on gender equality]

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Specific provisions on promotion of ethnic minorities language teaching/learning in upcoming National Education Development Strategy towards 2030 [UNICEF, UNESCO]	No provision	Inputs available and accepted by MOET	Specific provisions ethnic minority language teaching and learning
Availability of revised circulars on boarding and semi-boarding schools in terms of strengthening the quality learning and skills development for ethnic minority children [UNICEF, UNESCO]	No	Recommendations by UNICEF and UNESCO submitted to MOET for revising the existing circular on boarding and semi-boarding schools.	Yes
Number of additional sectoral vocational training councils (or other matching mechanisms) with UN support [ILO]	1	0	2
Number of evidence-informed, equitable, inclusive, gender-sensitive, enabling policies and guidelines developed to improve people's health, animal health and environmental health (FAO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO)	0	7	at least 10
Number of studies, research, or surveys generating quality evidence to inform the development of national and subnational policies and guidelines. (FAO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO)	0	8	10



Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of new solutions, innovative models, initiatives, or policies/guidelines proposed to the government to promote the health including sexual and reproductive health, focusing on migrant, ethnic minority, adolescent/youth and people with disability populations. (IOM, UNFPA)	0	2	13
Number of provinces that implement new solutions, innovative models, initiatives, or policies/guidelines to promote the health including sexual and reproductive health, focusing on migrant, ethnic minority, adolescent/youth and people with disability populations. (IOM, UNFPA)	0	9 provinces	10
Number of evidence-informed, inclusive, gender-sensitive, climate resilient policies developed to increase safely managed water and sanitation access for people, particularly in remote and vulnerable areas. (UNICEF, WHO)	0	1 - A circular on rural water safety planning was formulated and consulted with national and provincial agencies and issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.	5

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of policy changes which contribute to the development and strengthening of a multi-tiered, shock and gender responsive social protection system, through a life-cycle approach. [UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO, UN Women]	1	1 (inputs provided to the review report of Resolution 15 on social policies)	4
Percentage of persons of working age enrolled in Social insurance. [ILO]	33% (2021, VSS Report)	NA	2030: 60%
Percentage of total population covered by social assistance schemes [ILO]	3.5% (2021, forthcoming, MOLISA report)	NA	
Number of new solutions, innovative models/ systems piloted and proposed to the government to enhance social care for the most vulnerable people. [UNICEF, UNFPA]	0	2 models on alternative care for children and 2 models for OP care.	2025: 2
Number of national regulatory frameworks that facilitate ethnic women to develop innovative livelihood opportunities and accelerate multidimensional poverty reduction. [UNDP]	1	2 circulars	2025: 3
Number of innovative solutions tested and applied to incentivize sustainable social impact business for ethnic minority groups. [UNDP]	0	1	2025: 3



OUTCOME 2: CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE, DISASTER RESILIENCE, AND ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY

Outcome 2: Outcome Indicators

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emitted (adjusted VSDG 11.6.4)	528.4 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2020 (NDC report)	528.4	2025: 673.3 m tons of CO2 equivalent (NDC)
Forest coverage (VSDG 15.2.2)	41.89% (2020, MARD)	42	2025: Maintained at 42% (SEDS 2021–2030, Strategy on Forestry Development 2021–2030, vision to 2050 promulgated on 1 Apr 2021)
Area in hectares (ha) of marine protected areas and special-use forest (adjusted VSDG 14.5.1)	Marine protected areas: 213,000 ha (2020, Results of the management of the marine protected area system in Viet Nam during 2010–2020, and tasks in 2021–2030) Special-use forest: 2.17 million hectares (2020, Assessment of the implementation of the Prime Minister's Decision 1976 on the planning for the national special-use forest system to 2020, vision to 2030)	Marine PAs: 213,000 hectares. Special use forest: 2,195,725 hectares	Marine protected areas: 270,271 ha (2025, Results of the management of the marine protected area system in Viet Nam during 2010–2020, and tasks during 2021–2030) Special-use forest: 2,462,652 ha (2025, Assessment of the implementation of the Prime Minister's Decision 1976 on the planning for the national special-use forest to 2020, vision to 2030)
Number of deaths, missing persons and injuries attributed to disasters per 100,000 people (VSDG 11.5.1) (disaggregated by sex and age)	357 deaths and missing person (37 women) 912 injuries (2020, National Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (NCNDPC))	139 deaths/missing persons/injuries per 100,000	Less than 250 (2025, SDG Roadmap report)
Number of destroyed or damaged health and educational facilities attributed to disasters (link to VSDG11.5.1)	209 health centres and 1894 schools affected (2020, NCNDPC)	17 health centres and 1194 schools affected (2022, NCNDPC)	Sustained reduction annually

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Renewable energy (solar, onshore and offshore wind) share in the total final energy consumption (adjusted VSDG 7.2.1)	25% (2020 draft Power Development Planning VIII (PDP8))	27.82% renewable energy/ final energy consumption	28% (2025 draft PDP8)
Total final energy consumption/GDP (octanal-water partition coefficient/1,000 US\$ GDP) (VSDG indicator 7.3.1)	409 (2019, GSO Stat. yearbook)	407.8 (2020)	Reduction of 1.0–1.5% per year up to 2030 - Draft Green Growth Strategy
Number of gender-responsive strategies, policies, plans and innovative solutions adopted for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and enhanced resilience of vulnerable populations (UNWOMEN, UNDP, FAO, UNICEF)	0 (in 2021)	FAO: 2, UNDP: 3, UNWOMEN: 1, UNICEF: 2	2026: at least 12 (FAO 1, UNDP 4; UNWOMEN 3, UNICEF 4)
Number of people benefiting from resilience, livelihoods, social benefits, insurance, cash transfers, sustainable use of natural resources, ecosystem services, and disaster risk reduction programs; disaggregated by sex and age (UNDP, FAO, UNWOMEN)	120,689	UNDP: 222,635; FAO: 1,535; UNWOMEN: 6,900	2026: 768,500 (UNDP), 30,900 (FAO), 14,000 (UNWOMEN) disaggregated by gender
Number of new/amended policies, legislation, technical regulations, guidelines and standards on energy efficiency, circular economy and environmental protection, adopted with the UN support (disaggregated by type) (UNIDO, UNDP)	0	UNIDO: 5; UNDP: 4	2026: 14 on energy efficiency, 2 for circular economy, at least 2 on emission reduction and e-mobility



Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target	Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of enterprises that adopted resource and energy efficiency measures and/or that demonstrate green production and reduction of environmental pollution (disaggregated by gender of leadership) (UNIDO, UNDP)	0	UNIDO: 49 enterprises; UNDP: 15 enterprises	350 (of which 17 women-led enterprises) by mid-2027 (UNIDO) 50 (businesses that demonstrate green production and reduction of environmental pollution) (UNDP)	Number of women and men benefiting from UN-assisted sustainable management of natural resources, forest, non-timber forest products, nature-based tourism, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services (UNDP)	834,558	UNDP: 1,004,489	2026: 1,738,533
Number of tonnes of CO2 equivalent reduction from UN-assisted interventions (including renewable energy, energy efficiency, forestry, agriculture) (UNIDO, UNDP, FAO)	2,187,602 tonnes of CO2 equivalent	UNDP: 2,387,602 tonnes of CO2e UNIDO: 1,186,874 tonnes of CO2e/year	2026: 3,187,602 tons of CO2 equivalent (MONRE) (UNDP); 12,889,969 tons of CO2 equivalent (MoNRE and MARD) (FAO)	Number of applied small-scale infrastructure interventions and technologies that address impacts on human and eco-system health (UNHABITAT)	0 in 2020	NA	2026: 9 infrastructure interventions; 3 technologies applied
Number of policies, plans and measures for the sustainable management and use of natural resources, and effective conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems developed and implemented, with UN support (FAO, UNDP)	0	UNDP: 3	2026: At least 5 (FAO:1; UNDP:4)	Number of insurance products for rural and urban infrastructure (housing, health, education and businesses) against disaster impacts, developed/launched with UN support (UNDP)	0	UNDP: 0	2026: 2 (MARD, MONRE, MOIT)
Number of hectares of agricultural land, forest and marine protected areas restored, created or under improved sustainable management practices supported by UN (UNDP, UN HABITAT, FAO)	200,000 ha of forests, 8,600 marine area, 0 ha of agricultural area	UNDP: 370,000 ha of forests and 8,600 ha of marine PAs	2026: forests: 1,000,000; marine protected areas: 15,000 (MONRE, MARD) (UNDP) agricultural land and forest: 151,200 (MoNRE, MARD) (FAO)	Number of models on climate change resilient and environmentally sustainable healthcare facilities developed/implemented and scaled-up with the UN support (WHO, UNDP)	0	UNDP: 1	2024: At least 3 models of climate change resilient and environmentally sustainable healthcare facilities to be built



OUTCOME 3: SHARED PROSPERITY THROUGH ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Outcome 2: Outcome Indicators

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
GDP per capita (in US\$, current price) (VSDG 8.1.3)	US\$ 2,779 (2020, GSO)	4,110	Sustain the annual growth rate of 4–4.5% (2026, VSDG Roadmap)
Proportion of informal employment, by sex (VSDG 8.3.1)	Total: 56.2%; female: 51.1%; male: 60.5% (2020, GSO) Vulnerable employment: 54.1% (2019, Global HDR)	Total: 54.9	Decreased proportion of informal employment (2026); A proportion of vulnerable employment of 51.5% by 2025, 50.9% by 2026, decreasing about 1% per year (UNDP estimated target)
Unemployment rate (VSDG 8.5.2)	2.48% (2020, GSO)	2.32	2025: Remained less than 3% (VSDG Roadmap)
Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries (VSDG 8.8.1)	8,000 cases, of which 1,000 deaths and nearly 2,000 severely injured 2019 (2020 National report on five years implementation of VSDG)	NA	Annual decline of (a) occupational accidents: 5%; (b) fatal occupational accidents: 5%; (c) non-fatal occupational accidents: 5% (2025, VSDG Roadmap)
Labour productivity (VSDG 8.2.1)	US\$ 5,081 per labour or VND 93.4 mil./labour (2020, GSO)	VND 109.7 mil./labour	Annual growth rate of 6.5% until 2030 (SEDS 2021–2030)
Proportion of female directors/owners of enterprises and cooperatives (VSDG 5.5.5)	24% (2019, LFS)	29.9 (2020)	27% (2025, National Strategy on Gender Equality 2021–2030)
Proportion of population using the Internet (SDG 17.8.1)	68.7 % (2019, ITU World telecommunication/ICT Indicators database)	70.3 (2020)	80% by 2025, 100 % by 2030 (Strategy on the fourth Industrial Revolution towards 2030)

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of people trained on Labour Dispute Resolution system at national level and three dynamic provinces including Binh Duong, Dong Nai and HCM city (ILO).	0	NA	2023: 30
Number of factories benefited from BWV's partnership and collaboration with national constituents in promoting compliance including labour inspectorate	1	NA	2022: 15
Number of prioritized sectors selected for productivity improvement, with UN support	0	NA	2022: 2
Number technical papers available and workshops held to inform the development and revision of Employment Laws, Social Insurance Law, and the Law on Cooperatives, and the implementation of the Law on Vietnamese Overseas Contracted Workers with UN support	0	NA	2022: 8



Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of national institutions with increased capacity to develop and/or revise the policies/strategies that reflected inclusive, transformative and sustainable industry development, with UN support.	0	1 Resolution No. 29-NQ/TW was issued on 17th Nov. 2022 on "Continuing to promote industrialization and modernization of the country to 2030, with a vision to 2045", 01 National Action Plan on transforming the Food System towards Transparency, Responsibility and Sustainability in Viet Nam by 2030	'2022: 1 policy developed 3 institutions strengthened capacity
Number of global, regional or national policy instruments (including plans, strategies, legislation, partnerships, including gender responsive) aimed at supporting the shift to decent work, sustainable consumption and production implemented, with UN support	0	3	4 (food system program, 1. Resolution No.120/NQ-CP dated November 17, 2017 of the Government on sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong River delta; 2. Decision No. 324/QĐ-TTg on approval of the master Programme for sustainable and climate-resilience agricultural development in Mekong Delta region towards to 2030, with a vision to 2045; 3. Decision No. 255/QĐ-TTg dated February 25, 2021 of the Prime Minister approving the Plan on restructuring of agriculture in the 2021-2025 period;) by 2026
Number of sectoral or enterprises' plans for promotion of alignment of business practices with decent work priorities and a human-centred approach to the future of work	0	NA	2022: 1; 2023: 1

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of micro-small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) having made changes to their business operations for increased competitiveness with UN support	-SIBs lack of capacity on business development, especially in responding to crises like COVID-19 '- Due to COVID-19, a lot of SIBs want to change their business models but they don't know how and don't have budget '- Due to COVID-19, SIBs meet main difficulties in reduced revenue from existing customers and in expanding their market, need to expand the market to new customers and find the new approach to sale products.	9 SMEs of mango and pomelo have increased their quality and standards compliance capacity along their supply chain to meet the market requirements	2023: 01 platform/eso-system to promote and provide seed-funding for SIBs to cope with COVID-19; 8-15 SIBs will receive the seed-fund and have COVID-19 responded business plan
Number of sustainable value chains upgrading towards more sustainable development, with UN support.	0	NA	2022: 7 SOPs, 2 national standards, 2 value chain (mango, pomelo) 20 enterprises
Number of enhanced sustainable cities through cultural industries and advance sustainable tourism development	0	NA	2022: 3; 2023: 3
Number of actors with increased capacities / knowledge, to design and implement sustainable, and gender-responsive business models and practices to support women's economic empowerment and promote women-led enterprises.	4	NA	2023: 5 (+1); 2024: 6 (+1); 2025: 7 (+1); 2026: 8 (+1)



Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of national partners that have increased capacities to apply gender responsive budgeting tools in the budget cycle.	N/A	NA	
Number of tools introduced to key national partners in the Government of Viet Nam to implement and monitor innovative financing policies and programmes to advance gender equality.	Baseline: Year: 2021 Value: 2 Notes: Baseline: 2 [GRB in transport sector, GRB in poverty reduction] Source: National reports	NA	2022: 4 (+1); 2024: 5 (+1); 2026: 6 (+1)
Number of people directly benefiting from improved skills and lifelong learning programmes, including for comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), developed and implemented with UN support	125	NA	2023: 2,000

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of technologies, digital tools and platforms developed to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, with UN support	0	2 new post-harvest technology firstly introduced to increase self-life of fruit and replace the plastic mapping, 2 traceability systems introduced, an e-learning platform on SOPs (standard operation procedures) built.	2022: 2 post-harvest technologies developed
Number of SMEs adopted the green technology to incentivize environmental sustainability and a circular economy	2	6 tropical fruit enterprises adopting the new post-harvest innovative technology to improve the product quality and increase value addition	2022: 5 enterprises adopting the green technology



OUTCOME 4: GOVERNANCE AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Outcome 4: Outcome Indicators

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Rate of female deputies in elected bodies (National Assembly and People's Council) (VSDG5.5.1, VSDG5.5.4)	National Assembly female delegates (2021): 30.26% People's Council Deputies (2021): - Provincial level: 29.00% - District level: 29.08% - Commune level: 28.98%	30.3	> 30% (2026)
Sex ratio at birth (VSDG 5.1.1)	112.1 (2020, Population change survey, GSO)	113.7 (MOH)	2025: 111.0; 2026: 110.6 (VN Population Strategy to 2030)
Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before the age of 18 (VSDG 5.3.1)	9.1% (2019, Population census, GSO)	14.6 (2020, VNR)	6% (2026, Viet Nam Population Strategy to 2030, aims to reduce by 50% the number of couples married before 18 or in a child marriage, by 2030)
Proportion of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour (VSDG 8.7.1)	5.4% (2018)	6.9 (2020, SDG CW)	4.9% (2025, National Programme on the Prevention and Reduction of Child Labour 2021–2025 and 2030)
Level of national compliance with core labour rights (adjusted SDG 8.8.2)	(1) Viet Nam has ratified Convention No. 98 on the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining (in 2019), which came into force in 2020. The first report with baseline data will be available by end of 2021. (2) As scheduled, dossier for the ratification of ILO Convention 87 on the Freedom of Association and the Protection of the Right to Organize will be prepared in 2023	NA	(1) Increased the number of collective bargaining agreements (2) Dossier for ratification of Convention 87 to be prepared (Source: MOLISA and tripartite partner periodical report on implementing the international labour standards)

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience with public services (VSDG 16.6.1)	87.16% (2021)	NA	86% (2025, VSDG roadmap)
Proportion of people who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by a public official, during the previous 12 months (State employment, public healthcare service, land-use rights certificates) (SDG 16.5.1)	total: 36; public healthcare service: 28 land-use right certificate: 27; state employment: 40	NA	<20% (2026, VSDG roadmap)
Corruption Perception Index	Score 39/100 (2021)	42/100	Score: 50–59, moving from the 'highly corrupt' to 'less corrupt/cleaner' scale (2026)
Number of social-order and safety-related crime offences	120,536 (2020)	NA	Decreased
Rate of crimes detected, investigated and prosecuted	Rate of criminal cases detected, investigated and prosecuted: 85.69% (2020)	NA	Increased
Number of new or amended legal documents on the protection of the rights of PWDs supported by the UN.	0 (2021, UN)	1	Proposals accepted and included in the National Assembly's (NA) legislative agenda for: 1. Ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty; 2. Proposal of amendment of Law on PWDs; 3. Decree instructing Article 25 of the Law on Intellectual Property
Percentage of GBV victims seeking assistance from any supporting services (linked with VSDG 16.2.3)	9.6% (2019, Violence against women study by GSO/ MOLISA)	NA	50% (2026, MOLISA's M&E framework)
Youth Development Index	0.63 (2016, Global, ASEAN and National Youth Development Index report)	0.744 (2020)	0.88 (2026, Global, ASEAN and National Youth Development Index report)



Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of country visits by special procedures accepted by Viet Nam	0 (2020, OHCHR)	NA	03 (2026, OHCHR)
Number of reports to treaty bodies submitted by Viet Nam	0 (2020, OHCHR)	NA	6 (by 2026, OHCHR)
Percentage of recommendations agreed on by Viet Nam from the Third Cycle Universal Periodic Review implemented	0 (2019, OHCHR)	NA	50% (by 2024, OHCHR)
Number of new population surveys/research conducted for use in decision making and SDG monitoring.	0 (2021, UN)	NA	3 (2026, UN)
Number of legal document or policy actions adopted to eliminate gender-based violence and all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination against vulnerable groups, with UN support [UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF]	4	8	2022: 6; 2023: 8; 2024: 10; 2025: 12; 2026: 17
Number of institutions with enhanced capacity to address gender-based violence and all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination against vulnerable groups, with UN support [UN Women, UNFPA]	7	24	2022: 8; 2023: 9; 2024: 11; 2025: 13; 2026: 24

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of evidence-based initiatives or interventions designed and implemented to address gender-based violence and all forms of abuse, exploitation and discrimination against vulnerable groups, with UN support [UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF]	7	14	2022: 9; 2023: 11; 2024: 13; 2025: 15; 2026: 25
Number of new or revised policies and programmes to promote participation of vulnerable groups in the sustainable development process, with UN support [UNICEF, UN Habitat]	0	52	2026: 3
Number of national or sub-national institutions and mechanisms with enhanced capacities to promote participation of vulnerable groups in the sustainable development process, with UN support [UNFPA, UNDP]	7	10	2022: 9; 2023: 11; 2024: 12; 2025: 15; 2026: 80
Number of legal document or policy papers adopted to strengthen alignment with the international human rights norms and standards, with UN support [ILO, UNHCR]	0	1	2026: 2
Number of institutions with enhanced capacity to strengthen rule of law and expand access to justice, with UN support [UNICEF, UNDP, UNODC]	40	52	2022: 53; 2023: 56; 2024: 71; 2025: 91; 2026: 112



Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of government institutions, dialogues and other processes advancing national commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment, with UN support [UN Women]	2	7	2022: 4; 2023: 6; 2024: 8; 2025: 10; 2026: 12
Number of state or non-state actors with enhanced capacities to promote gender equality and women's empowerment, with UN support [UN Women, FAO]	7	15	2022: 8; 2023: 10; 2024: 12; 2025: 14; 2026: 16
Number of institutions that have measures in place to advance women's leadership and equal participation in decision-making, with UN support [UN Women, UNDP]	6	9	2022: 7; 2023: 10; 2024: 13; 2025: 13; 2026: 14
Number of legal document or policy actions adopted to prevent and address trafficking in persons, migrant smuggling, illicit drugs, wildlife trafficking, or corruption and money laundering in alignment with UNTOC and its Protocols, with UN support [IOM, UNODC]	2	4	2022: 7; 2026: 9
Number of institutions, networks or communities with enhanced capacity to prevent and address trafficking in persons, migrant smuggling, illicit drugs, wildlife trafficking, or corruption and money laundering, with UN support [IOM, UNODC, UNDP]	11	31	2022: 21; 2023: 23; 2024: 24; 2026: 33

Indicators	Baseline	2022 Status	Target
Number of people that benefitted from programmes to prevent and address child labour, trafficking and forced labour, with UN support [IOM]	110	372	2022: 350; 2023: 550; 2024: 800; 2025: 1050; 2026: 1200
Number of policy documents or actions adopted to improve data production, analysis and use to inform evidence- and right-based policies, planning and budgeting, with UN support [UN Habitat]	0	NA	2026: 1
Data collection and analysis mechanisms in place providing disaggregated data to monitor progress towards the SDGs and enhance policy coherence for sustainable development, with UN support [UNDP, UNAIDS, UN Habitat]	2	4	2023: 3; 2024: 4; 2026: 6
Number of research, study, survey, datasets available to inform evidence- and rights-based policies, planning and budgeting, with UN support [UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Habitat, IOM]	0	4	2023: 1; 2026: 7



ANNEX 2. MANAGEMENT RESPONSE ACTION PLAN TO THE EVALUATION OF THE OSP 2017-2021

Actions to be taken		Responsible entities	Timeframe	Status by end 2022
1.1	Develop 2022-2026 CF in line with the UNSDG guidance with robust TOC and results framework which enable more strategic and selective UN interventions, and greater accountability and transparency of the UN system in Viet Nam.	UNCT (with support of RCO, Outcome Groups, PMT, MSRWG) and GOVN	Feb - Jul 2021	completed
1.2	Set up relevant mechanisms (GOVN-UN taskforce, multi-stakeholder workshop and consultation) to ensure inclusive consultation with government, NGOs, mass organizations, development partners and other stakeholders during CF development.	UNCT (with support of RCO, Outcome Groups, PMT) and GOVN	Jun - Jul 2021	completed
2.1	Select robust outcome indicators as part of CF Results Framework which link with national SDG indicator framework and output areas to reflect UN contribution. Outcome indicators are measurable and realistic in number, with available baseline and targets, with clear data sources and with identification of UN agencies in charge of data reporting.	UNCT (through Outcome Groups with support of MSRWG) and GOVN	Jun - Jul 2021	completed
2.2	Select robust output indicators as part of CF Joint Work Plans which reflect UN-specific contribution as results of UN interventions. Output indicators are measurable and realistic in number, with available baselines and targets, with clear data sources and with identification of UN agencies in charge of data reporting.	Outcome Groups (with support of MSRWG)	Aug - Oct 2021	completed
2.3	Develop the UNCT Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan, including clear guidance on JWP planning, monitoring, review and reporting.	MSRWG	Aug - Oct 2021	completed
2.4	Improve the UNInfo database (through sufficient data entry) and its use for monitoring of CF progress and UN contribution (both programmatically and financially) to SDGs and as a basis for UN discussion and identification of possible joint interventions.	RGs and MSRWG	Aug - Oct 2021	completed
3.1	Revise the JSC TOR to strengthen JSC's coordination towards strategic discussions and more active GOVN participation, especially for the new CF.	UNCT and GOVN (through JSC)	Aug - Oct 2021	delayed
3.2	Implement the JSC TOR as designed and revise when necessary.	JSC	Oct 2021 - End 2026	ongoing, needs attention
3.3	Ensure meaningful and active GOVN contribution to the CF development.	UNCT and GOVN (through JSC)	Feb - Jul 2021	completed
4.1	Establish UN-internal CF Governance and Management Structure to ensure Results Group (RG) strategic position.	UNCT	Aug - Oct 2021	completed
4.2	Develop (and implement at later stage) RG TOR to ensure RG strategic position, more frequent interaction within RGs, linkage with GOVN sectoral/thematical coordination structures, and maximized GOVN participation in RGs (including in the development of joint programmes) to extent possible.	Results Groups for UNCT approval	Oct - Nov 2021	completed
4.3	Implement the CF Government and Management Structure and RG TORs as designed and revise when necessary.	Results Groups for UNCT approval	Oct 2021 - End 2026	ongoing as expected

Actions to be taken		Responsible entities	Timeframe	Status by end 2022
5.1	RGs to discuss and identify areas for collective efforts and potential joint programmes annually during the JWP planning.	Results Groups	Nov - Jan, annually	ongoing, needs attention
5.2	Collect and review good practices and lessons learned on joint programming and joint programmes during annual review/ reporting period. Report to UNCT for strategic discussion for improvement of joint programming.	Results Groups and UNCT	Nov - March, annually	ongoing, needs attention
6.1	Identify cross-cutting priorities and LNOB in CF document.	UNCT (with support of RCO, Outcome Groups, PMT) and GOVN	Feb - Jul 2021	completed
6.2	Mainstream cross-cutting priorities and LNOB into CF indicator frameworks (in the CF documents, JWPs and MEL plan) to extent possible in line with relevant UNCT action plans (e.g., SWAP and UNDIS action plans).	UNCT (with support of MSRWG, GTG, etc.) and GOVN	Jun 2021 - Mar 2022	ongoing as expected
8.1	UNCT/RCO to continue to support non-resident agencies in collaborating with GOVN agencies and other stakeholders to extent possible, and to consistently engage non-resident agencies in relevant groups/tasks/communication.	UNCT/RCO	from now forward	completed
8.2	Non-resident agencies to be more active in sharing information of their activities, participating, presenting and contributing to the UNCT, RGs and other inter-agency coordination mechanisms (including CF and JWP planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting).	Non-resident agencies	from now forward	completed
9.1	UNCT and GOVN to make a decision on whether we should keep the VN SDG Fund for the future given the existing joint global fund and GOVN procedures and given that the UN may still get some funds through this country-level mechanism in the future.	UNCT and GOVN (through JSC)	Now - Aug 2021	delayed
9.2	If the decision is yes (for Action 9.1), then JSC to agree on the SDGF TOR.	JSC	Aug - Dec 2021	delayed
10.1	Discuss and identify directions/ways to enhance UNCT collective strategy and common messages on UN normative agenda.	UNCT	from now forward	ongoing as expected
10.2	Implement UNCT directions to enhance UNCT collective strategy and common messages on UN normative agenda, including through joint work planning, joint programming and UN joint messages.	UNCT	from now forward	ongoing as expected
10.3	Improve the UN joint communication for advocating UN normative agenda and common strategic messages through UNCT website and other media tools.	UN Comms Group	from now forward	ongoing as expected
11.1	Strengthen GOVN engagement in designing joint programmes from the beginning and throughout the whole JP development process.	Relevant UNCT groups and GOVN agencies	from now forward	ongoing as expected



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