



UNITED NATIONS
VIET NAM



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20
24

UNITED NATIONS IN VIET NAM ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

March 2025

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FOREWORD

BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR



2024 marked a period of significant transition, both globally and in Viet Nam. The on-going anti-corruption campaign, changes in political leadership, and the broader overhaul of the Government's administrative structure reshaped the national landscape. In the third quarter of the year, Viet Nam also weathered the impact of Typhoon Yagi - the strongest typhoon to make landfall in the last seven decades.

Notwithstanding, Viet Nam continued to step up its leadership in global and regional multilateral fora – hosting the 1st Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Future Forum in April, actively participating at the United Nations (UN) Summit of the Future in September and launching its candidacy for a second term at the UN Human Rights Council in December.

Throughout this dynamic context, the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Viet Nam remained a steadfast partner, strategically supporting the country's efforts to accelerate progress toward the Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, achieve its vision to become a high income country by 2045 and reach net-zero targets by 2050.

This 2024 Annual Report outlines results of joint UNCT activities three years into the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2024 (Cooperation Framework). Midway into the current five-year Cooperation Framework cycle, the UNCT seized opportunities to strengthen our joint offerings in providing evidence-based analysis and policy options, knowledge and capacity building, as well as in partnerships and resource mobilization for SDG acceleration. I take the opportunity to highlight some key joint contributions throughout the past year:

Viet Nam's commitment to a sustainable energy future gained momentum with the **Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP)** launched in December 2022. With UNDP as JETP secretariat, the UN collectively played a crucial role in supporting the operationalisation of Viet Nam's JETP by providing technical support, policy guidance, and facilitating resource mobilization.

The **UNCT note on "Policy Pathways for Advancing SDG Progress"** informed government preparations for and active participation in the Summit of the Future. It built on the UNCT's joint support to Viet Nam's second Voluntary National Review (VNR) and national commitments at the SDG Summit in 2023. The UNCT also contributed to **reviewing the National Action Plan for the 2030 Agenda, refining institutional arrangements, revising national SDG indicators, and improving data collection and analysis.**

Key findings and policy recommendations of the **UN's macroeconomic modelling on select SDG transitions** – energy transition, social protection and poverty eradication, and digital transformation - were also accepted as inputs to the 14th Congress of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, setting directions for the next five to ten year socio-economic development plans and strategies

Through knowledge sharing at the UN-organized **Green Taxonomy Workshop** in June 2024, Viet Nam gained access to global and regional best practices in developing and implementing a green taxonomy—a crucial policy tool for directing public and private investments toward sustainable projects.

In a collaborative effort to address the challenges of an ageing population and demographic shifts, the UNCT initiated a series of dialogue labs utilizing foresight and anticipatory governance tools. The dialogue labs aimed to envision and **develop a sustainable care economy tailored to the needs of older persons.** Insights gained are expected to contribute to the Viet Nam 2045 Report, as well as to inform the formulation of the new Cooperation Framework.

Youth engagement additionally formed a key pillar of UNCT efforts on digital transformation. Working with Vietnamese youth, the UN facilitated dialogues, using foresight and horizon scanning, to help envision a resilient and inclusive digital future.

Finally, with crisis comes opportunity. The UNCT stepped up in coordinating **emergency response and early recovery to Typhoon Yagi**, with the formulation and launch of the **Joint Response Plan**, backed by US\$8.5 million from UN agencies and US\$23.5 million from international donors and non-government organizations. In the process, we also established the UN in Viet Nam Pooled Fund, with the first window opened to facilitate disaster risk response and resilience building.

Looking ahead to 2025, the UNCT will continue to accompany Viet Nam in its aspirations to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. We will be guided by the priority areas for continued UN support outlined by Party General Secretary at a meeting with the UN Secretary-General in September 2024. We will reinvigorate our collaboration to support Viet Nam's **resilience to disasters and climate risks, accelerate just energy transitions, and ensure inclusive digital transformation and artificial intelligence (AI) governance.** We will learn lessons through the evaluation of the Cooperation Framework scheduled to commence in earnest in the first quarter of 2025. And we will embed new ways of working, including the UN 2.0 Quintet of Change, to deliver with better efficiencies, agility and meaningful UN contributions to Viet Nam's development journey.

Through these efforts, we reaffirm our commitment to supporting Viet Nam in achieving a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient future for all.

Pauline Tamesis
UN Resident Coordinator

March 2024

Photo © Unsplash/Dang Cong

UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM IN VIET NAM



UN
Ms. Pauline Tamesis
Resident Coordinator



UNICEF
Ms. Silvia Danailov
Representative



UNFPA
Mr. Matt Jackson
Representative



UN WOMEN
Ms. Caroline T. Nyamayemombe
Country Representative



IFAD
Mr. Ambrosio Barros
Country Director



UNDP
Ms. Ramla Khalidi
Resident Representative



WHO
Ms. Angela Pratt
Representative



UNAIDS
Mr. Raman Hailevich
Country Director



FAO
Mr. Rémi Nono Womdim
Representative



UNCTAD
Mr. Jean-Phillipe Rodde
Programme Manager



IOM
Ms. Kendra Rinas
Chief of Mission



UNESCO
Mr. Jonathan Baker
Representative and Head of Office



UNV
Mr. Christian Hainzl
Regional Manager



UNEP
Ms. Dechen Tsering
Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific Office



OHCHR
Ms. Laura Macini
Human Rights Officer



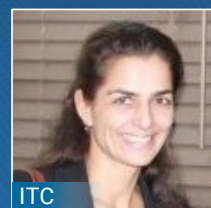
UNODC
Ms. Nguyen Nguyet Minh
Officer-in-charge



ILO
Ms. Ingrid Christensen
Country Director



UNIDO
Ms. Le Thanh Thao
Representative



ITC
Ms. Marie-Claude Frauenrath
Country Manager / Senior Trade Promotion Officer



UNHCR
Ms. Tammi L. Sharpe
Representative



UN-HABITAT
Mr. Jonghyo Nam
Officer-in-Charge



20
UNCT Members



18
Signatories

UNCT member entities are signatories to Cooperation Framework 2022 to 2026



15
Physically Present

Out of 20 organizations

Entities	UNCT Member	Signatory	Physical Presence
FAO	●	●	●
IFAD	●	●	●
ILO	●	●	●
IOM	●	●	●
ITC	●	●	●
OHCHR	●	●	●
UN Women	●	●	●
UN-HABITAT	●	●	●
UNAIDS	●	●	●
UNCTAD	●	●	●
UNDP	●	●	●
UNEP	●	●	●
UNESCO	●	●	●
UNFPA	●	●	●
UNHCR	●	●	●
UNICEF	●	●	●
UNIDO	●	●	●
UNODC	●	●	●
UNV	●	●	●
WHO	●	●	●

KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN VIET NAM



CHAPTER 1: KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN VIET NAM

1

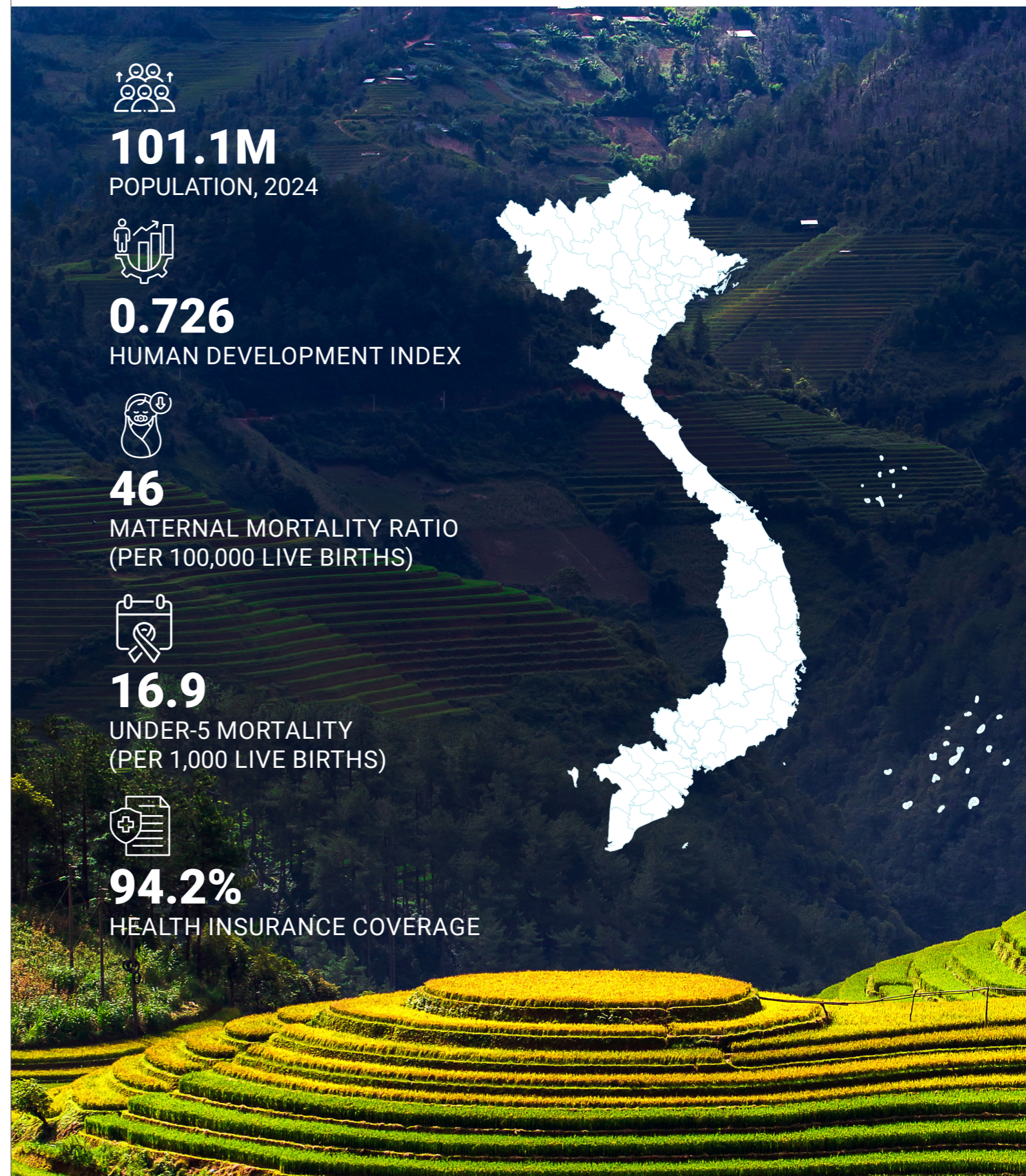
101.1M
POPULATION, 2024

0.726
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

46
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)

16.9
UNDER-5 MORTALITY (PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)

94.2%
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE





7.09%

GDP
GROWTH

US\$4,700

GDP PER
CAPITA

US\$4,472

GNI
PER CAPITA

2.93%

POVERTY
RATE

In 2024, Viet Nam experienced significant socio-economic, environmental, and political developments, reflecting both progress and challenges.

Viet Nam's population reached 101.1 million - currently benefiting from the demographic dividend, with the working age population outnumbering dependents. Nevertheless, with a rapidly aging society and declining fertility rates, this period is projected to end by around 2039 when the elderly population will double to 20 percent, requiring urgent healthcare and social security reforms.

The national poverty rate declined to 2.93 percent this year, indicating overall improvement. Yet, 8.6 percent of children, particularly among ethnic minorities, still live in multidimensional poverty. Viet Nam sustained its high human development status (HDI=0.726), with health insurance coverage of 94.2 percent and social insurance participation of 42.7 percent. While the maternal mortality rate remained low at 46 deaths per 100,000 live births, rates remained high in ethnic minority regions. Gender equality also saw improvement, with Viet Nam ranking 72nd globally in the Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI) and launching its first National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security. However, persistent challenges remain, particularly related to gender-based violence and gender gaps in the labour market.

Viet Nam recorded 7.09 percent gross domestic product (GDP) growth in 2024, with per capita GDP reaching US\$4,700 and per capita gross national income (GNI) reaching US\$4,472, just US\$44 short of the upper-middle-income country (UMIC) threshold. Inflation remained below four percent, while public debt was maintained at 36 percent of GDP. Strong exports reinforced economic stability, and Viet Nam aims for eight percent GDP growth in 2025, which could push it into the UMIC category.

Viet Nam reaffirmed its net-zero emissions target for 2050, approving a roadmap for Power Development Plan 8 (PDP8), which includes nuclear energy and hydrogen investments. The introduction of a Direct Power Purchase Agreement aims to boost renewables. However, environmental challenges continue. Viet Nam is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate crisis, and ranked last in the 2024 Environmental Performance Index. Typhoon Yagi, the most severe in 70 years, caused 320 deaths and US\$3.3 billion in economic losses.

In the political sphere, major leadership changes saw the appointment of a new Communist Party of Viet Nam (CPV) General Secretary, President, and National Assembly Chair. Viet Nam launched its largest public sector reform in decades, reducing ministries from 22 to 17 and dissolving 13 general departments, including key UN counterparts. The Government also intensified its anti-corruption campaign, with 10,000 individuals tried in 4,800 trials. While aimed at improving efficiency, these reforms pose risks of bureaucratic disruptions, delaying project or programme approval or implementation that have already been affected by the official development assistance (ODA) regulation challenges. With some progress, such as the recent revisions to the Public Investment Law and the on-going revision of the Government's Decree 114 on ODA management, challenges for the approval and implementation of ODA projects, including UN ODA grant projects, have yet to be resolved.

This year also marked the positioning of science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation as engines for long-term growth, with the CPV Politburo adopting Resolution 57 in December. Viet Nam aims to be a leading digital hub by 2045, ranking top three in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and top 50 globally in digital competitiveness by 2030. By 2050, the digital economy is expected to contribute 50 percent of GDP.

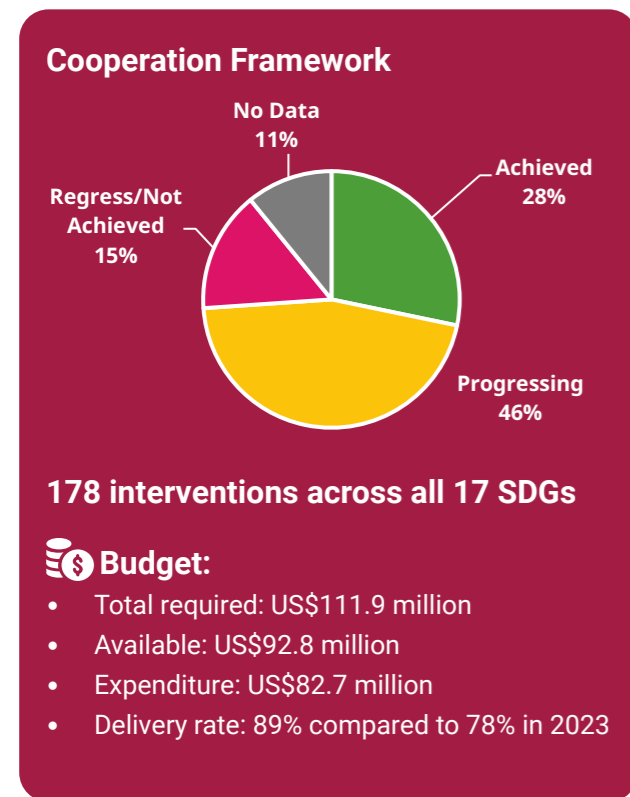
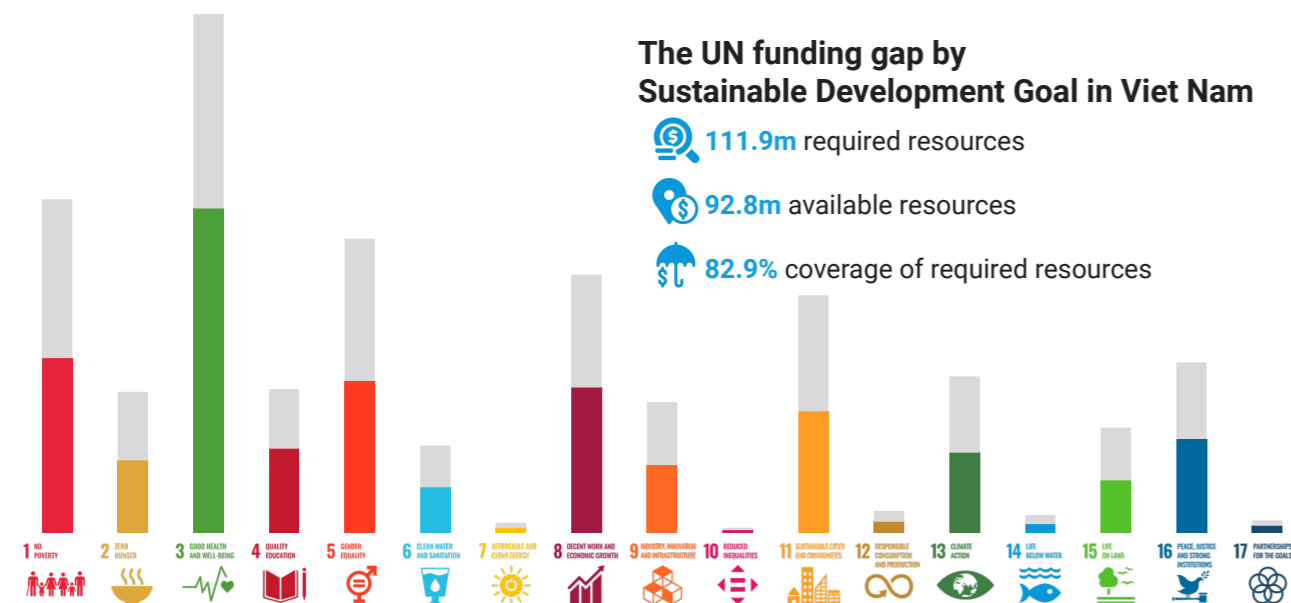
CHAPTER 2: UN IN VIET NAM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

2

Photo © UNFPA Viet Nam/Tram Anh



2.1. OVERVIEW OF COOPERATION FRAMEWORK RESULTS



- Approval of 4 Laws:**
- Law on Social Insurance
 - Law on the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking
 - Law on Public Investment
 - Trade Union Law

- Endorsement of 14 resolutions, decrees, and circulars:**
- Government Resolution 68/NQ-CP on roadmap for legal development in social policies
 - Government Decree on Food Fortification
 - Government Decree 110 on Social Work
 - Decree 76/2024 (Revision of Decree 20) on Expanding Social Assistance for Vulnerable Groups.
 - Circular on Business Registration of Pre-cooperative, Cooperatives, and Cooperative Unions
 - Decree #141 guiding the implementation of the amended HIV law
 - Decree on Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines
 - Decree 03 on Vaccine Safety Management
 - Circular 30/2024/TT-BYT on Community-Based Health and Nutrition
 - Circular 10 on Routine Immunization Schedule
 - Resolution 173 on Ban on E-Cigarettes and Heated Tobacco
 - Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) Resource Mobilization Plan
 - Circular 46/2024 on economic and technical norms of HIV services in public health facilities
 - Circular 47/2024 on economic and technical norms of Methadone Maintenance Therapy services in public service units.

HIGHLIGHT UN CROSS-CUTTING RESULTS IN 2024

(1) ACCELERATING VIET NAM'S JUST ENERGY TRANSITION: UN SUPPORT FOR JETP IMPLEMENTATION

Viet Nam's commitment to a sustainable energy future gained momentum with the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) launched in December 2022. Prioritizing swift implementation, JETP became a national agenda, aligning with the country's climate goals. In 2024, Viet Nam initiated JETP implementation with the UN as a key partner, providing technical support, policy guidance, and resource mobilization.

The UN, with UNDP as JETP Secretariat Support Agency, played a crucial role in supporting the operationalisation of Viet Nam's JETP. The UN supported the Government's implementation of the JETP Resource Mobilization Plan, helping identify 81 investment and technical support projects, eight of which attracted international funding interest. The UN also facilitated the submission of these eight priority projects for financing.

In addition, the UN assisted in developing a monitoring and evaluation system, a policy matrix, and a progress-tracking website, establishing a solid foundation for the country's energy transition. The UN further contributed to the creation of a Just Transition Framework and socio-economic assessments for the transition of coal-fired power plants while facilitating technical discussions to unlock public and private financing for priority energy projects, positioning Viet Nam for a sustainable energy future.

(2) STRENGTHENED EVIDENCE-DRIVEN ANALYSIS AND POLICY OPTIONS FOR SDG ACCELERATION

Macroeconomic Modelling - Simulating Investments in SDG Transitions

Key findings and policy recommendations of the UN's macroeconomic modelling on select SDG transitions – energy transition, social protection and poverty eradication and digital transformation - were accepted as inputs to the 2026 Congress of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, which sets directions for the next five to ten year socio-economic development plans and strategies.

Building on the Voluntary National Review (VNR) 2023, the findings and policy recommendations align with Viet Nam's SDG acceleration priorities, underscoring the importance of balanced financing strategies that leverage both public and private sector investments for long-term economic stability.

The macroeconomic modelling was conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), the UN in Viet Nam, and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to assess the economic, social, and environmental impacts of key policy investments to achieve high-income country status by 2045 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. It underscores the UN's commitment to evidence-driven analysis and policy options for SDG acceleration.

Enhanced SDG monitoring and reporting - Revision of the Viet Nam SDG Indicator (VSDGI) Framework and implementation of the Mid-Term Review of the National SDG Action Plan

The UN contributed to key Government efforts in accelerating the implementation of SDGs, including reviewing the National Action Plan for the 2030 Agenda, reshaping institutional arrangements, revising national SDG indicators, and strengthening SDG progress monitoring through improved data collection and analysis. This support, coordinated by the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO), was delivered in collaboration with the UN Country Team in Viet Nam and ESCAP.



The "Consultation Workshop on Proposed Revision of the Viet Nam Sustainable Development Indicators" was organized with 70 participants. Photo © UNFPA Viet Nam

In particular, the revision of the Viet Nam SDG Indicator (VSDGI) Framework, with UN support, ensured alignment with global standards and national priorities, expanding to 165 indicators for improved data accuracy and international comparability. Additionally, in partnership with the Deutsche

Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the UN provided financial and technical assistance to the MPI for the Mid-Term Review of the National Action Plan on SDG Implementation. The draft report, presented at a consultation workshop in November 2024, reflects Government efforts to enhance institutional arrangements, redefine ministerial responsibilities, and reform the governance setup to drive SDG progress.

(3) IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING – DEVELOPMENT OF VIET NAM'S GREEN TAXONOMY

At the request of the General Statistics Office (GSO), the UN organized the “Knowledge Sharing on Green Taxonomy” workshop in June 2024. Through knowledge sharing, Viet Nam gained access to global and regional best practices in developing and implementing a green taxonomy—a crucial policy tool for directing public and private investments toward sustainable projects.

With over 100 participants from the National Assembly, Government ministries, UN agencies, international financial institutions, development partners, think tanks, and academia, a multi-stakeholder dialogue was held on green finance. International experiences from ASEAN, the European Union, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Mongolia, Thailand, and Bhutan provided valuable insights into different approaches to taxonomy development, classification frameworks, and implementation strategies.

Through knowledge sharing facilitated by the UN, GSO was equipped to guide the development of Viet Nam’s green taxonomy, which will support climate-aligned investments and SDG progress.

(4) ENHANCED EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATION - RAPID RESPONSE TO TYPHOON YAGI

The UN led a coordinated humanitarian effort in 2024, ensuring rapid relief and early recovery in response to Typhoon Yagi.

The UN Resident Coordinator activated the Inter-Sector Coordination mechanism, mobilizing efforts across nine key sectors, including: education; food security; health; nutrition; protection; shelter; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); agriculture, employment and livelihoods; and early recovery. The Viet Nam Disaster Risk Reduction Partnership (DRRP) facilitated coordination among Government agencies and international partners, including UN

agencies, ensuring aid reached those most in need. To guide the response, the UN and national partners developed a [Joint Response Plan](#), backed by US\$8.5 million from UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, FAO, UN Women, IOM, ILO, UNFPA, and UNOCHA) and US\$23.5 million from international donors and non-government agencies. Additionally, the [Viet Nam Multi-Sector Assessment \(VMSA\)](#), using the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) methodology, led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), in coordination with UN agencies, national partners, the European Union, JICA, ADB and other development partners, provided critical data to inform targeted interventions. Initiated in late October 2024 and completed in December 2024, the VMSA was sought contributions by line ministries, local governments, and experts from UN agencies and development partners.

The UN’s support ensured timely provision of emergency relief food aid, hygiene kits, shelter materials, and medical supplies to the most vulnerable and remote communities, while damaged hospitals, clinics, and schools were quickly rehabilitated and public services restored. Smallholder farmers and cooperative members received seeds, tools, and cash assistance to recover lost crops, and infrastructure repairs reconnected isolated areas. The UN-led inter-agency collaboration facilitated emergency response and early recovery, as well as reinforced disaster resilience efforts.



House damaged in Yen Bai province. Photo © UNDP in Viet Nam

(5) FORGING PARTNERSHIPS AND CATALYZING FINANCING

Establishment of the Viet Nam UN Pooled Fund – A unified and efficient funding mechanism

When Typhoon Yagi struck Viet Nam in September 2024, the response faced challenges due to the lack of a unified financing mechanism. Donors struggled to identify effective funding pathways, leading to delays and fragmented support.

To address this, the Viet Nam UN Pooled Fund was established, enabling rapid, coordinated resource allocation in emergencies. The Fund streamlines donor contributions, ensuring a unified, prioritized response while reinforcing confidence in the UN’s ability to act as one.

With an initial contribution of US\$1,224,454 from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the UN launched two Joint Programmes to support Typhoon Yagi recovery efforts - restoring medical equipment in health facilities, facilitating water system restoration, emergency shelter, and psychosocial care for affected children. By eliminating duplication, aligning with national priorities, and strengthening partnerships, the Fund ensures aid reaches those who need it most. The Pooled Fund now serves as a clear, efficient mechanism for donors to channel contributions and address pressing humanitarian needs swiftly.



Photo © UNICEF/Pham Ha Duy Linh

Advancing sustainable development in Viet Nam: UN's joint initiatives in food systems and social protection

In Viet Nam, the UN initiated two pivotal joint programmes that are aimed at fostering sustainable development through food systems transformation and the enhancement of social protection mechanisms.

The first joint programme, “Incubation of Innovations in Partnerships and Financing for Agrifood Systems Transformation in Viet Nam”, focuses on overhauling the nation’s food systems to be more transparent, responsible, and sustainable. This initiative seeks to ensure food security, improve nutrition, and bolster resilience against climate change. By strengthening policies, building strategic partnership in food system transformation, mobilizing financial resources, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and enhancing capacity for relevant stakeholders, the programme contributed significantly to Viet Nam’s progress towards achieving the SDGs. A notable outcome of this effort is the establishment of the Food Systems Transformation Partnership (FSTP) with different working groups, which brings together a diverse array of UN agencies and development partners to coordinate and build capacity among public officials, forstnering a foundation for lasting impacts.



Signing ceremony of the Partnership Agreement for Transparent, Responsible and Sustainable Food Systems Transformation in Viet Nam (FST-Partnership). Photo © UNRCO/Kim Anh Nguyen

The second programme, “Accelerating Viet Nam’s Transition Towards Inclusive and Integrated Social Protection,” is a collaborative effort involving UN agencies including (ILO), UNDP, UNFPA, and UNICEF, in partnership with Viet Nam’s Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA). Launched in January 2020, the programme aims to expand social protection coverage to ensure that every individual - including children, mothers, the elderly, and workers - benefits from comprehensive social security. Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the programme has made significant strides in advocating for a life-cycle, gender-sensitive, and shock-responsive approach to social protection, thereby enhancing the resilience and inclusivity of Viet Nam’s socio-economic landscape.

Through these joint initiatives, the UN underscores its commitment to integrating Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) principles into Viet Nam’s development strategies, ensuring that progress in food systems and social protection is both inclusive and sustainable.



(6) LEVERAGING UN 2.0 TOOLS FOR TRANSFORMATION

Dialogue Labs on Curating a Care Economy for Older People in Viet Nam

In a collaborative effort to address the challenges of an ageing population, the UNCT led by the UNRCO and UNFPA, together with UNDP, UN Women, ILO, and WHO initiated a series of dialogue labs utilizing foresight and anticipatory governance. The dialogue labs aimed to envision and develop a sustainable care economy tailored to the needs of older persons. Insights gained are expected to contribute to the Viet Nam 2045 Report, as well as to inform the formulation of the new Cooperation Framework.



Roundtable discussions on aged care in Viet Nam. Photo © UNRCO/Kim Anh Nguyen

Integrating foresight and horizon scanning in the formulation of the Country Analysis and the next Cooperation Framework 2027-2031

The UNCT is focused on delivering SDG transformations to support inclusive and development pathways for Viet Nam's targets of becoming a high-income country by 2045 and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. To strengthen delivery with the agility and scale required for systems transformation, the UNCT is integrating **innovation, foresight and horizon scanning tools** in the formulation of the next Cooperation Framework. Foresight workshops are helping the UNCT better anticipate emerging changes and improve their ability to adapt to challenges and seize opportunities. A synthesis report on priority systems transformation in Viet Nam provides a starting point for articulating pathways for change to accelerate SDG progress.



(7) MOBILIZING FOR THE SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

Expanding on the UN support to the Government of Viet Nam in preparing its 2nd Voluntary National Review (VNR) and National Commitments for SDG Acceleration at the SDG Summit in 2023, the UN in Viet Nam contributed a Policy Note on "Policy Pathways for Advancing SDG Progress" to support the Government's preparation for the Summit of the Future 2024. With comprehensive and concrete recommendations on major policy pathways for Viet Nam in accelerating SDG progress, the policy note helped broaden the UN's engagement with the Government on key sustainable development policies.

In parallel, during the lead-up to the Summit of the Future, the UNCT through the UN Thematic Group on Adolescents and Youth (TGAY) conducted two [foresight workshops](#), where 50 youth from startup community and minority groups brainstormed inclusive digitally transformed government services. The workshops were followed by a youth dialogue on inclusive digitalization on 20 September - the Summit of the Future Youth Action Day. These provided inputs to government delegation's preparations for the Summit of the Future. The UNCT has also set digital transformation as one of the priority areas for 2025 in the next Cooperation Framework cycle, with a vision to increase meaningful youth engagement in digital transformation and facilitating youth capacity building in digital and green skills, including youth-led projects and initiatives.



Youth Dialogue for an Inclusive Digital Future in Viet Nam – Workshop in the Ho Chi Minh city Photo © UEH



(8) UPHOLDING UN COMMITMENT TO PREVENTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, ABUSE AND HARASSMENT (PSEAH)

Guided by the ONE UN approach, PSEAH efforts in 2024 focused on advancing joint accountability and fostering a culture of respect and safety.

A dedicated email channel was established to enhance the accessibility and confidentiality of reporting mechanisms. This was accompanied by a significant scale-up in capacity building, as more than 1,000 staff from UN and its implementing partners and service providers were trained on PSEAH standards and procedures. Participants emerged from these sessions with a strengthened understanding of what constitutes sexual misconduct and how to navigate the UN's reporting systems with confidence and clarity.

Efforts to raise awareness extended beyond internal stakeholders. Nearly 1,700 posters with PSEA IASC Six Core Principles were distributed across all 63 provinces, and an additional 20,000 informational leaflets were disseminated in areas affected by the Yagi typhoon. These materials were designed to ensure that information about rights, responsibilities, and reporting pathways reached both UN personnel and the communities they serve.



Implementing partners who attended PSEAH training on 28 August 2024. Photo © UN in Viet Nam



Photo © Unsplash/Truong Anh Hao

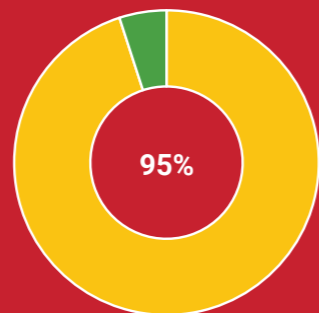
2.2. UNSDCF PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES, AND OUTPUTS



OUTCOME 1. INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Outcome statement: 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.

Contributing UN agencies: FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, UNV, UN WOMEN, and WHO



2024

Total Available Resources: \$27.8m

Remaining Available Resources: \$1.5m

Total Expenditure: \$26.3m



Photo © Pexels/Quang Nguyen Vinh

INDICATORS



>90% schools with access to internet and computer
35.7% primary schools with disability-friendly infrastructure



~80% schools providing basic education programmes about sex education, violence prevention, abuse prevention and HIV-related knowledge



Stunting rate of 18.2% in children under five



Infant-mortality rate (IMR) of 11.6 per 1,000 live births



10,944 deaths from traffic accidents



6,100 new HIV infections (2023)



69.3% rural population using safely managed water service



70.1% married women aged 15–49 years with their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods



8.4% multi-dimensional child poverty rate



42.71% labour force in social insurance

94.2% health insurance coverage



34.18% labour force in unemployment insurance
persons with disabilities receiving social assistance benefits increased by 60%

Over **3.7 million beneficiaries** of social assistance



Time spent on unpaid domestic and care work:
• Women: **16.13** hours/week
• Men: **8.75** hours/week

Traffic Light 2024

✓ Achieved ↗ Progressing ↘ Regressed



OUTPUT 1.1: The education system in Viet Nam provides gender-responsive, equitable, climate-resilient, quality education and learning, which will equip all children, adolescents, youth, and adults with relevant learning and transferrable life and digital skills, including during emergencies.

In 2024, the UN supported Viet Nam's education reforms, advancing national goals and SDG 4 on quality education. **Viet Nam has achieved universal primary education and is nearing universal lower secondary education. Net enrolment rates remained high at 98.3 percent (primary), 95.2 percent (lower secondary), and 79.4 percent (upper secondary).**

Notably, the UN supported the Government in approving of the 10-year Education Development Strategy (2021–2030), vision to 2045, a key milestone aiming at modernizing the education system, expanding universal education, advancing digital transformation, enhancing higher education and vocational training, and fostering international integration. The UN also helped to advance Viet Nam's first Law on Teachers - expected in 2025 - setting new professional standards, revising early childhood education (ECE) curriculum, and advocating for expanded universal ECE access for children aged three to four. The proposed draft framework of a **new Lifelong Learning Law** was developed with UN support, contributing to Viet Nam's vision of creating a learning society for all.

In alignment with Viet Nam's Digital Transformation Strategies, particularly in the education sector, the UN in Viet Nam supported the Government in its **digital transformation**. In 2024, the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) completed a Digital Competency Framework for learners in 2024, incorporating a gender-responsive and inclusive lens, through support from the UN since 2022. Various UN guidelines, tools, and digital books on AI and technology in education were also provided and adapted to scale up inclusive and accessible digital learning, with a strong focus on girls, children with disabilities, and children from ethnic minority groups.

To enhance **climate resilience in the education sector**, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation was integrated into learning curricula for secondary schools under a partnership between the UN, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and

the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), with 160 education managers and teachers trained nationwide. Communication materials on green lifestyles were additionally developed, benefiting 81,000 children, and UN partnerships with the private sector and school surveys advocated for solarization, engaging over 230,000 adolescents in climate action.

Importantly, the UN strengthened **data management** this year, **supporting evidence-based, equity-focused planning**. For example, the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics Initiative improved the Ministry of Education and Training's capacity to conduct and utilize large-scale learning assessments to inform evidence-based policymaking, improve teaching and learning practices, and address learning disparities. Through the UN's support, Viet Nam also contributed to the 2024 Asia-Pacific Education 2030: SDG 4 Midterm Review.

The UN enhanced **training policies to better align with industry needs**, bridging skills gaps and easing the transition from education to employment. By identifying and anticipating workforce demands in key sectors like textiles and garments, the education and training system became more responsive to labour market needs.

UN INITIATIVES IN GENDER EQUALITY IN EDUCATION:

- (1) UNESCO's "We Are ABLE" program, benefiting 8,000 ethnic minority students and 100 educators;
- (2) UNICEF training for 400 out-of-school children and youth in reintegration models.
- (3) UNICEF's WeShare platform, offering resources and chatbot, to support Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and mental health services
- (4) UNICEF, UNFPA, and UN Women's inclusive teacher's guide on comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) for 30,000 secondary students with disabilities.
- (5) UNESCO's national situation analysis on integrating gender equality and CSE in teacher training programs was conducted, gathering 46,000 responses from 62 provinces and cities.
- (6) UNICEF and Micro:bit Educational Foundation's integration of Micro:bits, a tool to make learning and teaching coding and digital skills fun and accessible, into classroom teaching.



OUTPUT 1.2: Improved national and subnational capacity to promote healthier populations, including immunization, nutrition, sexual reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, and mental health

Through collaborative efforts, the UN significantly advanced public health outcomes impacting millions of people and strengthening the country's health resilience.

The UN supported Viet Nam's healthcare reforms, expanding the coverage of public health insurance to 94.2 percent. The UN advised on the **revised Law on Social Health Insurance**, approved in November 2024, to strengthen governance and improve access for disadvantaged groups. Noteworthy components include the enhancement of maternity benefits for voluntary participants, reductions to the minimum contribution period for pension eligibility, and the introduction of gender-responsive adjustments to benefit calculations. These reforms will promote greater inclusivity and financial security, particularly for women, informal workers, and vulnerable populations.



Newborn in Bac Kan Province who received support from UNFPA. Photo © UNFPA Viet Nam/Tram Anh

The UN also **scaled up nutrition and food security initiatives**. With UN support, Circular 30/2024/TT-BYT mandated Government funding for community health and nutrition, including severe acute malnutrition (SAM) prevention and treatment. Moreover, the draft Government Decree on Food Fortification was issued. The UN expanded nutrition support in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, providing 9,764 pregnant women with micronutrient supplements, 5,600 children aged 6-23 months with micronutrient powder, and 524 severely malnourished children under five with ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF). Additionally, 1,800 children were screened for SAM, treating 400+ SAM cases with five tons of RUTF.

Through a multi-agency approach, the UN significantly contributed to improving **maternal, newborn, and child health** in Viet Nam. UN support resulted in strengthened child healthcare directives, reduced child mortality, and updated maternal and child health guidelines. As a result, 61,241 pregnant women received antenatal care, 81,217 mothers were supported by skilled birth attendants, and 74,557 newborns received early essential newborn care. A network of 1,203 village midwives was also strengthened national-wide, providing services to 18,630 pregnant women, supporting with 2,740 childbirths, and facilitating 9,472 postnatal visits. The Maternal and Child Health, Reproductive Health Information System (e-MCH) was launched in 2024 to enhance data interoperability, planning, and monitoring.



Photo © UNICEF Viet Nam



Photo © UNICEF Viet Nam/Ho Hoang Thien Trang

Village-based midwives save the lives of babies and mothers in hard-to-reach areas

In the remote province of Dien Bien, 28-year-old midwife Sung Thi Cua walks house to house, ensuring safe pregnancies and deliveries for ethnic minority women. In areas where maternal deaths are five times the national average, her work is critical.

With UNICEF's support, Cua and thousands of village-based midwives are trained in safe childbirth and newborn care, reducing home births and maternal mortality. "I really trust Cua because of her training," says Ghenh, a mother of four.

“ I decided to give birth to my youngest child at the health clinic thanks to her advice. I also know how to take care of my baby better. ”

Thanks to this initiative, clinic births have nearly doubled in many provinces. But low financial support often forces midwives to leave—1,528 have stopped working. "I love my work, but I need better support," Cua admits.

To sustain this life-saving network, UNICEF and its partners are pushing for more funding and policies. For now, Cua keeps walking. "I am very happy and proud whenever I can successfully help mothers and babies," she says, heading to her next visit.

The UN played a key role in Viet Nam's **HIV/AIDS response** this year by supporting the HIV Decree (October 2024), which institutionalized innovative harm reduction, streamlined outreach worker certification, and integrated HIV services into provincial plans. The UN piloted chemsex interventions for men who have sex with men (MSM) that were later presented at the 2024 Asia Pacific Chemsex Symposium. The UN's facilitation of the HIV sustainability assessment, the development of an investment scenario, and social contracting pilots informed the allocation of government funding and the establishment of economic and technical norms for HIV services.

Disease prevention and control were further strengthened through the UN's contribution to key 2024 policies, including Circular 10 (routine immunization), Decree 03 (vaccine safety), and Guideline 2461 (COVID-19 vaccination). To bolster health security and workforce capacity, the UN supported revisions to the Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (PPRP), implementation of the five-year Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP), a targeted measles vaccination campaign, improved zoonotic disease detection, and the establishment of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Pandemic Preparedness at Viet Nam's National Hospital of Tropical Diseases.

In addition, the UN advanced **non-communicable disease (NCD) prevention, road safety, and tobacco control**. The UN supported the National Assembly's issuance of Resolution 173, which bans e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products from 2025, influenced the inclusion of a sugar-sweetened beverage (SSB) tax in the draft Excise Tax Law (expected in 2025), and assisted in Pharmaceutical Law revisions to improve access to affordable medicines and combat counterfeit drugs.

Through the UN's strengthened **mental health** support, 36,000 children, including 22,000 adolescent girls, benefited from WHO-UNICEF Helping Adolescents Thrive training. The Ensuring Quality in Psychosocial and Mental Health Care toolkit - a competency-based framework for assessing mental health professionals - was introduced to 76 sector leaders, with plans for public education system integration by 2025.



Photo © UNICEF Viet Nam/Tran Phuong Anh

When a healthy mind means the world

For 30 young people in Da Nang, a mental health workshop became a turning point. Amid stigma and personal struggles, they gathered to share experiences, seek support, and challenge misconceptions.

"You're not crazy. Why are you going to a mental health workshop?" 15-year-old Nguyen Tran Diem Truc recalls her family asking. After failing to get into her parents' dream high school, she isolated herself for months. *"I failed everyone. I failed myself. I failed my future."*

For Thanh Vy, 16, who recently lost her mother, the crisis was evident through the UNICEF-supported school counseling unit. *"We received anonymous letters daily—stories of self-harm, school pressure, family expectations, and gender identity struggles,"* she said.

A UNICEF study found that one in five adolescents in Viet Nam experience mental health issues, yet only eight percent receive treatment. Many parents remain unaware of the risks. Through UNICEF's partnership with Da Nang, mental health promotion now reaches 15-20 schools per activity, equipping teachers, parents, and students with support tools. Successful advocacy with MOET also led to the creation of school counselor positions in all 50,000 primary and secondary schools.

As for Truc, Vy, and others, their struggles haven't defined them. Instead, they dream of a future where mental well-being is valued—and a healthy mind means everything.



OUTPUT 1.3: Government and relevant partners have innovative solutions, initiatives, and evidence-based policies to reduce vulnerabilities in health, including sexual and reproductive health, focusing on migrant, ethnic minority, adolescent/youth, and people with disability populations

The UN in Viet Nam spearheaded innovative solutions and evidence-based policies to strengthen healthcare access and reduce vulnerabilities in 2024.

This included the UN's work to advance **migrant health** protection through **multiple cross-border initiatives**. A cross-border tuberculosis (TB) programme - implemented with Viet Nam's National Tuberculosis Control Programme - introduced a digital referral system for patient tracking between Viet Nam and Cambodia, established TB/HIV taskforces, and improved capacity for nearly 200 health professionals. To strengthen transnational health security, the UN supported the proposal for a Cross-Border One Health Taskforce to enhance outbreak response. Additionally, UN-backed One-Stop Service Offices (OSSOs) in five provinces provided integrated healthcare services, delivering health check-ups to 145 migrant women and mental health counseling to 151 others.

Through **digital innovations**, the UN improved healthcare access for vulnerable populations. The MCH24/7 smartphone app was piloted, providing remote sexual and reproductive health (SRH) consultations for women in remote areas. To reduce maternal mortality among ethnic minority women, the UN tested innovative service delivery models in Cần Thơ City and expanded youth-centered SRH



education through digital advocacy platforms.

OUTPUT 1.4: Development and implementation of environmental health policies, including safely-managed water and sanitation, is strengthened.

Through close collaboration between UN agencies, the UN supported Viet Nam in achieving key milestones in environmental health, strengthening the Government's commitment to this critical area.

The UN provided technical support in the development of the **new Law on Drinking Water and**

Drainage which is expected to be passed by the National Assembly in 2025. The law aims to further embed water safety into broader national policies on health, urban planning, and environmental sustainability. The UN also successfully advocated for the integration of sanitation into the next phase (2026–2030) of **Viet Nam's national ethnic minority programme**.

Noteworthy this year was the key role the UN played in advancing **WASH financing policies**, advocating for public-private partnerships, sustainable financing strategies—including tariff support—and the prioritization of ethnic minority communities. These efforts led to the integration of these considerations into MARD's directives, shaping provincial financing strategies and implementation.

At the same time, the UN supported in the collection of **crucial data** on Viet Nam's progress toward achieving SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation for all. As part of this effort, the UN supported the first-ever assessment report on children's environmental health in Viet Nam, conducted the UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) survey, and contributed to the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene.

-  **140,651** people, including 89,236 children, across 36 schools and 12 healthcare facilities provided access to WASH services
-  More than **30,000** children in 63 provinces with increased hygiene awareness through Menstrual Hygiene Health Communication Campaign
-  Over **3,351** WASH officers and schoolteachers trained on climate-resilient WASH

Climate-resilient technologies were to the UN's efforts in strengthening WASH services. In 2024, the UN supported the development of affordable and sustainable latrine products and service packages tailored to flood-prone and water-scarce regions. Partnering with the private sector, the UN co-created and implemented climate-resilient sanitation models that were later endorsed for national replication. The UN also improved WASH conditions by piloting models for climate change resilient healthcare facilities.



Photo © UNICEF Viet Nam/Vu Le Hoang

Submerged by contaminated floodwater, Cuc's family can now safely drink again

When Typhoon Yagi struck, Dao Thi Cuc, 65, returned home to find her house submerged.

"I couldn't stop crying," she recalls. The flood destroyed her family's water pipes, forcing them to rely on a rusty, unsafe water tank. With young grandchildren and a husband suffering from chronic illness, Cuc feared contaminated water would make them sick.

Like many in Luc Yen district, Yen Bai province, Cuc's family faced severe water shortages after the typhoon damaged water supply facilities in 13 provinces, leaving thousands without safe drinking water.

In response, UNICEF and Government partners delivered emergency water tanks, filters, and purification tablets to affected families. "I feel grateful and relieved," Cuc says, smiling.

“

We can stay healthy, even after everything we've been through.

”

Beyond emergency aid, the UN and Government are working to restore water infrastructure, ensuring clean water access for families like Cuc's, building resilience against future disasters.



Dr Angela Pratt, WHO Representative in Viet Nam and WHO staff, visiting the water treatment system at Yen Thanh District General Hospital. Photo © WHO Viet Nam

Building climate-resilient hospitals in Viet Nam

In Yen Thanh District General Hospital, clean water was scarce, power outages were frequent, and waste management was inadequate—challenges worsened by climate change. When Typhoon Yagi struck in September 2024, over 800 health care facilities were further damaged, highlighting the urgent need for climate resilience.

With WHO's technical support, a pilot programme transformed three hospitals, including Yen Thanh, by improving their water supply, energy efficiency, and waste management.

As a result, the hospital's water capacity quadrupled to 200 cubic metres per day, significantly reducing disease risks and enabling more medical procedures to take place. Solar energy systems now power critical operations, ensuring uninterrupted care. Beyond infrastructure, training programmes equipped staff to sustain these advancements, shifting perceptions on green energy in healthcare and paving the way for nationwide expansion.

“

All of these improvements will help to reduce the risk of disease transmission in the hospital, enhance treatment, and help patients recover more quickly,

”

says Dr. Phan Thi Thuy, Head of Infection Control at Yen Thanh District Hospital. "Patients are much happier now."



OUTPUT 1.5: Social protection system is life cycle base approached, integrated, inclusive of ethnic minorities and people with disabilities, shock-responsive and gender-transformative

The UN made tremendous efforts in extending social protection coverage and increasing support for vulnerable groups this year.

A significant contribution was to the development and revision of **key legal documents on social protection**, including the Law on Social Insurance, Decree 20 (now Decree 76/2024) on Social Assistance, Decree 110 on Social Work, and Government Resolution 68/NQ-CP on the Implementation of Social Policy Reform. These documents align with the CPV's Resolution 42-NQ/TW on Social Policy Reform (2022-2030) with a vision to 2045, aiming to strengthen a multi-tiered social protection system and expand fiscal space. The UN also supported the revision of the Law on the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking to enhance victim assistance and reintegration conditions.

To advance **social protection and care services** for vulnerable groups, the UN supported the drafting of a National Masterplan for an integrated community-based healthcare worker network for older persons, outlining comprehensive care services across home, community, and institutional settings, addressing Viet Nam's aging population. The launch of the "ASEAN Regional Guidance on Delivering Quality Social Work Services for Women and Children at Risk of or Affected by Violence" led to a six-point workplan to operationalize the guidance.

Through a survivor-centered approach, the UN supported 891 returning migrants, including 149 victims of trafficking, and launched the "E-directory of Agencies Supporting Victims of Trafficking (VoTs) and Migrants in Vulnerable Situations (MiVs)", an innovative online platform under the National Hotline 111 website to improve access to services and survivor care.

In addition, the UN contributed to developing a gender-responsive **care economy** and the concept of **caring cities** in Viet Nam. Capacity-building activities were conducted, focusing on climate-resilient care systems and financing care delivery models. Additionally, 80 companies strengthened their capacity to develop family-friendly care policies, recognizing their positive impact on employee well-being and business success.



TOT training on gender-responsive social protection, 2023. Photo © ILO Viet Nam

Breaking barriers: Advancing gender equality in Viet Nam's social protection system

Only 39 percent of over 1.5 million Vietnamese women who gave birth in 2021 were entitled to maternity benefits according to ILO. For those left out, the consequences can be severe.

Huong, a mother from Thanh Hoa, has lived this reality. Just a month after giving birth, she returned to work in a freezing storage room, risking her health to feed her family. "Taking leave would mean my son would go hungry," she says. Like millions of women in the informal sector, she had no maternity benefits.

But change is underway. Building on the success of the UN Joint Programme "Accelerating Viet Nam's Transition Toward Inclusive and Integrated Social Protection," the ILO and the Viet Nam Women's Union (VWU) trained 300 VWU members across 40 provinces to help them better advocate for more gender responsive social protection policies. Their efforts helped shape the new Social Insurance Law 2024, which now extends maternity benefits to 2.1 million voluntary insurance participants (as of July 2025).

For Cao Thi Hong Minh, Deputy Head of the Organization Department at VWU, this is more than policy—it's a step toward a future where no woman is left unprotected.



UN support to social insurance reform – Aligning the new Social Insurance Law 2024 with international labour standards and best practices:

- Introduction of a multi-tiered pension system
- Reduction of the minimum contributory pension eligibility period from 20 to 15 years
- Lower eligibility age for non-contributory pensions from 80 to 75 years
- Extension of compulsory social insurance to household business owners and part-time employees.
- Introduction of a maternity benefit of 2 million VND per child under the voluntary social insurance scheme, benefiting over 60% of female workers in informal employment, fully subsidized by the state budget.
- Removal of access to lump-sum withdrawals of social insurance contributors for workers joining social insurance after July 2025 (with small exceptions).



OUTPUT 1.6: The comprehensive and integrated social care system is responsive to individual needs of the most vulnerable groups.

The UN collaborated with national partners to enhance Viet Nam’s social care system this year, making it more responsive to vulnerable children, older persons, and marginalized communities. Key legal advancements included the Social Work Decree to **professionalize services** and national standards for **school counsellors to improve mental health** support.

To strengthen **child protection**, the UN trained 100 master trainers and 40 trauma specialists, while an online child protection programme reached 24,000 staff. The UN also established the first Child Protection Committee at the National Children’s Hospital and trained 180 forensic experts and medical professionals on child-friendly, gender-sensitive forensics. An assessment is underway to transition orphans and children with special needs from institutional to family-based care.



Volunteers of the ICOPE Model in Thanh Hoa taking care of Bich's Mother. Photo © UNFPA Viet Nam/Tram Anh

The Hidden Truth

At 84, Bich’s mother was slipping into dementia, leaving Bich to care for her alone.

“I really love her, but I felt helpless,” Bich admits. Exhausted and overwhelmed, she struggled to balance caregiving and her own family. Her unfinished home symbolized her burdens—scattered bricks, unmet needs, and no support.

But everything changed when UNFPA and HelpAge International introduced the ICOPE model in Thanh Hoa. Volunteers visited weekly, helping with caregiving, offering companionship, and giving Bich much-needed relief.

“
You know what?
I’m not alone anymore,
”

she says, smiling. Bich also joined the Intergenerational Self-Help Club, finding community, laughter, and strength.

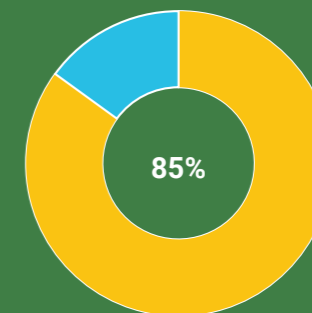
As Viet Nam’s ageing population grows, community-driven elder care like ICOPE is vital—ensuring dignity for older people and support for caregivers like Bich.

For enhance **elder care**, the UN expanded the Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) model in Thanh Hoa province, training 141 caregivers to provide community-based support. Policy reforms aim to scale Intergenerational Self-Help Clubs (ISHC) nationwide. Following Typhoon Yagi, 1,045 older persons with disabilities in ethnic minority areas received cash transfers for post-disaster recovery. In addition, the UN developed the “Preparing Young People for Healthy Aging” training programme, set for national rollout in 2025.



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

Outcome statement: 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 a circular economy, provision of clean and renewable energy, and sustainable management of natural resources.



Total Available Resources: \$29.7m

Remaining Available Resources: \$4.6m






Total Expenditure: \$25.1m

2024






Photo © Pexels/Quang Nguyen Vinh

INDICATORS

-   **591 million** carbon dioxide equivalent emitted
-   **42.02%** Forest coverage
-   **208,661 ha** marine protected areas
-   **345 deaths and missing, 1,978 injuries** attributed to disasters
-   **27.82% Renewable energy** share in total final energy consumption
-   **US\$300.3** total final energy consumption/US\$1,000 GDP

Traffic Light 2024

-  Achieved
-  Progressing
-  Regressed



OUTPUT 2.1: Enhanced capacity and gender-responsive policies to identify and reduce climate risks, respond to disasters, and build the resilience of vulnerable populations

In 2024, the UN provided support for humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction (DRR), climate adaptation, gender-responsive recovery, and livelihoods restoration, ensuring a coordinated and impactful response.

In a joint response to the historic Typhoon Yagi, the UN delivered **humanitarian assistance** through financial and technical support across nine key sectors, including: education; food security; agriculture, employment, and livelihoods; health; nutrition; protection including child protection and gender-based violence; shelter and non-food items (NFI); WASH; and early recovery.

KEY RESULTS OF THE UN RESPONSE TO TYPHOON YAGI

-  **49,300** people received WASH supplies in 17 affected provinces
-  Multi-purpose cash transfers rolled out to 1,800 households in Lao Cai and Hai Phong
-  Approximately **3,000** households received life-saving kits and other essential items in Ha Giang, Phu Tho, Tuyen Quang, and Lang Son.
-  Temporary income provided to **774** households through the Cash for Work initiative
-  **100,000+** children under five screened for malnutrition; 601 severe and 4,750 moderate acute malnutrition cases referred for treatment
-  **68,000** children, parents, caregivers access to disaster warning information through UN-VDDMA supported Zalo channel.



Photo © IOM Viet Nam



Luu Ton Bay and his family have the dinner they prepared together in their home in Bao Thang, Lao Cai province.
Photo © UNICEF/UNI674246/Le Lijour

A Lifeline of hope for Bay's family after Typhoon Yagi

Sitting on the floor with his wife and four children, Luu Ton Bay shares a modest dinner, the stained walls around them a reminder of Typhoon Yagi's devastation. The storm wiped out their crops, flooded their home, and buried their farmland under mud, leaving them with nothing to eat but wild vegetables.

With his farm destroyed, Bay's income plummeted, making it nearly impossible to provide for his family.

But then a lifeline arrived—UNICEF's first-ever humanitarian cash transfers in Viet Nam, supported by the Government of Viet Nam and UK Aid. For families like Bay's, this support is more than financial relief—it's a chance to rebuild.

“
With this cash, I'll buy new farming equipment and pay my children's school fees,
”

Bay says. He also hopes to buy a water filter after their home's water system was damaged.



ILO and tripartite partners inspecting results of the Cash for Work programme, Yen Bai 2025.

To strengthen Government **disaster risk reduction (DRR) and preparedness**, the UN supported the implementation of the five-year cooperation framework between MARD and MOET on DRR and climate education, enhancing climate resilience in schools. This included training 160 education managers and teachers (43 women) and developing DRR guidelines for education programmes. The UN engaged 16,000 youth in national disaster risk reduction and climate action contests and reached 8.57 million people through an animated public awareness series promoting child safety during disasters. At the same time, the UN ensured gender-responsive disaster management, integrating compulsory gender and GBV training into local DRR plans under Decision 3517/QD-BNN-DD and strengthening protection measures for vulnerable populations. The UN also strengthened institutional capacity and disaster preparedness and response through the revision of two decrees on improving evacuation centers and warehouses and collecting data on child vulnerability.

The UN facilitated **sustainable recovery efforts**, providing support to over 240,000 people through climate and disaster response interventions. These efforts included the construction of 966 climate-resilient houses and sustainable shrimp farming programs for forest-dependent communities. The UN also contributed to Viet Nam's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for 2021–2030, strengthening resilience across agriculture, water resources, and urban development. Additionally, the UN constructed 220 climate-resilient ponds, benefiting 1,200 households, and distributed agricultural inputs to 5,836 farmers resulting in enhanced resilience and productivity across 1,750 hectares of land. Mangrove regeneration efforts restored an additional 260 hectares in 2024, bringing the total regenerated area to 4,260 hectares since 2018, which significantly reduces flood and storm risks. Moreover, the

UN introduced climate-resilient technologies, including the Net Zero Aquonic toilet - a climate-smart toilet technology - to increase access to WASH services. The technologies have benefited over 140,651 people, 36 schools, 12 healthcare facilities, and 89,236 children.

Youth leadership in climate action was advanced through UN support to the Local Conference of Youth Viet Nam, which engaged 500 young people in climate policy discussions. Two youth representatives participated in the 29th UN Climate Change Conference (COP29), amplifying Vietnamese youth voices on climate action. A child-friendly version of Viet Nam's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) 2022 was developed to simplify climate commitments for young audiences, incorporating children's perspectives and encouraging their engagement in national climate policies. In addition, 80 young Vietnamese leaders were recruited for the Youth Policy Working Group (YPWG), focusing on the just energy transition, climate change education, circular economy, and nature-based solutions. The UN also launched Tri-COP 2024, an online youth-led campaign on climate change, biodiversity, and land degradation, reaching 13,904 users on social media and generating 22,502 views.



Photo © UN Women Viet Nam



Photo © UN Women Viet Nam

Water is life: Helping women overcome drought in Ninh Thuan and Ca Mau

In Ninh Thuan province, where drought dominates most of the year, To Thi Nhu Nga's family struggled to keep their apple orchard alive. Without a stable water supply, their harvest dropped to nearly half, forcing her husband to carry water by hand from a distant stream. The drought meant uncertain income, exhausting labour, and the constant fear of losing their crops.

But with support from the UN, the Provincial Women's Union, and the Government of Japan, Nga's family installed additional water pipes and a drip irrigation system, ensuring efficient water use and healthier crops. Now, with consistent irrigation, their harvest has doubled, securing a stable income and a better future.

For Nga, the gift of water means hope, stability, and resilience.

“ Thanks to this support, our life has improved. I believe our next crop will help us overcome the challenges of this tough climate. ”



OUTPUT 2.2: Accelerated implementation of policies and enhance the awareness of stakeholders for low-carbon development, the circular economy and environmental protection

UN-supported initiatives resulted in **emission reduction** in 2024. This included UNDP's nature-based solutions, forest protection, transport electrification, and sustainable land management interventions, which helped prevent over 10 million tons of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e) emissions. Nevertheless, Viet Nam's overall greenhouse gas emissions has continued to rise in recent years, necessitating more effective and accelerated climate actions.

To support these actions, the UN facilitated the operationalization of Viet Nam's **Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP)**, including the submission of eight priority projects for financing, the development of a monitoring and evaluation system, and a policy matrix to track progress. Socio-economic assessments and financing mechanisms were introduced by the UN to guide the transition of coal-fired power plants and unlock public-private investment in renewable energy.

In an additional area of support, the UN enhanced **renewable energy access** in underserved areas through solar and wind energy installations and water supply systems in rural schools and health stations, improving energy security. The UN also trained 3,351 WASH officers and teachers on climate-resilient water and sanitation systems, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and climate risk assessments, strengthening water safety planning. These initiatives together with the approval of water safety plans and tools helped encourage healthy practices and strengthen investment, operation, and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities.

The UN expanded **green productivity** support services for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) - as part of joint collaboration with the Viet Nam National Productivity Institute (VNPI) - by investing in greenhouse gas reduction, energy efficiency, waste reduction, and cleaner energy technologies. By 2025, these efforts of VNPI will benefit at least 40 enterprises and 15 government agencies, fostering long-term green investments. The UN also contributed to the Viet Nam Productivity Report 2024, promoting best practices for policymakers and industry stakeholders.



UNDP is partnering with cab-share drivers and services to transition to electric motorbikes. Photo © UNDP in Viet Nam

Riding towards a greener future

In Ho Chi Minh City, cab-share driver Lầu Minh Trí has cut his daily expenses by over half by switching from a gasoline-powered motorbike to an electric vehicle (EV), emphasizing the financial and environmental benefits. "Switching to an electric motorbike has made a big difference. Now, I only spend about 32,000 VND per day on electricity. Over a month, that's a huge saving of more than 1.5 million VND. The electric bike is much quieter and better for the environment," says Minh Trí.

Similarly, Nha Cảnh Tinh, another driver, reduced his fuel costs from up to 80,000 VND on gasoline to just 20,000 VND for charging his EV. He notes:

“ It's a huge saving, and it's great not having to deal with oil changes. ”

These drivers are part of the "Scaling up E-mobility and Mechanisms for Promoting Investments in Green Projects in Viet Nam," a project funded by the Government of Japan and implemented under UNDP's Climate Promise. The initiative has led to the purchase of 371 EVs and provided preferential loans for 325 individuals, significantly reducing carbon emissions, about 865.83 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per year.



Photo © FAO Viet Nam

Smart farming transforms agriculture in Moc Chau

In the highlands of Moc Chau, extreme weather and limited access to modern farming techniques once kept smallholder farmers, women, and ethnic minority groups trapped in a cycle of unstable incomes and unpredictable harvests. But with the "Smart Farming for the Future Generation" project—launched by the UN in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Government of the Republic of Korea—farmers have embraced modern greenhouse technology, digital sensors, and sustainable practices, revolutionizing agriculture in the region.

Through 32 optimized greenhouse farms, farmers now use drip irrigation, climate control, and pest-resistant infrastructure, making agriculture more resilient and efficient. A 1,600-square-metre soilless farming model introduced a sustainable alternative that eliminates soil-borne diseases and enhances nutrient control.

The impact has been transformational—crop yields have increased by 238 percent, and incomes have doubled. The monthly earning of Ms. Do Thi Thuy, a vegetable farmer, reached VND 7-10 million (US\$290-415).

“

Our children will benefit from better education because of the higher family income from increased vegetable sales.

We are very happy,

”

she shares. From just 1.5 hectares of greenhouse farming in 2021 to 50 hectares by 2024, smart farming is now a model for sustainable agriculture in Viet Nam.

Additionally, the UN assisted the preparation of **greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories and the reduction of carbon emissions, raising awareness on Green House Gas emission among SMEs and associations**, especially in the wood processing and machinery section, through pilot programmes. Through UN technical supports, enterprises received actionable investment roadmaps and return-on-investment (ROI) projections for renewable energy adoption, leading to commitments from many businesses to implement energy efficiency measures, invest in renewable energy solutions, and adopt sustainable production practices.

Efforts to enhance **energy efficiency** in Viet Nam's industrial sector included technical support for amending energy efficiency guidelines, converting an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard into a national version (TCVN ISO 50005), and training 145 experts and 244 energy managers in energy management systems. One of the first success stories of this initiative was TH Milk Joint Stock Company's ISO 50001:2018 certification, achieved within 10 months.

The UN mobilized USD 1.5 million to address **plastic pollution**, establish a secondary materials marketplace, and support informal waste workers. The launch of the first Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Binh Dinh, capable of processing between four and six tonnes of plastic waste daily, and the "Fishermen Bringing Waste Back to Shore" initiative both helped tackle marine litter. Circular economy pilots were also launched in wastewater management and circular agriculture.

Through the Global Eco-Industrial Parks Programme (GEIPP), the UN supported the **green transition of industrial parks**, with technical assistance in policy formulation and direct support for Bac Ninh's Green Strategy Transition for Industrial Parks. Capacity-building initiatives engaged 543 policymakers, academics, and industry leaders, while 20 circular economy opportunities were identified in a northern industrial park with similar work initiated in the Mekong Delta.

Forty-four businesses were supported to adopt green production practices through the UN's strengthening of **private sector leadership in sustainability**. These practices included the introduction of electric vehicles for waste collection, plastic waste value chains, and alternative product designs to eliminate hazardous chemicals. These efforts aligned with Viet Nam's broader industrial decarbonization and sustainable consumption goals.

To ensure Viet Nam meets its **climate commitments under the Paris Agreement**, the UN provided technical support for **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) 3.0**, mapping 88 support offers from 12 UN agencies. This work included sectoral assessments, institutional strengthening, energy and economic modelling, and knowledge-sharing tools, equipping Viet Nam with data-driven policies for climate action.



OUTPUT 2.3: Strengthened institutional capacity and actions from all stakeholders for sustainable management and use of natural resources and effective conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems

The UN supported the **restoration and improved management of** over 360,000 hectares of **forest and marine protected areas**, enhancing ecosystem resilience and biodiversity conservation. However, Viet Nam's marine protected areas decreased to 208,661 hectares in 2024, down from 213,000 hectares in 2020. This poses challenges to the country's goal of expanding marine protected areas to over 270,000 hectares by 2025. Achieving this target will require greater national efforts and strengthened conservation measures.

The UN also assisted the Viet Nam **Biosphere Reserve** Network in preparing nomination dossiers for the recognition of the newly proposed Vu Quang and Phong Nha-Kẻ Bàng Biosphere Reserves. A 10-year review of the Red River Delta Biosphere Reserves (2014–2024) was conducted by the UN. Through provincial summits and targeted training, the UN enhanced management coordination for biosphere reserves and integrated biodiversity conservation into provincial planning (2021–2030) across three regions.

As part of the initiatives to support the Government in aligning Viet Nam's National **Biodiversity** Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), the UN finalized the Guideline for Provincial Implementation of NBSAP 2030–2050 to enhance the effective implementation of biodiversity policies. The UN will continue to support Viet Nam in reviewing the NBSAP and preparing the 7th National Report on Biodiversity, fulfilling the country's reporting obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Finance for biodiversity and ecosystem services was leveraged through the UN's contribution to the development of national guidelines to support provincial-level and site-level Payment

for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes, ensuring sustainable financing for marine and wetland conservation efforts. As part of this initiative, the UN supported to the development of a PWES (Payment for Wetland Ecosystem Services) scheme for Tram Chim National Park, aiming to benefit about 5,000 people through improved ecosystem services.

In addition, the UN facilitated the **restoration** of 110 hectares of key Sarus Crane habitats and introduced flood-adaptive livelihoods in Tram Chim National Park. A model involving 50 households replaced environmentally harmful rice farming with fishpond systems, supporting sustainable food production and biodiversity conservation. This model also promoted gender inclusion, with women composing 46 percent of participants.

Mangrove carbon stock assessment methods were also developed by the UN in six provinces, creating a standardized framework for all 28 coastal provinces. A key milestone was Decision 316/QĐ/CLN-SXLN (29 October 2024), introducing a Technical Manual for Biomass and Carbon Stock Measurement to support mangrove conservation and carbon sequestration.

Finally, the UN supported Viet Nam to **access results-based finance for REDD+** (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Plus), achieving key milestones in LEAF (Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance Coalition) participation with the acceptance of TREES (The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard) Registration Document and Initial Monitoring Report.



OUTPUT 2.4: Improved capacity to reduce adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation on human development

In order to ensure **uninterrupted healthcare in climate-vulnerable areas**, the UN introduced different climate-resilient healthcare infrastructure models in different localities in Viet Nam throughout the year. These include six solar-powered, climate-resilient commune health stations in Binh Định province, and three climate-adaptive healthcare models integrating renewable energy, improved water systems, and sustainable medical waste treatment.

To expand **healthcare access** in remote areas, the UN extended the "Doctor for Everyone" telehealth programme to 10 provinces, establishing 156 telehealth rooms and training 500 key health officials. This resulted in 1.9 million registered users, benefiting 74,000 people.

The UN also launched the **USAID-supported One Health Initiative**, strengthening capacity in 30 pilot communes in Can Tho, An Giang, and Soc Trang provinces to detect, prevent, and respond to climate change related emerging infectious diseases.

Recognizing the **impact of environmental degradation on public health**, the UN advanced air pollution and climate-health initiatives through World Environment Day events, a Climate Talk series with the German Embassy, and the International Conference on Climate Change and Health. The 6th Green Hospital Asian Conference in Hải Phòng also addressed climate-health challenges. Additionally, the UN strengthened coordination between the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) Department of Pollution Control (DPC) and the Viet Nam Health Environment Management Agency (VIHEMA) to tackle air pollution and its health impacts.

To enhance climate resilience in urban settings, the UN supported the development of disaster risk transfer solutions for urban areas, assisting the Ministry of Finance (MOF) in finalizing the Prime Minister's Decision on Risk Transfer by 2025.



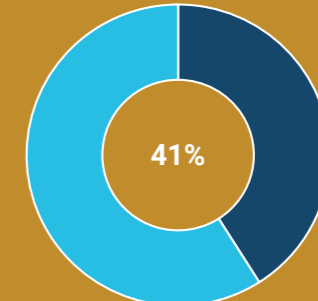
Photo © UNDP in Viet Nam



OUTCOME 3. SHARED PROSPERITY THROUGH ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Outcome statement: 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.

Contributing UN agencies: FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNODC, UN WOMEN, and WHO



Total Available Resources: \$5.9m













Remaining Available Resources: \$3.5m

Total Expenditure: \$2.4m




2024



INDICATORS

-   **US\$4,700 GDP** per capita
-   **64.6%** informal employment
-   **2.24%** unemployment rate
-   Labour productivity: **US\$9,182/labour**
-   **28.2% female** directors/owners of enterprises and cooperatives
-   **79.1% population** using the Internet

Traffic Light 2024

-  Achieved
-  Progressing
-  Regressed



OUTPUT 3.1: Reformed labour market institutions are used to improve labour standards for all types of workers and to formalize informal employment.

The UN continued to strengthen **employment legal frameworks** in 2024. The UN technical support informed the revision of **Viet Nam's Employment Law** (2013), advancing its alignment with the Employment Policy Convention 1964 (No. 122), to promote full, productive and freely chosen employment. As a result, the draft Employment Law was submitted to the National Assembly in October 2024. The adoption of the **Trade Union Law** the same month marked an advancement in trade union rights and social dialogue.

ILO's researches in support of the Employment Law revision:

ILO (2024) [Labour Market Information Systems: International experiences and considerations for the revision of the Viet Nam Employment Law](#)

ILO (2024) [Enhancing the gender responsiveness of the proposed revisions to the Employment Law in Viet Nam](#)

UN research and training additionally contributed to a more evidence-based approach to **wage policy** formulation. This included the research [on the impacts of minimum wage increases on employment and labour productivity in Viet Nam](#). Through these efforts, the development of a wage index strengthened data availability for policy decisions, supporting the formulation of the new Minimum Wage Fixing Decree.

Moreover, the UN contributed to the improved **compliance with Vietnamese labour laws and core international labour standards** in factories linked to global supply chains. Through initiatives such as the Better Work Viet Nam and the Electronics Advisory Programme supported by International Finance Corporation (IFC) and tripartite partners, nearly one million workers benefited from improved workplace conditions in 2024.

Research on Information Employment

ILO (2024) ["Formalization and simplified micro and small enterprise regimes: Towards reform of the Viet Nam household business legislation"](#)

ILO (2024) ["Defining legal status for household businesses in Viet Nam - Key to formalization"](#),

ILO (2024) ["Workers in informal employment in the wood industry of Viet Nam"](#)

ILO (2024) ["Promoting formalization in the Viet Nam coffee industry: Employers' viewpoints towards supporting agricultural households - A summary"](#)

ILO (2024) ["Research report: Informal employment in Viet Nam through a gender lens"](#).

The UN also made significant efforts to support Viet Nam's progress in the **transition to formal employment and enhanced productivity**. Viet Nam's rate of informal employment continued to decline, from 65.8 percent in 2022 to 64.6 percent in 2024. The country's productivity rose to US\$9,182 per worker or VND 221.9 million per worker, meeting the 6.5 percent national target until 2030. Key achievements reflecting

the UN's contribution include: plans for a National Productivity Committee, the July 2024 approval of Prime Ministerial Decrees on Household Business and Business Registration, streamlining procedures and promoting formalization, and the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM)'s newly adopted national productivity program.

Measurement and collection of **labour market statistics** were advanced, particularly in child labour, digital platform employment and productivity measurement. A child labour data module was integrated into the Labour and Employment Survey by the General Statistics Office (GSO) with UN technical support, in alignment with the revised Statistics Law. The collected data is informing policy decisions on child labour prevention. Similarly, data and research on **digital platform employment** has provided critical insights into emerging employment trends. GSO also endorsed the productivity measurement methodology developed jointly with UN, as a result of UN tailored support and consultations with national stakeholders.

Sustained UN efforts have also strengthened **occupational safety and health (OSH)** awareness and compliance. Over 50,000 coffee farmers benefited from Vision Zero Fund interventions - a UN flagship programme that aims to build a culture of safe, healthy work. Sector-specific OSH training included coffee sector workshops and electronics industry seminars on risk management. A handbook and communication materials on preventing sexual harassment were available for 100 participants from labour agencies, enterprises, and trade unions in the garment and electronics industries.

Labour inspection efficiency was enhanced through the introduction of an Electronic Case Management System (ECMS) supported by the UN in Ho Chi Minh City, Dong Nai, and Binh Duong, improving data-driven decision making and labour dispute resolution mechanisms were strengthened through UN-supported scientific seminars and manuals.

Finally, **labour dispute resolution mechanisms** have been strengthened through UN-supported scientific seminars, manuals, and capacity building. Notably, a conference by Ho Chi Minh City University of Law focused on improving Viet Nam's labour dispute resolution processes, while the ILO/IFC Better Work Programme supported capacity-building for enhancing grievance mechanisms in garment and textile factories.



OUTPUT 3.2: National capacities are strengthened to formulate and implement evidence-based policies and strategies, and build enabling ecosystems for inclusive, transformative, and sustainable agriculture, industry, and service sectors, to make decent work a reality.

The UN made important contributions to enhancing decent work in 2024. A key achievement was the UN's joint strengthening of the implementation of Law 69/2020/QH14 on Contract-Based **Vietnamese Overseas Workers** by convening a technical meeting (August 2024) to exchange experiences on the enforcement of Viet Nam's laws and policies related to contract-based overseas workers. Through the collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Hanoi Women's Union, the UN helped develop a national programme to send agricultural workers and members of agricultural cooperatives abroad for work and study, as well as to improve living conditions for internal migrant workers near industrial zones. Housing assessments were conducted with 75 landlords, serving over 1,700 workers and their children, ensured improvement plans in place for implementation in 2025.

The UN strengthened national efforts to protect **migrant workers, particularly women** through introducing a gender-sensitive pre-departure training manual, developing advocacy packages on fair and ethical recruitment, and supporting eight Migrant Workers Resource Centres which provide legal assistance, counseling, and capacity-building on gender equity and disability inclusion in labour migration. At the same time, the UN supported Viet Nam for possible ratification of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (no.188), ensuring decent work for workers in general and migrant fishers in particular working in fishing vessels.

The UN continued to support Viet Nam in implementing the National Action Plan on **Food Systems Transformation** towards greater transparency, responsibility, and sustainability by 2030. As part of the UN Joint Programme on Agrifood systems transformation (FAO, UNDP, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)), the Food Systems Transformation Partnership (FSTP) was established with broad participation from UN agencies and development partners. Strengthening policies, promoting sustainable agriculture, and enhancing market access are key focus areas.

The UN also introduced the Quality Policy Trilogy tool and supported Viet Nam's Commission for Standards, Metrology, and Quality (STAMEQ) in developing Viet

Nam's National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) proposal for 2030, with a vision for 2035. This initiative strengthens **industrial competitiveness, innovation, and resource efficiency** while ensuring food safety, public health, and environmental protection. A key target is to improve Viet Nam's NQI ranking to 45-50, reinforcing its global trade position.



STAMEQ's representative at the Expert Group Meeting on Rethinking Quality Infrastructure: Quality Policies for a sustainable future

Following the July 2024 implementation of the Law on Cooperatives, **cooperative management capacity** was enhanced through the adaptation of the "Think Coop" and "Start Coop" training modules to the Vietnamese context. The Viet Nam Cooperative Alliance and the National Entrepreneurship Consulting Center (NECT) are utilizing these materials to improve cooperative setup and management. Viet Nam's participation in a Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Study mapped SSE entities and promoted growth through access to finance, training, and market opportunities.



OUTPUT 3.3: Sustainable, inclusive, and responsible business models and practices including micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and cooperatives are promoted to increase productivity, trade development, and innovation, and improve working conditions and compliance, with special focus on the economic empowerment of poor people, ethnic minorities, and women.

The UN advanced economic empowerment by promoting **sustainable, inclusive, and responsible business models** in 215 companies, strengthening compliance, innovation, and long-term economic resilience. In collaboration with national partners, the UN supported child-responsive Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) guidelines and advocated for family-friendly workplace policies, including paid parental leave, flexible work arrangements, and childcare support. The Bridging the Gap: Business and Social Impact Forum 2024 brought together foreign chambers of commerce to

emphasize corporate sustainability, children's rights impact assessments, and due diligence in business operations.



UNICEF, in collaboration with the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) and various companies, conducted training sessions for working parents, as an initiative to promote family friendly workplace practice. Pictured: a training session held at a company in an industrial park in Binh Duong in 2024. Photo © UNICEF/Vo Van Nhat Han

To **promote inclusive business growth**, the UN expanded Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) initiatives, with 50 new companies signing onto the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) - bringing the total to 222. An additional 719 companies adopted gender-responsive and inclusive business practices, while 261 women-owned businesses received training on business skills and strategies. The UN also supported gender-responsive procurement training for 558 companies and documented 12 case studies showcasing replicable WEE models.

In **supporting inclusive business and job creation**, the UN trained 62 social impact business (SIB) leaders, with 73 percent women-led participation at the Hanoi Trade Fair. One hundred SIBs received training in digital marketing and e-commerce, with 756 jobs created that benefit diverse groups, including ethnic minority groups and persons with disabilities.

To enhance **workplace safety and gender equality**, 1,000 employees from Viet Nam Airlines, Samsung Bac Ninh, and Garment Company 29 participated in training and awareness campaigns on sexual harassment and gender-based violence.



Technical support for disease management in Chanh Thu's durian factory.



Ms. Huynh Thi Ngoc taking samples of mangoes for pesticide testing at Dong Thap Verification and Testing Center. Photo © UNIDO

Safer food and stronger exports: Strengthening Viet Nam's pesticide testing

Viet Nam's fresh produce exports were facing a difficult challenge. Despite ISO 17025 accreditation, concerns over pesticide residues were resulting in frequent rejections.

To address this, UNIDO supported eight laboratories in upgrading their accreditation and trained 30 key analysts in modern quality control and pesticide residue analysis.

The results were clear: fewer rejected shipments, better market access, and stronger economic stability.

“
Through these questions and exercises, I was able to clarify and apply the knowledge learned in practical laboratory cases,
”

says Huynh Thi Ngoc from the Dong Thap Verification and Testing Center (DEVOTEC).

With improved testing reliability, Vietnamese agricultural products are now more competitive globally, ensuring safer food and stronger exports.

The UN also strengthened Viet Nam's **tropical fruit export sector**, supporting compliance with international standards and market expansion. Nineteen Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were developed, 11 institutions enhanced their capacity, and 345 value chain participants received training. This contributed to Viet Nam's fruit exports reaching US\$7 billion - expanding passion fruit exports to Australia and frozen durian exports to China. Additionally, the UN upgraded two key food testing centers, ensuring higher efficiency and compliance with global trade standards.

Working conditions for internal and international migrant workers were improved through UN engagement with private sector partners in 2024. A December roundtable with global brands and suppliers promoted fair recruitment practices, while collaboration with the Viet Nam Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (VINASME) identified solutions to improve recruitment and employment practices for internal migrant workers. Training sessions on modern slavery to 18 apparel suppliers and assessments of recruitment and working conditions in electronics supply chains were conducted, leading to targeted recommendations for improving workers' wages and benefits.

Cash grants and training were additionally provided to 2,267 vulnerable women by the UN to start **micro-businesses**, scale investments, and acquire production resources. These efforts benefited 9,068 individuals and improved household economic security. Among them, 745 women initiated climate-resilient livelihood investments.

Beneficiary of UN Women's Micro - Businesses

- 141 women with disabilities
- 731 female heads of household
- 599 women over 60 years old
- 97 women living with HIV or chronic illnesses
- 113 ethnic minority women
- 83 female migrant workers
- 350 women in extreme hardship

By the end of 2024, over 200 machinery enterprises received support through **initiatives focusing on productivity improvement, digitalization, and greenhouse gas reduction**. Among them, 85 participated in in-depth onsite training and consultancy tailored to their needs. With UN support, the Viet Nam Association for Supporting Industries (VASI) provided e-learning, onsite consultancy, best practice promotion, and piloted productivity measurement, aiming to benefit 50+ enterprises by 2025. Sectoral assessments of wood processing and machinery industries highlighted digitalization as a key driver for boosting productivity, reducing costs, and improving workflows and working conditions.



OUTPUT 3.4: Heritage preservation and urban creativity are strengthened to enhance cultural industries and advance sustainable tourism.

The UN's technical support and cooperation with the Government contributed significantly to the issuance of the **new Law on Cultural Heritage** in November 2024, marking significant progress in **heritage preservation and urban creativity**. The updated legal framework now comprehensively covers tangible, intangible, and documentary heritage in alignment with UNESCO Culture Conventions. It also introduces new clauses bridging heritage preservation with cultural creativity to foster a more dynamic cultural landscape. Strategic heritage assessments supported by the UN also resulted in the approval of the modification proposal of the Central Sector of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long – Ha Noi by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. In addition, the Government agreed to review the balance between heritage preservation and rapid infrastructure development in Ha Long Bay – Cat Ba Archipelago, with an international monitoring mission planned for early 2025.

In 2024, Viet Nam's **creative cities** advanced their global engagement through the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN). Ha Noi, Hoi An, and Da Lat developed and began implementing their city action plans, which were shared with 350 UCCN members at the annual meeting in Braga, Portugal (July 2024). The momentum of these efforts has inspired Ho Chi Minh City, Hai Phong, Hue, Vung Tau, Da Nang, and Can Tho to begin crafting strategic visions for UCCN membership. Policy streamlining and enhanced support mechanisms are now in development to enable creative entrepreneurship and cultural innovation.

UN contributions to empowered communities through cultural engagement in Ha Noi

5 million citizens and visitors engaged in 117 cultural events during the peak period of November 2024

Over 100 heritage sites and buildings opened as creative spaces, attracting 2,000 creative professionals

Cultural initiatives reached **210** media channels and engaged over 2,000 online content creators

27.8 million tourists (12.7% annual growth) in Ha Noi



OUTPUT 3.5: Evidence-based options and mechanisms are promoted to expand public and private finance for the realization of the SDGs.

The UN made progress in expanding both public and private financing for gender equality initiatives under the SDGs, while also establishing **sustainable partnerships with major private sector entities** in Viet Nam.

A number significant achievements in 2024 can be highlighted. Among these, the UN conducted an analysis of gender-based violence (GBV) service costs at Peace House Shelters, leading to financial and policy recommendations for Government budget allocations to support violence survivors. This year also saw the launch of the 2024–2026 partnership between the UN (represented by UN Women) and Viet Nam Airlines to promote gender equality in the workplace. This collaboration resulted in the rollout of the HeForShe campaign, which engaged 300 employees as gender equality advocates. In addition, one "HeForShe" flight and two "Orange the Sky" flights reached 1,000 passengers with messages to end violence against women and children and to promote workplace gender equality. At the same time, there was ongoing development of UN Women's Private Sector Engagement Strategy (2025–2028) to establish a long-term framework for collaborating with private sector partners to promote and finance gender equality and women's economic empowerment.

The UN achieved great success in helping mobilize **strong participation and financial commitment from the private sector for heritage and urban creativity**. For instance, SOVICO Group pledged US\$1 million for 2022–2025 and another US\$1 million for 2025–2029 to support UNESCO-led projects. In addition, Vietnamese private sector partners pledged US\$600,000 to fund synergistic heritage preservation initiatives until 2030.



OUTPUT 3.6: Appropriate technologies, digital tools, and platforms are accessible and adopted to facilitate a smooth and inclusive transition to the fourth industrial revolution (IR 4.0).

To advance **digital transformation in agriculture**, the UN supported MARD in developing a standardized technical framework for a national agricultural database. As a result, 17 institutions and 102 individuals were trained in data management, analysis, and structural organization. This training strengthened institutional capacity, enabled data-driven decision-making and fostered a more coordinated and resilient agricultural sector.

The UN also enhanced the **farm and packing house diary system**, establishing a real-time digital platform that streamlines the agricultural value chain from production to export. The system allows Plant Protection Departments and local authorities to effectively cross-check data and oversee the management of Production Unit Codes (PUCs) and Packing House Codes (PHCs) - key requirements for exports to China, the European Union, Japan, Korea, and the United States. To date, the system has registered 7,868 PUCs and 1,468 PHCs, reinforcing Viet Nam's agricultural export capacity and alignment with global market requirements.

Furthermore, the UN facilitated the adoption of advanced agricultural technologies by piloting **mechanization and digitalization in rice production**. The introduction of drone technology has optimized rice seeding, fertilizer and plant protection application, and the monitoring of crop growth and disease outbreaks.



An upgraded juice production line boosts production at Ben Tre Green Pomelo Agriculture Cooperative. Photo © UNIDO

Unlocking global markets: Technology solutions advance the processing of pomelo products at Ben Tre Cooperative

Low juice efficiency, inconsistent quality, and short shelf life were challenges that limited Ben Tre Green Pomelo Agriculture Cooperative from exporting its pomelo products to top markets.

With UNIDO support, switching from hydraulic to screw presses increased juice recovery from 35 percent to 75 percent, while biological cellulose coatings extended shelf life from 90 to 120 days. New industrial juicers and boilers further boosted production, and the cooperative's sustainability was enhanced through training for 20 of the cooperative's staff.

As a result, more than 300 tonnes of fresh pomelo reached new markets, juice capacity jumped from 200 to 1,000 litres per hour, and reduced waste increased revenue for the cooperative.

“ Thanks to invaluable support from VIAEP and UNIDO, we successfully applied biological membrane technology. This breakthrough has opened doors to the US and the EU,

”

Cooperative Director La Thi Nga shares.

Photo © ILO Viet Nam



A harvest of hope: Hien's journey with potatoes and perseverance

In 2012, Hien was diagnosed with breast cancer but delayed chemotherapy to have her son in 2015. Raising three children while battling illness was tough, and like many rural families in Viet Nam, they faced the risk of child labour.

To support her livelihood, ILO, alongside local partners, introduced Hien to organic potato farming. In September 2023, her family joined 10 other households in the "4-star One Commune One Product (OCOP) potato journey," receiving land, technical training, and financial support.

By January 2024, Hien's first harvest brought success—three tonnes of potatoes, some weighing a kilo, sold quickly at great prices. "We were very happy with the turnout," Hien shared. That same month, Huong Ngai potatoes earned OCOP-4 star recognition.

Now, with her children still in school, Hien is determined.

“

I want my children to finish school and have the same opportunities as other kids. While I can't do much with my cancer, this potato farming has given me a chance,

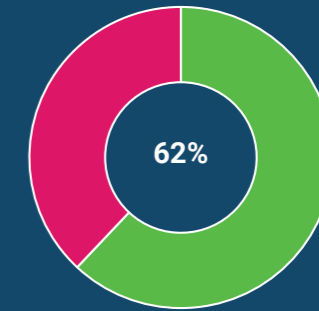
”

she says. Hien's journey is one of resilience—securing a future for her children, one harvest at a time.



OUTCOME 4. GOVERNANCE AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Outcome statement: By 2026, people in Viet Nam, especially those at risk of being left behind will benefit from and have 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.



Total Available Resources: \$30m

Remaining Available Resources: \$11.4m

Total Expenditure: \$18.5m

2024





























Contributing UN agencies: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UNODC, UNV, and UN WOMEN






Photo © UNICEF Viet Nam



INDICATORS

-   **>30.29%** Rate of female deputies in elected bodies
-   Sex ratio at birth: **111.4**
-   **3.5% children** aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour
-   **Improved national compliance** with core labour rights
-   **82.7% population** satisfied with their last experience with public services
-   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 37%**
 - **Public healthcare services 27%**
 - **Land-use rights certificates 20%**
-   Corruption Perception Index: **ranks 40/100**
-   **64,621** social-order and safety-related crime offences
-   **74.33% of crimes** detected, investigated, and prosecuted
-   **Three new or amended legal documents** on the protection of the rights of PWDs supported by the UN since 2022.
-   Youth Development Index: **0.785**
-   **02 reports** submitted to treaty bodies by Viet Nam
-   **86.7% recommendations agreed** on by Viet Nam from the Third Cycle Universal Periodic Review implemented
-   **03 new population** surveys/research conducted for use in decision making and SDG monitoring since 2022.

Traffic Light 2024

-  Achieved
-  Progressing
-  Regressed



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

Throughout 2024, the UN ensured active **participation of marginalized groups**, including children, youth, and persons with disabilities, in **policy processes**. As a result, the rate of women participating in the National Assembly reached more than 30 percent, meeting the national target. At the same time, Viet Nam's Youth Development Index (0.785) continued to increase, along with the revision and alignment of more legal documents to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

Specifically, the UN supported the development of Viet Nam's 2045 Vision and Socio-Economic Development Plan (2026–2030) by providing an analysis paper recommending investments in human capital and children to address challenges regarding demographic shifts toward an aged society and the impacts of climate change. Through different platforms such as Children's Councils, Hackathons, the Local Conference of Youth for Climate Action, the video campaign for the 2024 International Day of Persons with Disabilities, and discussions on persons with disabilities' challenges in accessing digital public services, the UN empowered **children, young people, and persons with disabilities to voice their perspectives and advocated for their rights, including the right to political participation.**

The UN played a key role in policy formulation and capacity building to advance **inclusive governance**, providing technical input for the Decree on Domestic Violence (DV) data collection and reporting, and advocating for and supporting the drafting of the Gender Affirmation Law. Efforts to combat gender-biased sex selection led to the approval and implementation of a multi-sectoral coordination mechanism in Ben Tre province. Additionally, the UN strengthened five institutions, including Anh Duong Houses and the Viet Nam Farmers' Union (VFU)'s gender-based violence (GBV) hotline, to enhance services for GBV survivors, particularly women with disabilities. Capacity-building initiatives were extended to 13 institutions under ASEAN regional guidance to improve social work services for women and children at risk of violence.

Inequalities among women, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and marginalized groups were also bridged through the UN's

promotion of **inclusive digital governance** in the Viet Nam Provincial Governance and Public Administration Performance Index (PAPI), the adoption of electronic health records in ethnic minority provinces, a review of e-service portals in 63 provinces, a high-level policy forum on AI governance, and advocacy efforts on budget and land transparency in 705 districts nation-wide. An AI-powered tool, DVC AI (<https://dichvucong.me/>), was launched, providing step-by-step assistance to marginalized communities in accessing essential services.

Additionally, the UN helped strengthen **governance and public administration** with its support to draft relevant action plans and directives in 23 provinces. This was backed by UN-supported in-depth analysis of citizen feedback in Lao Cai, Bac Ninh, and Ba Ria-Vung Tau provinces.



OUTPUT 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.

Through comprehensive efforts, the UN system in Viet Nam made significant strides in 2024 to support strengthening the rule of law, expanding access to justice, and reinforcing human rights protections. As a result, efforts towards national compliance with core labour rights improved. Public satisfaction with services also continued to rise, reaching 82.7 percent in 2023, while the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) increased to 40/100 in 2024, reflecting Viet Nam's progress in tackling corruption and enhancing transparency.

The UN continued to support Viet Nam's **engagement with international human rights mechanisms**. In cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the UN provided best practices for implementing the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), facilitated Viet Nam's engagement on the Convention Against Torture (CAT), and strengthened legal practitioners' understanding of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). At the same time, the UN in collaboration with the Viet Nam Journalist Association increased the capacity of journalists in 18 provinces on non-discriminatory reporting to promote human rights-based journalism.

The UN enhanced **child- and gender-sensitive justice**, providing capacity-building training to 2,252 justice and law enforcement officers, expanding

the Police Child-Friendly Investigation Room model nation-wide, and rolling out six new Family and Juvenile Courts. These efforts significantly expanded access to specialized justice services, resulting in improved access to justice for 11,397 child offenders and survivors of violence.

In strengthening **access to legal protections for people living with HIV and vulnerable populations at higher risk of HIV infection**, the UN provided technical support for revising the National Methadone Treatment Guidelines, which led to Decision 4066/QD-BYT, incorporating UN harm reduction standards, including take-home methadone doses. The UN jointly built the capacity of health and justice authorities, community organizations, and prison management, resulting in improved stigma-free harm reduction services for men who have sex with men engaging in chemsex, increased capacity in digital evidence handling and addressing violence against women and girls, and improved telehealth services for incarcerated individuals.

To strengthen **legal identity and civil registration**, the UN worked in collaboration with Vital Statistics to support MOJ in assessing the implementation of the National Plan of Action on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) (2017–2024), producing a high-quality draft vital statistics report (2020–2024), and contributing to the development of the next National Plan of Action (2026–2030).

Community awareness campaigns also addressed **environmental dispute resolution and legal recourse**. To ensure fair trials, the UN supported the **Supreme People's Court** in improving statistical and data collection skills for court officials handling serious criminal cases, ensuring transparency in judicial proceedings.



OUTPUT 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.

Through its support to Viet Nam's national review of the Beijing+30 agenda (2019–2023) and the Government's presentation at the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Beijing+30, the UN strengthened the country's **gender equality commitments**. In addition, the UN enhanced the capacity and commitment of national stakeholders, including civil society organizations (CSOs), to promote gender equality.

The UN continued to support Viet Nam’s position as a regional leader in the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. As a result of the UN contribution, the country’s first National Action Plan on WPS (NAP WPS) was adopted in 2024, promoting **women’s leadership in security and defense**. The UN also increased **women’s political representation**, particularly for future elections, with studies identifying barriers to women’s representation in local Party Committees.

The national capacity to combat **GBV, stigma, and discrimination** - particularly for women living with HIV and marginalized groups, including men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender persons - was improved with UN support. A nationwide mapping of livelihood models for HIV/GBV-affected communities provided data-driven solutions, while a Human Rights Day 2024 Forum strategized on how to reduce stigmas and prevent GBV.

Gender equality was further **embedded in governance and justice** through UN supported capacity development. In 2024, 95 legal experts (68 women, 27 men) were trained on integrating gender equality into laws and policies, with a focus on gender-responsive budgeting. Additionally, 153 mediators (80 women, 73 men) received gender-sensitive mediation training, strengthening equitable governance and dispute resolution mechanisms.

The UN also advanced **LGBTQI+ Inclusion** in 2024 through data collection and advocacy, tracking Viet Nam’s LGBTQI+ Inclusion Index across 22 indicators and identifying gaps for evidence-based advocacy. Over 10 civil society representatives were trained in research, data collection, and leadership. A groundbreaking study on the economic well-being of over 400 transgender workers provided critical insights for policy advocacy, promoting a more inclusive legal and economic environment.

Results of the UN-CSO “Free and Equal” campaign supporting transgender rights:

- **Art exhibition “OTHER: This Gender is Ours”** attracting 500 visitors.
- **“Live with authentic life” campaign**, engaging media outlets, reaching over 20 million page visits
- **International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) 2024** celebrating unity in diversity, freedom, and rights of all LGBTI persons.



OUTPUT 4.4: Sociocultural 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.

The UN system in Viet Nam supported efforts to strengthen **legal frameworks and protection services in 2024**. Key legal documents to enhance child protection, social work, and justice for minors were launched including the Law on Justice for Minors, the Social Work Decree, and Decree 76/2024, which introduces gender- and child-sensitive judicial processes and increasing cash support for vulnerable children. With UN support, the capacity of justice and law enforcement officials was also improved through trainings and guidelines to effectively handle GBV cases and protect survivors.

The UN supported the implementation of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Control Law to provide **gender-based violence survivor services**. This includes UN advice on a draft Decree on Domestic Violence Administrative Data Collection for evidence-based policymaking. Multiple actions and initiatives, such as houses for survivors, GBV hotlines, One Stop Service Centre (OSSC), Responsible Father Clubs, the Fatherhood Programme, RESPECT Framework and Essential Services Package, and trainings, were conducted, providing support services to 3,975 GBV survivors, raising awareness among 80,000 people, engaging 900 men in promoting positive masculinities, training 154 officials to be certified GBV trainers, and enhancing survivor-centered skills for 1,744 service providers.

Large-scale awareness campaigns co-led by the UN also helped to **promote the rights of vulnerable groups**. Notably, the UN campaign on image-based abuse reached 417,000 people, with 31,000 livestream views. A national race was also held that raised awareness on violence against women and children, engaging 2,000 participants, including PwD, LGBTQI+ individuals, children, and students. The 9th National Action Month on Gender Equality and 16 Days of Activism reached 12 million people, with 700 media outlets covering the campaign. For the first time, the effectiveness of these campaigns was assessed using AI and social listening tools, providing baseline data for measuring social norm change under the National Strategy on Gender Equality (2021–2030). The first National Press Award on Gender Equality was also a success under the organization of the UN and the Viet Nam Women’s Union, receiving 370 submissions with 60 percent of which focused on GBV.



A Young Passionate Social Worker on the Journey to Peace for GBV Survivors

At age 22, Duong Minh Anh is already making a big difference. Working at Peace House Shelter, Minh Anh helps survivors of gender-based violence, sexual abuse, and trafficking find safety and rebuild their lives.

“When I first started, I felt so stressed,” she shared. One night, she took a panic call from a woman trapped in an abusive home. Staying calm, she contacted the police and guided the survivor to take legal action.

“After 10 years of suffering, she found the courage to file a complaint. Later, she called to thank us—I was overjoyed.”

With UN Women’s support, Minh Anh and her colleagues received 2,750 hotline calls and sheltered 107 survivors in 2024 under a programme funded by Australia and implemented with UNICEF, UNFPA, and the Government of Viet Nam. “Moments like these inspire me to keep going,” Minh Anh says. With UN Women’s support, she is helping survivors find safety, justice, and hope for the future.

Through the Know Your Rights seminars, World AIDS Day campaigns, and networking for key populations at high risk of HIV infection, the UN improved **HIV services and legal aid access** for people living with HIV, men who have sex with men (MSM), transgender women, and people who use drugs, tackling stigma and discrimination through training for government, CSOs, and community leaders.

The UN improved **child labour prevention and young worker protection** by training 1,200 trade union officials, workers, and 300 businesses in partnership with the Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour, and the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Corporate policies were enhanced to integrate child rights and business principles, while migrant workers received training to mitigate labour exploitation risks. As a result, the rate of child labour declined to 3.5 percent in 2023 (Labour Force Survey 2023) compared to 9.1 percent in 2018.



OUTPUT 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.


The UN has strengthened **legal frameworks and law enforcement capacity to combat trafficking in persons (TIP) and migrant smuggling**. With support from the UN, Viet Nam’s revised Law on Human Trafficking Prevention and Combat and Circular 08/2024/TT-TTCT on the process and procedure for conducting inspections were approved, ensuring stronger legal accountability and improved access to justice for TIP victims and strengthened anti-corruption enforcement. The UN also enhanced the capacity of 100 judges and prosecutors in border provinces to more effectively handle TIP cases. In addition, the UN supported the development of the new Law on Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA) in Criminal Matters, enhancing Viet Nam’s ability to prosecute transnational crimes and improve cross-border cooperation.


To support **border security**, the UN focused on improving law enforcement capacity, resulted in strengthened ability of 3,300 frontline officers, 23 border liaison offices (BLOs), 22 master trainers and 144 officers of the Viet Nam Border Guard, and 150 law enforcement officers to detect and respond to transnational crimes.

The UN's **public awareness efforts towards preventing trafficking, migrant smuggling, and exploitation** reached over 5.7 million people through campaigns such as the IOM's "Think Before You Go" campaign. At the same time, the embedding of TIP prevention in school curricula supported the improved knowledge of TIP among 75 educators and 6,891 students. Notably, UN advocacy led to the removal of recruitment fees for Vietnamese migrant workers bound for Japan, ensuring stronger labour protections.

The impact of ILO Migrant Worker Resource Centres (MRCs):

 **13,606** potential migrants (5,042 women) and 28,723 job seekers (15,384 women) with improved access to safe migration

 **106** workers (37 women) receiving recover deposits

 **665** returnees (144 women) receiving reintegration services.

To enhance **victim protection and reintegration**, the UN has provided economic, social, and psychosocial support to 149 TIP survivors and vulnerable return migrants (86 men, 56 women, 7 children), enabling them to rebuild stable livelihoods. In December 2024, the UN launched an e-directory of agencies supporting victims of trafficking and migrants in vulnerable situations, covering 63 provinces in Viet Nam and 100 countries, to streamline survivor access to essential services.

Anti-corruption and financial crime enforcement was strengthened through UN capacity building for 500 investigators, prosecutors, and officials on anti-corruption, whistleblower protection, money laundering, and asset recovery, leading to more effective financial crime investigations, increased transparency and greater inter-agency coordination.

UN work also continued to support the improvement of **labour rights and workplace protections** in Viet Nam. In addition to the UN-supported labour dispute resolution reforms in Binh Duong, Dong Nai, and Ho Chi Minh City, the flagship Better Work Viet Nam programme helped sustain improvements in compliance with labour laws across 500 factories, benefiting 800,000 workers and leading to better working conditions and increased productivity.



Photo © IOM Viet Nam

Hau's Road to Repair: Fixing Wheels, Rebuilding Dreams

For years, Hau believed migration was his only path to success. After working in Taiwan PRC, Laos, and Angola between 2003 and 2021, he returned home with nothing but debt and disappointment. As a single father of four, struggling to make ends meet, he was vulnerable to risky migration again.

Recognizing his resilience, IOM, through the UK Home Office-funded "Tackling Modern Slavery from Viet Nam" project, provided him with tire repair machines and business training, helping him expand his small shop. With faster service, increased income, and new job opportunities for other return migrants, Hau found renewed purpose.

"I have gained more income, but what makes me happiest is seeing my customers relieved and satisfied," he says.

“
It makes me feel like I'm doing something good—helping people when they need it most.
”

Now, Hau is focused on growing his business and ensuring his children have safe, stable opportunities. With IOM's support, he has not only rebuilt his life but is also helping others, proving that success can start at home.



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

SDG monitoring was supported this year through the UN's joint efforts in the revision of the Viet Nam SDG Indicator (VSDGI) Framework to be issued in early 2025. By providing international experience and technical support in reviewing thematic VSDGIs, the UN ensured national SDG monitoring is better aligned with international standards and more closely reflects SDG progress in Viet Nam.

The UN additionally informed **migration and anti-trafficking** policies through the Viet Nam Migration Profile 2023 in cooperation with the Consular Department, the review of the Law on Contract-Based Vietnamese Overseas Workers, and the assessment on cross-border mobility between Viet Nam and Cambodia.

In the area of **gender statistics**, the UN in coordination with partners, such as the National Institute of Educational Sciences and Lighthouse social enterprise, produced a nationwide study on gender stereotypes and challenges faced by LGBTQI+ students and research on conversion practices. Findings from these studies informed policy reforms for safer and more inclusive schools and supported the development of the Gender Affirmation Law and broader LGBTQI+ rights advocacy.

The UN continued to be a key player in **population and demographic statistics** in close collaboration with the General Statistics Office. In 2024, the analysis of Viet Nam's population structure and various UN-backed studies on population ageing and low fertility was completed with UN support. This analysis was presented to the National Assembly to guide relevant policies for 2026–2030 and was used as inputs to the draft Population Law. The national capacity for population data collection and analysis was also improved with

300 enumerators equipped with skills in Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) for the Intercensal Population Survey (IPS) and Ethnic Minority Survey (EMS).

The UN in Viet Nam worked hard to help **fill the data gap to monitor SDG 16** on Justice and Strong Institutions. The 15th PAPI Report and its thematic studies were published, informing governance reforms in Viet Nam. The thematic studies cover online public service access, land information transparency, women's political participation, disability inclusion, and urban sustainability.

To enhance Viet Nam's HIV/AIDS statistics, the UN provided technical support to the Viet Nam Authority of HIV/AIDS Control (VAAC) in **reviewing and reporting data for the 2024 Global AIDS Monitoring (GAM)**, ensuring accurate HIV estimates for national and global reporting. The data informed policy adjustments to accelerate progress toward ending AIDS by 2030.

The UN in Viet Nam strengthened labour market data systems by supporting GSO in **integrating child labour statistics into the 2023 Labour Force Survey**, improving policy responses to child labour. UN collaboration with the General Statistics Office produced a **Wage Price Index (WPI)**, a key economic indicator tracking wage dynamics, labour market trends, and inflation. The UN's comparative study on the Work in Fishing Convention (No. 188) is guiding Viet Nam's consideration of ratification to ensure decent work for migrant fishers.

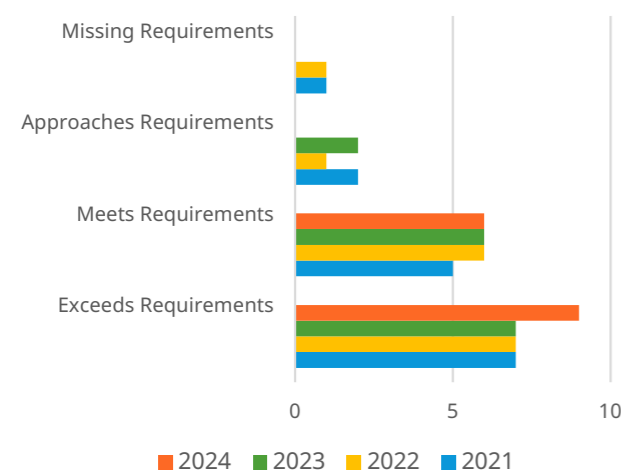
Wage policy was informed by the UN-supported **Global Wage Report** and a study on the minimum wage's impact, leading to technical inputs for Viet Nam's new Minimum Wage Decree. These efforts support a more informed, evidence-based wage-setting process aligned with economic conditions. Additionally, the UN strengthened social dialogue through the launch of the 2024 Social Dialogue Report "A pick-level social dialogue for economic development and social progress", equipping social partners with global best practices to promote balanced and sustainable labour policies.

2.3. LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND – HIGHLIGHTS

TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

In 2024, the UN in Viet Nam made significant progress in gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) through enhanced gender mainstreaming, accountability, and capacity-building efforts. These initiatives aligned with the CF, ensuring gender responsiveness across all programmes and operations.

UN-SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard



- **Development of a tool for gender mainstreaming in joint programmes (JPs)** to strengthen gender-responsive budgeting, monitoring, and reporting:
 - Gender equality and SDG5 integrated in all nine operational JPs
- **Inter-agency gender capacity development**
 - **Training on gender mainstreaming and the new Gender Equality Marker (GEM):** strengthened capacity for 20 UN gender focal points
 - **Beijing+30 brown bag session:** sharing Viet Nam's Beijing+30 National Review Report; enhanced knowledge of the Beijing Declaration, and Viet Nam's key achievements, challenges, and ways forward in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action.
- **2024 Organizational Culture and Gender Equality Capacity Survey** taken by 249 UN staff from 19 UN agencies:
 - 83.4 percent with strong understanding of gender equality

- Highlighting the need for further capacity strengthening.
- **Development of 2025-2026 Capacity Development Plan on Gender Equality,** incorporating cost-sharing mechanisms among UN agencies

76.3% of Available Budget for projects with principle (marker 3) or significant (marker 2) gender purposes, surpassing the 70% global financial target

ADVANCING DISABILITY INCLUSION

In 2024, under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and through the UNCT Disability Inclusion Mechanism, the UN in Viet Nam achieved significant progress in ensuring access to information for persons with disabilities. Through legal reforms, capacity building, and multi-sector collaboration, these efforts have strengthened an inclusive legal and institutional framework, empowering organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) to lead advocacy and implementation efforts. By integrating these initiatives into national policies, Viet Nam is ensuring long-term sustainability and serving as a model for other countries committed to disability rights and equitable access to knowledge.

UNDIS Scorecard - Number of Indicators by Level of Achievement



- **Amendment of the Intellectual Property Law to align with the Marrakesh Treaty:**
 - allowing the reproduction of copyrighted materials in accessible formats.
 - ensuring PwDs' access to essential reading materials.

- **Through the Global Disability Fund, 380,171 government officials, OPDs, and policymakers with strengthened capacity** on the Marrakesh Treaty and the importance of accessible information.
- **A nationwide study involving 1,200 individuals with visual and print disabilities:**
 - Identifying key barriers, shaping targeted advocacy efforts and policy changes.
- **Multi-sector commitment to advance accessible materials:** Government ministries, libraries, and publishers committed to increase the production of accessible books and materials for children with disabilities.

- **Advanced Digital Transformation:**
 - Youth Dialogues for an Inclusive Digital Future, with young innovators and youth form LNOB groups contributing solutions on inclusive digitalized government services to Viet Nam's Summit of the Future (SOTF) delegation and engaging in AI governance discussions with UN leaders.

PROGRESSING THE NATIONAL STRATEGY TO END HIV/AIDS

In 2024, the UN Thematic Group on HIV, including IOM, WHO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNODC, UN Women, and UNAIDS, delivered impactful results in HIV prevention, treatment, and sustainable financing.

- **Improved HIV policy and guidelines in line with international standards:**
 - Five national HIV guidelines
 - Decree #141 guiding the amended HIV Law's implementation
 - High-level policy dialogues on sustaining Viet Nam's HIV response
 - A policy review on alternatives to criminalization for drug users
- **Enhanced capacity**
 - 100 psychosocial practitioners, 55 prison and detention staff, 300+ educators, and 120 community leaders trained on HIV prevention, harm reduction, and comprehensive sexual education.
- **Innovative service delivery:**
 - Community-based HIV testing; web-based self-test distribution; partner self-test delivery; integrated viral load testing.
- **Sustainable financing for HIV response:**
 - Investment scenarios for the National Strategy to End AIDS
 - Two circulars to regulate economic norms for HIV services.
 - Mid-term review on social contracting to enhance domestic funding for community-based HIV services.

PROMOTING YOUTH RIGHTS, ENGAGEMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT

2024 Cooperation Framework budget for youth-related actions

- Available: **US\$810,611**
- Expenditure: **US\$791,41**
- Delivery Rate: **97.6%**

The UN, through the Youth Thematic Group (YTG)'s leading role, significantly improved youth capacity, meaningful engagement, and empowerment in Viet Nam.

- **Improved skills and employment:**
 - 200,000 youth equipped with digital and green skills through the Skill Our Future initiative
 - 1,000+ youth connected to employment.
- **Strengthened youth-led advocacy and participation:**
 - 250,000+ youths enhanced awareness on safe migration and human trafficking prevention through communications initiatives
 - 3,900 young changemakers engaged in advocacy activities through Youth-led Action Initiative
 - 3,000+ young entrepreneurs with improved SDG and innovation skills via Youth Co:Lab
 - 2,000 creators engaged at the Ha Noi Festival of Creative Design
 - 1,000+ youth engaged in the Local Conference of Youth on Climate Change, supporting Vietnamese youth participation at COP29.
 - 1,000 youth consulted through the U-Report, informing recovery plans after Typhoon Yagi



Photo © UNICEF Viet Nam

2.4. SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA

In 2024, the UN in Viet Nam fostered collaboration, strengthened innovative partnerships, and leveraged diverse financing to drive transformative change. In a middle-income country context, innovative partnerships and financing are necessary to realize the SDGs and to promote a more equitable and sustainable future for Viet Nam. Key highlights in 2024 included:

Partnership with Government of Viet Nam with the UN and Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) launched the emergency response window of the Viet Nam UN Pooled Fund, enabling rapid, coordinated resource allocation in emergencies. With an initial contribution of US\$1,224,454 from DFAT, the UN launched two joint programmes to support early recovery efforts from Typhoon Yagi in the areas of shelter, health, and protection. The Fund aims to streamline donor contributions and ensure a coherent UN response.

Cooperation with International donors, NGOs, and private sector to provide rapid response to Typhoon Yagi: By activating the Inter-Sector Coordination Group and the Viet Nam Disaster Risk Reduction Partnership (DRRP), the UN together with relevant stakeholders in health, WASH, education, food security, nutrition, shelter, early recovery and protection sectors were able to provide timely support to approximately 3.6 million people in 26 provinces affected by Typhoon Yagi, strengthening resilience and inter-agency collaboration in responding to natural disasters.

Collaboration with the Regional Economic Commission of Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and GIZ in strengthening evidence-driven analysis and policy options for SDG acceleration: Through macroeconomic modelling, the UN and ESCAP supported the Ministry of Planning and Investment in assessing the economic, social, and environmental impacts of key SDG transitions, informing Viet Nam’s 2026 Party Congress and long-term development strategies. The UN collaborated with the General Statistics Office to revise the Viet Nam SDG Indicator Framework, expanding it to 165 indicators to enhance data accuracy and alignment with global standards. Additionally, the UN supported the Ministry of Planning and Investment in carrying out the Mid-Term Review of the National SDG Action Plan, drawing recommendations for SDG acceleration.

Mobilization of international experts from ASEAN, the European Union, Bhutan, China, Mongolia and Thailand for the development of a green taxonomy: The UN in Viet Nam partnered with the General Statistics Office to host a Green Taxonomy Workshop, sharing regional and global insights to support Viet Nam’s sustainable finance transition. The event highlighted the role of green taxonomy in unlocking investments and aligning financial flows with environmental goals, reinforcing a multi-stakeholder approach for SDG progress.

UN-CSOs Partnership to Support Transgender Rights: Free and Equal Campaign

The UN in Viet Nam continued advocating for LGBTIQ+ rights through the 2024 UN Free and Equal (UNFE) campaign, focusing on transgender rights. In collaboration with local CSOs and media, the campaign published six opinion pieces and articles, reaching over 20 million people, and produced two documentary-style videos, aired on National Assembly TV during prime-time news.

A key highlight was the interactive space “OTHER: This Gender is Ours”, showcasing artworks and personal items from Vietnamese LGBTIQ+ artists. Despite challenges from Typhoon Yagi and political pushback, it attracted 500+ visitors, with 30 percent identifying as allies. The campaign extended to Hanoi Pride 2024, where the UN was a gold sponsor. UN staff from across agencies joined the bike rally and booth fair, promoting UN support for LGBTIQ+ rights. The UN also co-organized the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) 2024, reinforcing its commitment to equality and inclusion.



UN team participating in Hanoi Pride bike rally. Photo © UN in Viet Nam

Engagement with the Private Sector to catalyze investments in the SDGs and sustainable business practices: The UN has stepped up partnerships with the private sector to catalyze investments in SDGs and sustainable business practices.

In the area of **gender equality and empowerment of women**, UN Women partnered with Bao Viet, a large Vietnamese insurance and financial cooperation, and the Viet Nam Women’s Union to launch a microinsurance programme for rural women, targeting 30,000–50,000 beneficiaries. UNDP and UN Women jointly engaged 80 companies to adopt gender-responsive policies and promote inclusive work environments.

UNDP facilitated a monitoring and evaluation system and policy framework for Viet Nam’s **Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP)**, helping mobilize private investments for eight priority projects. At the same time, UNDP in coordination with the InsuResilience Fund under KfW, a German state-owned development bank, supported the development of disaster risk insurance solutions with the Ministry of Finance.



Photo © UNDP in Viet Nam

UNIDO secured a US\$4.6 million in private-sector investment to **modernize agricultural value chains**, including packing houses and post-harvest infrastructure.

UNICEF has partnered with the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as well as the Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour, successfully engaging nearly 550 companies. The collaboration seeks to **prevent child labour, promote the protection of women and young workers, and encourage the adoption of family-friendly workplace policies and practices.**

To **promote heritage and urban creativity**, UNESCO mobilized Vietnamese private sector partners, including SOVICO Group, to support UNESCO-led cultural heritage projects with US\$1 million pledged for 2022–2025 and US\$1 million for 2025–2029.



UNESCO and SOVICO Sign New Framework Agreement Photo © UNESCO

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

In the third year of implementing the UNSDCF 2022-2026, the UNCT continued to improve coherence to better deliver integrated support to Viet Nam in achieving key SDGs and national development priorities.

Internally, the **Joint Workplan for 2024-2025** supported information sharing and coordination and was regularly updated to capture the activities and contributions of agencies - individually or jointly - to realize UNSDCF outcomes. The UN Info database was significantly improved, covering both programmatic and financial data, and information was made more accessible through the [UN Info public dashboard](#) on the UN Country Team website.

The UNCT jointly prepared for the **2025 Cooperation Framework (CF) Evaluation, Country Analysis (CA), and Cooperation Framework development**. These planning frameworks applied foresight and horizon scanning approaches to improve the UNCT's capabilities to anticipate emerging trends and scenarios for improved decision making and enhanced coordination. Other tools were utilized, such as the ESCAP LNOB analysis, to provide a solid basis for evidence-driven policy support to Government.

UN'S ADVOCACY ON SIMPLIFICATION OF THE OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA) MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Together with development partners, the UN continued its strong efforts to address challenges posed by stringent ODA regulations, which have delayed the approval of projects and significantly impeded the timely and effective delivery of UN operations in Viet Nam. UN agencies jointly and substantively contributed to the **draft amendment of the Public Investment Law**. The UN's key advocacy emphasized that ODA grants, dedicated exclusively to technical assistance projects supporting Viet Nam's development, should not be governed by the Public Investment Law. The UN also advocated for **adjusting the State Budget Law** to reflect the unique nature of UN-funded ODA grant projects and further recommended development of specific sub-law documents, such as decrees or circulars, to streamline procedures for these grants. While Government welcomed recommendations made by UN and development partners on the revision of laws relevant to addressing ODA challenges, the on-going administrative restructuring has delayed further progress.

UN EFFICIENCY AGENDA: SUSTAINING VIET NAM'S PIONEERING ROLE WITH THE LAUNCH OF THE COMMON BACK OFFICE (CBO) 2.0

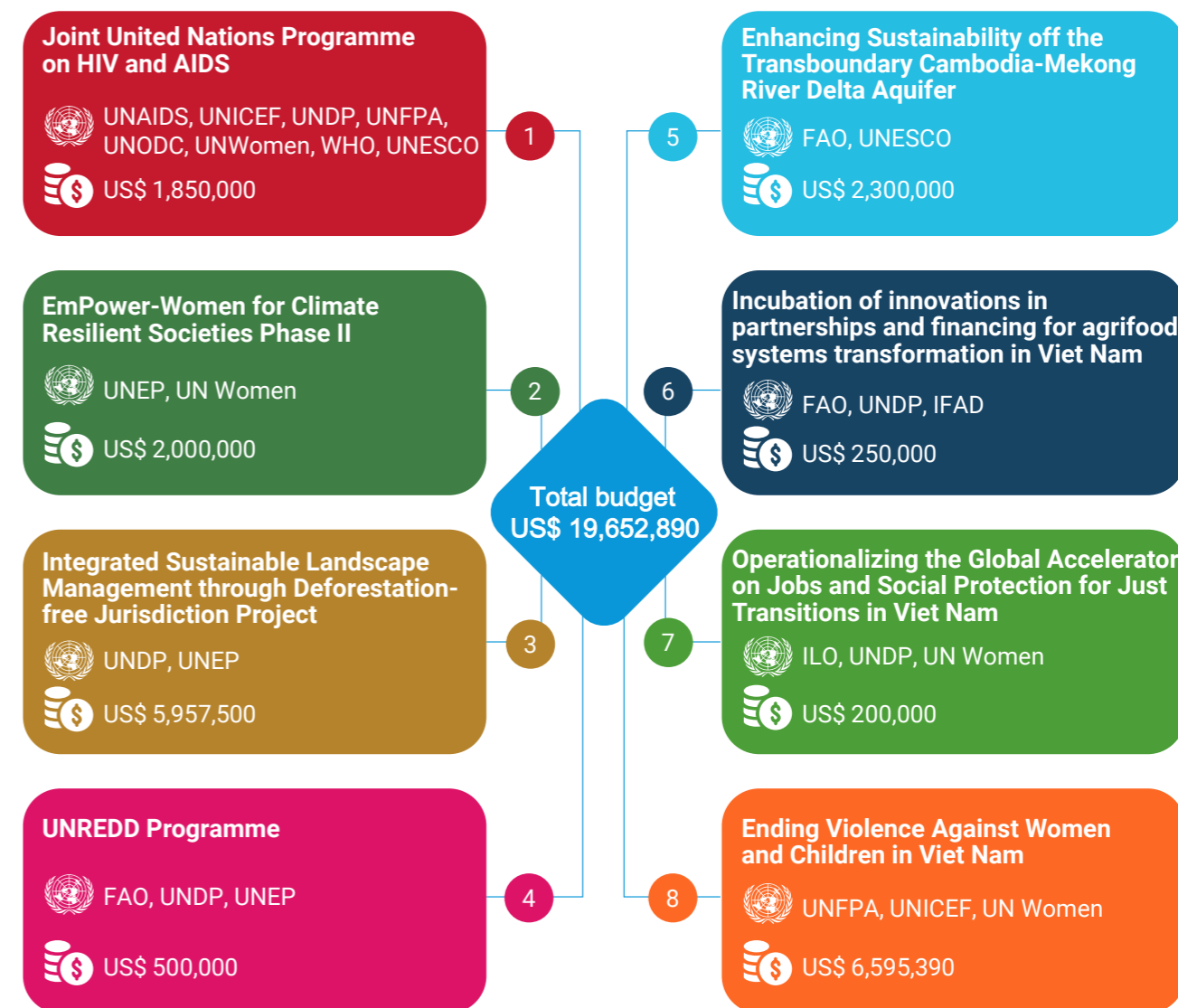
Since 2015, Viet Nam has been a pioneer in the UN Delivering as One (DaO) initiative, achieving US\$3.4 million in cost savings through common premises and services. In March 2023, it was selected among six countries to establish or expand a CBO. UNDP was granted the "Right of First Proposal" to lead this effort, and following UNCT endorsement, the expanded CBO came under UNDP management in May 2024 with a new MoU signed by 15 UN agencies. In the past year, under the **Common Back Office (CBO) 2.0**, the Green One UN House (GOUNH) achieved significant results. These efforts positioned GOUNH, as a leading green building nationally and internationally, including gaining 2nd prize for energy efficiency under the renovated building category awarded by the Government of Viet Nam and the Viet Nam Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency Association (VECEA). The facility also enhances accessibility, exceeding UN Disability Inclusion Scorecard requirements with emergency buttons and fire signals in PWD toilets and upgraded lift control systems, reinforcing its commitment to an inclusive and high-standard workspace.



GREEN ONE UN HOUSE IN 2024

- 100%** occupancy, housing 15 UN entities
- US\$498,138** annual cost avoidance - US\$3.4 million cost avoidance since 2015.
- 22.1%** reduction in per-desk costs compared to 2018
- 4.53/5** client satisfaction
- 24%** less energy consumption than in 2020
- Over **21%** of power from green sources—115.89 metric tonnes of CO2 reduction and US\$14,292 in cost savings.
- US\$1,148** annual revenue from unused solar energy
- Aiming for Net-Zero, GOUNH partnered with UNDP's Moonshot funds, securing US\$38,000 in Q4 2024 to install LED lamps and solar water heaters.

8 UN JOINT PROGRAMMES FOCUSED ON LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND (LNOB)

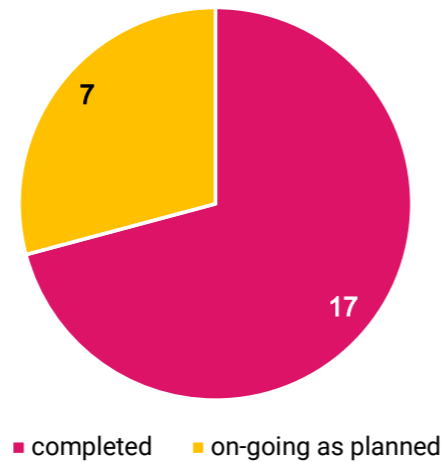


2.6. ONE STRATEGIC PLAN (OSP) 2017-2021 EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSE ACTION PLANS

In 2021, the UN Country Team in Viet Nam concluded its final evaluation of the Operational Strategic Plan (OSP) for 2017-2021. The evaluation provided vital insights into enhancing programming and outcomes, particularly for shaping the Cooperation Framework for 2022-2026 and improving UN coordination. The management response, developed by the UN Country Team in collaboration with the Government, outlined 24 follow-up actions

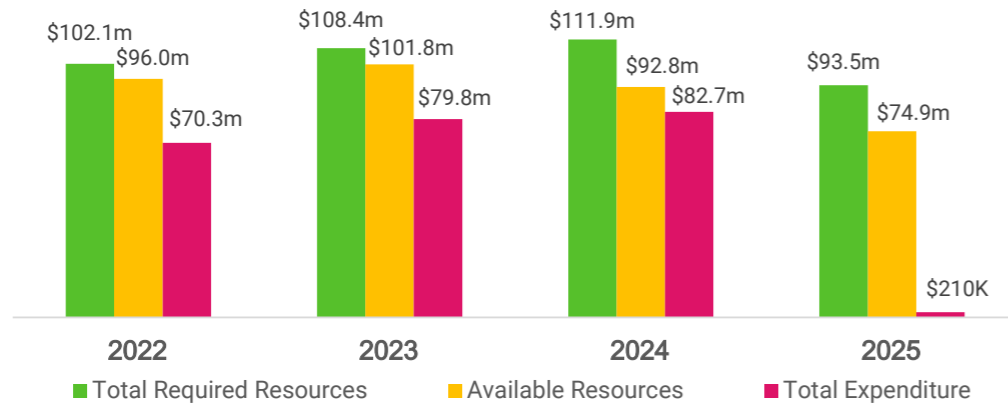
As of the end of 2024, the UN Country Team had completed 16 of these actions, successfully executing eight actions as scheduled within the Cooperation Framework cycle, making progress in comparison to the 2023 result. Noticeably, the revision of the JSC Terms of Reference (TOR) was jointly approved by the UNCT and the Government. The revision improved the functionality of the Cooperation Framework Joint Steering Committee, aiming for more frequent and substantive interactions at both senior and technical levels.

2024 Implementation Status of Management Response Action Plan to OSP Evaluation (number of actions)

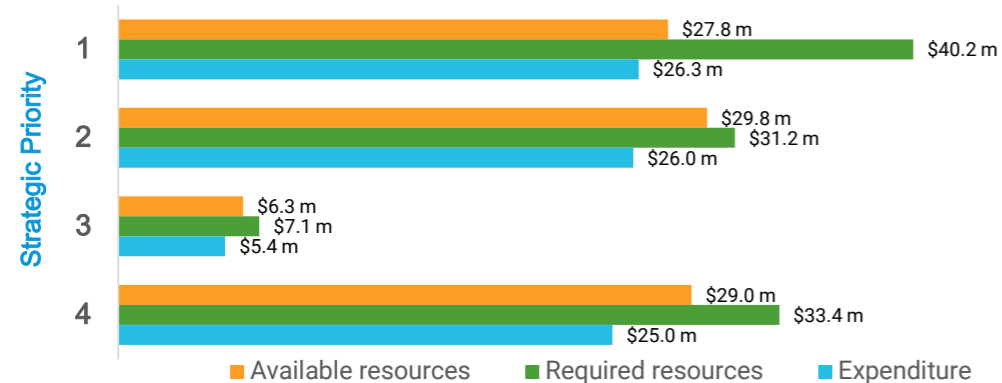


2.7. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

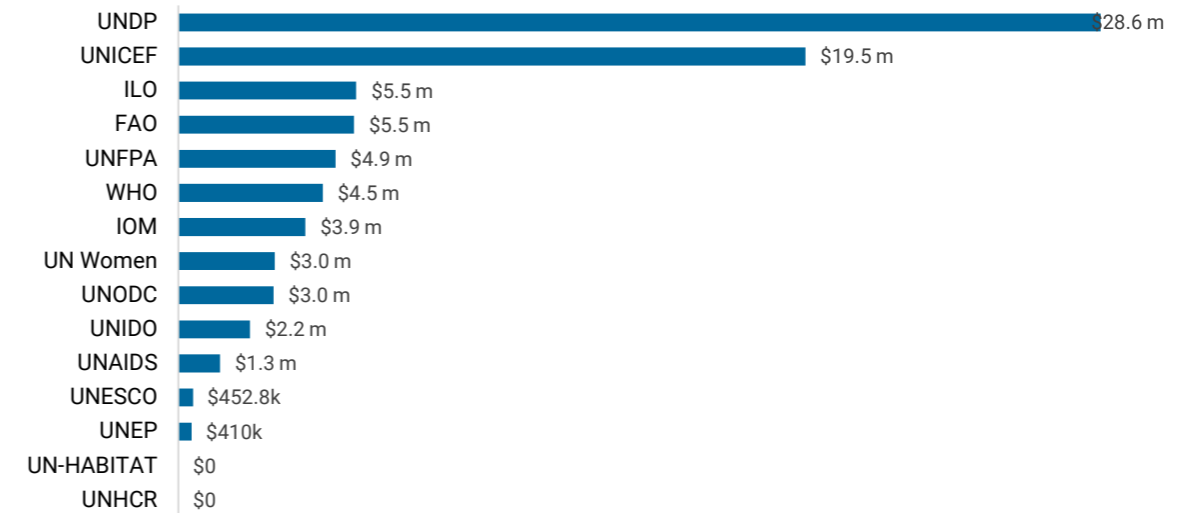
Required, Available, and Expenditure per Year



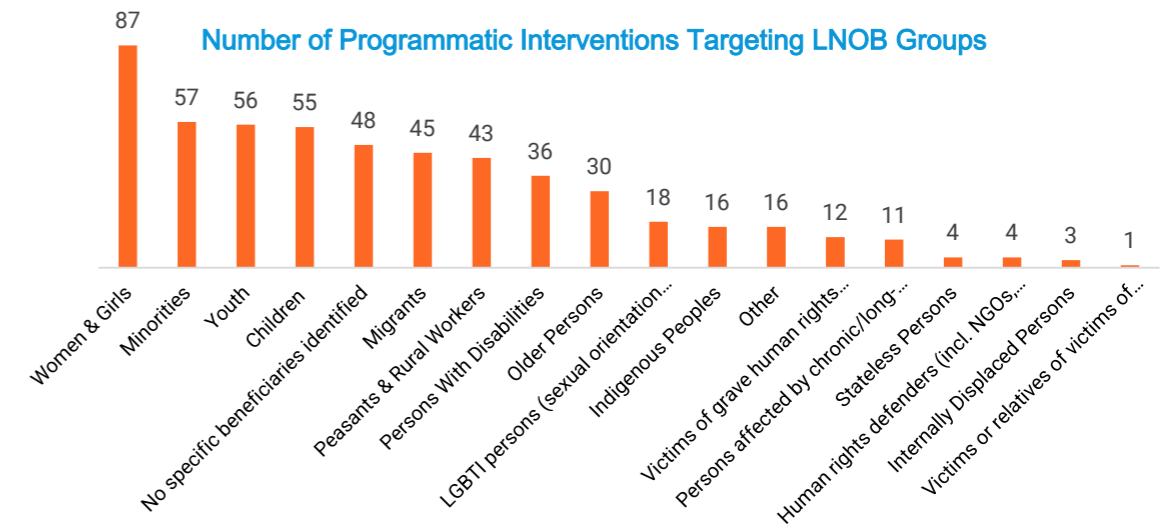
Required, Available, and Expenditure by Strategic Priority



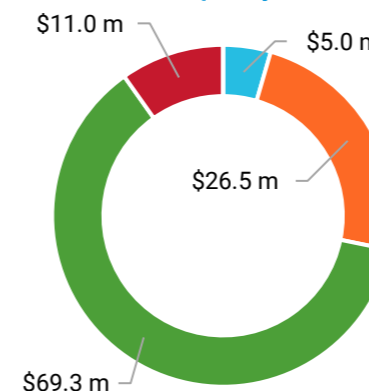
Expenditure by UN Entity



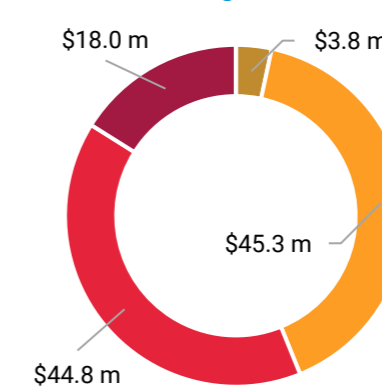
Number of Programmatic Interventions Targeting LNOB Groups



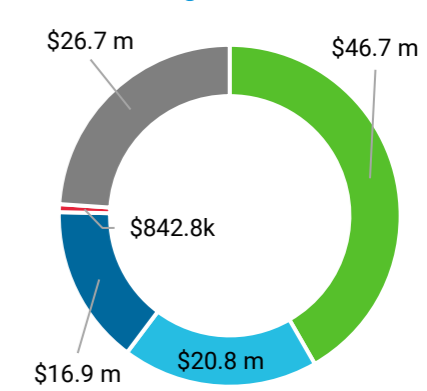
Gender Equality Marker



Human Rights Marker



Sustaining Peace Marker



- 0 - Not expected to contribute to gender equality/women's empowerment
 - 1 - Contributes to gender equality/women's empowerment in a limited way
 - 2 - Gender equality/ women's empowerment is a significant objective
 - 3 - Gender equality/ women's empowerment is the principal objective
 - No Marker Identified
- 0 - Not expected to contribute to realization of human rights
 - 1 - Limited contribution to realization of human rights
 - 2 - Significant contribution to realization of human rights
 - 3 - Principal contribution is to the realization of human rights
 - No Marker Identified
- 0 - Not expected to contribute towards sustaining peace
 - 1 - Contributes to sustaining peace empowerment in a limited way
 - 2 - Sustaining Peace is a significant objective
 - 3 - Sustaining Peace is the principal objective
 - No Marker Identified

CHAPTER 3: THE UN STRATEGIC FOCUS IN 2025

3



Viet Nam is well-positioned to achieve its ambition of becoming a high-income nation by 2045. Recently, the Politburo of the Communist Party of Viet Nam adopted key resolutions on social policies (Resolution 42) and digital transformation (Resolution 57) highly pertinent to accelerating progress towards the SDGs. At the same time, the broader overhaul of the Government administrative structure and the planned provincial merger - aimed at modernization and efficiency - are taking place amid global economic, geopolitical, and climate challenges. Against this backdrop, the UNCT must adapt to domestic reforms and global uncertainties, addressing ODA complexities and climate risks, and shifting the financing landscape to effectively accompany Viet Nam on an inclusive and sustainable development pathway to achieve high-income country status.

To meet the challenges of today and tomorrow, it is timely and appropriate that the UN continues to innovate and adapt to a highly dynamic global environment. The UN's 80th anniversary is the opportune moment to build on and intensify the reform efforts of past years and to equip the system with the tools, resources and resilience necessary to overcome the challenges we must confront together. That is the spirit of the UN80 Initiative that the UN Secretary General recently launched - an ambitious effort to ensure that the United Nations is fit for purpose to support 21st century multilateralism, reduce human suffering and build better lives and futures for all.

Working towards better results on the ground and focused on the future, the UN family is undergoing a reset that will give rise to **more agile, tech-savvy and impactful UN organizations**. This transformation in skills and culture, encapsulated in the Secretary-General's vision of a UN 2.0, is focused on fostering cutting-edge capabilities in data, digital, innovation, foresight and behavioural science - to deliver stronger results, better Member State support, and faster progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2025, the UNCT will reinvigorate efforts to accompany Viet Nam on its journey for inclusive and sustainable development, ensuring no one is left behind. We will mobilize the collective assets of the UN development system to deliver timely, integrated and evidence-driven policy advice and technical assistance, focusing on **key SDG transitions** in food systems, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, and climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

We will catalyze progress on the **means of implementation** to drive investments and

collective actions on the key SDG transitions. In a middle-income country context, **breaththroughs will be required for SDG financing** in Viet Nam. The Government's active engagement in the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) to be held in Seville, Spain from 30 June - 3 July 2025 will be an important milestone. Addressing the ODA challenges to unlock catalytic financing for SDGs will require a reimagining of development cooperation and innovations in partnerships. In light of Government restructuring, the UN will double down on efforts to renew institutional relationships and use the opportunity to catalyze technical assistance for SDG acceleration.

The **Pact for the Future** adopted by member states at the Summit of the Future in September 2024 underlines the accelerated actions needed for SDG implementation, digital transformation and AI governance, commitments to global peace and security, and securing the well-being of future generations.

With 2025 as the penultimate year of the current Cooperation Framework, the UN will conduct an evaluation to improve results, promote learning, and enhance accountability of the UNCT to relevant stakeholders. A comprehensive Country Analysis will take stock of the progress, trends and challenges, as well as identify risks and vulnerabilities that may affect Viet Nam's sustainable development trajectory. The analysis will inform the formulation of the new Cooperation Framework for 2027-2031.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CBO	Common Back Office
CF	Country Framework
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ESG	Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Green Environment Facility
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GNI	Gross National Income
GSO	General Statistics Office of Viet Nam
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
I4.0	The Fourth Industrial Revolution
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate

IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITC	International Trade Centre
JETP	Just Energy Transition Partnership
JP	Joint Programme
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
JWP	Joint Work Programme
LGBTQI+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, Intersex, and Others
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MOET	Ministry of Education and Training
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOLISA	Ministry of Labour, Invalids, and Social Affairs
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
NAP	National Action Plan
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPD	Organization of Persons with Disabilities
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
OSP	One Strategic Plan

PAPI	Provincial Governance and Public Administration Performance Index
PDP8	Eighth Power Development Plan
PwD	Person with Disabilities
RG	Results Group
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDGF	SDG Fund
SEDP/S	Socio-Economic Development Plan/Strategy
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
STEAM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics
TB	Tuberculosis
TIP	Trafficking in Persons
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UN	United Nations
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UN-SWAP	UN System-Wide Action Plan
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDIS	United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDS	United Nations Development System
UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNPRPD	United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNRCO	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
UNSDCF	United Nations Strategic Development Coordination Framework
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCCI	Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry
VDDMA	Viet Nam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority
VDDMA	Viet Nam Disaster and Dyke Management Authority
VGCL	Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour
VIHEMA	Viet Nam Health Environment Management Agency
VND	Vietnamese Dong
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WPS	Women, Peace, and Security
VSDG	Viet Nam Sustainable Development Goal
VWU	Viet Nam Women's Union
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization



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