

2021 UN ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT
Papua New Guinea





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FOREWORD

BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR a.i



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On behalf of the United Nations Country Team, I am pleased to present the 2021 report of the United Nations' achievements supporting the Government and people of Papua New Guinea. This fourth annual report outlining implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2022 shows that despite the continued health and socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, Papua New Guinea made substantial progress across the four UNDAF focus areas: People, Prosperity, Planet, and Peace.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Government of Papua New Guinea for its continued leadership and commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and partnering with the United Nations to implement the UNDAF. This crucial Government-UN partnership, focusing on achieving the SDGs and ensuring that no one is left behind, enabled significant UN contributions to the national priorities articulated in Government strategy documents, including the 'Vision 2050' and the Medium-Term Development Plan (MDTP) III.

I am grateful for the generous support of development partners and donors throughout 2021 that facilitated the financing and implementation of the UNDAF. More than 15 donors to the UN in Papua New Guinea, the largest being the European Union and Australia, provided financing for the budgeted US\$177.4 million 2021 United Nations Joint Annual Work Plan. In addition, more than 200 implementing partners worked with the UN to successfully realise the UNDAF.

The UN in Papua New Guinea is committed to the national efforts to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. This ongoing support includes health emergency and humanitarian coordination, clinical management and procurement, risk communications and community engagement, protection and secondary impacts, and socio-economic impact assessment and recovery planning. UN involvement saw the distribution of more than 700,000 doses of vaccines, training on testing, personal protective equipment (PPE) distribution, and the development of multimedia content to promote vaccination and non-pharmaceutical interventions.

I am proud to highlight some of our 2021 achievements across the four UNDAF Pillars. Within **Planet**: the UN supported Papua New Guinea to host its first National Protected Areas Forum and National Environment and Climate Emergency Summit to bring much-needed attention to the country's climate change challenges. Within **Prosperity**: the UN supported the development of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville Socio-economic Baseline Survey, which resulted in Bougainville preparing and planning for accelerated economic development. Also, the STREIT UN Joint Rural Development and Trade Programme saw the implementation of several UN initiatives that built capacity in the cocoa value chain and provided financial services in rural areas. Within **Peace**: the UN remains a trusted partner on the Bougainville dialogue as part of the post-referendum process. Through the Spotlight Initiative, the UN worked to establish

provincial gender-based violence (GBV) secretariats, supported a parliamentary inquiry led by the Special Parliamentary Committee on GBV, and helped develop and launch an Information Management System for the Family and Sexual Violence Unit of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary to facilitate streamlined and simplified case management of GBV survivors. Within **People**: UN support was crucial to restructuring the Papua New Guinean education system, recognising one year for early childhood education (ECE), six years for primary and six years for secondary education. The benefit of this restructure includes the expansion of ECE, which helps children develop a positive attitude to learning. The UN also worked with the Government of Papua New Guinea to address school systems' sustainable and user-friendly water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services.

On the horizon for 2022 are the national elections. At the request of the Government, the UN will provide support to the coordination of observers during the election process. 2022 will also see the Government of Papua New Guinea develop the new Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP IV), which will drive the development agenda for the next five years and form the basis of the UN's next Cooperation Framework.

The UN will continue to implement three high-impact joint programmes in 2022 – STREIT, Highlands Joint Programme, and the second phase of the Spotlight Initiative. In addition, for the current UNDAF's final year, the 2022 Joint Annual Work Plan will include technical assistance for the Human Rights Defenders Protection Bill; a review of the National Gender Policy; building capacity for renewable energy, including

training to install, operate, and maintain rooftop solar PVs; and supporting the Government on its education reform including integrating and expanding ECE.

In 2022 the UN will also formulate the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2023-27, guided by and aligned with national priorities. The completed 2021 Common Country Analysis, an independent, impartial, and collective assessment that provides an overview of a country's situation, will provide the backdrop for this framework.

By working closely with the Government and our development partners, we will continue to help realise the SDGs while assisting Papua New Guinea to #BuildForwardBetter from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, for a more sustainable future.

The United Nations in Papua New Guinea looks forward to another year of genuine impact for the benefit of Papua New Guinea's people.

Mr. Dirk Wagener
United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i
Papua New Guinea



UN COUNTRY TEAM



In 2021, 17 resident and non-resident UN agencies made up the UNCT in PNG, who actively helped implement the UNDAF 2018-2022.



The UNCT was strengthened in 2021 by the International Telecommunication Union joining the STREIT Joint Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) joining the anti-corruption programme.

Although not a signatory to the UNDAF, the UNCT is supported by the United Nations Volunteers Programme through the deployment of international and national volunteer specialists.



The UNCT at their Annual Retreat



RESIDENT AGENCIES



NON - RESIDENT AGENCIES



KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN IN PNG

The UN in PNG works with several partners to fund and implement humanitarian, peace, and development assistance programmes under the UNDAF. For another successful year of implementation, specific thanks and acknowledgement go to key development partners, including the Government of Papua New Guinea, donor governments and development agencies, and civil society organizations (CSOs).

The UN prioritises bringing together development partners to support GoPNG's priorities. A key enabler for this cooperation is the Development Partners' Roundtable, chaired by the Secretary to the Department of National Planning and Monitoring (DNPM) and co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Minister-Counsellor, Government of Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). In addition, the UN convenes structured strategic dialogues with donors such as Australia and the EU and engage with development partners that have an active geographic and thematic interest in PNG. Agencies also regularly engage with donors bilaterally,

for example, Japan, to secure funding to implement specific activities that contribute to the UNDAF.

In 2021, the UN joined forces with the World Bank in measuring the socio-economic impacts of Covid-19 in PNG. The UN also participated in country-specific consultations with EU Headquarters and the EU Delegation to PNG on the 2021-2027 EU programming exercise to improve understanding of the EU's global development priorities and ensure smooth delivery of EU-funded programs implemented by the UN: the STREIT Programme, the Spotlight Initiative, the Support to the PNG National WASH Policy 2015-2030, Preventing and Countering Corruption in PNG, and Strengthening Integrated Sustainable Landscape Management in Enga Province.

DONORS TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA THROUGH THE UN, 2021

Donors mainly channel their funds directly to UN agencies through the PNG UN Country Fund, a pooled funding mechanism administered by the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office, which facilitates the transfer of donor funds direct from New York to their respective Agency Headquarters.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

The UN continues its strong relationships with national Government partners, including agriculture and livestock departments, health, education, planning, and the National and Provincial Disaster Centres. In addition, there are 207 implementing partners that helped the UNCT make significant progress in implementing the UNDAF priorities (see Annex 1 for a Complete List of Implementing Partners).

Other partnerships have enabled effective co-financing of initiatives, more coherent support to government, and higher levels of impact on policy and legislative reforms to climate change, land use and forestry. Implementing partners include the Bank of Papua New Guinea, which works with the UN on the SME Accelerator Program. PNG Forestry Authority, Climate Change Development Authority (CCDA), Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA), and the Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL) works

with the UN on several environment, forestry, and agriculture programmes. The Ministry for Tourism, Arts and Culture works with the UN to implement the World Heritage Convention. The Autonomous Bougainville Government's (ABG's) Department of Commerce Trade and Industry and the National Coordination Office for Bougainville Affairs worked with the UN to produce the Bougainville Socio-Economic Baseline Survey.

The UN signed several contracts with the Cocoa Board and CSOs to enable the successful implementation of the STREIT Joint Programme. The UN also values the partnerships it has with NGOs, CSOs and faith-based groups at the provincial and community/grassroots level, which are crucial in implementing priorities under the four UNDAF Pillars. These implementing partners include but are not limited to Care International, who works with the UN on Prosperity and People priorities, Femili PNG on Prosperity priorities, and Caritas on Peace and Prosperity priorities.

UN Country Team with Prime Minister Hon. James Marape, government ministers and development partners mark 75 years of the UN and 45 years of the UN in PNG.

Donors to PNG through the UN, 2021

Asian Development Bank	Australia
European Union	GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance
Germany	Global Environment Fund
Global Partnership for Education	Green Climate Fund
India	International Training Center for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region
Japan	New Zealand
Papua New Guinea	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)
United Kingdom	United States
World Bank	World Resources Institute

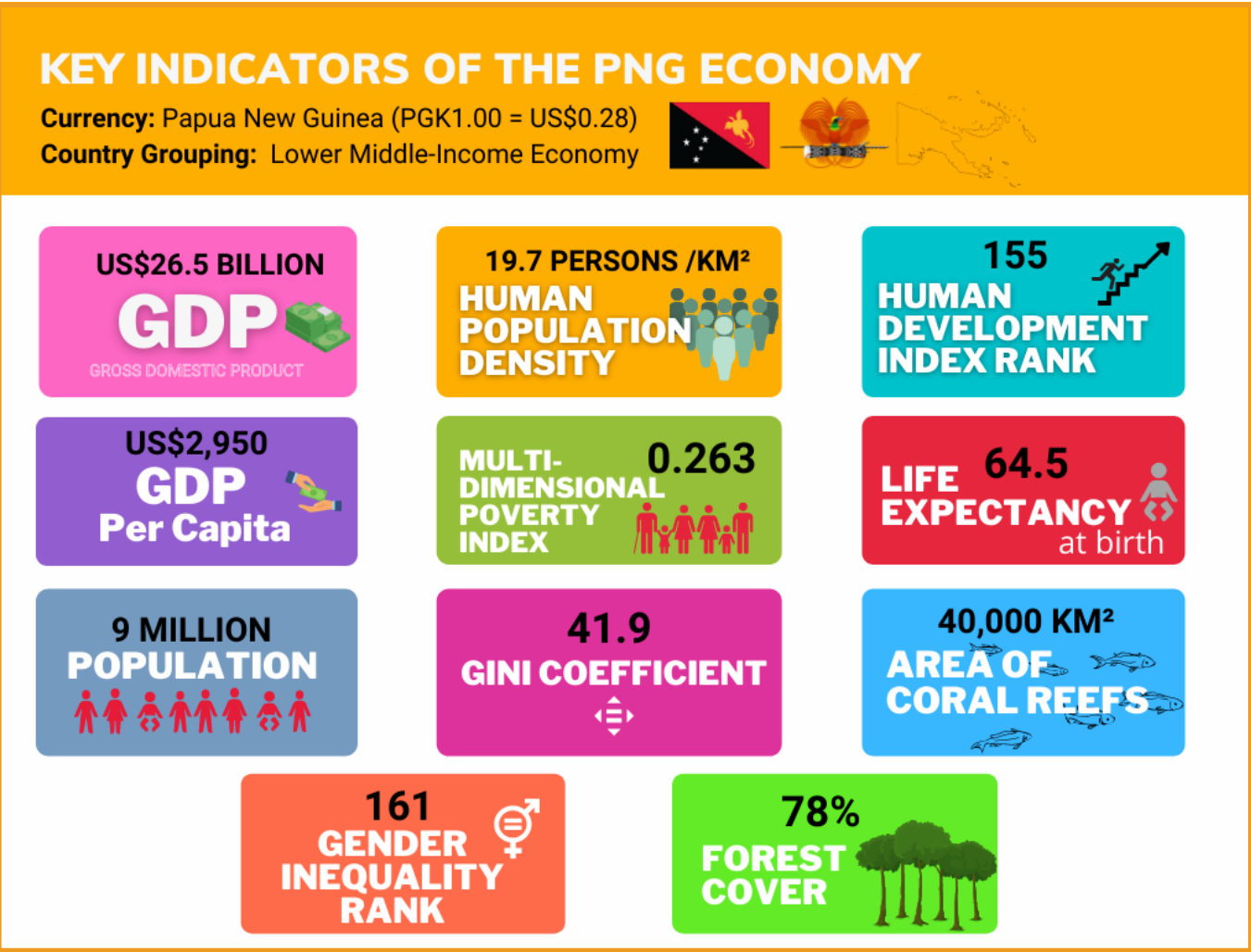
Notes:

1. Excludes - (a) UN-based funding including the Peacebuilding Fund (b) donors to agencies core, non-core, and regional funding.



CHAPTER 1:

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN PNG & REGIONAL CONTEXT



COUNTRY CONTEXT

The PNG economy grew by an estimated 1 per cent in 2021, compared with the 3.8 per cent contraction in 2020. This growth was determined by the contraction in the resource sector and the recovery in the non-resource sector. The resource sector accounts for 26 per cent of the country's GDP. Inflation is estimated at 5.0 per cent in 2021 due to inflationary pressures from abroad, higher oil prices and higher shipping freight charges. The inflation rate in PNG has stabilised in the 5 to 6 per cent range due to lower prices for betel nuts. The National Statistical Office figures indicate that betel nut and mustard had a 10.9 per cent weight of the expenditure category for consumers. The employment rate decreased during the pandemic from 2020 and 2021. The employment rate

contraction in 2021 is mainly due to the decline in the mining sector and the measures in place to contain the spread of COVID-19, which includes certain firms' 'No Job, No Job' policies, which saw vast numbers of employees walking off their jobs.

The current account surplus is an estimated 10.3 per cent of GDP for 2021, the lowest level in five years. International reserves reached an estimated \$2,793.8 million by end-2021, 3.9 per cent higher than the level at end-2020. The increase is due to higher inflows in Mining and Petroleum Tax over the second half of 2021 driven by increased mineral and petroleum prices and government external borrowing. The debt to GDP ratio is estimated at 51 per cent at end-2021 compared with 49 per cent at end-2020. The COVID-19

pandemic exacerbated GoPNG's heavy reliance on the domestic debt market. Implementing the Special Economic Zones Authorities Act, which divides PNG into economic zones, allows the country to diversify away from oil and gas mining products and agricultural products. Diversifying the economy can positively impact PNG's development and achievement of the SDGs. For example, investment in Special Economic Zones can lead to more employment and government revenue that provide financial resources for investment in health (SDG 3) and education (SDG 4).

REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Asian Development Bank estimates that Pacific Island countries contracted by 0.6 per cent in 2021, compared with an 8.5 per cent contraction for 2020. Higher oil prices, adverse weather conditions and outbreaks of COVID-19 resulted in higher inflation in the Pacific region in 2021.

According to the World Bank, many Pacific Island countries had initial protection from the COVID-19 pandemic due to the remoteness of these islands, as many of them closed their borders early in 2020 in its preliminary stages. However, in 2021, outbreaks occurred across the region, with the most significant number of cases in Fiji and PNG. As the pandemic continues worldwide, Pacific countries face prolonged health and economic impacts that are stifling growth and creating new development challenges. These are added challenges to the continuing effects of climate change and disasters. The World Risk Index 2020 ranks five Pacific Island countries (in addition to PNG) among the top 20 most at-risk countries, including Vanuatu and Tonga, ranked first and second respectively.

The World Bank notes that even though Pacific Island countries have substantial natural resources, are rich in cultural diversity and are rapidly increasing their trade and digital links with global markets, they share similar challenges to other remote island economies. These challenges include small size; small population spread across the many islands and atolls; limited capacity to develop their natural resources and economies; physical detachment from major markets; and vulnerability to external shocks, such as COVID-19. These challenges can affect economic growth, increase poverty, and lead to a high degree of economic volatility.

Tourism to Pacific destinations continued to be restricted, with visitors mostly coming through travel bubble arrangements with bilateral partners.

The Asia and Pacific SDG Progress Report produced by UNESCAP indicates that SDG progress in the Pacific region is off-track as current estimates show a lack of achievement on the majority of the 231 SDG indicators. There has been limited progress towards good health and well-being (SDG 3), affordable and clean energy (SDG 7), industry, innovation, and infrastructure (SDG 9), life on the land (SDG 15), and partnership for the SDGs (SDG 17). SDGs showing regression include clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), reduced inequalities (SDG 10) and responsible consumption and production (SDG 12). Only 88 indicators (38 per cent) had sufficient data in 2021, a 47 per cent increase in data availability compared with 2019. Many countries met their targets on good health and well-being; and maternal, under 5 and neonatal mortality (SDG 3).

Mobile networks expansion in all countries led to industry innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9) progress. However, most Pacific countries are not covered by 4G mobile networks. Partnerships (SDG 17) improved due to efficient tax and revenue collection systems, leading to enhanced domestic resource mobilisation. The challenges in the region include eradicating poverty due to slow public investment in education and health, although social protection coverage is improving. More schools are equipped with electricity, handwashing and drinking water facilities. However, malnutrition is increasing, and under-5 stunting remains high. More decent employment for youth is also necessary to accelerate progress.

Overall, progress on gender equality (SDG 5) is slow. However, for 14 countries with data, there is some improvement in women's representation in terms of seats in national parliaments (yet it remains less than 10 per cent in 9 of 14 countries) and managerial positions (ranging from 25 to 45 per cent). The limited data shows good progress on life below water (SDG 14). Despite solid progress in natural disaster risk reduction strategies, the significant increase in human and economic loss from disasters hinders progress on no poverty (SDG 1), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11) and climate action (SDG 13).

COVID-19 IN PNG

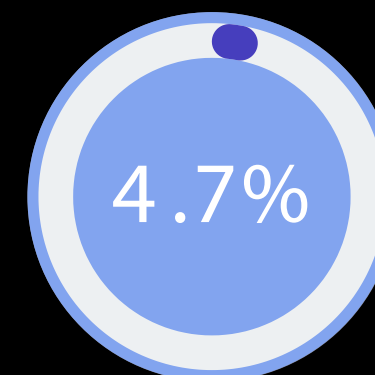
In 2021, the continuing COVID-19 pandemic response and vaccine rollout dominated the humanitarian situation. The long tail of Covid continued to affect all aspects of PNG society. By end-2021, the confirmed cases were 36,130, and confirmed deaths were 590. Social and cultural obstacles dissuaded many people from not only being tested but also from being vaccinated – by December, just 4.7 per cent of the population over 18 had been fully vaccinated, and just 32 per cent of all health care workers had been vaccinated, at a rate that was dropping as the year closed. Despite UN support in developing national strategies to assist vaccine uptake and more than \$334 million in international donor contributions since the pandemic began, the resistance to vaccine uptake by the wider PNG community continues at all levels. PNG has one of the lowest vaccination rates in Asia-Pacific, mainly due to fear of side effects or distrust in the vaccine.

The UN was instrumental in ensuring that PNG received vaccines through the COVAX facility.

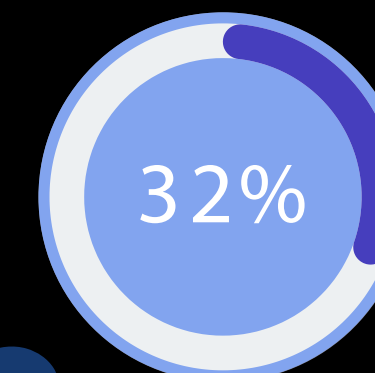
The UN conducted its second Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) of Covid-19 in 2021, surveying 2,500 households and 2,800 micro, small and medium size enterprises (MSMEs). Key points from the surveys included households reporting that State of Emergency measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 harmed their primary source of income due mainly to job losses. On the other hand, MSMEs reported that their revenue level dropped by approximately K101 to K1,000, and expenditure level increased by about the same range. Further, the onset of the highly contagious African Swine Fever (ASF) disease exacerbated the impact of COVID-19. As pig encompasses an integral part of the socio-economic and cultural values in PNG, as a source of protein and an income-generating commodity for smallholder farmers, the incursion of ASF negatively impacted both the food security and livelihood of rural communities.

COVID-19: Response and Results in Papua New Guinea

(Cumulative Update as of 27 December 2021)



Vaccinated Population
(18 years old and above)



**Vaccinated Health
Care Workers**



COVID cases	—————	36,130
Active cases	—————	234
Delta-variant cases	—————	627
COVID-related deaths	—————	590

US\$334 MILLION

CUMULATIVE DONOR
CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS
COVID-19 RESPONSE IN PNG



1,278,100

VACCINE DOSES RECEIVED
FROM COVAX FACILITY

CHAPTER 2:

SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH THE UNDAF

2.1 OVERVIEW OF UNDAF RESULTS

The UN supported GoPNG in effecting transformational change to many institutions and systems in PNG, making a significant positive impact on the lives of countless people. Through the four Pillars of the UNDAF and in alignment with national priorities, the UNCT formed strategic partnerships with donors and implementing partners providing US\$177.4 million in support to PNG in 2021. This enhanced PNG's progress towards the SDGs and preparation and response to internal and external shocks.

The UN continued to support and advocate for those most vulnerable by supporting national programs and advancements in **child protection, intangible cultural heritage, education, WASH, food and nutrition security, health, data and statistics, social welfare, community engagement on violence against children (VAC) and violence against women (VAW)**. A National Council of Child and Family Services was established with UN contribution to ensure the *Lukautim Pikinini Act 2015* is successfully enforced. PNG's ongoing education system reform saw the move from a 3+6+4 to 1-6-6 structure, which means one year for ECE, six years for primary and six years for secondary, and only the year 12 certificate would be recognized, ensuring more children remain in school until year 12. The launch of the National Health Plan 2021-2030 helps strengthen governance and improve the coordination of stakeholders to drive a coordinated health agenda.

Economic prosperity was a national focus for 2021, and many programs benefitted from UN support, including disaster risk management, the Market for Village Farmers (MVF) Project, population census, Bougainville Economic Development, rural entrepreneurship and trade safe and prosperous districts. For example, the UN's influence on and advocacy for markets have resulted in, under some programs, more accessible toilets, elimination of steps and trip hazards, good lighting, handrails, and wheelchair accessible entrance

and exit arrangements. Under the MVF Project, knowledge and skills transfer on household economics and financial management, basic financial literacy, and farm/business management means that 657 households can better manage their finances and improve their economic livelihoods.

The UN remains committed to supporting PNG to address **climate change, protect its forests and biodiversity, prioritise disaster risk management and protect its cultural heritage**. Some key highlights included the finalization of the country's REDD+ Safeguards documents, and its suite of Enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) (2nd NDC) documents to help PNG achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, the updating of the PNG Forestry Authority Logging Code of Practice which is crucial in a country where commercial logging is the highest source of greenhouse gas emissions. The National Protected Area Bill was revised and finalised, and the National Protected Area Finance and Investment Plan has identified and assessed a series of finance solutions to assist the Government of PNG to be able to generate up to \$75 million annually.

Peace and security in PNG are a twin national and UN priority, with the Highlands Joint Programme continuing to work towards this. Launched in 2020, the Programme addresses the humanitarian development-peace nexus by promoting sustained peace in the Highlands, conflict mediation, and youth and women empowerment. Sitting under the Highlands Joint Programme is the Agriculture Resilience and Livelihood Programme, which benefits people highly vulnerable to natural disasters, socio-economic instability, and tribal fights.

The lack of **participation and representation of women** in political leadership positions, including parliament, continues to attract national and international focus. For example, the UN's 'Women Make the Change' programme, implemented with support from the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, focuses

on supporting and promoting women's political participation and leadership in PNG. The co-established Political Leadership Academy for Women also aims to address these vast gaps and strengthen and promote women's political leadership skills. In addition, the Spotlight Initiative led the work to prevent GBV and sorcery accusation related violence (SARV), including establishing a new digital case management system in the fight against GBV and continuing to provide protection and support for thousands of women and girls escaping violence across PNG.

2.1.1 COVID-19 SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE PLAN

The UN remains at the forefront of PNG's response to the pandemic, supporting the Government on containment and mitigation of the virus and addressing its secondary impacts, including disruption on economic, educational, healthcare, and social systems. The immediate consequences of Covid-19 placing heavier burdens on families included disruptions to social safety nets as income levels started decreasing, prices of goods and services including in local fresh food markets increasing, and less cash in circulation in the local informal economy. As more people became sick, many women assumed the care roles placing a more considerable burden on them and limiting their ability to engage in income-earning activities. The Socio-Economic Response Plan was incorporated into the Joint Annual Work Plan and continued in 2021, with new funding, under its five pillars: Health First, Protecting People, Economic Response and



Recovery, Macroeconomic Recovery and Multilateral Collaboration, and Social Cohesion and Community Resilience. UN-supported actions and results under each pillar are outlined below.



- The PNG Licensing Authority was enabled to issue emergency use authorisations for five Covid-19 vaccines and one antigen rapid diagnostic testing kit. With these authorisations, the country has received a total of 1,278,100 doses of Covid-19 vaccines from the COVAX Facility and bilateral vaccine donations.
- A situation analysis was conducted on the cold chain and logistic capacity of PNG's 823 health facilities and community behaviour, contributing to the Covid-19 Vaccination Advocacy Communication and Social Mobilisation strategy, Vaccination Operation Plan, Vaccine Handling Standard Operating Practice, and vaccination information education and communication materials.
- Ten new ambulances were procured, and five ambulances were upgraded to bolster efforts to address the impacts of Covid-19.
- Regular meetings for partner coordination were convened to develop the COVID Surge Response Plan and establish and procure the laboratory commodities for molecular diagnostics.
- Relevant staff were trained to perform rapid testing that uses automated and manual PCR tests.
- National surveillance, whole genomic sequencing, testing, provincial lab visits, and system strengthening for Covid-19 was supported, resulting in an increased number of testing and vaccination sites.



- The national counselling helpline to operate on a 24/7 basis in response to elevated needs for GBV response and protection was supported, providing those vulnerable populations with the opportunity to reach out for support using phones.

- 23 safe houses across the country received food vouchers, PPE, medicine, and ICT equipment including laptops, mobile phones, sim cards and internet data credit. 2,481 GBV survivors benefitted from these services (897 women, 302 men, 797 girls, 449 boys, and 27 female and nine male people living with disabilities).
- WASH Standards for markets were established in collaboration with GoPNG, for replication in all markets in PNG, improving the physical working environment for women by ensuring access to clean water and sanitation including proper hand washing stations.
- More than 259,410 students (90,794 female) were provided with PPE to sit for their national exams safely.
- 29 healthcare facilities received improved access to WASH services – 19 under the regular development programme and 10 under the Covid-19 response. This assistance included the provision of a water supply and appropriate toilet facilities with handwashing basins for patients and medical staff to prevent and control infection.
- 1,270 hours of remote learning lessons (410 hours of radio and 860 hours of television lessons) were broadcasted, reaching approximately 300,000 elementary, primary, and secondary school students (135,931 female). In addition, children with hearing impairment were reached through 106 lessons using televised sign language. The “My PNG Home Study Page” website now contains over 3,290 learning items relating to the PNG curriculum for all grade levels, and by the end of 2021, 5,000 home learning packs were distributed.
- A UN programme providing digital classroom libraries with culturally relevant, age-appropriate, original content for PNG children has been piloted, targeting 25 elementary schools in the National Capital District (NCD). This initiative enables students to have access to child-safe learning content in the comfort of their homes.
- 20 rehabilitated healthcare facilities have been installed with LCD televisions, ensuring patients have access to audio-visual infection prevention and control messages that are played on these screens.
- 250,000 soap bars were distributed to children and people in 290 schools, 55 health centres and 800 communities in five districts (Nawaeb, Goroka, Hagen Central, Central Region of Bougainville, and NCD).

3 ECONOMIC RESPONSE & RECOVERY:
Protecting jobs, small and medium-sized enterprises, and the informal sector workers

- Youths were empowered with life skills development and financial resilience amid the pandemic through organized platforms such as the Youth Summit and other youth forums.
- 311 women vendors received targeted skills training in baking, food handling, textile designing, and sewing. They were linked to micro-banks for savings and affordable finance, enabling them to diversify their income-generating activities and manage their finances more effectively.
- Support implementing the findings of the National Audit of the Informal Economy in the context of the Covid-19 recovery through a new National Policy on the Informal Economy that engages the whole government in its implementation. This Policy promotes informal economy workers' well-being and economic outcomes, offering more social protection and enhancing their business activities in the sector. It also ensures that informal economy workers' voices are heard and considered in essential decision-making processes through the complementary Voice Strategy. The Policy provides the framework to enable the government to invite and promote the growth of the sector and the workers who operate within that space.

4 MACROECONOMIC RESPONSE AND MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION

- The Covid-19 Rapid Food Security and Needs Assessment, the Medium-term Impact Assessment Reports, and information disseminated through the Food Security Cluster platform resulted in financial support from the Japanese Government towards the prevention and mitigation of Covid-19 along the food value chain. This support aims to enhance food security, nutrition, agriculture, and livelihoods for communities negatively impacted by Covid-19.
- GoPNG's efforts on education continues to receive support from the UN, the Australian Government, and the Global Partnership for Education. The latter has contributed a combined total of over \$25 million to the COVID-19 response in PNG. The interventions aim to ensure students continue learning safely both in school and at home.
- The UN joined forces with the World Bank to measure the socio-economic impacts of Covid-19 in PNG.

The UN-led SEIA 2021 revealed that the local economy was hugely affected by Covid-19.

5 SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

- Products bearing critical messages on preventing infections for the most vulnerable and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse were shared with communities and in 14 markets, expanding the reach of information on this culturally sensitive subject
- 202 youth advocates were mobilised to promote Covid-19 prevention message in markets and public spaces, advocating for women's rights to safety in public spaces and openly joining women as allies to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 in markets. As a result, 58,443 market users and the public were reached in selected provinces, and the momentum of youths empowering other youths to be positive game-changers also increasing
- Gender-responsive infrastructure and appropriate social interventions were provided to market users to reduce market-related Covid-19 risks. Proper Covid-19 WASH facilities were installed, and PPE was mandatory at markets.

- 1,294 health workers were trained to continue social mobilisation for immunisation in all provinces.
- Six communication materials on Covid-19 prevention for teachers, parents and secondary school students were developed and disseminated to 450 schools. The nationwide 'Back to School' communication campaign boosted school attendance through newspaper advertisements, radio messaging, and posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the National Department of Education (NDoE) website. A tailored positive parenting programme called 'Parenting in Emergencies' was developed for parents to support their children's learning at home, and 67 trainers (25 female) were trained through Master Training Workshops, which were cascaded to train 4,000 (1,600 female) parents and caregivers.
- An estimated 300,000 road users in Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Goroka, Kundiawa, Hagen, Wabag and Mendi were reached with a public messaging campaign, encouraging the uptake of Covid-19 vaccinations and reinforcing adherence to the *Niupela Pasin* ('new normal') measures. Furthermore, 1.5 million information education and communication materials and content for 5,000 electronic media spots for COVID-19 campaigns were designed and printed.



UNITED NATIONS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA
2021

US\$105

MILLION SPENT
ON PROGRAMS



200

PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTED

CARRIED OUT BY

17

UN AGENCIES

COVERING ALL

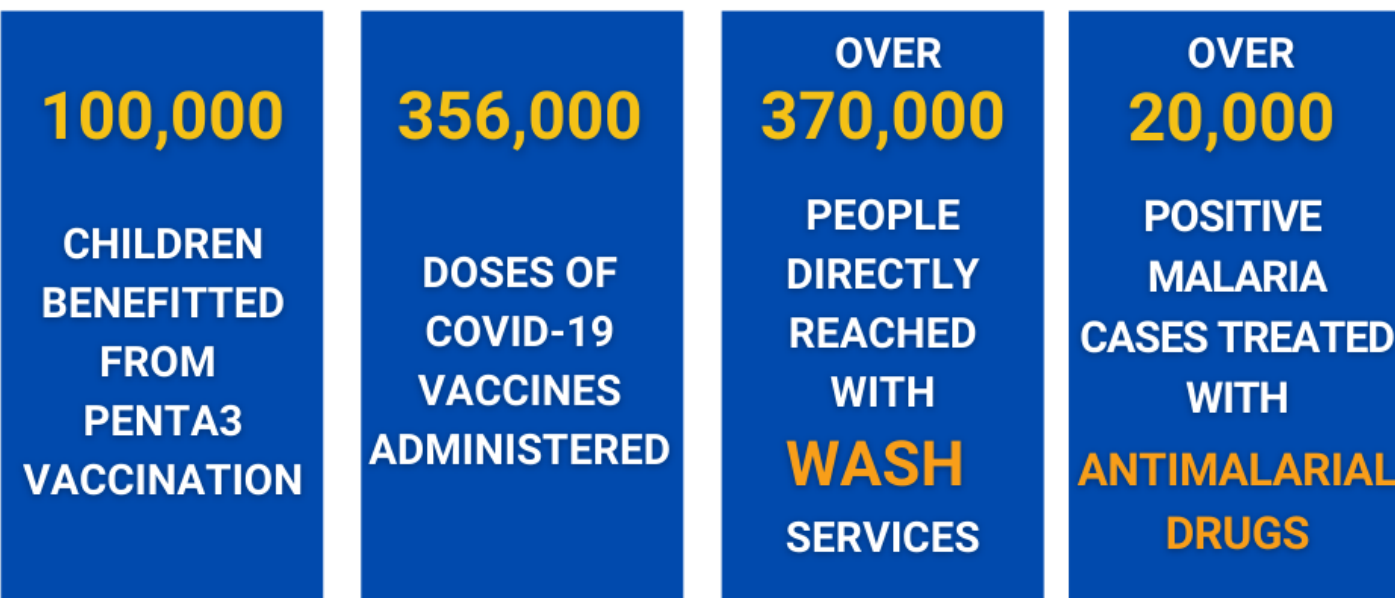
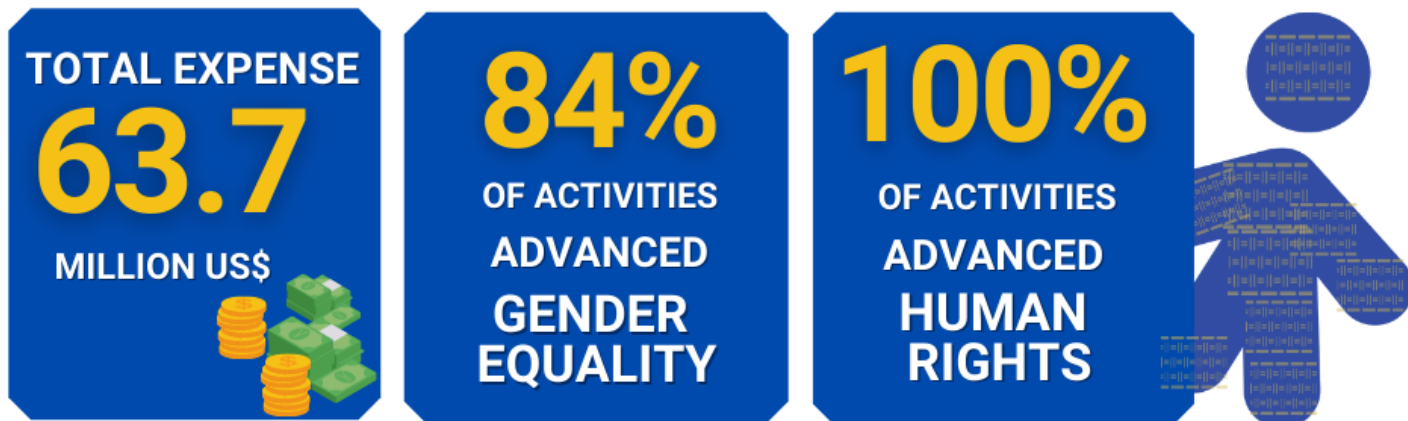
22

PROVINCES



PEOPLE RESULTS

UNICEF, WHO, UNWOMEN, UNOPS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNAIDS, OHCHR, IOM, FAO



More vulnerable children and survivors of violence will receive integrated, better-quality services after government departments and UNICEF and other UN agencies joined forces to align implementation of the *Lukautim Pikinini* Act, the Child Protection Policy and the National GBV Strategy. This integrated approach is backed by improved data management, including the Primero database to manage, monitor, and ensure effective juvenile justice in the country.

"Primero is a very important milestone for the country," said Simon Yanis, Director, OCFS. **"It will make children and women visible and provide the missing evidence for planning and to increase budget allocation for prevention and response services for survivors of violence."**

Photo: Former Resident Coordinator Gianluca Rampolla presents touchpad to Minister for Community Development, Youth and Religion, Honourable Wake Goi.
(Credit: UN RCO)



2.2 UNDAF PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

2.2.1 PEOPLE



By 2022, people in PNG, significantly the most marginalized and vulnerable, have enhanced and sustained utilisation of quality and equitable services, food security and social protection.

Sub-Outcome 1: By 2022, PNG's social policies, plans and budgets promote inclusive human development, and actors in the social sectors are effectively led, regulated, and coordinated.

Government Ownership of the Child Protection Agenda

In 2021, PNG joined the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, which provides new advocacy opportunities for ending VAC. The National Council of Child and Family Services was established to enforce the *Lukautim Pikinini* Act 2015. 2021 also saw GoPNG focus on fulfilling its obligations on state party periodic reporting on the implementation of child rights for every child within the jurisdiction of PNG, as per the reporting process on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). With technical and financial support from the UN, the Government Task Force Committee on CRC Reporting has completed two out of four phases of CRC Reporting. These, including the drafting of the Periodic State Party Report on Child Rights, were aided by a comprehensive data collection and analysis process, that took place after seventeen members of this Committee were trained on data collection and analysis in child rights.

The Behaviour Management Policy 2019–2025 aimed at improving student behaviour and welfare and promoting violence prevention, including GBV in the school environment, was also revisited, finalised, and launched in 2021. This achievement was made possible with support from officials from several government line departments trained to include children's voices

in policy-making processes. The Government also formally launched Primero, the Child Protection Case Management System. This System will support caseworkers, foster accountability across sectors and create a source of administration data, thereby closing a significant data gap in PNG on child protection issues.

Protecting Intangible Cultural Heritage

Intangible Cultural Heritage indicates 'the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated in addition to that – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their Cultural Heritage' (UNESCO, 2003). Recognising that culture and tradition are deeply entrenched in every aspect of PNG way of life, the UN, in partnership with the International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in Asia-Pacific, developed a Training of Trainers workshop to create a local pool of expert facilitators to support PNG's implementation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention 2003.

Education Reforms

The UN's extensive technical assistance saw the NDoE achieve critical milestones within the National Education Plan 2020-2029. Launched in June 2021, the standout achievement was the change in the education system structure from 3+6+4 to 1-6-6. A key component of this is ECE expansion, as until 2020 ECE was not included in the Government's school education structure, and no data was available to determine the number of ECE centres operating in the country, including the number of children 3–5 years old enrolled in these centres. ECE is now a part of the 1-6-6 restructuring, including strategy development and curriculum. This reform aligns with global evidence, which supports school readiness through inclusive early childhood development, of which ECE is a key component.

2021 also saw the Out-Of-School Children national strategy finalised, which aims to reduce barriers and gaps for school-age children who are either in school but at risk of dropping out or not in school but attempting to return. This strategy will address the key findings from the 2019 Out-Of-School Children report, highlighting that 21 per cent of children and adolescents between 6-16 years were out-of-school.

UN also supported NDoE's efforts in development of integrated ICT in Education policy to accelerate COVID-19 response and resilience in education systems.

WASH

A National Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) Programme manual under the National WASH Policy 2015-2030 was developed in 2021 with support from the UN, building the National Department of Health's (NDoH's) capacity to plan, implement and monitor CLTS programmes across PNG. The UN also supported the drafting and alignment of the NDoH Open Defecation Free (ODF) Verification Protocols, which now links ODF status with a handwashing facility in each household. The CLTS approach empowers families to make their own decisions regarding sanitation in their communities by raising awareness of the need to end open defecation, to reduce the spread of disease and the rise of malnutrition, stunting and wasting, and to keep women safer as they are more at risk (health and safety-wise) when defecating openly. Communities work together to ensure that each household has a toilet and a handwashing facility and that no one practices open defecation.

Food and Nutrition Security

The Bougainville Executive Council successfully endorsed the Bougainville Food Security Policy (2022-2032) in November 2021. The development of this policy, including the facilitation of the associated workshop, was supported by the UN, who also supported the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB) Department of Primary Industry and Marine Resources in reviewing their institutional capacity.

In collaboration with the National Fisheries Authority, the UN conducted the first inception workshop with the Topwi communities located along the west coast of Manus Province as part of a programme to strengthen the capacity of fisheries resources owners for community-based fisheries management (CBFM). The workshop provided technical advice and support to mobilise and strengthen marine resource owners to engage in CBFM for sustainable fisheries. CBFM will contribute to a strengthened local food system founded on indigenous/traditional institutions. Relevant lessons learned and best practices will contribute to provincial and nationwide policies, strategies and plans for mainstreaming and implementing CBFM across PNG.

Health Governance

The launch of the National Health Plan 2021-2030 provides the opportunity to strengthen governance and improve the coordination of stakeholders to drive a coordinated health agenda. With UN support, health financing strategies for the Plan were developed, identifying key financing bottlenecks inhibiting health service improvement. Relatedly, with UN support, the Human Resource for Health Strategic Plan was finalised. This Plan is a road map to address challenges, determine health workforce priorities for the next ten years, and support the National Health Information System. For the first time, the NDoH conducted data quality reviews during the system's supervisory visits in October-December 2021. These reviews, conducted using standardised UN tools and methods, contributed to strengthening the quality of health data reported in the administrative information system.

Data Availability enabling Equity-Based Analysis

Efforts to deliver on its promise to "Leave no Child behind" saw the UN accelerating child-sensitive data analysis to enhance evidence-based information. This analysis is to influence social policies and strengthen advocacy for pro-equity interventions ensuring children are protected everywhere they are. Critical evidence initiatives completed in 2021 included: Child-Friendly Schools Review; Parenting for Child Development



Support provided by United Nations in PNG (Jan-Dec 2021)





Programme Evaluation; Social Services Workforce Strengthening Assessment; Protection of Children from all forms of violence and child-focused justice: mapping and analysis of the legal and policy frameworks in PNG; and the Economics of Sanitation Study.

Sub-Outcome 2: By 2022, national authorities (at central and decentralized levels) will effectively manage and deliver social services in line with national standards and protocols.

Health, Education and Social Services

Progress in the educational sector in 2021 saw the establishing of five inclusive ECE model centres, and 30 school clubs through the Safe School Initiative, to promote positive attitudes and behaviours among students and eliminate violence against women and girls in school. These school clubs have reached a total of 2,511 primary school children. The formal school experience of adolescents was transformed through the “Make a Living” curriculum for building skills to

lead productive lives and foster entrepreneurship as a mindset and a livelihood. The programme promoting healthy relationships and gender equality awareness resulted in 710 students (366 female) from 20 schools reporting a positive change in their gender-equitable attitudes.

UN support to Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) capacity building has resulted in eleven DoE staff receiving technical assistance, including involvement in discussions around TVET curriculum development, greening TVET, and identification and refinement of the country’s TVET priorities.

Social Welfare

The UN completed a nationwide Social Services Workforce Strengthening Assessment considering the current volatile, changing, and humanitarian landscapes, including the Covid-19 pandemic and Government response. This assessment supports GoPNG to identify opportunities, challenges, weaknesses, and strengths of the social service workforce to better respond to the needs of vulnerable children and families in PNG.

The UN also supported the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) to spearhead the provincial engagement process on the *Lukautim Pikinini Act* in Enga Province. Key to this process is the transfer of social welfare functions from the national to the provincial level as per the Organic Law of PNG. This transfer is an essential institutional reform, leading to the decentralisation of prevention and response services for children and women needing increased access to timely and quality protection and care. In addition, the OCFS launch of *Primer* – a protection management system database – will support caseworkers, foster accountability across sectors, and create a source of administrative data, helping to fill a significant data gap on child protection issues.

Supporting Birth Registration

According to the last Demographic and Health Survey (2016-2018), only 13 per cent of children aged 0-5 years have their births registered with civil authorities, and only 7 per cent of these have birth certificates. With birth registration in PNG remaining very low compared to other countries in South-East Asia and the Pacific, the support from the UN contributed to three provincial civil registration points established by the PNG Civil and Identity Registry at the Eastern Highlands, Southern Highlands and Morobe provincial hospitals with birth registration staff trained and deployed by PNG Civil and Identity Registry to these three locations. This capacity development has seen 412 children registered at birth in these first three provincial civil registration points.

Sub-outcome 3: By 2022, people in PNG, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, increasingly demand and use social and protective services.

Community Engagement on Violence against Children and Violence against Women

In 2021 the UN adopted mixed approaches to tackle the social/cultural norms condoning violence and increasing demand for social and child protection services through a renewed engagement with PNG children, youth, and families. The “Changing the Headlines” communication campaign, under the Spotlight Initiative, brought together key stakeholders from the UN, EU, GoPNG, the donor community, NGOs, faith based organisations, child rights activists, artists, and youth groups to join hands and commit resources to break the silence surrounding, and end, VAW and VAC. Since its launch in July, 2.7 million people have been reached through 1,310 messages broadcast over different channels and social/traditional media. In addition, the campaign included a 34-episode radio drama series featuring local celebrities and broadcast on the National Broadcasting Corporation channels, to tackle the different forms of violence.

In addition, 710 students in NCD and Western Highlands Provinces who were reached through a partnership with World Vision and Equal Playing Field under the Spotlight Initiative have reported positive behaviour change in gender-equitable attitudes.

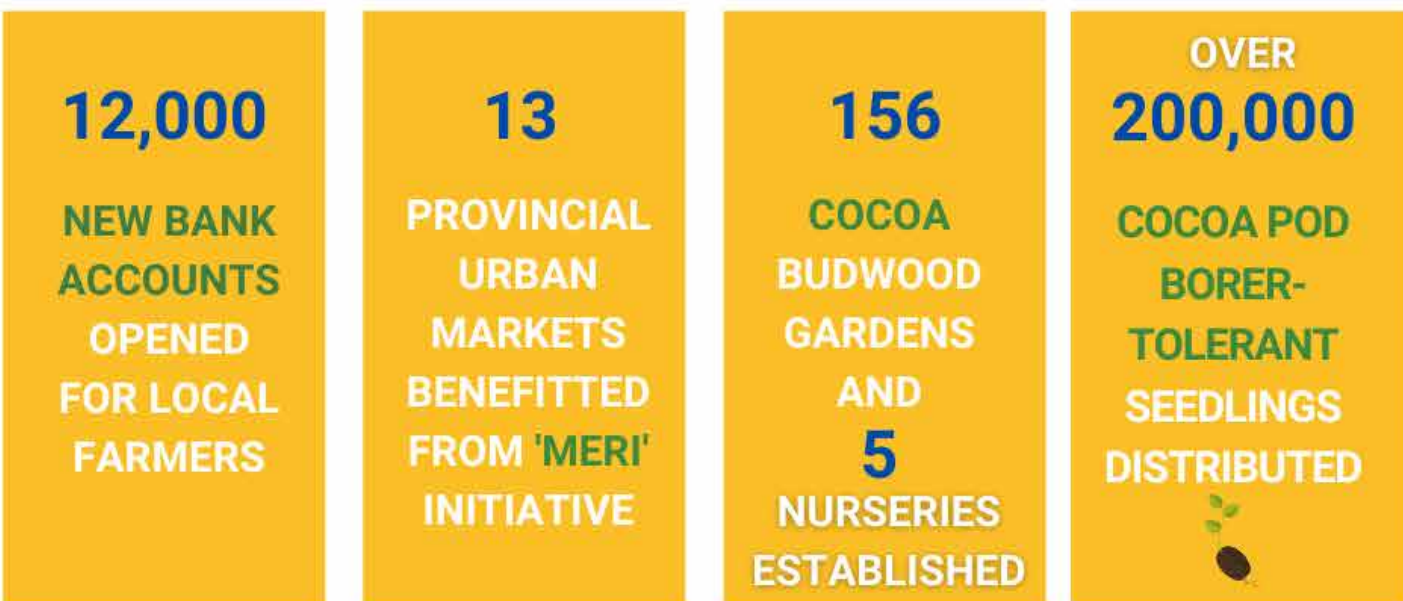
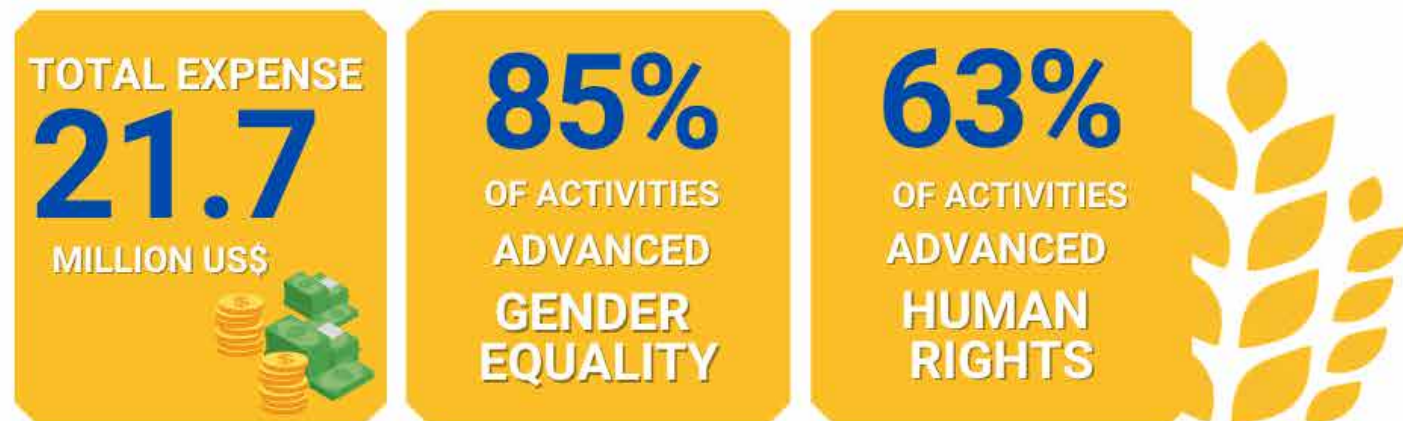
The Spotlight Initiative is leading the development of a social and behavioural change community and evidence-based strategy to streamline the various communication for development initiatives aiming to address VAC and VAW. This work is a Knowledge-Attitude-Perception survey to identify social norms and behaviours contributing to VAC and VAW. The survey has been conducted in four provinces, and the report will be finalised by the end of 2022.



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After building a model of an integrated farm to help convince her local community of the benefits of working together on a bigger scale, 24 year old Hallilah Nakumai from Dandan Village in East Sepik – along with family and friends – created the SISIDA Cooperative Society. With STREIT Programme support, including training and access to microfinancing, the Co-op runs over 50 fish ponds and has introduced poultry, vanilla and cocoa cultivation to three villages. Hallilah wants “to see our farm grow into an industrial business.”





"I learned something here today; that one successful pollination can give rise to more than one vanilla bean. My mum and dad are vanilla farmers so, I can pass on the knowledge to my parents on our vanilla garden," said Grace, Grade 11 student, Wewak.

The EU-funded UN Joint STREIT Programme partnered with a local educational institution in East Sepik Province to promote and advocate for agriculture as a promising profession by rural females and youths.

Photo: Youths learning how to do budding (Credit: UN FAO/STREIT Programme)



2.2.2 PROSPERITY



By 2022, all people in PNG, including marginalized and vulnerable populations benefit from shared prosperity and contribute to growth and development that is equitable, inclusive, and sustainable..

Sub-Outcome 1: By 2022, PNG has a strong legislative framework, credible enforcement mechanisms and governance structures at all levels enabling equitable and diversified economic growth.

Increasing Agricultural Production

A first draft of the National Agriculture Seed Policy which seeks to consolidate, standardise, and formalise the availability of high-quality seeds to increase agricultural production, has been completed as part of the UN's support in providing markets for village farmers. This policy drafting is supported by DAL and the Fresh Produce Development Authority, involving a process that included consultations with commodity boards stakeholders from the agriculture sector and civil society, with a regional multi-stakeholder platform meeting conducted to bring together various actors of the fresh produce sector to discuss issues and challenges.

Population Census

PNG's last population census was in 2011 and was due to be conducted again in 2021. This exercise, led by the National Statistical Office, has been deferred to 2024 due to the current impact of Covid-19 and movement around the country being expressly restricted. However, to enable availability for a population estimate in 2022, the National Executive Council approved an alternative approach in generating population counts by age and sex at the local government level through remote sensing technology with the assistance of the UN. The said methodology uses existing data in PNG such as the Demographic and Health Survey, Structural Listing,

2021 Pilot Census, and other data from the World Food Programme and the Rotarians Against Malaria, as well as various available geospatial data layers in PNG.

Support to Bougainville Economic Development

The UN supported AROB in conducting the Bougainville Socio-Economic Baseline Survey and the development of this survey report, which highlighted priority areas for interventions by GoPNG and development partners. The Survey collected information from 441 wards in 13 districts of the three regions of Bougainville. The survey conducted early 2021 would enable evidence based policy making in AROB.

Support to Rural Entrepreneurship, Investment and Trade in PNG (STREIT PNG)

One of the core objectives of the STREIT PNG Programme is to support and strengthen the business environment for cocoa. With the help of the Cocoa Board and DAL, STREIT identified 96 cluster groups who are formally linked to registered national enterprise/cooperative societies. These groups, with STREIT support, are now registered with the UN Global Marketplace. Through these cluster groups, members received training on cocoa and vanilla production, and cocoa seedlings and vanilla vines supply. Also focusing on the production side of the value chain, a total of 156 cocoa budwood gardens and five nurseries were established, and 210,877 Cocoa Pod Borer-tolerant seedlings distributed, improving 337 hectares of land under climate-smart agriculture practices.

2021 also saw the establishment of the Geographical Indication scheme, a globally recognised mechanism/trademark that improves market access for origin-linked products and crafts produced and processed by family farmers and small SMEs. The Scheme helps to prevent delocalisation of production, create jobs, boost local development, as well as preserve traditional food products, the environment and biodiversity.

The UN supported East Sepik Province to develop its E-agriculture Strategy (2021-2025), enabling the province to capture technology opportunities to close the gap and enhance efficiency and advancement. Through partnerships with Mibank and Women's MicroBank, 12,000 new accounts (9000+ for women) have been opened and 39 financial services agents and access points created.

The STREIT programme also saw 1,770 farmers build capacity to improve their farming management practices, and 3,893 people (1,124 women, 599 men and 2,170 youth) benefit from GBV awareness programmes. Ten farmers (two women, two men and six youths) also benefited from gender-sensitive cocoa value chain development promotions. In addition, the UN supported the designing and implementation of the Web-based Road Transport Information Management system (RuTIMS) that will enable an 80 kilometre farm-to-market feeder road to be built.

Sub-Outcome 2: By 2022, Papua New Guineans have increased access to, and utilization of, financial services and markets with enhanced opportunities to participate in the labour market, contributing to equitable and sustainable inclusive growth..

Assistance to Farming Households

Six financial institutions now provide loans to lead partners and farmers, and two potential guarantee schemes to benefit farmers have been identified - the Bank of PNG Risk Sharing Facility and the UN Capital Development Fund guarantee scheme. Also beneficial to both the smallholders, lead partners and farmers, seven significant actors in the fresh produce sector now have a formal agreement with the Fresh Produce Development Agency and indirectly with thousands of farmers. They commit to purchasing fresh produce from smallholder farmers at a set price.

Sub-outcome 3: By 2022, Papua New Guineans participate in formal and informal income generation and have increased capacity to contribute to inclusive national growth.

Market for Village Farmers

Efforts to improve the livelihood of village farming households have seen the UN facilitating their transition from semi-subsistence agriculture to market-oriented production and farming, including assistance in marketing quality fresh produce. This support also aimed to help farming households to better understand market dynamics, to improve their farm management and engage with other value chain actors. As a result, 657 households with 1,396 individual participants (745 female and 651 male) in Western Highlands and Jiwaka Provinces were trained on household economics and financial management, basic financial literacy, and farm/business management.

Support for Markets Economy, Recovery, and Inclusion (MERI) and Safe and Prosperous Districts (SPD)

Thirteen provincial urban markets benefited under UN-led MERI and SPD programmes, which helped improve hygiene practices and daily administration of markets to keep markets open and safe. As a result, 75 per cent of MERI markets reported improvements in observation of mandatory controls such as wearing masks, washing hands, and social distancing. A survey of beneficiaries indicates that 57 per cent of female vendors feel safer in MERI Markets due to improved security and as more vendors are empowered to raise their concerns.

505 local government and market regulators have been trained to manage a market during a pandemic and sustainably run a market to protect women's economic well-being and livelihood activities. In addition, local market management committees were established, and as a pilot project, a designated vending space for people living with disability was assigned within the Lae market.



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Councillor Maureen Mokai was inspired to broaden farming practices in her village of Hoiebia after noticing that only sweet potato was farmed, and not the variety of vegetables of Mount Hagen.

“So I mobilised mothers and youths and we started our backyard farming,” she said. “A lot of mothers, their husbands had left them, and like me, they struggled with their children to put food on the table and pay school fees.”

Through partnerships with the Fresh Produce Development Agency and the UN, her backyard plots are now a multiplication site and she supplies seeds, as well as provides farming, sewing and horticulture training, to villagers and communities displaced by violence in Hela Province.

“When we empower women and youth in the community with life skills, there will be peace.”

TOTAL EXPENSE

9.5

MILLION US\$

90%

OF ACTIVITIES
ADVANCED
GENDER
EQUALITY

18%

OF ACTIVITIES
ADVANCED
HUMAN
RIGHTS



21
VULNERABLE
REMOTE ISLAND
COMMUNITIES
RESOURCED TO
DEVELOP FIT-FOR-
PURPOSE
CLIMATE CHANGE
ADAPTATION
MEASURES

CLIMATE
CHANGE
VULNERABILITY
PLANS
FINALISED

PNG FOREST
AUTHORITY
LOGGING
CODE
OF
PRACTICE
PUBLISHED

"Farming is one of my greatest interests in life," said Pastor Aihi Ikupu of Central Province, who is part of the 87 per cent of Papua New Guineans who rely on subsistence agriculture, fishing, and hunting – and whose harvests are already hindered by climate change and environmental degradation.

But he is learning to adapt. "During the long drought periods I rely on mulching, meaning that I don't weed around my crops, I let the weeds grow so they provide a canopy for shade, protecting the rice and other produce from sunlight," said Pastor Ikupu, who constructed a small-scale irrigation system to water crops daily.

Photo: Pastor Ikupu farm's produce includes grapes, taro, and rice. (Credit: UNDP Papua New Guinea)



2.2.3 PLANET



By 2022, PNG demonstrates improved performance in managing environmental resources and risks emanating from climate change and disasters.

Sub-Outcome 1: By 2022, PNG has strengthened legislative and policy frameworks with institutional support for natural resources management, including climate change mitigation, adaptation, and risk reduction.

increased awareness of climate hazards and natural disasters, and how to mobilise available resources to develop fit-for-purpose adaptation measures.

Forestry

UN support contributed to the updating and subsequent publication of the PNG Forestry Authority Logging Code of Practice. In addition, improved web-mapping technologies enabled the 'Collect Earth' assessment to collect sound and accurate information about PNG's land use information from 2016 to 2017. This support has empowered the Forestry Authority to calculate better deforestation and forest degradation estimations.

Biodiversity

The UN helped GoPNG develop a conservation project to mainstream biodiversity, support sustainable agriculture, and improve livelihoods in Eastern Highlands and Western Highlands provinces by 2026. This project has seen the national stakeholders finalise and validate the Institutional and Regulatory Review on Sustainable Financing of PNG's Protected Area Network. The report mapped the roles and responsibilities of each relevant institution and provided ten recommendations to guide the CEPA in improving linkages with sub-national entities. A National Protected Area Finance and Investment Plan has also been developed, providing a detailed costing analysis of the existing protected area system and a modelling exercise to determine the financial needs of an expanded system towards 50-100 per cent of the Aichi targets for protected areas under the UN Convention of Biological Diversity. Furthermore, a series of finance solutions have been identified that would generate up to \$75 million annually.

The National Protected Area Bill was revised, finalised, and is anticipated to be passed in 2022. A series of stakeholder consultations, including the national and sub-national roadshows, have been conducted since 2014 to develop this Bill, with GoPNG issuing the Certificate of Necessity (CoN), an essential legal requirement for the Bill to be enacted, in late 2021.

Climate Change Mitigation

UN support on climate change has resulted in NDC enhancements, including capacity strengthening to ensure transparency in implementing NDC in the Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use sector. Convening national and regional consultative workshops have also improved the coordination mechanisms between CCDA, priority sectors such as agriculture, health, transport and infrastructure, and the provinces.

Progress can also be seen in REDD+ and climate change, with the development of the draft PNG REDD+ Safeguards and National REDD+ Guidelines, and an options paper on carbon ownership and national level administration of carbon. These are in addition to the finalisation of Climate Change Vulnerability Plans, due to climate change vulnerability joint assessments carried out by the UN and its partners. Climate financing was also a focus for the UN, which has seen improvements to PNG's legal and institutional framework for climate change, including the benefit-sharing system which holds opportunities to enhance climate finance.

2021 also saw the review of the National Disaster Management Act 1984 to efficiently implement national disaster preparedness, mitigation strategies, response mechanisms and post-disaster recovery procedures. Furthermore, villagers from 21 vulnerable and remote island and atoll communities in ARoB, East New Britain, Manus, Milne Bay and Morobe provinces now have

Disaster Risk Management

A Disaster Risk Management Strategy and Standard Operating Procedures were developed and launched in several provinces, and technical inputs from both these documents enabled the review of the PNG Disaster Management Act. In addition to the provincial launches, the UN also supported targeted communities, including in AROB, East Sepik, East New Britain, and Hela Provinces, to develop and officially launch Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) plans that address disaster risk and development.

Sub-outcome 2: By 2022, PNG has enhanced capacity to address climate and disaster risks, deliver clean and affordable energy, and improve management and conservation of forest and marine ecosystems.

Protection of Cultural Heritage

With support from the UN, PNG submitted its report on the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention) in the frame of the third cycle of periodic reporting. The report includes the current implementation status of the Convention and the state of conservation of the site. Together with the results for Asia and the Pacific region, the report analyses the region's priorities and needs. UN also provided technical assistance for assessing the status of the Convention's implementation in PNG and the development of the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan (2021-2026), a road map towards achieving awareness, sustainable implementation and global recognition and support.

Education for Sustainable Development

UN supported PNG to expand its capacity and resource in teaching the next generation the impact of climate change, importance of sustainable development and understanding towards global citizenship. PNG benefitted from Pacific regional resources on Education for Sustainable development and developed

country specific secondary education level teaching and learning e-resources.

Support to Climate Financing

The preparation and approval of the REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard (TREES) for PNG concept note entitles PNG to \$100+ million climate financing for reducing its emissions. UN financial and technical support enabled PNG to successfully prepare its Enhanced NDC (2nd NDC), the NDC Implementation Plan, NDC Roadmap and the NDC Regulation. PNG was also able to develop its NDC implementation plan and the Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use NDC Roadmap, which provide the framework for PNG to achieve its NDC targets of 50 per cent emission reduction by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050.

With UN support, PNG submitted a concept note to the Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance (LEAF) Coalition in mid-2021. This achievement resulted in signing a Memorandum of Understanding between PNG and Emergent Forest Finance Accelerator, creating an opportunity for PNG to benefit from climate financing from its emission reductions from deforestation forest protection programmes and improve ecosystem and sustainable development benefits. In addition, the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment missions to the target island and atoll sites contributed to CoPNG prioritising the management of environmental resources and risks emanating from climate change and climate enhanced disasters. The bottom-up approach to conducting the assessments and developing the vulnerability plans and priority investment plans empowered communities to inform and enhance their plans, policies and frameworks and ensure they were practical, tailored, relevant and focused on resilience in climate change impacts.

Biodiversity

Through UN's capacity building on national forest analysis and reporting for enhancing the credibility of national climate and REDD+ implementation, PNG's first multi-purpose National Forest Inventory results were published in a peer-reviewed science journal. A

total of eight articles appeared in the 'Case Studies in the Environment' journal in 2021. The first National Protected Area Forum with more than 80 in-person stakeholders and more than 50 virtual participants focused on Protected Area Governance and Management; Sustainable Livelihoods for Communities; and Effective and Adaptive Biodiversity Management. Substantial progress was made to establish sustainable financing for PNG's Protected Area Network's Biodiversity and Climate Fund and establish a dedicated website to share the fund's progress strengthen its consultation and transparency commitments.

UN support also contributed to PNG strengthening its partnerships and collaborations, improving institutional and individual capacity development, improving potential donor support, and increasing potential for climate financing benefits. Potential donors, consulted since 2020, are interested in investing in an independent Biodiversity and Climate Fund, which will be overseen by a Board and support the management of PNG's protected areas through grants.

Disaster Risk Management

Efforts to address disaster risk management resulted in officers from Provincial Disaster Coordination offices undergoing Training of Trainer sessions on CBDRM and Build Back Safer in Shelter Construction, Camp Coordination and Camp Management, and the Displacement Tracking Matrix that captures and monitor population displacements.

Sub-outcome 3: By 2022, people, particularly marginalized and vulnerable, are empowered to manage climatic risks, develop community resilience, and generate development opportunities from the protection of land, forests, and marine resources.

Disaster Risk Management

Four provinces, including AROB, East Sepik, East New Britain and Hela, have launched their CBDRM plans after

intensive planning sessions supported by the UN and its partners. The plans strengthened mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in development planning and implementation, including improved access to clean and safe drinking water. In addition, the gender-sensitive disaster response strategies and emergency response plans aim to simultaneously inform and link up with the National and Provincial Disaster Plans and enhance the preparedness of vulnerable island/atoll communities.

In 2021, PNG was elected as the co-chairperson of the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS) Regional Working Group on Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (PICT) Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (WG-PICT) and Co-Chairperson of the PTWS WG2 Task Team Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific.

Biodiversity

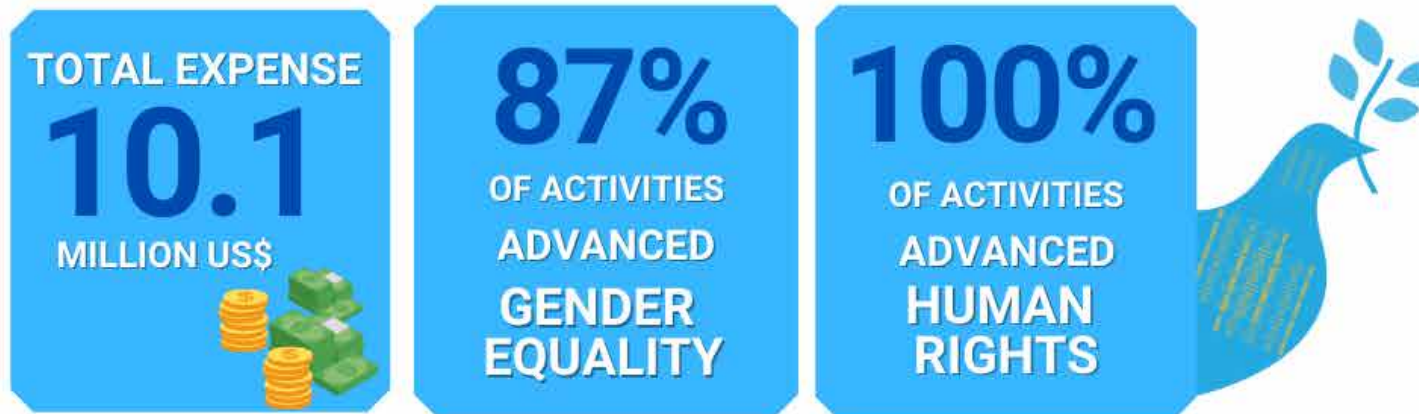
The Gender Analysis and Action Plan on Sustainable Financing of PNG's Protected Area Network have been finalised and approved by the UN and CEPA. The Gender Analysis developed a baseline of women's participation in decision-making and an approach to ensure that women and youth have equitable access and opportunity to community natural resource management and sustainable livelihood opportunities. The Action Plan, along with the Institutional and Regulatory Review report, Protected Areas Finance and Investment report, and the Biodiversity and Climate Fund documentation were published and showcased at the national Protected Areas Forum and the Environment and Climate Emergency Summit in June 2021. In addition, the PNG Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool was updated and trialled at seven protected area sites including Kimbe Bay (four Locally Managed Marine Areas in West New Britain), Mt Wilhelm National Park in Simbu, Wanang Conservation Area in Madang and the proposed Sepik Wetlands area in East Sepik. The Tracking Tool is important to assess the significance of protecting biodiversity and generate development opportunities to protect land, forests, and marine resources.



Across PNG, roads and bridges are susceptible to landslides and flash flooding because of an increase in rainfall. *“In periods where we experience dry weather,”* said Mr Jonathan Bal, Project Engineer with the Department of Works in Simbu Province, *“now we experience more rainfall. This contributes to the deteriorating state of the Highlands Highway.”*

Reliable road networks and maritime infrastructure are vital for regional and remote communities to access basic services and economic opportunities. In 2020, PNG’s Climate Change and Development Authority, supported by UN, began preparing the National Adaptation Plan, the strategic framework to integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention into national and provincial planning processes. This will also strengthen community and institutional resilience through the Plan’s country-driven, gender sensitive, and participatory approach.





"I used to think that promoting peace and development in communities is solely the government's responsibility, but I am now realising that development starts with me," Mrs. Mary Paul, Yame, Southern Highlands Province.

The Highlands Joint Programme promotes the equal participation of all community members in mapping conflict triggers, risk mitigation measures, partnerships, and development initiatives. With a focus on peace and sustainability, a Community Peace for Development Plan will be developed that aligns with PNG's Vision 2050 and the SDGs.

Photo: Women of Southern Highlands Province (Photo Credit: UN RCO)



2.2.4 PEACE



By 2022, government and non-governmental institutions demonstrate improved transparency, accountability, delivery of justice, and promotion of peace and security.

Sub-Outcome 1: By 2022, government agencies and non-government organizations working on good governance, peace and security have the capacity and leadership to undertake measures to combat corruption, prevent violence and provide access to justice.

Peace and Security

Community members from Southern Highlands and Hela Provinces are taking part in newly established Community Facilitation Teams. One hundred community mobilisers received training on Community Peace and Development Planning, to enable them to promote and maintain peace through conflict management and leadership, and some have begun self-organising and demanding good governance in the Highlands. Importantly, there is increased involvement of young people and women in the peace process. This involvement was noted in youth spaces and platforms such as the National Youth Parliament and the National Youth Summit, which had given visibility and increased advocacy to the role of young people in the development of the country, prevention of GBV, and promoting peace resilience within their community.

The UN continues to work with churches who, in situations of tribal tension, can continue their conflict resolution processes, maintain peaceful conditions, and enable the return of displaced households. Churches are also able to facilitate UN training on good governance and peace building.

The moderation role of the UN facilitated Joint Supervisory Board meetings between GoPNG and the ABG. Resolutions from the meeting reaffirmed the commitment towards full implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement on establishing a constitutional and parliamentary pathway to table

the Referendum results to the National Parliament's decision. It was indicated that both governments will determine political settlement no earlier than 2025 and no later than 2027. In addition, journalists were trained on conflict-sensitive post-referendum reporting to facilitate nationwide awareness.

Prevention of Gender-Based Violence

With support from the Spotlight Initiative, the GBV Special Parliamentary Committee held its first national enquiry and presented its report to Parliament with 71 recommendations. The focus of the inquiry was to examine the implementation of the National GBV Strategy 2016-2025. The 2022 national budget allocated K7.93 million towards implementing the Strategy, starting with newly recruited provincial GBV Secretariats established through provincial consultations with 132 key partners in 12 provinces. It is envisioned that these mechanisms at the sub-national level will enable better coordination of GBV response. In addition, provincial MPs through the Parliamentary Coalition have advocated for gender-inclusive budgeting that considers both women's and men's needs.

The first provincial Family and Child Services Council was established in Enga Province. The Council is the custodian of the *Lukautim Pikinini* Act 2015 at the provincial level and coordinates the prevention of and response to violence, abuse, neglect, and discrimination.

Access to Justice

UN support contributed to eleven Provincial Juvenile Justice Committees being established in 2021. Juvenile Justice Committees are an integral element of a strong child protection system in the provinces. The National Juvenile Justice Committee adopted the Rehabilitation and Reintegration Policy for Children in Conflict. GoPNG awarded K5 million to roll out the Policy in 2022, reflecting a significant achievement in public financing for justice for children. It is estimated that over 2,200 children benefit from protective interventions and services designed to rehabilitate them back into their communities and prevent reoffending.

The Regulations to the Juvenile Justice Act 2014 were also approved by the First Legislative Council in 2021,

thereby completing the legal and policy package that enables access to justice for every child in conflict with PNG law.

Sub-outcome 2: By 2022, government agencies will have a results-based, transparent, and accountable governance system and equitable delivery of services.

Village Court Audits

The audit of 88 remote Village Court Areas, involving 968 Village Court Officials, contributed to the comprehensive assessment of village courts and officials' status to forecast areas of improvement within the seven key domain areas of the Village Courts Revitalization Strategy 2020-2030.

Juvenile Justice

Four out of eleven Provincial Juvenile Justice Committees established in 2021 – Milne Bay, West Sepik, East Sepik, and New Ireland – have their respective Plans of Action developed to address children's needs regarding child protection and child-focused justice in these provinces. At the policy level, The Out of Home Care Guidelines review process undertaken under the leadership of the child protection sub-cluster resulted in a more extensive revision of the overall out of home care system in PNG, including standards, inspection, and licensing tools of out of home care facilities and foster families. This review set the groundwork to address gaps in alternative care in PNG from a holistic perspective and contributes to preventing separation of children from their families in line with the principles of the CRC.

Prevention of Gender-Based Violence and Sorcery Accusation Related Violence

Through the Spotlight Initiative, a new case management outpost in Goroka has improved the quality of services that survivors in the Highlands region can access. As a

result, 41 survivors of SARV accessed case management and repatriation services. Also, 40,467 young people participated in programmes that promote gender-equitable attitudes and behaviours. Further, 4,975 women and girls escaping violence were assisted across 15 safe houses through CSO partnerships. In addition, 9,536 children benefitted when 2,367 parents joined the Parenting for Childhood Development Programme.

60 police and village court magistrates were also reached with trauma-informed care for violence survivors training.

Child Protection

The institutionalisation of the Child Protection Training Module has resulted in improved child protection skills and understanding among police. In addition, the Protocols for Protecting Children for the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary were finalised, ensuring linkages with the child protection and social welfare workforce and juvenile justice actors. This initiative strengthens alignment with child rights and international standards and guidance related to the right to protection for children and child-focused justice guarantees. Also, 21 volunteer juvenile justice officers (11 male; 10 female) were trained and appointed in West New Britain Province.

Sub-outcome 3: By 2022, people in PNG live in a safe and secure environment that allows them the freedom to exercise their political, social, economic, civil, and cultural rights enshrined under the Constitution.

Creating Conditions for Peace

The first Hela Women's Forum, under the theme 'Advocating for Peace, Security and Stability in Communities', was held to help improve the law-and-order situation in Hela Province. Seventy women representing peace advocates, mediators, and women leaders from each LLG petitioned the Governor of Hela

and Provincial Administrator to increase support to the law-and-order sector. Held at a time the Governor was mediating with 48 traditional leaders who have been involved in tribal conflicts, the Governor pledged to include women in the next phase of the mediation process. The forum also produced an action plan to maintain peace and stability and promote women's empowerment.

Agriculture Resilience and Livelihood

Under the Highlands Joint Programme sits the Agriculture Resilience and Livelihood Programme, which benefits people whose livelihood and welfare have been disrupted due to natural disasters, socio-economic instability, and tribal fights. Cassava and rice were trialled out in the communities to promote crop diversification and enhance the vulnerable communities' food and nutrition security. The apiculture (beekeeping) programme was initiated with basic beekeeping training of ten farmers and the establishment of five apiary sites in Hela Province. The farmers were equipped with hive equipment, such as smokers, hive tools, gloves, and veils to assist with hive husbandry and management.

There is increased awareness of, and capacity to respond to, the realities of ASF in provincial communities and in controlling and containing its spread. This improvement is made possible through training and encouragement of active partnerships in addressing the incursion of ASF.

Efforts to ensure Climate Resilience Agriculture is ongoing with current training elaborating on good practices that contribute towards higher yields, preserving, and downstream processing of produce, aimed at enhancing food and nutrition security and improving livelihoods for vulnerable communities.

To support communities affected by tribal conflict in Tari Pori District of Hela Province, the UN procured fuel-efficient stoves for 300 households and an estimated 1.96 metric tonnes of Relief Food Supplies for those displaced.

Women Make the Change

The UN supported the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidate Commission to conduct regional mentoring and awareness on political parties for aspiring female candidates. These meetings included awareness of the role of political parties, electoral laws and how to campaign.

Four regional Advocacy and Coalition Building Workshops brought together approximately 90 different women's groups and organizations who stayed connected with their regional coalitions via WhatsApp, advocating for reserved seats and political party quotas for women. Additional provincial coalitions were formed by women leaders who attended the regional workshops. One such coalition is the Southern Highlands Women Demand Change coalition, which organised a public march on ending violence against women following a high-profile SARV case. The coalition leader also mobilised resources to support the safe repatriation of survivors.

In partnership with the Pacific Institute of Leadership and Governance, PNG's first Political Leadership Academy for Women was launched in 2021. The Academy aims to advance women's political careers from the subnational to the national level. The first cohort, which includes 19 women from 11 different provinces, received two trainings on (1) leadership and governance and (2) community engagement. The participating women shared that they felt empowered and better equipped to do their roles by the knowledge and skills gained through the trainings offered. Many of the women shared that though they had practical experience in their subnational political roles, they lacked the theoretical knowledge that the Academy was able to provide.

Efforts to progress gender and human rights equity continued with 754 female and 1,133 male Community Government ward representatives in the ABG trained on gender, inclusive decision-making, and human rights.



2.2.5 KEY CHALLENGES

While the achievements listed above show the strength of UN commitment to progressing national priorities and continued efforts after the tumultuous previous year, key challenges remained as follows.

Covid-19 Pandemic

The pandemic continued affecting programme operating environments, especially where restricted travelling and movements impacted activities requiring face-to-face consultations and research and knowledge-gathering, resulting in implementation delays. Measures to address this challenge included encouraging team members to practice safe Covid-19 measures and virtual tools for meetings. In addition, in 2021, many staff members were vaccinated, increasing the layers of protection against COVID-19.

Capacity Limitations

Capacity and resource restrictions include limited government ability to deliver essential social services, staff turnover including in the UN system, government and implementing partners, poor IT equipment and tools, limited human resources, limited technical capacity in some crucial programmatic areas and budget constraints. There is also a risk that shortages in the sector workforce such as child protection and justice sector because of staff turnover may undermine capacity building initiatives, implementation, and monitoring of several programme elements.

PNG's health delivery system faces important challenges, hindering progress towards Universal Health Care. A significant wage bill and high debt servicing requirements limit discretionary budgetary space for changing health priorities. This issue weakens health policy and budget links, combined with a highly fragmented public financial management system. As a result, key priorities are often underfunded, and the flexibility and responsiveness of front-line managers are limited.

In addition, there is no government agency with a clear mandate for providing WASH services in the country.

Inadequate Infrastructures

The STREIT Programme is operating in an area of approx. 70,000 square kilometres with poor transport infrastructure. With over 100,000 currently supported producers and entrepreneurs in such a large area, adequate field presence is a challenge in many places. As a result, implementation using adequate infrastructure takes longer than expected, and frequent delays in implementation are the result. Furthermore, especially in rural areas, the Programme is constrained by its ability to contract various services (especially transportation for the distribution of plant materials).

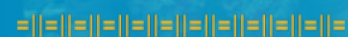
Security issues

PNG's complex operating environment is emphasised by significant security issues, including the proliferation of factory-made firearms, contributing to criminality. In addition, the volatile security situation has resulted in postponement of some field activities, for example, on the STREIT Programme. Programmes follow UN Department of Security and Safety guidance to overcome this issue.

2.2.6 REFLECTIONS ON OVERALL PROGRESS ON THE 'PROMISE TO LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND'

The 2021 achievements through the UNDAF show progress on the UN's promise to leave no one behind, specifically:

- National Statistics are being supported by using remote sensing technology for population counts by age and sex. This economic growth potential can result from shifts in a population's age structure. In addition, the UN accelerated child-sensitive data analysis to enhance evidence-based information, influence social policies and strengthen advocacy



Two communities in Idauwi, Hela Province who were once in direct conflict. After using the approach of adapting to local conflict mediation resolution processes, the Catholic Diocese of Mendi, supported by UN, helped the communities to reach a truce and sign a peace agreement. Peaceful conditions now exist with displaced households returning to rebuild their homes and food garden, and community members moving freely without fear for their safety.

for pro-equity interventions.

- People living with disabilities received support to address the impact of Covid-19, including PPE materials, food vouchers and improved access in markets
- PLHIV/AIDS benefitted from new drugs that avert mortality
- Women benefitted from several programmes, including support to addressing the impact of COVID, prevention of GBV and SARV, capacity building in leadership skills and workshops focusing on financial training and economic livelihood.
- Children benefitted from improvements in the education system, child protection policy changes, remote learning to address the movement restrictions during COVID, health initiatives including immunisation rollouts, and strengthening the juvenile justice system. In addition, child rights were enhanced by launching Primero, the Child Protection Case Management System database.
- Vulnerable communities received support from several programmes, including WASH facilities, humanitarian assistance after disasters, agriculture, and livelihood.
- Marginalised communities affected by climate change and natural disasters have benefitted from

increased assistance on disaster risk management.

2.2.7 LINKS TO OTHER PRIORITIES/PLANS IN PNG

The 2018-2022 UNDAF forms the framework for UNCT activities and aligns with the MTDP III and the PNG Vision 2050. The critical areas of focus, including climate change, GBV, education and health in 2021, fell under the four UNDAF pillars (People, Prosperity, Planet and Peace). The UN also supported GoPNG priorities on the health and socio-economic impact of COVID-19, including the vaccine rollout. Furthermore, the UN plays a key humanitarian and emergency response role on the Disaster Management Team (DMT) through various humanitarian clusters that address the impact of natural disasters and other crises, such as the effects of tribal conflicts.



2.3 SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA

The UN in PNG continues to have an **innovative partnership** with the World Bank, an example being the High-Frequency Impact Monitoring Study, which provides monitoring on the sociological and economic impact of COVID-19 in PNG. This joint initiative, alongside the UN's U-Report Covid-19 Monitoring, contributed to critical information on COVID-19 response. For example, the mapping and analysis of PNG's legal and policy frameworks provided the evidence and recommendations required to operationalise the Child Protection Policy 2017-2027.

The UN leveraged key partnerships for **financing SDG achievements**, mobilising resources to support many programmes including climate change, renewable energy solutions for public schools and hospitals, and coordination of humanitarian situations. UN partners join the efforts on collecting data and statistics. For example, the EU provided technical assistance on GIS/Mapping and Data Processing and the Australian Government for the Population Data Collection and Assessment Project (AU\$10.2 million).

In terms of **South-South or triangular partnerships**, the UN partnered with the International Union for Conservation of Nature Oceania to protect natural and cultural heritage through the work related to the World Heritage Convention. Also, The Pacific Regional Education Framework (PacREF), Phase 1, was prepared in collaboration with other regional implementing agencies, including the University of the South Pacific. Implementation of the Framework's Phase 1 rolling plan encompasses four key policy areas that covered basic education, and secured funding for regional activities, including in PNG. In addition, the Pacific Heads of Education Systems meeting co-hosted by the UN and GoPNG in July provided a space for learning, sharing country experience and challenges on crucial education issues related to PacREF implementation for 14 countries in the region. The UN developed a Training of Trainers workshop to create a local pool of expert facilitators.

This activity was carried out in partnership with the International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region.

UN support has resulted in increased **government expenditure** to implement recently approved strategies. GoPNG allocated K7.93 million towards implementing the GBV Strategy and K5 million for the Rehabilitation and Reintegration Policy for Children in Conflict. UN and GoPNG partnership led to the first provincial Child and Family Services Council in Enga Province, with an initial funding allocation of K200,000 in 2021 and K230,000 in 2022, with provisions for increment in the subsequent years. The National Executive Council also approved the allocation of K5 million to the OCFS to progress the Convention on the Rights of the Child Reporting process.

GoPNG's 2022 budget aims to boost human capital through significant increases in education and health spending, alongside sustained high spending on infrastructure. PNG's Health and Education sectors received substantial increases in budget allocation for 2022, with an estimated K2.5 billion for the Health sector alone. In addition, Covid-19 Emergency Response was allocated K94.7 million with K315 million for provincial hospitals, emphasising refurbishing the health facilities. The Education sector is expected to receive K1.4 billion, of which K632 million is allocated for the Government Tuition Fee Subsidy, and the Higher Education Loan Programme has been allocated K65 million.

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

2.4.1 UNDAF PROGRAMME COORDINATION

The UN maintained effective and efficient implementation of the Joint Annual Work Plan during the penultimate year of the current UNDAF.

All members of UNCT enjoy a good working relationship. By working together wherever possible, the goals of the Cooperation Framework and its alignment with

national priorities have been worked towards more readily and more effectively.

Implementation continued for three joint programmes –STREIT, Highlands Joint Programme, and the Spotlight Initiative – as well as several joint projects where two or more UN agencies came together and benefitted from funding, including the Joint SDG Fund. In addition, the UNCT was bolstered by the coordination mechanisms of the Priority Working Groups for each UNDAF pillar and the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group.

The UNCT and the Secretary, DNPM, formed the Joint Steering Committee that guides the implementation of the 2018-2022 UNDAF. The Committee agreed to extend the UNDAF by six months to June 2023 to accommodate developments in PNG, including the holding of national elections in mid-2022. Before the signing of the 2021 Joint Annual Work Plan, a meeting was held with government officials to discuss the work of the UN in PNG. The UN works closely with DNPM on monitoring the implementation of the Plan, including responding to ad hoc requests by the Government regarding its implementation. These requests include UN financial expenditure on programmes.

The continued use of UNINFO 2.0 in 2021 -an online results-based management and risk monitoring system which enables standardised information management across the UN system to ensure credible, evidence-based decision-making -has significantly strengthened the monitoring and implementation of the UNDAF. It contributed to the effective coordination of UN programmes and resources and was used for joint work planning, online central monitoring, and joint reporting. Programme staff used the best practices advocated on Yammer, and the Development Coordination Office shared drive and webinars. The regional office also organised several webinars and training and provided advice when requested. The UN in PNG also shared best practices, including UNINFO for data, monitoring, and reporting.

2.4.2 HUMANITARIAN PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND MONITORING

In 2021, the continuing Covid-19 pandemic response and vaccine rollout dominated the humanitarian situation. While the clinical health response, vaccine rollout, and risk communications continued to be led by the National Control Centre and NDoE supported by the UN, health and non-health sectoral responses were monitored and supported by the DMT, co-chaired by the UNRC in his role as Humanitarian Coordinator, and the National Disaster Centre Director. The UN Communications Group also provided support for risk communications.

The DMT Secretariat continued to track Covid-19 and vaccination-related international contributions. As of December 2021, over \$334 million had been contributed by international donors since the beginning of the pandemic. The DMT convened donors in the second quarter of 2021 to mobilise additional resources from international partners to bolster health systems and improve vaccination uptake, which remains among the lowest in the world.

The DMT also supported the monitoring and response for three other ongoing events, including La Niña, ASF in the Highlands region, Fall Army Worm infestation in



various locations, clan violence and conflicts, and, in the latter half of 2021, small waves of asylum seekers from Papua, Indonesia.

The DMT monitored more than 30 sudden-onset disasters around the country in 2021, including weather- and king-tide-related flooding, landslides, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes. Cumulatively, at least 74,000 people were affected by disasters and 5,000 by conflict-related violence. In addition, DMT members and partners delivered relief goods to at least 66,000 disaster-affected and 3,000 conflict-affected people in 2021.

In 2021, the DMT Secretariat provided capacity building to cluster coordinators on country-level cluster management, and refresher training on the Pacific Logistics Mapping platform for member organizations with in-country humanitarian stockpiles. Furthermore, the UN delivered displacement tracking and camp management training to all provincial disaster coordinators. The DMT also supported regional consultations with Momase Region and Highlands provincial administrations to review and update the 1984 Disaster Management Act.

2.4.3 COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

2021 saw the UN Communications Group focus on strengthening the perception of the UN as a trusted source of aid and information by promoting UN values and principles and establishing one work plan to link all agencies together with this focus. The work plan also enabled the Communications Group to collaborate on internal communications activities to improve the team's overall capacity. Efforts by the Communications Group have contributed to the UN maintaining its visibility and position as a trusted partner in the country. The UN remains at the forefront of ensuring that accurate information on key issues including VAW, VAC, climate change emergencies, protected areas, food security, youth engagement, and Covid-19, is communicated using a variety of platforms so that this information reaches far and wide.

A UN Information and Media Survey conducted in 2021 in 21 provinces to understand better the common trusted sources of information by PNG people have

found that church leaders are generally the most trusted source of information, followed by healthcare professionals, friends and family and news media. Trusted sources of information vary between provinces and not between genders. Traditional news media such as TV, radio and newspapers are the most frequently used sources, and personal experience is the primary factor most likely influencing decision-making. These findings will guide the development of an effective communications and advocacy work plan for 2022 and inform its implementation approaches.

2.4.4 UN OPERATIONS

The Operations Management Team work plan was implemented through the Finance, Human Resources, and Procurement working groups. Support from the Operation Management Team enabled the Programme and Cluster Teams to implement the 2021 Joint Annual Work Plan, and the activation of Business Continuity Plans was an opportunity for the Operation Management Team's work to shine through. Staff were given call credits and data bundles for them to work from home and remain connected with the office, with IT personnel providing remote technical support to all office-issued laptops when needed. In addition, the Operations Management Team engaged St. John Ambulance as an immediate medical emergency focal point to support staff health. A Stress Counsellor and mental health resources were also made available to staff. The Team remains committed to ensuring gender mainstreaming across their 2022 work plan.

The UN's ability to "stay and deliver" was made possible by ensuring all UN personnel and their eligible dependents, including staff of implementing INGO partners, were given access to Covid-19 vaccines. Almost 90 per cent of UN personnel in PNG are vaccinated.

Various long-term agreements were established to enable quality service provision by registered entities outside the UN. Services that staff utilised include transport for office pick-up and drop-off; event organisation, to allow staff to focus on delivering programme outputs; and cash disbursements for event participants, removing security risks to staff in handling cash.

2.5 EVALUATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

The previous management response plan, completed as part of the 2016 evaluation, was incorporated into the UNDAF 2018-2022 and the 2021 Joint Annual Work Plan. The current UNDAF will be evaluated in 2022.

2.6 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

2.6.1 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

A total of US\$177.4 million was available to the UN in 2021 for its programmes. At the time of writing, the UN is reporting an expenditure of US\$105 million. The tables below show the financial resources of the UN in PNG. These figures are preliminary self-reported by agencies in-country and are uncertified.

Table 1: Financial resources 2018 – 2021

US\$ millions				
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Required Funds	79.3	83.1	103.2	214.9
Available Funds	72.9	69.6	87.9	177.4
Expenditure	63.9	63.4	63.1	105.0

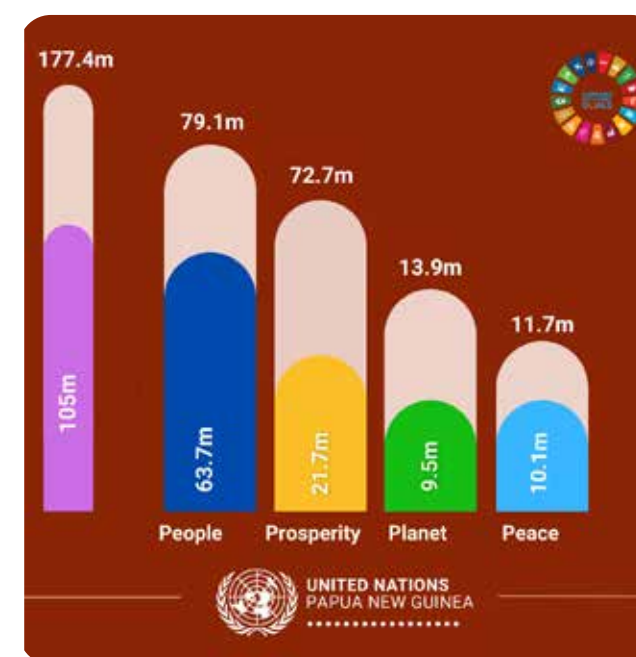
Table 2: Financial resources by UNDAF strategic priority areas, 2021

US\$ millions					
UNDAF Results Areas	Contributing Agencies	Required Fund	Available Funds	Expenditure	Delivery Rate
People	UNICEF, WHO, UNW, UNOPS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNAIDS, OHCHR, IOM, FAO	99.6	79.1	63.7	81 percent
Prosperity	FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITU, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNW	74.4	72.7	21.7	30 per cent
Planet	FAO, IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNESCO, WHO	23.3	13.9	9.5	68 per cent
Peace	FAO, IOM, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNCDF, UNDP, UNW	17.6	11.7	10.1	86 per cent
Totals		214.9	177.4	105.0	59 per cent

Table 3: Financial resources by Agency, 2021

Agency	US\$ millions	
	Required	Available Resources
FAO	69.4	62.8
IFAD	9.8	9.8
ILO	3.6	3.6
IOM	7.7	1.1
ITU	-	-
OHCHR	0.6	0.6
UN WOMEN	11.2	6.3
UNAIDS	0.6	0.6
UNCDF	3.1	2.5
UNDP	16.8	14.3
UNESCO	0.1	0.1
UNFPA	8.3	6.3
UNHCR	-	-
UNICEF	38.0	33.6
UNOPS	21.0	20.3
WHO	24.7	15.5
Grand Total	214.9	177.4

Expenditure rate of Available Financial Resources, 2021



2.6.2 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The UN has realised the benefits of utilising pooled funding mechanisms to achieve development outcomes. PNG currently accesses a range of inter-agency pooled funds via mechanisms administered by the MPTF Office in New York, including global funds such as the Joint SDG Fund, the Peacebuilding Fund, and Spotlight, as well as the PNG UN Country Fund which in 2021 raised just over \$46 million from development partners, including Australia and New Zealand.

The resource mobilisation strategy in 2021 included agencies directly contacting donors, the use of resource mobilisation platforms, and joint approaches to donors in joint programmes. Agencies also received funding

from core, non-core, and regional sources. The UNCT received both multi-year and short-term funding. However, funding is earmarked, and the funding gap for 2021 was \$38 million.

The Emergency Cash Grant of \$100,000 from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs provided immediate relief following unusually high tides (king tides) in December 2021, that flooded island and coastal communities in three PNG provinces. The funds assisted in providing 2,000 non-food items, including shelter materials and 10,000 strips of household water treatment tablets, to those affected by the king tides. Distribution focused on people with vulnerabilities including displaced persons, women-headed households, and people with special needs.

The UN successfully accessed funding targeted at vulnerable small island developing states via the Joint SDG Fund, to establish a joint programme to deliver a Blue Economy Enterprise Incubation Facility (BE-EIF) that aims to accelerate sustainable livelihood opportunities linked to the marine environment. Through its technical assistance and finance facilities, the BE-EIF will provide ‘cradle to exit’ support for blue enterprise development, crowd-in private capital through partnerships with domestic financial institutions and provide incentives for the long-term conservation of critical marine ecosystems. With support from the Global Fund for Coral Reefs, this joint programme partners with a wide range of stakeholders including community-based organizations, to support local blue economy-based businesses to prove the economic value of the megadiverse marine ecosystems in PNG.

CHAPTER 3:

UNCT KEY FOCUS FOR NEXT YEAR

3.1 FORMULATION OF THE NEW UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (UNSDCF)

In 2022, UNCT will formulate the new UNSDCF. This will start with the drawing up and approval of the roadmap, then completion of the UNDAF evaluation and update of the Common Country Analysis. The UN will then conduct a series of stakeholder consultations including Government, development partners and CSOs. By August 2022, the strategic prioritisation process involving the UN and GoPNG will take place, followed by UNCT configuration and then drafting of the UNSDCF by the end of 2022.

3.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL FULL YEAR OF THE 2018-2022 UNDAF

As well as supporting GoPNG in the 2022 national elections, the UN will continue to implement the priorities of the 2018-2022 UNDAF with a focus on:

PEOPLE

- Strengthen the Displacement Tracking Matrix event tracking and roll out the Matrix to target provinces
- Support the Bougainville Food Security Policy Work/Implementation strategy (2022-2027).
- Support GoPNG on education, including

- integrating and expanding ECE services
- Knowledge building and regional exchange on TVET curriculum development
- Support the system strengthening of WASH, including the Management Information System and rollout of the WASH Bottleneck Analysis Tool, WASH service provision in schools and health centres, and the CLTS Programme
- Support the strengthening of PNG's health care system, including healthcare workers, provincial TB strategic plans and the National Malaria Control Programme
- Ensure that support for the Covid-19 response is flexible to pivots dictated by the virus.

PLANET

- Secure partnerships and funding to ensure full implementation of all activities relating to climate change mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity conservation
- Build capacity to effectively implement the World Heritage Convention and GoPNG's monitoring and evaluation capacity to enable effective reporting
- Support biodiversity and conservation by implementing the potential GEF-funded project 'Enabling sustainable production landscapes in the Eastern Highlands and Western Highlands

provinces on Biodiversity, Human Livelihoods and Wellbeing'

- Address climate change and conserve biodiversity by implementing the potential Australian-funded project 'Enabling green growth in Papua New Guinea'.

PROSPERITY

- Deliver training on sustainable food production to target communities
- Support seven communities to operationalise their CBDRM plans
- Implement the generation of population counts by age and sex through remote sensing technology
- Develop sector-specific national strategies, plans and policies to support achieving more significant gender equity in PNG
- Increase the production of cocoa and vanilla through the STREIT Joint Programme, including distributing two million seedlings
- Build capacity for renewable energy, including training workshops on rooftop installations, operations, and maintenance of solar PVs
- Support local governments at the sub-national level to build markets and facilitate women's economic empowerment programmes
- Support diversification of women's livelihoods

through skills building, financial literacy, and access to affordable finance.

PEACE

- Support the signing of up to two peace agreements between opposing sides of ongoing conflicts
- Launch three new initiatives - small peacebuilding grants facility, youth employment hub, and conflict tracking platform for early warning/early action
- Institutional support to the Consultative Implementation & Monitoring Council - Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee (CIMC-FSVAC) and GBV Secretariats
- Provide technical assistance for the Human Rights Defenders Protection Bill and the review of the National Gender Policy
- Implement Spotlight Initiative Phase 2
- Support ASF awareness, surveillance programmes and biosecurity assessment programmes in the provinces.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACRONYM TERM

ABG	Autonomous Bougainville Government
ARoB	Autonomous Region of Bougainville
ARV	Antiretroviral
ASF	African Swine Fever
CBDRM	Community-Based Disaster Risk Management
CCDA	Climate Change and Development Authority
CEPA	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
CBFM	Community-Based Fisheries Management
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DAL	Department of Agriculture and Livestock
DMT	Disaster Management Team
DNPM	Department of National Planning and Monitoring
ECE	Early Childhood Education
EU	European Union
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MVF	Market for Village Farmers
NCD	National Capital District
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDoE	National Department of Education

NDoH	National Department of Health
OCFS	Office of Child and Family Service
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
SARV	Sorcery Accusation Related Violence
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEIA	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
SME	Small to Medium Enterprise
STREIT	Support to Rural Entrepreneurship, Investment and Trade
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNFCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UNRC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
VAC	Violence Against Children
VAW	Violence Against Women
VHV	Village Health Volunteers
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

ANNEX 1

UNDAF IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS 2021

PEOPLE	PLANET	PROSPERITY	PEACE
Total IPs: 73	Total IPs: 29	Total IPs: 48	Total IPs: 57
1. Department for Community Development and Religion (DfCDR national and provincial levels)	1. PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA)	1. Department of Labour and Industrial Relations (DLIR)	1. PNG Magisterial Services
2. National Statistics Office (NSO)	2. National Disaster Centre (NDC)	2. PNG Trade Union Congress	2. Department for Justice and Attorney General (DJAG)
3. Department for National Planning and Monitoring (DNPM)	3. Provincial Disaster Centre (PDC)	3. Department for National Planning and Monitoring (DNPM)	3. DJAG Juvenile Justice Services
4. WASH PMU at DNPM	4. Climate Change and Development Authority (CCDA)	4. Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL national and provincial levels)	4. DJAG Village Courts and Land Mediation Secretariat
5. National Department of Health (NDoH)	5. National Cultural Commission	5. PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA)	5. Royal PNG Constabulary (RPNGC)
6. Provincial Health Authority (PHA)	6. DPW	6. Provincial Administrations	6. PNG Correctional Services
7. Department for Justice and Attorney General (DJAG)	7. Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA PNG)	7. District Development Authority (DDA)	7. Department for Community Development and Religion (DfCDR national and provincial levels)
8. Department for Provincial and Local Government Affairs (DPLGA)	8. PNG S&T Secretariat	8. National Department of Health (NDoH)	8. Provincial Administrations
9. Prime Minister's Office (PMO)	9. National Department of Health (NDoH)	9. Provincial Health Authority (PHA)	9. District Development Authority (DDA)
10. National Executive Council (NEC)	10. Provincial Health Authority (PHA)	10. National Agriculture Research Institute (NARI)	10. National Youth Development Agency
11. National Disaster Centre (NDC)	11. Provincial Administrations	11. Department for Justice and Attorney General (DJAG)	11. National Department of Health (NDoH)
12. Provincial Disaster Centre (PDC)	12. District Development Authority (DDA)	12. National Fisheries Authority (NFA)	12. Provincial Health Authority (PHA)
13. Provincial Administrations	13. Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL national and provincial levels)	13. Department of Education	13. National Disaster Centre (NDC)
14. District Development Authority (DDA)	14. Department for Justice and Attorney General (DJAG)	14. National Disaster Centre (NDC)	14. National Cultural Commission
15. National Department of Education (NDOE)	15. Department for Provincial and Local Government Affairs (DPLGA)	15. Provincial Disaster Centre (PDC)	15. Provincial Disaster Centre (PDC)
16. Paediatric Society	16. Eco-Custodian Advocates	16. National Statistics Office (NSO)	16. Department for Provincial and Local Government Affairs (DPLGA)
17. Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS)	17. University of Goroka Centre for Social Media and Communication	17. Consultative Implementation & Monitoring Council (CIMC)	17. Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates (IPPCC)
18. E/W Sepik Provincial and District Administrations,	18. Wildlife Conservation Society	18. Department for Community Development and Religion (DfCDR national and provincial levels)	18. Consultative Implementation & Monitoring Council (CIMC)
19. National Fisheries Authority (NFA)	19. Provincial and District Administrations	19. Road Traffic Authority (RTA)	19. Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee (FSVAC)
20. Road Traffic Authority (RTA)	20. University of PNG	20. National Agriculture and Quarantine Inspection Authority (NAQIA)	20. PNG Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)
21. Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee (FSVAC)	21. Centre for Environment Law and Community Rights (CELCOR)	21. PNG National Culture Commission	21. PNG Immigration and Citizenship Authority (PNGICA)
22. PNG Electoral Commission (PNGEC)	22. Adelberts Cooperative Society	22. National Department of Education (NDOE)	22. PNG Parliament
23. Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL national and provincial levels)	23. Gohoyuho Community Association	23. National Cultural Commission	23. Bougainville House of Representatives (BHOR)
24. Mt. Hagen City Authority	24. Conservation Forum of PNG	24. WHP Office of the Provincial Administrator	24. Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG)
25. National Authorising Office (NAO)	25. Fagagara Development Foundation	25. EHP Office of the Provincial Administrator	25. Catholic Diocese Mendi
26. PNG Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)	26. West New Britain Community Development Forum	26. National Capital District Commission (NCDC)	26. Equal Playing Field
27. Office of Urbanization	27. Lake Kutubu Foundation	27. Business Coalition	27. Bomana Police Training College
28. National Agriculture and Quarantine Inspection Authority (NAQIA)		28. Bank of PNG (BPNG)	28. DPW
			29. PNG Customs Service

PEOPLE	PLANET	PROSPERITY	PEACE
Total IPs: 73	Total IPs: 29	Total IPs: 48	Total IPs: 57
29. PNG Parliament	28. Highlands Human Rights Defenders Network	29. Coffee Industry Corporation	30. PNG Ombudsman Commission
30. National Capital District Commission (NCDC)	29. Woodland Park Zoo	30. EFPNG	31. National Capital District Commission (NCDC)
31. PNG Ombudsman Commission		31. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)	32. University of PNG
32. Royal PNG Constabulary (RPNGC)		32. Small and Medium Enterprise Corporation (SMEC)	33. PNG Family Health Association
33. PNG Correctional Services		33. PNGData4Development Network	34. National Curriculum Development Center
34. National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC)		34. Provincial Capacity Building Program (PCaB)	35. PNG Constitutional Law and Reform Commission (CLRC)
35. Public Employees Association (PEA)		35. PNG Business Council	36. Bougainville Referendum Commission
36. National Agriculture Research Institute (NARI)		36. Digicel PNG	37. PNG Centre for Judicial Excellence
37. Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG)		37. Women's MicroBank Ltd	38. Bougainville Women's Federation
38. Bougainville House of Representatives (BHOR)		38. Nationwide MicroBank Ltd	39. Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation (NCFR)
39. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)		39. Life Insurance Corporation (PNG) Ltd	40. PNG National Research Institute (NRI)
40. OXFAM		40. United Church PNG	41. Highlands Human Rights Defenders Network
41. CARE International		41. NASFUND	42. Delegation of the European Union to PNG
42. Save the Children		42. Bmobile	43. World Vision
43. World Vision		43. Women in Agriculture Development Unit (WIADU)	44. US Embassy
44. European Union (EU)		44. Caritas PNG	45. Moresby Arts Theatre
45. Potters Without Borders		45. University of PNG (UPNG)	46. University of Goroka - Centre for Social Media and Communication
46. DPW		46. TVET Institutions	47. Transparency International PNG
47. PNG Water		47. PNG Employers' Federation	48. OXFAM
48. Salvation Army		48. Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement International	49. Ginigoada Foundation
49. Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)			50. Population Services International (PSI)
50. Catholic Church			51. Young Women's Christian Association PNG (YWCA)
51. Catholic Diocese Mendi			52. Yoga & Walk for Life
52. Equal Playing Field			53. The Voice Inc.
53. Ginigoada Foundation			54. UPNG Peer Educators
54. University of PNG			55. Catholic Church
55. Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTC) Expert Agency			56. PNG Council of Churches
56. Media			57. Caritas PNG
57. Highlands Human Rights Defenders Network			
58. PNG Assembly of Disabled Persons			
59. Digicel PNG			
60. PNG Family Health Association			
61. Anglicare PNG Inc.			
62. National Research Institute			
63. PNG Civil and Identity Registry			
64. PNG Institute of Public Administration			
65. NCD Administration			
66. Anglican Church of PNG			
67. ANIS Foundation Inc			
68. AT Projects Inc			
69. Australian Doctors International Inc			
70. Child Fund PNG			
71. Touching the Untouchables			
72. Catholic Church Health Services			
73. Evangelical Lutheran Church of PNG			



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