Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization 2022
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Cover: Supported by the United Nations, women farmers in the north of Senegal
participate in discussions and training on how to better adapt to climate change and adopt
different farming practices. (Saint-Louis, Senegal; July 2022) © UN-Women/Alioune Ndiaye

Note: The sky in this photograph has been digitally enhanced.
SELECT TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDAS*

The long-term objectives of the United Nations revolve around transformative agendas endorsed or welcomed by the Member States.

The United Nations programme of work is also guided by several other legislative mandates.

The diagram shows select transformative agendas since 1995. The list is not exhaustive.

*The diagram shows select transformative agendas since 1995. The list is not exhaustive. The United Nations programme of work is also guided by several other legislative mandates.
KEY PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development
- Maintenance of international peace and security
- Development in Africa
- Promotion and protection of human rights
- Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance
- Promotion of international justice and law
- Disarmament
- Drug control, crime prevention and combating terrorism

This report is issued in response to Article 98 of the Charter of the United Nations, which mandates the Secretary-General to provide an annual report to the General Assembly on the work of the Organization. The key priorities covered in the report correspond to the eight priorities established by the General Assembly each biennium, together with a final chapter on the effective functioning of the Organization.

Introduction
INTRODUCTION

The past year* has been one of deep and interlocking crises that are growing in scale and severity. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic persists and, with less than 20 per cent of people in low-income countries vaccinated, recovery is uneven. The war in Ukraine has caused distress for millions of people in and far beyond the country and has amplified the effects of the climate crisis and long-standing inequalities around the world. All these challenges transcend borders and can be solved only with forceful collective action.

Through my report on Our Common Agenda (A/75/982), we launched and carried forward long-term recommendations, proposing solutions at the national, regional and global levels, to build a more equal, resilient and sustainable world, based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and underpinned by human rights. It contains proposals on ways to strengthen social cohesion and solidarity, prevent and manage crises and tackle ongoing and new threats to security. In response, Member States have endorsed the proposals that can move forward immediately, and they are fully engaged on those where further work and dialogue are needed to deliver on Our Common Agenda.

Throughout the year, the United Nations, as a platform for international cooperation and solidarity, convened stakeholders and drove global advocacy and cooperation to reduce poverty, tackle climate change and propel energy and digital transformation, reform food systems, reduce inequality and mobilize resources and action coalitions for the acceleration and expansion of sustainable development investments at scale to get countries back on track. Collectively across the United Nations system, we offered policy options and solutions, helped to shape strategies and amplified the voices of those on the front lines and those marginalized.

“...In these turbulent times, the work of the United Nations is more necessary than ever to reduce suffering, prevent crises, manage risks and build a sustainable future for all.”
António Guterres, Secretary-General

From efforts to bridge the finance and investment gap for developing countries and targeted partnerships for stronger climate action, to the United Nations Food Systems Summit, held in September 2021, and the new Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, we focused on helping countries to recover from the pandemic, prioritize crucial transitions in energy and digital connectivity and accelerate progress on sustainable development. The United Nations development system provided timely and coherent support to Member States, which welcomed the reforms that enable country teams to come together and leverage expertise and experience across the United Nations system to address interconnected challenges.

At the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Glasgow, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Member States committed to recasting efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and to reach net zero emissions targets and phase out inefficient fuel subsidies. We are now pushing for Governments

* In line with the regular budget of the United Nations Secretariat, the reporting period is from 1 January to 31 December 2021. Given the peacekeeping budget period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, and the presentation of the report to the General Assembly in September, a few key highlights from the first months of 2022 are also included.
and the private sector to live up to those pledges and secure a rapid and just transition to renewables.

The peace and security architecture is under enormous strain, as exemplified most recently by the war in Ukraine. Converging threats, geostategic competition and systemic inequalities are having devastating consequences, not only for people caught up in violence. The United Nations deployed a range of tools to prevent, mitigate, manage and resolve conflicts, protect civilians, confront the particular threats facing women and children and build pathways out of conflict and crisis to sustainable development and peace. In Yemen, we facilitated a renewable two-month truce that has reduced violence around the country. In Libya and the Sudan, we supported political dialogue and consultations to help navigate through periods of raised tensions. At the same time, we supported livelihoods and helped to strengthen the resilience of households.

Our humanitarian efforts aimed to support the many millions of people thrown into need by new and protracted conflicts, devastating natural disasters, the fallout of climate change and the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, response plans coordinated by the United Nations required $37.7 billion to provide life-saving assistance and protection to 174 million people across 60 countries. With the generous support of donors, and together with our partners, we mobilized a record $29.25 billion and reached some 107 million people with assistance.

Our efforts to end discrimination against women and girls included the Generation Equality Forum, which catalysed pledges on policy, programming and advocacy and $40 billion in financial commitments. As part of our work to mobilize action on the prevention of and response to survivors of gender-based violence, the Spotlight Initiative allocated $48 million to civil society and women’s grass-roots organizations and strengthened national action plans to eliminate violence against women and girls in more than 30 countries across the globe.

OUTCOMES OF COP26: MORE ACTION NEEDED TO HALT CLIMATE EMERGENCY

- Glasgow Climate Pact called for stronger nationally determined contributions by 2022
- Agreement to phase down coal and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies
- Recommitment to $100 billion in climate finance for developing countries
- 137 countries committed to stop and reverse forest loss by 2030
- 103 countries joined the Global Methane Pledge

* Twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
INTRODUCTION

“Keeping the promise of the SDGs will help us respond and recover faster and better from the COVID-19 pandemic; together we can ensure the SDGs benefit the planet and reach everyone everywhere.”

Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General

Youth 2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy gained momentum across the United Nations system. Young people’s voices were at the forefront of our climate efforts. At the country level, United Nations country teams became better equipped to expand programming involving and benefiting young people.

Through my call to action for human rights, we have extended support to help Member States repeal discriminatory laws and use temporary special measures to strengthen women’s participation. Principals across the United Nations system have included the voices of young people to advance climate action and climate justice. United Nations country teams are working more strategically and collectively on human rights issues on the ground.

Within the Secretariat, we successfully launched the strategic action plan on addressing racism and promoting dignity for all. Across the United Nations family, we finalized guidance on a survivor-centred approach to sexual exploitation and abuse and harassment.

Disarmament remains central to our work. As military spending rose to $2.1 trillion, the highest level since the end of the cold war, we supported intergovernmental processes aimed at ensuring a safe, secure and peaceful cyber domain, assisted expert discussions on lethal autonomous weapons systems and helped to establish a new intergovernmental process to reduce military threats in outer space.

Across the Secretariat, peace missions and the United Nations development system, we continued to confront the challenges associated with the global pandemic by streamlining processes, improving human resource mechanisms and communications and strengthening supply chains.

“From climate change to COVID-19 to conflict, United Nations colleagues are stepping up to protect the most vulnerable, foster collective action and build a sustainable future for all.”

E. Courtenay Rattray, Chef de Cabinet

“We must resolve the tension between short- and long-termism; while dealing with the urgent challenges of today, we must not lose sight of what is important in the long run to avoid being hit even harder by the next shock.”

Volker Türk, Under-Secretary-General for Policy

“Over 35,000 United Nations Secretariat staff delivering results across 8 priority areas”

Sustainable development

United Nations country teams led by resident coordinators work in 162 countries and territories to help to implement the 2030 Agenda.

Peace and security

Deployed 50 peacekeeping operations, special political missions and support offices to prevent conflict and support peacebuilding.

Development in Africa

Helping 54 countries to leapfrog development challenges and catalyse a sustainable and equitable recovery from COVID-19.

Human rights

Helped 46,000+ victims of torture to receive rehabilitation support and facilitated assistance for 13,000+ victims of contemporary forms of slavery.

Humanitarian assistance

Helped to mobilize $20.3B to assist 174M people across 60 countries and territories.

Justice and international law

As of 2021, 639 multilateral treaties addressing matters of worldwide interest have been deposited with the Secretary-General.

Disarmament

Channelled funds to 104 arms control-related projects benefiting 145 countries.

Drugs, crime and terrorism

Consolidated 14,000+ real-time data points on individual drug seizures from 125+ countries on an open multi-source drug-monitoring platform.
The diagram shows an indicative overview of United Nations expenditure in 2021 across its eight priorities. Standing at about $13.8 billion, spending decreased slightly from 2020. The diagram also helps to compare the expenditure of Secretariat entities with the approximately $56 billion of the entire United Nations system (including specialized agencies, funds and programmes). See chart on page 132 for all entities in the United Nations system.

*Based on amount in 2020

This diagram is provided for illustrative purposes only. The financial years for the regular budget (2021) and for peacekeeping operations (2020/21) differ. Allocation of resources to priorities is based on the United Nations Programme Budget. Data for the United Nations system is based on indicative reports to the United Nations Chief Executive Board secretariat. For detailed information, please refer to audited financial statements.
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we reinforced testing and therapeutics, medical evacuation mechanisms and vaccinations for personnel and facilitated a safe return to the office and hybrid ways of working, according to local conditions around the world. Our communications positioned the United Nations as a leading voice in the pandemic response: the Verified initiative delivered reliable, science-based information, built confidence in health messaging and took on the parallel pandemic of disinformation.

Across all efforts, we remained guided by the Charter of the United Nations, human rights frameworks, the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed commitments aimed at securing a sustainable, peaceful and inclusive future and prosperity for all, in harmony with nature, and ensuring no one is left behind.

In these turbulent times, the work of the United Nations is more necessary than ever. We are acutely aware that a reactive approach to crisis is failing the world’s people. In the next year, we will continue to help build resilience and reduce suffering, while pursuing the long-term strategies set out in my report on Our Common Agenda to prevent crises, manage risks and build a sustainable future for all.
In Focus: Our Common Agenda

The Secretary-General’s report on Our Common Agenda was presented to the General Assembly in September 2021 in response to its resolution 75/1 containing the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations and to a request from Member States. In the report, the Secretary-General presents his vision on the future of global cooperation and a reinvigorated inclusive, networked and effective multilateralism.

In Focus: Our Common Agenda

• Action by the General Assembly
• High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, led by former Heads of State and Government
• System-wide policy that puts people at the centre, taking into account age, gender and diversity

- More listening, participation and consultation (including in digital format), building on the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary and Our Common Agenda
- Gender parity within the United Nations system by 2028
- Re-establish the Secretary-General’s Scientific Advisory Board
- Quinet of change” for United Nations 2.0, including innovation, data, strategic foresight, results orientation and behavioural science
- Enhance partnerships in the United Nations budget process
- Ensure sustainable financing

- Biennial summit of the Group of 20, the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the Heads of international financial institutions for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient global economy, including to:
  - Support a Sustainable Development Goal investment boost, including through a last-mile alliance to reach those furthest behind
  - Provide more flexible research and development incentives
  - Resolve weaknesses in the debt architecture
- Fairer and more resilient multilateral trading system, including a repurposed WTO
- New business models
- Improve the United Nations budget process
- Boost partnerships

- Annual meetings between the United Nations and all Heads of regional organizations
- Stronger engagement among the United Nations system, international financial institutions and regional development banks
- More systematic engagement with parliaments, subnational authorities and the private sector
- Civil society focal points in all United Nations entities
- United Nations Office for Partnerships to consolidate access and inclusion, including accessibility online
- Be prepared

- Emergency platform to be convened in response to complex global crises
- Strategic foresight and global risk report by the United Nations every five years
- On global public health:
  - Global vaccination plan
  - Empowered WHO
  - Stronger global health security and preparedness
  - Accelerate product development and access to health technologies in low- and middle-income countries
  - Universal health coverage and addressing determinants of health

- New agenda for peace to:
  - Reduce strategic risks (nuclear weapons, cyberwarfare, autonomous weapons)
  - Strengthen international foresight
  - Reshape responses to all forms of violence
  - Invest in prevention and peacebuilding, including Peacebuilding Fund and Peacebuilding Commission
  - Support regional prevention
  - Put women and girls at the centre of security policy
- Peaceful, secure and sustainable use of outer space, including through a multi-stakeholder dialogue on outer space
- Global digital compact to:
  - Connect all people to the Internet, including all schools
  - Avoid Internet fragmentation
  - Protect data
  - Apply human rights online
  - Introduce accountability criteria for discrimination and misleading content
  - Promote regulation of artificial intelligence
  - Digital commons as a global public good
- Build trust

- Global code of conduct that promotes integrity in public information
- Improve people’s experiences with public institutions and basic services
- Inclusive national listening and “envisioning the future” exercises
- Action to tackle corruption in line with the United Nations Convention against Corruption
- A minimum global corporate tax and solidarity taxes
- Reformed international tax system
- Joint structure on financial integrity and tackling illicit financial flows
- Upgrade the United Nations

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Ensuring equitable access to vaccinations against COVID-19 is crucial for stemming the pandemic and supporting global recovery. The COVAX Facility, co-led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, the Gavi Alliance and the United Nations, works with manufacturers and partners on the procurement of COVID-19 vaccine doses, as well as freight, logistics and storage.

In Focus: COVAX – Equitable Access to COVID-19 Vaccines

- 2.8B doses secured by COVAX
- 1.5B COVAX doses have been delivered
- 146 countries and territories have received COVAX doses

Percentage of people who are fully vaccinated:
- 80–100%
- 60–80%
- 40–60%
- 20–40%
- 0–20%
- No data

Vaccines delivered through COVAX:
- > 200M
- 100M–200M
- 50M–100M
- 10M–50M
- 1M–10M
- 100K–1M
- < 100K

In Focus: the Wider United Nations Family

The United Nations Secretariat is part of the broader United Nations family with over 100 entities, including some 30 agencies, funds and programmes. Every year, the United Nations family spends approximately $56 billion, including some $41 billion for humanitarian and development activities and $9 billion for peace operations.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS FAMILY IN 2021

Climate action
- 6.2 million individuals supported to respond to threats of natural hazards and ensure a sustainable recovery in 58 countries/territories
- 41 countries supported in transition to inclusive green economy
- 500 major companies aligned behind new plastics economy commitment

Women
- 7.6 million adolescent girls across 47 countries received prevention and care intervention to end child marriage

Girls
- 231 legislative reform initiatives supported, over 50 per cent discriminatory laws were addressed, and 60 per cent were adopted
- 61 countries developed gender-responsive policies and programmes for employment, protection and recovery

Food security
- 115.5 million people in 84 countries were provided with food assistance
- 104 countries supported to create efficient food systems, including reducing food loss and waste
- 22 countries supported to generate decent rural employment opportunities in food, agriculture and related sectors, including for women and youth

Human rights
- 19.7 million refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and other people in situations of concern accessed protection services, including child protection and gender-based violence prevention and response
- 47,400+ victims of torture in 79 countries received rehabilitation support
- 15,800+ victims of contemporary forms of slavery in 31 countries received assistance

Peace and security
- Maintained 50 peacekeeping operations, special political missions and support offices, supporting peacebuilding and prevention, management and resolution of conflicts
- 42 countries supported with prevention of violent extremism, including work to stop hate speech in 40 countries
- 71 countries supported to make political and peace processes more inclusive, through mediation, electoral support and partnerships

Children
- 133 million children in 95 countries reached with cash transfer programmes, including 19 million children struck by conflict or disaster
- 48.7 million out-of-school children, half of them girls, accessed education, including 6.4 million children on the move and 31.7 million in humanitarian settings
- 183 million children supported with distance/home-based learning

Safe water and sanitation
- 16 million people gained access to safe water services in humanitarian settings
- 33.2 million people accessed safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene
- 19.9 million people gained access to basic sanitation services

Disease prevention
- 1.5 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines delivered through global COVAX Facility to 146 countries and territories
- 79 countries received rehabilitation
- 47,400+ victims of torture in 79 countries received rehabilitation support
- 15,800+ victims of contemporary forms of slavery in 31 countries received assistance

Livelihoods
- 718 countries supported to adapt to and continue maternal and child nutrition programmes
- 138 million workers protected globally with reduced risk of incidence of work-related deaths, injuries and diseases
- 200,000 people in slums and informal settlements in 45 countries supported to access basic services
- 58 countries supported to improve access to services, finance, knowledge, technologies, infrastructure, markets and natural resources for the rural poor

Source: "Measuring the UN contribution towards the SDGs: Overview of key results on the UN contribution to advance the SDGs, including through the socioeconomic response to COVID-19" (April 2022); also official publications from various United Nations entities.
COVID-19 took a major toll on education around the world. Restoring children’s access to quality schooling is essential to realize the 2030 Agenda. (Ruzizi Plain, Democratic Republic of the Congo; February 2022) © OCHA/Antoine Lemonnier

**Promotion of Sustained Economic Growth and Sustainable Development**

**KEY PROGRAMMES**
- Support to global policymaking organs
- International cooperation for development
- Regional cooperation for development
- Gender equality and the empowerment of women

**INDICATIVE RESOURCES**
- $1.8B
- $508M regular assessed and $1.3B voluntary contributions

**SELECT MANDATES**
- Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, General Assembly resolution 70/1
- Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, General Assembly resolution 69/313
- Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, General Assembly resolution 74/15
- Addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of small Island Developing States, General Assembly resolutions 74/3 and 76/203
- Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, General Assembly resolution 75/233
- Review of the functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding arrangement, General Assembly resolution 76/4
- New Urban Agenda, General Assembly resolution 71/256
- Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, General Assembly resolution 76/258

**SELECT ENTITIES**
- Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- Development Coordination Office
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- Office of the High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS
- Regional Commissions
- UN-Women
- UN-Habitat
- United Nations Environment Programme
The United Nations Food Systems Summit brought together actors from around the world to leverage the power of food systems to deliver progress on all Sustainable Development Goals. (Rome; September 2021) © UN Photo

The COVID-19 pandemic has had catastrophic effects on people’s lives and on efforts to realize the Sustainable Development Goals, with 77 million more people in extreme poverty in 2021 than in 2019. The climate emergency threatens the lives and livelihoods of many more people and future generations, and global instability is on the rise. Only international cooperation will enable the world to respond to these interlinked crises.

Resident coordinators have led UN teams through another challenging year, responding to COVID-19 while safeguarding the SDGs, through better policy advice to Governments and direct benefits for millions of people.

― Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

We face unprecedented, interconnected crises. If we do not swiftly reverse course, the 2030 Agenda may fall out of reach. It is a battle we can’t afford to lose.

― Robert Piper, Former Assistant Secretary-General for Development Coordination

The Organization fosters international cooperation on transformative global agendas, including the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, the Beijing Platform for Action, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Vienna Programme of Action and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway. Resident coordinators serving in 162 countries and territories lead United Nations country teams, mobilizing the United Nations development system to deliver on cooperation frameworks agreed with host Governments to advance the Sustainable Development Goals.
KEY OUTCOMES

Implementing the 2030 agenda

The focus of the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2021 was on resilience and recovery in the context of COVID-19. The report underscored the need to strengthen public finance and debt sustainability, mobilize private investment, revitalize trade, combat inequality, expand social protection, promote climate action and bridge digital divides, all of which will require a strong and more effective multilateral system that can complement national efforts to firmly put the world on the trajectory of sustainable development.

To inform and bring urgency to the pandemic response and monitor progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, we supported an exercise showing that global excess mortality associated with COVID-19 was at nearly 15 million deaths in 2020–2021, almost three times the number of deaths officially reported.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS STOCKTAKING

- 110 senior government officials convened in 2021
- 42 countries examined their progress
- 276 side events on the Goals
- 4,500+ media articles published as a result

The 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development was focused on COVID-19 recovery, highlighting deepening inequality and urging strong multilateralism and solidarity. The Economic and Social Council youth forum proved its value as a platform for young people to engage with Member States on development challenges and attracted over 19,000 participants.

Barbados hosted the fifteenth quadrennial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which resulted in the adoption of the Bridgetown Covenant to address debt burdens; make economies more diverse, sustainable and resilient; improve development financing; and reimagine multilateralism to cope with shared global challenges.

To maximize the impact of voluntary national reviews on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, we organized three global and five regional workshops for the 42 countries presenting their reviews in 2021.

We answered Member States’ call for stronger country-level data on innovation in the COVID-19 context. Over 50 developing countries participated in the 2021–2022 Development Cooperation Forum survey, helping us to align development cooperation resources with pandemic response and recovery.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS STOCKTAKING

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42 countries examined their progress
276 side events on the Goals
4,500+ media articles published as a result

COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

The active engagement of the United Nations in outreach and proactive diplomacy has supported countries in becoming members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Angola, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Panama and Slovenia became the newest States members of the Committee, bringing the total membership of this intergovernmental platform to 100 and making it one of the fastest-growing committees in the United Nations system.

THE “SPACE2030” AGENDA

The “Space2030” Agenda: space as a driver of sustainable development was launched in a dedicated General Assembly resolution to harness the potential of space for development and to align space policies with the Sustainable Development Goals.

COPUOS MEMBERSHIP EVOLUTION

As the prominence of space keeps growing, the UN remains committed to facilitating a sustainable future in space and to promote its benefits for a better future for everyone, everywhere.

Niklas Hedman, Acting Director, Office for Outer Space Affairs
Scaling up financing for development

The Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2021 highlighted the risk of a sharply diverging post-pandemic world recovery and sent the message that immediate action is needed to avoid another lost decade for development. It emphasized the need to finance investments in sustainability and resilience.

Under the initiative on Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond, I issued a policy brief on possible liquidity and debt solutions and, with the Prime Ministers of Canada and Jamaica, jointly convened a meeting of Heads of State and Government on the international debt architecture and liquidity to advance thinking and action around these options. Cognizant of the fact that 4.2 billion people do not have any form of social protection and of the potential of the digital, care and green economies to deliver a job-rich recovery, I issued a policy brief on the topic and, at a meeting with Heads of State and Government, launched the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for a Just Transition, an initiative supported by the International Labour Organization.

JOINT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS FUND

Since its inception, the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund has channelled $236 million to United Nations entities covering 117 countries and territories. The funding goes to joint programmes that incorporate innovative ways to support the most vulnerable and develop financial instruments for the Goals. In 2021, the Fund launched a dedicated window for 42 small island developing States worth $30 million.

$1.7B in additional financing for SDGs catalysed through the Fund’s portfolio

147M people in 39 countries accessed new or extended social protection

THE GLOBAL INVESTORS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Convened by the United Nations, the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance, comprising leaders of major financial institutions and corporations around the world, works to scale up long-term finance and investment in sustainable development and better align the finance and investment ecosystem with the Sustainable Development Goals. The Alliance’s achievements include guidance to asset owners on integrating sustainability considerations and the Goals into their mandates; Goal-aligned metrics for eight sectors; and ongoing collaboration to create a blended finance fund for mobilizing capital for sustainable infrastructure projects.

“Trade, investment, finance and technology must be leveraged to address inequalities, the debt crisis, the digital divide and climate adaptation to especially benefit developing countries.”

Rebecca Grynspan, Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

“As the most inclusive intergovernmental platform in Asia and the Pacific for the past 75 years, we have advocated the complementarity of development approaches that remain crucial for regional transformation.”

Armida Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: AN OVERVIEW

Variations in the frequency of data collection across the Goals contribute to variations in cut-off dates in the charts below.

**NO POVERTY**: Proportion of population below international poverty line, total (%)

**ZERO HUNGER**: Prevalence of undernourishment (%)

**GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**: Neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)

**REDUCED INEQUALITIES**: Labour share of GDP (%)

**SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**: Proportion of urban population living in slums (%)

**RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**: Material footprint per capita, by type of raw material (ton)

**QUALITY EDUCATION**: Primary school completion rate

**GENDER EQUALITY**: Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (% of total number of seats)

**CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**: Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, by urban/rural (%)

**CLIMATE ACTION**: Number of countries with first national communication of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), non-Annex I parties

**LIFE BELOW WATER**: Mean proportion of marine key habitats covered by protected areas and, where available, other effective area-based conservation measures (%)

**LIFE ON LAND**: Forest area (thousands of km²)

**PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS**: Proportion of countries with independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles (%)

**PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS**: Net official development assistance (% of development assistance commitment (%)

**AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**: Proportion of population with access to electricity, by urban/rural (%)

**DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**: Unemployment rate, by sex and age (%)

**INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**: Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP (%)

**ACCELERATING PROGRESS**: The Goals are not on track to being achieved by 2030, despite progress in some areas. Further, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, progress has slowed and in some cases been reversed across the 17 Goals. This makes the Decade of Action all the more urgent, requiring the support of Member States and other partners.

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**COVID-19** has created major setbacks in the reduction of poverty. Global undernourishment has decreased since 2000. Estimates are based on projected values.

Universal and equitable access to primary education is yet to be achieved. Major progress has been made towards addressing female underrepresentation in national parliaments.

All 191 Parties to the Paris Agreement, and Estados, have communicated their first NDCs.

The proportion of key areas placed under conservation designation has increased since 2000.

The share of national income going to labour has shown a downward trend.

The proportion of living in informal urban settlements has declined since 2000.

The global material footprint per capita has increased.

The vast majority of the world’s population now has access to electricity.

Research and development is increasingly prioritized across the globe.

Less than 50% of countries have human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles.

The 0.7% aid target for international aid has yet to be collectively achieved.

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.
At the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair, eight countries presented over $10 billion in investment opportunities to financial institutions and companies in sustainable infrastructure, health care, green energy and agribusiness. The Investment Fair is growing as a platform for showcasing ready investment pipelines to help channel resources to investments aligned with the Goals.

**Leaving no one behind**

The pandemic, coupled with high levels of poverty and inequalities, threatens to stall development progress. In March 2022, the United Nations Sustainable Development Group issued a good practice note for United Nations country teams to support Member States in fulfilling their pledge to leave no one behind and reach the furthest behind first. The World Social Report 2021 set out strategies to build resilience to shocks, preserve natural resources and reduce inequality of opportunity in rural areas. The fifth volume of the State of the World’s Indigenous Peoples highlighted the inequalities faced by indigenous peoples in ensuring their rights to lands, territories and resources.

The report on Our Common Agenda, released in September 2021, was also designed to help accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It provides specific recommendations on how to strengthen our common efforts to ensure no one is left behind, including through a last-mile alliance to reach those furthest behind and boost investments.

A new Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the decade 2022–2031 was adopted in March 2022, with renewed commitments to tackle the pandemic, reverse its socioeconomic impacts, address climate change and help countries to graduate from the least developed country category.

In support of landlocked developing countries, we ramped up implementation of the road map for the accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, including megaprojects on renewable energy and transport infrastructure.

Support to small island developing States was strengthened through the implementation of a road map on multi-country offices, including the establishment in 2021 of the multi-country office in the Federated States of Micronesia, and further work on a multidimensional vulnerability index.

“The needs of the world’s most vulnerable must take top priority. By signing the Doha Programme of Action, we say to the world: solidarity cannot be a zero-sum game.”

Heidi Schroederus-Fox, Acting High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

“Health emergencies, climate crisis and conflicts disproportionately affect cities. We need to mobilize local action to return us on the path of sustainable recovery.”

Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director, UN-Habitat

After years of war, some schools have emerged from the rubble to reopen. This school in Qminas opened with the support of its principal and volunteer teachers but is still badly damaged. (Idlib, Syrian Arab Republic; April 2022) © OCHA/Anwar Abdullahi
Climate action

At the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Glasgow, Member States committed to recasting efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and to reach net zero emissions by mid-century. They also committed to the phasing down of unabated coal power and phasing out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies. We are now pushing for Governments and the private sector to live up to those pledges and secure a credible, rapid and just transition to renewables. Ahead of the twenty-sixth session, in support of these efforts, we coordinated five regional round tables to discuss challenges and opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Member States also urged developed countries to at least double the provision to developing countries of climate finance for adaptation from 2019 levels by 2025. Noting the urgent need to close the gaps in implementation towards the goals of the Paris Agreement, the Conference of the Parties invited the Secretary-General to convene world leaders in 2023 to review ambitions until 2030.

Young people play a key role in tackling the climate crisis. They were specifically addressed in the sixth edition of the Global Environment Outlook, with tools and information for bringing about a more sustainable future.

The Statistical Commission adopted a global set of climate change statistics and indicators, as well as the System of Environmental–Economic Accounting – Ecosystem Accounting, a key framework for measuring the contribution of nature to the economy and supporting nature-based solutions.

With 37 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions generated through food production, I called for the holding of the first Food Systems Summit in September 2021, which set the stage for transforming global food systems to drive COVID-19 recovery and help us to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

To advance disaster risk reduction, the systemic nature of drought and its impacts on people and ecosystems were explored in the Global Assessment Report: Special Report on Drought 2021. The report contributed to risk assessments, including in the Arab States and in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The high-level dialogue on energy, which we convened in September 2021, resulted in over 150 energy compacts from Governments, businesses and other organizations, and new commitments of more than $400 billion. I also issued a global road map for clean energy for all by 2030 (Sustainable Development Goal 7), which set out the key milestones needed.

The second Global Sustainable Transport Conference was convened in a hybrid format in October 2021, positioning sustainable transport as an essential means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

“We have a responsibility to tackle the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. This means safeguarding that which sustains the entire sustainable development agenda: the environment.”

Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme
The pandemic exposed deep structural inequalities, reversed decades of progress on women's labour force participation, raised the numbers of women living in extreme poverty and multiplied women's and girls' vulnerability to violence.

We mobilized action on the prevention of and response to survivors of gender-based violence by enhancing investments in social protection systems and delivering comprehensive and transformative programming through our partnership with the European Union on the Spotlight Initiative, a flagship initiative under the United Nations development system reforms. In Spotlight Initiative countries, we doubled the number of gender-based violence-related convictions, educated 1.3 million men and boys on positive masculinity, allocated $48 million to civil society and women's grassroots organizations and strengthened national action plans to eliminate violence against women and girls in more than 30 countries across the globe. In addition, the United Nations trust fund in support of actions to eliminate violence against women supported projects worth nearly $74 million and reaching over 41 million people.

Through the Women Count programme, we supported nine surveys and strengthened national data systems to increase the availability of gender-sensitive Sustainable Development Goal indicators. To ensure a safe workplace for our own personnel, we finalized guidance on a survivor-centred approach to sexual harassment within United Nations system organizations.

We improved the integration of gender considerations into our development work. Over 60 per cent of United Nations country teams use the gender equality marker to track progress in this area, and 113 out of 130 country teams reported one or more joint programmes with a gender equality focus.

The Generation Equality Forum marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, catalysing ambitious policy, programme and advocacy commitments and $40 billion in financial commitments.

Through our nationally representative survey on COVID-19 and violence against women, we let older women be heard and highlighted the pandemic's toll on their welfare. The COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker and 78 rapid gender assessments resulted in over 20 countries enacting gender-sensitive policies.

We launched a plan to implement the recommendations of the High-level Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality. The aims of the plan are to strengthen gender mainstreaming in pooled funds, integrate gender equality in strategic plans and budgetary frameworks, harmonize reporting on finances for gender equality and expand the use of the gender equality marker.

“We foster and invest in women's resilience and rights, we are building the defences of the future as well as the assets of today.”

Sima Bahous, Executive Director, UN-Women
Regional support

Regional collaborative platforms are now fully established in all regions, providing a robust foundation for improved regional support to countries, based on country demand. In addition, progress has been made in mobilizing in a timely manner experts and expertise through regional knowledge management hubs; strengthening the coherence of the Sustainable Development Goal data architecture; and finalizing regional business operations strategies to support efficiency initiatives. Results achieved are captured in the platforms’ results reports.

Progress will continue in the years ahead, with the overall objective to deploy our regional assets optimally to meet country teams’ demand in real time, in support of Sustainable Development Goal implementation.

The annual regional forums on sustainable development organized by the five regional commissions enabled discussions on recovering better from COVID-19 while advancing the 2030 Agenda and prepared the regional inputs to the high-level political forum.

“Gaps have widened in access to vaccines, financing and capacities for economic recovery, affecting disproportionately middle-income countries. We need accelerated action and effective multilateralism to transform the prevailing development model.”

Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

“We have an obligation to provide our children with a promising future. Not to burden them with our failures, for our failures today are their future crises.”

Rola Daash, Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

“With the multifaceted economic and financial impacts of the war in Ukraine adding to the climate crisis and the protracted COVID-19 pandemic, the pan-European region is at a crucial moment for sustainable development.”

Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Europe

Protecting the welfare and rights of children is at the heart of the work of the United Nations to advance the Sustainable Development Goals. (Terekeka, South Sudan, April 2021) © UN Photo/Gregorio Cunha
In Focus: United Nations Development System

As global challenges grow in complexity, a new generation of United Nations country teams has emerged, under revitalized, independent and impartial leadership from the resident coordinator system, to ensure the optimal deployment of United Nations assets to support countries in their efforts to rescue the Sustainable Development Goals and realize the 2030 Agenda.

With a stronger development coordination system, country teams are taking results to scale. Our responses have become more integrated and effective, going beyond sectoral approaches and better drawing on expertise from across the system. Host Governments benefit when the United Nations collaborates better, providing integrated solutions in line with countries’ priorities.

Resident coordinators and their teams are delivering improved leadership, coordination and convening. Nearly 90 per cent of host Governments say that resident coordinators lead country teams effectively in support of their countries’ needs, and 92 per cent indicate that resident coordinators ensured a coherent health, humanitarian and socio-economic response to the pandemic. The success of the resident coordinator system was validated in 2021 by a General Assembly review of the system’s functioning and funding. Adequate and predictable financing of the United Nations development system will be critical to sustained efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

GENDER-EQUAL RESIDENT COORDINATOR SYSTEM DELIVERS FOR COUNTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women (%)</th>
<th>Men (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

89% say that resident coordinators effectively lead United Nations teams
92% say that resident coordinators have ensured a coherent United Nations response to the COVID-19 pandemic
96% indicate that cooperation frameworks ensure alignment between United Nations support and national priorities
85% agree that United Nations country team staff in their countries have the right mix of capacities and skills to support the country’s development
87% say that the United Nations development system’s socioeconomic response to COVID-19 has been timely

Survey results from participating Governments as part of the 2021 quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

UNITED NATIONS HELPS TO TACKLE COVID-19 AND REACH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- **162** countries and territories supported to rescue the Goals
- **$17B** delivered in operational activities for development
- **77M** tons of CO₂ emissions prevented through clean energy initiatives with United Nations support
- **$95M** in trade investment deals facilitated by support to South-South agreements
- **138M** workers protected from work-related deaths, injuries and disease
- **183M** children supported with access to remote learning

An 8-year-old girl is studying in a child-friendly space for internally displaced children. (Herat, Afghanistan; December 2021) © OCHA/Sayed Habib Bidell
Maintenance of International Peace and Security

KEY PROGRAMMES

• Support to global policymaking organs
• Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts
• Peacebuilding support
• Policy, evaluation and training
• Protection of civilians
• Rule of law and security institutions
• Electoral assistance

INDICATIVE RESOURCES

$7.5B
$862M regular assessed,
$6.3B peacekeeping assessed (2020/2021) and
$385M voluntary contributions

SELECT MANDATES

• Restructuring of the United Nations peace and security pillar, General Assembly resolutions 72/199 and 72/262 C
• Peacebuilding and sustaining peace, General Assembly resolution 72/276 and Security Council resolution 2222 (2015), General Assembly resolution 73/201 and Security Council resolutions 2558 (2020) and 2594 (2021)
• Children in armed conflict, Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 2427 (2018)
• Safety and security of peacekeepers, Security Council resolution 2418 (2020)
• Cessation of hostilities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, Security Council resolution 2532 (2020)
• Comprehensive review of special political missions, General Assembly resolution 75/100

SELECT ENTITIES

• Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
• Department of Peace Operations
• Peacekeeping Missions, Political Missions and Offices
CONTEXT

The peace and security environment in which the United Nations operates is shaped by converging threats: the evolving nature of conflict, the climate emergency, unregulated cyberspace and increased geostrategic competition. The effects of the pandemic continue to be felt, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities and conflict drivers and hindering the effectiveness of the global collective security architecture. This challenges the ability of the United Nations to respond to threats, prevent, manage and mitigate conflicts and succeed as peacemaker. While these trends have been present for some time, the war in Ukraine has made them more pronounced. A renewed commitment to multilateralism and the Charter, as called for in my report on Our Common Agenda and my call to action for human rights, remains vital to addressing these challenges.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The United Nations supports Member States through a range of international peace and security activities, grounded in the principles of the Charter and the mandates of the General Assembly and the Security Council. Through our political, peacemaking, peacebuilding and peacekeeping efforts, we work in support of conflict prevention, and we respond to conflicts and political crises when they arise. The Organization also works to advance women’s and youth participation in political and peace processes, prevent and address conflict-related sexual violence, violations of children’s rights in the context of armed conflict, and sexual exploitation and abuse, and prevent genocide and atrocity crimes more broadly.

ALIGNMENT WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Globally we spend much more energy and resources on managing conflicts than on preventing them. We need to review our priorities and resources and strengthen our investment in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

Rosemary A. DiCarlo, Under-Secretary General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

“Despite increasing global tensions and more complex conflicts, our missions continue efforts to secure political solutions and sustainable peace. Transforming peacekeeping to ensure more innovative and impactful operations is a top priority.”

Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations
KEY OUTCOMES

Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

As the global peace and security environment continued to deteriorate, the United Nations stepped up efforts to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts and promote sustainable peace, including through the work of our 38 special political missions and offices and 12 peacekeeping operations. Special representatives and envoys engaged with conflict parties to achieve ceasefires and lasting political settlements. In Yemen, my Special Envoy helped to negotiate a two-month nationwide truce, which resulted in significantly reduced violence and opened channels for dialogue. Good offices continued to be instrumental in facilitating a Libyan-owned and Libyan-led resolution to the conflict in the country by supporting efforts to organize national elections, while in Haiti they contributed to creating space for dialogue following the assassination of the President, Jovenel Moïse. In Afghanistan, we advocated for inclusive governance institutions, human rights, in particular women’s rights and girls’ right to education, and counter-terrorism, while coordinating efforts on the banking and liquidity crises.

In Ukraine, the United Nations continued its support for the diplomatic efforts under the Normandy Four format and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe-led Trilateral Contact Group, in line with Security Council resolution 2202 (2015). As tensions increased, the Organization urged de-escalation and the use of diplomatic channels to address legitimate concerns and outstanding issues, in accordance with the Charter. Following the outbreak of war in Ukraine, we consistently spoke out in support of the country’s sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity in line with the Charter and on the need for compliance with international law and for accountability. We supported the people of Ukraine with humanitarian assistance, including through diplomatic efforts to ensure unfettered humanitarian access, urgent protection of civilians, and safe evacuation of civilians trapped in areas of fighting, including a joint operation by the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross to evacuate people from Mariupol. We also actively engaged in negotiations to facilitate unimpeded exports of grains, other foodstuffs and fertilizers to help tackle the global food crisis, which resulted in the Black Sea Grain Initiative signed by Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Türkiye under the auspices of the United Nations on 22 July 2022.

To resolve the conflict, we maintained close engagement with leaders. In accordance with the Charter, the Organization continued to support diplomatic efforts for the parties to engage in good-faith negotiations and dialogue. We also established the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance to address the impact of the war on the global food and energy supply, supply chains and financial markets, in an environment of already high levels of socioeconomic stress due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate emergency.

Our close partnership with regional organizations remained essential. In the Sudan, we worked with the African Union and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development towards peacefully resolving the crisis following the coup d’état in October 2021, supporting a return to constitutional order. In the Central African Republic and South Sudan, we partnered with the African Union and regional bodies on peace agreements, political transitions and reconciliation processes. In the Great Lakes region, my Special Envoy helped to organize the tenth summit of the Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework.

We worked with Member States to promote the political participation of groups traditionally excluded from decision-making, including by supporting women leaders in Central Asia and contributing to community trust-building through media featuring young change-makers in Kosovo.*

Our work in non-mission settings continued. Since the Myanmar military takeover in February 2021, my successive Special Envoys have worked with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to address the crisis. In the Pacific, we supported the implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement. In West Africa and the Sahel, the Special Representative supported efforts towards conflict prevention and sustaining peace, including by advocating for inclusive political transitions, in collaboration with regional organizations and other partners.

The Secretary-General’s Action for Peacekeeping initiative and its Action for Peacekeeping Plus implementation strategy have moved forward. We have reconfigured our peacekeeping capabilities to become more flexible and responsive. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, we worked to defuse tensions over changes in the governing coalition and supported preparations for the elections and women’s political participation.

Supporting Mediation Efforts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effort</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mediation occasions supported</td>
<td>120+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different contexts</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support provided in the areas of process design, gender and inclusion, constitution-making, and ceasefires/security arrangements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We provide support in the following regions:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa 37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe 2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia and the Pacific 8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East 19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas 16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This refers to non-region-specific assignments, mostly related to capacity building.

*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).
A new Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel was appointed to improve coordination and scale up the availability of resources to implement the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, resulting in a pledge of $1.6 billion for the subregion to be channelled through the Thriving Sahel Fund. The strategy was recalibrated to better respond to the changing needs and priorities of the populations and Governments of the countries in the Sahel and to bring greater coherence, coordination and efficiency to the collective response to crises through three broad areas of support: governance, resilience and security.

Protection of civilians

The Organization continued to contribute to the protection of civilians by engaging in efforts to prevent and resolve conflict, advancing human rights and the rule of law and enabling humanitarian operations. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, South Sudan and Abyei, we undertook efforts to improve early warning and rapid response systems to protect civilians. Violence against civilians in South Sudan declined in 2021 as the United Nations mission established 116 temporary operating bases and enabled increased patrolling and engagement in local political consultations. A review of civilian harm mitigation measures in United Nations peacekeeping provided recommendations for avoiding potential harm from our operations.

Our peacekeeping work

- 87,000+ peacekeepers
- 6,800 women peacekeepers
- 12 peace operations
- 120+ countries contribute uniformed peacekeepers

Action for peacekeeping and action for peacekeeping plus strategy

- women and peace and security
- protection
- safety and security
- performance and accountability
- peacebuilding and sustaining peace
- partnerships
- innovation, data and technology
- women and peace and security
- A4P+ areas of commitment

Three peacekeepers serving with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (Juba, February 2021) © UN Photo/Gregorio Cunha
In Focus: Women, Peace and Security

Strengthening women’s full, equal and meaningful participation in decision-making remains a core priority. In the Sudan, the United Nations mission adopted a multipronged strategy for more gender-responsive peace and political processes, which contributed to women making up 30 per cent of participants in the peace consultations in early 2022. Concerted efforts by our missions in the Central African Republic, Colombia, Mali and South Sudan also contributed to increased women’s participation in local peace committees, peace agreement monitoring, and transitional decision-making bodies. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations mission supported women in mapping protection threats and risks, which enhanced our gender-responsive protection efforts. The systematic engagement of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process with peacebuilders contributed to a joint statement signed by 200 Palestinian and Israeli women on 21 May 2021 calling for an immediate end to the conflict, the first such initiative in over a decade.

In 2021, the United Nations sought to enable the meaningful participation of women, with women’s representation in party delegations, regular consultations with women’s civil society organizations, and support from gender experts in peace processes in Bougainville and Cyprus, as well as the Geneva International Discussions, the Libyan dialogue process and the Syrian Constitutional Committee.

With support from the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund, over 7,000 women civil society representatives from Burundi, Iraq, Uganda and the State of Palestine actively participated in decision-making and/or conflict prevention processes and response, resulting in more than 14,900 community conflicts being averted, mediated or referred. In addition, 104 women from women’s rights organizations in Afghanistan, Liberia, Mali and South Sudan actively participated in either formal peace processes or the implementation of peace agreements, including monitoring of the implementation of gender provisions.

By March 2022, women held 48 per cent of heads and deputy heads of mission positions. The 2021 targets of the uniformed gender parity strategy 2018–2028 were exceeded in all categories except military contingents, where we need stronger efforts, including from troop-contributing countries, to make more progress.

UNIFORMED GENDER PARITY

at the launch of the uniformed gender parity strategy 2018–2028

as of December 2021

Number of female staff workers and military observers increased by nearly 50 per cent since the launch of the uniformed gender parity strategy

TOWARDS EQUAL REPRESENTATION

33% women among the Secretary-General’s envoys, representatives and advisers

50% women members of the Secretary-General’s High-level Advisory Board on Mediation

43% women among staff in United Nations mediation teams

19% women among negotiators and delegates in peace processes led or co-led by the United Nations

POLICE

30% of female staff workers and military observers

MILITARY

20% of staff officers and military observers

J ustice and Corrections

42% of women serving as justice and corrections personnel surpassed the 2021 Uniformed Gender Parity Target by 13 per cent
Peacebuilding support

The Peacebuilding Commission brought the United Nations and partners together to support peacebuilding in 13 countries and regions, including the Central African Republic, Colombia, Sierra Leone and the Great Lakes.

At a high-level meeting of the General Assembly in April 2022, peacebuilding was confirmed as a core United Nations responsibility and adequate financing was identified as a critical enabler for sustained peace.

In 2021, the Peacebuilding Fund approved a record $195 million in programming, which supported system-wide responses in 31 countries, contributing directly to the Sustainable Development Goals. Over one third of investments went to countries with United Nations missions in transition, to enable United Nations country teams to scale up operations.

Nearly half of Peacebuilding Fund investments were directed to gender equality and the empowerment of women in 2021. The share of women peacebuilders participating in meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission increased from 68 per cent in 2020 to 74 per cent in 2021.

SECRETARY-GENERAL’S PEACEBUILDING FUND SUPPORTED 31 COUNTRIES

PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT ADVISERS SUPPORT CONFLICT PREVENTION

A woman who lost her parents during the internal armed conflict in Guatemala received support from a Peacebuilding Fund project on transitional justice. (San Juan Cotzal, Guatemala; March 2021) © UN Photo/Carlos Paredes
Electoral assistance

Member States navigated numerous challenges encountered in elections, including the COVID-19 pandemic, disinformation and violence against women in politics. Through technical electoral assistance and preventive diplomacy, the United Nations continued to boost countries’ ability to deliver credible and peaceful elections. We also solidified partnerships with regional organizations, including assisting the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the League of Arab States on electoral databases; helping the African Union to develop electoral assistance guidelines; and co-organizing electoral training sessions with the East African Community.

In Iraq, we supported women’s political participation and measures to combat violence targeting women candidates. Women won 29 per cent of the parliamentary seats, exceeding the 25 per cent quota.

Rule of law and security institutions

Almost 10,000 United Nations police officers working in 15 missions and other settings provided operational, capacity-building and development support to boost national policing capacities. We supported justice and corrections institutions, including on criminal accountability, which resulted in over 500 people being tried for serious crimes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali and South Sudan. In the Central African Republic, the Special Criminal Court started its trial phase. We also improved prison security for high-risk prisoners and detention conditions in conflict settings.

Assistance to security sector governance and reforms helped countries to better protect their citizens. Our new security sector reform standing capacity provided rapid support to Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia.

Over 12 million people in 34 countries and territories benefited from mine action activities coordinated by the United Nations.

To prevent the recruitment and rerecruitment of individuals, including youth, into armed groups, we worked to reduce community violence and manage weapons and ammunition. To contribute to efforts to implement the sustaining peace agenda, we supported the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants.

Security Council affairs

In 2021, the Secretariat supported the return of the Security Council to pre-pandemic patterns of activity, facilitating 164 public and private meetings, 67 informal consultations and 147 videoconferences. It also supported the Council’s adoption of 57 resolutions and 24 presidential statements and continued to provide support to the Council’s subsidiary bodies, including sanctions committees and working groups.

At a Security Council meeting on the situation in Colombia, the Council was briefed on a report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia and experienced a virtual reality project created by the United Nations. (New York, January 2022) © UN Photo/Manuel Elias
Children and armed conflict, violence against children, conflict-related sexual violence, and the prevention of genocide

An increasing number of children experienced violence. The year 2021 saw 23,982 verified violations against children by government forces and non-State armed groups, including those designated as terrorist groups by the Security Council. Sexual violence remains vastly underreported, and children with disabilities and displaced children are particularly vulnerable. In Mali and Yemen, the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict and the United Nations signed action plans with armed groups to end and prevent grave violations against children. In the Niger, the Special Representative on Violence against Children engaged with stakeholders to protect children and promote equitable access to appropriate services. Over 12,200 children were released from armed forces and armed groups and received assistance to reintegrate into their communities.

Deepening intersecting political, security and humanitarian crises exacerbated conflict-related sexual violence. Over 3,200 cases of such violence were verified by the United Nations in 2021, about 800 more than in 2020, but chronic underreporting continues owing to stigma, insecurity, fear of reprisals and lack of services. The Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict launched the Model Legislative Provisions and Guidance on the Investigation and Prosecution of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and signed a framework of cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union to promote the design and implementation of national laws that enhance the protections of all individuals affected by or at risk of this crime.

As part of our efforts to prevent genocide and other atrocity crimes, we convened an interministerial conference on addressing hate speech through education, engaged with religious leaders on COVID-19-related hate speech and supported the implementation of the system-wide United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech. We also supported the African Scholar Studies’ Forum and Asian initiative in developing curricula for genocide studies in African and Asian universities.

The international community has debunked the insidious myth that sexual violence in conflict is inevitable; now we must demonstrate through proactive protection and empowerment efforts that it is, indeed, preventable.

Through practical engagement, collaboration and determination, the international community demonstrates that protecting children from armed conflict is fundamental to building peaceful, resilient and prosperous societies.

No child is born with hate. Hate is taught. We need to pay attention to hate speech and its capacity to dehumanize and trigger atrocity crimes.

No child is born with hate. Hate is taught. We need to pay attention to hate speech and its capacity to dehumanize and trigger atrocity crimes.

Millions of children are left behind. Investing in prevention of violence against children is needed more than ever. Children are part of the solutions and empowering them will accelerate fulfilment of the SDGs.

Alice Wairimu Nderitu, Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

Dr. Najat Maalla M’jid, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children

Pramila Patten, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

Virginia Gamba de Potgieter, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

A youth activist uses the radio to disseminate messages on gender-based violence. (Sikasso, Mali; April 2022) © UN-Women
Development in Africa

KEY PROGRAMMES

• Coordination of global advocacy and support for African Union development initiatives
• Regional coordination of and support for African Union development initiatives
• Public information and awareness activities for African Union development initiatives
• Regional cooperation for economic and social development in Africa

INDICATIVE RESOURCES

$109M
$97M regular assessed and $12M voluntary contributions (including Economic Commission for Africa)

SELECT MANDATES

• Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa’s Integration and Development Agenda, General Assembly resolution 71/254
• A monitoring mechanism to review commitments towards Africa’s development, General Assembly resolution 66/293
• Political declaration on Africa’s development needs, General Assembly resolution 63/1
• New Partnership for Africa’s Development, General Assembly resolution 73/335
• United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, General Assembly resolution 57/7
• Victoria Falls Declaration on the United Nations Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development in Africa, E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.1, annex
• Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, General Assembly resolution 73/335
• Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change, General Assembly resolution 57/300

SELECT ENTITIES

• Office of the Special Advisor on Africa
• Economic Commission for Africa
• Department of Global Communications

Women farmers in northern Senegal receive training in drone piloting, which will facilitate inspection of their fields and improve productivity. (Richard-Toll, Senegal; April 2021) © UN-Women/Yulia Panevina
CONTEXT

Currently home to some 1.4 billion people, Africa is expected to account for close to a quarter of the world’s population by 2050. The continent’s success is crucial to global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. As the continent emerges from the pandemic, it is critical that the recovery be approached as an opportunity to accelerate development progress, focusing on areas with a multiplying impact to deliver transformative change.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The United Nations promotes sustainable development and peace in Africa by contributing to accelerating the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. We do so by addressing the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development and the interlinkages between peace, security, human rights and development. We also help to foster intraregional integration and international cooperation on the continent.

“Energy is the common element to all areas of development in Africa. Achieving energy access for all is indispensable to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.”

Cristina Isabel Lopes da Silva Monteiro Duarte, Special Adviser on Africa

“Africa wants more of a voice in decisions shaping world finance. Its economies face multiple challenges. The continent has shown great resilience, but recovery and building forward better require investments and mutual trust.”

Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa

Health workers have been at the forefront of Africa’s COVID-19 response. The recovery from the pandemic could become an opportunity to increase investment in essential services. (Butaro, Rwanda; December 2021) © United Nations/Martin Thaulow
KEY OUTCOMES

In support of Africa’s recovery from COVID-19, we highlighted domestic resource mobilization as a game changer for implementing the 2030 Agenda. We put forward specific recommendations to turn the extractive sector into an engine for sustainable development, to curb illicit financial flows and to leverage them as sources for development financing. We also raised awareness about the need to adopt objective international standards for credit rating agencies, given their impact on African countries’ ability to service their debt.

In the context of the high-level dialogue on energy, we facilitated a coordinated approach to adopt energy investments as drivers for Sustainable Development Goal acceleration. Stakeholders agreed to identify energy-focused initiatives that can trigger progress and increase African countries’ resilience through improved social services and social protection, job creation and opportunities that reach Africa’s youth and women and girls, industrialization, climate adaptation and digitalization.

We generated new knowledge on how deficiencies in public service delivery might become root causes of violence and identified hindrances that undermined public service delivery. In cooperation with the African Peer Review Mechanism, we worked to develop African-focused solutions to strengthen governance as an enabler for public service delivery and development.

We also continued to create spaces for African voices in the United Nations. The African Knowledge Network and the Africa Think Tank Network were launched with the objective of increasing the participation of African experts in intergovernmental discussions. We held the first academic conference on Africa at the United Nations.

ACCELERATORS OF AFRICA’S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Accelerating sustainable development in Africa requires leveraging intangible assets, which fall into three categories. “Enablers” are the preconditions for leapfrogging towards Africa’s fourth industrial revolution, such as education and skill development geared towards relevant sectors and effective institutions and policy frameworks. “Drivers” refer to triggers with a multiplying impact to stimulate holistic development, for example investments in energy. Finally, “game changers” represent factors that can determine the success or failure of development efforts, including effective domestic resource mobilization.

DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILIZATION KEY TO FINANCING AFRICA’S DEVELOPMENT

Latest data on public revenue from 54 countries on the continent is from 2018.

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN THE 54 AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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In Focus: United Nations Family in Africa

LARGE SHARE OF UNITED NATIONS PRESENCE AND INVESTMENT IN AFRICA

- 76,600+ civilian staff serve in Africa
- 62,000+ uniformed personnel serve in Africa
- 36% of Secretariat staff are from Africa

GLOBAL UNITED NATIONS EVENTS IN 2021 KEY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

- High-level dialogue on energy
  Produced a road map with a timeline to provide 500 million more people access to electricity by 2025 and 1 billion more people access to clean cooking solutions.

- United Nations Food Systems Summit
  Called for a transformation in global food systems in ways that contribute to people’s nutrition, health and well-being, restore and protect nature, are climate neutral and adapted to local circumstances, and provide decent jobs and inclusive economies.

- Twenty-sixth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
  Saw over 25 African leaders demand climate justice and pledges of $8.5 billion to help South Africa to transition away from coal production and $1.5 billion to protect the Congo basin, as part of efforts to halt and reverse deforestation by 2030.

INTERLOCKING PRIORITIES FOR A SAFER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE AFRICA

- Preventing and addressing conflict
- Averting disasters and reducing poverty
- Harnessing potential of young people
- Empowering women and girls
- Accelerating transition to green economy
- Safeguarding nature

Many African countries are making major investments in renewable energy. Here, a solar-powered pump is installed, with support from the Peacebuilding Fund. (Faya, Chad; November 2021) © IOM/Pacebuilding Fund
Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

KEY PROGRAMMES
• Supporting human rights treaty bodies
• Supporting the Human Rights Council, its subsidiary bodies and mechanisms
• Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities
• Human rights mainstreaming, the right to development, research and analysis

INDICATIVE RESOURCES
$336M
$121M regular assessed, $2M peacekeeping assessed (2020/2021) and $213M voluntary contributions

SELECT MANDATES
• Universal Declaration of Human Rights, General Assembly resolution 217 (III)
• Declaration on the Right to Development, General Assembly resolution 41/128
• High Commissioner for the Promotion and Protection of all Human Rights, General Assembly resolution 48/141
• Strengthening and Enhancing the Effective Functioning of the Human Rights Treaty Body System, General Assembly resolution 68/268
• Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review, General Assembly resolutions 60/251 and 65/281

SELECT ENTITIES
• Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Delegates from Nagaland in north-east India (left) and Nepal (right) attend the human rights dialogue during the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. (New York; April 2022) © UN Photo/Manuel Elías

CONTEXT

The COVID-19 pandemic, political and economic instability, and deep structural inequalities are affecting human rights and protection around the globe. Placing people’s rights and dignity at the heart of our responses to these challenges offers an opportunity to build a more equal, inclusive, safer and healthier world and to realize the full promise of the Charter.

ALIGNMENT WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

KEY OBJECTIVES

The work to advance human rights spans the three pillars of United Nations engagement, encompassing support for international human rights mechanisms; mainstreaming of human rights within development and peace operations; and advancing the principles of non-discrimination, participation and accountability. Our efforts extend from overcoming immediate challenges, such as the pandemic, to intergenerational challenges, such as climate change.

2021–2022 SENIOR INDIGENOUS AND MINORITIES FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES

The OHCHR senior minority and indigenous fellowship programmes provide an intensive learning opportunity for minority or indigenous human rights advocates to increase their expertise on international human rights mechanisms and advance their work to protect the rights of their communities. In 2020–2021, the programme attracted 35 senior fellows deployed in 28 locations.
UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS IN 104 LOCATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

2 Headquarters
19 Country/stand-alone offices/ Human rights missions
12 Regional offices/centres
11 Human rights components of United Nations peace/political missions
53 Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group
7 Other types of field presences

Argentina
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Barbados
Belgium
Bolivia
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Central African Republic
Central Europe
Central Asia (Bishkek)
Chad
Chile
China
Chile
Colombia
Comoros
Costa Rica
Côte d’Ivoire
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Darfur
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Gambia
Guyana
Guinea
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Ghana
Greece
Grenada
Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras
Hong Kong
Hungary
Ireland
Ivory Coast
Israel
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kuwait
Kuwait
Libya
Liberia
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Mauritius
Mexico
Moldova
Monaco
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Montserrat
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Myanmar
Namibia
Nauru
Nepal
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North Korea
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Oman
Pakistan
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
République démocratique du Congo
România
Rwanda
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Sierra Leone
South Africa
South Africa
South Sudan
South Sudan
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sweden
Switzerland
Syria
Togo
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States
United States
Uruguay
Vietnam
Venezuela
Vietnam
Western Sahara
Yemen
Zambia
Zimbabwe
Zimbabwe
KEY OUTCOMES

Support for international human rights mechanisms

In the context of COVID-19, the Human Rights Council and other international human rights mechanisms continued their work. The Council held special sessions on Afghanistan, Ethiopia, the Sudan, Ukraine and the Occupied Palestinian Territory; adopted the landmark recognition of the human right to a sustainable environment; and established the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change.

Treaty bodies also resumed in-country missions. The Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment travelled to Brazil, and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances visited Mexico. Treaty bodies also issued guidance concerning migrants’ right to liberty and freedom from arbitrary detention and children’s rights in relation to the digital environment.

OUR HUMAN RIGHTS WORK

46,000 victims of torture in 92 countries received rehabilitation support

13,000 victims of contemporary forms of slavery in 33 countries obtained assistance

11 human rights components in United Nations peace missions, including 561 human rights staff

54 human rights advisers deployed in United Nations country teams

63% increase in the protection of disability rights across 79 countries

432,000+ recommendations issued by the Universal Human Rights Index across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals

“ The appeals for peace and security, development and human rights from individuals all over the world warn us that our future must be a world anchored to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.”

Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights
EXPERTISE AND SUPPORT TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES

**TREATY-BASED BODIES**

- Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Human Rights Committee
- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
- Committee against Torture
- Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Committee on Migrant Workers
- Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Committee on Enforced Disappearances

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES**

- Human Rights Council
- Special procedures of the Human Rights Council

Youth and indigenous activists at the Stockholm+50 meeting call on Governments to respect the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. Stepping up efforts to realize this right – which was first recognized by the Human Rights Council in 2021 – was a key recommendation of the summit. (Stockholm, June 2022) © UNEP/Duncan Moore
Human rights within development efforts

We continued to place human rights at the heart of our development work, with human rights analysis informing 19 of 21 common country analyses and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks concluded in 2021 and another 43 that will be concluded in 2022. Through our surge initiative, we advised 15 countries on fiscal policy and budgets to reverse decades of underspending on public services. Partnering with multilateral development banks, we contributed to four operational policy reviews, provided advice on the African Development Bank independent accountability mechanism, and released the report Remedies in Development Finance.

Peace and security

Maintaining a strong focus on human rights in our peace operations, we trained over 500 mission managers and trainers, contributed to education materials for over 75,000 uniformed staff and led the implementation of the human rights due diligence policy across our field presences. We also supported efforts to establish a framework for compliance of African Union peace operations with international human rights and humanitarian laws. Prioritizing prevention, we deployed three additional emergency response teams and helped to integrate human rights into the African Union early warning system.

Non-discrimination

We helped to develop investigation protocols for gender-related killings in Chile and Honduras and a gender equality law and strategy in North Macedonia. Our engagement on migrants’ rights saw us strengthen capacities across several regions, contribute to the new protocol of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsmen on migrants and advance the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. In the context of racial discrimination, we also supported the establishment of the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent.

Participation

We continued our work to expand civic space, including by bolstering national mechanisms protecting media freedoms and journalists and deepening our cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union. We also strengthened networks of women’s rights and human rights defenders in the Pacific and East Africa and in several countries facing elections. We intensified our advocacy for online content governance based on human rights standards.

Accountability

We supported investigative and accountability mandates established by the Human Rights Council in more than 11 countries and territories. We also provided technical assistance in the design and implementation of inclusive, context-specific and victim-centred transitional justice processes in over 13 countries.

A NEW AGENDA FOR RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

In 2021, we delivered a landmark agenda towards transformative change for racial justice and equality. We advocated for Member States to translate the agenda into action plans and established an independent international expert mechanism to advance racial justice and equality in the context of law enforcement.
United Nations teams evaluate damage to buildings and interview residents on their needs, following the earthquake of 14 August 2021 that left more than 2,000 dead and many without homes or livelihoods. (Les Cayes, Haiti; August 2021) © OCHA/Matteo Minasi

**Effective Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance**

**KEY PROGRAMMES**
- Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response
- Emergency support services
- Humanitarian information and advocacy
- Natural disaster reduction
- Policy and analysis

**INDICATIVE RESOURCES**
$1.8B
$102M regular assessed (including for the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UNHCR and UNRWA) and $1.7B voluntary contributions (including for the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Central Emergency Response Fund and Country-based pooled funds)

**SELECT MANDATES**
- Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, General Assembly resolutions 46/182 and 76/124
- International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, General Assembly resolution 76/128
- Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, General Assembly resolution 76/167
- Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, General Assembly resolution 76/167
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, General Assembly resolution 66/283
- Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, General Assembly resolution 70/1

**SELECT ENTITIES**
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
This woman was displaced with her family from her hometown of Tah in the southern countryside of Idlib in 2018. They now live in the Ahl al-Tah camp for displaced people. (Idlib, Syrian Arab Republic; November 2021) © OCHA/Bilal Al-Hammoud

**CONTEXT**

The humanitarian situation around the world is dire, owing to protracted and new armed conflicts, the climate crisis and weather-related disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic, and rising hunger and the risk of famine. Violations of international humanitarian law and human rights, including attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers and health-care and education services, continue with impunity. Disasters are increasingly frequent and devastating. By mid-2022, displacement due to conflict and violence had reached historic levels with over 100 million people, or more than 1 per cent of the global population, having been forcibly displaced.

**KEY OBJECTIVES**

The United Nations works to ensure coordinated, coherent, effective and timely humanitarian responses to save lives and alleviate suffering in disasters, conflicts and other emergencies. We advocate for humanitarian principles, promote respect for international humanitarian law and mobilize resources to prepare for and respond to crises with partners. Facilitating early action and rapid responses, including through anticipatory approaches, remains crucial to effective coordination. In addition, the United Nations advocates for disaster risk reduction through prevention and early warning systems to prevent disasters from happening and to mitigate their negative impacts when they do.
EFFECTIVE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

KEY OUTCOMES

In 2021, the humanitarian response plans coordinated by the United Nations required a total of $37.7 billion to provide life-saving assistance and protection to 174 million people across 60 countries. With the generous support of donors, the United Nations and partner organizations mobilized a record $20.25 billion for these plans, equalling 54 per cent of the requirements. Of the 153 million people targeted by country-level plans, 107 million, or 70 per cent, were reached with assistance. Notably, the United Nations and partner non-governmental organizations scaled up the system-wide humanitarian response in view of drastically increasing needs in Afghanistan, northern Ethiopia and, in early 2022, Ukraine.

Hunger and food insecurity reached unprecedented levels in 2021, with some 193 million people in 53 countries and territories in need of urgent food and nutrition assistance, an increase of nearly 40 million, or more than 25 per cent, compared with 2020. Humanitarian partners stepped up in response. For example, in South Sudan, life-saving assistance brought 500,000 people facing catastrophic food insecurity (phase 5 of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification) back from the brink of famine. In Afghanistan, some 4 million people received food assistance.

255M+ PEOPLE IN NEED IN 2021

The high figures for 2020 reflect the acute needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Families displaced from various cities owing to recent conflict now live with great difficulty on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. (Kandahar, Afghanistan; November 2021) © OCHA/Sayed Habib Bidell
IN 2021, THE UNITED NATIONS HELPED TO MOBILIZE $20.3 BILLION OF THE $38 BILLION NEEDED TO ASSIST 174 MILLION PEOPLE IN 60 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Humanitarian funding received
Percentage of requirements funded

The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names and related data shown on maps are not guaranteed to be error free, nor do they necessarily imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Humanitarian pooled funds remained indispensable in reaching the most vulnerable people struck by crises, preventing further suffering and responding to gender-based violence. In 2021, country-based pooled funds allocated $1 billion to 777 partners supporting over 1,500 projects in 20 different crises. This helped to alleviate the suffering of close to 43 million people, in particular women, children and persons with disabilities. The funds were also the leading source of support for front-line national non-governmental organizations in the countries and territories where they operate. Some $268 million was allocated directly to local partners, capitalizing on their proximity to affected people and harnessing local knowledge and networks. Finally, country-based pooled funds allocated $55.5 million to projects dedicated to addressing gender-based violence, assisting 3.4 million people.

The Central Emergency Response Fund remained a critical tool for coordinated humanitarian action, disbursing $548 million for rapid response and underfunded emergencies in 2021. This funding translated into life-saving aid to an estimated 51.5 million people, including 3 million persons with disabilities. The scale of allocations remained one of the key strengths of the Fund. For example, in April 2022, as the spillover effects of the war in Ukraine threatened to drive millions closer to famine, the Fund allocated an additional $100 million to fight hunger in Africa and the Middle East. It also provided urgently needed funding for organizations tackling the rapidly increasing needs in northern Ethiopia and, together with the country-based pooled fund, allowed humanitarian partners in Afghanistan to stay and deliver life-saving assistance when other international funding was scarce.
In Focus: Complex Risks Drive Record Displacement

100M+ PEOPLE DISPLACED BY VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT
As of May 2022

INVESTMENT IN ANTICIPATORY ACTION IN FACE OF MORE DISASTERS
Natural disaster occurrence and trend projection, 1970–2030

People living in fragile and crisis-affected settings face an ever more complex web of risks, including increasingly frequent and severe natural disasters. In response, the United Nations is investing in anticipatory action. The Complex Risk Analytics Fund (CRAF’d) is a new multilateral financing instrument created to support a stronger data ecosystem and expand system-wide capabilities for using data to anticipate, prevent and respond to crises.

New internal displacements caused by natural disasters (in millions)

Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

Natural disasters by type, 2011–2021

Source: EM-DAT CRED Database; Downloaded November 2021

AN ADDITIONAL 24M PEOPLE INTERNALLY DISPLACED BY NATURAL DISASTERS

Source: UNHCR / May 2022

Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

Civilians were evacuated from Mariupol in a joint safe passage operation coordinated by the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross. As of May 2022, over 100 million people globally had been displaced by violence and conflict.

(Ukraine; May 2022) © OCHA/Kateryna Klochko

Learn more
To help Member States come together to tackle risks related to disasters, we organized four regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, which resulted in concrete action plans and increased political commitment on this issue. The Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative gained momentum, strengthening the contribution of local governments to reducing disaster risk. To improve the ability of civil society actors to anticipate the impact of climatic hazards, we collaborated with partners on customized indicators to measure the effectiveness of early warning systems.

**OUR SUPPORT TO DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

- **8,600+** government officials and disaster risk stakeholders trained in 2021, of which **43%** were women
- **270M+** people inhabit cities enrolled in the Making Cities Resilient initiative
- **150** Member States and Observer States reported on Sendai Framework global indicators through the Sendai Framework Monitor

“Complex disasters demand a transition from a reactionary to a preventative approach. This requires building capacities and expanding networks to understand risks and plan strategically.”

Mami Mizutori, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction

**GROWING NUMBERS OF COUNTRIES TAP INTO GLOBAL EXPERTISE ON RISK REDUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries with disaster risk reduction strategies</th>
<th>Countries using the Sendai Framework monitor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015: 55</td>
<td>2018: 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016: 62</td>
<td>2019: 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017: 84</td>
<td>2020: 143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018: 95</td>
<td>2021: 155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019: 113</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020: 123</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021: 123</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A woman walks in drought-stricken Hirshabehe State in Somalia. The country faces its worst drought in 40 years, with 6 million people in acute food insecurity. (Garacad, Somalia; January 2022) © FAO/UNSOM
The International Law Commission convened its seventy-third annual session to discuss various issues, including the prevention of crimes against humanity and the protection of the atmosphere (Geneva, July 2021) © UN Photo

**Promotion of Justice and International Law**

**KEY PROGRAMMES**
- Legal services for the United Nations as a whole
- Legal services for United Nations organs and funds and programmes
- Extraordinary international accountability mechanisms
- Custody, registration, and publication of treaties
- Development and codification of international law
- Law of the sea and ocean affairs
- International trade

**INDICATIVE RESOURCES**
- $220M
- $112M regular assessed, $4M peacekeeping assessed (2020/2021), $87M other assessed and $17M voluntary contributions

**SELECT MANDATES**
- Charter of the United Nations
- Progressive development and codification of international law: International Law Commission, General Assembly resolutions 94 (1) and 75/135
- Teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, General Assembly resolutions 2099 (XX) and 75/134
- Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework, General Assembly resolutions 97(1), 73/210 and 75/144
- Progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade: United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, General Assembly resolutions 2205 (XXI) and 75/133
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, General Assembly resolutions 52/26, 75/89 and 75/239
- Promotion and furtherance of international justice: General Assembly resolutions 57/228B and 71/248; Security Council resolutions 1931 (2009), 1966 (2010), 1757 (2007) and 2379 (2017); and Human Rights Council resolution 39/2

**SELECT ENTITIES**
- Office of Legal Affairs
- International Court of Justice
- International accountability mechanisms
A delegate casts his vote in the election of members of the International Law Commission during the thirty-second plenary meeting of the General Assembly. (New York; November 2021) © UN Photo/Loey Felipe

CONTEXT

In an increasingly interconnected world, international law is the foundation for countries’ interaction and cooperation to achieve common goals. Since its inception, the United Nations has been at the centre of international law-making, providing unique contributions to its development, codification and implementation.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The United Nations promotes justice and international law through various actions and mandates, such as those related to oceans and law of the sea, international trade, treaties and international agreements, peace operations, international tribunals and sanctions. In addition, the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, settles legal disputes submitted by States and provides advisory opinions on legal questions.

“International law is, at the very least, the basic common language that States use when they talk to each other.”

Miguel de Serpa Soares, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel of the United Nations

RISING NUMBER OF MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
**KEY OUTCOMES**

To promote the implementation and development of international law on pressing global issues, we supported the work of the General Assembly on its decision to establish a working group for negotiations on a treaty on the protection of persons in the event of disasters. The General Assembly also encouraged all States to observe and promote in good faith the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes.

The amended General Assembly regulations giving effect to Article 102 of the Charter have applied since February 2022, modernizing the regime for treaty registration and publication, aligning it with the latest developments in information technology and strengthening multilingualism.

We continued our work on the legal framework for the United Nations resident coordinator system globally, dealing with a significant and growing portfolio of legal support provided to resident coordinators and their offices, including matters related to privileges and immunities, contribution agreements and partnership arrangements.


The International Court of Justice continued to consider many high-profile cases, including the two proceedings between Armenia and Azerbaijan and the case of Ukraine v. Russian Federation. The Court indicated provisional measures in all three proceedings.

Other United Nations or United Nations-assisted tribunals continued their work. In December 2021, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia terminated two cases. With only one case remaining, it is expected to complete its work in 2022. In March 2022, the Appeals Chamber of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon reversed the acquittal by the Trial Chamber of Hassan Habib Merhi and Hussein Hassan Oneissi and convicted them in relation to the 2005 attack in Beirut that killed the former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik Hariri and 25 others. With that decision, the Tribunal has convicted three people in relation to the attack.

**DEPOSITED TREATIES ADDRESS MATTERS OF GLOBAL INTEREST**

Multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, proportion by Chapter (as of May 2022)

- **CHAPTER XI** Transport and Communications: 17%
- **CHAPTER XIX** Commodities: 16%
- **CHAPTER XXVII** Environment: 11%
- **CHAPTER XVIII** Penal Matters: 6%
- **CHAPTER XVI** Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: 5%
- **OTHER CHAPTERS** 21%

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The International Court of Justice holds a hearing in the Great Hall of Justice. (The Hague, Netherlands; March 2022) © UN Photo/Frank van Beek
A view of the sculpture "Non-Violence" or "The Knotted Gun" at United Nations Headquarters. The sculpture is a large bronze replica of a 45-calibre revolver with its barrel tied in a knot. It was created in 1980 as a peace symbol by artist Carl Fredrik Reuterswärd. (New York; January 2022) © UN Photo/Mark Garten

Disarmament
CONTEXT

Military expenditure increased to $2.1 trillion in 2021, the highest level in the past 30 years. Conflict and violence are on the rise in several parts of the world, and the emergence of new technologies, including in the digital space, poses new challenges. In this context, reinforcing the global norms against the use of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and working to regulate and limit conventional weapons, is a core priority for the United Nations.

In support of the African Union Silencing the Guns initiative, the United Nations helps to collect and destroy small arms. In Madagascar, weapons are destroyed by crushing. (Antananarivo; April 2022) © Regional Centre on Small Arms

Source: SIPRI. Figures are in trillions of United States dollars at constant 2018 prices and exchange rates.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The United Nations supports multilateral negotiations and efforts aimed at achieving general and complete disarmament, focusing on the elimination of nuclear weapons, upholding the prohibition of other weapons of mass destruction, regulating conventional weapons, responding to the challenges of emerging weapons technologies and promoting regional disarmament efforts and public awareness.

"Now is not the moment to abandon dialogue and diplomacy. It is precisely the time for the international community to come together to reinvigorate them."

Izumi Nakamitsu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

MILITARY SPENDING ROSE TO $2.1T

Global military expenditure, 2000–2021

Source: SIPRI. Figures are in trillions of United States dollars at constant 2018 prices and exchange rates.
KEY OUTCOMES

While some milestone meetings had to be postponed owing to the pandemic, we continued to support Member States in the area of disarmament, including in preparations for the tenth Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We supported two intergovernmental processes aimed at ensuring a safe, secure and peaceful cyber domain. These discussions yielded important gains, including an agreed normative framework for responsible State behaviour in cyberspace alongside common understanding on international co-operation, capacity-building and the applicability of international law. We subsequently provided substantive support to a new open-ended working group that will continue to build on this work through a five-year mandate. We also assisted expert discussions on lethal autonomous weapons systems and helped to establish a new intergovernmental process to reduce military threats to outer space systems.

We strengthened the operational readiness of the Secretary-General’s Mechanism for Investigation of Alleged Use of Chemical and Biological Weapons through tabletop exercises and by expanding the global roster of experts and laboratories. We also

TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

First complete prohibition on nuclear weapons for States that join

First nuclear disarmament treaty containing obligation to assist affected communities

First meeting of States parties in Vienna in June 2022

January 2021: entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

SILENCING THE GUNS

In partnership with the Silencing the Guns initiative of the African Union, the United Nations collaborated with 10 countries in raising awareness on the negative impacts of the illicit proliferation of small arms. As a result, more than 2,000 illicit weapons were collected and destroyed.

OUR DISARMAMENT WORK

500% increase in youth participation at disarmament and non-proliferation events through strengthened outreach efforts

10 partnerships with sub-Saharan African countries to promote the voluntary hand-over by civilians of illegally held small arms, as part of the African Union’s Amnesty Month initiative

494 qualified experts on the roster of the Secretary-General’s Mechanism for Investigation of Alleged Use of Chemical and Biological Weapons

The General Assembly marks the International Day against Nuclear Tests with a meeting on general and complete nuclear disarmament. (New York; August 2021) © UN Photo/Loey Felipe
continued to enhance preparedness for a deliberate biological event and to foster a gender-balanced network of young scientists from the global South working on biosafety and biosecurity.

To advance disarmament in conflict-affected areas, we worked across departments to link weapons and ammunition management activities with disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes, as well as our community violence reduction programmes. We also continued to engage, educate and empower young people through our Youth for Disarmament (#Youth4Disarmament) initiative.

At the regional level, we supported the implementation of the Road Map for Implementing the Caribbean Priority Actions on the Illicit Proliferation of Firearms and Ammunition across the Caribbean in a Sustainable Manner by 2030 and worked with national authorities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America on small arms control and gender-based violence prevention.

GENDER PARITY IN DISARMAMENT
In line with the Secretary-General’s 2018 Agenda for Disarmament, the United Nations is continuing to make progress in the full and equal participation of women in all decision-making processes related to disarmament and international security.

Youth Champions for Disarmament
50% women
5 women and 5 men

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters
50% women
8 women and 8 men sit on the Board

Scholarship for Peace and Security
87% women
150 young professionals in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe region

GREATER INCLUSION OF GENDER PERSPECTIVES IN DISARMAMENT
First Committee resolutions containing mention of gender perspectives

35% of delegates to the First Committee of the General Assembly (New York) and the Conference on Disarmament (Geneva) were women

To enhance weapons tracing, the serial number restoration course trains forensic firearms teams on the restoration and recovery of serial numbers that have been removed from firearms. The course is part of the assistance provided under the implementation efforts of the Roadmap for Implementing the Caribbean Priority Actions on the Illicit Proliferation of Firearms and Ammunition across the Caribbean in a Sustainable Manner by 2030. (Georgetown, Guyana; December 2021) © UNLIREC
Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Combating Terrorism

KEY PROGRAMMES

• Countering the world drug problem
• Countering transnational organized crime
• Countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism
• Countering corruption
• Justice
• Research, trend analysis and forensics
• Policy support
• Technical assistance

INDICATIVE RESOURCES

$399M
$27M regular assessed and $372M voluntary contributions

SELECT MANDATES

• The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: seventh review, General Assembly resolution 75/291
• Strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, General Assembly resolution 71/291
• United Nations Convention against Corruption
• United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances
• United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto
• International cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem, General Assembly resolution 76/188
• Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity, General Assembly resolution 76/187

SELECT ENTITIES

• United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
• Office of Counter-Terrorism
DRUG CONTROL, CRIME PREVENTION AND COMBATING TERRORISM

CONTEXT

Growing economic uncertainty and the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated global problems related to drugs, organized crime and terrorism. As a result, we are seeing an increase in illicit trafficking in firearms, violence against women and girls, and trafficking in persons, and a deteriorating situation for persons in prisons. Societies also continue to struggle with drug problems, including opioids and new psychoactive substances. Responses to these crises have been hampered by corruption and economic crime. In conflict-affected and fragile regions, terrorists exploit the political and socioeconomic fallout of the pandemic. The global threat posed by Da’esh, Al-Qaida and their regional affiliates is compounded by growing concerns over terrorism grounded in racism and intolerance, or terrorist crimes targeting victims on the basis of religion or belief.

We are united in the urgency to protect people and leave no one behind. Crises have exposed our societies, and their most vulnerable members, to greater threats of crime, drugs, corruption, terrorism and exploitation.

Ghada Waly, Executive Director, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

KEY OBJECTIVES

The United Nations supports Member States in tackling issues related to drugs, crime and terrorism by assisting in setting and implementing international standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice and helping to ensure compliance with obligations in multilateral instruments on corruption, transnational organized crime and terrorism.

We recognize that no State or region can effectively tackle the threat of terrorism alone. With Member States in the lead, the United Nations, multilateral, regional and subregional organizations can contribute to a strong, networked response.

Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General, Office of Counter-Terrorism
KEY OUTCOMES

Crime prevention and countering transnational organized crime

At the global level, the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice culminated in the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which countries were called upon to incorporate the needs of women, youth, children and marginalized groups into criminal justice and crime prevention policies.

In 2021, we engaged over 2,200 people from some 500 civil society organizations in crime prevention activities related to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. We also trained over 4,000 law enforcement professionals on tackling illicit financial flows in three Asian countries.

In South America, we coordinated a joint operation with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to track illicit firearms and identify links with organized crime and enhanced the capacity of prosecutors and law enforcement to combat the spread of illicit firearms.

Working across 10 African countries, the United Nations strengthened the capacity of national authorities to handle wildlife crime by training over 2,000 criminal justice practitioners and supporting more than 100 investigations. We also developed the African Women in Cyber Professional Networking Group, the first regional network of women working in cybercrime and cybersecurity.

OUR SUPPORT TO CRIME PREVENTION, DRUG CONTROL AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

- **6M** people reached through online materials to provide social and emotional learning skills to young people
- **200,000+** people received information on caregiving and promoting social skills during COVID-19 to reduce crime and prevent drug use
- **10,000+** high school students at **200+** education institutions engaged in crime prevention through sports activities in Central Asia
- **14,000+** real-time data points on drug seizures from **125+** countries consolidated on a multi-source drug monitoring platform
- **932** personnel in financial intelligence units in southern Africa trained to effectively trace, seize and confiscate illicit financial flows

Organized crime, corruption and weak justice systems undermine the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals. The Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice underscored the importance of the rule of law to the 2030 Agenda. (Kyoto, Japan; March 2021) © UN Photo/DGC
Countering the world drug problem

In 2021, the United Nations launched the Synthetic Drug Strategy to deal with the high level of synthetic opioid overdoses and the increasing traffic in and use and manufacture of synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances. The aim of the Strategy is to support Member States in their international efforts to disrupt trafficking in synthetic drugs.

We also trained over 2,700 caregivers regarding psychoactive substance use and enhanced the capacity of over 1,900 policymakers on family-focused treatment. These efforts benefited more than 34,000 people with drug use disorders and their communities.
Terrorism prevention

We convened the second Counter-Terrorism Week in June 2021, with over 2,000 participants and concluding with the resolution on the seventh biennial review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The United Nations assisted 49 Member States with the use of passenger data to counter terrorist travel and launched the United Nations Programme on Threat Assessment Models for Aviation Security. We also continued to improve Member State responses to the challenges and opportunities of new technologies in countering terrorism through increased awareness and capacity-building support.

To promote multilateral cooperation on counter-terrorism, we continued to strengthen the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform, which connects 45 entities and 134 Member States.

We launched a new global framework, co-chaired with the United Nations Children’s Fund, that provides a whole-of-United Nations approach to supporting Member States in the protection, repatriation, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of foreign nationals returning from the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq, with alleged or actual links to designated terrorist groups. Activities were undertaken in Iraq, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

We also paid tribute to the victims of terrorism, including through a ceremony with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York bringing together 300 individuals from over 120 Member States and on the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUR COUNTER-TELEORISM WORK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9,000+</strong> people trained through 676 capacity-building activities to promote counter-terrorism efforts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2,000+</strong> participants joined the Second United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States, including 88 civil society and private-sector organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>920</strong> focal points from 45 partners and 134 Member States connected as part of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$179M</strong> United Nations multi-year appeal for counter-terrorism launched to fund 92 projects and programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15</strong> Member States supported with training for prison and probation services to effectively manage violent extremist prisoners, including detained foreign terrorist fighters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>42,000+</strong> foreign nationals from 56 nationalities in camps in north-eastern Syrian Arab Republic, with 2,400 repatriated so far</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Effective Functioning of the Organization

United Nations interpreters work from and into the six official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) for the thousands of meetings held each year by the General Assembly, Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and all their subsidiary bodies. (Geneva, June 2022) © UN Photo/Jean Marc Ferré

KEY PROGRAMMES
- General Assembly affairs and conference management
- Global communications
- Oversight
- Management strategy, policy and compliance
- Offices away from headquarters
- Operational support
- Safety and security

INDICATIVE RESOURCES
$1.6B
$1.2B regular assessed, $343M peacekeeping assessed (2020/2021) and $58M voluntary contributions

SELECT MANDATES
- Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations, General Assembly resolutions 72/266 A and B, and 73/281
- Human resource management, General Assembly resolutions 72/254 and 72/263
- Procurement, General Assembly resolution 69/273
- Multilingualism, General Assembly resolution 76/268
- Pattern of conferences, General Assembly resolution 76/237
- Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for 2022, General Assembly resolution 76/245
- Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat, General Assembly resolution 74/271
- Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, resolution 75/225
- Questions relating to information, General Assembly resolutions 76/101 A–B
- Global Media and Information Literacy Week, General Assembly resolution 75/267

SELECT ENTITIES
- Department for General Assembly and Conference Management
- Department of Global Communications
- Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance
- Department of Operational Support
- Department of Safety and Security
- Office of Internal Oversight Services
- United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna
- United Nations Ethics Office
KEY WORK STREAMS

With over 35,000 staff in 465 duty stations, the work of the United Nations Secretariat is underpinned by the effective management of finance, human resources, information and communications technology, supply chains, facilities, health care, capacity development, conference services, and security and safety operations and by communicating the work of the Organization.

KEY OUTCOMES

Despite the challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, we streamlined Secretariat-wide processes, improving human resource mechanisms, rolling out an e-tendering tool and improving goods and services solutions for client entities, and enhancing the management of uniformed capabilities.

We fostered operational support partnerships, including the flagship triangular partnership project, and strengthened our service delivery architecture with the agencies, funds and programmes. For operational continuity, we reinforced testing and therapeutics, our mechanisms for medical evacuation and vaccinations for personnel and facilitated a safe return to the office and hybrid ways of working.

Through operational security support and inclusive security management, we enabled the United Nations family to implement programmes assisting over 264 million people, including in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, the Niger, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Yemen.

“We will foster the achievement of results through renewed investment in digitalization, data capacities and strategic foresight, and continuous improvement in achieving our mandated objectives.”

Catherine Pollard, Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance

“As the pandemic evolves and mitigation measures shift, the Organization will redouble its commitment to deliver operational excellence in a rapidly changing environment.”

Atul Khare, Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support
OVER 35,000+ STAFF WORKED FOR THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT WORLDWIDE IN 2021

This includes all temporary and fixed-term staff in Professional and higher categories (P and D), General Service and related categories (G, TC, S, PIA, L T), National Professional Officers (NO), Field Service (FS) and Senior Appointments (SG, DSG, USG and ASG).

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### STAFF BY REGIONAL GROUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>36,105</td>
<td>37,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>36,754</td>
<td>36,574</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe</td>
<td>23,217</td>
<td>25,718</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>6,054</td>
<td>6,054</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Europe and Others</td>
<td>38,105</td>
<td>37,505</td>
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### STAFF BY GENDER

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<td>Dec. 2018</td>
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<td>Dec. 2019</td>
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<td>Dec. 2020</td>
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<td>37,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 2021</td>
<td>38,105</td>
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### STAFF BY AGE

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<td>25-29</td>
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<td>30-34</td>
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<td>2,251</td>
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<tr>
<td>60+</td>
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### STAFF BY LOCATION

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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>6,434</td>
<td>3,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>1,608</td>
<td>1,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nairobi</td>
<td>1,314</td>
<td>1,071</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juba</td>
<td>1,271</td>
<td>1,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other duty stations</td>
<td>31,322</td>
<td>31,322</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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* The five regional groups were formed to facilitate the equitable geographical distribution of seats among the Member States in different United Nations bodies.

* The definition of “Other” includes staff from the State of Palestine and staff who are stateless.

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Note: (1) Because of rounding, totals may not equal the sum of parts. (2) “Other” includes staff from the State of Palestine and staff who are stateless.
Our COVID-19 communications sought to position the Organization as the leading voice in the pandemic response. For example, our Verified initiative delivered reliable, science-based information, built confidence in health messaging and offered ways to detect and stop the spread of misinformation and disinformation.

Our environmental performance continued to improve as we mitigated wastewater risk, lowered energy consumption and explored opportunities to transition to renewable energy.

To facilitate the work of Member States and other stakeholders, we launched a “Conferences away from Headquarters” section in the multilingual Journal of the United Nations, providing an online gateway to conference materials. We enhanced the e-deleg@TE platform and expanded and accelerated access to General Assembly resolutions, including with interactive dashboards.

The uniformed capabilities support portal gave Member States direct access to information about police and troop contributions to peace operations, while the Umoja Analytics Digital Boardroom provided real-time enterprise data, with complex analytic and visualization capabilities.

To promote a culture of accountability, we promulgated the Secretariat’s evaluation policy and issued an accountability handbook. We also rolled out an adaptable toolkit to prevent misconduct across the Secretariat.

Always re-envisioning how we provide intergovernmental services to help Member States achieve best possible results, through innovation and creativity, remains part of our daily activities.

Movses Abelian, Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management

The work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services confirms, independently and transparently, that our Organization prioritizes risk management and accountability for results.

Fatoumata Ndiaye, Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services
The Victims’ Rights Advocate continued to advocate for a victim-centred and rights-based approach to sexual exploitation and abuse. We deployed dedicated Senior Victims’ Rights Officers to the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti and South Sudan.

Unite Academy training and the Kamino advanced data science and visualization programme allowed us to increase our personnel’s data literacy and to better demonstrate the impact of our work. Initiatives to promote data technologies and innovations remained key drivers of my Data Strategy. From 2017 to 2021, there was steady progress towards meeting our gender parity targets. Gender parity was achieved among the senior leadership and resident coordinators in 2020. Further progress was made in hard-to-shift mid-management levels: at the D-1 level, where the number of women increased from 32 per cent to 43 per cent, and at the P-5 level, from 36 per cent to 42 per cent. The Geographical Diversity Strategy continues to guide efforts towards equitable geographical representation.

**Taking a victim-centred approach to preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse involves making no assumptions about a victim’s characteristics and treating all victims with respect, and without blame or discrimination.**

Jane Frances Connors, Victims’ Rights Advocate
Security is not an accessory: it is a key part of UN planning and a prerequisite for delivery, allowing the United Nations to affect people’s lives meaningfully.

Gilles Michaud, Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security

The Ethics Office continues to step up its collaboration with entities within and outside the Secretariat to address new and ongoing challenges to ethical conduct.

Elia Yi Armstrong, Director of the Ethics Office

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Gilles Michaud, Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security

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Elia Yi Armstrong, Director of the Ethics Office

The annual budget has increased the engagement of managers in the budget process and yielded more accurate planning assumptions and resource estimates. Regular budget liquidity improved in 2021, but unless Member States act on my proposals, soon we will again face a deepening liquidity crisis. The first annual statement of internal control marked an important milestone in building a more results-driven and transparent Organization.

Some 99.9 per cent of designated staff members complied with the filing requirements of the 2021 financial disclosure programme. Implementing my policy on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and cooperating with audits and investigations, the Ethics Office completed 34 preliminary reviews in 2021 and referred three cases for further investigation.

A NEW STRATEGY TO TACKLE RACISM

We launched a strategic action plan on addressing racism and promoting dignity for all in the United Nations Secretariat, which outlines measures to tackle all forms of discrimination across four areas: organizational culture; operations and management practices; systems, including structures and policies; and internal accountability mechanisms.

The plan is complemented by an internal communications strategy to raise awareness of racism and racial discrimination in the Organization.

A United Nations convoy escorts the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, a humanitarian non-profit organization. (Homs, Syrian Arab Republic; October 2021) © UNDSS

“VERIFIED”: AN INITIATIVE TO COMBAT MISINFORMATION RELATED TO COVID-19

9,000+ pieces of content created in 60 languages

1,000+ trusted messengers and 100+ Healthcare Professionals worked with through Team Halo. Team Halo has created 3,000+ videos generating over 360,000 comments and some 485 million views across all social media platforms

ENGAGE FOR CHANGE

In the 2021 staff engagement survey, over 17,800 Secretariat staff members shared their views on progress made towards greater engagement in a variety of critical areas that affect their work, including reform. Results show that we are making progress on clarity of direction, staff pride in their work, and encouragement of new ideas. Discrimination and concerns about career satisfaction emerged as areas where challenges persist.

KEY RESULTS

(with change since 2019 where available)

• 89% (+10%) saw a clear link between their work and the goals and objectives of their entity
• 90% are proud to work for the Secretariat
• 75% (+13%) feel encouraged to share their ideas at work

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