



UNITED NATIONS
KENYA



UN Kenya Annual Results Report 2024





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Picture 1, Top Left: Pupil using government issued tablet in class as part of innovation in learning, Muhaka Islamic Centre Kwale Kenya. ©UNDP/Allan Gichigi

Picture 2: Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General with Wawira Njiru, Executive Director of Food4Education during her visit at Food4Education kitchen in Nairobi. ©UNIS/Tirus Wainaina

Picture 3: Javan Ofula, a human rights defender from the Social Justice Centre Working Group, engages the community in a past civic education outreach in Dandora suburbs, Nairobi. UN Kenya supports community organisations like Social Justice Centre Working Groups in empowering community on their rights. ©SJWG/Javan Ofula

Picture 4: Njail Legoya smiles for the camera during UN Kenya's supported training on Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration. Participants learnt to restore land, boost soil fertility, enhance food production and build climate resilience by regenerating native trees and shrubs. ©IOM/Moses Otunga



Acronyms

ADPs	Annual Development Plans	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
ASALs	Arid and Semi Arid Lands	ILO	International Labour Organization	SDGPP	Sustainable Development Goals Partnership Platform	UNON	United Nations Office at Nairobi
ASRH	Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health	IMO	International Maritime Organization	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals	UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
BETA	Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda	INTRACEN	International Trade Centre	STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	UNRCO	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
CBO	Common Back Office	IOM	International Organization for Migration	SWAP	Sector Wide Approach	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund	JP	Joint Programme	TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training	UNV	United Nations Volunteers
CIDPs	County Integrated Development Plans	KES	Kenyan Shilling	tCO ₂ e	Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide	KIAMIS	Kenya Integrated Agriculture Management Information System	UHC	Universal Health Coverage	USD	United States Dollar
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	Katiba	Constitution (Swahili term for Kenya's 2010 Constitution)	UN	United Nations	VNR	Voluntary National Review
CSO	Civil Society Organisation	LNOB	Leave No One Behind	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations	LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas	UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund	WFP	World Food Programme
CT PWSD	Cash Transfer for Persons with Severe Disabilities	MPTF	Multi Partner Trust Fund	UNCT	United Nations Country Team	WHO	World Health Organization
CTP	Clean Tech Platform	MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
DIB	Development Impact Bond	MTP IV	Medium Term Plan IV Kenya	UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	zKe	Digitally Deliberative Democracy Initiative
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	MRF	Material Recovery Facility	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme	Bajeti Yetu	"Our Budget" (Swahili for a budget transparency portal)
EIB	European Investment Bank	MT	Metric Tonnes	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Go Blue	UN Habitat and UNEP initiative for coastal development
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	NDMA	National Drought Management Authority	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund	Inua Jamii	Social Protection Programme (Swahili for "Lift the Community")
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions	UNGA	United Nations General Assembly	Shirika Plan	Refugee Integration Plan (Swahili for "Partnership Plan")
FY	Fiscal Year	NGCCAP	National Gender and Climate Change Action Plan	UN HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme	Timbuktoo	UN led initiative to support African startups
GBV	Gender Based Violence	NPS	National Police Service	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees		
Gen Zs	Generation Z (youth born between 1997–2012)	ODA	Official Development Assistance	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization		
G7 Strategy	Gender Equality Strategy (specific to Kenya)	ODPP	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund		
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization		
GIS	Geographic Information System	OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	UNIS	United Nations Information Service		
HDU	High Dependency Unit	PBF	Peacebuilding Fund	UNMPTF	United Nations Multi Partner Trust Fund		
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	PBO	Public Benefit Organizations	UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism		
HLPF	High Level Political Forum	PFM	Public Financial Management				
HPV	Human Papillomavirus	PENTA	Pentavalent Vaccine				
ICT	Information and Communication Technology	RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office				
CTP	Clean Tech Platform						
IIAG	Ibrahim Index of African Governance						



Foreword by the UN Resident Coordinator



Dr. Stephen Jackson,
UN Resident Coordinator Kenya

2024 has, in many ways, been a defining year for Kenya. High ambition, continued impressive development progress and strong regional and global leadership amidst crises and instability have, understandably, been met with bumps along the way. From the disproportionate impacts of the climate emergency to social unrest, **2024 has tested Kenya's capacity to react and adapt**. As UN Kenya, we are honoured to have stood with the people and Government through the ups and downs to deliver impactful and sustainable results for all Kenyans – not least those at most risk of being left behind in Kenya's remarkable development trajectory.

I am justifiably **proud of what UN Kenya has collectively and jointly delivered throughout 2024** in partnership with the Government of Kenya, County Governments, civil society, international and national development partners. Partnerships that go from strength to strength.

As UN Kenya, we have continued **taking advantage of new data and digital technologies to make our interventions even more targeted and impactful**. Our **Development Impact Bond for Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health** – supported through an app that empowers girls to choose where and how they access services and give feedback – has reached more than 155,425 adolescent girls with access to HIV services. And more than 420,000 gained access to family planning services, 170 per cent of the target for its first implementation year. It's a powerful, innovative delivery model that we are already exploring across sectors beyond health.

Similarly, with our support to **digital cash-based transfers**, we provided immediate support to vulnerable Kenyans in a way that is dignified, accountable and empowers impacted people to take control of their lives. With our support, the **"Inua Jamii"** cash-based programme expanded to reach 1.7 million vulnerable households in 2024 – a 70 per cent increase over the previous year.

In 2018, all 193 UN Member States agreed on some far-reaching reforms to the UN Development System: to enhance our effectiveness and efficiency in supporting countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. I'm proud that globally, **UN Kenya is recognised as a team in the vanguard of these reforms**. We've put joint action at the forefront of our work with our **20 new generation joint programmes**, co-developed with the Government, civil society and development partners. We're driving pooled funding for joint results at the country-level through our "SDG Multi Partner Trust Fund Kenya" – with sincere thanks to **our pioneering partners, Sweden, Canada, Norway, the Netherlands, Switzerland and philanthropies and companies like the Rockefeller Foundation, Hilton Foundation, Merck, AstraZeneca and Philips**. And on 2 January 2024, we became **the first UN team worldwide to launch a "Common Back Office"** to put together joint operational and administrative services across all UN entities in Kenya to drive cost efficiencies in delivery.

Turning to some of the bumps along the way, Kenya remains right in the crosshairs of the **climate emergency** struck by extreme and unpredictable weather patterns. By some estimates, that's already sapping 3-5 per cent of Kenya's GDP per year¹. **Tragically, 2024 became a textbook illustration of just how urgent it is to invest in resilience, early warning and Kenya's green transition**. Following a three-year drought emergency, the 2024



March-May long-rains season caused serious flooding with heavy loss of life and economic damage to agriculture, health, transport, education and tourism. 315 persons lost their lives, lives and livelihoods for more than 400,000 Kenyans were critically affected and infrastructure was devastated. The Government, UN Kenya and our partners responded swiftly and provided life-saving assistance to 339,512 affected persons.

Youth-led protests in mid-2024 – the so-called "Gen Zs" – saw widespread participation across the country and loud calls for meaningful inclusion of young people in decisions affecting their future. Reactions to the protests saw tragic loss of life. **The protests remain a wake-up call to Kenya to live up to the full promise of its amazing, progressive 2010 "Katiba" Constitution**. In response, UN Kenya worked with our partners BuildUp, ZeZe Communications and Siasa Place to launch an online portal to promote broadened, effective and sustained citizen participation. Results from this initiative – dubbed "zKe" – have been massive and impactful, shaping the future positively through influencing key pieces of national legislation and policy. I can't wait to see how zKe expands in 2025.

2024 also marked **Kenya's 60 years as a UN Member State** and its remarkable six-decade diplomatic journey. When Kenya joined the UN, Kenya's first President, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, proudly underlined Kenya's commitment to peace, justice and cooperation among nations. Ever since, Kenya's strong engagement in the UN has remained guided by these principles. Kenya has been a leading voice in support of multilateralism, pushing to find shared solutions to shared problems. Thank you deeply for this, Kenya and Kenyans. **When Kenya speaks the world listens. I hope Kenya will continue speaking loudly and clearly through its diplomacy: the UN needs this, the world needs this.**

And as a result, Kenya enjoys a special place at the heart of the UN – something recognised at the very highest level. It was no coincidence that in May, **Kenya was asked to host the UN Civil Society Conference, held for the first time ever in the global South, in the lead up to the world leaders' UN Summit of the Future**. During the Conference, President Ruto announced the long-awaited promulgation of **Kenya's Public Benefit Organizations ("PBO") Act**. I look forward to seeing this operationalised so that Kenya's vibrant civil society enjoys the space it demands to contribute to Kenya's future.

As we move into 2025, we carry lessons with us for a very rapidly changing world. For UN Kenya, to continue accelerating Kenya's drive for the SDGs, we have to speed up our own shift from aid funding to sustainable financing of development. **Down the years, UN work in Kenya has been made possible mainly by the generous support of Governments around the world. We remain extremely grateful**. And we know that this phase is drawing to a close. The rapidly shifting landscape requires us to strengthen our partnerships even more with the private sector and international financial institutions using our UN reputation and convening power to help Kenya unlock larger scale financing and innovative development solutions.

United across the UN Kenya family of more than 25 agencies, funds and programmes, we recommit to the sustainable development of this great country. **For a future that is not only prosperous and peaceful for all, but also inclusive, equitable, resilient and sustainable in the face of national, regional and global challenges**. I wish to express my profound appreciation to my UN Kenya family, the Government and people of Kenya and to all our development partners. Your unwavering dedication, collaboration and generous support remain pivotal in helping us help Kenya.

Dr. Stephen Jackson,
UN Resident Coordinator

¹ Center for Strategies and International Studies (CSIS)



UN Country Team in Kenya

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT or, more simply, “UN Kenya”) brings together all UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes programmatically and operationally at work in Kenya for Kenya. We unite our energies for Kenya’s development under a common programmatic planning framework: the **United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022- 2027**.

UN Kenya works directly with Kenya’s Government, private sector, development partners and all other stakeholders to help Kenya to achieve her national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across People, Peace, Planet, Prosperity and Partnerships.

The UNSDCF aligns closely with Kenya’s national priorities, as outlined in the Government’s “Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda” (BETA) and the “Medium-Term Plan IV” (MTP IV). Right at the centre of the UNSDCF is the fundamental Agenda 2030 commitment to “Leave No One Behind”. **For UN Kenya, that has translated into an intense focus on helping Kenya’s women and girls, children and youth, people living in urban informal settlements and those in arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs)**. We strive to mount catalytic development programmes based on joint action and pooled funding. And we are systematic about co-creation and collaboration with all partners to get there: Government of Kenya, development partners, private sector, civil society etc.

We are grateful that through the generosity of very many partners – further detailed in the body of this report – we’ve been able to put **USD 527,745,577** million to work for Kenya under the UNSDCF in 2024. And we’ve seen real development impact that has moved the needle measurably on key indicators for Kenya across the 17 SDGs.

We’re grateful that through the generosity of very many partners – further detailed in the body of this report – we’ve been able to put **USD 527,745,577** to work for Kenya under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) in 2024.



Stephen Jackson
UN Resident Coordinator



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Regional Manager UNV



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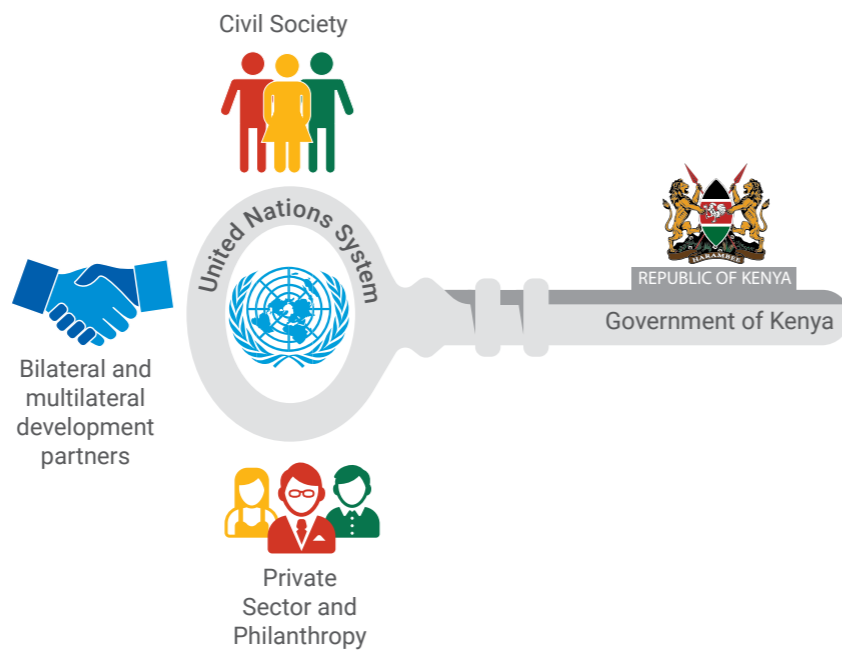
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Hlobisile Sikhosana
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Key partners of UN Kenya



UN Kenya



Tawfig girls standing on a plot of land where they grow crops and use the profits to empower women in the community. UN Kenya supports women and girls in ASALs regions to diversify their livelihood opportunities. © IOM Kenya/Wendy Gloria





Kenya in 2024 at a glance

Every year, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation publishes its Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG)², which measures and monitors governance performance in African countries across several policy sectors. The Index ranked Kenya 10th out of 54 African countries in Overall Governance in the 2024, a notable improvement over a decade. Here are some other key insights about Kenya's performance and ranking in specific dimensions.

Overall Rank: 10th out of 54 countries



Key insights by category

Infrastructure

Rank: 8th

- Access to energy**
Progress: **+30.9 points**
- Access to computers & Internet**
Progress: **+30.8 points**
- Decent housing progress**
progress: **+33.4 points**

Inclusion & equality

Rank: 6th

Progress: **+12.1 points** in equal socioeconomic opportunity.

Women's equality

Rank: 10th

Progress: **+6.9 points**

Drivers: Political power, representation and laws protecting women.

Security & safety

Rank: 42nd

Decline: -31.7 points in "Absence of violence against civilians" since 2022.

Business & labour environment

Rank: 13th

Progress: Foundations for economic opportunity³ **(+2.8 points)**.

Challenges: Labour relations and secure employment.

Education

Rank: 6th

Progress: Education completion, **improved by +6.1 points**.

Human resources in education, **improved by +2.5 points**.

Health

Rank: 15th

Progress: Access to water and sanitation, **improved by +5.3 points**.

Decline: Public perception of health provision, **-6.9 points**.

² For details, see the 2024 Index Report: Mo Ibrahim Foundation.

³ Foundations For Economic Opportunity is one of the parameters in the Mo Ibrahim Index that assesses economic aspects like public administration, business environment, infrastructure and rural economy.



Key developments in Kenya in 2024

Kenya's overall development trajectory is stable, but deep inequalities persist

Kenya's continued political and economic reforms have helped sustain overall impressive economic growth and social progress over the past decade. But deep inequalities persist and many Kenyans are yet to benefit. In 2024, **Kenya's third Voluntary National Review (VNR) revealed that progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Kenya remains very mixed.** Out of 166 indicators, 60 per cent (101 indicators) show advance, 12 per cent (20 indicators) stalled, 17 per cent (28 indicators) regressed and 11 per cent (19 indicators) lacked up-to-date data. These findings underscore Kenya's advancements and reveal areas requiring targeted investment to sustain momentum and achieve the SDGs. Yet, **the VNR concluded that it is unlikely Kenya will achieve a number of critical SDGs by 2030**, including eradicating poverty, ending hunger, ensuring quality education for all and achieving gender equality.

Reginah at her farm in Kitui county. Through the UN-supported Women Economic Empowerment Project through Climate-Smart Agriculture (WEE-CSA) programme, Reginah took part in trainings. With her new skills, Reginah opened an agrovet shop in her local market, reducing the distance fellow farmers have to go to find necessary advice, veterinary medicine and pesticides.

© UN Women/James Ochweri



Under the banner “tribeless, leaderless, fearless”, in mid-2024 Kenya’s youth – the “Gen Zs” – took to the streets, protesting against the spiralling cost of living and demanding more accountability and transparency in governance and meaningful inclusion in decisions affecting their future. The protests were triggered by the proposed 2024 Finance Bill, which sought to increase taxes on basic items. The multiple demands seemed underpinned by a lack of trust in political leadership, disillusion and high unemployment. The protests, marked by their inclusivity and widespread participation, turned tragic as government responses led to violence, abductions and police brutality. President Ruto ultimately withdrew the Bill and announced a new “broad-based” government.

Despite this turbulence, **the overall economy remained strong and resilient**. GDP growth was slightly down but still robust (4.7 per cent in 2024 versus 5.6 per cent in 2023). Inflation decreased to 6.6 per cent in 2024 from 7.7 per cent in 2023. **But less than 0.1 per cent of the population (8,300 persons) in Kenya own more wealth than the bottom 99.9 per cent (more than 44 million persons)**⁴. In 2024, the richest 10 per cent of people in Kenya earned an average 23 times more than the poorest 10 per cent⁵. 13.3 million (6.65 million of them children) Kenyans are multi-dimensionally poor, lacking access to basic services⁶. To address these challenges, in 2024 the Kenyan government prioritised social sector spending to enhance access to education, healthcare and essential services. But of real concern is that Kenya’s debt-to-revenues ratio stood on the cusp of 70 per cent in 2024. That translates into dramatically constrained fiscal space for Kenya to finance its own development.

Kenya is also deeply impacted by the climate emergency and hit by extreme and unpredictable weather patterns. Following a prolonged drought emergency, **the March-May long-rains season in 2024 caused serious flooding that led to significant human and economic losses across various sectors such as agriculture, health, transport, education and tourism**. The floods resulted in 315 fatalities, negatively impacted an estimated 82,552 households and 412,763 persons and heavily damaged existing infrastructure. The total damage cost from the impact of the floods is estimated to be more than KES 101 billion (USD 782 million) and economic losses are estimated at more than KES 87 billion (USD 671 million)⁷. Scaled-up investments in resilience and progress on the green transition of Kenya’s economy are urgently needed to minimise the risk of future severe impacts.

Jane Mukua selling sugarcane from her farm at Keumbu market Kisii County. UN Kenya supports her and other local women farmers around the country in entrepreneurial skills. © UNDP

⁴ Oxfam International

⁵ Ibid

⁶ 2024 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index Report

⁷ Kenya Floods Recovery Needs Assessment (2024)



Kenya’s GDP growth was slightly down but still robust (**4.7%** in 2024 versus **5.6%** in 2023). Inflation decreased to **6.6%** in 2024 from **7.7%** in 2023.





UN Kenya support to national and devolved development priorities through the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

Overview of UN Kenya results - transformative joint action with pooled funding

To accelerate and scale-up support for the Government's development priorities and the SDGs, across UN Kenya we have committed to delivering half of all action under our UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) jointly. We're nearing the midpoint of this cycle: in late 2024, **we agreed with the Government to extend our UNSDCF to June 2027, for full alignment with the Government's "Mid Term Plan IV" and "Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda"**. And we are progressing well, delivering more and more of our development and humanitarian action jointly, particularly with **our new generation joint programmes (JPs)**. **Out of 20 designed JPs, 12 are already delivering results and 8 more will launch in 2025**. The JPs include a focus on nutrition, social protection, devolution, the circular economy, biodiversity credits, homegrown school feeding and revitalising the coffee value chain. Each JP has been co-created

Salama Dago, has been driving at Kenya's largest port for over 5 years. Kilindini Harbour, Mombasa, Kenya.
© UNDP



by UN Kenya, the Government and development partners, the private sector and representatives from the four “Leave No One Behind” groups (youth, women and girls, persons living in the ASALs and persons living in urban informal settlements) that our Cooperation Framework particularly targets.

This joint work is increasingly supported by the “SDG Multi Partner Trust Fund Kenya” (MPTF Kenya) – our country-level pooled fund to drive joint action and sustainable impact for the people of Kenya. Since 2022, the MPTF Kenya has mobilised more than USD 32.4 million – or more than KES 41 billion – in pooled funding thanks to Sweden (our largest contributor), Canada, Norway, Switzerland, the Netherlands, philanthropies and private sector partners (Phillips, AstraZeneca, Hilton, Merck and Rockefeller Foundations). **The MPTF Kenya is also a strategic vehicle for accelerating change.** In partnership with Canada, in 2024 we organised a “gender transformation competition” for the JPs to receive additional funding. To win, the JPs had to demonstrate how they would enhance and accelerate impact for Kenya’s women and girls, through solid and innovative approaches to advancing gender equality. With other partners, UN Kenya is currently launching similar competitions to drive innovative approaches through joined-up financing. In 2024, Sweden provided a generous unearmarked grant of USD 7 million to the SDG MPTF Kenya to advance joint catalytic action and joint programmes.

Doubling our efforts to Leave No One Behind

Deeply committed to help Kenya “leave no one behind” (LNOB), we continue exploring innovations to accelerate impact for particularly vulnerable groups. Our analysis shows that children and youth, women and girls, people living in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) and people living in informal urban settlements - including migrants - are most at risk. In 2024, we launched a “Leave No One Behind Sounding Board”, bringing together representatives of all those groups, as well as social, cultural and identity minorities, to mainstream analysis and recommendations on LNOB across our support to Kenya.

In 2024, we also launched the “UN at Devolved Level” initiative in partnership with the county governments of Garissa, Marsabit and Turkana. This initiative will help accelerate impact for people living in the ASALs through strengthened coordination of development partners on the ground, solidifying partnerships between individual UN entities and county governments.

Scaling-up our support to access to basic services and social protection for all

Immediately following the 2021-2023 drought, Kenya was hit by flash floodings in the first half of 2024. In response, UN Kenya provided health and protection interventions to 908,618 persons: 521,036 adults (457,860 women and 63,176 men) and 387,582 children (188,070 boys, 199,502 girls) in 11 counties.



Halima Hassan harvests Sukuma Wiki on her plot on Dirdim. Halima is one of the beneficiaries of UN Kenya support to climate-smart agriculture. ©WFP/Fredrik Lerneryd.

Together with international and national partners, we came together to help the Government of Kenya reach millions of people with access to water, sanitation and health services, education, nutrition and social protection. Much of this support was provided through cash transfers, empowering people to take control of their own decision-making amidst crises. With our support, the “Inua Jamii”⁸ cash-based programmes expanded to 1.703 million households in 2024 – up from 1.028 in 2023. Immunisation levels almost doubled over one year – from 7 million persons in 2023 to 12 million in 2024.


Throughout 2024, we supported the development and implementation of hundreds of county and national policies, strategies and guidelines to strengthen access to social services, good governance and transparent, adequate budgeting for social services. Our joint action to strengthen budgetary capacities at national and county levels contributed, among other things, to an increase in the “County Budget Transparency Score” – meaning how much budgetary information was available to the public – to a 56 per cent. Up from 41 per cent the year before. The National Education Sector Strategic Plan (2024-2027) was also finalised and launched with our technical assistance.

Strengthening data for development and major strides towards innovative financing

Overall, access to and use of quality data for development planning improved significantly throughout 2024. The 2024 Kenya Voluntary National Review reported that data was available for 67.7 per cent of SDG indicators – a significant increase from 51.6 per cent in 2020.

Investments in data and new technologies enabled us to scale up our support. Our Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Development Impact Bond in Kenya reached more than 420,000 adolescent girls with services and information on family planning and more than 150,000 with access to HIV services. We’re working energetically to replenish and extend the Bond and would welcome the interest of new partners.

Additionally, our support extended mentoring to other young women in coding, cybersecurity and information and communication technologies. Finally, with UN support, 29 county governments utilised the online “Bajeti Yetu” (“Our Budget”) Budget Portal, increasing transparency and public participation in budget-making and implementation.

 The “Bajeti Yetu” budget portal helped increase transparency and public participation in budgetary processes in 29 counties with support from UN Kenya.



Njail Legoya smiles for the camera during UN Kenya’s supported training on Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration training to restore land, boost soil fertility, enhance food production and build climate resilience by regenerating native trees and shrubs. © IOM/Moses Otunga





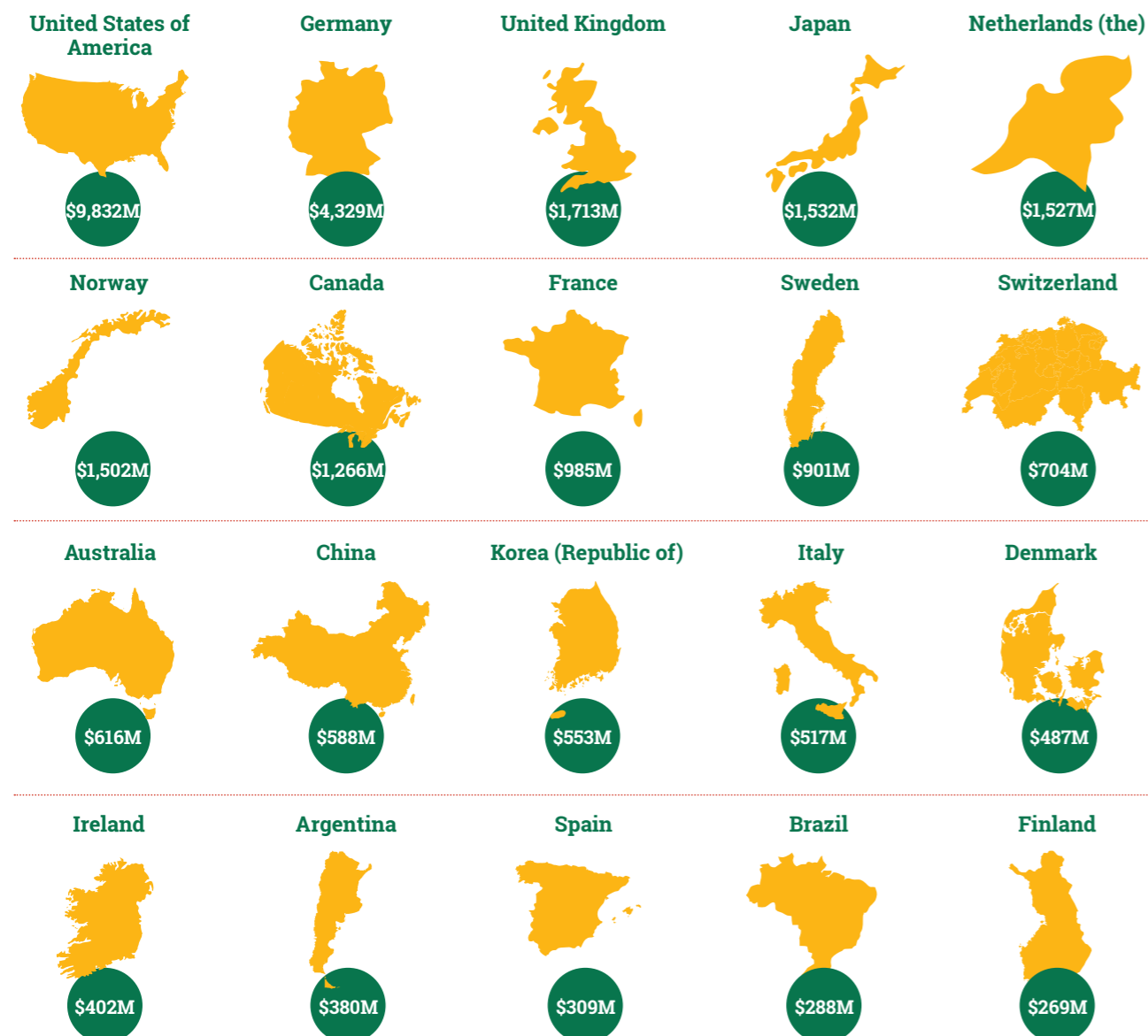
Key partners of the UN in Kenya and globally

None of UN Kenya’s successful development results in 2024 would have been possible **without the financial and technical support of our many partners**. Some support flows directly to and through UN Kenya at country level. Some comes as **vital global “core” support** to the individual UN entities that compose the UN Kenya Country Team or through contributions from some of **the UN’s global “pooled funds”** – for the SDGs, for emergency humanitarian response or for peacebuilding. And **a small but rapidly growing component comes through our “SDG Multi Partner Trust Fund Kenya”**. This pooled fund mechanism, established in 2022, helps drive sustainable outcomes and impact for the people of Kenya. Pooled and flexible funding, including core, gives UN Kenya greater flexibility to support of the Government’s development priorities and the SDGs and leads to more impactful and sustainable results.

We continue strengthening our collaborations with other multilateral and private sector actors. These offer us both indispensable technical solutions and access to their financial heft. Below are some highlights of our partners, while additional and complete information about the funding and financing of UN Kenya is available in the [Financial Overview](#).

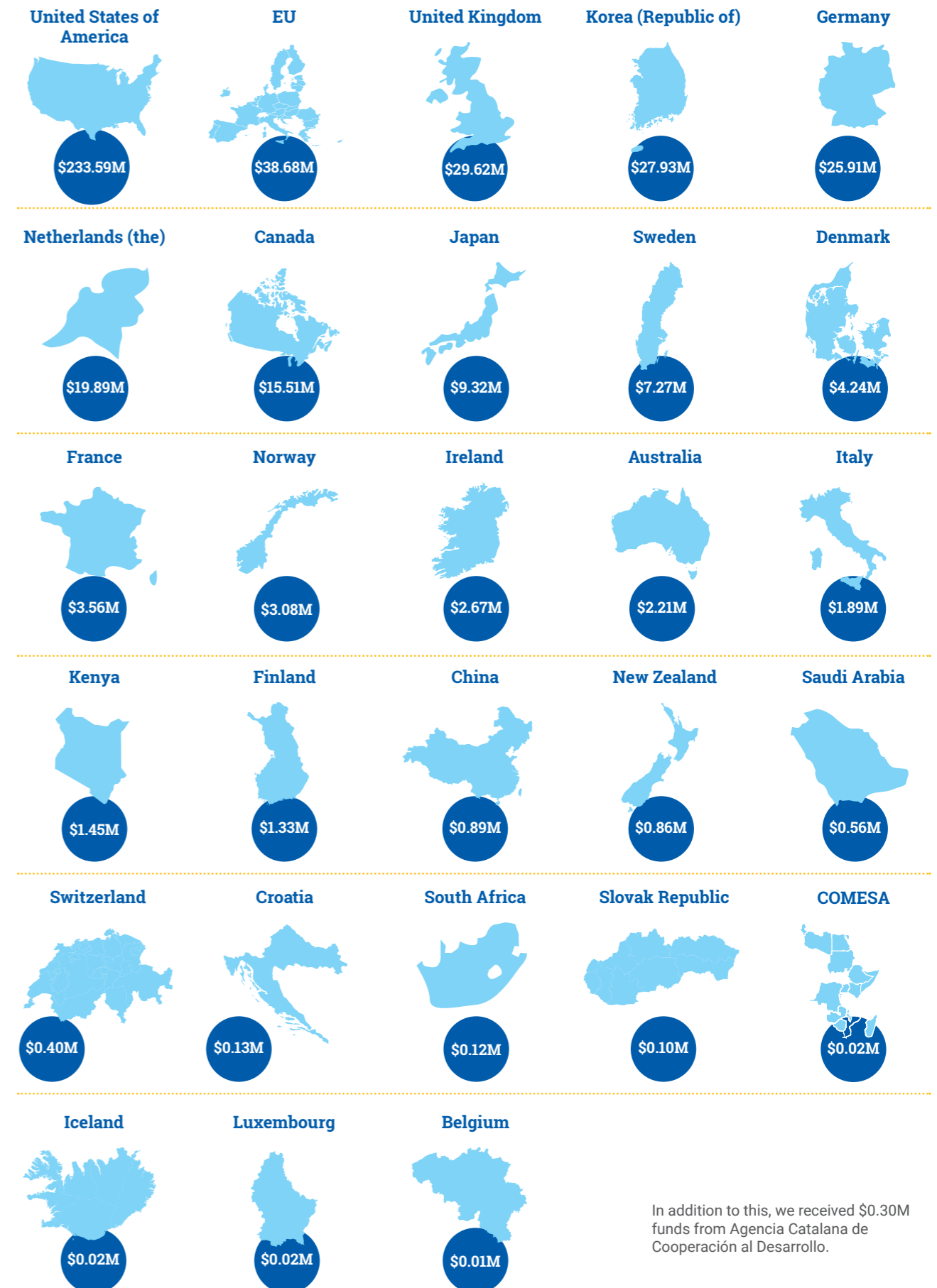
Core contributors to the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes globally (top 20)

We are deeply grateful to all Member States who generously contributed to “core” funding of key United Nations organizations at the global level. Core funding provides predictable, flexible support to UN programming, allowing us to align on the ground with national development priorities and adapt quickly to emergent shifts or crises.



Member States contributions directly to UN Kenya and multilateral partners

We are grateful to all Member States who generously partnered with UN Kenya directly at country level during 2024.



In addition to this, we received \$0.30M funds from Agencia Catalana de Cooperación al Desarrollo.



Contributions from private sector, philanthropy and development banks

Diversifying UN Kenya's partnerships and resource mobilisation is a major priority for us. In 2024, we continued to broaden the array of partners with whom we work, particularly within the private sector. We are deeply grateful to all who have partnered with us to further Kenya's sustainable development.

 \$6.98M USA National Committee for UNICEF	 \$6.58M Mastercard Foundation	 \$5.73M Children's Investment Fund Foundation	 \$5.29M Merck Sharp & Dohme (Asia) Ltd.	 \$5.83M The Global Environment Facility
 \$4.70M Novo Nordisk Foundation	 \$4.34M Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation	 \$3.66M Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation	 \$2.05M Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	 \$2.05M European Investment Bank (EIB)
 \$1.51M IKEA Foundation	 \$1.13M The World Bank	 \$1.12M Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol	 \$0.89M German National Committee for UNICEF	 \$0.69M Netherlands National Committee for UNICEF
 \$0.64M Porticus Foundation	 \$0.63M Japan National Committee for UNICEF	 \$0.60M Global Affairs Canada	 \$0.55M Helmsley Charitable Trust	 \$0.54M Education Cannot Wait Fund
 \$0.37M Canada National Committee for UNICEF	 \$0.36M Conrad Hilton Foundation	 \$0.35M Consolidated National Committee for UNICEF	 \$0.35M Nutrition International	 \$0.33M Green Climate Fund (Readiness and Preparatory Support)
 \$6.58 King Baudouin Foundation United States	 \$0.24M End Violence Against Children Fund	 \$0.20M Luxembourg National Committee for UNICEF	 \$0.18M Rockefeller Foundation	 \$0.14M Clinton Health Access Initiative

 \$0.13M Program for Appropriate Technology in Health	 \$0.12M France National Committee for UNICEF	 \$0.09M Korea National Committee for UNICEF	 \$0.08M Sanofi-Aventis	 \$0.07M Australia National Committee for UNICEF
 \$0.06M Roche Kenya Ltd	 \$0.06M Equinor ASA	 \$0.06M Eni S.p.A	 \$0.05M Innovation Norway	 \$0.05M Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited
 \$0.05M TradeMark East Africa	 \$0.02M Hilfsaktion	 \$0.01M Stichting Agriterra	 \$0.01M Bloomberg Family Foundation	 \$0.01M Norway National Committee for UNICEF

The UN at Devolved Level Programme funded by Norway and Switzerland enhances the UN's effectiveness by fostering collaboration among agencies to advance the SDGs at the county level. In Garissa, Turkana and Marsabit, the UN at Developed level has enhanced UN coordination and reduced siloed operations. The programme thereby supports the County Government in delivering local development priorities.



Solomon Gubo, Deputy Governor Marsabit County greets Ulrika Ferenius Head of UN Resident Coordinator's Office Kenya (RCO) accompanied by the Marsabit County UN Coordination team with the , during the launch of UN at Devolved Level initiative.



Global pooled funds

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) (top ten)

	Germany	\$109,308,050
	Netherlands	\$70,084,500
	Sweden	\$69,532,323
	United Kingdom	\$65,937,571
	Norway	\$42,753,298
	Denmark	\$33,336,461
	United States of America	\$27,850,000
	Canada	\$21,763,269
	Ireland	\$20,510,460
	Belgium	\$18,320,900

Total top ten \$479,396,832

UN Kenya benefits strongly from a number of global pooled funds, in particular the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), the UN's leading instrument to invest in prevention and peacebuilding), the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), one of the fastest and most effective ways to ensure that urgently needed humanitarian assistance reaches people caught up in crises and the Joint SDG Fund, an inter-agency mechanism established by the UN General Assembly that incentivizes transformative policy and financing to accelerate progress against the SDGs at country level. These are the top contributions at global level to each of these funds (2024 numbers).

Global SDG Fund (top ten)

	Spain	\$54,966,125
	European Union	\$10,626,993
	Netherlands	\$4,800,000
	Sweden	\$4,784,231
	Ireland	\$2,752,791
	Switzerland	\$2,242,152
	Italy	\$2,145,524
	Germany	\$1,829,342
	Belgium	\$1,667,135
	Poland	\$76,156

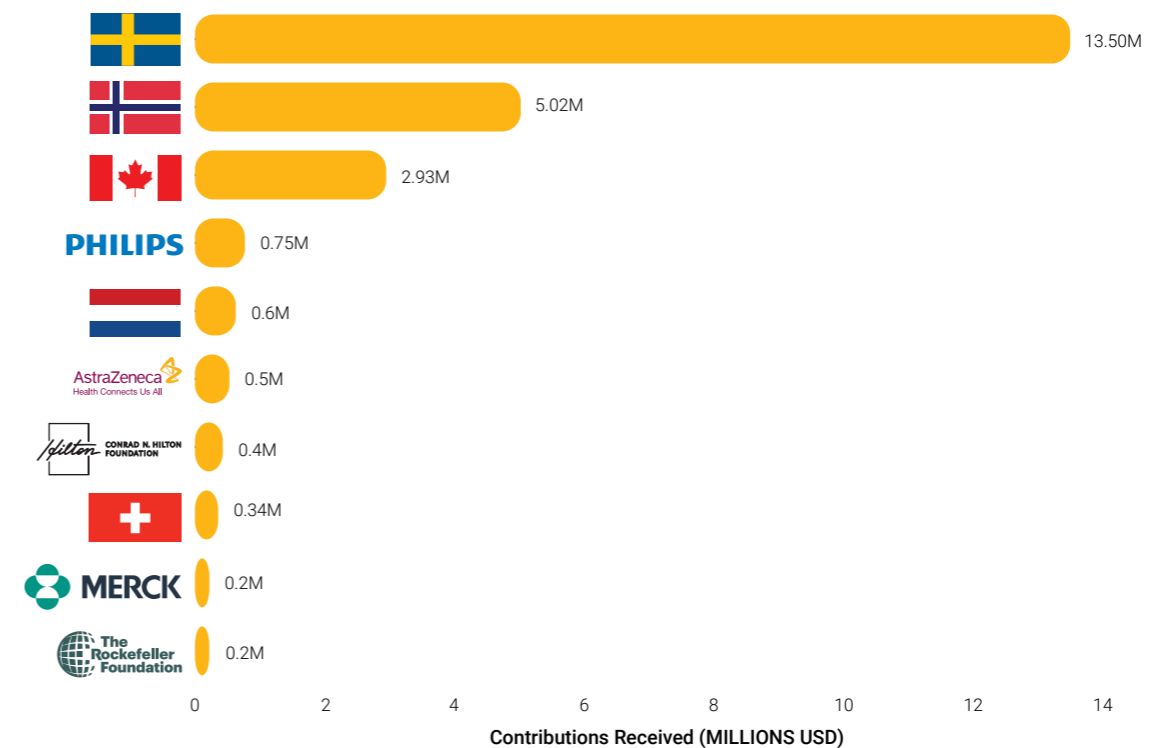
Total top ten \$8,589,0449

PEACEBUILDING FUND (top ten)

	Netherlands	\$22,066,527
	Germany	\$21,658,630
	Canada	\$18,505,770
	Denmark	\$10,930,594
	Norway	\$10,424,768
	Australia	\$9,877,135
	Korea (Republic of)	\$8,006,153
	Sweden	\$7,074,294
	United Kingdom	\$6,732,690
	Ireland	\$4,575,415

Total top ten \$1,1985,1976

SDG Multi Partner Trust Fund Kenya, since 2022



Total SDG MPTF Kenya \$32.4M

From left to right: Bernard Waweru, Financial Controller at Swedish Embassy Nairobi, Annika Otterstedt, Head of Section for Kenya Development Cooperation, Stephen Jackson, UN Resident Coordinator in Kenya, Lena Rupp, Deputy Head of Section for Kenya Development Cooperation. In 2024, the SDG MPTF Kenya received its first fully unearmarked grant. The unearmarked grant from Sweden was a landmark for UN Kenya as it manifested the trust for UN Kenya to deliver even more joint action. © UNRCO/ Augustine Karani





Highlight of key results and impact

Strategic Priority 1: People and Peace – equitable, sustainable development in a peaceful and inclusive Kenya

Expanding social protection for vulnerable households

Anywhere in the world, inclusive and resilient social protection systems are the foundation on which leaving no one behind is built. Kenya is making good progress, but gaps remain. As UN Kenya, we are supporting the Government to achieve its pledge to ensure that 2.5 million vulnerable households have access to social protection by 2026. Much of our support in 2024 was provided through **cash-based transfer programmes, which give purchasing power to individual Kenyans** to take control over key decisions in their lives. The **“Inua Jamii Cash Transfer Programme”** particularly supports children and orphans, but also the elderly and persons with disabilities. With joined up support from UN Kenya, this programme extended to **1.703 million households in 2024** – a considerable increase of 70 per cent since 2023. Cash-based transfers to persons with severe disabilities grew by 34 per cent from last year. This helped ensure greater financial security for some of those at most risk.

In early 2024, **Kenya's new Social Protection Policy was approved by Cabinet**. UN Kenya supported the development of this solid policy to further social protection for all. We also accompanied arid and semi-arid counties such as Mandera, Garissa, Tana River, Makueni, Kisumu, Mombasa and Turkana as they developed and implemented **targeted social protection legislation** to address heightened vulnerabilities and fragile livelihoods heavily impacted by the climate emergency.

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 global goals adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) captures the Kenya Government's Development Priorities. Aligned with Kenya Vision 2030, BETA focuses on five key pillars expected to have the highest impact. Wherever these icons appear, they represent our contribution to these respective priorities.

Please note: The BETA icons used here are for illustrative purposes only and are not the official logos of the BETA priorities.

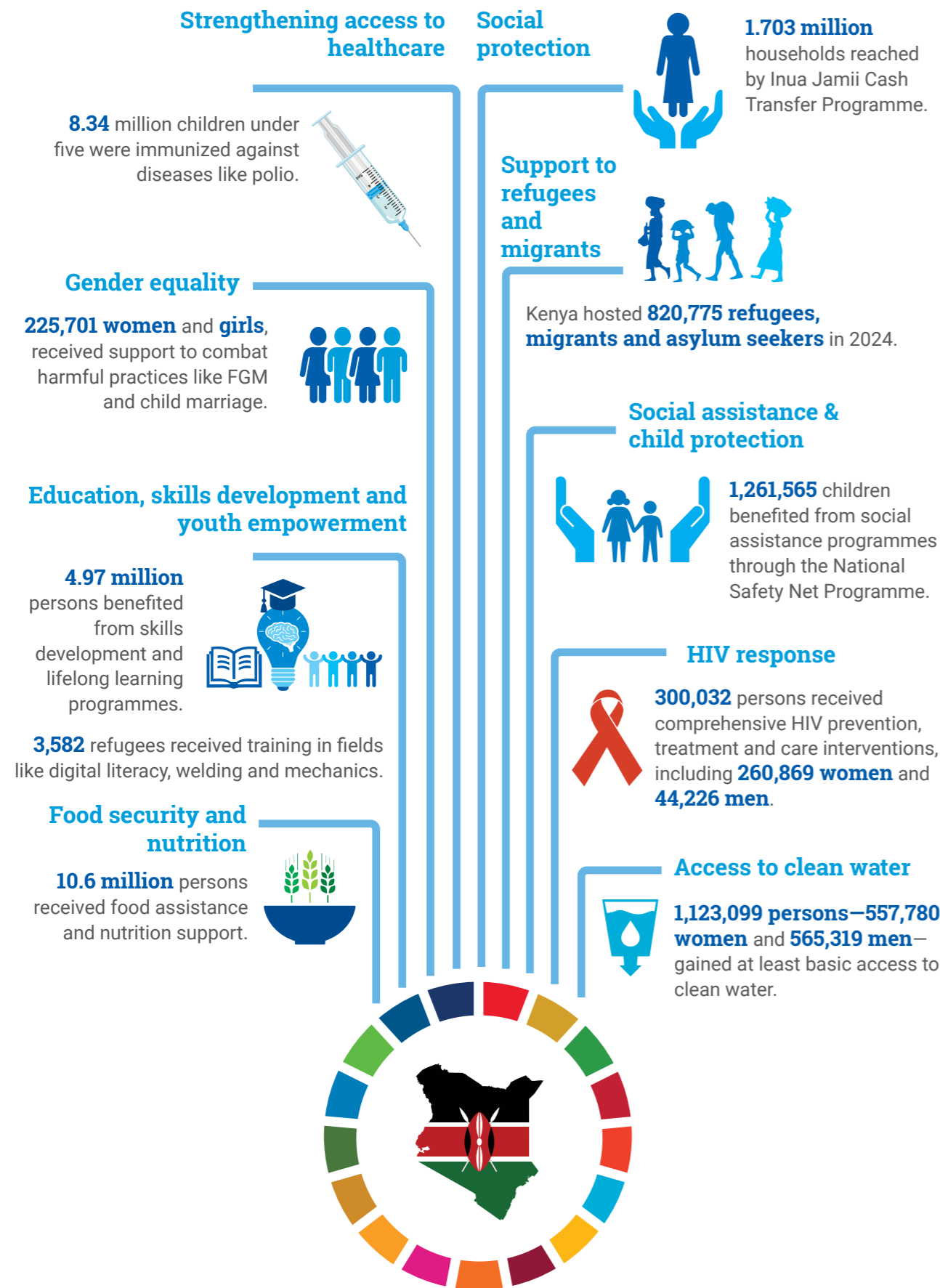


Members of the Muamalaat Self Help Group members during a group meeting in Kwale Kenya. Self-help groups are critical community mechanisms. UN Kenya supports these kind of community empowerment initiatives. © UNDP





Snapshot of key results with UN support under Strategic Priority 1



Pupil using government issued tablet in class as part of innovation in learning, Muhaka Islamic Centre Kwale Kenya. UN Kenya supports technology and digitisation in schools. ©UNDP/Allan Gichigi

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Cash transfers helping families rebuild their lives

In Kisumu County, families displaced by flooding are finding a way to rebuild their lives with support from cash-based transfers. Through joint UN Kenya action led by the World Food Programme (WFP), the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the county government of Kisumu and with funding from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), nearly 3,000 households affected by floods each received 5,000 Kenyan Shillings per month for 2 months – a critical boost to empower households to cope and quickly rebuild stability. Dorcas Adhiambo used the funds to restock her grocery stall, while Joyce Akinyi, a former farmer, started a kiosk to feed her children and pay for their education.



Learn how cash transfers are making an impact—and what more is needed to help families recover. [Read more](#)

Across our work, **UN Kenya promotes inclusivity**. Through our targeted capacity-building, **25 organisations of people with disabilities have been trained in how to influence budget allocations at county level** and shape policies that directly affect them. Our ongoing and sustained advocacy has also contributed to **an 11 per cent rise in the budget ceiling for children and social development services** in the Kenya Government budgets from 2024 to 2027⁹.

Supporting Kenya to better protect its children

By working with Kenya to reinforce existing laws, increase national and county budgetary allocations and ensure prioritisation of direct benefits for children within social safety nets, UN Kenya's joint action helped Kenya build a safer and more equitable future for all children.

Our support included technical assistance to the national and county governments in strengthening relevant legal frameworks, such as the "Children Act" (of 2022), the Child Welfare Fund (as stipulated under the Children Act) and the new "Foster Care and Guardianship Rules". We also **supported 66,000 children out of school, including 30,093 girls, to access education**.

Through **strengthening the National Safety Net Programme, 1,261,565 children** directly benefited from improved social assistance, such as nutrition support. Similarly, recent enhancements to national registry and cash transfer systems enabled broader registration, enrolment and payment of benefits. But with 70 per cent of the additional coverage allocated to older persons, direct gains for children were smaller than needed despite being the group most vulnerable to poverty nationally.



Sustained support is still needed to end all violence against children. Through 2024, we supported Garissa and Wajir counties to introduce dedicated child protection budget lines in their County Budgets. Unfortunately, at the national level, the Directorate of Children Services receives only about 0.13 per cent of the Government's budget.

Strengthening access to quality healthcare with major wins on preventive interventions

A healthy population is the bedrock for individual happiness, a productive workforce and sustainable economic growth. Universal Health Coverage has proven ripple effects across all the SDGs. We continued to support strengthening Kenya's health sector to efficiently reach more and more people with essential health services such as immunisation, access to mosquito nets, maternal and child healthcare and disease control. With collective support from UN Kenya, **9,892,283 persons were reached in 2024 with information about HIV, HPV and malaria prevention.**

We have sustained support to the Government particularly to reduce severe health threats like **Mpox, Marburg virus, measles and polio.** Our support over the past year included targeted polio vaccination campaigns in 12 counties (Garissa, Mandera, Wajir, Kiambu, Kajiado, Machakos, Nairobi, Busia, Bungoma, West Pokot, Trans-Nzoia and Turkana) resulting in an **immunisation of 8,342,777 children under five.** Following an outbreak of measles and rubella, we supported 1,552 health facilities in Samburu, Turkana, Nairobi, Meru, Garissa, Wajir, Mombasa, Kwale and Kilifi in reaching 942,001 children with vaccinations. We also contributed to the vaccination of more than **1,126,458 children under one year** with the Pentavalent Vaccination – a combination vaccine which protects against five deadly diseases.

Strengthening access to reproductive healthcare remains a critical priority. In 2024, a total of 1,126,899 girls aged 10–14 years received at least one HPV vaccine – essential to reducing cervical cancer risks – while **4,190,858 women and girls accessed integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights services and access to family planning commodities** with support from UN Kenya. Among these, 263,589 adolescent girls and 6,762 women and girls with disabilities. We **helped sustain basic health services for 11,845,041 persons, such as vaccinations against polio, measles and rubella.**

UN Kenya continues to support the Government at national and county levels in strengthening health policies to move Kenya closer towards its goal of universal health coverage. In 2024, the Ministry of Health and UN Kenya jointly developed and revised 68 policies and frameworks, including the **Kenya Health Sector Strategic Plan, the National Immunisation Strategy (2024–2028)** and the forthcoming **Kenya Malaria Policy (2024).**

Community members finding shelter at a UN supported centre in Mathare Nairobi following the El Niño floods of 2024. © UNICEF/Victor Wahome

Moving from camps to integrated settlements – support to refugees, migrants and host communities

Kenya has generously hosted hundreds of thousands of refugees, year on year, for more than three decades. In 2024, the Government homed in on finalising its ground-breaking “Shirika Plan” – a transformative initiative to shift from 30-years of a camp-based model to integrated, area-based development delivery benefitting refugees and host communities together. **Materialising the progressive Refugee Act (2021), Shirika will constitute a huge innovation by and for Kenya.** By facilitating access to essential services for both migrants and host communities and empowering people with economic opportunities, Kenya will be redefining the global narrative on refugees and migrants, emphasising their vital contribution to national development.

Throughout 2024, we provided joint support to key government institutions working to finalise the Shirika Plan. Meanwhile, we also **continued our large scale, concerted support to 820,775 registered refugees, migrants and asylum seekers from over 20 countries.** Out of these, 108,833 persons live in urban areas, 297,258 in the Kakuma Refugee Camp and Kalobeyei Integrated Settlements and 413,595 in Dadaab Refugee Camp. This support included access to essential services such as education, health and social protection, strengthening inclusion and protecting fundamental rights.

Our humanitarian response focused on life-saving interventions to the most vulnerable. **A total of 1,395,994 persons affected by crises—428,536 girls, 425,576 boys, 288,754 women and 253,128 men—benefited from integrated health, nutrition, education, child protection, social protection and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in 2024.**

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA



Kenya hosted **820,775** refugees, migrants and asylum seekers in 2024 with UN Kenya support.

8,342,777 children under 5 in 12 counties were immunised against polio with UN Kenya support.

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities





Deng Chol, a refugee from South Sudan, now earning a living as a music producer at DM Records Kakuma. Deng is one of the UN Kenya beneficiaries on entrepreneurship skills © UNHCR

From Refugee Camp to Creative Industry: How Young People in Kakuma are turning film into opportunity

In Kakuma Refugee Camp, young persons are gaining skills and training to open doors outside the camp. Through a joint initiative by UNICEF, UNHCR and ILO – the “Prospect Project” – 20,621 young persons are trained in videography, photography and storytelling, learning to document their realities, challenge stereotypes about refugees and possibly open for careers in media. UN Kenya’s support helps these young persons toward economic independence.



What does the future hold for these young persons? See how they are taking control of their own narratives and creating new opportunities [here](#).

Bridging the gap: driving gender equality in the political and economic spheres

2024 showed substantial progress in advancing gender-responsive legal frameworks. UN Kenya supported the development of the **National Care Policy**, the second in Africa, in close collaboration with government, civil society and academia. The Policy will help reduce, redistribute and recognise unpaid care work, acknowledging its importance in the economy and society. We also contributed to the development and adoption of **gender-responsive budgeting practices and innovative financial tracking tools**, specifically the **Standard Charter Accounts System**, used by the National Treasury to integrate gender into financial planning and execution.

A major result in 2024 was the **advancement of the legislative process to implement the 'not more than two thirds gender principle', as per the 2010 Constitution**. With financial and technical support to the Government’s Multi-Sectoral Working Group, we enabled the development of a legislative framework to attain the principle. It is expected that upon adoption of the recommendations on the implementation of the principle from the report of the Multi-Sectoral Working Group, the Government will fully adhere to its constitutional commitment. We also collaborated with the Council of Governors to introduce the “G7 Strategy”, designed to advance women’s leadership at county level. **The positive trend aligns with the Global Gender Gap Index, which in 2024 ranked Kenya 75 out of 146 countries (down from place 77 in 2023).**

Achieving major milestones to end all sexual and gender-based violence

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and gender-based violence (GBV) are major human rights violations holding back gender equality and also impedes economic development. In 2024, there were

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



243,898 women and girls benefited from targeted services to address harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage.

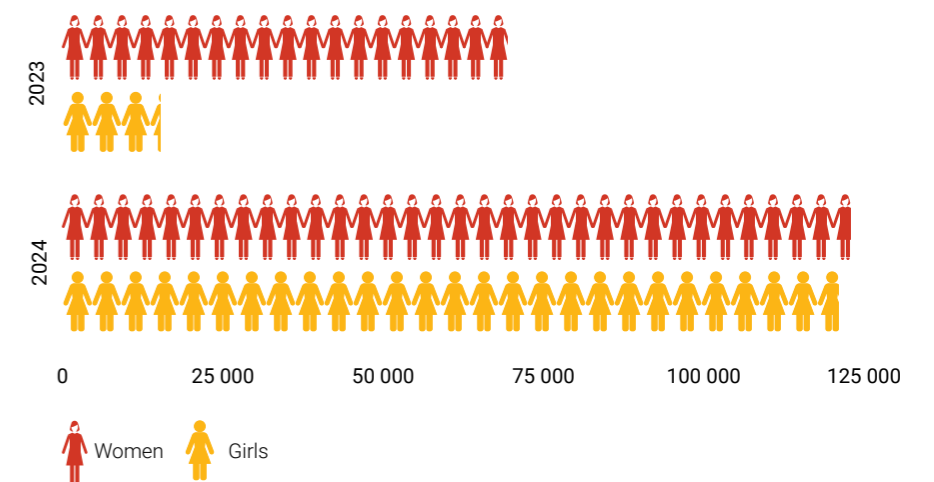


significant strides in strengthening social and protection services for women and girls in Kenya, particularly for those at risk of being left behind. We contributed to notable achievements such as the **establishment of a unit dedicated to sex crimes and femicide in the Directorate of Criminal Investigations** and the introduction of a hotline for expedited reporting. Further, on the back of sustained advocacy from Kenyan civil society, international partners and the UN, **the President of Kenya committed KSH 100 million to the “Safe Home, Safe Space Campaign” to end femicide** across the country. This underscores the Government’s recognition of the urgency to end femicide completely.

We helped Kenya’s judiciary operationalise **new dedicated Gender Justice Courts** and clear categorisations of GBV cases. Judicial staff and frontline healthcare providers also received specialised training in survivor-centred approaches and in addressing emerging threats like “online GBV” and the “triple threat” of overlapping vulnerabilities. The Kenya Law Reform Commission also **advanced critical legal reforms to align Kenya’s framework with international standards** and address systemic inequalities. We provided technical support to this work. At county level, Kilifi County spurred tangible actions and change, including by developing new GBV and gender mainstreaming policies and established a GBV shelter.

225,701 women and girls benefited from targeted services to address harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage with our support. And **9,899** GBV survivors accessed legal support or psychosocial care. We worked closely with the education sector to train **138 teachers and 204 teacher educators** on SGBV prevention, mental health and reproductive health—benefiting more than **400,000 learners**—while **over 15,000 primary school headteachers** were sensitised on SGBV prevention and psychosocial support.

Women and girls benefiting from UN Kenya supported programmes to address Sexual and Gender Based Violence

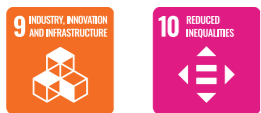


Participants at the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. © UN WOMEN



Habiyaremye Joel at his solar powered barbershop in Kalobeyei settlement supported by UN Kenya. © UNHCR

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy

The Man Championing Kilifi's Fight Against Gender-Based Violence

Kilifi remains one of Kenya's GBV hotspots, with 30 per cent of women having experienced physical, sexual, or psychological abuse from a partner. With new county laws, grassroots activism and male champions stepping up, a cultural and norm shift is underway. In partnership with the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and local partners, UN Kenya engages *boda boda* (motor cycle) riders, village elders and young men in Kilifi in critical conversations about respect, accountability and the consequences of harmful practices and violence.

Birya Menza is a male champion in Kilifi who works to transform his community's approach to GBV by breaking deeply rooted cultural norms and mindsets. His mindset is that men are not just the problem – but also the solution. So far he has trained over 3,000 men and boys to become advocates for change.



Read more about the work of Birya Menza and the male advocate champions driving change.

Empowering youth with market-focused skills

Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) is a critical pathway for building market-focused skills for Kenya's future. A suite of landmark policies to enhance both the relevance and quality of a TVET education - including the Continuous Professional Development Policy for TVET Trainers, the Competence-Based Education and Training Policy, the Dual Learning Standards and the Sector Skills Policy - were finalised with our support in 2024. Through the Recognition of Prior Learning Policy, also finalised in 2024 with our support, **over 1,240 persons were able to formalise their competencies**, creating new opportunities for those who have historically lacked access to more conventional education.

Alongside these reforms, **4,975,450 persons benefited from supported skills development and lifelong learning programmes**. To make sure that trainings respond to evolving job and industry demands, we partnered with the Kenya School of TVET to improve trainer capacity within digital skills such as e-learning and information and communication technologies. In line with Government's ambition to expand regular migration pathways for skilled youth, UN Kenya also supported the government in signing bilateral labour migration agreements with Germany and Austria in 2024. Refugee populations also benefited from this skills-focused approach. To just mention one example, in 2024, **3,582 refugees** from the Kakuma and Dadaab



4,975,450 persons benefited from UN Kenya supported skills development and lifelong learning programmes.



camps, as well as from Nairobi, received training in digital literacy, welding and mechanics with our support.

Kenyan girls have long been discouraged from careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), leaving a stark gender gap in this field. We are helping to reverse this trend through the African Girls Can Code Initiative, in partnership with the African Union Commission and the International Telecommunications Union. While still in the early stages of the partnership, we are starting to see positive results through **STEM mentorship camps in Turkana and Nairobi**.

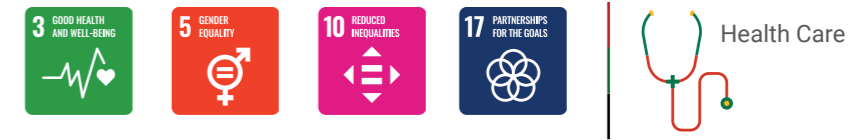
Strengthening Kenya's HIV response and prevention

Kenya has achieved remarkable success in controlling HIV in recent years: **98 per cent of persons living with HIV now receive treatment and new infections have declined by more than three-quarters in a decade**. **More than 300,000 persons (260,869 women and 44,226 men)** received comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care interventions with our support. Our support also enabled over **7,970 female sex workers** to obtain HIV testing, treatment and linkage to care in various counties, which helps reduce gaps in service provision for this at high-risk group.

Beyond direct service delivery, we continued to help reduce legal and socio-cultural barriers to HIV prevention and response. In Mandera County, **32 paralegals** were specially trained to assist survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and people living with HIV. This helped reinforce local justice systems and reduce the risk of stigmatisation. Further, **452 health providers were trained on updated HIV treatment protocols**. UN Kenya's policy support also contributed to the development of a national Social Contracting Framework that secures financial backing for community-based HIV actors and formalises a multi-sectoral support approach.

By combining policy reform, innovative harm-reduction strategies and integrated service delivery, we contributed to a more sustainable and inclusive HIV response. HIV transmission today is closely linked to low socio-economic indicators. Enhanced legal frameworks and expanded treatment options therefore not only address immediate care needs but also tackle underlying issues of stigma and socio-economic vulnerability.

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Dume Jimbi, a community healthcare worker doing health outreach in Bwagamoyo dispensary in Kilifi County UN Kenya supports and empowers community health workers who are crucial in enhancing access to health care at the grassroots level. ©UNICEF

Driving devolution with a particular focus on arid and semi-arid lands

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



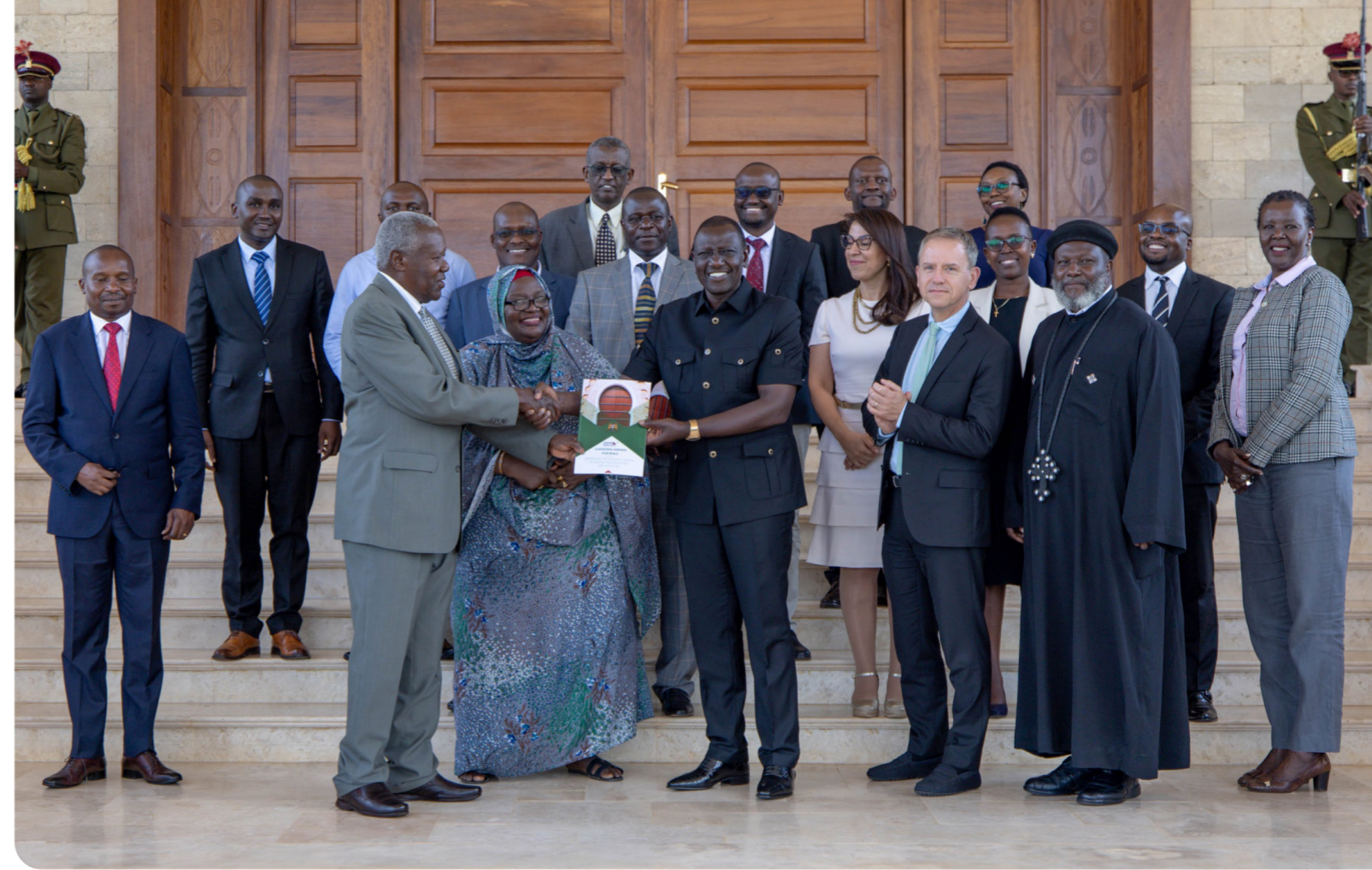
Kenya's more than ten-year experiment with devolving power and authority to 47 county governments is continuing to deliver sustainable development dividends. In 2024, we continued to help **county governance structures be more effective, accountable and inclusive, including by promoting use of digital technologies and innovation - particularly in Arid and Semi-Arid Land (ASAL) regions**. Eight counties have mainstreamed the SDGs in their County Integrated Development Plans and Annual Development Plans with our support. Targeted trainings in public financial management processes and regulations contributed to increased transparency and development-effectiveness in budget-making and resource allocation at county level. As one example, Garissa's health sector budget increased from KES 2.89 billion in the 2023/24 financial year to KES 3.27 billion in the 2024/25 financial year following this targeted support.

Geographic Information System labs were established in **20 counties** and **425 trainers from 45 counties were trained on the Kenya Integrated Agriculture Management Information System (KIAMIS)** with our support. This has led to a landmark achievement within a key sector for Kenya's sustainable development: by the end of 2024, **over 6.4 million farmers** were registered users of KIAMIS. Once online, farmers benefit from direct payments of key government agricultural subsidies and have access to a data-driven platform that can help sharpen their decision-making. Our support also contributed to the establishment of **Community Land Management Committees in 45 counties** to strengthen land and resource governance through broad community engagement in local planning, particularly with inclusion of marginalised communities and women.

In Turkana and Garissa, we helped **integrate refugee and host community needs into county budgets and plans** through comprehensive financial analyses and technical support to new policies on coordination, statistics and social protection. In eight counties, we provided policy support to streamlining County Integrated Development Plans with national development plans – such as the Medium-Term Plan IV and “BETA” – and the Sustainable Development Goals, contributing to strengthened coordination of policies, targets and workplans across the country.

Increasing access to justice and strengthening peace and mediation capacities for women and youth

Governance, human rights and the rule of law are fundamental pillars for sustainable development. 2024 was a challenging year for Kenya, with large-scale street protests by hundreds of thousands of young people sometimes leading to violent response and tragic loss of life. In response, the Resident Coordinator continued to advocate with the authorities for accountability and to engage UN support to institutions tasked with oversight. Among other things, we worked to enhance the capabilities of the National Police Service and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to effectively investigate and prosecute possible human rights violations.



The Independent Panel of Advisors together with the Cabinet Secretary for Interior & National Administration Prof Kithure Kindiki and the UN Resident Coordinator, Stephen Jackson brief H.E President William Ruto on Kenya's Peacebuilding Architecture Review Report on March 2024 at State House Nairobi, Kenya.
© State House Nairobi

How devolution is transforming lives in Tana River County

In Tana River County, devolution is reshaping governance, bringing healthcare, agriculture and infrastructure development closer to the people. With resources now allocated at the ward level, citizens are actively participating in decision-making, ensuring that investments align with local needs.

In healthcare, the transformation is evident. Hola Hospital now a high dependency unit (HDU), an expanded maternity wing and dialysis services, reducing the need for long-distance travel for critical care. This shift has improved healthcare access and outcomes, giving communities greater control over their well-being.

This transformation is part of a broader effort. UN Kenya works with counties to strengthen governance, enhance service delivery and empower communities at local level. UN Kenya remains committed to supporting Kenya's devolution to drive inclusive growth and sustainable progress.



Learn more about how local leadership and strategic planning are shaping a stronger future for Tana River County.

In 2023, the Government of Kenya with support of the UN and other stakeholders carried out a **comprehensive review of its peacebuilding architecture**. The review sought to examine trends, risks and capacities for conflict prevention in Kenya and identify opportunities redirect political will, capacities and resources towards sustaining peace.

Handed to President Ruto and later launched in December 2024 by the Prime Cabinet Secretary, **the PBA review report made a set of 33 recommendations** to the President, peacebuilding community, the UN and other actors on opportunities to strengthen the current systems of conflict prevention and resolution with the ultimate aim of equipping Kenya with a robust, independent and well-resourced peacebuilding architecture in the face of old and new conflict risks.



In Isiolo, Lamu and Wajir, we supported the establishment of the **National Peace and Mediation Team**, the Women Mediation Network and several grassroots mediation groups, leading to the development of local mediation action plans. Our support also included **facilitation of peace dialogues with over 350 youths and 500 women to mitigate conflicts on natural resources**. These initiatives helped increase representation of women and youth in national conflict resolution structures – women with 50 per cent since 2021 – which foster more inclusive processes and sustained outcomes.

Reaching 10+ million persons with cash, food and nutrition support

Cash and food support are central planks of Kenya’s social protection safety net. Through 2024, UN Kenya supported the Government to tackle food insecurity while laying the foundations for strengthened and inclusive food systems and climate-smart home-grown school meals. Through **food assistance, cash transfers and targeted nutrition programmes, 10.5 million persons - 3,061,919 boys, 3,175,365 girls, 1,104,120 men and 3,244,864 women - received essential support over the year**. This was an **11 per cent increase** in beneficiaries over compared to the year before.

Our policy support contributed to the development of policies, strategies and programmes - such as the **National Relief Assistance Policy**, the revision of the **Kenya Food and Nutrition Security Policy** and the **Kenya Nutrition Action Plan 2023–2027** – to address malnutrition and strengthen evidence-based and data driven programming. Similarly, we supported the Ministry of Health in implementing the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition program for children aged 6 to 59 months, which enabled **treatment of 211,865 children (111,187 girls; 100,678 boys) with moderate acute malnutrition and 115,475 children (59,343 girls; 56,132 boys) with severe acute malnutrition. The respective cure rates following these interventions were 82.8 per cent and 81.1 per cent**. Additionally, we provided counselling for over 1.8 million caregivers and **trained 1,886 health workers on infant and young child feeding**. Together, this helped equip communities with the knowledge to start breaking the cycle of malnutrition.

Our support to food systems focuses on strengthening domestic agricultural value chains, market linkage and rice fortification. By investing in food systems and sustainable home-grown school meals, **we strengthen nutrition while spurring agricultural value chains in Kenya** for the benefit of Kenyan smallholder farmers.

Number of persons in food insecurity who received nutritional assistance with support from UN Kenya



Contributions to SDGs and Kenya’s BETA priorities



Contributions to SDGs and Kenya’s BETA priorities



1,123,099 persons gained at least basic access to safe water.

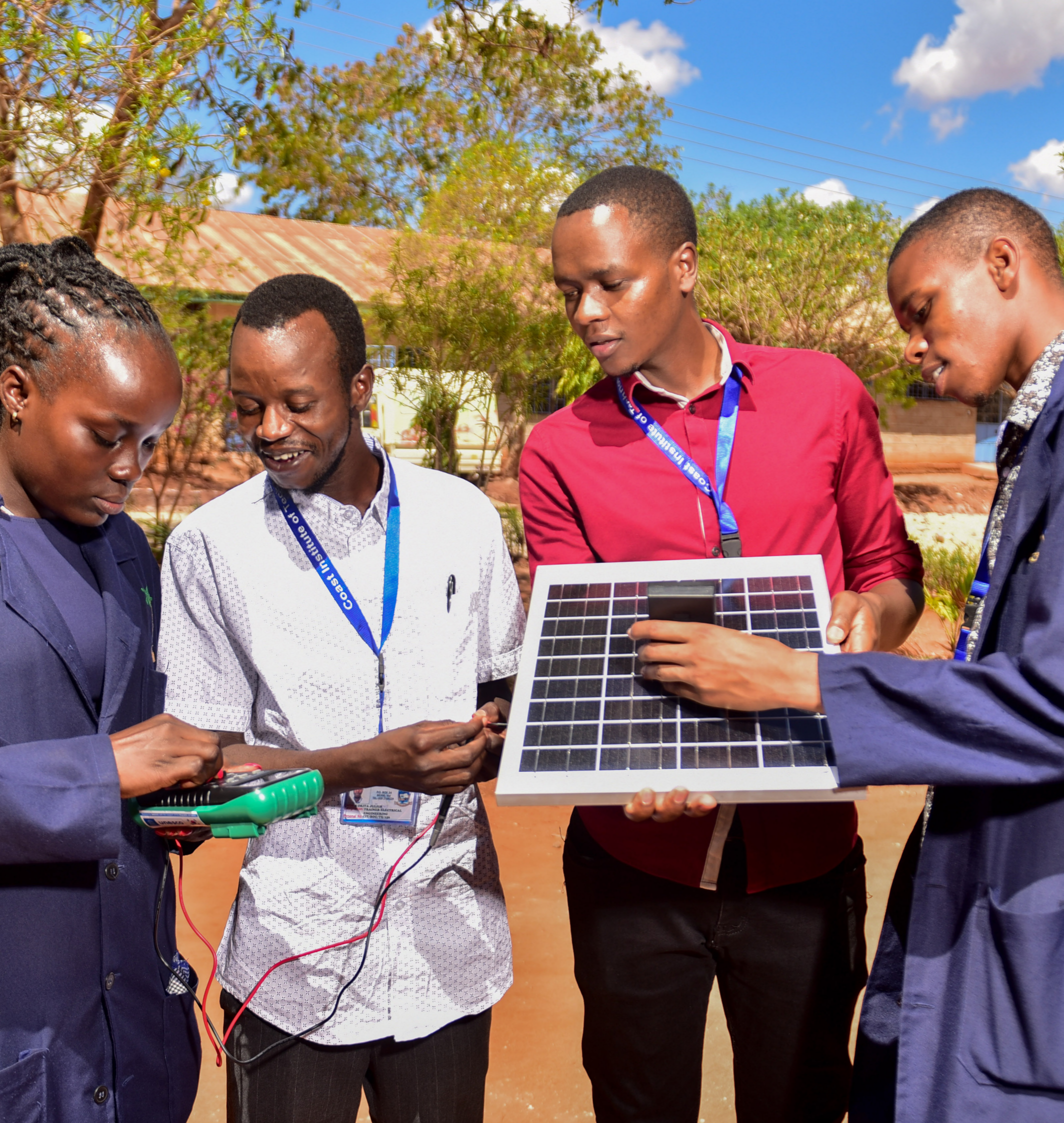
Expanding access to safe and clean water to drive sustainable development

Ensuring safe and reliable access to water remains critical for public health, livelihoods and climate resilience in Kenya. With our support, **well over a million persons - 557,780 women and 565,319 men - gained at least basic access to safe water**. Among these, targeted interventions in Garissa, Wajir, Tana River, Turkana, Kakuma and West Pokot enhanced water security for 375,103 persons through **solar-powered boreholes designed for climate resilience, rehabilitated water systems and infrastructure upgrades**. In refugee-hosting areas, **over 705,000 residents accessed at least essential water services**. Further, 21,854 pastoral migrants gained access to safe and reliable basic drinking water.

Our hygiene promotion and information about cholera prevention reached **almost three-quarters of a million people (719,698 persons)** while 53,473 gained access to adequate and equitable sanitation services in humanitarian contexts. We also supported ongoing work to strengthen national monitoring systems for sanitation and hygiene situations, to update policies and guidelines and to foster high-level advocacy through the Kenya Sanitation Alliance, which includes 15 high-burden counties.

Alice Ekal, a community health worker, engages the community on positive parenting and nutrition in Lokichar Turkana County. The UN Kenya Nutrition Joint Programme seeks to enhance strengthen Kenya’s capacity to deliver equitable, quality and integrated nutrition services.
© UNICEF/Peter Irungu





Strategic Priority 2: Planet and Prosperity – sustainable economic growth on a healthy and restored planet

Kenya is uniquely poised to pursue a green, inclusive and climate-resilient future. Our support to that pursuit comes through our UN Cooperation Framework Strategic Priority Two, “Planet and Prosperity”, which is designed to catalyse transformative climate action. From drought-resistant crops and solar-powered irrigation to circular economy models and green bonds, we support solutions that balance environmental sustainability with economic growth and are designed to be gender-responsive and community-centric.

Empowering farmers and advancing inclusive economic growth and sustainable production

Almost half a million farmers (413,791 farmers - 218,835 women and 194,956 men) – particularly in the arid and semi-arid lands – were supported with UN capacity building programmes designed to increase productivity, net-income and working conditions. We also promoted the use of “Zai pits”¹⁰ – a technology that significantly improve water retention and soil fertility to encourage drought resistant crops – and solarisation of water infrastructure, which benefitted 276,720 farmers and 1,403,584 livestock. Among the farmers supported, 5,172 pastoralist (2,873 women and 2,299 men) affected by the climate emergency received training in climate-smart agriculture, business skills and farm tools. This enabled them to diversify livelihoods and sell surplus vegetables in local markets. In Laikipia, Kitui and West Pokot counties, 81 women farmer groups -

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities

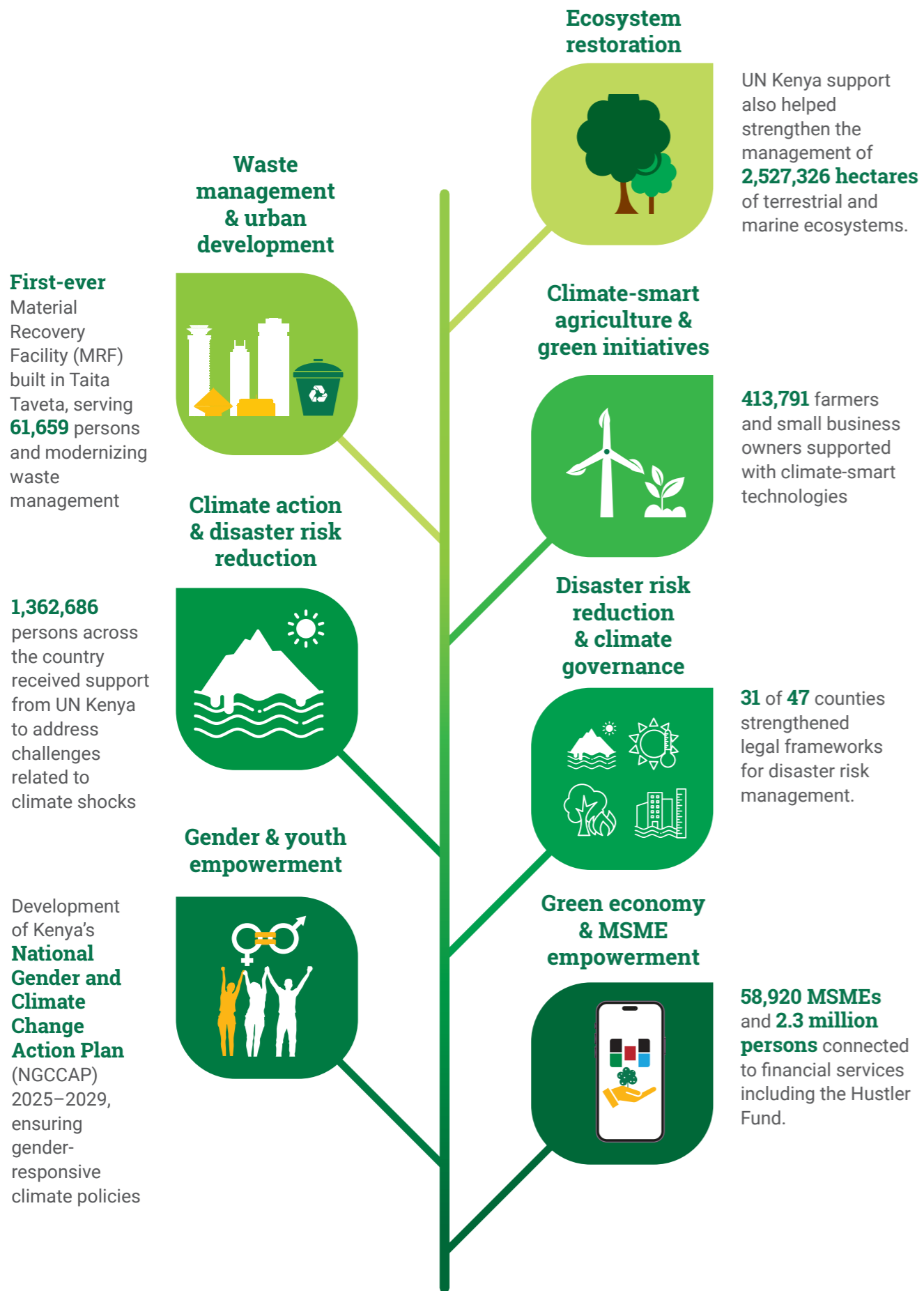
				Agricultural Transformation and Inclusive Growth	
					Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
					Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy

◀ Emily Ntwiga, Julius Kokita, Kintai Kevin, Kevin Malinge, students of Coast Institute of Technology, one of the UN supported Technical, Vocational, Education and Training (TVET) Institutes. UN Kenya supports Kenya's green transition efforts, including green technical and vocational training. © UNESCO/ KandaFocus





Snapshot of key results with UN support under Strategic Priority 2



413,791 farmers and small business owners supported with climate smart technologies towards increased productivity, net-income and better working conditions

with more than 2000 members in total - pooled their production in 26 enterprises, generating an average income increase from USD 51 to USD 107 per month. We also supported 5,000 displaced persons and host communities with sustainable livelihoods, including green economy initiatives such as solar-powered irrigation and improved water access.

To provide agronomic support and reliable seed supply, we also supported Farmer Service Centres, in collaboration with the Farm to Market Alliance and the Ministry of Agriculture, which significantly boosted yields and incomes for participants. Our support to aquaculture programmes reached **15,118 smallholder farmers** with technical assistance and access to new technologies and tools, which led to substantial increases in fish production and incomes.

To strengthen financial inclusion, capital for start-up and potential for scale-up, we supported **58,920 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, such as cooperatives and smallholder farmers, to access government services and financing** - including through the Government's "Hustler Fund". Similarly, the UN-led Timbuktoo initiative¹¹ mobilised USD 1 billion continentwide to finance 10,000 African startups (including 137 Kenyan led), focusing on renewable energy, climate resilience and waste management.

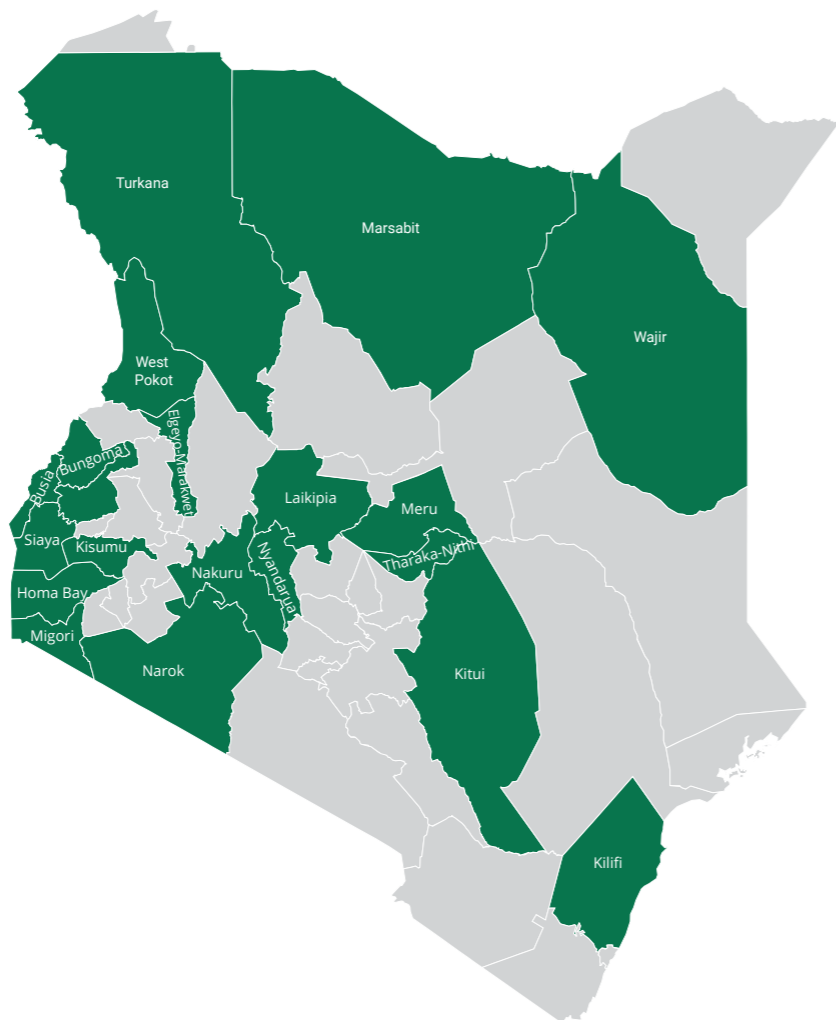
Turning banana waste into cash: Lydia Bosibori showcases innovative products crafted from fibres from banana stems, generating income that empowers local communities to invest in better food and nutrition security in Nyamira supported by UN Kenya's Joint Programme on Circularity- © FAO





Khalid Hassan, a UN supported youth farmer, holds harvested onions, one of the fast-moving cash-crops in Kenya in Takaba Mandera County. © WFP

Counties supported with climate-smart agriculture practices and technologies



Empowering women, youth and children as drivers for climate action

The multiple effects of the climate emergency do not impact everyone equally. Women, girls, children and communities in arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) often bear the harshest impacts of extreme weather, resource scarcity and economic instability. And despite their heightened vulnerability, they are frequently excluded from the very decision-making processes that determine their futures. In response, **we supported the Government in developing the Children's Climate Disaster Risk Model** - an interactive tool that evaluates 53 indicators on exposure and vulnerability of children to provide policy- and decision makers with solid data to protect children from climate-induced risks. A diverse group of youth from 20 counties were involved in the design and development of the tool.

We also worked to strengthen the voice of those at risk of being left behind in national policies and budgets related to climate change impact and prevention. For instance, **youth and children are now formally recognised in Kenya's National Climate Change Action Plan (2023–2027)**, which solidifies their role in shaping national climate

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Kristina Svedberg from the Embassy of Norway presents a certificate to Askah Kerubo on behalf of the Wefhason Farmers Cooperative Society. Amos Nyaribo, Nyamira County Governor looks on. Faisal Sharif, Deputy Country Representative IOM representing UN Kenya. The Cooperative members successfully completed training on Alternative Livelihoods, Market and Trade Opportunities, facilitated by the UN Kenya Circular Green and Blue Economies Joint Programme with support from Norway. © UN RCO/ Augustine Karani

policy. Similarly, Kenya's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement integrate youth perspectives and **position youth as key drivers of climate solutions**. We also supported the Government in developing a **National Gender and Climate Change Action Plan (2025–2029)** - a first-of-its-kind framework to ensure that climate change policies, adaptation strategies and resource distribution are **gender-responsive**.

Kenya's counties continued their move **towards gender-responsive County Integrated Development Policies**, which has led to increased gender-responsive budget allocations – and as a result increased income, food security, health and reduced poverty for women. For example, in Kitui and West Pokot, **Gender and Climate-Smart Agriculture units were established within the county departments** with UN support and allocations to these increased respectively by 64 per cent (to USD 740,342) and 118 per cent (to USD 3,279,069). Similarly, **in Laikipia, budgets for agriculture and gender departments increased by 243 per cent (to more than USD 6 million)**. Such increased budgetary allocations follow extensive UN Kenya led capacity building of county officials, advocacy campaigns and targeted awareness creation amongst farmer groups. Our support to gender-responsive and climate-smart agriculture in arid and semi-arid lands (Laikipia, Kitui and West Pokot) also contributed to a 36 per cent increase (from USD 718 to USD 1,014) in annual household income from 2020 to 2024. Notably, households that have family members living with disabilities saw an even bigger increase in income: 52 per cent over the same period.





Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Health Care

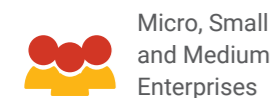


Housing and Settlements



Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises



Agricultural Transformation and Inclusive Growth

Advancing clean energy solutions

Kenya continues to show global leadership in renewable energy, with up to 93 per cent of its electricity now generated from renewable resources and with an ambition to achieve universal access to clean cooking by 2028. This year, UN Kenya supported the installation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) facilities in five schools, **positively impacting 5,650 students by replacing traditional wood stoves with clean energy solutions.** This initiative has catalysed plans to expand LPG access to 300 additional schools. We also contributed to the **installation of clean cookstoves in 10,000 vulnerable households to help improve health outcomes and decrease reliance on biomass fuels** and we supported trainings of 556 women and youth in clean cooking technologies and entrepreneurship. Altogether, these efforts have resulted in an annual reduction of 25,000 tonnes of CO₂ and helped drive climate resilience and foster inclusive economic transformation.

Protecting and restoring nature and prosperity

Supporting ecosystem restoration and reforestation to reduce soil erosion and enhance water security and biodiversity remains a priority for Kenya. With our help, an additional **2,430 hectares of critical forest land was restored in 2024**, including in Mukogodo Forest, Mount Kulal, Mount Kenya Biosphere Reserve and Amboseli Biosphere Reserve – and 4,600 climate resilient trees were planted in the Mount Kenya National Park. We also contributed to establishing **the new Mount Elgon Transboundary Biosphere Reserve: 366,370 hectares of shared land between Kenya and Uganda under sustainable management practices.** And the Merti Transboundary Aquifer Agreement between Kenya and Somalia was launched. This agreement sets a strong example of regional cooperation around groundwater management. Through improved management practices across 195,220 hectares of land, including critical areas like forests and rangelands, we helped Kenya directly mitigate an estimated 1m MT (1,076,723 tonnes) of CO₂.

UN Kenya's support also contributed to stronger management of **1,965,736 hectares of terrestrial and marine ecosystems** and planting of **117,027 tree seedlings.** Through initiatives like the Sabaki Eco-Tourism Boardwalk, an additional 10.8 hectares of mangroves have been revived and now blends conservation with community income generation. Mangroves serve as excellent carbon sinks and marine nurseries and therefore have a dual role in ecological and economic stability. These are examples of how we design conservation efforts to be inclusive and beneficial to those who depend on this resource.

Our support to management of natural resources and sustainable water management included technical assistance to developing policies and framework such as the **National Water Quality Monitoring Framework** and **eco-tourism strategies within the Malindi Watamu Biosphere Reserve.** We also contributed to stronger management, collection and recycling of waste, including the **construction of a**

Material Recovery Facility in Taita Taveta, which 61,659 persons benefit from - a model to be replicated in other counties including Nairobi. Similarly, to strengthen sustainable waste management, **Community Land Management Committees are now established in 45 counties with UN support.**

Kipeto Energy wins "UN Kenya Person of the Year" award for transformative impact

Kipeto Energy, the company behind Kenya's second-largest wind farm, has been awarded the 2024 UN Kenya Person of the Year Award for its exceptional contribution to climate action and community development. The 100MW wind farm in Kajiado County supplies 250,000 households with clean energy, off-setting 175,741 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually and advancing SDG 13: Climate Action.

Beyond powering homes, Kipeto has set a new standard for responsible corporate behaviour, with 5 per cent of its profits funding local schools, hospitals and clean water projects. The company has also created 900 jobs, trained local workers and built 84 houses for families near the wind farm.

"Kipeto's commitment to community engagement and sustainable development sets a high standard for responsible corporate behaviour," said UN Kenya Resident Coordinator, Stephen Jackson. "Their model proves that businesses can thrive while genuinely serving the welfare of people, the planet and prosperity."



How is Kipeto setting a new benchmark for sustainable energy and corporate responsibility? [Read More](#)

Charles Munyoki of Kipeto Energy displaying the Award certificate after winning the 2024 UN Kenya Person of the Year.
© UNIS/Tirus Wainaina



Acting against the climate emergency and reducing disaster risk

Kenya continues to grapple with intensifying climate-induced disasters, with the March-May 2024 floods causing damages amounting to an estimated KES 187.82 billion (USD 1.455 billion). Together with partners, we supported the Government in reaching. And after the floods, we supported the Government in carrying out a comprehensive assessment - the "Kenya Flood Response Needs Assessment" - of the loss and damages caused across key sectors. This assessment put forward concrete recommendations for how to build back better, smarter and more resilient together.

UN Kenya's collective action in 2024 supported **1,362,686 persons** across the country in **building resilience to climate shocks, food insecurity and health emergencies**. Our support included strengthened access to agricultural infrastructure and water security, development support to farmers for low-carbon agricultural practices and enhanced water security through solarising boreholes. Additionally, **276,720 persons** benefited from initiatives targeted at strengthening resilience, such as animal health services for **1,403,584 livestock**, cash and livestock feed support for **87,120 animal owners**.

Kenya continues to make strides in moving from a reactive disaster response to a proactive, resilience-focused strategy. We supported the Government to improve data management, policies and institutional capacities on disaster risk reduction to strengthen solid, evidence-based planning and decision making to reduce the loss and damages caused by the climate emergency. Among these policies are **the National Disaster Risk Management Bill, the Roadmap for Anticipatory Action and the Ending Drought Emergencies Strategy** to which we provided substantial policy guidance and helped facilitate inclusive processes.

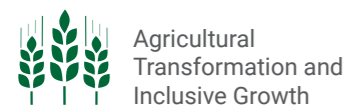
Moving forward, a speedy implementation of these strategies will require sufficient domestic resources – supported by climate financing - and continued political will. We have also supported 31 counties in developing stronger **legal and legislative frameworks for disaster risk management** and integrating these in County Integrated Development Plans. This has unlocked greater resources for disaster risk management, with 14 counties having set aside resources for risk management.

1,362,686 persons across the country received support from UN Kenya to address challenges related to climate shocks, food insecurity and health emergencies

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Health Care



Agricultural Transformation and Inclusive Growth

Navigating the Blue: How coastal communities in Kenya are transforming their future

Through Go Blue, a joint initiative by UN-Habitat and UNEP in partnership with the Government of Kenya and funded by the European Union, efforts are underway in Kenya's coastal regions to protect marine ecosystems, improve urban planning and enhance livelihoods.

At the heart of Go Blue is a commitment to integrated land-sea planning, ensuring that urban development and marine conservation go hand in hand. The programme addresses is tackling wastewater management, mangrove restoration and public space development. It empowers communities to reclaim and sustain their environment. In Mikindani, Mombasa, nature-based solutions are treating wastewater helping over 50,000 residents, farmers and fishing communities access cleaner water and improve public health.

With better planning, improved fish stocks, cleaner water and stronger ecosystems, communities can rebuild their livelihoods and safeguard their future.



How is this UN initiative reshaping life along Kenya's coastline? Read more about the impact of Go Blue and what lies ahead. [Read here.](#)



Tima Matano on a mangrove board walk that is managed as part of mangrove conservation efforts by Gazi women in Msambweni, Kwale County supported by UN Kenya. © UNDP/Allan Gichigi





Strategic Enabler: Working hand in glove with all partners to achieve the SDGs

Everything we do under the UNSDCF is underpinned by a strategic focus on advancing partnerships as a “Strategic Enabler” for sustainable development. This work focuses on **facilitating and leveraging innovative, multi-stakeholder partnerships across sectors with the Government, private sector and other development partners including civil society** - each contributing their unique expertise and know-how. Kenya has long been the beneficiary of generous Official Development Assistance (ODA) from multiple governments. But as the country continues up the development “ladder”, Kenya needs rapidly to transition from development funding to development financing. By prioritising multi-stakeholder partnerships, **we aim to create a more inclusive and effective mechanism for unlocking financing at scale for sustainable development** at both national and devolved level.

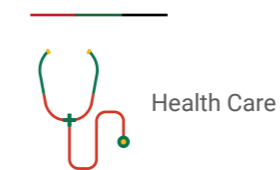
Through the **Kenya SDG Partnership Platform**, launched with the Government of Kenya at the UN General Assembly in 2017, UN Kenya has established a proven track record of convening, connecting and catalysing multi-stakeholder partnerships and innovative forms of development financing that the Government can utilise in advancing its national development priorities and global commitments.

Leveraging innovation and results-based financing to end teen pregnancies and new HIV infections

Kenya experiences deep challenges with teen pregnancy and new HIV infections among adolescents. Poverty, persistent, adverse societal norms (including amongst men and boys) and lack of education significantly elevate the risk of adolescent pregnancies – and vice versa, in a vicious circle. Adolescent girls and young women are particularly vulnerable and account for 78 per cent of new HIV infections in this age group.

In collaboration with the Government and key partners, we have in 2024 rolled out an innovative public-private collaboration to end teen pregnancy and new HIV infections among adolescents: **a USD 12 million Development Impact Bond (DIB)**. This “DIB for Adolescent

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya’s BETA priorities



◀ Daniel, a community mobiliser, introduces a young woman in Migori County to the UN Kenya supported “Tiko Platform” that enable her to access free sexual and reproductive health and rights services through the app. ©TIKO





Snapshot of key results with UN support from the Strategic Enabler

Scaling up access to family planning services for women and girls



An initial **\$7m** investment from the Secretary-General's Joint SDG Fund expanded to a **\$12m** investment overall through public/private partnership.

424,911 girls and women helped to access with family planning services.

SDG monitoring & reporting



Gender mainstreaming & policy development

93.3% of the UN System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) Scorecard indicators exceeded minimum standards.



Kenya's **third Voluntary National Review (VNR)** gave a solid overview of progress and challenges related to the implementation of the SDGs.



Budget transparency & public finance

The **"Bajeti Yetu"** budget portal - hosted by National Treasury - increased budget transparency by providing easy access to citizens on information about public funds usage.



Pooling funding for joint action through the SDG Multi-Partner Trust Fund Kenya (MPTF Kenya)

Pooled funding more than doubled from **\$12 million** to **\$27 million**.

\$7 million allocated to gender-sensitive and gender-transformative joint programmes.



Access to HIV care services


The Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Development Impact Bond (ASRH -DIB) programme reached more than **155,425 adolescent girls** with **HIV services**.



UN Joint Programmes

12 new generation UN joint programmes launched by 2024 - accelerating UN Kenya joint action for impact.

Sexual and Reproductive Health in Kenya" put in place results-based financing to drive the delivery of **high-quality and scalable sexual and reproductive health services**, including HIV testing and treatment. Adolescent girls use an app to choose where and how they access critical services. Just as importantly, it empowers them to provide real-time feedback on their usage experience, allowing ongoing improvements of the services offered and results-based outcome payment.

 The Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Development Impact Bond (ASRH -DIB) programme reached more than **155,425 adolescent girls** with access to HIV services.

Caroline Kisomba, a student from the UN-supported Coast Institute of Technology, arranges her toolbox.
© UNESCO/KandaFocus

The DIB has taken off extraordinarily. In its first year, it already **reached more than 155,425 adolescent girls with access to HIV services**. Further, more than **420,000 gained access to family planning services, again nearly double the target** for 2024. Healthy, empowered girls are more likely to stay in school, pursue economic opportunities and contribute to their communities, creating a ripple effect that supports broader SDG targets related to health, education and gender equality. We are pushing hard to build out **new uses for his incredible model – uniting innovative financing with enhanced online access to make investor out-payment conditioned on development results and impact**. We see very good potential in expanded it for diverse challenges in sustainable development: in agriculture, in vocational education and in government service delivery. Similarly, we also supported Kenya in generating **more accurate annual HIV estimates through technical support and capacity-building for data collection and analysis**. These efforts improved the reliability of HIV data, enabling targeted interventions and effective monitoring to combat the epidemic.



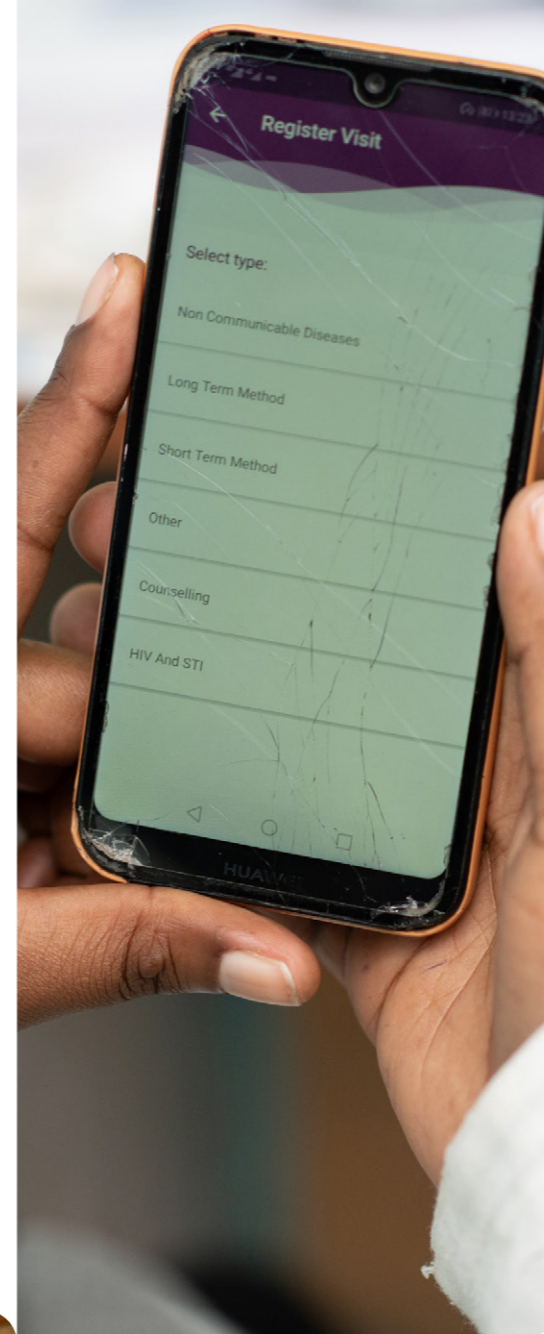


Strengthening data systems for development planning

UN Kenya supported Kenya's **3rd Voluntary National Review (VNR)** for 2024 presented at the UN High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development in New York. The VNR showcased Kenya's progress and challenges towards achieving the **17 SDGs**. Out of **166 indicators**, **60 per cent** (101 indicators) show advance, 12 per cent (20 indicators) stalled, 17 per cent (28 indicators) regressed.

Accurate and timely data is the backbone of effective policymaking, enabling governments to allocate resources efficiently, track progress and address emerging challenges. We work hand in hand with the Government in enhancing monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the SDGs. In July, Kenya presented its third **Voluntary National Review (VNR) of SDG implementation at the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development**. Following dedicated support from UN Kenya and partners to help the Government gain access to relevant development data, reported data for the VNR **was available for 67.7 per cent of SDG indicators – a significant increase from 51.6 per cent in 2020**. We provided technical support and quality assurance of the 2024 VNR, including the development of the CSO Shadow VNR Report with independent recommendations from civil society to accelerate SDG implementation and leaving no one behind.

In 2024, we also supported the development of the **"Bajeti Yetu" budget portal**. A groundbreaking tool hosted by the National Treasury that promotes transparency by providing **easy access to information on public fund usage**, empowering citizens to hold leaders accountable and ensure sufficient and efficient resource allocation to address the needs of marginalised populations. 37 counties are now using the portal. We also provided technical assistance, capacity building and policy integration to **prioritise sex-disaggregated data in Kenya's 4th Medium Term Plan**. These efforts enhance gender-responsive planning, mainstream gender statistics and support Kenya achieve its gender equality objectives.



Support to partnerships and financing for SDGs

Our close collaboration a wide array of partners, including the Kenyan Government (at both national and the 47 county levels), development partners, International Financial Institutions (such as the Africa Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund), multilateral and bilateral institutions, civil society organisations and community groups is essential to achieve the Government's development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN Kenya SDG Partnerships Platform continues to successfully catalyse and explore innovative partnerships and financing solutions. A highlight in 2024 was co-organising the successful **Building Bridges Africa-Europe Investment Summit**, which brought together stakeholders from Switzerland, Europe, Kenya and across Africa to showcase private sector SDG investment opportunities in Kenya and the broader African

Leveraging technology to scale-up access to family planning and HIV services in a way that empowers girls and young women

In Kenya's informal settlements, a digital revolution is changing the lives of adolescent girls. The TIKO app, supported by Kenya's first adolescent sexual and reproductive health development impact bond, is providing hundreds of thousands of young women with free, confidential access to essential healthcare services, including family planning and HIV prevention.

With over 129,000 new enrolments in 2024, girls can now use their mobile phones to find nearby health facilities, receive appointment reminders. After the service, the users rate the quality of the service provided, placing control over their health in their own hands.

Since its launch in 2023, the initiative developed by UN Kenya has reached 424,911 girls across ten high-burden counties, equipping them with knowledge to make choices and care. This pioneering model is mobilising public-private partnerships to tackle teenage pregnancies and HIV infections Backed by a catalytic \$7 million from UN Joint SDG fund investment that has since mobilised additional \$5 million.



This is not just healthcare—it is a lifeline. Discover how this groundbreaking initiative is reshaping adolescent's rights and health in Kenya. [Read more](#)

A young woman explores the TIKO platform as she accesses sexual & reproductive health services at a TIKO clinic. © TIKO

Contributions to SDGs and Kenya's BETA priorities



Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy



From left to right: Joy Gacheri, UNOCHA, James Mwangi, Equity CEO, Nelly Rita Muriuki, UNDESA, Arif Neki, SDGPP Coordinator UNRCO Kenya, Harriette Chiggai, Office of the President Kenya at the 10th anniversary commemoration of UN Kenya SDG partnership platform on the sidelines of UN General Assembly 2024. © JOINT SDG FUND.





UN Kenya supported the inaugural Building Bridges Africa-Europe Investment Summit in 2024, bringing together stakeholders from Switzerland, Europe, Kenya and across Africa to foster mutual understanding of financial ecosystems and promote cross-continental collaboration.

continent, with a focus on innovative financing models such as the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Development Impact Bond, renewable energy and green transitions and tech ecosystems.

The SDG Partnerships Platform also contributed to the **2024 African Venture Philanthropy Alliance Conference** held in Kenya by, among other things, bringing the UN Kenya joint programmes to the table as exemplary models of collaborative multi-stakeholder partnerships. During the opening weeks of the 79th UN General Assembly in September, we presented our experiences in applying and scaling up innovative financing models, including the Development Impact Bond for Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health, to a global audience of policy and decision makers. Through the SDG **Multi Partner Trust Fund Kenya**, we continued to explore opportunities for unlocking additional funding and financing for the UN Kenya joint programmes, such as facilitating joint UN Kenya applications to global vertical funds in close collaboration with International Financial Institutions.

Major milestones in the collaboration between UN entities in Kenya

In the run-up to the 2024 UN Summit of the Future in New York, UN Kenya was chosen to host the **first-ever UN Civil Society Conference in the Global South, with over 2,000 participants representing 115 nationalities**. Led by the UN Department of Global Communications, the conference culminated in a set of recommendations under the joint leadership of the UN Secretary-General António Guterres and President William Ruto. These recommendations fed into the finalisation of the **Pact for the Future** – a global agenda that now guides UN Member States and the UN entities on development priorities and required reforms. UN Kenya helped ensure that civil society voices—particularly from Africa—were firmly embedded in these global governance conversations, reinforcing once more Kenya's position as a leader in shaping multilateralism. Since the Summit, UN Kenya has convened different stakeholders to promote awareness and implementation of the Pact for the Future.

Against the backdrop of climate-induced disasters, we came together to **respond swiftly to Kenya's dual humanitarian emergencies in 2024**: the prolonged drought crisis and the devastating El Niño floods in first half of 2024. Kenya mobilised USD 364 million under the 2023/2024 Drought Response Plan, reaching over 1.3 million vulnerable persons with food aid, cash transfers and livelihood support. Following the El Niño floods in the first half of 2024, which displaced over 500,000 persons and led to significant loss of lives and property, **UN Kenya acted swiftly to coordinate a multi-sectoral response and reach 339,512 persons with emergency assistance**, including safe water, sanitation and shelter. Measures were also implemented to contain potential disease outbreaks and facilitate urban resilience planning to mitigate future climate shocks. These efforts underscore the power of our collective response to complex emergencies, blending life-saving humanitarian action with longer-term development planning.

As has been demonstrated throughout the results in this report, the UN Resident Coordinator and all heads of UN entities in the UN Country Team Kenya have **put joint action and pooled funding at the forefront of the implementation of the UNSDCF**, with the target of delivering

50 per cent of programming through joint action over the lifetime of the framework. We have started implementing the first 12 out of approximately 20 new UN joint programmes – a major milestone and collective deliverable by the 24 UN entities in Kenya. Together with the eight additional JPs that will be launched in 2025, these JPs each address some of Kenya's most pressing socio-economic and development challenges.

We have been equally proud to **spearhead the global work to drive UN efficiencies and cost containment**. In January 2024, UN Kenya became the **very first team globally** to implement the Secretary-General's vision of establishing a **UN Common Back Office (CBO)**. **The CBO offers a single operational and administrative platform for all UN programmatic entities in the country**, across services such as administration, technology, procurement and Human Resources (all services offered by UNON), logistics (offered by WFP) and finance (offered by UNICEF). The CBO Kenya harmonises UN operations, enhances efficiency and fosters collaboration among over +70 UN entities – based in Nairobi but working in Kenya, regionally and/or globally - and 5,500+ personnel operating in and from Kenya. Some significant milestones during the first year include the rollout of common HR rosters and procurement tenders, collaboration on transport with shared fleet initiatives and the establishment of the body for mutual recognition of contracts.

Students from the Kinyanjui Technical Training Institute testing a solar powered system. UN Kenya supports skills and innovation towards enhancing Kenya's green transition.
© UNESCO/ KandaFocus



Evaluations and lessons learned

Halfway through the lifespan of our UNSDCF (running to 30 June 2027), 2024 provided us some key lessons that will help increase our impact and scale for the SDGs still further.

First, we will go nowhere without strong, multi-stakeholder partnerships. These are essential to amplifying impact and ensuring that interventions remain sustainable. And they take time to create. This is why in the design of the UNSDCF we elected to make “Partnerships” a cross-cutting strategic enabler. We have continued to promote public-private partnerships and platforms to leverage innovative solutions and large-scale SDG financing. **We allocate funding from our growing SDG Multi-Partner Trust Fund Kenya (currently capitalised at USD 32.4 million) to joint programmes that truly have the catalytic potential to unlock other sources of funding and financing.** This includes applications to major global funds on environment and climate. The MPTF Kenya funding is also used to explore concrete opportunities for further strengthening synergies between the UNSDCF, with emphasis on the joint programmes and interventions by International Financial Institutions.

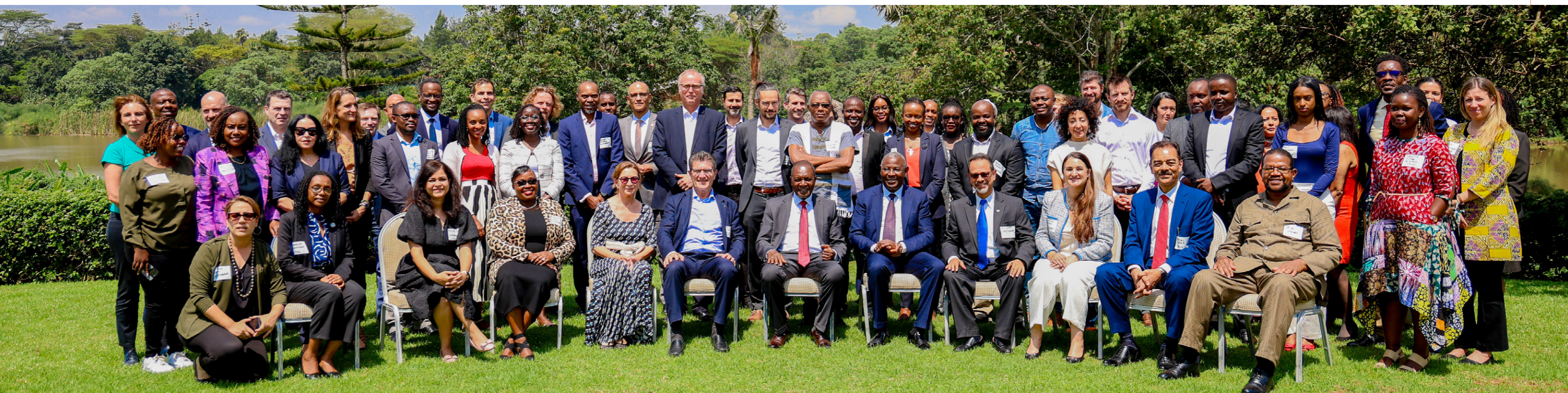
Shifting the traditional “business model” for the UN based on Official Development Assistance (ODA) towards a model of blended funding and financing requires sustained prioritisation, interaction and capacities – both for us and for the private sector partners exploring collaboration with us. **With rapidly declining ODA, this shift is even more urgently demanded and we will continue to invest time and resources to get there and continuously evaluate and adapt our practices.** To accelerate action towards financing for development, we have launched a Technical Advisory Group on Development Finance comprising both UN and private sector expertise. The group supports selected UN joint programmes with targeted scoping assessments of innovative financing instruments such as development bonds and green bonds, de-risking, social impact investments and crowd-funding.

Multi-stakeholder participants at the inaugural Bridging Africa-Europe SDGs Investment Summit co-hosted by UN Kenya and Embassy of Switzerland in collaboration with Building Bridges Switzerland.
©RCO/ Augustine Karani

Kenya’s government - at both national and county level - faces dramatically constrained fiscal space. Despite that, **there is no alternative to stepping up government co-funding to the SDGs** including for the joint action under the UNSDCF. Domestic and progressive revenue generation that shields those furthest behind - combined with stronger and more pronounced policies to address social and economic inequalities - are key for sustainable financing of services and interventions in Kenya. Steps are being taken and the transition is expected to run over the coming years. In the interim, we remain committed to ensuring full visibility of all interventions, providing the Government with comprehensive oversight of UN support and funding to Kenya.

The severe flooding in first half of 2024 once again underscored the urgent need for adaptive planning and risk mitigation strategies to mainstream resilience across everything we do. **We continue to prioritise critical interventions in disaster risk reduction, adaptation and water management. Progress is hampered by limited domestic resources available for such preventive and anticipatory interventions.** Going forward, we will revisit relevant joint programmes – including those on Water, Devolution and Disaster Risk Reduction – to ensure a solid focus on resilience both programmatically and for funding and financing. The joint programme on devolution also embeds a dedicated focus on strengthening the capacity of county governments to undertake climate budgeting.

Kenya’s overall development trajectory has seen disruption and challenges since 2022, not excluding 2024. The political scene continues to be one of changing coalitions and this “politicking” - as the Kenyans refer to it – diverts political attention from necessary economic, social and political reform. We continually assess developments and strive to adapt our support and interventions to the extent possible. **We also try to be one step ahead of breaking developments by drawing on so-called “foresight scenario” techniques to anticipate developments and prepare action plans.** Routinising such expertise in UN action is a key new approach that we will continue and deepen in the coming years.





Financial overview

UN Kenya financial expenditures for sustainable development and humanitarian action 2024

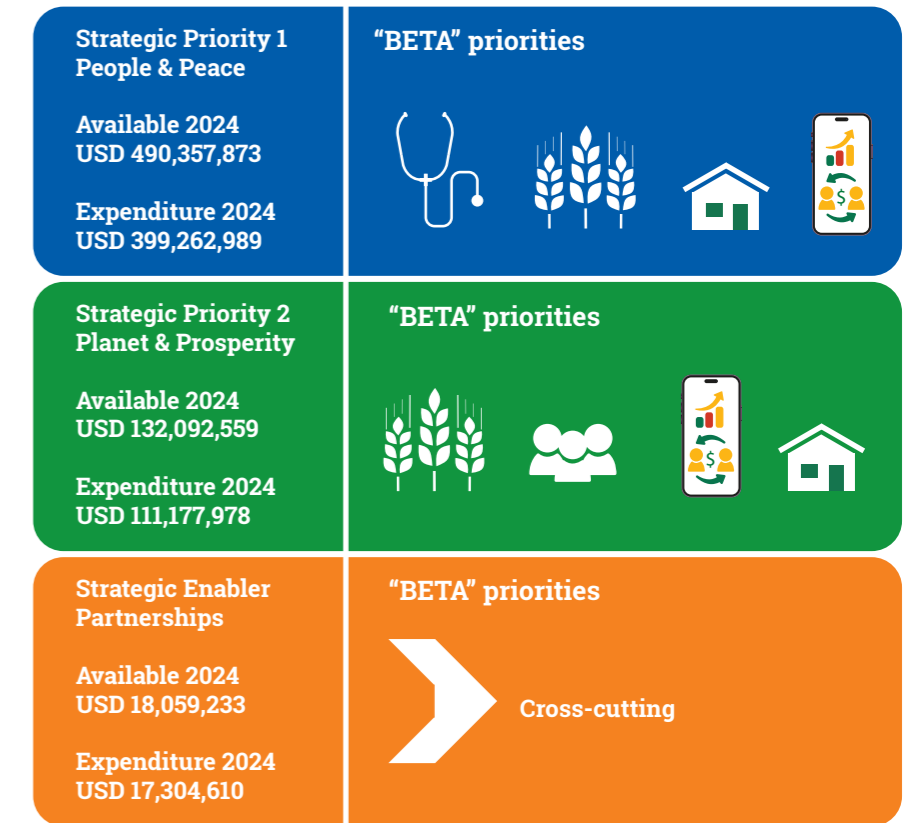


- Health Care
- Agricultural Transformation and Inclusive Growth
- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- Housing and Settlements
- Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy

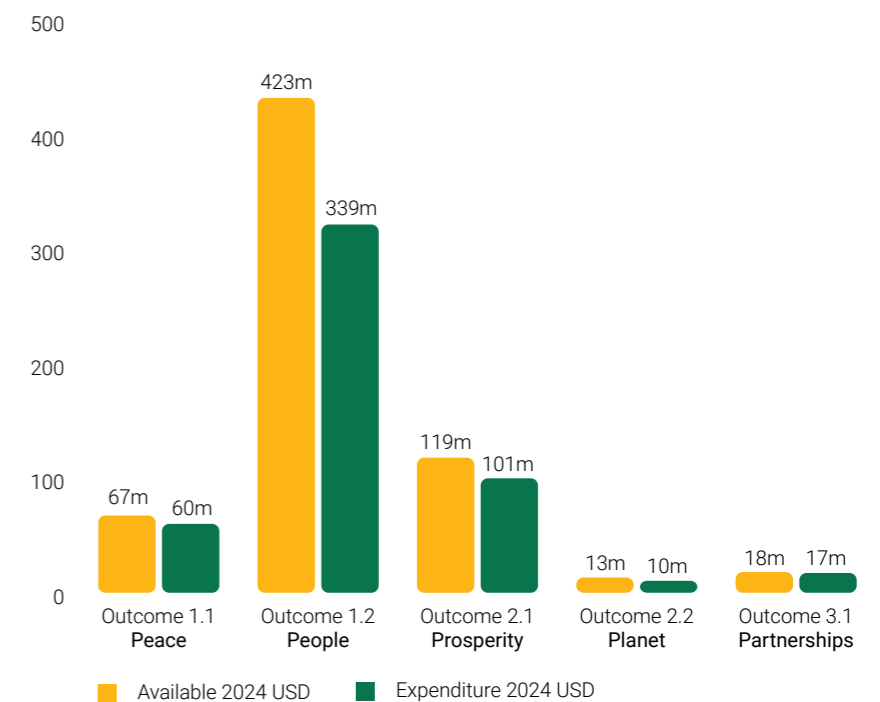
The Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) captures the Kenya Government's Development Priorities. Aligned with Kenya Vision 2030, BETA focuses on five key pillars expected to have the highest impact. Wherever these icons appear, they represent our contribution to these priorities.

Please note: The BETA icons used here are for illustrative purposes only and are not the official logos of the BETA priorities.

UN Kenya contributions to Kenya's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA)

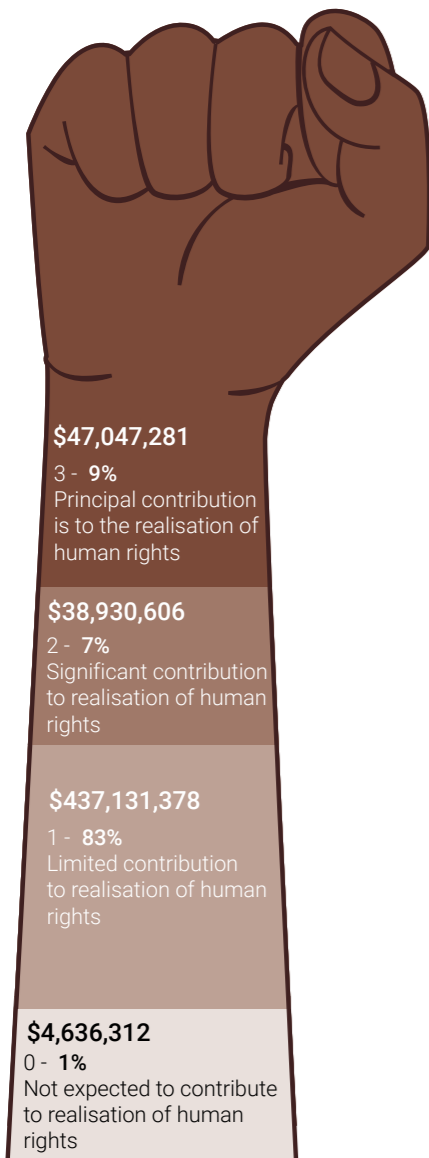


2024 available and expended resources per outcome under the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

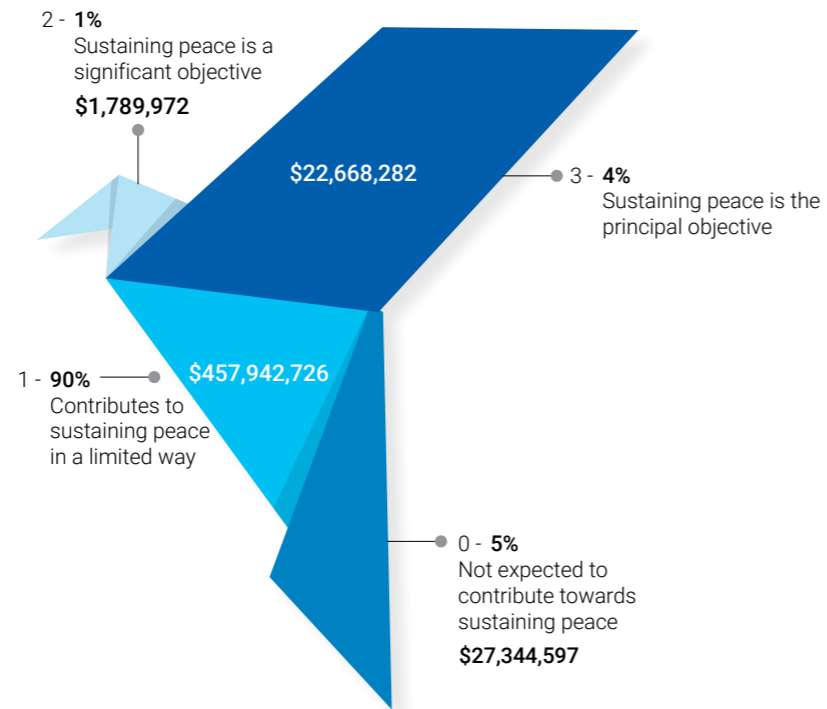




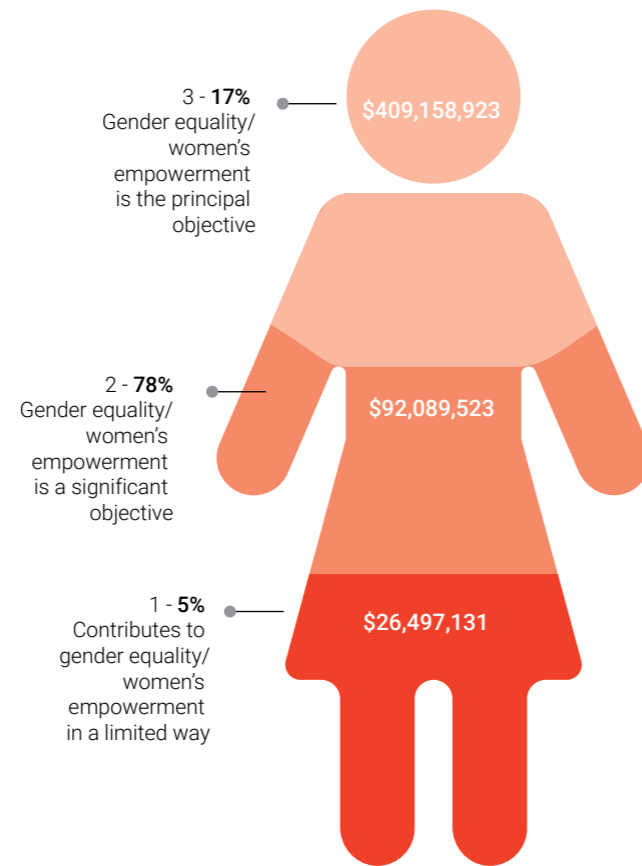
Human Rights Marker*



Peace Marker*



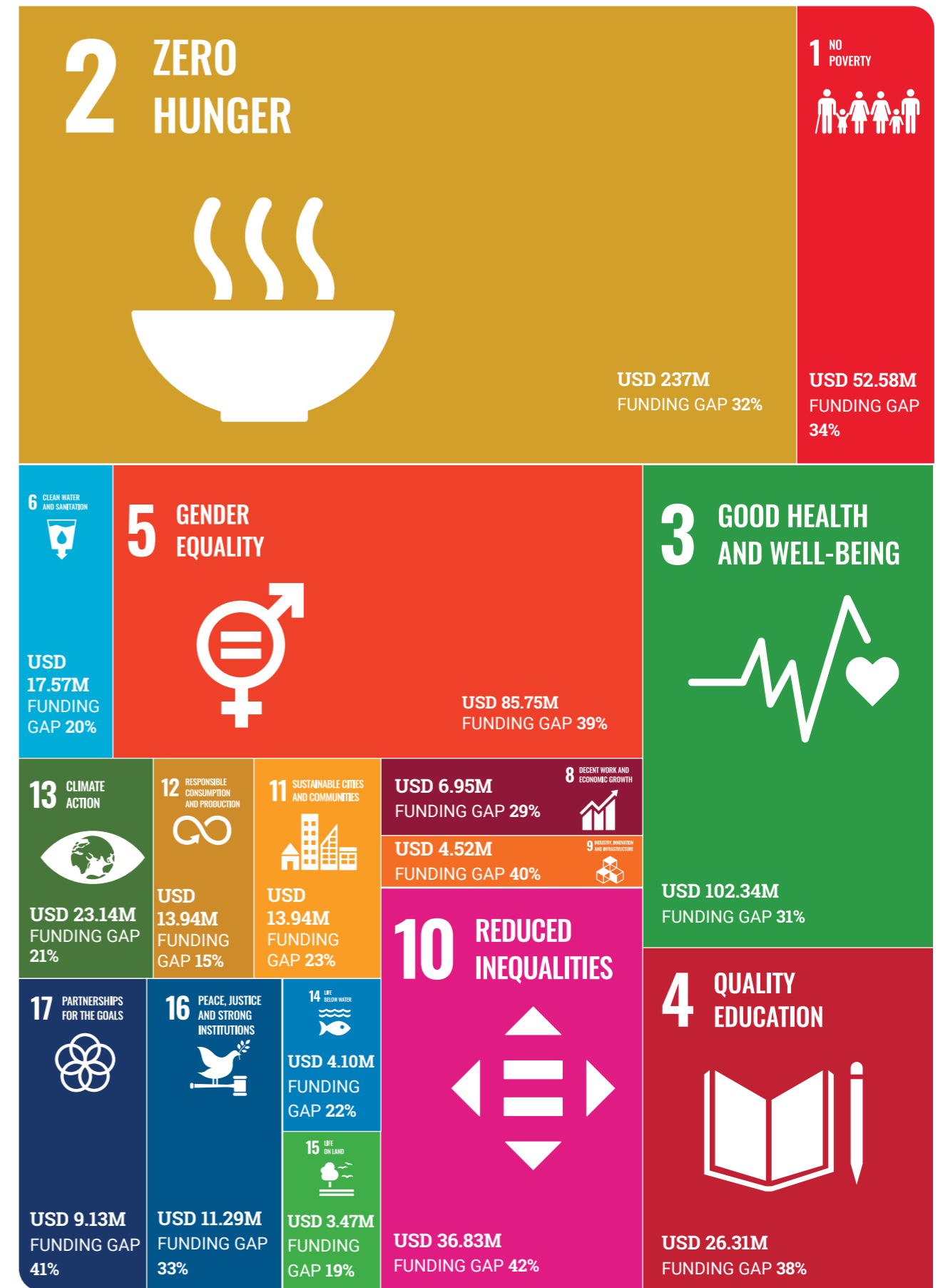
Gender Marker*



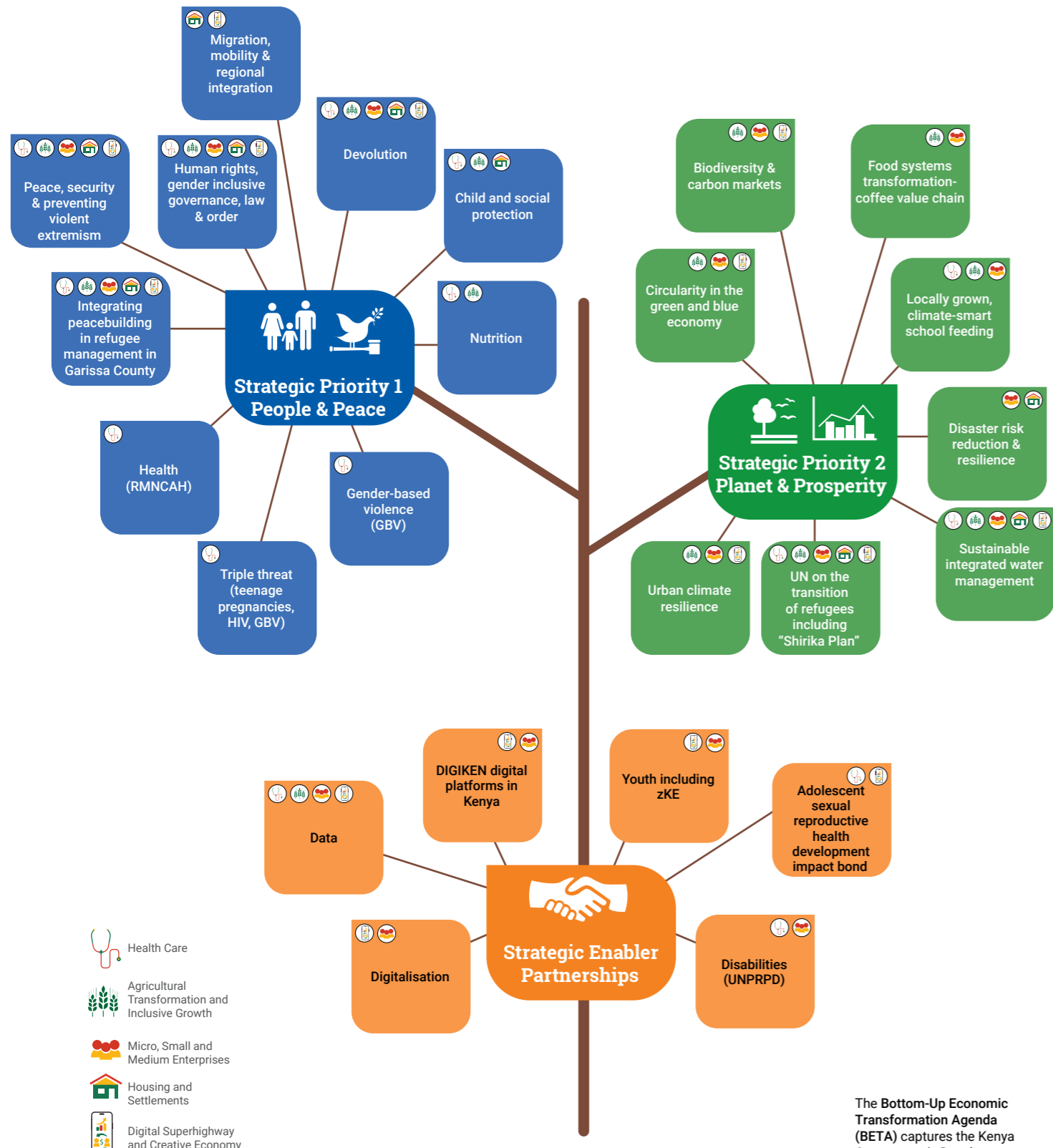
* **Human Rights, Peace and Gender Markers** are tools used by the United Nations and development organisations to assess the integration of key principles into programmes and policies. The Human Rights Marker promotes accountability. The Peace Marker ensures conflict-sensitive programming and the Gender Marker advances gender equality and women's empowerment.

Where is the money going?

UN Kenya contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals and the funding gap



UNSDCF 2022-2026 Kenya new generation UN Joint Programmes*



United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022 - 2027

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Mwanaisha Halua harvests her sweet potatoes in her farm in Tana River County. UN Kenya recognises and supports women farmers who are a backbone of Kenyan farming. © WFP



*The current status of UN Kenya joint programmes, end of 2024.



Looking ahead – our ambitions for 2025

Moving through 2025 we will remain resolutely committed to delivering on the strategic priorities outlined in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2022-2027 through our flagship UN joint programmes and the equally indispensable programme expertise of our individual UN entities. Halfway into the implementation of the UNSDCF, we will undertake a **light review of the programmatic layer of the UNSDCF, with an emphasis on our joint activities** – in close collaboration with the Government of Kenya and various stakeholders – to make sure that everything we do is and continue to be “fit for purpose”. This will be supplemented by an update of the Common Country Analysis, which will provide in-depth insights into Kenya’s evolving socio-economic landscape and the growing inequalities.

The rollout of the first set of the new generation UN joint programmes in 2023 and 2024 marked a milestone for us and 2025 will be a critical year to push for effective implementation of each of these. **A next batch of UN joint programmes under our strategic priority, “Planet and Prosperity”, will be launched over the coming months** to help drive our collective ambition to foster a sustainable, green and circular economic transformation, environmental sustainability and social protection for all. Across everything we do, we





will continue to take advantage of data and technologies to efficiently target and implement interventions.

In 2025, we need to **scale up support for persons with disabilities by further expanding the Cash Transfer for Persons with Severe Disabilities programme, which saw a 34 per cent increase in beneficiaries in 2024**. For arid and semi-arid regions, we will prioritise scaling up climate-resilient and diversified livelihoods, such as beekeeping and drought-resistant agriculture, building on lessons learned and good practices. In urban and informal settlements, we plan to extend our focus on enhancing sanitation and urban resilience. These efforts will be underpinned by a strong focus on gender-responsive and age-sensitive approaches, ensuring that women, youth and older persons in vulnerable communities are empowered to build resilience against climate shocks and economic vulnerabilities.

2024's clear call for action from Kenya's youth – the now famous "Gen Z" – to create jobs, strengthen transparency and accountability in governance and reduce inequalities has been clearly heard. **We will scale-up even more targeted interventions for and with youth to deepen meaningful and representative opportunities for youth to influence decisions about their future - fully in line with the Kenya 2010 Constitution's commitment to public participation**. This will be a key collective deliverable for us in 2025, particularly through extending the "**zKe: Digitally Deliberative Democracy**" initiative aimed at broadening and deepening citizen participation through online and offline platforms to facilitate constructive dialogue.

As Kenya navigates complex national political issues in a volatile region - and with an eye on the upcoming elections in 2027 - we will **continue to support Kenya in inclusive conflict prevention and resolution support**, strengthening social cohesion, electoral preparedness and public participation, protection of human rights, reinforcing justice and strengthening accountability mechanisms. **Community resilience against the backdrop of the climate emergency and other disasters** will remain another critical area of focus.

Our work will also be **guided by the Pact for the Future** - the landmark resolution adopted by world leaders at the UN Summit of the Future in September 2024. Several key areas of the Pact are directly aligned with the Government of Kenya's priorities, such as **fast-tracking reforms of the international financial architecture** to strengthen representation from the Global South and lower the cost of development capital for developing countries. And to make sure that we **fully leverage the potential of new technologies and innovations** to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2025, we will also continue **proactively shifting from funding to financing** of UN development action. Scaled up efforts will focus on leveraging private sector engagement, blended financing models, impact-driven investment strategies and joint UN Kenya applications to global environment and climate funds. By systematically fostering these new funding and financing modalities, we aim to ensure financial sustainability for progress towards the Government's development priorities and the SDGs.

As we go to press in March, 2025 is already showing itself to be an unpredictable and turbulent year for Kenya and the world. Our collective priority is to deliver sustained and impactful results through scaled up joint action to ensure that we protect and build further on Kenya's hard won development gains, leaving no one behind.



Matilda Tofilo Matondoni, a member of Young Women Christian Association at her business premise in Oda, Tana River County UN Kenya supports women led enterprises towards empowering their socioeconomic opportunities.

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