

UNITED NATIONS EGYPT

2021 UN COUNTRY ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

EGYPT



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In addition, 2021 laid the foundation for deep reflection and interventions on multiple developmental challenges, including food security, population growth, multidimensional poverty, climate resilience, biodiversity loss

Foreword

On behalf of the United Nations Country Team in Egypt, I am pleased to present the 2021 UN Country Annual Results Report. This report captures the continuous and collaborative efforts made by twenty-eight UN entities operating in Egypt (agencies, programmes and funds) to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while supporting the country's priorities under Egypt's Vision 2030 and key national strategies. The Report sheds light on the progress made during the fourth year of implementation of the UN Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) 2018-2022.

In 2021, COVID-19 continued to negatively impact progress towards the 2030 Agenda and especially the lives of the most vulnerable people in Egypt. Therefore, efforts to curb consequences of the pandemic and better recover have been central to the partnership between the United Nations and the Government of Egypt. The UN worked closely with the Government as well as with all stakeholders-including civil society, private sector, think tanks/academia, media and local communities to ensure a sustainable and equitable recovery, especially for those hit hardest by the pandemic. The development and operationalization of an inclusive vaccination plan supported the country in rolling out the vaccination for more than 40 million people including migrants and refugees by the end of December 2021 with the support of the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator and its COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility.

and gender inequality underlining an array of urgent and longer-term steps to create more sustainable, resilient and inclusive society. The UN engaged proactively on the national flagship programme 'Decent Life' by focusing and expanding UN interventions in the Decent Life villages with the aim of maximizing the impact of national development efforts to improve the lives of the most in need.

On the social front, the UN supported national education systems to ensure safe school reopening, enhancing national health systems, expanding social protection services and family planning to the most vulnerable as well as empowering adolescents and youth. The UN remarkably supported the creation of job opportunities, particularly for start-ups and MSMEs. Achievements were further made in addressing climate related risks and promoting environmental sustainability, such as increased renewable energy utilization for industrial applications, climate change adaptation in agriculture and in at-risk coastal zones areas, and efficient and sustainable waste management. The UN reached out to millions of women through various campaigns and implementation of programmes on access to legal rights, response services, financial inclusion, different forms of violence against women and girls and promoting positive male role models with the overall aim to ensure the economic, political and social empowerment of women and girls. In addition, comprehensive efforts were made to continue supporting migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, leading to the launch of the Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees. The Joint Platform aims at enhanced coordination, better delivery, and mobilization of resources for social inclusion and cohesion of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and their host communities.

The UN strengthened its ongoing strategic dialogue with the Government of Egypt and other development partners on financing for sustainable development and climate resilience by offering a platform to discuss SDG financing issues, including innovative financing, with a commitment to develop a National SDG Financing Strategy.

The UN delivered US\$180.1 million of joint activities in Egypt in 2021.

As 2022 will mark the final year of the current UNPDF, the UN in Egypt will focus on the finalization of the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2023-2027, building on the lessons learnt from the implementation of the current Framework. The UN will also partner with the Government of Egypt in its capacity as host of the UN Climate Change Conference 2022 (UNFCCC COP 27).

I would like to thank all our partners for the meaningful and fruitful cooperation on advancing the sustainable development of Egypt in 2021. Only together can we accelerate progress on the SDGs and deliver on the promise of Agenda 2030 that no one will be left behind.



Elena Panova **United Nations Resident Coordinator in Egypt**

UN Country Team in Egypt



Twenty-eight United Nations (UN) agencies¹, funds and programmes comprise the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Egypt, chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC), the designated representative of the UN Secretary General in the country.

The UNCT is fully committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the country, in close partnership with the Government of Egypt (GoE). The UNCT continues to rely and build upon its key comparative advantages, drawing on all UN's expertise, and promoting integrated approaches to achieve nationally defined development results. These results are reflected in the country's national sustainable development strategy (Egypt Vision 2030) and national plans and frameworks, while ensuring no one is left behind.

The United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) for the period 2018-2022 outlines the UNCT's collaborative work in support of national efforts to adopt inclusive and sustainable development pathways and to reach the interim targets of Egypt's Vision 2030. This includes efforts to ensure inclusive, sustainable, resilient and job rich economic development (outcome 1); sustainable access of all people in Egypt to public services (outcome 2); sustainable natural resources management and fostering of a greener economy and society (outcome 3); and women and girls' full contribution to Egypt's development and protection of their rights with no discrimination (outcome 4). Throughout the UNPDF, the UNCT applies four inter-related programming principles: leave no one behind; human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment; sustainability and resilience; and accountability.

1 This does not include the World Bank and IMF that are members of the UNCT but not signatories of the current UNPDF.



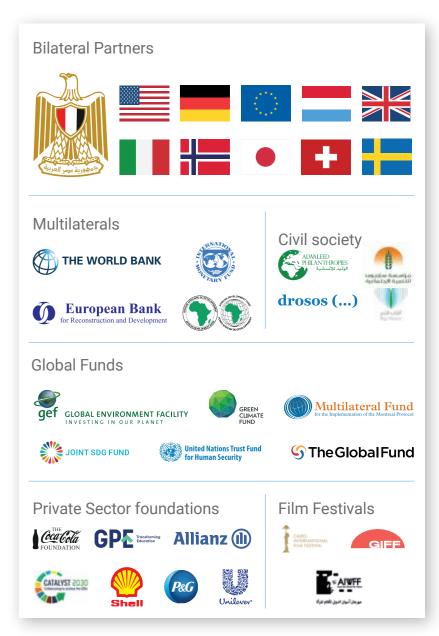
Key Development Partners of the UN in Egypt

The UN system's key development partners in Egypt are the GoE, international development organizations and financial institutions, civil society, the private sector, academia, the media and the people of Egypt. Without them, the results presented in this report would not have been possible.

In 2021, the Minister of International Cooperation in partnership with the UNRC continued to guide the strategic direction of the UNPDF as the co-chairs of GoE-UN Joint Steering Committee (JSC), while outcome-level implementation was overseen by the joint Results Groups (RGs) that are cochaired by relevant line ministers and heads of UN agencies. The Ministries of Planning and Economic Development, Social Solidarity, Environment and the National Council of Women co-chaired the RGs for the Prosperity, People, Planet and Women outcomes, respectively. The UN also maintained a close partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in addition to various line ministries and national institutions.

In addition to the strong partnership with GoE, the UN in Egypt continued to foster partnerships with bilateral and multilateral partners (including international financial institutions (IFIs)), civil society and private sector during the reporting period. In 2021, approximately 54 per cent of financial contributions to the UNPDF came from bilateral and multilateral partners, with the European Union, United States of America, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Norway, Japan, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Sweden as the top financial contributors. Concurrently, strategic engagement and coordination was maintained through the Development Partners Group (DPG) coordination mechanism as well as through the UN-IFI strategic dialogues and the Economist Network². The UN also continued its partnership with global thematic and UN funds like the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and the Joint SDG Fund.

Furthermore, the UN in Egypt maintained and further enhanced partnerships with key partners from the private sector, including Coca cola, Global Partnership and Catalyst. It also engaged with civil society, including Alwaleed Philanthropies, Sawiris Foundation for Social Development, Drosos and the Big Heart Foundation. At the same time, the UN also partnered with a number of international film festivals held in Egypt including Cairo International Film Festival, Gouna International Film Festival, and Aswan International Women Film Festival to bring inspirational voices and development stories to the public.



² The UN coordinates an informal network of development partner economists to promote information sharing and dialogue



Egypt's economy continued to show resilience in 2021. Economic activity further rebounded during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic as restrictions eased and the global recovery slowly took shape-despite hurdles including the emergence of the Omicron variant and global political instability. Many of Egypt's export-oriented sectors that were most affected by the pandemic also continued to recover, including tourism, manufacturing, extractives, and Suez Canal receipts.



Key Developments in the Country and Regional Context



Egypt's economy continued to show resilience in 2021 with a real GDP growth of 3.3 per cent



Unemployment reached 7.4 per cent in Q4 2021 falling from 9.6 per cent at the peak of COVID crisis

This resilience led to real GDP growth of 3.3 per cent in 2021 according to the IMF, a slight decrease from 3.6 per cent in 2020³. Economies around the world also rebounded from COVID-19 in 2021, with global growth reaching 5.9 per cent. Looking ahead, the IMF forecasts in 2022 further growth of 5.6 per cent in Egypt, higher than estimates for much of the world including advanced economies (3.9 per cent), emerging and developing economies (4.8 per cent), and the world (4.4 per cent).



Egypt's recent economic performance has also been anchored by the Government's pre-pandemic structural reform efforts and a strong COVID policy response

Egypt's recent economic performance has also been anchored by the Government's pre-pandemic structural reform efforts and a strong COVID policy response, such as relief to businesses and workers in the most impacted sectors, deferral of tax payments, and expansion of cash transfer programmes. Egypt's growth over the past year was further supported by the global recovery and pick-up in international travel and world trade.

On the other hand, unemployment was 7.4 per cent in Q4 2021⁴. This represents a decrease from 9.6 per cent at the peak of the COVID crisis in Q2 2020. The labour force participation rate was 43.8 per cent of the working-age population in Q4 2021, reflecting the long-standing challenge of job-creation in the formal sector.

Significant gender disparities also continue to exist in the labour market. Recent years have seen a growing gap between female and male unemployment. In Q4 2021, unemployment was 5.2 per cent for men 17.8 per cent for women. Female unemployment also rose over the past year, while the male rate was largely static. (The female unemployment rate was 16.8 per cent during the same quarter last year). According to analysis by the UN, women across all age groups were also more severely impacted by COVID-19 in terms employment, with women under-30 the most severely impacted⁵

Unemployment moreover disproportionately affects young people. It remains concentrated mainly among youth (i.e., new entrants in the labour market) and the more educated (i.e., upper-secondary and above graduates). Egyptians between 15-29 account for almost two-thirds of the total unemployed (64 per cent). Meanwhile many of those employed are in low productivity, low paid, and insecure jobs.

On the fiscal front, Egypt continued consolidation in 2021. The budget deficit-to-GDP ratio declined from 7.9 per cent in FY2019/20 to 7.4 per cent in FY2020/216. This was largely due to relatively contained spending and improvements in government revenue-including from the phase-out of COVID-19 tax relief measures. The government debt-to-GDP ratio meanwhile increased from 87.0 per cent at end-June 2020 to 91.6 per cent at end-June 2021. Egypt will continue to face fiscal space challenges as it enters 2022 and aims to further deepen fiscal consolidation while also ensuring spending to support national flagship initiatives and inclusive human development, such as for social protection, health, education, and infrastructure.

All growth data and forecasts taken from IMF World Economic Outlook (January 2022).

All employment data taken from CAPMAS Quarterly Labour Force Survey (February 2022).

UNICEF, UNRCO and UNESCWA (2021), Poverty Assessment of COVID-19's Impact in Egypt: Results of Macro-Micro Simulation using CAPMAS and MPED data

All budget and debt data taken from CBE Monthly Statistical Bulletin (December 2021)

Egypt's sustainable development meanwhile faces significant risks from climate change and water stress. While its contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions remains low and declining (on a per capita basis)⁷, the country is nevertheless highly vulnerable to risks associated with climate change. The northern Nile Delta, for example, is one of the world's ecosystems most highly exposed to the impacts of climate change⁸.

To respond to these risks, the Government of Egypt is committed to increasing climate action. It announced its new 2050 National Climate Change Strategy during the UN's COP26 Climate Summit in 2021. The strategy's official launch of national priorities and actions for strengthening mitigation and climate resilience is planned for 2022. Egypt also adopted important initiatives for climate mainstreaming and promoting green investment, including mandates for green public investment targeting 30 per cent in 2021/22 and 50 per cent by 2024/259.

Egypt will host in 2022 the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The COP represents the main decision-making body of the UNFCCC and will assess progress towards climate commitments and make decisions to support strengthened implementation of the global climate framework. Egypt's COP27 Presidency represents an important opportunity to strengthen the country as a leader in addressing climate change, increase support for priority climate issues, advocate for strengthened approaches to climate finance, and enhance awareness at climate action.



Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") Initiative, the National Structural Reform Programme, the National Strategy for Human Rights and 2050 National Climate Change Strategy launched in 2021 will play a key role in setting the country's future sustainable development policy direction in support of Vision 2030

Meanwhile, Egypt in 2021 launched or made significant progress in several flagship initiatives that will play a key role in setting the country's future sustainable development policy direction in support of Vision 2030. This includes especially Hayah Karima ("Decent Life"), the National Structural Reform Programme (NSRP) and the National Strategy for Human Rights.

Hayah Karima ("Decent Life")¹⁰ is the government's pre-eminent flagship initiative. Launched in 2019, the initiative was expanded significantly in 2021 and now targets around 5,000 villages (approximately 50 per cent of the population). Hayah Karima Initiative ("Decent Life") aims to provide an integrated package of services targeting an enhanced quality of life, including strengthening infrastructure, improving access to basic services, promoting education, enhancing health care, and supporting decent employment opportunities.

The Government also announced in April 2021 launch of the NSRP, its second wave of structural reforms. The NSRP builds on the first set of economic reforms initiated in cooperation with the IMF in 2016. A central objective is to strengthen economic productivity, especially in sectors critical for driving growth and jobs: agriculture, industry, and ICT. To support this aim, the NSRP also targets enabling pillars important for balanced growth, including improving the business environment, increasing financial inclusion, strengthening government efficiency, promoting digitalization, and building human capital.

Another significant achievement in 2021 was the launch of Egypt's first National Human Rights Strategy (2021-2026). The strategy's main goal is to enhance equality and equal opportunities without any discrimination. It aims to do so through a focus in four primary areas: civil and political rights; economic, social and cultural rights; human rights of women, children, persons with disabilities, youth and the elderly; and human rights education and capacity building.

- MPED. https://mped.gov.eg/DynamicPage?id=95&lang=en
- 10 https://www.hayakarima.com/

Meanwhile, regional geo-political challenges continued in 2021. This can result in significant implications, such as on the movement of people and goods. The Government estimates that Egypt hosts more than 6 million migrants and refugees. This includes an estimated 900,000 persons of concern with overlapping vulnerabilities, including more than 270,000 refugees and asylum seekers registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Against this backdrop, the Government and the UN in Egypt launched the Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees in Egypt in November 2021 to provide support assistance and social protection for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and their host communities.

At the same time, Egypt's geography, resources, and population offer opportunities for strengthened regional cooperation. This includes through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the East Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF). Depending on the level of liberalization under AfCFTA, for example, Egypt may increase exports to Africa by between 21 per cent and 30 per cent, especially agriculture and food¹¹. Equpt's merchandise exports meanwhile rose 9 per cent to US\$29 billion in FY 2020/21¹². Further, remittances from Egyptian expatriates globally rose by 6.6 per cent from January to November 2021 to reach US\$28.9 billion.



Egypt's merchandise exports rose by 9 per cent in FY 2020/21,



while remittances from Egyptian expatriates rose by 6.6 per cent from January to November 2021



11 Word Bank, Macroeconomic Impacts of AfCFTA, https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/34139/9781464815591.pdf

12 CBE Monthly Statistical Bulletin (December 2021).

UNEP (2020), Sustainable Development Goals scorecard. https://wesr.unep.org/sdg/scorecard/ and Egypt VNR 2021

The Government of Egypt (2017). Egypt State of the Environment 2017: Summary for Policymakers. http://www.eeaa.gov.eg/portals/0/eeaaReports/SoE-2017/Egypt SOE 2017 - SPM English.pdf (2017)



UN Development System Support to National Development Priorities

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2.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

The UN continued its collaboration with the GoE through the current UNPDF (2018-2022), while key core steps in the design of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027 took place in 2021. A key milestone towards the UNSDCF was holding the UN-GoE prioritization workshop with a wide range of participation among resident and non-resident UN agencies and government stakeholders. The workshop, which was done in close collaboration with the Ministry of International Cooperation (MoIC), set the scene for the alignment of the new cooperation framework strategic priorities with national priorities; most importantly Vision 2030 and the Government Action Plan (GAP) 2023-2027. The UNSDCF planning and design process was preceded by the Common Country Analysis (CCA) that was completed in 2021. The CCA was developed in an inclusive and participatory manner laying the foundation for the UNSDCF. Consultations over the CCA took place with government stakeholders, as well as representatives from international development partners (including IFIs), civil society, private sector, and youth.

Through the four UNPDF outcomes, the UN in Egypt continued its support to Egypt's national priorities and strategic plans while responding to the impacts of COVID-19 with more focus on fostering sustainable, inclusive and green recovery. The implementation of the UNPDF in 2021 reached an expenditure of US\$180.1 with a delivery rate of 82 per cent. The highest delivery rate of 97 per cent was achieved by Outcome 1, Inclusive Economic Development (Prosperity), followed by Outcome 3, Environment Sustainability (Planet) with 96 per cent delivery rate. Though Outcome 2, Social Justice (People) had the lowest delivery rate of 71 per cent, it implemented the highest portion of the 2021 total expenditure. Finally, Outcome 4, Women Empowerment (Women) achieved a delivery rate of 91 per cent. For more details, please refer to the *Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization section*. Following are highlights of major results under each of the four UNDPF outcomes through the implementation of the joint work plans (JWPs):



Inclusive Economic Development

In 2021, The UN continued its collective interventions for strengthened inclusive and sustainable economic development, enhanced MSMEs and entrepreneurship ecosystem, enhanced employability, and better economic policies. On the policy level the UN worked on strengthened labour standards including alignment with international practices through policy dialogues with key Parliament committees Ministries of Manpower and Parliamentary Affairs. Policy and practical support were also provided to ministries and intermediary institutions for promotion of just transition to green and circular economy. On the other hand, the UN system provided capacity support to relevant Egyptian authorities and institutions to design and implement sustainable business practices, enhance the provision of employment and livelihoods training, and strengthen the MSME and entrepreneurship ecosystem A special focus was also given to institutional support for provision of skills development to women and youth, who bear a disproportionate share of the burden of unemployment, as well as support for refugees and migrants. One key achievement in this area was the UN's contribution with the GoE to the creation of 454,775 job opportunities in starts-up and MSMEs. Finally, direct support to beneficiaries extended to skills development trainings to enhance employability with a focus on women young people, migrants and refugees, and poor families. It also included support for enterprise development and start-ups and technical advice to MSMEs for strengthening sustainable business practices and transitioning to the green and circular economies.



The UN remained committed in 2021 to support strengthening inclusive access to guality education, health and nutrition services, social protection services and harnessing youth demographic dividends. Continued efforts to help the GoE prevent the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate its negative socio-economic impacts remained a focus in 2021. This included supporting Egypt achieve access to COVID-19 approved vaccines through the COVAX facility. By the end of 2021, Egypt had received more than 64 million doses of different COVID-19 approved vaccines with the support of the UN. In 2021, the UN engaged with GoE on multiple fronts for policy development and enhancement. This included continued collaboration for the Education 2.0 system, support for the development of the Early Childhood National Strategy, National Adolescents and Youth Strategy and updating of Egypt's National Food and Nutrition Strategy, among other policy enhancement interventions. Furthermore, the UN contributed to building institutional capacities within key ministries and national stakeholders with regards to SDG4 (Quality Education) monitoring. Additionally, in support to Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MoETE) personnel and teachers' skills development, several capacity building initiatives took place in 2021 in areas related to blended learning, digital literacy, preparedness, Life Skill and Citizenship Education (LSCE), school governance as well as transferable life skills for teachers to facilitate quality learning experience. The UN also continued its work with the GoE for an inclusive education system through several initiatives to enhance the integration of vulnerable groups within the education system including migrants, refugees and their host communities, children with disabilities and out of school children. Efforts to uphold national child protection system capacity to respond to the needs of children at risk, victims of violence, those in contact with the law and those on the move through multi-sectoral coordination and referral systems sustained in 2021. Capacity development of social service workforce professionals across key government institutions, and other child protection stakeholders including justice, education and health workers, was provided to ensure quality child protection services. This resulted in improved case management for more than 13,000 children at risk, victims of violence or those in contact with the law. This is in addition to provision of psychological support to over 31,000 Egyptian and migrant children (both in-person and online).

With prioritization to Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") villages, essential support to the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) on developing a communication package for counselling on complementary feeding and dietary diversity at health facilities for children 6-23 months was provided in addition to training of health-care workers to apply them. Additionally, to strengthen family planning (FP) services at health facilities, the UN supported the MoHP in the automation of a quality assurance programme for FP clinics. The system was implemented nationwide, and more than 500 FP clinics were awarded the logo of excellence. In the same context, technical support to Population Awareness clubs (PACs) continued for these clubs to act as hubs for awareness among young people on population issues. Through PACs, youth volunteers reached 63,386 community members with different population awareness messaging. Finally, in terms of direct support to beneficiaries, ensuring inclusive and sustainable accessibility of public services-notably social protection, health, nutrition and education-in light of the persistence of COVID-19 was central to the UN's work in 2021. This included ensuring sustainable provision of health services through Primary Health Care (PHC) units, safe reopening of schools, universities and nurseries, cash assistance to families of community school students and to registered refugees, cash top ups to pregnant and lactating women registered under Takaful and Karama and counselling and primary health services to those living in close settings.



Environmental Sustainability

2021 saw the announcement of Egypt's National Climate Change Strategy 2050 targeted for final launch in May 2022, which represents Egypt's comprehensive and integrated approach to tackle the impact of and strengthen resilience and adaptation to climate change. The framework of the Strategy was developed by the GoE with the support of the UN. Other policy level interventions in 2021 included UN support in the completion of the Red Sea Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), National Sustainable Tourism Strategy, National Urban Policy (NUP), National Strategic Land Use Plan (NSLUP), and operational policy tools and guidelines for the deployment of energy efficient (EE) motors in the Egyptian market. On the other hand, the UN contributed to strengthening the capacities of different government stakeholders for



better management of renewable energy utilization for industrial applications, climate change adaptation in agriculture and in at risk coastal zones areas, sustainable and inclusive urban planning, efficient and sustainable waste management including support to the Government initiative "E-Tadweer", integration of biodiversity and environmental sustainability in education, water recycling, and food safety monitoring systems. Moreover, strengthening resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change was notable in 2021. Rural communities were engaged in different activities to diversity and sustain their livelihood through introducing them to climate smart, resilient, and efficient agricultural practices. This is in addition to the continued partnership with the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI) to protect the low-lying lands in five governorates along the Nile Delta Coast from impacts of global warming. Almost 65 per cent of the targeted 69 KMs of the dike system were completed by end of 2021. Furthermore, in line the GoE nation-wide policy for water control and savings, UN work in improving irrigation infrastructure and introducing modern and efficient irrigation methods continued in 2021. Joint efforts with the GoE to reduce the use of ozone depleting substances in foam companies as well as the expansion of solar power usages for commercial and administrative buildings also went on in 2021. Lastly, strengthened biodiversity management in four protected areas of Siwa, Qatrani, Wadi El Gemmal and Wadi El Rayan as well as Kharga Oasis was further promoted throughout 2021.

Women Empowerment

UN partnership with the GoE to create an enabling environment for gender equality and women's empowerment was maintained in 2021. This included the joint work on the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) National Action and its costing, National Action Plan on the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325, and the national study on violence against women with disabilities. In addition, key legislative amendments in the Penal Code with regards to the reclassification of all forms of sexual harassment as felony offences rather than misdemeanours came into force in June 2021. This was done in partnership with the National Council for Women (NCW). Moreover, notable progress was made in terms of promoting women's empowerment

in the workplace. In cooperation with the Ministry of Manpower (MoM), the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in the World of Work as well as a checklist on gender responsible labour and occupational safety and health were developed. Furthermore an additional six companies in different fields signed the Women's Empowerment Principles, a commitment to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace. The UN also partnered with national stakeholders in strengthening institutional capacity of various government counterparts and civil society partners on gender equality, women's empowerment and gender responsive budgeting. Key results in this area included capacitating over 9,000 duty bearers to address violence against women and girls (VAWG) and to support their needs across different aspects (e.g. medical, legal, psychological, etc.). Additionally, six government entities were capacitated on gender responsive budgeting. To further strengthen service provision, the UN supported the establishment of four new specialized VAWG clinics - "Safe Women Clinics" - bringing the total number of clinics to eight as well as two additional Anti-VAW units in national universities reaching a total number of 24 units in 24 national universities. Moreover, through partnership with GoE, an additional 55,000 Egyptian women in eight governorates were able to obtain free-of-charge national identification cards during the reporting period, allowing them to enjoy their economic, health, social and political rights. Meanwhile, the UN continued sensitizing gender norms including harmful practices. More than 15 million individuals were reached during this reporting period through several awareness raising campaigns that were organized by the UN in partnership with various ministries, institutions, and civil society organizations (CSOs), at both national and community levels. This included raising public awareness with regards to different forms of VAW, access to legal rights including legal rights of women exposed to cybercrimes, response services, and positive male role models. This is in addition to awareness campaigns against FGM. Over 21 million individuals (99 per cent females) were reached through knocking-doors campaigns in partnership with NCW. Finally, in promotion of women's economic empowerment several interventions took place targeting Egyptian women as well as migrants and refugees aiming at increasing women's access to decent work and entrepreneurial opportunities, improving their livelihood, employability skills, and enhancing their financial inclusion.

Outcome 1

Inclusive Economic Development Main Results

Output 1.1: ENTREPRENEURSHIP & MSMES



+200,000 starts-ups and existing enterprises supported



+9,400 beneficiaries received capacity building on business management and entrepreneurshipfocused service



+4,100 enterprises supported to access financial and non-financial services including access to markets

Output 1.2: EMPLOYABILITY



+1,185,000 beneficiaries received direct job skills training

759 young people increased access to employment or found jobs through value chain support interventions, job search clubs, and apprenticeship programs







+430,000 job opportunities created through partnership with MSMEDA

Output 1.3: ECONOMIC POLICIES



32 institutions trained and sensitized on socio-economic policy measures



9 evidence-based policy measures supported/introduced, including impact

assessments to inform COVID responses, assessments of key challenges to business development, and review of policies to curb IFFs

2.2.: Results Achieved on UNPDF Outcomes Areas

Outcome 1 Inclusive Economic Development

By 2022, Egypt has adopted inclusive and sustainable development pathways and remains on track to achieve agreed targets for sustainable, resilient and job rich economic development

Corresponding national priorities: Egypt's Vision 2030 Strategy; MoTI Industry and Trade Development Strategy 2016-2020; MoTI Creative Industries Strategy; MSME National Strategy; Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy 2030; Executive Plan of Agricultural Development; Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") Initiative; FORSA National Programme; Social justice and economic empowerment policies; National Action Plan for Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Egypt (2018 – 2025).





Contributing UN agencies: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UNEP, UNHABITAT, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNV, and WFP

Geographical Focus: Cairo, Giza, Assiut, Sharqia, Gharbia, Damietta, Kafr El Sheikh, Beheira, Qalyubia, Fayoum, Alexandria, Luxor and Qena governorates, Delta region, Nationwide

The UN system also provided capacity support to Egyptian authorities and institutions to help strengthen the competitiveness, productivity, and inclusiveness of the economy. Support in this area focused on institutional capacity to strengthen the MSME and entrepreneurship ecosystem, enhance the provision of employment and livelihoods training, and provide guidance on the design and implementation of sustainable business practices. A special focus was also given to institutional support

1. Policy development and enhancement

The UN in 2021 supported the GoE to develop and strengthen selected policy and institutional frameworks to promote more inclusive and sustainable development pathways, especially in favour of resilient employment opportunities, transition to a green and circular economy, and sustainable public and private investments.

The UN supported the adoption and implementation of strengthened labour standards, including alignment with international good practices. This included engagement with the Egyptian Parliament–especially the Human Rights Committee, External Relations Committee, Labour Committee, and Industrial Committee-and the technical cooperation offices of the Ministries of Manpower and Parliamentary Affairs to enhance policy and legislative frameworks in favour of enhanced labour protections.

The UN also supported the GoE's strategy and policy development related to strengthening and mainstreaming the green and circular economies. This involved targeted support for the design of strategies and regulatory approaches to ministries and intermediary institutions, including a menu of options and policies for Egypt to promote a just transition. UN support was also provided to three industrial ecosystem providers-the Industrial Modernization Centre, Industrial Development Authority, and Chamber of Food Industries—on the integration of circular economy strategies into their service offerings. Further UN support was provided to the Industrial Development Authority related to new registration procedures and guidelines for recycling businesses to help address administrative challenges faced by businesses operating in the circular economy.

Finally, the UN supported policy development to strengthen Egyptian expatriate engagement. In partnership with the Ministry of State for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates' Affairs (MoSEEA), this work resulted in a revised expatriate engagement strategy to strengthen the participation of Egyptian living abroad in the economy.

2. Institutional Capacity Building and Strengthening

for women and youth, who bear a disproportionate share of the burden of unemployment, as well as support for refugees and migrants.

First, the UN provided institutional capacity support in 2021 for strengthening the MSME and entrepreneurship ecosystem. This included initiatives with the Micro Small & Medium Enterprise Development Agency (MSMEDA) for helping increase access for SMEs to enhanced financial and non-financial services. This partnership contributed to 430,777 job opportunities and involved direct capacity building to 9,426 beneficiaries for entrepreneurship-focused services across 21 governorates.

The UN also partnered with the Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (TIEC) to enhance its support for the ICT entrepreneurship environment and strengthen Egypt's competitiveness in high value-added innovation. This supported 144 startups (25 per cent women-owned), trained 162,447 beneficiaries on entrepreneurship and innovation (40 per cent women), and contributed to creating 23,998 jobs in start-ups and MSMEs (25 per cent women).

Second, the UN supported the capacity of Egyptian institutions to provide skills development training and other support to help strengthen the pool of gualified labour for the modern economy. This included partnership with the Federation of Egyptian Industries (FEI) to strengthen its capacity to enhance Egyptians' livelihoods and socioeconomic resilience. This also involved support for extending services to refugees and migrants such as apprenticeship opportunities. The UN also worked with worker's representative organizations to build capacity for providing support to workers, including for these populations to become members of trade unions.

The UN system in Egypt further worked to enhance the capacity of partner institutions to deliver initiatives in support of entrepreneurship and enterprise development. This involved partnerships with government institutions to support job seekers in a range of governorates. This area of UN work built on established partnerships with government entities, including the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), MSMEDA, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MoALR), FEI, Chamber of Wood Works, Chamber of Commerce, NCW, and Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS).

The UN in Egypt also provided support for "Training of Trainers" (ToT) in relevant institutions related to initiatives for increasing access to finance and other economic empowerment objectives. This included partnerships with the NCW and the Cotton

Research Institute (CRI). The UN also supported ToT training to the Central Cooperative Union focused on building capacity for service provision to cooperatives such as for management and marketing. The UN further provided technical capacity initiatives to other governmental entities (e.g., MoSS, MoYS) and 35 NGOs related to training on business practices, employment generation, and outreach.

Additional UN support was provided to the Information Technology Institute (ITI)'s services for developing a pool of highly gualified IT professionals and entrepreneurs. This capacity focused on ICT training and entrepreneurship skills and reached 4,000 students from various levels. In addition, one million users benefited from Mahara Tech, an innovative online platform that provides courses and training on the skills required for employment.

Finally, the UN supported the GoE in enhancing institutional capacity related to the delivery of government youth employment initiatives. For example, the UN partnered with the Ministry of Manpower (MoM) to build institutional and individual capacity of the Ministry's vocational centres and trainers across Egypt, including through technological upgrades, specialized trainings, and education modules.

Third, the UN in 2021 supported government efforts to strengthen resource efficiency and sustainable production practices. This included partnering with the Industria Modernization Centre and the Industrial Development Authority especially on the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (TEST) methodologies. The Agriculture Research Centre also received UN support on technology transfer and new greenhouse technologies.

Additionally, the UN in 2021 provided support for building the capacity of Egyptian institutions for strengthening value chains and economic clusters. This included providing market intelligence to enhance the competitiveness specifically of green value chains and clusters. Together with key market players, the UN supported GoE and stakeholders in development of market intelligence reports, including on sugarcane, tomatoes, fruit and vegetable packaging and processing, solar applications in agribusiness, biogas, and agricultural and municipal waste in Luxor and Qena.

The UN further supported MoSS and MoSS-supported beneficiaries in selected Governorates related to stimulating agriculture development and an enhanced agrofood value chain. This included a "Feed Mixing Unit" business model for implementation.

Training was also provided to 25 coordinators of the FORSA Initiative in the South Sinai, North Sinai, Red Sea, Marsa Matrouh, New Valley, Luxor and Aswan governorates to develop their capacities to design and implement small scale agro-business units. Moreover, the UN system partnered with the GoE to help build institutional capacities related to sustainable financing flows. This included for measuring illicit financial flows (IFFs) to provide an evidence base that can inform policies for curbing and making flows licit and thereby help unlock additional financing for the SDGs in Egypt The UN also supported costing of the SDGs, including for priority sectors (e.g., health education, and water and sanitation).

Finally, the UN system also contributed to strengthened delivery of online university courses in collaboration with the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology and the Egyptian NATCOM. This initiative supported 60 lecturers and faculty in universities and other tertiary institutions to deliver courses online, including for effectively using ICT in the classroom and reaching students with material to help strengthen future employability.

3. Provision of direct services and support to beneficiaries

The UN system's inclusive development work in 2021 focused especially on providing targeted services directly to beneficiaries. This included support for enterprise development and start-ups, skills development training to enhance employability, and technical advice to MSMEs for strengthening sustainable business practices and transitioning to the green and circular economies.

The UN is also concerned with supporting populations who have the greatest difficulty in accessing economic opportunities and those governorates further behind more developed metropolitan areas. With this mind, a special focus was again given to women and youth, and the UN targeted these groups in particular in its vocational technical, and entrepreneurship training interventions. The UN also targeted MSMEs and workers in poorer governorates.

First, the UN provided direct technical support to entrepreneurs to start and strengthen businesses. Entrepreneurial initiatives included training on management and other soft business skills. This support also included specialized initiatives for priority beneficiary groups, including women, young people, migrants and refugees, and poor families. For example, tailored training programmes were offered for starting and improving businesses (193 participants and 35 per cent women) along with a specific

The UN's sector-specific training work covered agricultural practices (e.g., dairy, vegetables, etc.), services (e.g., hospitality), and vocational training (e.g., tailoring, sewing, electricity, plumbing, furniture production, etc.). For example, the UN partnered with the Egypt Network for Integrated Development (ENID) to build the capacity of 670 beneficiaries (75 per cent women) on agriculture, sewing, and the production of masks. It also worked with MSMEDA on a range of employment training initiatives.

business development initiative targeting women (307 participants). In addition, workshops with skills training, financial education, and management practices were provided for 251 participants from underprivileged families.

Further UN support also targeted especially young people with technical training on entrepreneurship skills, including targeted modules for women-owned businesses. Approximately 30-40 per cent of participants were rated as able to successfully start their own businesses following participation. Initiatives were successfully piloted in Assiut and Gharbia and expanded to Shargia Governorate.

The UN's support to Egyptian enterprises also included a special focus on technology and innovation, including the ICT sector. This included collaboration with the Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (TIEC) through targeted training on entrepreneurship and innovation for ICT businesses. Further entrepreneurial and business development support was also delivered through the framework of partnership with MSMEDA with efforts tailored especially for women

Moreover, the UN in 2021 provided direct financial assistance to nine enterprise development implementing partners: CARITAS, CRS, Life Makers, Federation of Egyptian Industries, Alexandria Business Association, Vocational Training and Employment Centre, Aspire, Don Bosco, Etijah, Enroot. These implementing partners supported established and scaled businesses through enterprise development programmes.

Second, the UN provided direct job and life skills training, including to strengthen the employability of Egyptian workers, increase employment and livelihood opportunities, and develop a strong pool of gualified candidates for the labour market. This area again featured a focus on priority population groups, including women, young people, and migrants and refugees. The UN, for example, implemented several initiatives to empower young people to participate meaningfully in the economy. UN skills training initiatives also targeted key economic sectors and included support to apprenticeships and career counselling.

This included skills for employment training for 174 young men and women in Sohag governorate on tailoring, electrical installation, and plumbing, resulting in a certification that is internationally recognized in their respective skills. The UN also worked with MSMEDA to provide support to 9,426 beneficiaries (62 per cent women) on entrepreneurship skills referred to earlier. Within the framework of UN cooperation with the ICTTF, additional training sessions on entrepreneurship and consultation clinics reached 815 beneficiaries.

UN livelihoods support also included training for value chain development interventions as a means to promote rural development. This included support to the dairy sector, such as to enhance the capacities of micro and small dairy farmers related to competitiveness and working conditions. This led to improved productivity of milk collection centres, adherence to hygiene and safety requirements, and a strengthened eco-system with linkages between farmers, the milk collection centre, and dairy processors.

The UN also partnered with the Ministry of Emigration and Expatriate Affairs and Arab Academy for Science and Maritime Transport on continued implementation of the 'Bedaya Digital' online training platform. This supported 300 Egyptian youth at risk of irregular migration with skills development and vocational training. The UN further provided vocational trainings to 700 youth in areas of interest for Syrian refugees and host communities (e.g., food processing and sewing).

In 2021 the UN further implemented a range of initiatives specifically targeting the development of young people. This included Job Search Clubs, which aimed to increase access to employment opportunities. These initiatives were also provided to refugees. Activities included training to enhance employability (e.g., CV writing, interview training and job searching skills). Participants were also introduced to the Maharati mobile application for remote use. The majority of participants found employment.

The UN also continued its adolescent development and skilling programme (Meshwary) in collaboration with MoYS. This initiative equipped adolescents and youth with transferable skills and supported developing mindsets for social innovation and entrepreneurship. It also provided career guidance services to strengthen employability. In close partnership with the private sector, 31,700 young people were provided with life skills, employability and entrepreneurship skills with an accumulative reach of more than 200,000 young people up till end of 2021.

UN support was further provided directly to schools, including a training package that aimed to equip students with a basic set of 14 life skills¹³. The UN also launched a learning passport, an online platform for accessing formal curricula along with non-formal education programmes especially for African refugee students. This helped students during COVID-19 induced education disruptions.

The UN also partnered to support implementation of local apprenticeship programmes (e.g., from FEI and VTEC). This included the provision of both financial and non-financial (e.g., coaching and training) services directly to at least 43 enterprises.

Third, the UN in 2021 provided direct support to firms on sustainable business practices and strengthening green and circular economic approaches. This area included training and skills development for private sector entities operating in sustainable agriculture and food production, waste management, and renewable energy. Specifically, to help address the skills mismatch in the green economy, the UN supported 26 private sector entities (23 firms from the Luxor and Qena governorates; the Chamber of Food Industries; and two training Centres), six government entities (Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Education and Technical Education, Productivity and Vocational Training Department, South Valley University, Food Technology Resource Institute, an Industrial Zone in Qena) and seven NGOs. These institutions provide training services in Luxor and Qena.

The UN further worked with farmers specifically on sustainable practices, including in the cotton and sugar industries. This included, for example, building awareness on the environmental and health hazards of burning sugarcane, supporting viable business opportunities in this space, and enhancing green practices. It also strengthened linkages between producers, entrepreneurs, agricultural extension agronomists, and intermediary institutions from villages under the Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") initiative. Support was provided to nine firms on environmental hazards and four bio-fertilizer firms were established. UN work in this area was also provided to the agricultural sector, such as for sustainable production and obtaining internationally recognized licenses. For example, cotton traders were supported in the application of sustainable cotton production and obtaining international certifications. The UN also targeted the garment industry, especially training on corporate social responsibility and abiding by international labour standards for working with children and apprentices up to the age of 18. The UN supported 37 garment factories with capacity support, and six of these with individual advisory visits to better develop workplace compliance with labour standards for children.

Finally, the UN targeted support to public health and safety in the food industry. This included, for example, working with food processing MSMEs on food safety regulations, methods, and standards. This involved especially non-financial assistance such as guidance, consultancy, and knowhow transfer, including to 10 food processing MSMEs in the Luxor and Qena governorates and 17 corporates working in tomato processing. Through the ENID partnership, 197 beneficiaries also received capacity building activities related to tomato processing and best agriculture practices.



¹³ These are teamwork to achieve common goals, collaboration in the workplace; respect for others, negotiation influencing and leadership, cooperation, customer relationship, career planning, effective communication, decision-making action planning, goal setting, leadership skills, risk taking, safety skills, and ethical reasoning

Esraa, 21 years old women who lives in a village in Sinoures Directorate, AI Fayoum Governorate and is currently a student at the Faculty of Special Education, Fayoum University.

With no access to school, she had an interesting opportunity to have access to an online training course in a field she's highly interested in: Graphic design.

"Most of the graphic designers I see in my village are men," Esraa says, "there are some girls, but with very limited career choices as our families wouldn't easily approve staying away from the village for work."

This opportunity was brought to her by one of the newly-planned initiatives in response to COVID-19 pandemic aligned to GenU called Meshwary_Ekbar_ Makanak Initiative which comes as part of Meshwary project remote/online learning modalities.





Output 2.1: EDUCATION



+3.800 teachers trained on key transferable and life skills. in line with education 2.0 national reform



450 community schools transformed into 'smart schools



64 million doses of COVID-19 approved vaccines availed through COVAX facility

Output 2.2: HEALTH & NUITRITION

+505,000 pregnant and lactating women receiving nutrition assistance (including counselling support)

22,500 migrants and refugees receiving nutrition assistance and health services



+130,000 children and their family receiving food assistance under school meals programme



+475,000 school children benefited from improved WASH facilities in 552 schools

63% of all maternal health facilities now integrate family planning into their services

More than 500 FP clinics were awarded the logo of excellence.



+3,600 cases of children in contact with the law received legal services



Output 2.3: PROTECTION and SOCIAL PROTECTION



+412,000 vulnerable households receiving conditional or unconditional assistance including +4,600 vulnerable refugees and migrant households [COVID-19 response as well]

Output 2.4: YOUTH



50 Population Awareness Clubs (PACs) were furnished to act as a hub for awareness among young people



students were reached with information to promote personal and family wellbeing



Output 2.5: PEOPLE LIVING with HIV

9 governorates supported wit comprehensive prevention programmes targeting population at risk of HIV



Frontline health-care providers from **23** governorates trained on how to help those living with HIV to deal with stigma with real life case scenarios



+195,000 inhabitants benefitted from improved water sources



+16,200 adolescents & youth were trained on knowledge and skills for active citizenship and youth-led initiatives



+3.860 women reached with prevention package



10 prisons were provided with voluntary counselling and testing services

Outcome 2 Social Justice

By 2022 interim 2030 targets are reached with respect to population and sustainable access of all people in Egypt to public services notably quality, inclusive and rightsbased protection, social protection, health, nutrition and education services

Corresponding national priorities: Egypt Vision 2030; National COVID-19 response plan in Higher Education; Digital Egypt Initiative; National HIV Strategic Plan (2018-2022); TB National Strategic Plan; Maternal and Child Health Strategy; Social Protection Strategy, National Health Insurance Law 2/2018, National Action Plan for Combating Child Labour, National Population Strategy, National Strategy for Childhood and Motherhood. Presidential Initiatives for Social Protection such as Takaful and Karama.





Contributing UN agencies: UNAIDS; UNDP; UNESCO; UNFPA; UN-Habitat; UNHCR ; UNICEF; UNODC; WFP; WHO

Geographical Focus: National, Assiut, Sohag, Luxor, Alexandria, Giza, Cairo, Minya, Fayoum, Sharqia, Ismailia, Qalyubia, Gharbia, Baheira; North Sinai, Portsaid, Qena, Bani Suif, Matrouh, Kafr El Sheikh

1. Policy development and enhancement

In 2021, interventions by the UN in Egypt under the outcome of "Social Justice" continued their focus on the prevention of the spread of COVID-19 and mitigating negative socio-economic impacts on the population, as well as ensuring Egypt's progress towards the SDGs. There was particular focus on supporting the national education system to ensure safe school reopening, providing support to the national health system to respond to current and future needs, expanding social protection services and family planning (FP) to the most vulnerable and enhancing awareness and action around FP.

The UN agencies engaged with the GoE and development stakeholders on multiple areas for policy development and enhancement. On education, the UN in Egypt focused on supporting and strengthening national education and child protection systems to continue delivering quality public services despite COVID-19 challenges. Two major policy documents were developed to inform the design of Education 2.0 to be more inclusive of and responsive to the educational needs of the most vulnerable. The first document addressed the community-based education framework while the second one addressed inclusive education including forwardlooking strategies with the aim to support national education sector performance and the development of a new national curriculum aligned with international SDG standards that includes life skills, reproductive health (RH) and gender mainstreaming. The UN in Egypt supported the development of the Early Childhood national strategy and its costed action plan developed by NCCM to support the national endeavors to expand early childhood development programmes nationwide, linking it to SDG 4. Moreover, the UN in Egypt partnered with the MoETE to integrate population education into the public-school curriculum with the aim of raising awareness of students on population issues. The partnership focused on implementing educational initiatives within schools, and activities to encourage students to discuss relevant matters with their peers and communities. Meanwhile for the first time, Al-Azhar University's International Islamic Centre for Population Studies and Research (IICPSR) launched the Population Education Curriculum and the Family Planning and the Opinions of Contemporary Imams of Jurisprudence manual with the support of the EU. This curriculum will be taught in more than 56 faculties related to sciences and religion of Al-Azhar.

On health, the UN agencies in Egypt jointly worked to support the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and mitigating its impact including in supporting in the planning and implementation of the COVID-19 vaccination deployment plan and in Risk Communication and Community Engagement to ensure vaccine demand and safe behaviors. In addition, the UN in Egypt worked closely with the MoHP to support Egypt's National Population Strategy. Extensive policy engagement around the provision of FP methods in all service delivery points affiliated to MoHP ensuring at each point delivered at least three types of FP methods in addition to the engagement efforts made to introduce comprehensive population education in the educational system. Moreover, Egypt's National Food and Nutrition Strategy 2022 -2030 was drafted, replacing the former strategy which ended in 2017, with UN providing technical support to the MoHP. Furthermore, a 'Minimum Package of Prison Health Services for Egypt', was developed by the UN and approved by the Government, and a training manual and facilitator guide of comprehensive noncommunicable disease prevention, diagnoses, and treatment in closed settings to be used by the national authorities and CSOs.

On youth, the UN in Egypt worked closely with the MoYS to develop the National Adolescents and Youth Strategy. The Strategy articulates the Egyptian Government's aspiration for all Egyptian adolescents and youth and how to support them to navigate life's challenges and be engaged and active citizens who contribute productively to society. The strategy's mission is to provide innovative services and activities for all groups of youth and adolescents and coordinate effectively with all relevant authorities to ensure that the potential of youth and adolescents is unleashed, and to achieve a demographic dividend through investment in human capital. It covers eight main strategic pillars, namely: youth technological and life skills, youth artistic creativity and culture, youth health and sports, youth economic participation and entrepreneurship, youth volunteerism and community development, youth and life basic necessities, youth citizenship and political participation, governance of youth sector and digitalization¹⁴ In addition, the MoHP worked with the UN, other Government entities and CSOs to initiate a plan to engage communities and mobilize them around adolescents and youth friendly health services, with the support of the EU in Egypt. The outcome was a Community Engagement Plan that aims to support efforts to increase the awareness of adolescents and youth, including young people with disabilities, as well as support young people to receive RH services through youth-friendly clinics. It also aims to increase the demand for youth-friendly services through these clinics.

¹⁴ The Strategy was reviewed and approved by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Youth and Sports. It is now under review with the Presidency office in anticipation for its launch.

2. Institutional Capacity Building and Development

The UN in Egypt contributed to building institutional capacity in Egypt within the MoHP, MoYS, MoSS, and the MoETE, along with several key national stakeholder partners in the areas of protection, health, and education, in line with the 2030 Agenda.

In 2021, there were various capacity interventions to strengthen the education system in line with the Education 2.0 national reform and support the national efforts to achieve SDG 4. Dedicated capacity building workshops were carried out to mainstream and integrate national commitments to SDG 4 in education processes. An extensive workshop was delivered at Ain Shams University Centre of Excellence in Education to strengthen national capacities in Egypt to monitor the implementation of SDG 4. This included effective coordination, monitoring, and reporting on the progress made in education sector of Egypt. The workshop was attended by 12 participants from relevant national authorities for SDG4¹⁵. Moreover, nine national officials were supported for enrolment in the online training programme "Using learning assessment data to monitor SDG 4 progress" Organized by UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (UNESCO-IIEP). Throughout this eight -weeks training programme, the participants were introduced to global debates on concepts, terms, and indicators that are associated with the educational policy discourse around the monitoring and evaluation of the guality of education and approaches for analysing the feasibility of carrying out learning assessments for the Egyptian context. As a result, they were able to develop analytical skills required to process and interpret data about quality of and equality in education in order to provide evidence- based contributions to policy and planning. Also, a group of six national officials enrolled in "Using data and Information for Crisis-sensitive Educational Planning" training programme. Throughout eight-weeks of the training programme, the participants were able to mobilize and analyse existing data and information on the risks to education systems and the demand for education and their potential impact and identify relevant risk reduction measures for national education sector planning processes. Meanwhile, the UN in Egypt prioritized building the capacities of teachers in delivering key transferable and life skills. A total of 3,884 teachers were trained on key transferable and life skills to improve their ability to facilitate quality learning experiences. Furthermore, the process of upgrading the

two developed manuals for teachers on integrating skills needed to deal with vulnerable groups of students (refugees, migrants and host community children) and raise their awareness about irregular migration continued in 2021. The manuals were digitalized in 2021 and uploaded onto the Learning Passport platform. In 2021, there was a dedicated intervention to ensure that skills-based learning is available to marginalized children, including those with disabilities and those who are out of school. The UN has helped MoETE to develop guidelines for the adaptation of learning materials for children with hearing and visual impairments as well as those with mild or moderate cognitive disabilities and has developed a Teachers' Guidebook on Inclusive Education. In 2021, 4,090 MoETE personnel were trained (1,932 on blended learning and digital literacy, 535 teachers on Preparedness, 1,111 on Life Skill and Citizenship Education (LSCE) and 512 on In-School Governance). The UN has also worked since 2020 on building a skills-based curriculum for community schools that serve out-of-school children.

Furthermore, the UN worked closely to strengthen child protection systems with the GoE to adopt, amend, and operationalize child-friendly laws/policies (please refer to the technical and financial support and advocacy contributed to adopting law criminalizing Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) under the Women's pillar). The UN supported capacity building of social workforce reaching different sectors, including child protection stakeholders¹⁶ to ensure quality of services to children at-risk, victims of violence, those in contact with the law and on the move. Capacity building packages were delivered on case management, standard operation procedures, positive parenting, and child civil rights. The UN in close collaboration with the Government supported the development of modules to train social and outreach workers on community-based non-specialized mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS); modules on Ending Violence in Schools, including for refugee community schools; and training curriculum on children's rights within the justice system. Additionally, to strengthen and institutionalize multisectoral referral mechanisms, a comprehensive mapping of existing services and its online portal is ongoing. The interventions to support child protection included capacity development opportunities for social service workforce and other child protection stakeholders in different sectors including justice, education and health, leading to provision of improved case management services to more than 13,000 children at risk, victims of

violence and children in contact with the law. It also provided in-person psychosocial support for over 25,000 Egyptian and migrant children and over 6,000 children through remote COVID-19 response.

In alignment with the national effort to support health, the UN in Egypt worked closely with the MoHP in different capacity development efforts. First, MoHP was supported to develop a communication package for counselling on complementary feeding and dietary diversity at health facilities. Health-care workers including nurses and community health workers were trained to give caregivers of children aged 6-23 months face-to-face counselling. Social media platforms were also leveraged to raise nutrition awareness. Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") villages were prioritized as per MoHP request. The UN continued its partnership with the private sector in reaching children and caregivers with key messages including the partnership with the publishing house, Nahdet Misr, to include integrated health, hygiene, nutrition, and positive parenting messages within 16 million books produced and distributed in 2021. An estimated three million parents and six million children from grades 1 - 6 were reached with these messages.

In addition, the UN supported the automation of quality assurance programme for FP clinics. An automated accreditation and award system to monitor the performance of MoHP FP was developed. Orientation sessions were held by MoHP about the system were held for all governorates, who started using the system, and more than 500 FP clinics were awarded the logo of excellence. The UN continued the capacity building of doctors on FP, training 659 physicians (70 males - 589 females). A comprehensive training package that included information for women during antenatal care (ANC) visits about the importance of birth-spacing, timing of return of fertility and the importance of immediate postpartum contraception, which is also stressed on during postnatal visits, and during immunization of new-born, was used to capacitate PHC nurses (all females) from 1090 service delivery points in Damietta, Qalyubia, Fayoum, Beheira, Assiut, and Menya.

In order to strengthen the capacity of relevant governmental institutions and youthled civil society entities for facilitating access to population issues knowledge, information, skills and services for the most vulnerable and marginalized young people, in cooperation with MoYS and Etijah, 50 Population Awareness Clubs (PACs) were furnished to act as a hub for awareness among young people The partners trained 593 young people/PACs volunteers from 17 governorates and empowered them with different tools to disseminate awareness among their communities on RH, FP, and CM through edutainment and interactive approaches. PACs volunteers reached out through the PACs to 63,386 community members with different awareness messages including through social media videos. A fourth round of the Community Art festival also was organized this year.

The UN has successfully capacitated CSOs and community partners in nine Egyptian governorates, to deliver critical HIV prevention and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services for women living with HIV and those most vulnerable to HIV, reaching 6,970 women in 2021. Services provided included, SRH and psychological consultations, support groups, legal support, HIV testing and counseling, and awareness sessions. Importantly, the expansion in the number of governorates with prevention programmes is significant as it expands reach to more vulnerable populations, and newly capacitated CSOs in governorates are then linked with the national initiative for Mother and Child Health (MCH). In addition, the UN further supported the introduction of two new national harm reduction programs by MoHP, namely Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST), and a Needles and Syringes Program (NSP) for intravenous drug users (IDUs); considered the main drivers of the HIV epidemic in Egypt as well as supporting the development of a complete M&E system for the national harm reduction programs, towards standardization of data collection and indicators reporting.

The UN supported medical staff working in prisons and CSOs delivering harm reduction services in the community, including 150 doctors, nurses, social workers, and assistants (100 males and 50 females) on the prevention, treatment and care of most common non-communicable diseases (NCDs), mental health problems in closed settings and on emergencies related to NCDs and their management. The trainings were crucial to introduce a holistic view of health in prisons and highlighted NCDs as a significant health threat to prisoners' lives.

Meanwhile, the UN worked on capacitating health-care workers to support those living with HIV to deal with stigma as well as HIV treatment and care. In this context, 25 persons from different health facilities were trained on specific modalities of care and treatment for HIV diagnosis and referral for People who Inject Drugs (PWID). Another workshop was conducted for frontline health-care providers from 23 governorates on how to help those living with HIV to deal with stigma with real life case scenarios. This is in addition to training of 35 medical team members in three main fever hospitals, to better manage services provided to people living with HIV,

¹⁵ This included participants Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Higher Education, MoSS, MoPED, MoETE, CAPMAS, Al-Azhar Institutions, Supreme Council of universities and the affiliated departments and Adult Education Authority

¹⁶ This included the Child Helpline, Ministry of Social Solidarity Case Management Unit, probation offices, justice professionals, Child Protection Committees (CPCs), National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, National Council for Women and Family Clubs

with a focus on elimination of stigma. The UN joint team on HIV also supported MoHP to organize advocacy sessions with religious leaders, whilst building on MoHP and the UN efforts to establish a national religious leaders' network. The sessions provided a space to raise participants' awareness to address stigma and discrimination and its negative impact on public health considering the overall goal to end the HIV and AIDS epidemic.

3. The provision of direct services and support to beneficiaries.

The UN in Egypt partnered with the Government of Egypt, development stakeholders CSOs, and the private sector, to expand the provision of inclusive and enhanced quality services, especially for the most vulnerable populations highly affected by the repercussions of COVID-19 pandemic with the aim of ensuring the sustainable accessibility of public services notably social protection, health, nutrition and education services to everyone.

Ensuring that everyone has access to COVID-19 vaccines was a top priority of the UN in 2021. The UN played a key role in procuring and managing COVID vaccinations in Egypt, including through the COVAX facilities to support Egypt in developing and implementing its National Deployment and Vaccination Plan as well as guarantee the timely deployment of vaccines to all people living in Egypt, including refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and other foreign residents. By the end of 2021, Egypt had received more than 64 million doses of different COVID-19 approved vaccines through the COVAX facility. In addition, the UN supported the establishment of 1,393 vaccination posts, supplying frontline health workers with eight million pieces of PPEs, equipping cold and ultracold chains and training 540 health providers and community health workers on proper vaccination.

Due to the unprecedented pressure on the primary health care (PHC) system and the drop in utilization of PHC at the beginning of the pandemic, renewed improvements to quality and accessibility of PHC systems remained a key focus in 2021. Meanwhile 62 PHCs facilities were rehabilitated for WASH services to improve COVID-19 preventive measures. As of December 2021, 27,321 refugee children under 5 received essential health care services (immunization, growth monitoring, care of sick children) and 8,231 refugee women benefited from antenatal and postnatal care in UN-supported PHC facilities. The services included persons supported for primary health care, mental health services, obstetric care and referral health care. In addition,

to enhance provision of effective RH/ FP services to young people at PHC Units, training workshops were conducted to train service providers from 1,104 service delivery points on using the updated youth friendly health services' training manual that focuses on RH and FP needs of young people and provides girls' empowerment messades.

In 2021, the UN supported MoSS's national programme "The Mawada project" to promote the well-being of newly married couples and youth through providing them with relevant information to enjoy a successful marriage. In 2021, the project reached 41,707 university students from eight universities to reach a total of 108,731 students. This is in addition to accumulated reach of other segments including 2,672 couples, and 8.607 young people¹⁷.

Meanwhile the UN continued its joint programmes on social protection. Through the partnership with the MoETE, the UN provided assistance to about 27,000 families of community school children in five governorates with cash assistance (US\$ 11 per child) redeemable at local retail shops. The assistance aimed to increase food security of vulnerable families negatively affected by the pandemic. In addition, the UN provided food assistance through cash (US\$ 25 each) to about 100,000 registered refugees from different nationalities to help secure their basic food needs. As part of the 'First 1,000 Days' programme, the UN in collaboration with MoSS provided cash top ups (US\$ 13 per woman) to about 23,000 pregnant and lactating women registered under the national social protection programme, 'Takaful and Karama' (Solidarity and Dignity). In addition, the UN worked closely with MoSS on the social protection interventions coordination for COVID-19 responses beyond cash transfers, which included contributory schemes such as pensions and social insurance. This resulted in the extension of non-contributory social protection to cover 3.8 million families (5.1 million children) in 2021.

The UN worked closely with the GoE and particularly MoETE, MoHE and MoSS to ensure safe-reopening of schools, universities and nurseries after closures due to COVID-19. This included disseminating guidelines for safe re-opening of schools and nurseries. Moreover, 552 schools were provided with WASH rehabilitation (402 public schools hosting refugees in Greater Cairo and 150 schools in Ismailia and Sinai Peninsula) benefitting 475,518 students (9,825 refugees, 465,693 Egyptians, 48 per cent airls). 191.853 children (50 per cent airls) receiving either hygiene

supplies (161,865), cash grants (13,884), educational supplies (15,827) or learning support (277). A total of 52,197 (50 per cent girls) vulnerable young people benefitted from multiple initiatives designed to help them gain the necessary skills, including life skills, and experience meaningful participation. The life skills toolkit included themes to foster gender equality and social cohesion. In addition, out of school children were supported by UN programmes, including 110 unaccompanied and separated children (33 girls) who were supported through the Learning Enhancement Programme to provide them with language, digital, and life skills to continue their learning. An additional 28,128 refugee and migrant children (21 per cent girls) and 6,177 children (77 per cent girls) in community-based-schools were supported with educational supplies and learning opportunities. In refugee community schools, the Learning Passport was launched and provided digital content on formal and nonformal education including content on gender equality. Moreover, 3,774 children received more than one intervention under the LSCE package that includes cohesion and coexistence.

The UN continued its support to engage adolescents and youth in their communities on sustainable development issues including through youth-led initiatives in targeted areas. This included 2,863 adolescents and youth (1,492 girls; 1,371 boys) leading initiatives on COVID-19 to raise community awareness about social distancing and hygiene, reaching 70,000 community members. The A&Y used different venues including youth centres, health units, worship areas, universities, and streets. The A&Y implemented their initiatives in various forms, including arts for development, graffiti, coloring booklets for children, acting in and producing short videos, developing websites, disseminating information using posters and social distancing marks, developing online games, etc. Amongst them, 420 (252 girls; 168 boys) Meshwary graduates developed the necessary skills to conduct cascade trainings targeting younger adolescents (10-14 years old) and were therefore named Ambassadors of Change. Around 10 per cent of the Ambassadors were migrants or refugees. In addition, 1,300 youths from ages 17-22 (752 female; 548 male) were deployed from 57 universities as volunteer trainers of the skilling programme of Meshwarv through a partnership with ENACTUS, a national NGO focused on youth and volunteerism.

The UN provided support to people in 10 rehabilitation centers¹⁸ located in seven governorates, through delivery of Voluntary Counselling and Testing and Primary Health Care Services. In addition, The UN subcontracted six NGOs to provide a continuum of medical care and outreach services for people in vulnerable situations in five different Governorates of Egypt (Alexandria, Cairo, Fayoum, Luxor and Minya). In 2021, the NGOs staff provided services to more than 1,000 people in vulnerable situations, including released inmates.

Finally, with regards to support to people living with HIV, in 2021 there were 20,896 people who knew their status in Egypt, out of an estimated 24,000. That is, 87% of those who are estimated to be living with HIV, are aware of their HIV status. Access to quality and affordable testing services (knowledge of HIV status) is considered a key entry point towards ending AIDS by 2030. In addition to the availability of free testing at all MoHP care centers overseen by the National AIDS Programme, the UN has scaled up testing through several other channels. Those include linkage with the maternal and child health (MCH) initiative in nine governorates, availing HIV screening/testing to all women during their regular ANC visits and linking them to government testing services. This resulted in 1.673 HIV tests being conducted to women and young girls in nine governorates. Additionally, procurement and refurbishment of voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) medical facilities in 10 prisons was completed, as well as capacity building for 37 health professionals working in prisons, resulting in HIV testing to 593 at risk individuals and their families. Further, and as part of the implementation of the GFTAM National Grant, 4,333 individuals (in Cairo, Alexandria, Minya) among key populations were supported to access HIV testing services and know their status. Through established referral mechanisms on the local level, partner NGOs were able to refer positive patients to access HIV confirmatory tests and treatment offered by National AIDS Programme -MoHP. As of 2021, all 28 Egyptian governorates have a dedicated VCT center, up from 14 in 2015.

¹⁷ According to project earlier reports, females are more interested to attend the sessions than males (around 72 per cent females to 28 percent males), though both partner needs to receive the messages.

¹⁸ Namely Al-Kanater Women prison, Borg Al-Arab, Damanhour Women prison, Fayoum, Gamasa, Katta, Lyman Abo Zaabal «1», Merg, Menya and Wadi Al-Natroon male prisons

Mahmoud Ibrahim is one of the 300 people living in the desert village of Mogama'a Ibrahim — a remote community in Egypt's north-western coastal governorate of Marsa Matrouh where the closest public school was 7km from the village.

Mahmoud's firstborn daugther, Hoda, was among the girls that never got to go to school. But it wasn't only girls that were deprived of their right to an education. Many families struggled with finding the resources to pay for the rented pickup truck to take their children to school and as a result many of them never got to learn either.

Mahmoud says: "I wanted to educate my daughter and couldn't, that's when I started to think of a solution to a problem that not only concerns me but many other families around us."

Eight years ago, he rolled up his sleeves and started building a community school in his hometown with his bare hands. He convinced his grandfather to donate a piece of land he owned to build a oneclassroom school to serve their hometown. The 'Awlad Ibrahim Community School' (Children of Ibrahim) was established in the heart of the community as a multi-grade one-classroom place. With the support of the UN school feeding program, students received fortified date-bar snack which covered 25 percent of their daily nutritional needs.

Mahmoud continued : "Educations is a vital element in our lives, it's like the air we breathe, and I have big dreams for my children to one day become doctors, engineers and teachers."







Outcome 3 Environmental Sustainability & Natural Resources Management Main Results

Output 3.1: URBAN PLANNING

Output 3.2: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Output 3.3: WATER & BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT



6 strategic urban plans developed and National Urban Policy completed



6 cities and authorities capacitated for effective urban management



National Climate Change Strategy 2050 Framework developed in cooperation with the UN

low-lying lands in Nile Delta

completed by end of 2021

+500 Government Officials capacitated on methodologies for climate change adaptation in agricultural production.



5 metrological Early warning system stations established benefitting +3,000 farmers





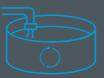
50 solar-water pumps units installed, modern irrigation methods introduced and rehabilitating canals network improving productivity of 7,400 feddans.



+9,000 smallholders' farmers the soft dike system to protect and 60 local CDAs staff trained on climate change adaptation measures



4 educational packages for schools' students, 3 universities **curricula** for biodiversity and climate change and 8 interactive informal water education developed



9 riverbank filtration (RBF)

Units installed providing a total of +25,000 m3/day of clean water using less amount of chemicals and energy

Output 3.4: GREEN & CIRCULAR ECONOMY



+1,100 government and

private sector stakeholders sensitized on green economy/ low carbon emission practices



More than 600 tons of e-waste containing hazardous materials were disposed

Output 3.5: AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY



+60,000 small scale farmers supported for increased production and sustainable agriculture



81 water users' associations (WUAs) engaged in community dialogues and capacitated to support sustainable water management



32 companies adopting green and circular measures/systems



53 government buildings

in the administrative capital provided technical assistance to install 17 MW of solar power capacities.



40 grain moisture analysers provided to strengthen NSFA capacities in food control and safely

Outcome 3

Environmental Sustainability and Natural Resources Management

By 2022 Egypt's natural resources, and its urban environments, are managed in an inclusive, sustainable and productive manner to mitigate environmental hazards and reap the benefits of a greener economy and society

Corresponding national priorities: Sustainable Development Strategy (Egypt Vision 2030), Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy 2030 (SADS 2030), Executive Plan of Agricultural Development, Egypt Climate Change Strategy 2050, National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NAP), National Water Resources Management Strategy 2050, National Renewable Energy Strategy, Energy Efficiency Strategy, Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plan, National Strategic Plan for Urban Development 2052, Fiscal Decentralization Reform, Egypt Third National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Egyptian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2030.





Contributing UN agencies: FAO, IFAD, IOM, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNHABITAT, UNIDO, WFP. WHO

Geographical Focus: Alexandria, Aswan, Assiut, Beheira, Beni Sueif, Cairo, Dakahlia, Dameitta, Fayoum, Gharbia, Giza, Ismailia, Kafr El Sheikh, Luxor, Matrouh, Menya, Menofia, New Valley, Port Said, Qalyubia, Qena, Sharm El Sheikh, Sharqia, Sohaq, Suez, North Sinai, South Sinai, Red Sea

1. Policy Development and Enhancement

In support to national efforts to plan and manage climate change at different levels, the UN supported the development of Egypt's National Climate Change Strategy 2050 framework. The framework was consulted with UN agencies as key implementers of the Strategy in the near future. The strategy was launched in UNFCCC COP 26 in Glasgow in November 2021 with its summary disseminated. The full strategy is expected to be officially released in May 2022.

Moreover, the UN supported in documenting and showcasing national efforts in addressing challenges to climate change mitigation and adaptation during the COP 26. The Strategy represents Egypt's comprehensive and integrated approach to tackle the impacts of and strengthen resilience and adaptation to climate change.

Moreover, within the framework of UN support for mainstreaming biodiversity management within the tourism sector, two policy development interventions were completed in 2021. The first was the completion of the Red Sea Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The SEA identifies critical areas for biodiversity, guiding tourism development in the area in a way that does not lead to biodiversity damages. The purpose of the SEA is to inform planning and will be integrated into the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) guidelines. The second included the support to the Ministry of Tourism and Antiguities in the completion of the National Sustainable Tourism Strategy. The strategy aims to maintain environmental balance, sustain tourism and archaeological activity, encourage the transition towards a green economy, and spread of environmentally friendly practices within the tourism sector.

UN has also contributed to national efforts to accelerate the uptake of energy efficient (EE) motors in the industrial sector by facilitating provision of conductive policy and legal environment, awareness raising and technical assistance for demonstration and upscale. In 2021, the UN supported the GoE in development of operational policy tools and guidelines for the deployment of EE motors in the Egyptian market. Through the adoption of EE motors, which reduces electricity consumption in industry, it induces lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through less energy consumption.

Meanwhile, in 2021, UN supported GoE to realise sustainable and inclusive urban planning in face of urban challenges arising from imbalanced growth and discrepancies in the distribution and provision of services among different regions. The National Strategic Land Use plan (NSLUP) which aims to achieve balanced spatial development was formulated and activated. The Land Readjustment Policy Statement was also formulated based on the review of relevant laws and conducted consultations with relevant experts and agencies. The policy's main purpose is to address challenges associated with the betterment levy such as difficulty in collection, determination of the base year, and the current high value of the betterment levy that landowners have to pay for. An increase of around 50 per cent in the total revenues on the sub-national and national levels is expected, when applied.

Moreover, in line with the global New Urban Agenda, the GoE formulated its National Urban Policy (NUP) with the support of the UN¹⁹ in Egypt. The NUP is considered as the guiding framework for transforming the urbanization process into a source of wealth by promoting more compact, socially inclusive, better connected and integrated cities and clusters, which are resilient to climate change and foster sustainable urban development. It introduced the concept of Egyptian system of cities identifying what role each city could play and what is needed to enable the city to fulfil this role. The Policy and its concept were approved by the Minister of Housing and the final NUP document will be presented to parliament.

Finally, the last phase of the small cities' plans was approved for six cities²⁰ using introduced urban planning tools and methodologies to support sustainable planning for cities. Additionally, Sharm El Sheikh city, the first city of the new category of "cities with special roles"²¹, was also approved. The new planning approach included supporting the city authority with investment plans for suggesting priority projects, including pre-feasibility studies and possible funding sources to support implementing public and private development projects.

¹⁹ The New Urban Agenda was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador, on 20 October 2016. It was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly at its sixty-eighth plenary meeting of the seventy-first session on 23 December 2016.

²⁰ Gamasa, Nasr El Noba, Tamy El Amdid, Kafr El Batiekh, Al Alamein, and Ras El Bar

²¹ Cities that are playing/envisioned to play an effective role within a specified cluster of cities as part of the National Urban Policies. This includes Sharm El Shiekh, Ras sedr, Abou-Zneima, Dahab, Taba, Marsa Alam, and Newibaa.

2. Institutional Capacity Building and Strengthening

In 2021 the UN worked through multi-stakeholder partnerships (including MolC MSPs)²² on mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise and financial resources to support national efforts to strengthen resilience and adaptation to climate change, access to clean and renewable energy, sustainable and inclusive urban planning sustainable and efficient agriculture, integrated water management, strengthened biodiversity management and support to waste management.

Through partnership with the Agriculture Research Centre (ARC) and the Desert Research Centre, 543 government staff different agencies were trained on methodologies on climate change adaptation²³. Moreover, as part of the UN intervention for enhancing climate change adaptation in the North Coast. 64 government officials (30 per cent women) from four ministries²⁴ and coastal governorates received GIS training related to coastal zone management information. The GIS will be part of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Plan that links the plan for shore protection from sea-level rise with the national development plan of the coastal zone. This will enhance the availability of high-guality and reliable data to inform policy formulation and decision-making in this vulnerable area to climate change.

In the same context, several results were achieved in 2021 in the guest to contribute to the national priority of increasing access to clean and renewable energy as an important means for climate change mitigation. This included UN support to the introduction of solar water heaters (SWHs) to industrial applications. One of the main aspects to promote the usage of SWHs in industry is to build capacities for designing, installing and servicing these solar systems. In this regard, the UN collaborated with the New and Renewable Energy Authority (NREA) and PVTD to provide its technical centres with installation and maintenance tools of SWHs and train nine of NREA staff on the use of the developed platform for solar heaters²⁵. Additionally, a total of 190 trainees from industrial enterprises, private sector consultancy, service providers,

academia and government were capacitated on the fundamentals as well as advanced level of SWH system design, its installation and maintenance. Also, to support entrepreneurship and energy enterprises in this area get into the market 181 trainees from the solar energy businesses, companies, entrepreneurs, SMEs and consultants to Industrial Modernization Centre (IMC) and Egyptian National Cleaner Production Centre (ENCPC) were introduced to business development and finances of SWHs systems. Moreover, over 300²⁶ industrial professionals and IMC experts received training on energy management systems, and optimization of motor systems, compressed air systems and pump system to improve energy consumption in the industrial sector.

To enhance capacities in sustainable and inclusive urban planning, three cities from Egypt²⁷, among 12 Arab cities, were capacitated to implement the new "City-Wide Urban Upgrading" approach which improves utilization of city potentials and cross finances²⁸ of city challenging and under-developed areas. Based on the new approach, the Prime Minister issued a decree to change the name and mandate of the "Informal Settlements Development Fund (ISDF)" to the "Urban Development Fund (UDF)" indicating a wider focus on sustainable urban development in the upgrading sector. Support was also provided to the General Organization for Physical Planning (GoPP) to include the new approach and methodology into the urban planning process and revised building law.

As part of UN and UDF's cooperation, the digital urban monitoring unit was formed to improve efficiency of urban surveying and management of upgrading projects being implemented on the ground. The support included set up of the central mapping unit in the UDF, in addition to digital tools for site surveying, software and capacity building. In the same context and within the "Hayenna" (Our District) project, 70 government staff members were trained on land readjustment and detailed planning in Qena Governorate. The tailored capacity building programme that is being conducted in both project governorates, Qena and Damietta, also includes enhancing the cities and

authorities' capacities on GIS, land management, governance, community engagement and infrastructure.

To promote transition to circular economy including national efforts for efficient waste management, UN supported the construction of the first central treatment facility for medical waste in Egypt, using shredding and sterilization (autoclave system) that was completed in 2021. The central treatment facility will treat half of the medical waste generated from Governorate of Gharbia. The environment friendly system will gradually replace incineration systems which might generate harmful emissions.to human health. Furthermore, a total of 118 (87 females and 31 males) Waste Management Officers (WMOs) and managers from MoHP, Health-care Facilities (HCFs), and private HCFs in the Governorates of Gharbia. Shargia and Dakahlia, were trained on the Best Environmental Practice (BEP) of the Health Care Waste Management (HCWM).

Along the same lines, UN supported the launch of a private sector initiative for collection of e-waste from residentials and individuals, named E-Tadweer, through a mobile phone application to channel it to formal e-waste recyclers. The Ministry of Environment has included the initiative under the Go Green Presidential initiative that involved a strong media campaign. The initiative partnered with Vodafone and Rava who offered their branches in the country as collection points for e-waste. Several private sector companies offered discount vouchers for individuals discarding their old electronic equipment through E-Tadweer. Furthermore, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, more than 600 tons of old computer screens that have been accumulated in 11 Egyptian ports for more than 10 years were successfully disposed in 2021. The old screens contained lead and mercury, which is considered hazardous waste. Additionally, to promote the circular economy in the textile sector, the concept of mechanical recycling of textile waste has been promoted, and safer chemical management practices were introduced to the wet processing. In this regard, 225 individuals from 15 textile industries, and Industrial Modernization Centre (IMC) were trained on waste -water treatment practices, and safe chemical management.

With regards to integrated water management, in 2021, the UN, in close collaboration with the GoE, built on the previously introduced approach to a new planning methodology to link spatial and infrastructural planning to avail opportunities for optimized water and natural resource management, including reduced health and environmental risks. The new approach was piloted in the established riverbank filtration (RBF) units to provide clean water using less amount of chemicals and energy.

In this respect, 30 local water companies' representatives and other key stakeholders were trained on water safety plans. In addition, containerized sanitation units were introduced as a model to significantly improve surface water quality in the Delta. Moreover, 23 water quality monitoring staff were capacitated on health and environmental impact, risk assessment and management, and guality standards of reuse of wastewater.

Laying the foundations of sustainable biodiversity management and environmental sustainability to future generations, four educational packages for school students covering issues of climate change, biodiversity, land degradation and sustainable development were developed by the UN. The first group of 30 school- teachers has been trained on these packages that aims at introducing these important concepts to school students. Additionally, three university curricula were developed on climate change adaptation, land degradation and biodiversity conservation. Moreover, the first science club in a protected area in Egypt for school students is being established and furnished to receive school study tours starting next academic year. In the same context, eight customized interactive informal water education activities targeting 8-12 years and 13-18 years school children were developed. Teachers' training sessions were organized with the participation of more than 40 educators (50 per cent women) on promoting the value of water among school children and its significant role in combating COVID-19.

Finally, UN is collaborating with mandated ministries and national agencies in contribution to sustainable and efficient agriculture, to address the gap and needs to availability, access, and utilisation of safe food. Accordingly, based on the GoE need to strengthen national food safety monitoring systems, UN has been collaborating closely with the MoHP and National Food Safety Authority (NFSA) to identify gaps in food monitoring, foodborne disease surveillance, food inspectors' capacity and data management and digitalisation. In response, UN provided 40 grain moisture analysers for measuring humidity levels in different types of grains to strengthen its capacities in food control. In the context of enhancing supply chain of wheat, a management system was established in the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade (MoSIT) to monitor and manage the process of collecting of wheat purchased. To enhance functionality of the system, UN facilitated adding location data of all the facilities and the outlet of MoSIT to increase efficiency of goods distribution and identify areas that needs enhancement. Members (six females and five males) of MoSIT data collection team at central and governorates level received comprehensive trainings on advanced GIS topics, location data quality, and TOT on collecting location data.

²² https://moic.gov.eg/page/multi-stakeholder-platforms

²³ The government officials were trained on Leadership in climate change (CC), impact of CC, CC mitigation, ToT of local extension agents on climate change, training on water users associations mitigation, FFS for climate resilience, as well as trainings of head of Agricultural Cooperatives to become facilitators for new irrigation technologies

²⁴ Ministries of Environment, Water Resources and Irrigation, Housing and Utilities, Agriculture and Land Reclamation

²⁵ The SWH-Egypt platform had been launched to enhance information exchange, cooperation and partnerships between local industries, international centers of excellence & technology and suppliers [www.swhegypt.com]

^{26 341} industrial professionals and IMC experts received the mentioned capacity buildings

²⁷ Damietta, Dahab and Kafr El Dawar

²⁸ Advancing revenue generating urban development projects to support financing urban upgrading of deteriorated/informal areas.

3. The provision of direct services and support to beneficiaries

According to data from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) high temperatures are expected to constrain agricultural production in Egypt. The data recommend adaptation options to cope with the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture to focus on crop management, water management, and land management in particular for smallholder farmers, who are most vulnerable to the adverse effect of climate change. Thus, strengthening resilience and adaptation to climate change of smallholder farmers was a main focus of support provided to beneficiaries in 2021. The main objectives of this support were to help smallholder farmers to reverse the loss and crop failure from climate-related hazards to enhanced productivity and better livelihood opportunities.

In this regard, an Early Warning System (EWS) comprising of five meteorological stations was established in Aswan, Menya, Beni Suef, and Kafr El-Sheikh governorates²⁹. In cooperation with the Agriculture Research Centre (ARC), the EWS employs a mathematical model that analyses and uses weather forecast data like air temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, and precipitation to generate early warning information to reduce the climate factors risks on the agriculture sector. In 2021, the EWS reached 3,157 smallholder farmers (2,711 males and 386 females) via mobile short messages (SMS) with weather information and agricultural practices to avoid damages in yield productivity. The EWS information and recommendations also feed into the wider broadcast channels via a daily programme in the Egypt Agricultural Channel.

Moreover, climate adaptation and resilient practices were introduced and promoted by UN agencies to help more than 9,000 smallholders and agricultural producers' associations strengthen resilience of their production and diversify their livelihoods. This included introduction of innovative practices with regards to climate resilience such as aquaponic, hydroponic, and kitchen gardens to small scale farmers and agriculture cooperatives. These agriculture climate adaptive practices were demonstrated to around 740 farmers through 37³⁰ model sites to guide them on how to overcome soil problems, salinity and water shortage when applying them during crop production.

At the same time, the UN and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MoALR) implemented activities, addressing together the adaptation gaps and needs of smallholder farmers in 60 of the poorest villages (identified under the national 'Decent Life' initiative) in Assiut, Sohag, Qena, Luxor and Aswan through improved environmentally smart agricultural and irrigation practices, enhanced market linkages, financial literacy and inclusion, diversification of income, through partnering with local community development associations (CDAs) in these communities. In this regard, capacities of around 2,200 men and 1,800 women in 60 local CDAs were augmented through awareness sessions and provision of trainings on community mobilization and organization of other community and field activities, ICT skills, financial management of loans and operation of climate information systems to support the establishment and future operation of smallholders' support services were introduced. Additionally, around 8,400 farmers were engaged through awareness raising sessions and theatrical performances in smallholders' communities to increase communities' awareness and knowledge on climate resilience, means to reduce irrigation water losses, reduce costs of production, limit abusive agricultural practices while increasing their productivity per unit of input, and ways of diversifying their livelihoods. With this, achieved results contributed to development strategies and priorities including the Sustainable Development Goals, Egypt's Vision 2030, National Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy 2030, National Water Resource Strategy 2050, among others.

Meanwhile, the UN continued its partnership with the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI) to protect the low-lying lands in five governorates along the Nile Delta coast from sea surges and coastal flooding during strong storms caused by global warming. Construction works continued in the target five governorates of Port Said, Dameitta, Beheira, Dakahlia and Kafr El Sheikh. Almost 65 per cent of the targeted 69 Kms of the dike system have been completed by the end of 2021. Over the last year, the established segments of the dike system were efficient in stopping recorded coastal flooding from invading low-lying lands.

Additionally, in terms of integrated water management enhancement at beneficiaries' level and in cooperation with MWRI, a community-based water conservation dialogue/ campaign was organized in support of MWRI strategy for rationing water use and modernizing irrigation practices. Community dialogues were organized in Tanta, Beni

Suef, Fayoum, and Qalyubia governorates with the participation of more than 500 farmers and representatives of more than 25 water users' associations (WUAs). Moreover, one water conservation demonstration was undertaken in Qalyubia to illustrate to stakeholders how to operate and maintain a modern water conservation system at rural areas.

Moreover, in compliance with the Government nation-wide policy for water control and savings and the national programme to maintain/rehabilitate canals network³¹, UN work has improved irrigation infrastructure to supply reliable irrigation water up to the farm borders benefiting around 1,650 farmer households cultivating over 1,800 feddans with increased water availability and efficiency. Furthermore, modern efficient irrigation methods such as drip and sprinkler irrigation introduced in addition to installing 50 solar-powered pumping units resulted in improving productivity of over 5,600 feddans. Continued capacity building to 56 Water User Associations (WUAs) established under the partnership with MWRI/Central Department for Advisory Services by provision of a comprehensive training programme to manage the improved water facilities shared among member smallholders. The training programme covered the role of water users' organizations in share water management, conflict resolution, filing system management, and developing annual action plan and budget.

In the same context, three RBF units were completed in Assiut with total water production of 7,776m3/day³² and six RBF units in Sohag with total water production 18,144 m3/day. With an average per capita water consumption in Assiut and Sohag of 115 and 142 L/day/capita respectively; this resulted in providing sufficient clean water for 195,378 inhabitants in the selected vulnerable locations in Assiut and Sohag. The used RBF technology is now replicated to serve 2.2 million inhabitants in Egypt saving more than 90% of the capital cost and around 85% of the operational cost, in addition to less use of chemical materials infiltration and increased resilience and local employment.

With regards to the efforts **to reduce the use of ozone depleting substances**, five foam companies have replaced Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) with UN support. In addition, 15 textile companies were capacitated to introduce safer chemical management protocols and 183 factories have applied for motor systems

optimization. Additional 11 companies have committed to phase-out ozone depleting substances³³. Moreover, with regards to **enhancing access to clean and renewable energy**, five entities have received support to install solar power plants in 2021. Additionally, technical assistance was provided to the New Administrative Capital to install 17 MW for solar power capacities over 53 government buildings. Also, an agreement was signed to install Photovoltaic (PV) systems in Cairo Airport. In terms of promoting energy efficiency, the lighting system in Cairo main railway station entrance yard was changed from sodium street lighting to LED energy efficient lighting systems.

In continued efforts for strengthening biodiversity management, four protected areas (PAs) were directly supported namely; SIWA, Qatrani, Wadi El Gemmal, and Wadi Rayan. Basic infrastructures were completed in Wadi El Gemmal and Wadi Rayan. In addition, the Community Based Nature Resource Management was implemented with the local communities in eco-tourism through which they were trained to become tour guides in the respective protected areas. Additionally, two language trainings, English and Italian, were completed to the local communities in Wadi El Gemmal. This comes in alignment with Eco-Egypt, 3 years presidential initiative, that aims to promote Egypt's protected areas on international and national levels.

Meanwhile, in 2021 support to promote sustainable management of Kharga Oasis Agro-ecosystems in the New Valley Governorate was initiated. This action was in collaboration with the Desert Research Centre (DRC) to select, demonstrate and upscale successful and relevant sustainable land, water and agro-biodiversity management approaches and practices that contribute to enhanced agro-ecosystem services in three local communities, namely ElSharika, ElMounira, and Nasser El-Thawra in the New Valley Governorate. A capacity needs assessment for potential partners including, government, community-based and civil society organizations (CSOs) was conducted and subsequent comprehensive capacity building plans for them were developed.

Lastly, the UN agencies continued to operate at different levels to support the GoE to ensure that **agriculture systems are efficient**, **sustainable**, **resilient with increased productivity** for the small-scale farmers. To complement existing agriculture extension

²⁹ The five metrological stations are located in in Aswan (Wadi Al-Naqrah (East of the Nile) and Wadi Al-Saayda (West of the Nile), Minya (West Samalout), BeniSuef (West El-Fashn), and Kafr El-Sheikh (Mutobus)

^{30 (5)} Aquaponics in partnership with agriculture cooperatives, (7) Hydroponics farms, and (25) kitchen gardens

³¹ This included the rehabilitation and lining of 25,950 M of mesquas in Motobus zone - lower Egypt

³² Two of the installed RBF units (one in Sohag and one in Assiut) were co-financed by the Government

³³ These includes 5 residential AC manufacturing, and six commercial AC companies are committed to test prototypes using low GWP refrigerants. One refrigerant company has committed to implement a reclamation and recovery centre.

services, Farmer Field Schools (FFS) were provided in four governorates, namely Kafr El Sheikh, Menya, Beni Suef and Aswan. The aim of the FFS is to improve smallholder farmers' skills and productivity. A total of 76 FFS³⁴ were conducted in 2021 reaching 14,701 smallholder farmers' (10,366 males and 3,705 females). The FFS provided farming extension activities with demonstration plots and farming systems in addition to technical training sessions and field and harvest days. It also promoted the collective farming approach and the cultivation of high-value crops to ensure more market-oriented production. These FFS are provided by trained local community-based male and female facilitators. In 2021, a total of 88 community-based men and women were trained to become FFS facilitators. Moreover, agreements were reached with three local NGOs to establish, implement, and replicate sustainable agriculture practices to smallholder male and female farmers to ensure sustainability of the interventions.

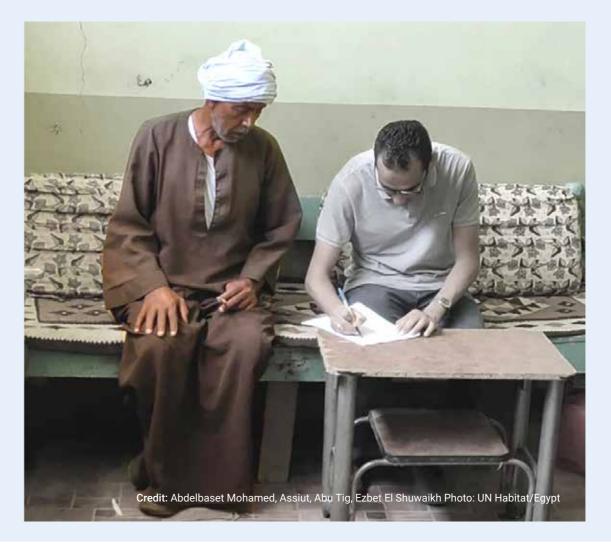
Moreover, around 17,000 smallholder farmers benefited from farm-to-farm exchange visits, irrigation canals improvement, installation of solar-powered pumps and provision of improved inputs such as improved seeds, laser levelling, agricultural mechanization, and fertilizers. Furthermore, farmers received trainings on irrigation water saving and management, on-farm trainings on improved agricultural practices and established extension fields. This resulted in 3,900 smallholder farmers in 60 communities cultivating 3,100 feddans who consolidated their small plots of less than 1 feddan of farmland into plots that include around 10 smallholders each. Farmers in these consolidated plots coordinate their sowing and harvest dates, purchase in bulk needed production inputs and services such as seeds, fertilizer, and agricultural machinery. Additionally, livelihoods of 19,300 of rural women were diversified through trainings on raising ducks and goats and providing in kind animal loans.

Finally, pre and post -harvest losses were supported for 11 crops namely, garlic, potato, tomato, peas, fennel, pomegranate, wheat, sorghum, maize and sugarcane, grapes. This was mainly achieved through all of the above-mentioned intervention packages including the trainings on improved agricultural practices, use of agricultural machinery and positive returns of working in collective agriculture. This is in addition to the provision of smallholder farmers with improved seed varieties that are heat tolerant and less susceptible to pre harvest losses, and early warning climatic alerts established through the UN intervention.



Mohamed, 65, is a retired worker who lives in Ezbet El-Shuwaikh in El-Kordi Village. He is one of the beneficiaries of Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation Sector Programme in Egypt. Mohamed stated that he used to suffer from daily water service interruption, low water pressure, and poor water quality. As a remedy, Mohamed used a pump to boost the water supply and an in-house water filter which requires periodical demanding maintenance.

Based on the implementation of the UN programme in Assiut, Mohamed's family now have improved access to clean and continuous water at home. After 12 months of operating the units, Mohamed was more satisfied with the water supply service as he no longer experiences any water cuts and stated that the water quality significantly enhanced.



^{34 45} FFS implements by ARC 31 FFS implemented by FAO in coordination with IFAD

Outcome 4 Women's Empowerment Main Results

Output 4.1: LEADERSHIP & DECISION-MAKING

55,000 women in eight governorates received identification cards



6 government entities strengthened in conducting gender responsive budgeting (GRB)

Output 4.2: ECONOMOIC EMPOWERMENT



+16,000 women including refugee and migrant women benefiting from revolving micro-loans, microprojects and financial literacy (including 1,060 of the trained women received microloans).

6 private companies advocated for and committed to adopting gender inclusive policies



Output 4.3: SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT



21 million persons reached by NCW "Knock the door Campaign" on elimination of FGM.



+36,000 community

members were engaged in the Dawwie community engagement package for girls' empowerment in 6 governorates



400 women rural

leaders trained to enhance awareness on social protection services.



Output 4.4: PROTECTION



+18,900 complaints received by the Women complaint office at NCW, and more than **2,300 cases** referred to the Volunteer Lawyers Network.



+15 million individuals were reached through several awareness raising campaigns on issues of VAWG, and promoting positive social norm changes in support of gender equality



of VAWG accessed protection and essential services



+35,000 survivors +16,200 adolescents & youth were trained on knowledge and skills for active citizenship and youth-led initiatives



Awareness raising for **3,675 refugee** community members on GBV, and 192 vulnerable refugee women were given access to awareness, prevention and response services to GBV

Outcome 4 Women's Empowerment

By 2022, women are fully contributing to Egypt's development and all women and girl's rights set forth in the 2014 Constitution, are respected, protected and responded to with no discrimination.

Corresponding national priorities: Egypt Vision 2030; National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030; National Strategy to Combat Violence Against Women; National FGM Abandonment Strategy; National Advocacy Campaigns "T-Marboota" & "Because I am a Man"; National Childhood and Motherhood Strategy; Ending Violence Against Children Strategic Framework; National Human Rights Strategy; National Population Strategy; National Food and Nutrition Strategy; National Poverty Reduction Strategy; Takaful and Karama Social Safety Net Programmes; Ministry of Social Solidarity income generation programmes for women; Microfinance law 141 for 2014, Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy 2030; 3RP





and Egypt response for Africans, Iragis and Yemenis; Education 2.0 programme; National literacy and adult education plans; National COVID-19 Response Plan; National COVID-19 Vaccination Plan

Contributing UN Agencies: ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNODC, UN Women, WFP

Geographical Focus: National, Areas of concentration of refugees, Alexandria, Assiut, Aswan, Beni Suef, Beheira, Cairo, Dakahlia, Damietta, Fayoum, Giza, Gharbia, Kafr El Sheikh, Luxor, Mansoura, Matrouh, Menofia, Minya, North Sinai, Qalyubia, Qena, Red Sea, Sharqia, Sohaq, Suez, Tanta

In partnership with the NCW, the UN also advocated and supported the reclassification of all forms of sexual harassment as felony offences in the Penal Code rather than misdemeanors as per the amendments to Article 306 which came into force in June 2021. According to the new amendments, sentences went up from a minimum of one year in prison to a minimum of five years, or a penalty of up to EGP 300,000 (US\$ 19,100) instead of EPG 20,000 (US\$ 1,300). In situations where a power imbalance was in place because of a professional or familial relationship, or in cases involving the use of weapons or accomplices, the penalty was increased from a minimum of two to a minimum of seven years, in addition to a 10-fold increase of the maximum fine to EGP 500,000 (US\$ 31,100).

1. Policy development and enhancement The UN in Egypt continued to collaborate with key national counterparts and private sector partners to inform the design and implementation of policies and action plans that further promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls during this reporting period. To this end, the UN provided inputs to key National Action Plans as well as private sector policies on gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace. This was done in line with Egypt's Vision 2030 and the National Strategy for the Empowerment of Women 2030 (NSEW), as well as other relevant national strategies and plans and commitments in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In support of national commitments to protect women and girls from all forms of violence, the UN continued to provide technical advice and support to the National Committee for the Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) on the review of the FGM National Action Plan and its costing as well as on the development of the tools of the FGM National Household Survey covering 20,000 households. This National Action Plan is expected to support and accelerate the efficiency and coordination, as well as increase the ownership of the GoE of all the national work around FGM. In the same context, the UN supported the local referral mechanisms at the governorates level to strengthen the established national referral pathway led by the NCW in collaboration with line ministries in the legal, health and social services sectors.

Furthermore, the UN partnered with the NCW, MoSS and Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) on the development of the first national study on the prevalence, forms and causes of violence against women with disabilities, which focuses on the nuanced intersectionality between gender, disability and poverty. This study, to be launched in the first guarter of 2022, will serve as a guide to inform policymakers, civil society, and others on the current state of violence against women with disabilities and to support the formulation of evidence-based strategies and plans to combat violence against women with disabilities in Egypt. In addition, it provides much needed data and a better understanding of the issue.

In partnership with the UN, the GoE continued the process of developing the country's first National Action Plan (NAP) on the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security and subsequent resolutions. The first draft of the NAP was generated based on national priorities, the results of national consultations and reviews of international best practices in the region and beyond. It is anticipated that the NAP will be approved and launched in 2022.

In an effort to increase women's access to decent employment, the UN cooperated with the MoM in the development of a National Action Plan³⁵ on Gender Equality in the World of Work as well as a checklist on gender responsive labour and occupational safety and health as a tool to equip the Ministry's inspectors to conduct gender responsive inspection visits. This builds on the decrees that were issued by the Minister of Manpower in April 2021 which limit the list of professions prohibited for women to mines and guarries (Decree No 43) and allow women's work in night shift in industries (Decree No 44).

In the same vein, through the provision of technical advice by the UN, six additional companies in different fields signed on to the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs)³⁶. By joining the WEPs community, these companies commit to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace and community. Concurrently, to scale up the number of WEPs signatories in connection with the national efforts, the UN efforts were synergized with the Ministry of International Cooperation (MoIC) and NCW to include the WEPs in the "Closing the

³⁵ The National Action Plan is expected to be adopted early next year

³⁶ More information on the WEPs can be found here: https://www.weps.org/about

Gender Gap Accelerator^{#37} action plan and platform. Furthermore, as a result of advocacy and discussions with national stakeholders and enhanced monitoring mechanisms supported, the percentage of women on boards in 2021 has increased to 17.8 per cent for the Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA) and 15.2 per cent for the Egyptian Exchange (EGX) and 14.2 per cent for the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) compared to 14.7 per cent and 11.6 per cent and 13.7 per cent in 2020 respectively.

2. Institutional Capacity Building and Strengthening

The UN partnered with national stakeholders in strengthening institutional capacity of various government counterparts and civil society partners on gender equality, women's empowerment and gender responsive budgeting. To this end, over 9,000 duty bearers - including Women's Complaint Office (WCO) staff, medical service providers, prosecutors and judges, police officers, forensic doctors, religious leaders and CSOs staff members, benefited from a set of advanced and specialized capacity building training programmes which strengthened their knowledge on VAWG, harmful practices, case management to FGM cases, FGM medicalization, psychosocial support, human rights related matters and legislative frameworks, and medical response addressing violence against children. This was done through the longstanding partnerships with the NCW as well as in partnership and coordination with relevant line ministries and national institutions as well as civil society partners. Under the continuing partnership with the NCW's WCO, 155 WCO staff members including lawyers and social workers - were further capacitated to provide legal and psychological support for women who have experienced violence, in addition to over 100 staff members receiving training on information and communication technology (ICT). Moreover, NCW branches were equipped with 6 interactive screens, 21 smart screens and 27 tablets. During the reporting period, the WCO received 18,935 complaints from women, with over 2,300 new cases referred to its Volunteer Lawyers Network in all governorates, who proceeded to file lawsuits, 4,564 women were referred to the social and legal services provided by other agencies and 2,041 women received counselling and psychological and social support services, financial and income-generating opportunities.

In partnership with the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the NCW, the UN worked with at least six government entities on strengthening their capacity on gender responsive budgeting. Those organizations included NCW, MoF, MoSS, MoETE, MoHP, and Ministry of Local Development. The trainings included practical exercises on gender responsive, programme-based budgets. Moreover, the UN supported the digitization of TIEC "Heya Raeda" entrepreneurship training programme for early-stage women entrepreneurs in Arabic and will be hosted on the national owned platform, Egypt Innovate.

The UN also partnered with the NCW toward the expansion of Anti-VAW Units to cover 24 national universities (in 24 respective governorates) as well as the provision of technical assistance to the Units to establish a safe reporting environment and educational spaces for students on campus. Two additional Anti-VAW units were established on university campuses during the reporting period. To further strengthen service provision, the UN also supported the establishment of four new specialized VAWG clinics "Safe Women clinics", bringing the total number of clinics to eight. The new clinics were equipped, medical staff capacitated, and effective monitoring and reporting systems for VAWG cases were established in four university hospitals³⁸. In the same context, as a result of the institutionalization of case management functions within MoSS, 46 cases of women subjected to sexual violence or harmful practices³⁹ were identified through MoSS case management units and accordingly provided with services. At the same time, under MoSS, over 200 women were hosted in women's shelters and support services were provided, including psychosocial support and income generation support - with their accompanying children (118 children). The UN also partnered with MoSS in training 400 women rural leaders on "Waai"40 messages on early marriage and gender-based violence (GBV).

With regards to the legal aspect, in partnership with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and NCW, round table discussions were held with law enforcement officials on policies and international conventions such as Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). At the same time, the UN collaborated with the Egyptian Court of Cassation

to support the strengthening of its institutional capacity and enhancing its human resources technical knowledge to utilize a case management system compatible with the international standards and norms in order to contribute to upholding the principle of good governance and promote sustainable development outcomes. Moreover, in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior (Mol), 30 middle-level police officers (14 female, 16 male) involved in dealing with VAWG cases were capacitated on topics such as identifying the issues surrounding VAWG in Egypt and exploring the importance of strong leadership in empowering and enabling an effective trauma-informed response; prevention of VAWG and avoiding secondary victimizations; gender-sensitive interviewing of victims and witnesses; safety and protection; support and assistance to survivors of violence; coordination between criminal justice actors; monitoring and evaluation.

Trainings for religious leaders has been key in influencing decision making of communities to continue the practice of FGM. Training programmes for 1,216 religious leaders capacitated them with knowledge on FGM's negative impacts as well as creative techniques to support community sensitization on the elimination of FGM. Furthermore, representatives from 12 national and local CSOs took part in indepth VAWG case management and referral process trainings, while 13 directors and case managers from CSOs were capacitated with training of trainers (ToT) skills required to deliver information on case management and psychosocial support services to newly recruited staff and young volunteers, while incorporating an institutionalized system of case management in the CSO's vision.

The UN continued to support the national Women's Citizenship Initiative that aims at issuing national identification cards for women. Through the partnership with the Government, an additional 55,000 Egyptian women in eight governorates⁴¹ were able to get free-of-charge national identification cards during the reporting period. This enables women registration, voting, health and social rights, among others. To further promote awareness and learning around gender equality, the UN, in partnership with the NCW and the MoETE launched "Gender Equality Debates Programme". During this reporting period, debating ToT training was rolled out for 122 education supervisors (62 females and 60 males) at the MoETE Equal Opportunity Units in four governorates.

3. The Provision of Direct Services and Support to Beneficiaries

In partnership with national and civil society partners, UN continued to support and facilitate interventions to raise awareness and promote behavioural changes around the social norms at the root of gender-based discrimination, including harmful practices. The UN also continued to strengthen women's capacities and skills required for pursuing sustainable economic opportunities, as well as to promote and support women's leadership in public and private institutions. This contributed to increased access of women to income generating activities, social, health and nutrition services and safe spaces, laying the ground work for women's increased financial inclusion, supporting awareness-raising activities which contributed to empowering women and girls, and increasing the understanding of gender inequalities among women, men, girls and boys.

In an effort to further promote women leadership roles in public and private institutions, through partnership with the UN, the "Women on Boards" placement services successfully placed three women on corporate boards, with 12 additional companies requesting women nominees to be placed on their boards and 28 additional women registered for corporate board services from 20 companies. This work was linked to private companies' commitments under the WEPs and through the implementation of the Signatories' action plans and commitments on the provision of leadership training and advanced management skills to women in mid and senior level management. At the same time, to promote the participation of Egyptian young women in science, the L'Oréal-UNESCO Fellowship Programme for Women in Science recognized and awarded three outstanding young Egyptian women researchers. The three fellowship grants amounted to a total EUR 26,000 covering industrial, medical and water treatment fields.

Through multiple collaborations between the UN, the NCW and other partners, including partners from civil society and private sector, a total of 16,288 women, including refugee and migrant women, in 20 governorates⁴² benefited from trainings on financial education and management, business development, micro-enterprise management, leadership skills and marketing, including 1,556 women job seekers benefited from employability programmes, including skills development activities, English learning scholarships, internships with private companies, and mentorship

³⁷ "Closing the Gender Gap Accelerator" was launched by the MOIC and NCW, together with the World Economic Forum in 2020. The Accelerator is a public-private collaboration model built to take proactive action to advance women's economic empowerment. More information can be found here: https://www.moic.gov.eg/getattachment/bf16f9ad-8e17-44cb-9929-1e3f156b84f0/moic_2020report_english.pdf

³⁸ Universities of Minya, Banha, Bani Suef and 6th of October.

³⁹ This includes 18 cases of harmful practices cases and 28 sexual violence cases.

^{40 &}quot;Waai" Programme for Community Development is a comprehensive and unified advocacy curriculum which aims at addressing all social protection issues. It targets families registered within the Takaful and Karama social protection programme.

⁴¹ Qalyubia, Kafr El Sheikh, Gharbia, Sherkeya, Beni Suef, Sohag, Aswan, Luxor

⁴² Alexandria, Assiut, Aswan, Bani Suef, Beheira, Cairo, Dakahlia, Fayoum, Gharbia, Giza, Luxor, Matrouh, Menofia, Minya, North Sinai, Qalyubia, Qena, Red Sea, Sharqia, Sohag.

services in seven governorates⁴³. Furthermore, 1,060 of the trained women received microloans⁴⁴ to support the launching/expansion of income-generating activities, while others were also able to trade and be integrated in the distribution channels of various companies including P&G and Juhayna. The UN also supported the establishment of six additional women-owned businesses in retail resulting in an income increase by 30-40 per cent for the women beneficiaries, as well as 33 womenowned businesses in traditionally male dominated sectors⁴⁵.

Under the National Financial Inclusion programme, the UN's partnership with the GoE in this area was officially launched at a ceremony on International Women's Day on 8 March 2021 covering four governorates⁴⁶. Extensive stakeholder discussions and consultations defined the work on advancing women's financial inclusion through promoting and digitizing Village Saving and Lending Associations (VSLAs). In partnership with the NCW and the Central Bank of Egypt, phase one of the new mobile application for data collection and operation of VSLAs has been tested and will be hosted at e-Finance and accessed by the GoE. The application will be facilitating the e-KYC process for women beneficiaries and utilizing "Meeza" Card to ensure the full digitization of the VSLA operations. Training of 200 field staff members was completed on the classic VSLA methodology and approach, in addition to the digitization of the VSLA and women financial inclusion objectives.

UN, in partnership with the NCW, MoYS, and civil society, also provided livelihood and skills development trainings, job placement opportunities and assets to over 7,000 refugee and migrant women as well as women from their host communities in various vocations - including on handcrafts, recycling, waste management and food processing, language courses and marketing courses to enhance their skills and their abilities to generate income and secure financial stability. Women beneficiaries were offered opportunities selling their products at Expo 2020, Turathna Exhibition and few other niche outlets and fairs. The UN also worked in partnership with the NCW Giza branch kitchen as well as the Mashghal on providing equipment, advanced infrastructure, and raw material required to support diversified vocational training services to 200 women refugees and host community nationals, such as chocolate,

decoupage, and leather making, enhancing as such their access to economic/ livelihood opportunities, employment creation, and supporting their access to financial services, business development and cash for work opportunities.

In partnership with national stakeholders, the UN in Egypt continued to support increased public awareness around issues of VAWG, including harmful practices, and promoted positive social norm change in support of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in collaboration with NCW and other national partners. More than 15 million individuals were reached during this reporting period through several awareness raising campaigns that were organized by the UN in partnership with various ministries, institutions, and CSOs, at both national and community levels. This includes over 11 million individuals who were reached through six episodes of "Nehad Stories" television show as well as on social media which disseminated messaging on different forms of VAW, access to legal rights and response services and promoting positive male role models; 4.1 million through a social media campaign aiming at halting sexual harassment against women and girls in public spaces: The cybercrimes awareness campaign "Protect Yourself and Protect Others " reached over 1,000 social media users through its direct reach on Facebook (24 July - 17 August 2020). The campaign caused high interaction on social media and focused on shedding light on the legal rights of women exposed to cybercrimes Moreover, 637 participants (537 females and 100 males) attended a series of 12 public screenings in six governorates of the award-winning film "Between Two Seas"47. The screenings were followed by group discussions around forms of VAW depicted in the film and how to end these forms of violence.

Focusing on raising awareness against FGM and its significant harmful impact on women and girls, through its partnership with the NCW, the UN carried-out a large-scale knocking-door campaigns at local communities (villages) level in all governorates which reached over 21 million individuals (99 per cent females). The campaigns also had messages on family cohesion and equitable value and receiving vaccine. As a result of this campaign, 3,190 consultations on FGM were handled by the WCO of NCW, in addition to 200 cases of FGM received and processed by the national Child Helpline.

47 The film won a total of 21 national and international awards, including at the Egyptian National Film Festival. Screenings took place in Damietta, Greater Cairo, Alexandria, Kafr El Sheikh, Qena and Assiut

At the same time, a campaign was carried out in 10 governorates⁴⁸ focusing on FGM awareness among young people - reaching 2,000 youth. The awareness of additional 1834 men and boys was raised, including male religious leaders, on FGM and its negative impacts. The UN also supporting the establishment of networks of men and boys to advocate combating FGM as well as the development of the chapter on FGM in the Engaging Men and Boys (EMB) curriculum. FGM module is to be integrated into the curriculum for the programme on Engaging Men and Boys (EMB) of Care International, which highlights negative impacts of FGM in legal, social, and health aspect.

In partnership with the MoYS, the UN supported 210 adolescents and youth (110 females and 100 males) in the implementation of seven adolescents and youth-led awareness raising initiatives in governorates with high prevalence of harmful practices against women and girls⁴⁹. In the same context, 911 participants, including women, men and children increased their knowledge of the impact of gender equality on creating healthy and safe households, protection from sexual abuse including against children, early marriage, domestic violence, women's mental health and where and how to access response services during COVID-19, after participating in UN supported family camps in five governorates⁵⁰.

In partnership with the NCW and NCCM, 36,114 community members were engaged in the Dawwie community engagement package for girls' empowerment in Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") villages in 6 governorates⁵¹ focusing on; storytelling, intergenerational dialogues, interactive community theatre, camps and community dialogues.

Access to national VAWG services - including case management, emergency housing, legal assistance, MHPSS and referral, to refugee and migrant women subjected to violence was also enhanced by the UN through the established Safe Spaces in six governorates⁵². The UN also raised the awareness of 3,675 refugee community members, including women, men, girls and boys, on GBV. Moreover, 192 vulnerable refugee women had access to awareness, prevention and response services to GBV. This has been achieved through 14 arts-based workshops, whereby women gained essential life skills that included self-expression, critical thinking, problem solving and stress management.

Through the partnership with MoHP, around 36 RH convoys via mobile clinics were supported to increase access and use of RH and FP services, particularly in the underserved rural and Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") villages. These campaigns reached 84,857 women with Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN) services, FP methods and counselling and other health services. At the same time, more than 677,000 women, including migrant women, were reached on health and nutrition services provided through family health units, medical convoys, and social media platforms. Moreover, 3,787 women living with and most at risk of HIV were reached in five governorates and supported with HIV testing and counselling, sexual and RH consultations, psychological consultation, legal services and awareness sessions. The UN also established critical linkages between MoHP service providers and the national "Mother to Child" Health initiative in nine governorates to ensure referral of high-risk women and those that are HIV positive to specialized HIV (VCT) care centres during women's regular visits to ANC clinics.



⁴³ Alexandria, Beni Suef, Beheira, Cairo, Fayoum, Giza, Minya. This includes over 7,000 women from "Haya Karima" villages.

⁴⁴ The value of the microloans was between EGP 3.500 to 10.000 (US\$ 220 to 635).

⁴⁵ These sectors were leather making products, plumbing, electrical and mechanical maintenance, tuk-tuk spare parts and carpentry.

⁴⁶ Assiut, Sohag, Minya and Beni Suef.

⁴⁸ Dakahlia, Sharqia, Fayoum, Beni Suef, Minya, Assiut, Sohaq, Qena, Luxor, Aswan

⁴⁹ Assiut, Sohaq, Aswan, Qena and Giza

⁵⁰ Giza, Cairo, Alexandria, Minya and Beni Suef

⁵¹ Assiut, Aswan, Sohag, Qena, Fayoum, Giza

⁵² Aswan, Cairo, Damietta, Giza, Qalyubia, Sharqia

in a number of governorates across Egypt, the women's shelters have played an essential role in empowering women survivors of violence. As one of the services provided by the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), the women's shelters across Egypt which aim to provide a safe and secure accommodation for women survivors of violence and their dependents. Additionally, the shelters work to ensure that the women are given the support to cope with the trauma and move forward through an array of services ranging from psychosocial support and family counselling to medical, legal, and livelihood opportunities. Since 2015, more than 9,000 women and children have benefited from the services that these shelters provide.

"I suffered a lot [when I was on the street] until I went to a nearby hospital where the doctor helped me reach the shelter...I am now excited about the baby shower party that my friends and colleagues at the shelter have promised to organize for my baby,"





2.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing of 2030 Agenda

In 2021, the UN in Egypt continued to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs by catalyzing and leveraging SDG multi-stakeholder partnerships, financing, investments and innovations.

In line with Egypt's Vision 2030 and the GoE's initiative "to diversify the sources of funding for development plans and programmes and motivate partnership mechanisms with the private sector, civil society and development partners to enhance funding for development"53 and "for programme- and performance-based budgeting [...] that aligns with achievement of sustainable development goals"54, the UN continued to deploy key elements of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) approach to the SDGs in partnership with the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoPED) and other relevant ministries and national institutions with the financial support of the Joint SDG Fund⁵⁵. This will be done through the production of Egyptspecific knowledge products and the development of relevant Government capacities towards answering three key questions: How much do the SDGs cost? What are the current financing flows and how are they allocated? And what opportunities are there to increase and better allocate financing flows towards SDGs? Knowledge products produced during the reporting period included a methodology for the tagging/ mapping of budget allocation to selected SDGs, targets and indicators, as well as guidance on gender-responsive budget allocations. This was coupled with capacity development activities on topics like the design and management of national pension systems; conceptual tools on gender responsive and programme-based budgets and their practical applications throughout the budget cycle; and on SDG budget tagging.

Complementing these efforts, the UN also designed a tailor-made SDG Costing Framework for Egypt that takes into consideration nationally adopted methodologies, as well as the estimates rendered by the UN specialized agencies and institutional stakeholders. In the same context, the UN provided the Ministry of Finance with technical support on development of Equipt's first framework for SDG Bonds. The SDG Bonds Framework would be an important first step to the potential issuance of sovereign SDG Bonds - including a Gender Bond, which would add to the country's suite of sustainable financial products to obtain financing in the capital markets in furtherance of the SDGs. Egypt demonstrated its leadership in developing sustainable finance instruments in the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region when it became the first sovereign from the region to issue a green bond in 2020.

Egypt presented its third Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development⁵⁶ in 2021. The VNR showcased Eqypt's strides to lay the foundations for a more resilient economy and community capable of weathering adverse unexpected shocks such as COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, the UN partnered with MoPED to inform the VNR development process through identifying the effect of COVID and COVID-related stimulus on SDGs at the horizon 2030. Moreover, the UN advocated for and contributed to the inclusive multistakeholder consultation process which was held by MoPED on the VNR. In the same vein, the UN partnered with the MoPED to produce 27 reports for the localization of SDGs - one for each of the country's governorates. Guided by the principle of Leaving No One Behind and committed to realizing Egypt's Vision 2030 and 2030 Agenda, Egypt has prioritized tackling developmental gaps at the governorates level to reduce poverty, provide quality education, ensure good health services and eradicate inequality in all its forms. By detailing the current status and priorities of each governorate as well as the required rate of change to reach the SDG targets, the reports can inform targeted intervention that address local developmental gaps and reduce disparities among governorates hence accelerating SDG progress at both local and national levels. They also pave the way for generating voluntary local reviews by governorates on regular basis to monitor and assess the SDGs progress.

The SDGs, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction highlight that for development to be sustainable, it must be resilient to growing risks from climate change, natural disasters and other socioeconomic shocks. Climate action requires diverse partnerships and financing sources. In an effort to build partnerships for financing to help leverage resources for

55 https://www.jointsdgfund.org/

the strongest impact on the SDGs, the UN through the SDG-Climate Facility Project⁵⁷ and its multi-stakeholder platform approach facilitated an in-depth and multistakeholder dialogue which brought together a diverse group of experts and decisionmakers from public and private entities representing Government, academia, civil society, private sector, business associations, development agencies and research Centres. This group of experts explored the hurdles faced by private businesses and finance to support climate action and the SDGs more broadly. The dialogue contributed to the understanding of the current state of climate finance in Equpt and resulted in an outline of a Roadmap with immediate and long-term actions to optimize the leverage of blending solutions.

In the same vein, and in line with the Sendai Framework which encourages action from private sector to integrate disaster risk reduction into business models and practices, the UN launched the ARISE Egypt national network⁵⁸. ARISE (the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies) is a global network of private sector entities that mobilizes and facilitates the private sector to carry out risk-informed investments and to apply business practices that reduce and prevent the creation of risk, build resilience and enhance recovery from disasters. The newly launched ARISE Egypt network includes 11 member companies from various sections including ICT, manufacturing, agriculture, energy, retail/wholesale trade, transportation, utilities and construction - among others. In joining the ARISE, the members commit to support and implement the Sendai Framework, in alignment with the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. ARISE Egypt will focus on enhancing resilience of MSMEs, integrating disaster and climate risk into investment decisions by the financial sector and supporting resilient infrastructure development in agriculture, tourism, finance and insurance sectors.

2021 also witnessed the launch the Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees in Egypt, an important partnership initiative by the GoE and the UN in Egypt. It is estimated that some 900,000 migrants and refugees in Egypt are among the most vulnerable persons in the country. The Joint Platform brings together the Government, UN, international development partners and other stakeholders and seeks to enhance

coordination, ensure better delivery and mobilize resources to realize long term sustainable development gains for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and their host communities. Moving along the humanitarian-development nexus, the Joint Platform seeks to support efforts of assistance and (social) protection, while enhancing resilience, inclusion and social cohesion. The platform will start its work with an analysis of the needs of the of migrants and refugees, focusing initially on the education and health sectors.

At the same time, the UN laid the groundwork necessary for the launch of Generation Unlimited Egypt during the reporting period. Generation Unlimited is a global partnership to meet the urgent need for expanded education, training and employment opportunities for young people. It brings together global leaders with public, private and youth-led organizations to partner with, fund, and deliver massively scalable solutions for young people contributing to operationalizing the UN Strategy on Youth 2030⁵⁹ and advancing the SDGs. Generation Unlimited Egypt aims at playing a significant role in supporting and catalyzing progress for 27 million young people (age 10 -24) in the country by accelerating progress and attracting investment for youth entrepreneurship and secondary education, skilling and training, employment and civic engagement - through Public-Private-Youth Partnership (PPYP). In 2021, the UN initiated a landscape analysis and investment agenda for Generation Unlimited as well as a youth profile to inform the strategic priorities of the initiative in the country Moreover, the initiative was localized and branded as "Shabab Balad" (the country's youth). Shabab Balad will be launched in early 2022 at the World Youth Forum in Sharm El Sheikh under the auspices of Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi.

⁵⁶ Egypt's 2021 VNR can be accessed here: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/279512021_VNR_Report_Egypt.pdf

⁵⁷ The multi-partner SDG-Climate Facility Project aims at addressing the nexus between climate action and human security in the Arab region. It brings together several partners including the League of Arab States, the Arab Water Council, the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), UN-Habitat, WFP and the UNDP. More information about the project can be found here: https://augmentationx.jo/SDGclimatefacility/xBrochure/

⁵⁸ https://www.ariseglobalnetwork.org/join/network/arise-egypt

⁵⁹ The UN Strategy on Youth 2030 is the first-ever UN system-wide strategy on youth. It guides joint UN action for and with young people globally. More information can be found here: https://www.unyouth2030.com/about

2.4 The Results of the UN Working More and Better Together

Collaborative UNCT

Under the leadership of the UNRC, the UNCT continued to strengthen their collaboration towards the effective delivery on the current UNPDF and the provision of more integrated policy advice to the GoE. In parallel, the UNCT and the GoE also launched the formulation process for the next Cooperation Framework for the years 2023 to 2027.

The UNPDF continued to be implemented collaboratively under the overall guidance of the Minister of International Cooperation and the UNRC, the co-chairs of the UNPDF Joint Steering Committee, through biennial JWPs that are overseen by four outcomelevel Results Groups (RGs) co-chaired by relevant line ministries and heads of UN agencies during the reporting period. In addition to the RGs, several thematic UN inter-agency coordination mechanisms⁶⁰ support the implementation of the UNPDF under the overall leadership of the UNCT - coordinated by the Programme Management Team (PMT). Utilizing this coordination architecture, the UNCT collaborated in providing integrated policy advice to the GoE on key national and global priorities. This includes on the Global UN Food System Summit (FSS)⁶¹ for which the UNCT collaboratively partnered with the GoE, led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), to inform the design of Egypt's vision and positioning to the FSS and post-Summit intentions, as well as on COVID-19 recovery through partnering with MoPED on the development of localized COVID-19 recovery plans on two key sectors - MSMEs and social protection.

To lay the foundation for the next Cooperation Framework, a UN Common Country Analysis (CCA) for Egypt was developed in 2021. The CCA presents the UN's independent, collective, integrated, forward-looking, and evidence-based analysis of Egypt's sustainable development context. Capitalizing on the strengthened UNRCO capacities that came as part and parcel of the UN Development Reform launched in 2019⁶², the development of the CCA was led by the UNRCO - under the guidance of the UNCT, and with the substantive contribution of 28 UN resident and non-resident agencies across the development, human rights, humanitarian, and peace pillars. Several innovative approaches from across the UN system were utilized in developing the CCA including rapid real-time monitoring surveys to measure the impact of COVID-19 as well as a GIS database to bring together forecasted climate change risks with socio-economic data of Equpt.

2021 also witnessed the launch of the formulation process for the next UN Cooperation Framework in partnership with the GoE, represented by MoIC. The UN Cooperation Framework represents the most strategic and important instrument for planning and implementation of UN development activities in a country in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda⁶³. A key step in this process was the GoE-UN prioritization workshop⁶⁴ which provided a strategic moment to translate national priorities into strategic priorities for the Cooperation Framework considering the UN's comparative advantage and contextual analysis of Egypt's progress towards the SDGs (see below figure 1). Following the workshop, these priorities guided the UNCT - through inter-agency working groups, in formulating the Cooperation Framework and its associated results framework during the reporting period. The Cooperation Framework document is expected to be finalized in partnership with the GoE in 2022 taking into consideration findings of multi-stakeholder consultations and following the required national ratifications procedures.

2021 marked as the first year in the implementation of the Business Operation Strategy (BOS). A total of 32 common Long-Term Agreements (LTAs) in various fields

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60 UN in Egypt inter-agency thematic coordination mechanisms that were active during the reporting period include the Gender Thematic Group, Youth Task Force, Joint Team on Digitalization and Technology, Task Team on Financing for
Development, Working Group on Mixed Migration and Working Group on International Norms and Standards.
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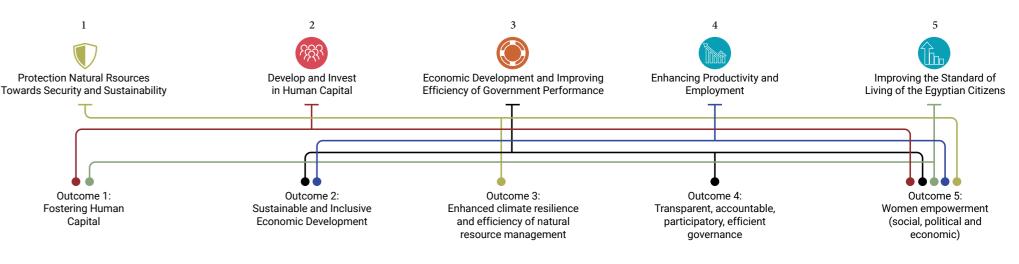
61 The UN Food Systems Summit, held during the UN General Assembly in New York in September 2021, set the stage for global food systems transformation to achieve the SDGs by 2030. More information on the Summit can be found here: https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit

62 In line with UNGA resolution on the repositioning of the UNDS in the context of the QCPR of operational activities for development of the UN system (A/RES/72/279). More information on the UN Development Reform can be found here: https://reform.un.org/content/development-reform

64 The GoE-UN prioritization workshop included over 140 participants representing 27 GoE entities as well as 23 resident and 5 non-resident UN agencies

Figure 1: Linkages between the UNSDCF and Government Action Plan (GAP)

The Pillars of the Government Action Plan "Egypt Takes Off"



Outcomes of the UNSDCF 2023- 2027

Source: Ministry of International Cooperation

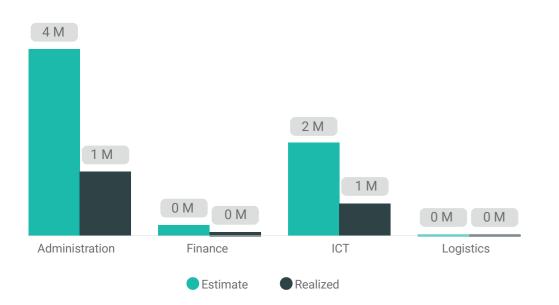
Operating as One

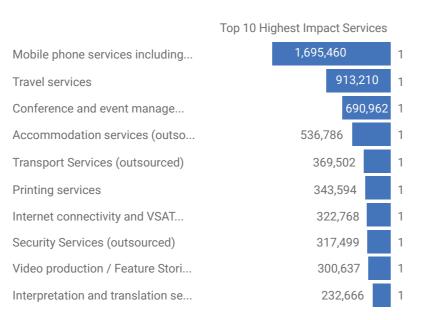
The United Nations in Egypt continued in 2021, in coordination and collaboration of all UN agencies operating in Egypt, to strengthen and expand its efforts to enhance the operational efficiency of UN interventions in Egypt.

of services have been finalized and currently being used by many UN agencies. The LTAs covered key services areas including transportation, travel, media and video production, events management, ICT and security services. The employment of these LTAs contributed to enhancing the synergy and the harmonization of UN action and thus enhance the overall efficiency of UN activities within Egypt. The 2021 Annual BOS review showed that an overall efficiency cost avoidance of U\$2.2 million has been realized.

⁶³ Ibid

Figure 2: Cost Avoidance by Service Line & top Highest Impact Services





Moreover, the Operation Management Team (OMT) members and the related thematic sub-working groups, Finance, Human Resources (HR), Administration, Procurement Greening the Blue and ICT, have been actively working together on several important issues for the efficiency agenda. The team was highly involved in all the preparations of the Country Common Premises in the New Administrative Capital including discussions with the GoE on the building design to ensure compliance with UN standards. The OMT also completed a stock taking assessment of the current UN premises rental and running costs. Agencies focal points for the Country Common

Premises Plan (CCPP) were identified as well as the working group members to enter the required information on the UN Common Premises online platform. To mainstream disability inclusion, the HR working group conducted awareness sessions on disability inclusion in 2021 among UN staff. Furthermore, for more harmonized procedures, the OMT successfully completed a new unified standard government staff per diem and transportation allowance. Finally, the OMT supported collaboration with "Wuzzuf" recruitment website to include UN jobs postings to attract more talents and gualified personnel.

Commemoration of international days was one of the main joint communication's activities in 2021. This year witnessed the celebration the Global Observance of World Cities Day in Luxor in October 2021. It was celebrated to promote the international community's interest in global sustainable urbanization and contributing to sustainable urban development around the world. Commemoration of the International Youth Day 2021 was organized with the International Youth taskforce through a virtual webinar accommodating up to 500 young participants from different

Communicating as One

The UN in Egypt continued their efforts to promote "communicating as one" in 2021 to further strengthen the position of the UN as a driver of change in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

COVID-19 Joint Campaigns continued in 2021 highlighting the importance of vaccination and addressing different behaviours taken during the pandemic. It focused on COVID-19 preventive measures and vaccine demand generation, during which the UN took the lead into developing weekly social listening reports using TalkWalker to monitor everything related to vaccines, from rumours and misinformation to audience sentiment and media monitoring. A social media plan was developed to emphasize the importance of vaccines and its role to stop the spread of the virus and protect everyone. These campaigns have reached over 106 million internet users⁶⁵ with 3.4 million engagements. This was reflected in increasing the numbers of registered users on the MoHP vaccination website. In addition, there a was proper visibility of the vaccine donations done through COVAX and the donors who donate vaccines to Eqypt bilaterally through dose sharing mechanism through COVAX, the UN has been coordinating with WHO and MoHP over documenting the vaccine deliveries on all digital platforms, through videos, FB live videos, social media posts and press releases. There was also a series of videos disseminated across social media channels, the campaign outlined the "dos" and "don'ts" to staying healthy during COVID-19 and how to limit its spread.

youth initiatives across Egypt. 16 Days of Activism was also celebrated in partnership with the Government of Egypt together with leaders and partners who joined an event organized in November 2021⁶⁶, to raise activism against Gender-Based Violence under the global theme "Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now!". The UN celebrated the International Volunteer Day in December 2021 in partnership with the MoSS, and with the support of UN partners, volunteers and volunteer involving organizations. The Celebration of the UN Day in 2021 was jointly commemorated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) by lighting up MOFA's building with "UN 76" showing the longstanding partnership between Egypt and the UN.

The UNCG continued its initiative "Media4SDGs" to raise the awareness of highly gualified media representatives from Egypt on the SDGs and the different UN interventions that support Egypt to meet its global goals by 2030; 17 workshops were organized. Government officials were also present in numerous workshops to showcase government efforts and share success stories. By the end of the workshops, a collective manual for SDG goals in Egypt was developed to be distributed to Egyptian media.

In addition, 2021 has witnessed the launch of several awareness raising initiatives. During Al-Gouna Film Festival, the UN launched "Noura"⁶⁷, a symbol for all adolescent girls in Egypt. The Sustainable Agriculture Investments and Livelihoods (SAIL) project was also one of the main highlights in 2021 that hosted volunteers from Youth Peer Education Network (YPEER) to raise awareness on population issues, in collaboration with the Egyptian Family Planning Association. Workshops were held in three villages in Kafr El Sheikh and Aswan governorates. In addition, there were multiple campaigns launched to listen to the stories of the different beneficiaries. "Migrants' Stories' was one of these initiatives that focused on the migration journey of young Egyptians and reasons for their return.

⁶⁵ These are number of internet users reached out through different campaigns, which represents the number of times the post is displayed on a unique screen. These numbers are created automatically through the social media account insights, or in the social media analytics tool.

⁶⁶ The "16 Days of Activism" was celebrated by the National Council for Women in partnership with the UN in Egypt with the participation of Government partners including the Ministry of International Cooperation as well as the European Union Delegation to Egypt and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Egypt in the National Museum of Civilizations.

⁶⁷ The Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, the National Council for Women (NCW), the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) launched Noura, in partnership with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development under the title "Investing in Girls for the Bright Future of Egypt", which falls under the "Egyptian Girl Initiative" championed by NCW and NCCM. 2021 has also witnessed the launch of the Girls Assets Framework - a tailored programme that responds to the unique circumstances facing adolescent girls to empower them and build their social, health and economic assets so they can reach their full potential.

2.5 Evaluations & Lessons Learned

In 2021, the mid-term review (MTR) of the 2018-2022 UNPDF was completed. The MTR, which laid the foundation for the final evaluation initiated in 2021, provided initial lessons learned from the current operation of the UNPDF informing the design and implementation of the 2023-2027 UNSDCF. Recommendations from the MTR included:

- Strengthening the role and performance of the Results Groups, with more frequent meetings, broadening its role beyond monitoring and reporting to include more thematic discussions and joint areas to improve planning and implementation and ensuring more active participation of its members.
- Greater streamlining of the coordination architecture of inter-agency thematic groups towards increased consistency.
- Strengthening monitoring, and results reporting practices, including more focused indicators identification that are more directly related to the work of the UN in support to GoE priorities and transition of reporting to UNINFO svstem
- Expanding partnership with CSOs and private sector as non-government stakeholders in the coming UNSDCF. This should start with engaging them in the planning process and considering viable options for their engagement within the coordination mechanisms of the new cooperation framework.
- Raising awareness of UN staff with regards to UN reforms and its implications for joint delivery and further promotion of joint programming as well as joint communication and advocacy.
- Continuing focusing on the most pressing needs of those layers of the society that have been hit the hardest as a result of COVID-19 pandemicespecially the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups that have been central to the work of the UN system in the current cycle. The Common Country Analysis provides a good foundation for further updating the assessment of the impacts of the crisis, reassessing country needs and identifying key priority measures.
- More effective gender mainstreaming across the different outcomes and better positioning of the UN system in close coordination with the GoE in terms of work targeting PWDs and human rights in light of the new national strategies for both of them.

Apart from the MTR recommendations, throughout 2021 implementation and the annual review processes several lessons learnt were identified. The continued operation under COVID-19, affecting implementation, emphasized the need for accelerating use of new tools and benefiting fully from digitalization. With fewer restrictions in 2021, hybrid delivery modalities were employed. This ensured continuity of delivery and resulted in diversifying the implementation modality beyond physical presence. It also included working with GoE and partners to build institutional capacities on new approaches such as online platforms and hybrid delivery modalities. Moreover, strong government leadership and effective UN inter-agency coordination are key for uniting efforts to address complex development challenges. GoE-led national dialogues prior to the Food System Summit and the Nutrition for Growth Summit, led to re-energized commitment to update Egypt's National Food and Nutrition Strategy 2022 - 2030 in cooperation with the UN.

Furthermore, maintaining regular dialogues and open channels of communication with key government bodies both at central and local levels and alignment of actions is pivotal for ensuring effective and efficient interventions. This is especially true with the currently witnessed rapid development of government actions, both at the strategic and policy level as well as implementation levels. This includes coordinating with relevant GoE partners on workplans early on the planning process, that also should be practical and flexible to avoid any possible procedural delays. On the other hand, inclusion of gender representative beneficiaries and local actors throughout the planning, monitoring and implementation of activities ensure relevance of activities to local context and contributes to a higher sense of ownership and level of sustainability. Broadening engagement with CSOs and institutions active in local communities deemed essential to more effective communication and outreach campaigns to target beneficiaries (e.g. youth, migrant, refugees,..etc.). Also involving target groups (e.g., youth) in advocacy efforts, help in effectively positioning of key issues in the national agenda. Finally, low reporting rates of VAWG incidents, indicated the need of a more coordinated response across the protection systems and sensitizing communities to report through national hotlines.

2.6. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

UNCT started the year with an overall planned budget of US\$282.2 million - of which 22 per cent was to be mobilized. By the end of the year, UNPDF had delivered US\$180.1 million through its programmes with a delivery rate 82 per cent against the 2021 JWP, with the balance carried over into 2022.

Figure 3 outlines budget and financial expenditure breakdown per outcome area. Notably, greatest investments continue to be made in the People pillar with a total expenditure of US\$89.4 million, followed by Prosperity, Planet and Women at US\$40.9 million, US\$30.1 million and US\$19.7 million respectively. In terms of delivery rate. Outcome 1. Sustainable Economic Development (Prosperity a delivery rate of 97 per cent, followed by 96 per cent delivery rate achieved by Outcome 3, Environmental Sustainability (Planet). The majority of the financial expenditure under Outcome 1 went to supporting Entrepreneurship and SMEs (output 1.1) with a delivery rate of 107 per cent. For Outcome 3, the majority of funds were directed to Green and Circular Economy (Output 3.4). Meanwhile, Outcome 4, Women Empowerment achieved a delivery rate of 91 per cent with major expenditure in women protection area (Output 4.4). Finally, for Outcome 2, Social Justice, delivery rate reached 71 per cent being mainly affected by the halting of school feeding programme due to COVID-19. Social Protection (output 2.4) received the majority of funds. For more details please refer to table 1 at the end of this section.

\$300 \$250 \$200 \$125.2 \$150 \$100 \$42.3 \$42.2 \$40.9 \$32.1 \$31.2 \$30.1 \$25.6 \$21.6 \$19.7 \$50 ^{\$0} OUTCOME 1: Prosperity OUTCOME 2: People OUTCOME 3: Planet OUTCOME 4: Womer TOTAL FORECAST ■ AVAILABLE ■ EXPENDITURE Figure 4: Overall & Delivery Rates by UNPDF Outcomes DELIVERY RATE OUTCOME 1: Prosperity 97% OUTCOME 2: People 71% OUTCOME 3: Planet 96% **OUTCOME 4: Woamen** 91% Overall 82%

Figure 3: Required Budget, Available and Expended Financial Resources

The main source of funding for the UNPDF continued to be non-core resources, representing 91 per cent of 2021 expenditure. Additionally, the GoE cost sharing represented 22 per cent of expenditure. To this end, UN received funding from more than 50 development partners, of which 54 per cent were bilateral and multilateral development partners, 12 per cent were global/multilateral funds, 2 per cent were from the private sector, foundations and philanthropies. Top source of funding were GoE, GCF, GEF, Germany, EU, Netherlands, Montreal Protocol funds, USA, Italy, FGM Global Trust Fund, Norway and UK (please refer to figure 5).

\$37.5 \$40 \$33.7 \$30 \$22.7 \$20 \$11.6 \$7.7 \$7.7 \$7.4 \$10 \$4.9 \$4.1 \$3.8 . \$O GoE USA EU GCF GEF Multilateral Fund UK Italy Germany Netherlands for Montreal Protocol

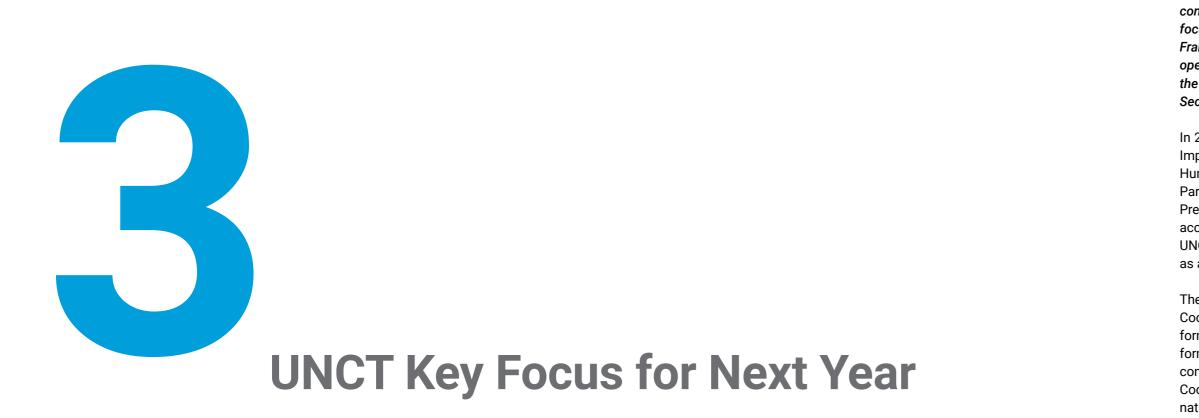
Figure 5: Top Sources of Funds

The largest proportion of resources expenditure were directed equally to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) – 21% each. This was followed by SDG 3 (Good Healthand Well-Being- 16%).



Table 1: Required, Available, Expenditure of Financial Resources & Delivery Rates by Outcomes/Outputs

DUTCOME	REQUIRED BUDGET	AVAILABLE	EXPENDITURE	DELIVERY RATE
DUTCOME 1: Prosperity				
.1 Entrepreneurship & MSMEs	\$32,802,216	\$32,802,216	\$35,067,084	107%
.2 Employability	\$8,059,180	\$8,057,472	\$4,108,217	51%
.3 Economic Policies	\$1,434,335	\$1,317,255	\$1,766,098	134%
Subtotal 1: Prosperity	\$42,295,731	\$42,176,943	\$40,941,399	97%
DUTCOME 2: People				
2.1 Education	\$68,116,500	\$35,856,385	\$6,161,906	17%
2.2 Health & Nutrition	\$43,133,373	\$32,818,540	\$26,034,608	79%
2.3 Social Protection	\$66,702,594	\$53,589,802	\$52,597,061	98%
2.4 Youth	\$1,851,000	\$1,851,000	\$2,667,882	144%
2.5 People living with HIV	\$1,981,884	\$1,050,384	\$1,942,075	185%
Subtotal 2: People	\$181,785,351	\$125,166,110	\$89,403,533	71%
DUTCOME 3: Planet				
8.1 Sustainable & Inclusive Urban Planning	\$2,897,500	\$2,615,520	\$2,082,834	80%
3.2 Resilience & Adaptation to Climate Change	\$11,903,945	\$11,583,945	\$10,031,930	87%
3.3 Water & Biodiversity Management	\$2,747,000	\$2,487,000	\$2,889,699	116%
3.4 Green & Circular Economy	\$9,735,047	\$9,735,047	\$10,568,360	109%
3.5 Agriculture Production & Food Security	\$4,953,821	\$4,814,821	\$4,484,153	93%
Subtotal 3: Planet	\$32,137,313	\$31,236,333	\$30,056,975	96%
DUTCOME 4: Women				
I.1 Leadership and Political Empowerment	\$760,000	\$760,000	\$820,000	108%
.2 Economic Empowerment	\$9,227,296	\$7,370,796	\$5,157,951	70%
I.3 Social Empowerment	\$5,403,633	\$5,208,633	\$3,419,026	66%
I.4 Protection	\$10,245,000	\$8,295,000	\$10,343,423	125%
Subtotal 4: Women	\$25,635,929	\$21,634,429	\$19,740,400	91%
TOTAL	\$281,854,324	\$220,213,815	\$180,142,307	82%





2022 will mark the final year of the current UNPDF for which the UNCT Egypt will continue to work towards achieving its targeted results. Concurrently, the UNCT will focus on the finalization of the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (Cooperation Framework) for the years 2023-2027. Programmatic and operational activities will continue to focus on the Leave No One Behind principles and the UN Secretary-General's "Our Common Agenda", "Efficiency Agenda", and the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights.

In 2021, the UNCT focused on five areas sof strategic interventions, namely: 1] SDG Implementation; 2] COVID-19 Response and Recovery; 3] Leaving No One Behind and Human Rights and Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda; 4] Strategic Financing and Partnerships; and 5] Business Innovation (Business Operations Strategy and Common Premises). While maintaining the five categories of country-level relationships and accountability agreements under the Management Accountability Framework (MAF), UNCT Egypt will continue to deliver on its commitments towards SDGs implementation, as articulated in UNPDF.

The UNCT in partnership with the GoE will finalize the formulation of the new Cooperation Framework. To this end, the UNCT together with MolC will continue the formulation process (launched in 2021) by further defining corresponding results, formulating programme strategies and monitoring and coordination structures, and conducting stakeholder consultations, to enable the smooth implementation of the Cooperation Framework from January 2023 with the ultimate aim of supporting the national development and Vision 2030. The UNCT will also conduct a configuration exercise in 2022 to review and determine UN assets and capacities to deliver on the new Cooperation Framework.

In line with the Egypt's Vision 2030 and national priorities, the UN in Egypt will continue to partner with the GoE and other stakeholders on key flagship programmes and strategies. This will include strategically partnering on the Hayah Karima ("Decent Life") to maximise the impact of this ambitious initiative as well as contributing to the National Family Development Plan. The UNCT will also partner with the GoE on the implementation of the National Structural Reform Programme (NSRP) 2021-2024 to help ensure inclusiveness and sustainability within the implementation of the NSRP. Building on the recent launch of the National Strategy for Human Rights, the UNCT

will also continue to partner and engage with the GoE to support Egypt in meeting its international obligations under the UN Human Rights mechanisms. With Egypt set to host the UN Climate Change Conference 2022 (COP27), forging a strong partnership with the GoE to help ensure a successful COP27 and build momentum for climate action will be a key priority for the UNCT in 2022. In parallel, the UNCT will further enhance its contribution to critical climate actions and policies in Egypt, including through advocacy and awareness initiatives, capacity building for climate action, and support to policy design and implementation. Moreover, the UNCT will continue to expand and accelerate efforts on financing for sustainable development in the country through the ongoing partnership with GoE to develop an integrated national financing framework (INFF); implementation of the country's comprehensive programme to support the acceleration of Egypt's inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID); and exploring and accelerating innovative financing mechanisms. Finally, the UN in Egypt will continue collaborating with the GoE on establishing UN Common Premises in the new administrative capital.



List of Apr

List of Acronyms		MoIC	Ministry of International Cooperation	RGs	Results Groups		
				MoLD	Ministry of Local Development	RH	Reproductive Health
AfCTA	African Continental Free Trade Area	GDP	Gross Domestic Product	MoF	Ministry of Finance	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
AfDB	African Development Bank	GEF	Global Environment Facility	MoPED	Ministry of Planning & Economic Development	SADS	Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy
ANC	Antenatal Care	GoE	Government of Egypt	MoSIT	Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade	SERRP	United Nations Socio Economic Response & Recovery Plan
BDS	Business Development Services	GoPP	General Organization of Physical Planning	MoSS	Ministry of Social Solidarity	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
BOS	Business Operation Strategy	IFIs	International Financial Institutions	MoTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry	SWAP	Gender System-wide Action Plan
CAPMAS	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics	IMC	Industrial Modernization Centre	MoWRI	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation	SWH	Solar water heaters
CBE	Central Bank of Egypt	INFF	Integrated national financing framework	MoYS	Ministry of Youth and Sports	UHI	Universal Health Insurance
CCA	Country Common Analysis	IPI	Industrial Performance Index	MSMEs	Micro, small and medium enterprises	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
CHW	Community Health Worker	ISID	Inclusive and sustainable industrial development	NAP	National Action Plan	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
COVAX	COVID19- Vaccine Global Access	ITI	Information Technology Institute	NCW	National Council of Women	UNPDF	United Nations Partnership Development Framework
DCO	United Nations Development Cooperation Office	JWPs	Joint Work Plans	NFSA	National Food Safety Authority	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
DPG	Development Partner Group	LNOB	Leaving no one behind	NREA	National Renewable Energy Authority	VAW	Violence against women
ENID	Egyptian Network for Integrated Development	LSCE	Life Skill and Citizenship Education	NUA	National Urban Agenda	VAWG	Violence against women and girls
EWS	Early Warning System	MSMEDA	Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises Development Agency	NUP	National Urban Policy	VCT	Voluntary counselling and testing
EU	European Union	MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychological Support Services	OMT	Operation Management Team	VNR	Voluntary national review
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	MNCH	Maternal, Newborn and Child Health	PACs	Population Awareness Clubs	VSLAs	Village Saving and Lending Associations
FP	Family Planning	MoALR	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation	PPE	Personal Protection Equipment	WCO	Women's Complaint Office
FSS	Farmer Field Schools	MoETE	Ministry of Education and Technical Education	PV	Photovoltaic	WEPs	Women Empowerment Principles
GBV	Gender Based Violence	MoHUUC	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities	PWDs	Persons with Disabilities	WUAs	Water Users' Associations
GCF	Green Climate Fund	MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population	RCCE	Risk Communication & Community Engagement		



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