



UNITED NATIONS  
MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE,  
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



## UN COUNTRY RESULTS REPORT

# MALAYSIA 2022

Enabling Post-Pandemic Sustainable,  
and Inclusive Development in Malaysia



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# Foreword

**KARIMA EL KORRI**  
UN Resident Coordinator

United Nations in Malaysia,  
Singapore & Brunei Darussalam



The past year was one of transition and reopening, and for the UN Country Team this meant enabling and supporting recovery from the pandemic and ensuring sustainable and inclusive development. The ending of pandemic restrictions has provided Malaysia with many opportunities to advance its development priorities, and this report showcases the work and results of 22 UN agencies (9 resident and 13 non-resident) in supporting this. Malaysia's reopening as well as the increasingly diversified range of partners we work with enabled a major increase in delivery and funding for UN activities compared to 2021.

Throughout 2022, our work was guided by four strategic priorities set out in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework - namely, People, Planet, Prosperity, and Peace. In a year marked by economic volatility, the UN worked with a broad range of strategic partners to ensure vulnerable groups were not left behind; to enable people to secure decent jobs in a fairer economy; to help transform Malaysia's public health and education services; and to enable climate action and protect biodiversity.

The United Nations is especially encouraged by the Government's focus on tackling Malaysia's long-term development and environmental challenges, as exemplified by the Twelfth Malaysia Plan and its commitments to promoting inclusion and environmental sustainability. The 2023 Budget Speech provided greater funding for environmental protection, and Malaysia's participation at COP27 in November delivered a strong policy response for mitigation and adaptation.

In challenging times, we sought to deliver - with our know-how, our expertise, our commitment, and our partners. And we stand committed to do more as we work to help achieve the SDGs and to enable positive development outcomes.

The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator (UN RCO) as well as several UN agencies have multi-country mandates in Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei Darussalam. As such, this report also includes an overview of the UN's work in Singapore and Brunei Darussalam. The UN will continue to work with all three countries as they recover from the pandemic, promote sustainable development, mobilize SDG financing, and make progress in leaving no one behind.



# UN Country Team



UNITED NATIONS  
MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE,  
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



## Resident Agencies



## Non-Resident Agencies



## Global And Regional Centres





# Meet the UN Team in Malaysia



**KARIMA EL KORRI**  
United Nations  
Resident Coordinator



**NILOY BANERJEE**  
UNDP  
Resident Representative



**RASHED MUSTAFA**  
UNICEF  
Representative



**DR. RABINDRA ABEYASINGHE**  
WHO  
Representative



**THOMAS ALBRECHT**  
UNHCR  
Representative



**ASA TORKELSSON**  
UNFPA  
Representative



**KENDRA RINAS**  
IOM  
Chief of Mission



**RAJAT KHOSLA**  
UNU  
Director of UNU-HIGH



**PANNUDA BOONPALA**  
ILO  
Deputy Regional Director



**JASPREET SINGH**  
UNCDF  
Regional Technical Specialist



**SRINIVASA POPURI**  
UN-Habitat  
Chief, Bangkok Programme Office



**STEIN HANSEN**  
UNIDO  
Regional Director



**ISABELLE LOUIS**  
UNEP  
Deputy Regional Director



**MOHAMED DJELID**  
UNESCO  
Representative



**CYNTHIA VELIKO**  
OHCHR  
Regional Director



**SARAH KNIBBS**  
UN Women  
Regional Director a.i



**JEREMY DOUGLAS**  
UNODC  
Regional Representative



**MARCO TOSCANO-RIVALTA**  
UNDRR  
Chief Regional Office



**PATRICIA ONGPIN**  
UNAIDS  
Country Director



**SYLVIE BETEMPS**  
ITC  
Senior Trade Promotion Officer



**ATSUKO OKUDA**  
ITU  
Regional Director



**YANN KERVINIO**  
WHO  
Global Service Centre  
Director



**SUMALEE STERUP-HANSEN**  
WFP UNHRD  
Head



**VITALIE MUNTEAN**  
UNDP  
Global Shared Services  
Unit Director



**JOAN SAWE**  
UNU  
Director of Administration

# Key Development Partners

The UN in Malaysia works in partnership with the Government of Malaysia, international development organisations, and donor government and development agencies. We are grateful for their support for our work in promoting the sustainable development of Malaysia.



Government of Malaysia



Government of New Zealand



Government of the United States of America



Government of Germany



European Union



Government of Denmark



Government of Canada



Government of Norway



Government of United Kingdom



Government of Switzerland



Government of Australia



Government of Qatar



Government of Japan



Global Environment Facility



Government of Sweden

We are thankful for the support of the Government of Malaysia, including the Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development; Ministry of Home Affairs; Ministry of Human Resources; Ministry of Local Government Development; the Immigration Department; the Royal Malaysia Police; the National Security Council, and state and local governments.

## Chapter 1

# MALAYSIA IN 2022





2022 was a year of reopening and change for Malaysia. Border restrictions were shelved, universities welcomed students back on campuses, National Day and Malaysia Day were celebrated on a high note, and Ramadan bazaars and night markets returned to their pre-pandemic bustle. Crucially, Malaysia's 15<sup>th</sup> General Election took place in November, and led to a major shift in the political landscape. For the first time ever, no party coalition won a majority to form the government. After deliberations among the political parties, a consensus was achieved and a unity government was formed, with Anwar Ibrahim becoming Malaysia's 10th Prime Minister. This came after prolonged political instability spanning three years, and it offers the welcome prospect of a more certain and secure period of government.



Malaysia's economy performed well in 2022, with growth rebounding to 8.7%, despite some severe external headwinds, including post-Covid supply bottlenecks and the conflict in Ukraine, which have spiked price inflation and delayed the global recovery. Malaysia has benefited from its position as a major oil and gas producer and its importance within international manufacturing supply chains. Trade has been a major contributor to the recovery, with total imports and exports growing 27.8% to a record RM2.8 trillion in 2022. Unemployment had also fallen to 3.6% at the close of 2022, but this remains above the pre-pandemic level, especially among women. Additionally, unemployment among youth remains high at 12.8% and lower-income workers face extreme vulnerabilities<sup>1</sup>. While Malaysians have contended with high prices, especially for food, the retention of subsidies and price controls on fuel and essentials has ensured that overall inflation has remained lower than elsewhere, with the Consumer Price Index running at around 3.3% during 2022.

Nevertheless, the economic recovery has been somewhat uneven between sectors, groups, and regions, and it is likely that several social deficits (in schooling, healthcare, and nutrition, particularly for children) remain from the pandemic years. The previous and current governments have sought to address these challenges - through the retention of income support and employment measures, the prioritization of health and education budgets, and by increasing development investment outside the core states. Yet the plight of several vulnerable groups - particularly those working in the informal sector, including migrants - is likely to remain challenging.

Malaysia has also continued to suffer from the effects of climate change, best exemplified by the adverse flooding events which occurred throughout the year. The Government has recognized these issues by supporting the incomes of those affected and announcing new investments in climate resilient infrastructures. Moreover, the Government reiterated its net-zero by 2050 commitment (made at COP26) with a still stronger policy response on both mitigation and adaptation at COP27. Continued investments will be vital to meet Malaysia's commitments to reduce emissions and ensure resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change.

Malaysia's return to solid growth and renewed political stability provides new opportunities to take advantage of the benefits of a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the pandemic. The UN in Malaysia stands ready to support the new government to deliver lasting improvements to achieve the SDGs, particularly for those groups and areas that tend to be left behind.

<sup>1</sup>World Bank, *Macro Poverty Outlook for Malaysia, 2022*



SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOAL

## Chapter 2

# Key Results for 2022

## 2.1

# Priorities of the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Malaysia in 2022

The UN in Malaysia operated within the overarching United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (UNSDCF). The UNSDCF was completed in 2020 and is currently in the process of receiving official endorsement, but it has, since 2021, served as the de facto guiding document for the work of the UN in Malaysia.



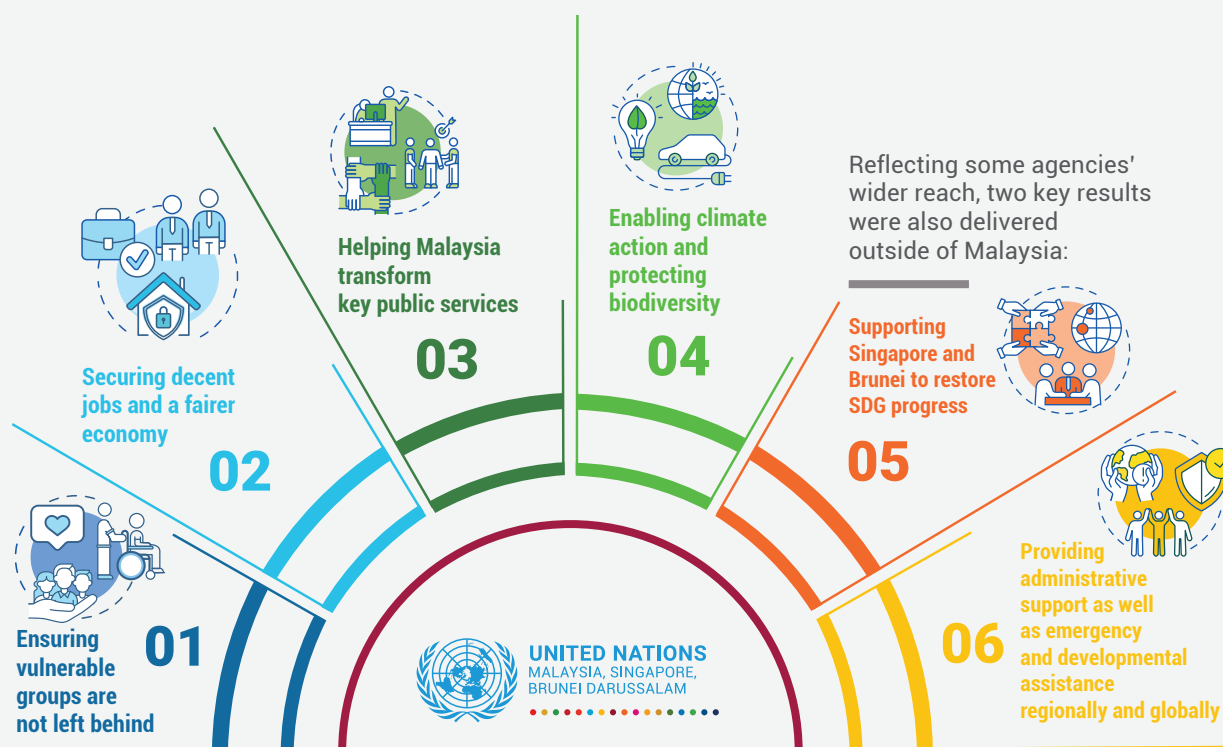
As the country emerged from the pandemic and the recovery gathered pace, and as Malaysia also encountered new challenges, the UNCT continued to focus on the achievement of the SDGs and long-term sustainable development. Identified under **four priorities** - **People**, **Prosperity**, **Planet** and **Peace**, the work within the UNSDCF reflects the UN's focus on '**leaving no one behind**'; on improving the plight of vulnerable groups; on finding solutions to deal with the climate emergency; and on promoting good governance.



## 2.2

# Key results for the UNCT in 2022

This report summarizes the UN's main achievements:



The reported results reflect the UN's key contributions to sustainable and inclusive development, and to working with the Government, the private sector, civil society, and academia to develop and implement solutions. These also demonstrate the multifaceted nature of the UN's work as it seeks to promote greater coordination between stakeholders and improve outcomes for all to achieve the SDGs. This has involved policy support ranging from clean energy, environmental protection, women's empowerment, ageing, cryptocurrency regulation, waste management, and healthcare reform.

## 2.2.1

KEY  
RELATED  
SDGs



Contributing Agencies



### KEY RESULTS 1

## Ensuring vulnerable groups are not left behind



The removal of pandemic restrictions afforded new employment opportunities to vulnerable populations in Malaysia to restore their livelihoods. It has also allowed foreign workers to re-enter Malaysia through regular channels and assist in sectors dependent on migrant labour. The freeing up of labour supply was a major fillip to the economy.

In 2022, Malaysia hosted up to **2 million** documented migrant workers and over **182,000** refugees. While difficult to estimate, there may be many more undocumented migrant workers. These groups work across many sectors including manufacturing, domestic work, agriculture, and the service sector, likely comprising approximately **20%** of the total workforce.



**83,772**

refugees and  
asylum seekers had  
their UNHCR  
documents renewed



**9,451**

refugees submitted  
for third country  
resettlement  
(vs. 2,677 in 2021)



Over  
**4,300**

refugees were  
resettled  
in third countries  
(vs. 1,183 in 2021)

## Over 4,300 refugees departed Malaysia for 10 countries, and 83,772 had their UNHCR documents renewed.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continued to assist vulnerable groups including migrant workers, asylum seekers, and refugees, as well as to foster peaceful co-existence between refugees and host communities. Over the course of the year, over 8,600 decisions were made to determine the refugee status of applicants. Following efforts on the part of the Government to establish a refugee protection framework, resettlement places offered for refugees in Malaysia also increased significantly. The reopening of international borders facilitated the resettlement of refugees in third countries. UNHCR submitted 9,451 refugees for third country resettlement in 2022 (up from 2,677 in 2021).

Refugees, comprising 21 nationalities, were resettled abroad as a result of close collaboration between the UN, the Immigration Department of Malaysia, and the governments of the receiving countries. This included six refugees who departed for the Philippines for the first time on full university scholarships. As a result of these initiatives, vulnerable individuals including those with significant medical conditions were able to start new lives in host countries, where they have access to healthcare, employment, formal education, and pathways to citizenship.



## Providing direct assistance to 4,200 migrants, hygiene training and hygiene kits to 1,700 refugees and educating 3,054 refugee and migrant students on human trafficking and safe migration

IOM provided direct assistance to vulnerable migrants affected by Covid-19 through partnerships with four civil society organisations. Assistance included rental assistance, food, trainings on income generation activities, and the distribution of non-food items.

IOM also worked with NGOs, community-based organisations, community leaders, and refugee schools to educate refugees about the importance of personal hygiene practices. They also received hygiene kits which included toiletries, face masks, and hand sanitizers to protect them against Covid-19.



Alhamdulillah, the health and hygiene kits have been very helpful for our community, as we move towards recovery and staying in good health.

- Ustadz Arafat, the principal of Al-Ikhlas Hope Society - one of the many beneficiaries that have received assistance from the IOM through funding from the EU.



In ensuring that refugee and migrant children are informed about safe migration and human trafficking, UNICEF partnered with an NGO in reaching out to 60 schools nationwide. The workshop module conducted with these children is being replicated in additional schools and community learning centres, in partnership with the private sector.

## Changing migration narratives through food – Dari Dapur

In December, OHCHR launched the Dari Dapur campaign to build human rights-based narratives and promote a culture of welcoming migrants in Malaysia by using food to create common ground and a safe space to reimagine dialogue on migration. The campaign brings the OHCHR's global #StandUp4Migrants campaign to tell a new story about migration in Malaysia – hope and shared values – through conversations over food from their homelands, such as Kachin-style grilled beef, Indonesian cow trotter soup, and Palestinian Musakhan.



You don't know how comfortable I am at work now, because I pay for everything on time, walk my children, and buy what I need for my house. I am really relaxed now. I know that everything is difficult, but it is much better than before.

- Fatih, a Syrian home cook, reflecting on her experience as part of the Dari Dapur campaign. She was visited by politician and activist Nurul Izzah as part of the Dari Dapur campaign, who then helped Fatih set up a stall to sell her food.

We don't often get to have a party here. Usually we just work in the plantation quietly, we don't go out, because we are scared. But today, to have someone come here to visit me, to see me and to see my friends, I'm so happy!

- Liza, Cambodian plantation worker, when asked if she liked having food Instagrammer Elvi and comedian Kavin Jay visit her at her plantation.



## High-level training provided to five government departments on law enforcement and the protection of vulnerable groups

UNHCR provided high-level training to government officers on refugee protection topics. Training included an e-learning component on refugee protection principles as well as in-person training with UNHCR officers to enable them to learn from their day-to-day activities on refugee protection and refugee status determination. This initiative was part of efforts to strengthen the capacity of government officers in developing a potential national asylum framework.

IOM, in coordination with the Council for Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants held two advanced training sessions for law enforcement officers on combatting human trafficking. Over 40 enforcement officers were trained over two two-day sessions in Kuala Lumpur and Penang on practical, proactive law enforcement strategies and on complex investigative techniques with a focus on investigation and interagency cooperation. A training guide to support victim assistance specialists who serve as a bridge between enforcement officers and possible victims of trafficking was also developed by IOM and the key government agencies.

UNODC collaborated with law enforcement officials to reinforce policies, strategies, and legislative frameworks, training 40+ law enforcement officials on addressing migrant smuggling by sea, and eight Immigration Department officials on investigating trafficking and migrant smuggling.

As part of UNODC's Prison Reform Programme, the agency worked with the Malaysian Prison Department on policy development, equipment provision, and the organisation of workshops and training events. UNODC also supplied 20,000 Covid-19 test kits and 5,000 surgical jumpsuits to the Department.

UNDP also worked with authorities to conduct and publish a study on temporary basic income principles and practices in Sarawak. This showed that the state government programme had benefitted some 2.4 million Sarawakians.

In October, UNDP and OHCHR provided technical and advisory support to SUHAKAM in conducting two full-day consultations on the Business and Human Rights National Baseline Assessment for the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in Sabah and Sarawak, respectively. As a result, at least 40 individuals, including representatives from indigenous communities, persons with disabilities, women, and human rights defenders, as well as academic experts, were able to meaningfully participate in the multistakeholder dialogue, discuss human rights issues and concerns underlying business activities, and propose remedies.



9,318

Hard-to-reach people  
in Sabah were  
vaccinated



28,000

Covid vaccinations  
provided by the  
UN at IOM centres

## Over 37,000 vaccinations were delivered to vulnerable groups

6,475 refugees underwent health assessments at IOM centres in Malaysia, with 28,000 Covid vaccinations delivered to both refugee and host populations. The WHO also vaccinated 9,318 people via the Sabah hard-to-reach area vaccination campaign to ensure complete access.

## Enabling increases in HIV treatment coverage to 71.8%

UNAIDS maintained HIV service provision for refugees and asylum seekers throughout Malaysia. In 2022, there were 280 people of concern living with HIV, with 201 receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART). Joint UN funding supported the provision of ART medication for 138 people. This played a part in the increase in HIV treatment coverage from 68.5% in 2021 to 71.8% in 2022. UN efforts have also contributed to the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Malaysia since 2017.

## 2.2.2



Contributing agencies



### KEY RESULTS 2

## Securing decent jobs and a fairer economy

The UNCT in Malaysia has continued to work to ensure no one is left behind in the post Covid-19 recovery. Projects have sought to empower economically excluded segments of society such as those working in the informal sector, migrants, women, young people, and indigenous groups.

### Ensuring the elimination of forced labour through awareness raising, training, and research

ILO worked with law enforcement officials on ending forced labour and human trafficking through:

Developing and publishing of a Facilitator's Manual on Labour Inspection, Child Labour, Forced Labour, and Gender-Based Discrimination and Violence (for labour inspectors).

Training of 16 labour inspectors from the Ministry of Human Resources and 37 government representatives from the Ministry of Human Resources in Sabah on policies and best practice responses to forced labour.



The UN is committed to combatting child labour, and to promoting a safe and healthy working environment for all. The ILO trained 253 private sector partners in five states on preventing harassment in the workplace, while 110 migrant workers received training in two states on basic labour rights and on preventing sexual harassment in the workplace.



IOM continued to work on designing and integrating standardized and human rights-based pre-departure orientation, pre-employment orientation and post-arrival orientation tools for Indonesian and Nepali workers migrating to Malaysia to work within the electronics supply chain. The curricula were designed for trainers in local migrant resource centres, and civil society organisations in Nepal and Indonesia delivering orientation sessions to migrant workers.

IOM also completed one labour migration process mapping for a local food company. The assessment involved mapping and interviewing 30 male workers, including internal migrants from Sabah, and migrants from India, Myanmar, and Nepal. The mapping resulted in the company incorporating IOM's recommendations into its recruitment policies, thus aligning these with international standards on ethical recruitment. The results were collated in a report to further inform future company policies to address gaps in the recruitment and employment practices used for migrant workers.



## 1,412 trainees received job-ready skills training to improve their earnings potentials and secure their livelihoods, with STEM mainstreamed within training programmes

The UN in Malaysia has continued to promote opportunities for all people to unlock their earning potentials, and to enable achievement of SDG8. As part of the Skills for Prosperity programme, the ILO promoted technical and vocational education and training (TVET) to improve the employability of jobseekers. More than 50% of the trainees were women and were trained by six training institutions to improve the earning potential of workers and support local economic development. Separately, 10 pilot programmes on mainstreaming STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills within training curricula were successfully completed.



## Empowering indigenous people in six states to improve their livelihoods through community-led projects and skills training for indigenous youth

UNDP worked to train and empower indigenous communities on sustainable livelihoods by working at the grassroots level. The Indigenous Peoples Grants Facility project engaged and benefited some 2,600 indigenous people across six states through grants executed by NGOs. These were for community-led projects on community organisation, improved household incomes, digital upskilling, product marketing, and the provision of digital devices. This initiative was credited as a key community lifeline during the pandemic and strengthened community cohesion. This work has strengthened insights into social assistance and will enable UNDP to provide technical assistance for the formulation of tailored policies for indigenous communities.

Working with the government, UNICEF provided skills training for 57 marginalized indigenous youths on mental health, entrepreneurship, and learning. Two projects were developed in the workshop, and will be funded by the state government.



## Evidencing the economic benefits of investing in sexual and reproductive health

A major research study – “Enhancing Human Capital Through Sexual and Reproductive Health Investments & Family Support Policies in Malaysia” was prepared and published jointly by UNFPA, the Ministry of Economy, and Harvard University. Launched at the 2022 Malaysia Women and Girls Forum, it quantified for the first time in Malaysia the tangible returns on investments of sexual and reproductive health services. Its analysis showed that comprehensive sexuality education, HPV vaccinations and screening, family planning, and family support policies could contribute, primarily via an improved female labour force participation rate, to deliver real economic gains amounting up to 0.16% of GDP<sup>2</sup>.



<sup>2</sup>Enhancing Human Capital Through Sexual and Reproductive Health Investments & Family Support Policies in Malaysia (2022). p. 48.

## First cryptocurrency lab in Southeast Asia launched, in concert with the Royal Malaysia Police

UNODC, working with the Malaysian Government, delivered significant contributions to national capacities to counter cryptocurrency-related crimes. This included:

Establishing ASEAN's first cryptocurrency analysis laboratory jointly with the Royal Malaysia Police.

Training 135 law enforcements officers, prosecutors, judges, and other relevant law enforcement officials whose work involves the regulation of cryptocurrency. This training strengthened their skills on new types of crime with a focus on the use of digital evidence.



## USD 2.5 million leveraged by sustainable start-ups by the Impact Measurement and Management (IMM) programme

The IMM programme was delivered by UNDP to 50 founders and co-founders of local start-ups. The Social Impact Venture Accelerator was useful in training and incubating 25 start-ups which offered solutions to SDG challenges. The participating start-ups reported greater understanding and application of the IMM methodology relating to business management, growth, and accessing new capital. Internal tracking shows that the training enabled them to catalyse up to USD 2.5 million in investments towards sustainable ventures.

## The INFF Joint Project delivered major draft outputs including the Development Finance Assessment (DFA) and influenced policymaking on SDG financing at the highest levels

The UN partnership with the Ministry of Finance on SDG Financing, led by UNDP under the auspices of the Integrated National Financing Framework Joint Project, led to the development of the DFA and furthered work on other key guidelines. The draft DFA is a major output of two volumes. Prepared in anticipation of development of the National SDG Financing Strategy in 2023, this is already informing the policy discussions within Government on how financing policies and strategies can be reshaped and linked to secure delivery of the SDGs.

## Protecting vulnerable women in the workplace and the home

As part of the Safe and Fair Programme in Malaysia, UN Women supported the Women's Aid Organisation (WAO) to continue its enhanced toll-free hotline and WhatsApp messaging services for vulnerable women, including migrants. Introduced initially during the Covid-19 pandemic, these services advise and support callers on workplace issues, harassment, gender-based violence, and trafficking. Over the course of the year, 2,422 calls were received through the hotline, along with 3,581 messages on WhatsApp. UN Women also supported WAO to provide training on preventing sexual harassment in the workplace to workers in 15 palm oil companies.



## 2.2.3



Contributing Agencies



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY



### KEY RESULTS 3

## Helping Malaysia transform key public services

The UN in Malaysia continued to work to improve health and education outcomes for all as the country gradually recovered from the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Four Covid-19 public health laboratories enabled the effective detection and surveillance of new variants and supported Malaysia in transitioning to the endemic stage

WHO continued to support Malaysia's pandemic response, via surveillance and preparedness efforts. Technical assistance and capacity building was provided for four public health laboratories to detect new variants via whole genome sequencing and genomic surveillance. With the WHO's technical support to the Ministry of Health, Malaysia successfully transitioned to an endemic phase of Covid-19. The development of AI-based software also enabled faster public health decision-making in this regard.



### Publication on healthcare reform launched ahead of Government White Paper

The UNU-International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH) in concert with the Minister of Health launched a book, "Systems Thinking Analyses for Health Policy and Systems Development: A Malaysian Case Study" which examined the Malaysian healthcare system through systems thinking methodology.

The Government also invited UNU-IIGH and WHO to be part of the Ministry's ongoing policy process on making recommendations to Parliament on healthcare reforms where these UN entities were part of a major expert meeting with 54 representatives from the Government, academia, and civil society organisations to identify priorities for reform in the White Paper.

In addition, 15 journalists were trained by UNU-IIGH on the Health White Paper on the specificities of the healthcare system reform in July.



## Enabling modern and progressive reforms of sexual and reproductive health policies

UNFPA delivered a major study which has positively impacted the National Family Planning Policy, and the Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy and Action Plan 2022-2025 (PEKERTI). This included international technical guidance on sexuality education and having comprehensive sexuality education as a standalone subject in schools. This was highlighted by the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development as part of efforts to address the growing number of teenage pregnancies, rape cases, and baby dumping.

## Building on efforts to deliver online learning during the pandemic, the Digital Educational Learning Initiative Malaysia (DELIMa) platform was strengthened and further institutionalized



UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Education (MOE) worked with technological partners such as Google, Microsoft, and Apple to launch the upgraded DELIMa 2.0 platform as part of Malaysia's approach to blend face-to-face and online learning. Initially a product of efforts to secure continuity of education during Covid-19 movement controls, DELIMa enables virtual teaching, training, and professional development. Now rolled out nationally, it was estimated as of August 2022 that 99% of teachers and 85% of students had used DELIMa in their online teaching and learning. UNICEF is also working with the MOE and the Ministry of Home Affairs to expand the online platform to children in institutions under the Malaysian Prison Department. These key partnerships between public and private sector facilitated by the UN, have ensured that physical location is no longer an obstacle to learning.



## Harnessing the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing to affect changes and improve the lives of older people

Recognizing the demographic transition that is underway and that Malaysia will become an aged society by 2030, the UNCT has worked with several Government partners to promote positive policy changes. UNFPA with the Malaysian Research Institute on Ageing jointly organized a workshop to deliver the National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP) Plan of Action Review. A finalized NPOP Action Plan 2023-2030 is expected to be launched shortly, with a stronger focus on long-term care. WHO, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Alzheimer's Disease Foundation Malaysia, delivered dementia care skills training to 213 caregivers from various organisations.



## Provision of USD 150,000 life-saving medical equipment to seven public hospitals

In a bid to address the concerning rise of Malaysia's maternal mortality ratio, UNICEF delivered life-saving medical equipment to the maternity wards of two Kuala Lumpur and Selangor, and five Sabah public hospitals, directly benefiting interior and coastal communities. It is estimated that 200,000 childbirth deliveries benefited from UNICEF support in strengthening maternal and child healthcare.



## 2.2.4

KEY  
RELATED  
SDGs



Contributing Agencies



UN HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



unicef



UNODC  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



International  
Trade  
Centre

### KEY RESULTS 4

## Enabling climate action and protecting Malaysia's biodiversity

The UNCT continued to support the Government and the private sector to accelerate efforts to transition to more sustainable and environmentally friendly practices across a range of sectors, and to enable carbon neutrality by 2050.

Malaysia took important steps in 2022 to promote environmental protection. The Government made further commitments at COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh that consolidated those made at COP26 on emissions reduction and adaptation measures. These commitments, reflected in the 2023 Budget Speech in October 2022, included an increase in the allocation for the Ecological Fiscal Transfer from RM70 million to RM100 million annually. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions dropped from a baseline of 8.05 MtCO<sub>2</sub> to 7.56 MtCO<sub>2</sub> per capita by the end of 2021, surpassing the planned UNFCCC target (noting however, that stoppages associated with the pandemic may have inflated this reduction).





## Putting an end to plastic pollution in pristine and ecologically sensitive remote areas

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP), as part of the SEA Circular project implemented in six Southeast Asian countries from 2018 to 2024, conducted a major survey of perceptions of plastic waste pollution among Malaysian consumers and businesses, and on the implementation of market-based solutions to reduce plastic waste. This project aims to ensure reduced dumping of plastic into the ocean via reducing wastage at source and through improved management of value chains. A Country Brief on reducing plastic pollution and promoting economic circularity was prepared in each country. This project helped the Malaysian government to launch the National Policy and Action Plan on Marine Litter 2021-2030.

UNEP worked with non-profit organisations to deliver three regional pilots, including one in the Mersing Islands. This work enhanced the waste management system and trained the local population on segregating plastic for recycling and disposal. A plastic compacting machine and a simple disposal and sorting infrastructure were provided, so recyclables could be processed and taken to the mainland. This project aims to directly address marine litter in Malaysia, where it is estimated that around 140,000 to 370,000 tons of plastic are discharged each year.

UNEP also worked with the Sabah state government on the installation of 10 wastewater treatment tanks on Gaya Island. Ten fisher-folk were trained in the assembly and maintenance of the tanks. This pilot aims to demonstrate the benefits of preserving coastal water quality and empowering local communities to stop wastewater pollution.

**10,000 km<sup>2</sup>  
of forest area  
preserved**



## 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> of Malaysian forests receive enhanced protection status

Through high-level technical assistance, UNDP helped Malaysia meet its commitment to maintaining 50% forest cover by contributing to the revision of the now outdated Central Forest Spine Master Plan (CFSMP). This resulted in additional forest area receiving enhanced protection status. The updated CFSMP was approved by the Cabinet to help ensure the survival and viability of keystone species such as the Malayan tiger while preserving ecosystem services in the face of rapid forest land depletion.

**45 Malaysian  
government officials  
received training on  
sustainable agriculture**





2,800 Kt  
of CO<sub>2</sub> saved  
from 10 solar  
thermal plants

## Enabling private sector investment in solar thermal plants and raising USD 10 million for nature-based solutions in adapting to climate change

In supporting the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP), UNIDO provided technical assistance and cost saving assessments to several private enterprises to demonstrate the benefits of investing in solar thermal energy. This work has contributed to the development of 10 solar thermal plants in 2022, which are expected to lead to savings of 2,800 Kt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions over the course of their operation.

UN-Habitat launched a USD 10 million Climate Adaptation programme for the urban areas of Penang Island with the state government, the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change, and Think City. This will include efforts to reduce surface temperatures and storm water runoff, and in turn contribute to increasing social resilience and to building institutional capacities to deal with climate change. This will be the first project using nature-based solutions to be implemented in a municipality and will include a strong knowledge transfer component. The aim is also to ensure catalytic gains – enabling scale-up and adoption by other cities in Malaysia and the wider region. The project was launched at an Inception Workshop in August 2022 with 50 representatives from 30 different stakeholder groups.





## Youth Environment Living Labs (YELL) initiative enabled the launch of 20 youth-led environmental pilot projects



The YELL Programme, a collaboration between UNDP and UNICEF which aims to promote youth-led environmental action rooted in local, indigenous, and traditional knowledge, funded 20 pilot projects with a total of USD 250,000 in grants. More than half the projects were implemented by rural and indigenous youth groups. The project's reach and impact are expected to grow as a further USD 400,000 in funding have been secured from Amanah Lestari Alam, a subsidiary of Bank Pembangunan Malaysia, for 2023-2024. This partnership enabled young people to experiment with innovative solutions and develop their potential as future agents of change in promoting environmental protection.





## Three UN agencies collaborate with Malaysian authorities to clamp down on wildlife crimes and safeguard human health

Via the regional Safety Across Asia for the Global Environment (SAFE) Project, UNODC, UNEP, and FAO collaborated with the EU and mobilized resources to prevent future pandemics by focusing on the link between wildlife trafficking and zoonotic disease transmission. Implemented in several ASEAN nations and Sabah in Malaysia, this intervention aims to identify in-country facilities and practices posing the highest risk of passing severe zoonotic diseases from wild animals to humans. SAFE will work with national stakeholders to make sure they understand the risks and are equipped to minimize them and safeguard human health.



## Quality Infrastructure Assessment completed to reduce the climate impacts of infrastructure

As part of the ARISE Plus project, ITC finalized its National Quality Infrastructure Assessment Report, which identifies the strengths and gaps in Malaysia's Quality Infrastructure development. The report was presented to Government stakeholders in August. It will serve as a basis to develop Malaysia's National Quality Policy (NQP) in 2023. A strengthened NQP will encourage the Government and private sector to integrate environmentally sustainable practices in procurement processes, and lower Malaysia's ecological footprint.



## 145 Malaysian government officials trained on sustainable agricultural practices to facilitate international trade

ITC trained 145 Malaysian government officials to promote sustainable agricultural practices to enable trade opportunities, notably through managing counterfeit pesticides and relevant regulations on fertilizers. Sessions were also organized on food safety, aquaculture biosecurity measures, and improving fisheries management. The sessions resulted in improved outcomes for the development and implementation of regulations relating to the management of pests and diseases.



## 2.2.5

### KEY RESULTS 5

# Supporting Singapore and Brunei to restore SDG progress

Reflecting several UNCT members' reach beyond Malaysia, several agencies mandated to cover Singapore and/or Brunei Darussalam supported the acceleration of sustainable development actions as the post-Covid recovery gathered pace.



“ I strongly believe that this is a good opportunity for us to share and learn, and ensure that communication plans and strategies are aligned, evidence-based and most importantly, that we reach out to the target audience with the right call to action. For this to happen effectively, we must harness behavioral insight tools and empower the public to make informed decisions to better manage their health.

- Awang Haji Maswadi bin Haji Mohsin, Permanent Secretary of the Brunei Darussalam Ministry of Health

## Helping to bring the pandemic to an end and delivering better health outcomes in Brunei Darussalam

WHO provided technical guidance to Brunei Darussalam on piloting an appropriate age-friendly community initiative in Tutong district using relevant assessment tools. It is hoped that the recommendations from the final report will assist the country as it kickstarts the implementation of its National Action Plan for Older People.

The Covid-19 pandemic also exposed the urgent need for training and capacity building in reporting health-related issues, communicating the risks and uncertainties associated with different diseases, and on the role of the media in combatting the spread of misinformation and disinformation. WHO therefore supported the Ministry of Health in Brunei in delivering in-person trainings to 17 media practitioners to build their capacities in the field of health reporting, managing rumours and disinformation, and reducing stigma and discrimination.



## Enabling Brunei Darussalam to accelerate SDG progress

UNDP conducted a series of SDG awareness workshops for 40 participants in Brunei Darussalam from the government, the central bank, the private sector, NGOs, and academia. A webinar, organized in March, was useful in providing relevant information relating to the planning, reporting, and implementation of SDG-linked programmes in the country.

Brunei's Voluntary National Review (VNR) inception workshop was supported by the UN RCO, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and UNDP. Held in October 2022 to launch preparations for Brunei's second VNR, this event contributed to enhancing inter-ministerial coordination, broadening the stakeholder base, and raising awareness among youth and non-governmental organisations of Brunei's national priorities from an SDG lens, including data and statistics.



## Leveraging Singapore's development success to support urban innovation globally

UN-Habitat collaborated with the UN RCO to ensure effective engagement with the Singaporean Government as the host of the 2022 World Cities Summit. This included policy dialogues, exchange of best practices, and joint advocacy for sustainable cities. UN-Habitat supported the preparations for the International Leaders in Urban Governance Programme organized with Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities and UN-Habitat's global headquarters.



## 2.2.6

### KEY RESULTS 6

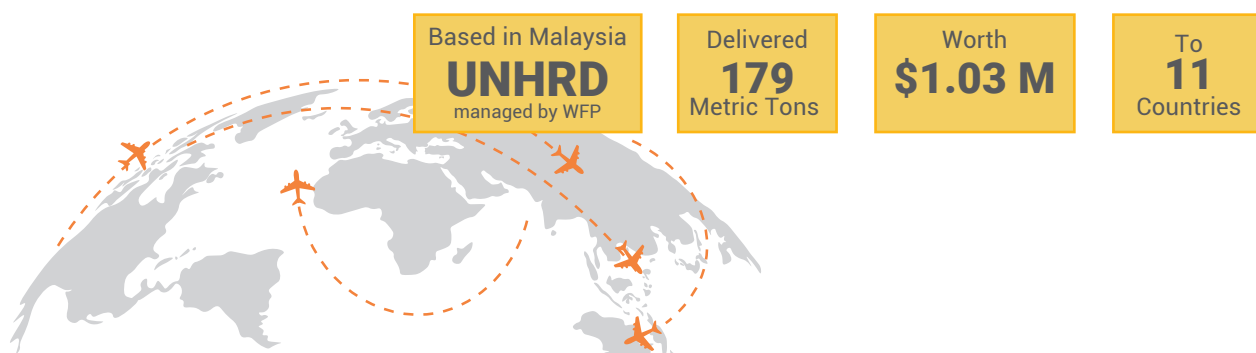
# Providing administrative support as well as emergency and developmental assistance regionally and globally

Over USD 1 million in humanitarian assistance was delivered to 11 countries across the Asia-Pacific region.

The UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) based in Malaysia, one of the World Food Programme's (WFP) five global hubs, continued to deliver emergency assistance to countries across the Asia Pacific. In 2022, it delivered 14 consignments totalling 179 metric tons (MT) with a cargo value of USD 1.03 million to 11 countries. Emergency deployments included responding to the typhoon in the Philippines in early 2022, where 26 MT of Mobile Storage Units were dispatched. A further 10 countries also received 153 MT of core relief items such as forklifts, mobile storage units, generators, and prefabricated buildings.

UNHRD Malaysia handled a request from UNDP involving cargo consolidation via air from four locations worldwide and an onward flight to Timor-Leste. This consignment of medical items, delivered with UNDP's assistance, provided tangible benefits to Timor-Leste's public health system.

Through its local operations and sourcing, UNHRD Malaysia empowered 47 small and medium-sized private sector enterprises, most of which are female-led enterprises, via increased business transactions and income generation. WFP also procured vegetable oil locally for its global food assistance operations, amounting to some USD 18.6 million for 10,736 MT. Malaysia continues to be a critical source of vegetable oil for WFP food baskets internationally.



## Delivering thousands of transactions and inputs enabling UN functionality across five continents

The global service centres operated by UNDP and WHO, and hosted by Malaysia, supported around 200 locations worldwide and processed 662,047 and 1,521,014 mostly financial transactions respectively during 2022. Some transactions from the WHO global service centre also concerned human resources, procurement, and payroll. These were vital to the UN's global functions.

## 2.3

# Coordinating, building partnerships and securing development resources

The UN RCO coordinates and supports the UN's work in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam – guiding and shaping development cooperation inputs, providing unified advocacy, and acting as an overarching point of contact. Crucially, by bringing to bear the strategic value-added of the UN's offer and the efforts of the many UN agencies that are assisting government and people in the countries.

The UN Resident Coordinator and UN RCO engaged extensively on the SDGs, specifically on planning and resourcing. The UN Resident Coordinator presented to Malaysia's National SDG Council in September 2022, which was chaired by the Prime Minister, on SDG performance and key priorities for the future. The UN RCO initiated a Government-UNCT Dialogue Series with the Ministry of Economy (formerly EPU) as well as a UNCT-Civil Society Dialogue Series - as platforms to discuss priority issues for the country and to identify key areas where the UN's expertise, convening power, and partnerships could be most effective.

The UN RCO coordinated UNESCO and UNICEF's support as the Governments of Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam prepared their National Statements of Commitment for the Transforming Education Summit. The UN RCO also ensured integrated UN inputs were provided to Malaysia's National Budgeting process.



In a groundbreaking development, the UN RCO collaborated with the Ministry of Finance and the newly established Malaysia SDG Foundation, to set up the UN-Malaysia SDG Trust Fund. Focused on leaving no one behind, and with an initial capitalization of USD 4 million, this Fund will support SDG-related projects in the years leading up to 2030.

The TogetherforSDGs online platform, developed in collaboration with Global Compact Malaysia and Brunei, went live in 2022, and features information on the work of businesses and other stakeholders from an SDGs perspective. As of December 2022, it included data from 126 private sector entities, 51 NGOs, and eight academic institutions.

Under the RC's leadership, UNCT joined efforts to advocate the norms and values of the UN. This included a large Human Rights Day Forum, commemorating the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - with 500 participants joining in person and 1,300 online. The Forum served as a platform for members of the newly appointed cabinet to engage in public for the first time, with strong statements on Malaysia's commitment to human rights for all, and pledges to leave no one behind through effective reforms of policies and institutions.

The UN in Malaysia partnered with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Centre for Independent Journalism to commemorate World Press Freedom Day. Livestreamed on several platforms, and watched by over 4,200 viewers, the event provided a space for exchange with policymakers on the need to review the legal framework. Dato Sri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, the then Minister in the Prime Minister's Department for Parliament and Law, used his closing speech to argue that media should not face restrictions when reporting, adding that this freedom should be used responsibly to avoid the spread of misinformation and fake news.

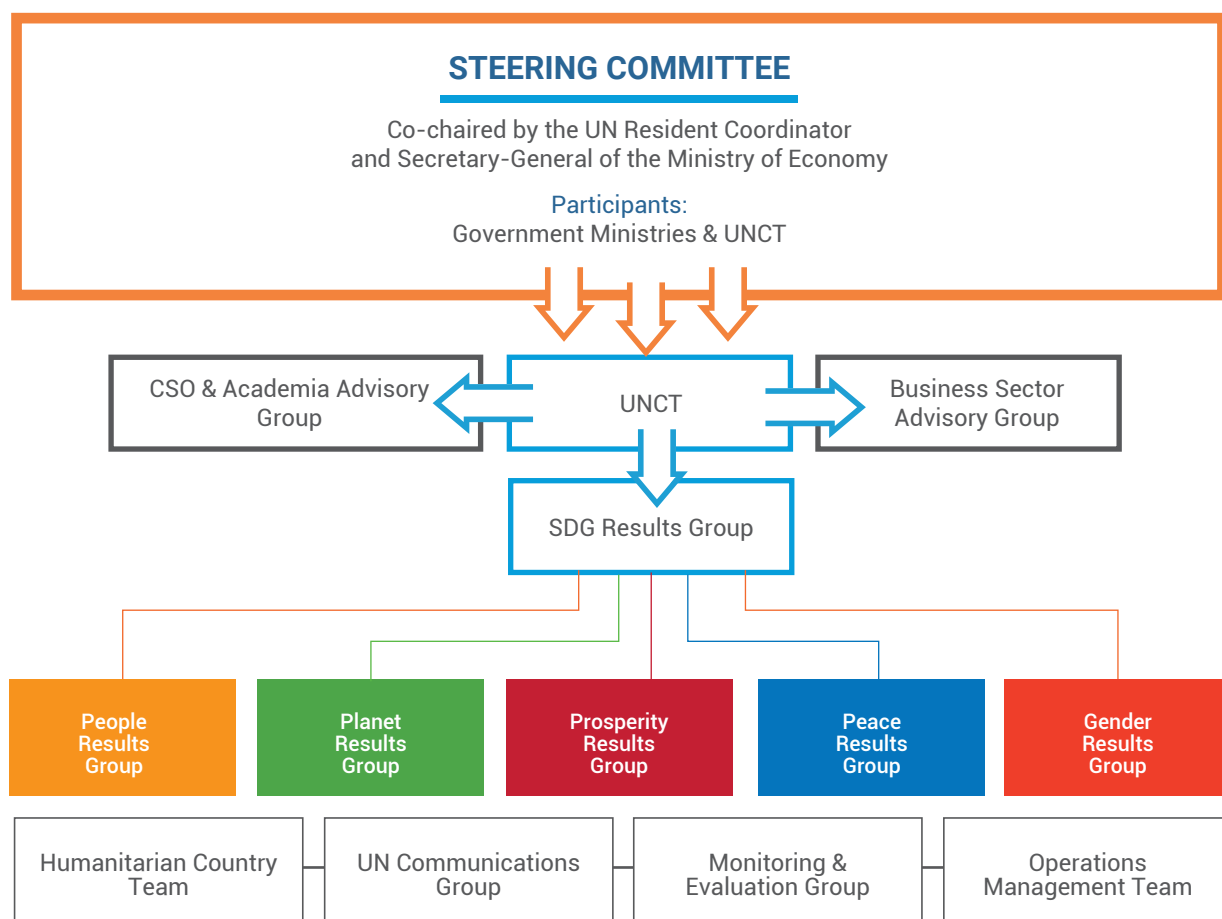


## 2.4

# UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency

The UN's 9 resident and 13 non-resident agencies for Malaysia operate within the UNSDCF, implemented under the overall coordination of the Resident Coordinator. The UNSDCF sets out the governance and thematic structure of the UN's actions in the country. This includes **Partnerships** as an umbrella Results Group, four others reflecting **SDG priorities** (**People**, **Prosperity**, **Planet** and **Peace**), plus Gender as a cross-cutting priority. These issue-based groups serve as mechanisms to strengthen information-sharing, collaboration, and convergence between UN agencies in the Multi-Country Office.

### UNSDCF GOVERNANCE: SPANNING 5 PRIORITY AREAS AND MATRIXED TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS



## 2.5

# Evaluation and lessons learned

Evaluation of the operating environment and learning lessons remained central to the UN's mission in Malaysia in 2022. As the country emerged from the pandemic, reopened its economy, and faced external volatility, ensuring flexibility and responsiveness was vital. These are the hallmarks of the UN's approach to policy advisory support and programming, particularly in upper middle-income countries. This approach enabled an increase in spending for UNSDCF priorities as programme implementation was facilitated by national and global reopening. Adapting to new and fast-changing circumstances were key to UN activities in Malaysia throughout the year, and the lessons learned will facilitate future UNSDCF implementation as external headwinds continue to have consequences within the country.

## 2.6

# Mobilizing resources for Malaysia

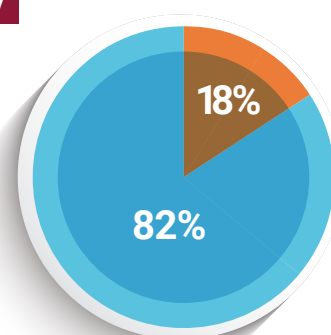
### 2.6.1

## Overview

In 2022, the United Nations in Malaysia secured over USD 60.8 million and spent almost USD 49.8 million in support of the programmes and activities in Malaysia. The disbursed amount represents 81.9% of the secured amount (including UN and mobilized resources). Furthermore, the year saw a striking 32.4% rise in UN spending in Malaysia compared with 2021.

The four largest agencies (IOM, UNDP, UNHCR, and UNICEF) accounted for 59% of the total funding spent, and 12 delivered over 90% of the secured funds (see chart). Overall, UN agencies spent 82% of mobilized resources in 2022<sup>3</sup>.

2022 Budget Delivery

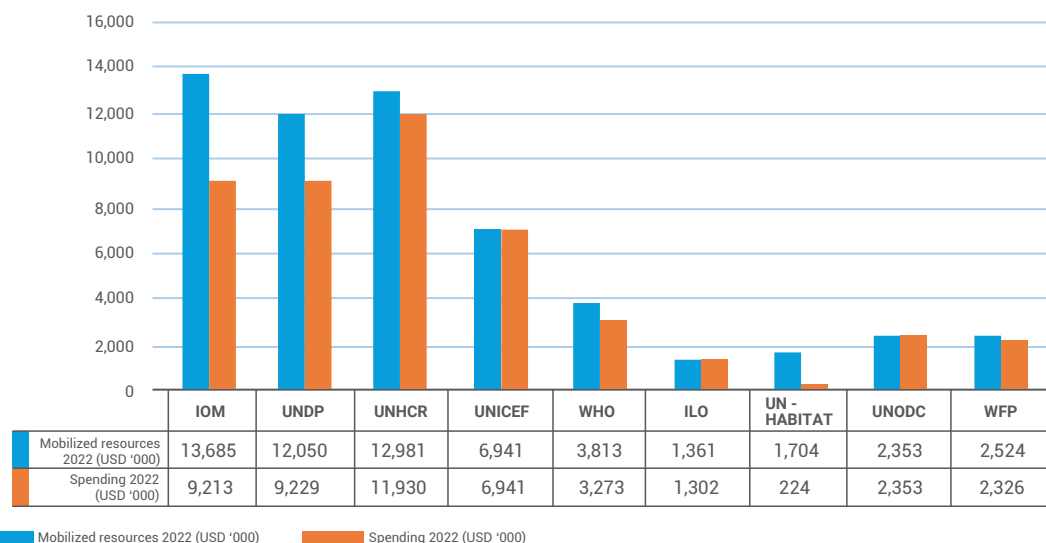


UN agencies generally maintained their delivery levels in 2022.

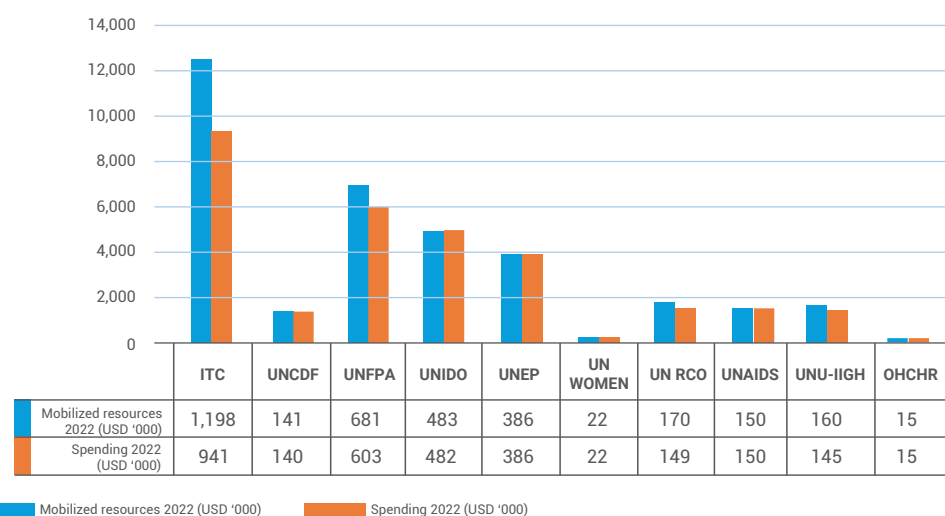
Undelivered  
Delivered

<sup>3</sup> This figure refers to disbursed spending by the UN in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei in 2022 within the multi-country area, and excludes spending from global service centers based in Malaysia such as those operated by UNDP and WHO.

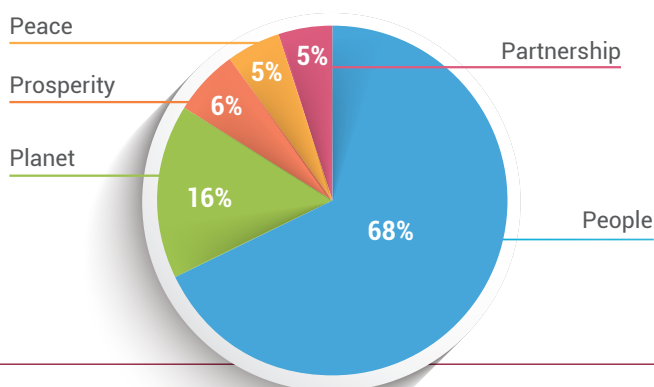
2022 Spending by Agency (Chart A)



2022 Spending by Agency (Chart B)



Spending by Pillar



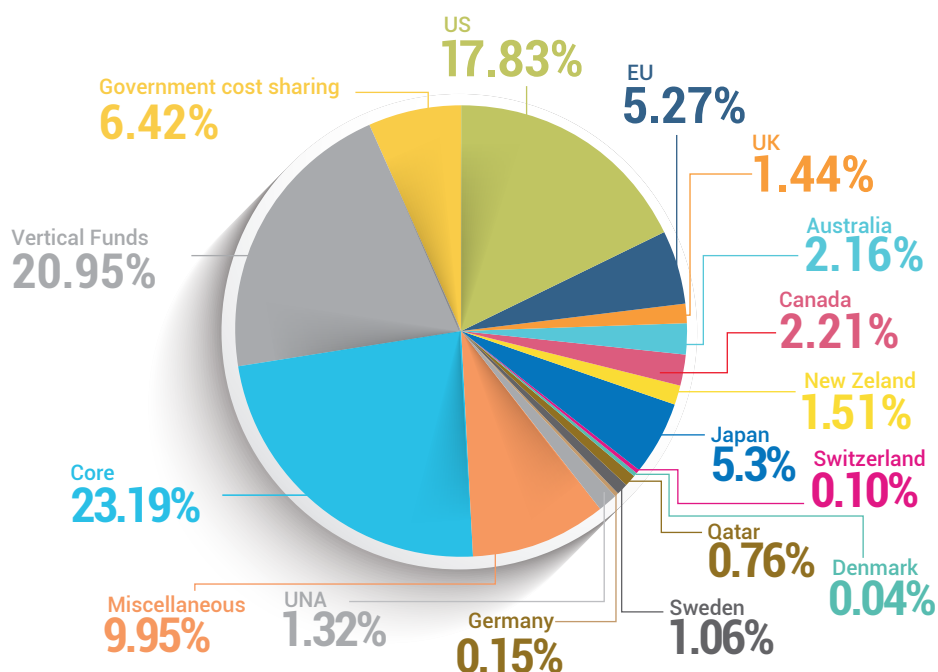


## 2.6.2

# Donor Resource Utilisation

A diversified set of donors funded the the UNCT's programmes in 2022

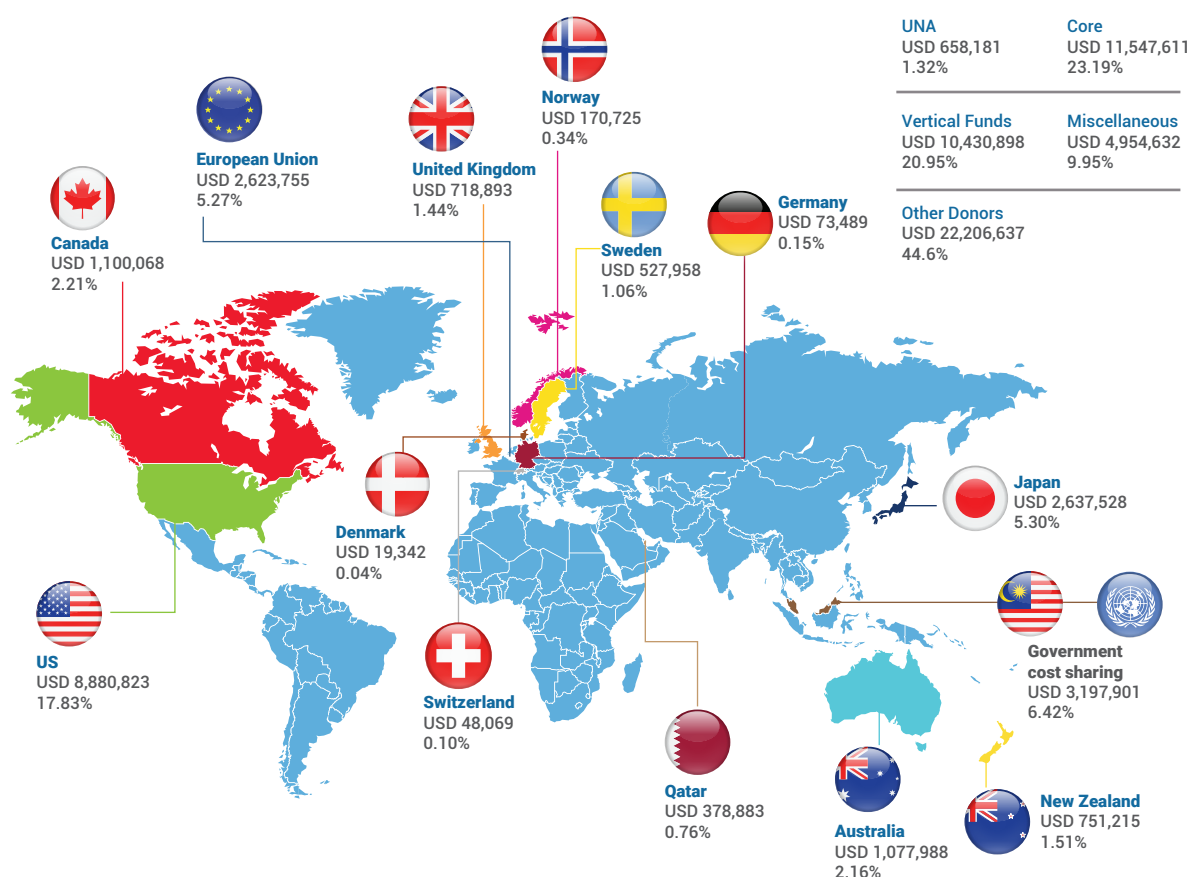
### Source of Spending (2022)



Donor	USD ('000)	Share (%)
Core	11,548	23.19%
Vertical Funds	10,431	20.95%
US	8,881	17.83%
Miscellaneous	4,955	9.95%
Government cost sharing	3,198	6.42%
EU	2,624	5.27%
Japan	2,638	5.30%
Australia	1,078	2.16%
Canada	1,100	2.21%
New Zealand	751	1.51%
UN Agencies (UNA)	658	1.32%
UK	719	1.44%
Sweden	528	1.06%
Qatar	378	0.76%
Norway	171	0.34%
Germany	73	0.15%
Switzerland	48	0.10%
Denmark	19	0.04%
Total	49,798	100%





















The UN in Malaysia mobilized funds from 12 donor countries, as well as from the EU and from other UN agencies (UNA). This donor funding comprised 39.6% of total funds used in 2022, with additional 6.4% comprised of cost-sharing funds from the Malaysian government. Central resources from the UN comprised of core and vertical funds, made up less than half of total funding at 44.1%. This is indicative of the UN's increasingly diverse funding sources as it continues to work with a range of partners. The UN-Malaysia SDG Trust Fund, expected to be rolled out in 2023, is an innovative SDG financing mechanism and is expected to broaden the partnership base through contributions from development partners and other non-government donors.

## Donor Countries






















## 2.7

# UN in Malaysia - 2022 in Numbers

 <p><b>177,262</b> people/ officials benefited from UN training/ support initiatives in Malaysia in 2022.</p>	 <p><b>164,254</b> users accessed the Teacher Digital Learning Community resource bank (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>4,115</b> teachers improved their capacity to be effective remote online educators via Ministry of Education-UNICEF Teacher Digital Learning Community (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>3,452</b> teachers trained, 36,751 unique users, and over 1 million page-views for the Future Skills for All learning materials and classrooms (UNICEF).</p>
 <p><b>1,412</b> trained as part of Skills for Prosperity Program to improve the employability of workers (ILO).</p>	 <p><b>335</b> representatives from MITI, other government agencies, and the private sector trained on negotiating sustainable free trade agreements (ITC).</p>	 <p><b>315</b> registered participants in webinar on forced labour and fair migration for the export manufacturing and plantation sectors (ILO).</p>	 <p><b>253</b> representatives from the private sector in 5 regions on Violence and Harassment in the World of Work (ILO).</p>
 <p><b>244</b> government, civil society organisations and academic partners trained in basic social and behaviour change approaches, strategies, implementation and monitoring and evaluation (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>200</b> people have taken a MOOC on implementation research in the health sector (UNU-IIGH).</p>	 <p><b>200</b> young professionals trained on Science, Engineering, Technology &amp; Innovation approaches for disaster risk reduction &amp; climate change (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>150</b> students, 15 teachers, 40 women and 100 villagers were informed about community-based disaster risk management (UNICEF).</p>
 <p><b>145</b> government officials trained on sustainable agricultural practices (ITC).</p>	 <p><b>135</b> law enforcements officers, prosecutors, judges, and law enforcement officials trained on cybercrime (UNODC).</p>	 <p><b>110</b> migrant workers from the Migrant Resource Centre trained through a total of 8 sessions on basic labour rights and on preventing sexual harassment (ILO).</p>	 <p><b>93</b> people (35 inter-ministerial government officers, 38 organisations of persons with disabilities representatives and 20 UN staff) trained on CRPD Treaty Body Reporting (UNICEF, OHCHR and UN RCO).</p>
 <p><b>80</b> maritime law enforcement officers took Maritime Domain Awareness courses as part of the Global Maritime Crime Program (UNODC).</p>	 <p><b>69</b> youth trained on developing and refining environmental projects responding to local environmental issues (UNDP and UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>51</b> people received training on sexual harassment in the workplace at 15 different palm oil companies (UN Women).</p>	 <p><b>50</b> founders/co-founders of start-ups trained on Impact Measurement and Management methodology, business management, growth and new capital attraction (UNDP).</p>



# UN in Malaysia - 2022 in Numbers

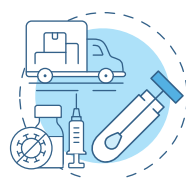
 <p><b>50</b></p> <p>children and 10 teachers trained on citizen science approaches for air quality monitoring (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>43</b></p> <p>people (40 students and 3 teachers) trained at Workshop on Clean and Healthy Environmental Awareness (UNEP).</p>	 <p><b>42</b></p> <p>representatives from social work in-service training providers (Department of Social Welfare training division, professional social work and civil society organisations) and pre-service training providers (9 academic institutions) received Training-of-Trainers on professionalizing social work with vulnerable children, focused on children affected by migration (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>41</b></p> <p>law enforcement officials took part in a training course on Responding to the Smuggling of Migrants by Sea (UNODC).</p>
 <p><b>40</b></p> <p>villagers trained on supporting the maintenance and purchasing of ISTP wastewater treatment tanks (UNEP).</p>	 <p><b>40</b></p> <p>teachers and 960 children trained on school disaster preparedness (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>40</b></p> <p>government nutritionists and civil society representatives were trained in Nutrition in Emergency and 33 of the nutritionists were educated on communication for development of nutrition among women of reproductive age (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>37</b></p> <p>labour inspectors participated in training in Sabah on labour inspections, child labour, and forced labour (ILO).</p>
 <p><b>37</b></p> <p>MTUC members trained on vulnerability of workers to forced labour during the pandemic (ILO).</p>	 <p><b>36</b></p> <p>adolescents trained on reflecting writing for environmental storytelling (UNDP and UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>33</b></p> <p>NIH and CSO representatives were trained as part of Systems Thinking and Horizon Scanning Workshop on Health and Development (UNU-IIGH and UNDP).</p>	 <p><b>30</b></p> <p>Ministry of Health field epidemiologists and public health officers trained on surveillance and risk assessments of Covid-19 variants (WHO).</p>
 <p><b>20</b></p> <p>UN staff trained on gender-based violence risk mitigation and referral (UNICEF, UNFPA and UN RCO).</p>	 <p><b>17</b></p> <p>media practitioners were trained in Brunei on the reporting of health issues (WHO).</p>	 <p><b>15</b></p> <p>journalists trained on the Health White Paper (UNU-IIGH).</p>	 <p><b>14</b></p> <p>government officers trained on refugee protection (UNHCR).</p>
 <p><b>8</b></p> <p>Immigration Department trainers trained on the investigation of human trafficking and migrant smuggling (UNODC).</p>	 <p><b>5</b></p> <p>startups underwent a capacity building programme to improve business fundamentals and impact measurement methodologies and to strengthen innovative solutions for innovative results for children (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>3</b></p> <p>officials from Implementation Coordination Unit of the Prime Minister's Department and University of Malaya attended the two-week Executive Course for Evaluation Leaders (UNICEF).</p>	 <p><b>2</b></p> <p>officials from the National Population and Family Development Board and Universiti Putra Malaysia were trained in the Gender Responsive Parenting Training (UNICEF).</p>

# UN in Malaysia - 2022 in Numbers



**1,700**

refugees received hygiene kits (IOM)



**9,318**

vaccinations in hard-to-reach areas (WHO)



**28,000**

Covid-19 vaccinations (at IOM centres)



**USD 2.5 million**

raised by 25 start-ups offering SDGs solutions trained by UNDP



**20,000**

test kits and 5000 surgical jumpsuits to Malaysian prisons (UNODC)



Over  
**4,300**

refugees departed for third countries (IOM/UNHCR)



**2,000**

indigenous people engaged through community-led grants (UNDP).



**7**

hospitals (two in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor, and five in Sabah) received life-saving medical equipment to increase the capacity of their maternity wards (UNICEF)



## Chapter 3

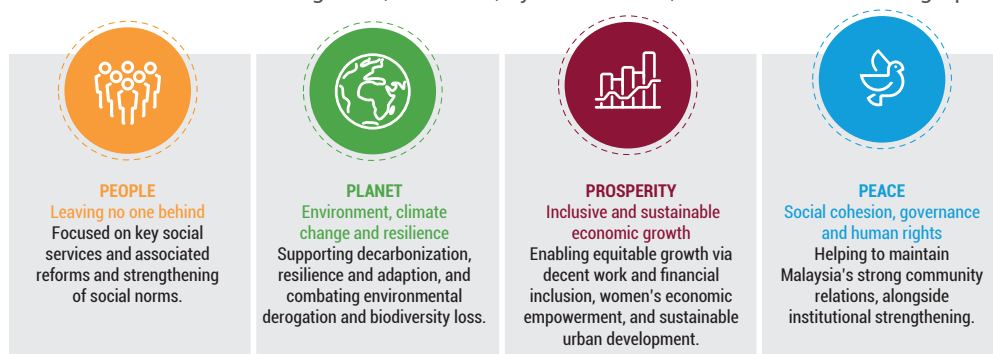
# PRIORITIES FOR 2023



### 3.1

## UNSDCF 2021-2025

UN advocacy and programming will continue to support the Government and those living in Malaysia, guided by the established four strategic priorities – People, Planet, Prosperity, and Peace – to enable and accelerate achievement of the SDGs. This will be guided, as before, by the UNSDCF, as summarized in the graphic below.



Throughout 2022, the UN liaised with the Government of Malaysia on the formal adoption of the final UNSDCF text, and this is anticipated to be signed-off during 2023. Operationally, UNCT delivery by its agencies, funds, and programmes have been guided by the UNSDCF since the start of its implementation period in 2021.

### 3.2

## UN agencies delivery plans for 2023 and beyond

UN agency work plans, and subsequent delivery activities in 2023 will be driven by Country Programing Documents where these are in place for major agencies, and by UNSDCF-aligned plans for others.

For the UN family the coming year will mark a pivotal milestone as it represents the halfway point to 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. This is recognized by several major strategic activities planned in partnership with the Government and other stakeholders. These include publication of Phase II of the SDG Roadmap to 2025, which offers a blueprint for delivering the goals in Malaysia; and roll-out of the Malaysia-UN SDG Trust Fund that holds immense potential to create tangible impact in the lives of those most vulnerable in the country, who lack access to basic services, and who are at risk of being left behind.

Within agency plans, the overarching near-term priority remains securing the country's continued recovery from the pandemic in an uncertain global context. Programming and advocacy efforts will be focused on enabling a development trajectory which is both inclusive and environmentally sustainable. Major activities include: efforts to make good the remaining deficits of the pandemic, particularly in relation to poverty and the challenges faced by vulnerable families and children; strengthening social protection and the resilience of the population to shocks; promoting and monitoring the effective implementation of international human rights standards at the national level; strengthening the capacity of indigenous peoples of Sabah and Sarawak; promoting an inclusive economy, via labour market improvements and productivity gains through technological change; helping to protect vulnerable groups, including refugees and immigrants; upholding human rights and supporting Malaysia's social cohesion, mirroring the Government's Malaysia MADANI agenda; and crucially, helping to tackle the triple environmental crisis - of degradation and pollution, the climate emergency, and losses in biodiversity.

# Acronyms

12MP	Twelfth Malaysia Plan
CFSMP	Central Forest Spine Master Plan
DELIMa	Digital Educational Learning Initiative Malaysia
DFA	Development Finance Assessment
IMM	Impact Measurement and Management
INFF	Integrated National Financing Framework
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITC	International Trade Centre
KM <sup>2</sup>	Square kilometres
MOE	Ministry of Education
NPOP	National Policy on Older Person
NQP	National Quality Policy
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PEKERTI	Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy and Action Plan
STEM	Science, Technological, Engineering, and Mathematics
UN	United Nations
UN RCO	Office of the UN Resident Coordinator
UNSDCF	UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UN-Habitat	UN Human Settlements Programme
UNCDF	UN Capital Development Fund
UNCT	UN Country Team
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNFPA	UN Population Fund
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNIDO	UN Industrial Development Organisation
UNODC	UN Office for Drugs and Crime
VNR	Voluntary National Review on SDG Progress
WAO	Women's Aid Organisation
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

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