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2020 UN TURKMENISTAN ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

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FOREWORD BY THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR

As the United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i. and Co-Chair of the National Steering Committee, I am pleased to introduce the annual UN Results Report 2020 of the Government of Turkmenistan – United Nations Partnership Framework for Development (PFD) 2016-2020.

In 2020, the UN-Government cooperation further evolved under the national motto of the year «Turkmenistan – Homeland of Neutrality». Turkmenistan realized important initiatives in the domestic and international arena, and the UN actively engaged in supporting the Government in this process.

The UN and the Government of Turkmenistan signed the new Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (CF) on 14 March 2020, the first such partnership agreement in the Europe and Central Asia region, reaffirming and strengthening the strategic partnership on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Fully aligned with the SDGs, the new CF offers a coherent and integrated UN support to the development needs of the country towards the achievement of SDGs. The increase in the number UN entities signing the CF from 8 to 19 testifies to the ambition of the new CF and the Government's commitment to intensify collaboration with the UN.

The key area of cooperation with the Government in 2020 was developing and implementing a joint response to the global risks of COVID-19 pandemic through:

- the Preparedness and Response Plan for Acute Infectious Disease (Country Preparedness and Response Plan (CPRP)) developed with the support of the UN under the technical leadership of WHO and approved by Turkmenistan on 22 May 2020, and

- the Immediate Socio-Economic Response Plan to acute infectious disease pandemic in Turkmenistan (SERP) developed with UN support under the technical leadership of UNDP and approved by the Government on 3 July 2020.

We were able to make considerable progress both in terms of programming support and financial delivery in support of these two plans. Most of the CPRP planned activities have been implemented in 2020. The overall investments of the UN and other development partners for CPRP have exceeded US$ 2 million, while the Government spent over US$ 46 million for the COVID-19 response. In addition, the UN, IFIs, and the Government have invested US$ 28.8 million to support the implementation of the SERP in 2020.

The UN raised the importance of establishing necessary coordination mechanisms for attracting financial resources and directing them towards SDGs and addressing challenges posed by COVID-19. Remarkable in this sense was an international seminar Financing SDG implementation: the role of Integrated National Financing Frameworks in May 2020 organized in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan. The event gathered high-level speakers from the UN, ministers of finance and economy from Central Asian states, Afghanistan and Azerbaijan, OECD, EU, International Financial Institutions (WB, IMF, ADB, IDB, EBRD). The event facilitated dialogue and exchange of experience among SPECA countries on immediate response measures to mitigate the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic and link these measures to longer term goals on SDG financing through Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF). The participants highlighted the importance of addressing existing structural weaknesses such as the need for better financing of the health sector, education, social protection and addressing inequalities.

Notable progress was made in 2020 in relation to data collection and sharing. With the support of the UN agencies, MICS 6 was successfully completed and for the first time a survey on gender-based violence was started. A concerted effort was made to ensure that national reports were shared with respective custodian UN agencies on several SDG indicators which will be soon reflected in the global databases. Turkmenistan and the UN continued cooperation on establishment of the national SDG database and started a new area on strengthening the national system for collecting and analysing data on disaster losses that will contribute to the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

The UN continued its cooperation with Turkmenistan in the priority area of human rights. The Government and UN entities worked together to strengthen national human rights mechanisms through development and implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan 2021-2025, National Action Plan on Gender Equality 2021-2025, State Programme and Action Plan on Youth Policy for 2021-2025. The UN also established a strategic dialogue with the Inter-Ministerial Commission of Turkmenistan on implementation of the international obligations of Turkmenistan in the human rights area. It enabled discussion of priority issues and providing the coordinated support to the Government in implementation of the concluding observations of the UN Human Rights mechanisms.

I would like to note that from the total amount of US$ 77 million spent for the implementation of the UNPFD in 2016-2020, the Government's investment in the joint programmes with the UN amounted to more than US$ 23,6 million. In addition, the Government allocated about US$ 43,5 million to the procurement of vaccines and premix for flour fortification through UNICEF during the past 5 years. For the new 2021-2025 UNSDCF programme cycle with an estimated cost of over US$ 162 million, UN agencies have already signed US$ 58 million worth of bilateral co-financing agreements with the Government for implementation of the CF and UN agencies' country programmes. The abovementioned co-financing commitments of Turkmenistan towards the CF speak to the strong Government ownership of the development programmes implemented in partnership with the UN development system in Turkmenistan.

I hope you will find the Progress Report informative, insightful and inspirational.

We welcome your feedback to further improve our engagement and work in Turkmenistan for the sustainable development of the country.

Christine Weigand, UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in Turkmenistan

UN COUNTRY TEAM

Resident UN agencies

UNDP
World Health Organization
UNFPA
UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
unicef
IOM UN MIGRATION

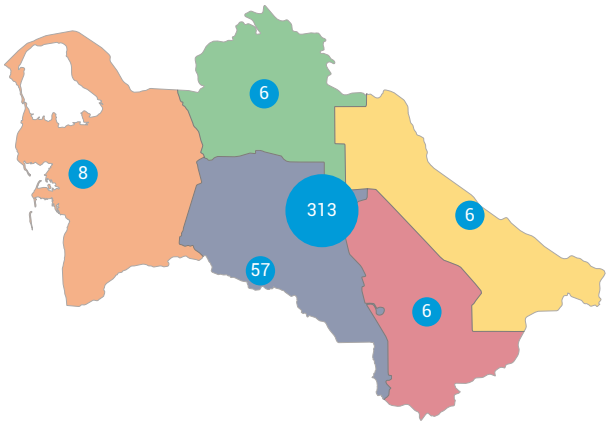
Non-resident UN agencies

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency
ILO
FAO
UNECE
UNESCO
International Trade Centre
UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
UNDRR The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

In the final year of the PFD 2016-2020, fourteen resident and non-resident UN entities worked jointly with the national partners to realize national development priorities within the 2030 Agenda. This is an increase from the original eight agencies who were signatories of the PFD. The table above lists the UN agencies that have been part of the UN in 2020.

In 2020, the new UNCT configuration was set up to implement the CF. The UN country team will then consist of 19 agencies and presents a diverse combination of capacities and business models offered in support of the realization of the CF objectives.

KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY



Despite the limited presence of development partners in Turkmenistan, the UN system plays a crucial role in the coordination of development cooperation. In line with the partnership values and principles outlined in the 2016-2020 PFD document, UNCT built strong and reliable partnerships with the government and development partners across the country. The Development Partners Coordination Group (DPCG), chaired by the UNRC, was a major platform, among others, to keep the development community as well as the government informed on the ongoing development projects in Turkmenistan.

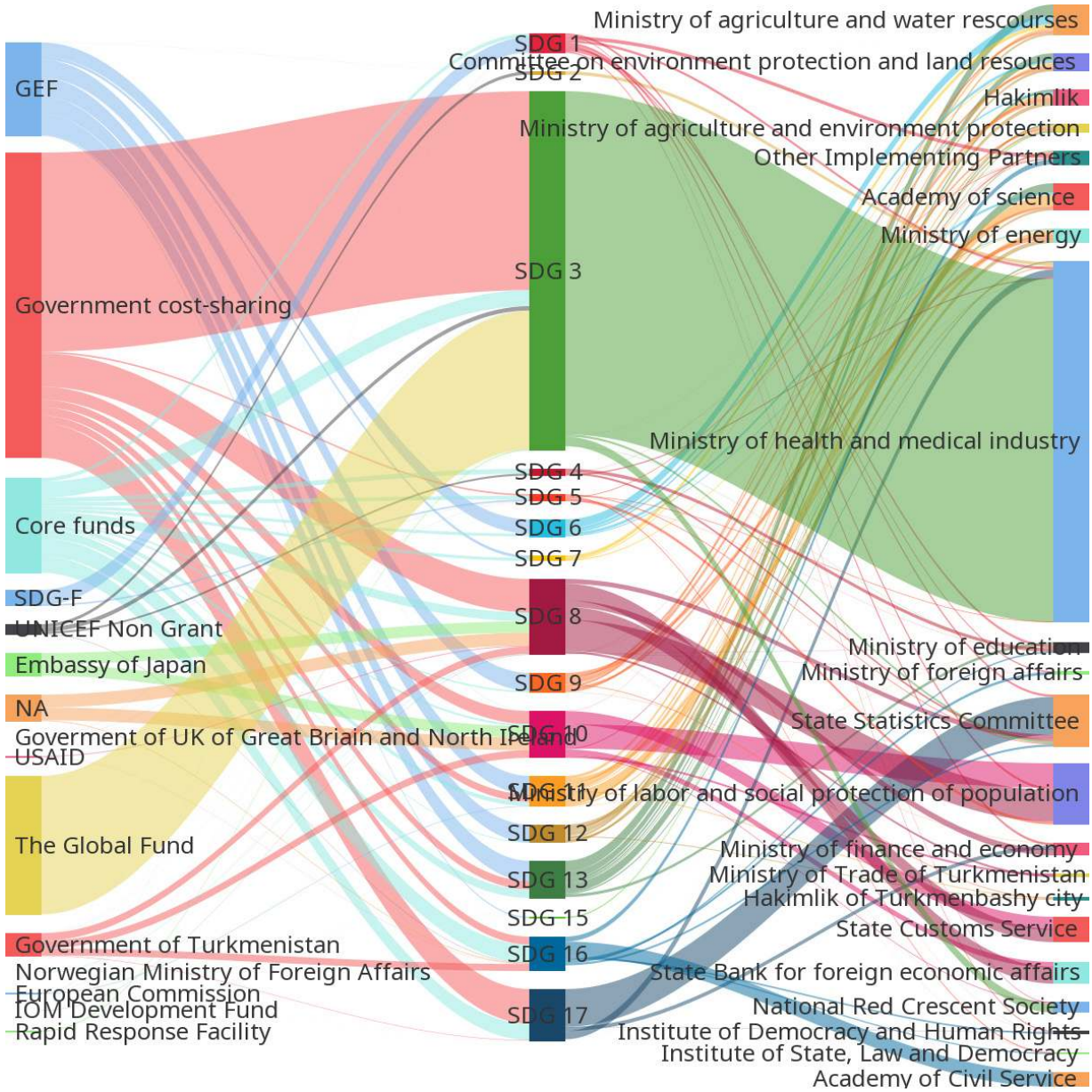
In 2020, the UNRC invited development partners to contribute to the joint UN-Government efforts to respond to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 pandemic and to discuss «building back better» approaches for the recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

The UNRC helped to convene development partners (USAID, EU, OSCE) and IFIs (ADB, EBRD, WB, IsDB) in support of the government to develop and implement the CPRP and the SERP and to ensure a coherent response to the pandemic. It was highly welcomed by the host government and resulted in the endorsement of the plans by special decrees of the President of Turkmenistan in May and July respectively.

Figure 1 below depicts the contributions of the development partners and of the government to SDGs via interactive graphics (for detail see turkmenistan.un.org/en/sdgs).

From the figure below, it is clear that in addition to the Government, the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), the Global fund to fight HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis, Joint SDG Fund, Governments of Japan and UK were among the most significant investors in the development agenda at the country level.

Figure 1 **Linking Investments, Partners, and the Sustainable Development Goals in Turkmenistan**



The Government provided co-financing for the UN programs in such areas as health, human rights, trade, customs, SDG acceleration, banking services, statistics, civil service, and some others.

Another figure below categorises key government implementing partners that have cooperated with the UN agencies in UNPFD implementation in 2020, showing the number of the UN agencies implementing the programmes/activities with top 10 national partners.

Figure 2 **Implementing partners collaborating with the largest number of UN agencies**

10	Ministry of Education	UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, UNODC, UN, UNESCO, WHO, FAO, UNDRR, IOM
8	Mejilis	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, UNECE, FAO, WHO, IOM
8	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, UN, FAO, UNHCR
8	State Statistics Committee	UNFPA, UNICEF, UNECE, UNDP, UNODC, WHO, UNHCR, ILO
6	Ministry of Health and Medical Industry	UNICEF, WHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, IOM
6	Ombudsman	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, UNHCR, OHCHR
6	Ministry of Finance and Economy	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO, FAO
6	Institute of Democracy and Human Rights	UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, OHCHR, IOM
5	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, FAO
5	Ministry of Internal Affairs	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, IOM

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

1 DEVELOPMENTS IN THE OVERALL SITUATION (ECONOMY AND SOCIETY – INCLUDING THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC)

Turkmenistan continued its transition to socially oriented market economy. Diversification of the economy and development of the private sector have remained key priority. National policies continued to pursue the expansion of the industrial and agricultural production base to enhance job creation, including in rural areas, and ensuring food security.

The global COVID-19 pandemic negatively affected the socio-economic situation in Turkmenistan due to sharp decline in global hydrocarbon prices and disruptions in supply chains. According to official data, **Turkmenistan's GDP grew by 5.9%** in 2020, less than the Government projected growth rate of 6.3% for the year, while the international estimates significantly differed from official figures.

The global economic crisis exerted further pressure on the exchange rate of Turkmen Manat[1]. The country's fixed exchange rate regime leaves little flexibility to absorb external shocks[2] and the developments in the foreign exchange market might have triggered the increase in prices in the economy.

As part of the national Climate Change Strategy, the country started identifying the nationally determined contributions. In 2020 Turkmenistan **ratified the Kigali Amendment** becoming the 101st Party to do so.

1 http://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/covid-19-crisis-response-in-central-asia-5305f172/

2 EBRD Turkmenistan Diagnostic, by Hans Holzhacker and Dana Skakova, May 2019

2 HEALTH AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

In its response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, Turkmenistan focused largely on the prevention of the importation and spread of COVID-19 in the country. Among fundamental organizational actions was the creation of the **Emergency Anti-Epidemic Commission for COVID-19 (EAEC)** to combat dangerous infectious diseases, which includes members of the government, heads of ministries, departments, and local executive bodies, and which operates under the Cabinet of Ministers to lead national actions.

The Government of Turkmenistan, with support from the UN and other development partners, adopted and implemented a number of plans in response to the global pandemic, namely:

- In January 2020, a Decree of the President of Turkmenistan approved the **Comprehensive Plan of Measures to Prevent the Importation of COVID-19 into Turkmenistan**

- **The Preparedness and Response Plan for Acute Infectious Disease/Country Preparedness and Response Plan (CPRP)** approved on 22 May 2020

- **The Immediate Socio-Economic Response Plan** to acute infectious disease pandemic in Turkmenistan approved on 3 July 2020.

Policy documents focusing on longer-term path towards **«building back better»** from the impact of the global pandemic were also adopted, including, inter alia:

- The National Programme on mitigation of the impact of the global economic crisis on Turkmenistan's economy and sustainable development of the national economy in 2020-2021

- **The Strategy of management and reform of state-owned enterprises** in Turkmenistan in 2021-2025

- **The State Programme on Development of Digital Economy** in Turkmenistan in 2021-2025

- **The Foreign Trade Strategy** of Turkmenistan for 2021-2030.

3 CHANGES IN THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The year 2020 marked the **25th anniversary of Turkmenistan's permanent neutrality status** and the completion of the constitutional reform process in the country. A new constitutional law was adopted introducing amendments to the Constitution of Turkmenistan to establish a bicameral system of the national legislature, consisting of People's Council and the Mejlis of Turkmenistan as the upper and lower chambers of the Parliament respectively. The changes to the Constitution came to effect as of 1 January 2021, and elections to Milli Gengesh Gengesh (a new name of the bicameral Parliament) took place in March 2021[3].

In August 2020 a number of laws were adopted, and amendments introduced to the existing ones, including to:

- Law on International Humanitarian Aid in emergencies
- Social Protection Code
- Law on the Protection of Citizens' Health
- Law on Education
- Law on State Pension Insurance.

The Mejlis ratified six UNECE Conventions on transport. In addition, a new **Law on Civil Status Acts** entered into force on 1 July 2020.

3 http://tdh.gov.tm/news/en/articles.aspx&article24309&cat26

4 ENGAGEMENT IN REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Building on the principle of positive neutrality and good-neighbourly relations, Turkmenistan consistently followed up on its initiatives on improving energy security in the region, enhancing connectivity as well as progressing on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, important infrastructure projects such as the railroad, broadband and electricity connection with Afghanistan were implemented.

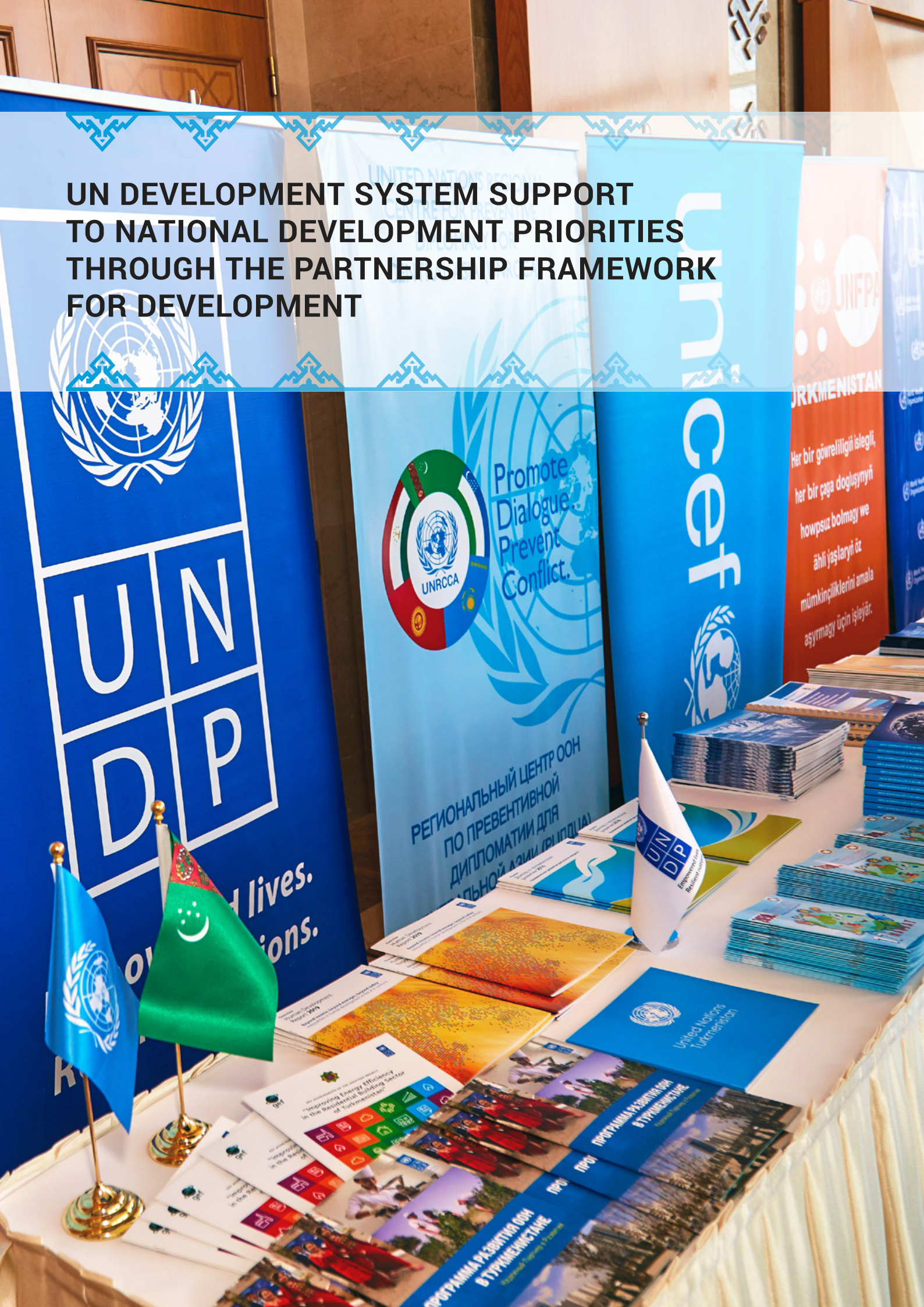
Speaking at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly, the President of Turkmenistan reiterated the importance of joint regional and global efforts to address the socioeconomic and environmental consequences of the Aral Sea crisis, and once again called the international community to support the **UN Special Programme for the Aral Sea basin**.

In partnership with the UN, the Government of Turkmenistan hosted two important regional dialogues:

- International seminar **«Financing SDG implementation: the role of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF)»** bringing together SPECA countries to exchange on immediate response measures to mitigate impacts of COVID-19 in view of longer-term goals on SDG financing. The Outcome statement of the seminar was circulated as an official document of the 74th session of the UN GA

- **«Central Asia dialogue on strengthening transport connectivity in the SPECA region and beyond in the era of COVID-19»** to promote regional cooperation in transport in times of global pandemic. The Conclusions of the regional dialogue became an official UNECE document.

UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH THE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT



OVERVIEW OF PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT RESULTS

Within the Partnership Framework, the UN and Government have been cooperating in five strategic areas to achieve eight mutually agreed Outcomes. While the COVID-19 pandemic affected the implementation of the UN programs in the country, it also provided an opportunity to repurpose US$ 23.6 million to support the implementation of the Socio-economic response plan (SERP) aimed at addressing the health and socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. The UN actively worked to mobilize additional resources to support the SERP implementation. Funding proposals on such topics as introduction of digital health services, distance education, expansion of women's entrepreneurship, engagement of youth and support to persons with disabilities were submitted to the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund, the UN Human Security Trust Fund and the UN Partnership fund on PRPD.

In Strategic Area 1 on Quality Data and Progress Monitoring, the UN continued promoting SDGs integration into the national policies working with the members of the National Working Group on SDGs. The UN advocated for integrating SDG indicators into the existing national programmes and plans as well as into the newly developing ones.

As a result of the engagement, the agreement was reached

to integrate **28 SDG indicators**

into **14 national policies**, including:

- The National Human Rights Action Plans
- Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH)
- Non-Communicable Diseases Strategies
- Early Childhood Development Strategy
- Nutrition Programme
- Civil Defense Programme
- Forest Programme
- Digital Economy Strategy, etc.

The UN supported Turkmenistan to reduce disaster risks by undertaking a wide variety of initiatives within the framework of Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations and the Government of Turkmenistan in coordination in emergency preparedness and response and Joint Action Plan 2020, including strengthening coordination and information sharing mechanisms, development and improvement of sector plans and methodology for emergency response, providing trainings and workshops on Disaster Risk reduction, emergency preparedness and emergency response procedures and contributing to SDGs 1, 3, 11, 13, 17.

In Strategic Area 2 on Quality, Inclusive Social Services, the UN's support in advancing a higher quality inclusive education has led to a certain progress in the pre-school, primary and secondary education.

Based on the latest MICS 2019 data, percentage of **five-year-old children** enrolled in the pre-primary education reached **47,6%**

The share of secondary school **Basics of Life Skills teachers** certified in comprehensive gender sensitive and age-appropriate reproductive health education also hit the 2020 target of **95%**

However, only partial data were reported, so some limited statistics is available on the UNICEF Research Centre's website aimed to track access to education for girls and boys, including children with disabilities.

The UN-Government cooperation within the Joint Programme on enhancing inclusive social services at the community level with financing from the Joint SDG Fund is successfully progressing with the active involvement of national partners. Despite the challenges and constraints caused by COVID-19 pandemic, the key deliverables planned for 2020 were achieved, so the SDG goals on social protection are being adequately moved forward.

45 community-based social workers were recruited and contracted by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection

trained by **10 national trainers**

placed to practice in all **5 regions** of the country and Ashgabat

Activities on improvement of legislation and revision of social work curriculum are underway to ultimately develop the community-based service delivery model.

Key programming adjustments were made as part of the UN's very proactive and adapting response to potential COVID-19 related challenges and tailoring its programmes to support the Government's preventive measures.

Under the technical guidance of WHO, the UN support to the Government resulted in elaboration of **sensible response measures to the COVID-19 pandemic** which included:

- improved preparedness of health care facilities
- health workers' capacity building
- technical guidance to strengthen coordination
- leadership and regulatory framework
- procurement of medical equipment

Most of the activities of the CPRP planned for 2020 were implemented across all its pillars. Despite the challenges faced due to the cancellation of all international flights affecting the procurement process, the UN together with the development partners invested over 2 million USD for procurement of various medical supplies, while the Government spent over 46 million USD for the COVID-19 response.

2 million USD for **medical supplies**

46 million USD for the **COVID-19 response**

In Strategic Area 3 on Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency, the UN continued the dialogue with the Government on defining the country's national determined contributions to implement the Paris Agreement. One of the milestones reached in 2020 was the adoption of the National Strategy and Law of Turkmenistan on Renewable Energy. The documents will further intensify activities to reach clean energy SDG indicators.

Furthermore, the development of several normative technical regulations and legal acts are underway including the Law of Turkmenistan «On Waste». The UN also supported the drafting of a National Strategy of Turkmenistan on waste management as another step towards sustainability. This was complemented through field research which contributed to the development of by-laws on land reclamation and increasing water and energy efficiency. The Building Codes to promote water use efficiency including Reclamation systems and structures and Anti-filtration lining from polyethylene (polymer) film were also developed and submitted for approval of the Ministry of Architecture and Construction.

Milestones reached in 2020:

- National Strategy and Law of Turkmenistan on Renewable Energy
- Law of Turkmenistan «On Waste»
- The Building Codes to promote water use efficiency
- 2020 Joint Action Plan signed to implement the 2019 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- agreement to establish the National Sendai Platform and its working group
- National law on the International Humanitarian Aid during emergencies

The UN and the Government successfully implemented the 2020 Joint Action Plan to implement the 2019 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the cooperation in DRR, emergency preparedness and response. The main breakthrough achieved in 2020 was the agreement of the Government to establish the National Sendai Platform and its working group. It will enable the UN to engage more actively with the Government in strengthening the national DRR system and practice along with the Sendai Framework requirements and in line with the Agenda 2030. Another UN achievement was the adoption of the National law on the International Humanitarian Aid during emergencies, which integrated many of the UN proposed suggestions.

To support the implementation of activities under Strategic Area 4 on Employment, Economic Diversification and Trade, the UN created employment opportunities for over **1000 young people**:

144 179 — 323 youth received formal vocational education

38 114 — 152 youth learned profession through apprenticeship

78 157 — 235 youth received online professional training

606 618 — 1,224 youth were employed with

- 911 self-emloyed
- 313 hired

78 111

- 189 people received work tools for self-employment
- 23 received equipment to start small business activities

A mobile app «Iş gözle» (Job search) was developed and launched

Within Strategic Area 5 on Governance and Rule of Law, the UN provided support to the Government to ensure human rights compliance and protection of vulnerable populations to mitigate the negative impact of the global pandemic in line with the principle of «leaving no one behind». The UN supported the Government in development of the national report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child as well as carried out mid-term review of the National Plan of Action for Realization of Children's rights in Turkmenistan for 2018-2022. The UN entities leading the implementation of the NHRAP 2016-2020 and NAP on Gender Equality (NAPGE) 2015-2020 conducted the final assessments of their implementation and shared the findings with the national stakeholders and other partners. The recommendations from those assessments fed into the development of new plans for the next five-year period. The new Plans also included the national response to recommendations from the UPR process, concluding observations of CESCR, CEDAW, CRC, CRPD, and ILO recommendations on forced labour. While the new NAPGE was endorsed in the end of 2020, the NHRAP 2021-2025 is awaiting its approval.

The NAPGE includes seven strategic areas:

- legislation
- gender-responsive healthcare
- equal access to education
- GBV prevention and response
- economic empowerment of women and girls
- advancing women's participation in political and social dimensions
- advancing institutional capacities

takes into account the socio-economic impact of the global pandemic on women and girls and aims to ensure that **no girl or woman** (including the ones with disabilities) **is left behind**.

Unlike the previous plan, the new one contains specific indicators against each strategic action and linkage to the relevant SDG indicators. The UN also supported the Government in the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) to End Statelessness (2019-2024), including through its expertise and support in the establishment of statelessness determination procedures (SDPs) and legal reform for statelessness prevention, as well as to obtain reliable data on the full extent of statelessness in the country through the 2022 national population census.

PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

Strategic Area 1

Quality Data and Progress Monitoring

OUTCOME 1

Quality data, aligned with international standards, is available to policy makers, legislators, and the interested public to monitor the major goals of national programmes, the post-2015 SDGs, UNPFD and to formulate new national strategies and programmes.

The United Nations continued to render assistance to the government agencies in implementing international standards and concepts in the areas of data collection, monitoring and reporting. In 2020, certain progress was made to enhance data quality, availability and transparency as well as further mainstreaming of SDGs in the national plans and programmes. Concrete steps and activities on the National SDG Database development were agreed with the national partners for further realization in 2021. The full text of the first **National Voluntary Review (VNR) 2019** was posted on the Government websites[4].

In the area of data for SDGs, the UNCT continuously highlighted that access to national data will allow UN and its partners in formulation of evidenced-based programs to support realization of the agreed priorities and the national COVID-19 response plans.

4 Official websites of Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan https://fineconomic.gov.tm/vnrt and State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan https://stat.gov.tm

The UN and IFIs had a joint meeting with the MFA to agree on the way forward to addressing obstacles to accessing statistical data. The meeting was conducive to improved data sharing in the frameworks of the PFD, CPRP and SERP.

In 2020, UNFPA and other UN agencies continued supporting relevant government institutions in preparation to **Census 2022** which sets the basis for almost all SDGs. The UN continued advocating for and advising on strengthening the state policies and practices to produce strategic population data for development planning and monitoring.

Another significant milestone achieved in 2020 was the **Survey on Health and Status of a Woman in the Family** conducted in the close collaboration of national entities with the UNFPA. The final report of the Survey is expected to be completed in the first half of 2021. The survey results will serve as baselines for several SDGs as well as for improvement of public policy in the field of gender equality and the protection of women's rights in accordance with the national development priorities and international obligations of Turkmenistan.

With the WHO technical support, a report on **SDG GAP in Turkmenistan** was developed. The report reflects national achievements in SDG 3 and progress in all health-related indicators.

The State Statistics Committee made another step to strengthening of the institutional, organizational and technical capacity by agreeing to participate in the **UNECE Global Statistical Assessment** in 2021 which is a unique opportunity for national statistics authorities to obtain a comprehensive picture of the overall state of development of national statistical systems.

UNDP worked together with the State Statistics Committee on introduction of the **System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008)** which is the latest version of the international statistical standard for the national accounts, adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC). This modern statistical framework will provide a comprehensive, consistent and flexible set of macroeconomic accounts for policymaking, analysis and research purposes. UNDP also supported SSC to conduct and complete survey on non-observed economy which is the vital aspect of the quality of the national accounts. Measuring of non-observed economy is important in evaluating macroeconomic aggregates to comply with international accounting standards and ensure exhaustive estimates of GDP. Capacity building and consultative support was also provided to SSC to help with elaboration of a satellite tourism account.

Within the activities to respond to COVID-19, UNDP in partnership with NGOs Yenme and Mashgala conducted a **rapid vulnerability assessment** covering almost 5,000 households. The assessment allowed collecting data on vulnerable populations and their vulnerabilities. 68% of the surveyed households indicated social transfers on disability as the main source of income. The results helped develop support measures for those population groups that were affected most.

In 2020 **MICS Survey 2019** was launched in collaboration with the State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan and with technical and financial support of UNICEF and UNFPA. It provides data for almost 33 SDG Indicators. The MICS report is available on the UNICEF website[5].

UNICEF initiated the process of compilation of data on situation of people and children with disabilities (PwD), based on the latest MICS results and data from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population, as well as the SSC. The results of the Survey will serve as a baseline for further Situation Analysis to be conducted in 2021, and a data source for the next report of the Government to the **Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**. Based on the Database of the Ministry of Labour, SSC with support of international experts, developed and selected the sample for the Survey. A number of national NGOs supporting PwDs were consulted to suggest areas for potential inclusion into the Questionnaires which the SSC, the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education are currently finalizing.

Another important area of cooperation of UNICEF and ILO with the State Statistics Committee is the preparation for the **Labour Force Survey**, that will include a COVID-19 related Module. Support will be provided to collect data through the Survey, that will help to understand how COVID-19 pandemic impacted the socio-economic wellbeing of the households in Turkmenistan and the adequacy of social assistance.

UNICEF supported the **WASH assessment** in 6 selected schools and provided insights for further planning in this area.

UNESCAP supported Results Group 1 to draft an analysis on LNOB principle, with the use of new MICS data and provided an insight into the potential impact of COVID-19 on those who might be left behind.

The UN agencies worked with the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry to further realize the **Digital Health Strategy**. Examples from other countries were shared for further consideration of the Ministry and activities in this area will be further expanded in the new cycle.

UNICEF and UNESCO continuously provide support on the development of **EMIS** – a system of people, technology, models, methods, processes, procedures, rules and regulations that together provide education leaders, decision-makers and managers at all levels with a comprehensive, integrated set of relevant, reliable, unambiguous and timely data and information to support them in fulfilling their responsibilities. Despite the difficulties associated with the development of an EMIS during the times of emergencies, such as COVID-19, it is expected to provide an opportunity for establishing a better functioning EMIS than was in place before the crisis.

One of the noteworthy milestones related to DRR area achieved in 2020 is that the Government of Turkmenistan started reporting the national progress in implementation of the **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction** using the online **Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM)**. Turkmenistan will be able to assess and track its progress in reducing disaster risks according to the SFM indicators. The customization process of the «DesInventar Sendai» software configuration has been initiated for national data collection form for losses and further works on introduction of appropriate indicators and disaggregation categories will be implemented in 2021.

The State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan implemented **41% of recommendations** of the 2015 Adapted Global Assessment of the National Statistical System. A number of initiatives supported this progress and among them is the UNDP support for transition to the SNA 2008.

5 https://mics.unicef.org/surveys

Strategic Area 2

Quality, Inclusive Social Services

OUTCOME 2

Preschool, primary and secondary education services are of higher quality, in line with international standards, and with priority given to inclusive education

In 2020, the UN continued to promote access to and quality of early learning for all children through expanding child-friendly principles to preschool, pre-primary and primary education. Following the adoption (in late 2019) of the **National Early Childhood Development (ECD) Strategy** for 2020-2025, technical support to the Government was focused on developing the operational mechanism for implementing the Strategy. As a result, the Action Plan and Monitoring & Evaluation Framework under the ECD Strategy were developed with support by UNICEF. Importantly, an inter-ministerial Working group was established, and the joint decree/provision was signed between the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Medical Industry and Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to set up a cross-sectoral coordination mechanism for early childhood development policy in the country.

The Government adopted the «Program for improving the activities of preschool institutions in the field of early development and pre-primary preparation of children in Turkmenistan for 2020-2025» which builds on the UNICEF supported costed operational plan on introducing one-year quality primary preparation for all 5 years old children in Turkmenistan.

Technical support to the Ministry of Education in reviewing the existing curricula and teaching methods in primary and secondary education resulted in of the formulation of specific recommendations and follow up actions towards development of a **competency-based education system**. This is an important achievement given that the new UNSDCF, starting from 2021, will make a specific emphasis on promoting competency-based approach in education in line with the best international standards including international standards on curriculum, inclusive teaching and learning methodologies, and learning outcome measurement.

As part of the COVID-19 response, UNICEF procured personal hygiene products for targeted schools in provinces and capital Ashgabat. Due to high demand, **60,000 posters on respiratory etiquette and handwashing** were re-printed to support hygiene promotion in primary healthcare facilities and schools all over the country.

OUTCOME 3

"I know how to conduct need assessments of people in difficult life situations that we will further use for creating individual support plans. It is very important to take an individual approach in social work"

"It is important to make our society inclusive, so that vulnerable people will have more opportunity to participate in life of their communities"

Discovering a new helping profession – a specialists of social work.Who are they? Read more here

The social protection system is ready to provide inclusive quality community-based support services

Following the approval of the Joint Programme on improvement of the social protection system through the introduction of inclusive quality community-based social services in late 2019, the partnering UN agencies, namely UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, and UNODC, started the cooperation with the leading national partner – Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population, with a view of introducing a new model of social services at the community level accompanied by related legislative reviews and capacity building of a national social service workforce. Among the important planned outcomes of the Joint Programme are new models of inclusive community-based services for children at risk of separation from parents, children without parental care, children with disabilities, youth at risk, women facing gender-based violence, people with disabilities and older persons in need of support with basic everyday care.

In partnership with the public organization «Yenme», UNDP supported the most affected community members under the current pandemic situation. Under the Rapid Response Facility grant allocated to tackle consequences of the global pandemic, several thousand food and hygiene parcels (13,600 support packages) were purchased and delivered to vulnerable people in all five regions of Turkmenistan and the city of Ashgabat.

IOM supported vulnerable migrants stranded abroad due to lockdowns because of the global pandemic and issued a one-time financial aid to over one hundred students from Turkmenistan - part-time students and students who graduated from the university in 2020 and were waiting to return to Turkmenistan.

OUTCOME 4

The people of Turkmenistan, especially vulnerable groups, enjoy better coverage of quality health care services focusing on women and child health, nutrition, NCDs, Multiple Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDRTB), early detection and early prevention of diseases

UNDP · World Health Organization · UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime · UNFPA · unicef

While no cases of COVID-19 have been officially reported, the Government and the UN were quick in developing and implementing the **Country Preparedness and Response Plan to Acute Infectious Diseases (CPRP)**, which included extensive technical support, critical risk communications and procurement of equipment and other goods related to the prevention of infection spread in Turkmenistan. The CPRP was approved by the Decree of the President of Turkmenistan on 22 May 2020. It was prepared in response to the call of the UN Secretary General to develop coordinated actions at the country and global levels to counter coronavirus infection within the framework of uniform standards for such plans. In 2020 procurement of supplies for the implementation of the Plan has exceeded US$ 48 million including deliveries by respective UN agencies, Government bodies and other development partners. WHO has led the work of the UN on providing technical support to the MoH in the response across the different pillars of the CPRP, while UNICEF has led the efforts of the UN on risk communication and outreach to the population with prevention messaging, including through national TV and media.

The UN agencies continued their long-standing support in strengthening **TB prevention and control** in the country as well as diagnosis and treatment of TB patients in 2020. UNDP mobilized funding from the Global Fund to support the country with detection and treatment of extensively drug-resistant TB. The Government of Turkmenistan fully met the co-financing requirement of the Global Fund: in 2020 the domestic funding for TB increased, as well as for HIV testing, treatment of viral hepatitis C and safe blood.

WHO provided technical assistance and support in development of the **National Strategic Plan of TB services** for 2021-2025. The Plan has been developed and submitted together with the assessment of TB services for approval and adoption. The National Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan provided patient adherence support to TB patients as well as training sessions to nearly one thousand patients and their families.

The UN continued rendering support in NCD prevention and control, based on the achievements of previous programs in the areas of tobacco control, nutrition, physical activity, mental health and others. UNICEF and WHO provided technical support in development of the **National Programme on Healthy Nutrition of the Population** for 2020-2025 and its Action Plan that aims at strengthening health and preventing nutrition-related non-communicable diseases (NCD). The Programme will support Turkmenistan's efforts in reorienting the health system to prevention, social mobilization, and close inter-sectoral interaction to address the issue of healthy nutrition of the population. The coherence of policies and strategies in health care, education, social support, agriculture, food industry, food security and all other relevant sectors are key points of the Programme.

In 2020 the Government and UNDP signed a landmark agreement for support in implementation of the **national NCD control programme** in 2021-2022 by reviewing the national clinical protocols, strengthening the national procurement and supply chain, and procurement of quality assured cost-efficient NCD medicines. In addition, WHO supported the Ministry of Health with the strengthening the mental health service through the integration of the mental health into the primary health care level.

Adolescent reproductive health (ARH) services were improved through UNFPA support on updating knowledge and skills in the area of administration and management of ARH services, standardized clinical care, and psychology counselling. In order to prevent stock outs in **family planning service delivery points** UNFPA procured all three methods of contraception on the Ministry of Health funds. UNFPA contributed to better quality of **reproductive health services** through development, publication, and distribution of **38 clinical protocols** as well as through procurement of medical equipment. Order of the Ministry of Health on comprehensive response to **cervical cancer** was developed with support of UNFPA based on the Global strategy on Elimination of Cervical Cancer released at the Global Health Assembly 2020.

Despite COVID-19 related constraints, the respective UN agencies delivered **services/medicines for TB, HIV testing, blood transfusion, treatment of viral hepatitis C, vaccines, oxygen concentrators, humanitarian cargo** and other supplies as well as reproductive health support including medical diagnostic equipment and contraceptives. In addition, technical assistance on adolescents' reproductive health, lessons for school children on reproductive health, gender equality and life skills have been provided. Technical support was provided in developing an analysis and a roadmap of a current health financing system and human resources for health strategy.

UNODC conducted a series of **webinars for the professionals in the field of education, healthcare and law-enforcement** working with vulnerable youth to strengthen their parenting skills during the COVID-19 pandemics and mitigate its impact on their families and youth they work with. UNODC procured personal protective equipment for the State Border Service of Turkmenistan to ensure the personal safety of law enforcement officers at border crossing points who are at the forefront of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strategic Area 3

Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency

OUTCOME 5

The national policy, legislative and institutional frameworks are aligned to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to promote sustainable practices on energy efficiency, the use of renewables, urban development and waste management

The UN continued to act as the lead strategic partner in strengthening the national legislative and institutional frameworks to promote energy efficiency, use of alternative energy sources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and waste management.

After the adoption of the National Climate Change Strategy in 2019, UNDP and UNEP joined their efforts to initiate preparation of the **4th National Communication to the UNFCCC and development of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**.

Furthermore, UNDP supported the development of the **National Strategy on Renewable Energy** adopted in December 2020 and **Law of Turkmenistan on Renewable Energy** pending ratification in 2021.

UNDP also started developing a number of normative technical guides and regulatory legal acts to the **Law of Turkmenistan «On Waste»** and supports the development of the draft National Strategy of Turkmenistan on waste management as another step towards sustainability.

The UN agencies worked together with the national partners including the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, State Committee for Water Management as well as local farmers to promote efficient land, water and energy practices in agriculture. Based on the findings conducted on the research site of 145 hectares in Geokdepe owned by the Water Design Institute «Turkmensuvylymtaslama» of the State Committee for Water Management, young scientists and post graduate students prepared **«Recommendations for the design of drip irrigation systems for vineyards, orchards and forest plantations»**. Furthermore, research activities carried out on the pilot site contributed to the preparation of by-laws in land reclamation and increasing water and energy efficiency. **Building Codes** to promote water use efficiency including Reclamation systems and structures and Anti-filtration lining from polyethylene (polymer) film were also developed and await approval of the Ministry of Architecture and Construction.

UNECE launched a feasibility study on **Strategic environmental assessment (SEA)** with an objective to strengthen capacities of environmental and planning sectoral authorities about benefits, principles and procedures of SEA, and enhanced co-operation within and across the Central Asian countries.

Read the story on how you should sort and recycle waste

> **"Why we want people to stop calling waste a «trash»? Because when you think about waste as trash, you intuitively want to throw it into the landfill. Trash is something that you don't need. Whereas «waste» is something that was generated because you didn't use your resources to the full capacity. Waste is a result of abundance of the materials. Considering this, waste must not be trashed, it must be recycled, reused and reduced."**

OUTCOME 6

The national policy, legislative and institutional frameworks are responsive to climate change issues by promoting climate resilience, adaptation, climate risk management and disaster risk reduction measures at sector and community level

UNDP helped the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection to modernize equipment for air and soil quality assessment and control. Environment monitoring specialists of laboratories of the Environmental Control Service and its regional departments improved their capacities for **effective monitoring of ecological conditions**. Regular waste collection and seedling planting campaigns take place in Ashgabat and its surroundings by the UNDP and national partners moving forward the environment agenda.

UNDP continued strengthening the country's **capacity to assess seismic risks**, as well as to prevent and **respond to potential earthquakes** and associated cascading emergencies. Specialized modern equipment for recording seismic vibrations to carry out an engineering survey of buildings was delivered. The equipment can conduct engineering survey of existing buildings for assessment of their technical condition from the point of view of seismic resistance, including an assessment of the seismic resistance deficit. The joint UNDP and Institute of Seismology and Atmospheric Physics project conducted training for local specialists to improve

"When we started our work in Lebap and Dashoguz regions, we have prioritized consultations with the farmers of the selected farmer's unions. It was revealed that for some farmers growing crops and receiving a good yields from household plots were challenging, while others did not have a problem with harvesting, but could not store the harvested crops when it was excessive. As a result, people relied on restrained traditional sources of income under the climate change conditions, without considering alternative ways of obtaining income"

Read how climate change makes agriculture a very challenging activity in Dashoguz and Lebap velayats here.

the national capacity to assess and better prepare for seismic risks through engineering survey of representative types of buildings in Ashgabat, to assess their actual seismic resistance.

UNDP supported the local farmers in 6 farmers' unions and 2 cattle farms in Lebap and Dashoguz regions to adapt to the climate change conditions such as drought and flooding, desertification and rapidly changing weather conditions and find alternative sources of income. As a long-term impact, the implemented actions ensure **resilience and sustainable growth** at farmers' union level in above two regions and economic support to the rural households via targeted grants provided for community-based adaptation solutions as part of improvement of climate related activities of SERP.

UNDRR continued implementation of the Central Asia Initiative on Strengthening disaster resilience and accelerating implementation of **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Asia** 2019-2022. The Memorandum of Understanding on emergency preparedness, response and DRR signed by the Government and UN in 2019 paved the ground for the Joint Action Plan 2020 which included major hazards mapping, support to early warning systems, improving emergency preparedness and response, exchange of information and coordination. The Joint Action Plan 2021 was adopted in December 2020 with a key milestone to be reached – establishment of the **National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**.

Resilience of more than 2,500 farmers was strengthened throughout the country (Dashoguz, Lebap, Ahal) through **local adaptation measures to climate change**. FAO supported residents of Nohur, Karakum (both Ahal province) and Gurbansoltan eje (Dashoguz province) settlements to adapt to changing environment conditions through the establishment of forest and sand nurseries, construction of sardops (water reservoir) for collecting and preserving rainwater, demo production of licorice as biological measures to reduce soil salinity, planting juniper and carcass trees for reforestation, training on best practices in integrated natural resource management and sustainable land management, publication and dissemination among the beneficiaries of the brochures/flyers on efficient INRM and SLM technologies (pasture management, drip irrigation, soil salinity management, etc.).

Strategic Area 4

Economic Diversification, Employment and Trade

OUTCOME 7

Strategies and simplified regulations are in place to promote high quality inclusive employment through sustainable economic diversification

The Government and the UN joined their efforts to develop and implement the **Immediate Socio-Economic Response Plan to Acute Infectious Disease Pandemic (SERP)**. Implementation of the Plan was closely monitored by respective government bodies and major development partners, such as WHO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and other UN agencies.

UNDP, UNCTAD and the MFA of Turkmenistan signed MOU on co-operation and assistance in implementation of the **Single Window for Export-Import Operations in Turkmenistan**. The Memorandum is aimed at strengthening the collaboration between the parties by starting the project on Single Window for Export-Import Operations. Within the joint project the concerned parties will intensify digitization, simplify and harmonize business processes for inter-agency partnership, and strengthen Turkmenistan's position in the global economic space. In cooperation with UNDP and UNCTAD, an **integrated customs information system ASYCUDA World** was introduced and developed within the State Customs Service of Turkmenistan. The system will serve as a main platform for the phased implementation of a Single Window for Export-Import operations in the banking, trade and transport sectors. The Single Window will allow importers and exporters to electronically submit all regulatory documents in one portal, saving them time and reducing the costs of transactions. ASYCUDA World will electronically link customs clearance with all other regulatory procedures, including the request, delivery and monitoring of certificates, licenses and supporting documents needed to bring goods into and out of the country.

"We do not do business, we serve the people"

Read the story of Aman who started his business here

In the framework of the regional program **Strengthening Community Resilience and Regional Cooperation for Prevention of Violent Extremism in Central Asia** funded by the Government of Japan, UNDP created employment opportunities for **1294 young people**:

527 707

6 pilot cities

These opportunities include:

- **consultations** on employment provided by employment departments
- **vocational education** in formal schools
- **apprenticeship** with private mentors
- online job skill trainings
- **support** to self-employment and opening new small businesses by providing instruments and equipment

85% of these young people were able to **get a job**, find self-employment or started own small businesses

additional **60 jobs** were created by the new businesses opened with the project support

a **mobile app** assisting in job search was developed and launched in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population

The Master's program in digital management was introduced in the Civil Service Academy. The master's program reflects the main provisions of the **Concept for the Development of the Digital Economy in Turkmenistan**, aimed at increasing scientific and technical efficiency, as well as economic profitability of research, enhancing international cooperation in this field, and intellectual support for digital transformations in the economy and in the field of public service.

The UN agencies including ILO, UNDP, UNECE continued support in strengthening integration to the world economy, facilitation of international trade and addressing the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemics.

The National Foreign Economic Relations Bank was nominated as the Bank of the Year 2020 in Turkmenistan as a result of **International Financial Reporting Standard 9 (IFRS 9)** implementation within the joint project with UNDP. Online negotiations were initiated on the accession of Turkmenistan to the World Bank «Doing Business» project.

To boost intra-regional and international trade in the Central Asia region, International Trade Centre (ITC), with financial support from the European Union, launched new regional project in Turkmenistan. In 2020, a review of the new **Foreign Trade Strategy of Turkmenistan** for 2021-2030 was conducted as well as Turkmenistan's suggested approach for WTO accession was assessed. ITC also facilitated the establishment of an online **trade facilitation portal (TFP)** and strengthened capacities of national experts to effectively operate the TFP. To improve SMEs' capacities to comply with cross-border requirements, a draft outline for export management curriculum was developed and a coaching manual for SMEs was localized. In addition, a survey was conducted to assess the challenges faced by women in cross-border trade, and to collect data on usual practices and perception of border officials on gender issues, with participation of over 200 individual entrepreneurs (including women), SMEs and national partner organizations.

Strategic Area 5

Governance and Rule of Law

OUTCOME 8

State institutions implement and monitor laws, national programmes, and strategies, in a participatory manner and in line with the country's human rights commitments

The UN agencies continued supporting the Government to meet the country's international human rights commitments. UNICEF supported preparation and submission of the national state party report to the **Committee on the Rights of the Child**. More than 150 children from all over Turkmenistan took part in the completion of the national CRC report and presented their ideas about what interests them and what they would like to improve in the future. An analysis of the national legislation was carried out for compliance with the principle of respecting the interests of the child. Recommendations were given on amendments to the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code, the Law on Health Protection, etc. Furthermore, a mid-term review of the **National Action Plan (NAP) on Realisation of the Children's Rights** 2018-2022 was carried out with participation of the interdepartmental working group including regional representatives on the implementation of international obligations in the field of human rights and humanitarian law, with the coordination of the Institute of State, Law and Democracy.

As part of the **National Action Plan (NAP) to End Statelessness (2019-2024)**, UNHCR rendered support for enaction of statelessness determination procedures (SDPs) and legal reform for statelessness prevention, as well as to obtain reliable data on the full extent of statelessness in the country through the 2022 national population census. Following UNHCR's and partner advocacy and support, a new law on **Civil Status Acts** entered into force on July 1st guaranteeing universal birth registration, including for children born to undocumented and parents of undetermined nationality, therefore, preventing childhood statelessness. In addition, Turkmenistan made progress towards eradication of statelessness through granting nationality in De-

cember 2020 to 2,580 stateless persons of 19 different ethnicities (approx. 60% are women). In addition, the civil society partners implementing the statelessness identification and reduction project identified 367 stateless persons and successfully assisted 306 persons in 2020.

The UN agencies provided advisory support to respective Government bodies engaged in drafting the second **National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP**) of Turkmenistan 2021-2025, National Action Plan on Gender Equality 2021-2025, and **National Youth Policy Development** 2021-2025. Furthermore, with support from UNFPA, the standard operating procedures (SOPs) on addressing gender-based violence and model law on domestic violence were developed. These documents will ensure implementation of international obligations of Turkmenistan in the areas of human rights and international humanitarian law.

UNDP continued its work to strengthen capacity of representatives of the **Interdepartmental Commission on Human Rights** in enforcing Turkmenistan's international obligations on human rights and in preparing national periodic reports to UN treaty bodies through a series of workshops and consultation. Technical workshops with the international expert and the Working Group on the preparation of the periodic report on **UN Convention against Torture (UNCAT)** and development of the new Common Core Document were also held.

With the support of UNDP, assessment of the **NHRAP 2016-2020** was conducted. The assessment was held in participatory and comprehensive manner involving different stakeholders from UN agencies, state institutions, civil society organizations and bilateral donors. The results of the assessment and lessons learned were presented to the Government and international partners. Its recommendations informed the development of the NHRAP 2021-2025. The draft of the NHRAP was submitted for approval of the Government.

The UN agencies continued strengthening institutional capacity of the Ombudsman's Office. UNDP continued support to the Office in building capacities, including the process of **Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)** accreditation. UNDP facilitated a dialog between the Ombudsperson and the Asia-Pacific Forum (APF) of National Human Rights Institutions to strengthen capacity towards GANHRI accreditation.

UNICEF and OHCHR conducted an orientation workshop on the role of the Ombudsman during a Global Pandemic, especially in assisting migrant families and children with disabilities, as well as conducted a workshop for the Ombudsman's Office in preparing an alternative report to the CRC.

In partnership with the Office of the Ombudsman and with the participation of representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs from the velayats, a seminar was held, and further actions were proposed to expand work in the field of juvenile justice for representatives of law enforcement agencies, the Supreme Court, the Adalat Ministry, the Central Bank, etc.

Upon Turkmenistan's ratification of the **ILO Tripartite Consultation** (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144[6]) on 9 September 2019, ILO has been supporting the Government, workers' and employers' organizations in their efforts to prepare for the Convention's entry into force on 9 September 2020.

UNODC conducted a series of trainings for law enforcement authorities on illicit drug and precursors trafficking, terrorism prevention, asset recovery, Customs controls, strategic trade controls, relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and their implementation. For instance, in 2020, UNODC trained more than 80 Customs officers in 8 training programs and procured specialized equipment for the **State Customs Service** on pre-arrival information exchange under the Container Control Programme. In 2020, UNODC conducted 3 expert meetings on prevention of Trafficking in persons in Turkmenistan with the key stakeholders and organized Inter-agency coordination meeting on forensics as well as online training on the accreditation process, internal audits and management review for 20 forensic experts of the Centre for Criminological Research under the Ministry of Interior of Turkmenistan and the Central Forensics Bureau under the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan.

IOM supported the Government's initiative to take part in the voluntary review and submit its report on the implementation of the **Global Compact on Migration. Preparation** for next voluntary review in March 2021 is underway within the UNECE and ESCAP assistance.

6 Convention No. 144 promotes application of the principle of social dialogue, bringing together governments, employers and workers' organizations through the vehicle of tripartite consultations to develop, implement and promote international labour standards governing all aspects of the world of work. The Convention supports the normative work of the ILO by requiring effective tripartite consultation in relation to the development, adoption and supervision of international labour standards. In addition, Recommendation No. 152, which is the companion instrument to Convention No. 144 provides guidance in relation to tripartite consultations concerning ILO activities at the national level.

SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA

With a view to promote establishment of national mechanisms for coordinated and coherent SDG financing in the country, the UNCT introduced the concept of **Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF)** to the Government. Given the growing importance of this tool especially in the context of global pandemic, the Government expressed interest in learning more on mechanisms of its operation. Responding to the interest, the UNCT in partnership with UNDESA and the Ministry of finance and economy organized the International Seminar on **«Financing SDG implementation: the role of Integrated National Financing Frameworks»** at the time of an unprecedented global crisis caused by the COVID-19 in May 2020 which gathered ministers of finance/economy of countries participating in the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), high-level representatives of UN entities and International Financial Institutions. The event facilitated dialogue and experience sharing among SPECA countries on immediate measures to mitigate the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic and link these measures to longer term goals on SDG financing through INFF. The participants recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic was casting serious implications for Sustainable Development and financing the SDGs in SPECA countries. They committed to take all necessary policy actions to address the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic and to provide targeted social protection support to vulnerable populations as well as address structural weaknesses such as the need for better financing of the health sector, education, social protection and addressing inequalities.

The UNCT advocacy for the establishment of INFF mechanism resulted in the December 2020 **CF Joint Steering Committee** accepting a decision to jointly develop a INFF concept in Turkmenistan. Active engagement with the relevant government bodies in this initiative as well as a series of workshops and capacity-building activities are planned in 2021. Moreover, the development of the INFF concept in Turkmenistan was included as one of the response measures to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Macroeconomic pillar of the Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP).

Over the year, the UNCT has been able to **strengthen partnerships** with such UN entities as UNDESA on issues of financing for SDGs; ESCAP, UNECE, CAREC Institute on connectivity issues, IFIs (ADB, WB, EBRD and IMF) on financing development projects and in implementation of SERP, UNCTAD on introduction of Single Window services to advance digitization processes in the country, and with local NGOs on the delivery of services to the vulnerable groups. UNCT partnered with a number of national entities (Central Bank, Foreign Economic Relations Bank, Ministry of Finance and Economy) to promote financing for SDGs agenda, with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, other ministries and a number of NGOs on the delivery of social services. In December 2020, the UN entities in the country were able to sign a number of MoUs with the Government on co-financing (UNDP, UNFPA) and Annual Work Plans with the relevant ministries.

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

The UN Country Team has been into the second year of the implementation of the UN **Development System reform**, aimed at the strengthening collaboration and improving the effectiveness of the UN support to the country to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The UN Resident Coordinator and her Office has earned the **recognition of the Government** and of the UN entities as an impartial entity that was able to bring all UN entities, development partners and national stakeholders together for the realization of the program objectives and for formulating response to emerging challenges.

The UN Resident Coordinator has been instrumental in fostering closer **collaboration within the UN Country Team** and development actors and ensuring the coordinated engagement with the Government throughout the year. This was evidenced by the increasing requests from the Government to the RC Office to support in organization of Government-led dialogues on issues of priority to the country, as well as from the UN entities and development partners to advocate or initiate discussions with the national partners on issues impeding the delivery of efficient support in the country.

The inclusive UN-Government-Development Partners discussions during the development and implementation of the **Country Preparedness and Response Plan and of the Immediate Socio-Economic Response Plan to COVID-19**, the **International Seminar on Financing SDG implementation: the role of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF)**, organized by the RC Office in partnership with UNDESA, UNDP and Ministry of Finance and Economy (May 2020), as well as the **Central Asia dialogue on strengthening transport connectivity in the SPECA region and beyond in the era of COVID-19** (September 2020) realized in partnership with UNECE, ESCAP and UN Office of the High Representative for the LLDC, and UNRCs in the SPECA region, Georgia and Turkey are bright examples of how the UN reform agenda was operationalized at the country level.

The new UNCT configuration formed as a result of signing the **Cooperation Framework (CF)** includes 19 UN entities willing to participate in the CF implementation. It has grown two-fold as compared to the size of the UNCT in the previous UNDAF cycle, thus showing that more expertise will be coming from the wider UN system not necessarily having country presence.

Identifying strategic areas of joint cooperation in Turkmenistan for the next five years

UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, developed their country programme documents in line with the strategic objectives and stated outcomes of the CF 2021-2025. This ensured overall alignment with the strategic priorities of the five-year cooperation framework, as well as facilitated a smooth process of the development of **Joint Work Plans** by the five CF Results Groups, which are co-chaired by the Heads of UN Entities and the Heads of Department of the relevant government entities.

The UNCT focus has now turned to increasing inter-agency efforts in engaging with the Government in implementing the **2030 Agenda**. The area of data and evidence generation remains a priority and UNCT continued its joint advocacy with IFIs for ensuring access to data with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the relevant national ministries, and its work to build national awareness of Turkmenistan's ranking in various international databases (UNESCAP, UNDESA, Human Development Report and Global SDG Index), share national data on SDG indicators with the custodian UN agencies and advocacy for the establishment of the national **SDG database** with the national **SDG Working Group**. In addition, the UNCT defined common UN priorities for engagement with the **Inter-Ministerial Commission on implementation of Turkmenistan's international obligations in the area of human rights**, which is a critical platform for regular engagement on human rights. Similarly, the implementation of the **Joint Action Plan under the MoU on emergency preparedness** is another example of the common UN approach to addressing the development challenges in the country.

An important milestone for further promoting successful inter-agency collaboration was the implementation of the **Joint Programme on community-based social services** funded by the Joint SDG Fund.

Despite the challenges and constraints caused by COVID-19 pandemic, the main achievements in 2020 include: hiring 45 **community-based social workers** by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, training of ten national trainers placed to practice in all 5 regions of the country and Ashgabat; a comprehensive **legislative review** undertaken and preliminary proposals for amendments to legislation shared with the Mejlis and key ministries; a draft **social work curriculum** being developed with the goal to be introduced for teaching in September 2021. **Service**

specifications for specialised social services were drafted based on understanding of gaps in services identified through inventory of existing social services. A common understanding of social work and community based social services among key government decision-makers is emerging along with consensus on the design of the community-based service delivery model.

In addition, there has been a strong push on pursuing joint fund-raising opportunities, and as a result of close inter-agency collaboration, including with the Government, the UNCT in 2020 submitted seven Joint programme proposals (on PFM reform, on creation of national SDG investment fund; Digital health, Distance learning and digital education, Online business registry and women entrepreneurship, support to PwDs and promotion of human security) to the Joint SDG Fund, COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, UN PRPD and UNHSTF. Funding approval has been received from the UN Human Security Trust Fund for a joint Programme on raising awareness and engaging the youth to mitigate the multi-dimensional risks of the global pandemic, which was presented to national partners. Launch of the joint Programme is expected in May/June 2021.

In terms of joint support to national policy development, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, and RCO accompanied the development of a national evidence-based youth policy strategy. The UN supported the government in establishing the Working Group on Youth Policy, the analysis of the State Programme on Youth Policy for 2015-2020 and the design of the State Programme on Youth Policy for 2021-2025. National capacities were built in youth engagement mechanisms in policy cycle and best practices in youth policy development, implementation and monitoring.

Generally speaking, the leadership exercised by the UN Resident Coordinator, the readiness for collaboration demonstrated by the UNCT entities, the established discussion platforms and mutual accountability mechanisms existing within UNCT have ensured seamless implementation of the UN reform on the ground and strengthened the UNCT cohesion as well as coherence of UN programs of support.

COMMUNICATING AS ONE

The UN Communication Group in Turkmenistan played an important role in communicating the UN priorities such as the launch of Decade of Action, observance of UN days, including UN75 campaign, and of course COVID-19 risk communication. A new cohort of SDG Ambassadors was identified, started their work and joined the efforts for the realization of Decade of Action.

Within its COVID-19 risk communication efforts UNCG reached out to the general public through national media by producing hygiene promotion videos, providing media briefings for journalists on risk communication and community engagement, developing information materials on handwashing and sneezing/coughing for schools, providing specific information for adolescents, parents, pregnant and lactating women, and elderly people available on online platforms to promote healthy and responsible behavior at home and in the community.

The UNCT joined the global #UN75 campaign through the number of initiatives as lectures to University students, online dialogues, number of articles on local media, and online contests engaging a popular Turkmen blogger and young SDG Ambassadors.

To mark the 75th anniversary of the United Nations «Reaffirming our Commitment to Confronting COVID-19 through Effective Partnerships» the UNCT also launched an online public information campaign to highlight the joint efforts to combat the global pandemic, mitigate its consequences, and advocate for building back better for inclusive sustainable development of Turkmenistan.

In addition, throughout 2020, the UNCT organized a number of online outreach events dedicated to UN international observances and campaigns, including:

- the Human Rights Day
- Holocaust Remembrance Day
- International Women's Day
- #ErkeklerHem (#MenEngage) campaign within the 16 Days of Activism
- International Children's Day

as well as the Government led activities as exhibitions, conferences and briefings.

EVALUATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

1 The UN maintains a good dialog with the Government on importance of SDG indicators, reporting of national data to global databases and further integration of the SDGs into the national development programmes.

2 The UN will continue supporting the Government in concrete target setting and significant integration of SDGs into sectoral programmes and regular national data reporting to international databases. Development of the national SDG database is still ongoing despite the support provided since 2019. Besides strengthening of the data systems, it is also crucial to continue strengthening the capacity of professionals to use data effectively in strategic decision-making.

3 Furthermore, the 2019 VNR data is still not available in the global UN datasets which therefore leads to an inaccurate reflection of the achievements of the country towards its sustainable development. The issue of availability of quality data became even more critical in times of national efforts to prevent COVID-19 related risks, and the lack of quality data affects both the effectiveness and timeliness of assistance in successful implementation of the joint UN-Government COVID-19 response plans.

4 To address the data challenges, the UN will continue to be proactive in uniting efforts and resources of the UN agencies to maximize the impact and ensure better results in promoting data transparency and availability for development planning and the implementation of SDGs.

5 One of the interventions will be institutional strengthening and professional capacity building of the State Statistics Committee and respective national authorities in terms of effective use of data in strategic decision-making. As part of this work, support will be continued in establishment of the national SDG data platform with posted VNR 2019 data as an initial step to ensure long-term solutions both for the SDG monitoring and beyond. The State Statistics Committee will be also supported in preparation and participation in the UNECE Global Statistical Assessment in 2021.

A number of assessments and surveys were initiated and successfully completed in 2020 including:

- Survey on health and status of a woman in the family
- WASH assessment of several schools
- Survey on non-observed economy, situation of people and children with disabilities
- final assessments of the NHRAP 2016-2020
- NAP on Gender Equality (NAPGE) 2015-2020
- finalizations of the MICS 6

This evidence generation work will be continued in 2021 through support of respective national partners in preparation to national surveys, analyses, reviews and, most importantly, Census 2022 which is critical to development partners' strategic planning and decisions about supporting the Government's policies, investments in socio-economic sectors, including service provision, and responding to emerging population dynamics.

In addition, the UN will take the opportunity of new sectoral programmes and strategies to systematically integrate the SDG indicators and targets and, most importantly, discuss policy solutions and scenarios that will lead to achievement of the targets.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The overall required and available resources for UNPFD implementation in 2020 are shown in the graph on the right. An important aspect to mention is the fact that a large amount of the financial resources and activities were reoriented to implement the COVID-19 response measures during the year.

Disaggregation of the resources spent for implementation of the PFD by SDGs, Sources of funding, geography, as well as the implementing partners are shown below.

Figure 3 **Visualization of the available resources and expenditures in 2020**

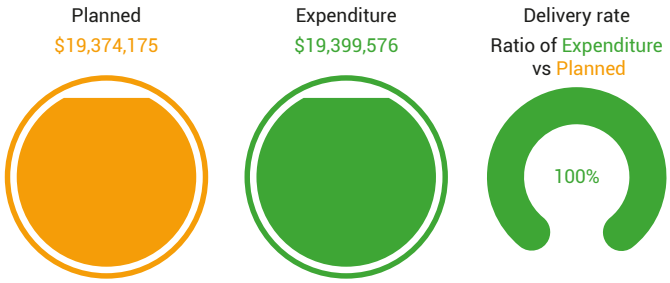


Figure 4 **Resources spent in 2020 (disaggregated by SDGs, Sources of funding and Implementing partners)**

Source: UNINFO

A more precise disaggregation of the resources channelled to implementation of the 2016-2020 UNPFD is shown below. The largest contributions made by the UNCT were channelled to the 3rd SDG, namely Good health, and well-being.

Considering the status of Turkmenistan as an upper-middle-income country, the major contributor in terms of funding of the UNPFD was the Government of Turkmenistan. See the figure below, reflecting the large scale of financing of the PFD by the host government mapped against SDGs and beneficiaries.

Figure 5 **UNPFD funding disaggregated by SDGs, 2020**

Figure 6 **The Government cost-sharing as a largest source of funding the 2016-2020 UNPFD**

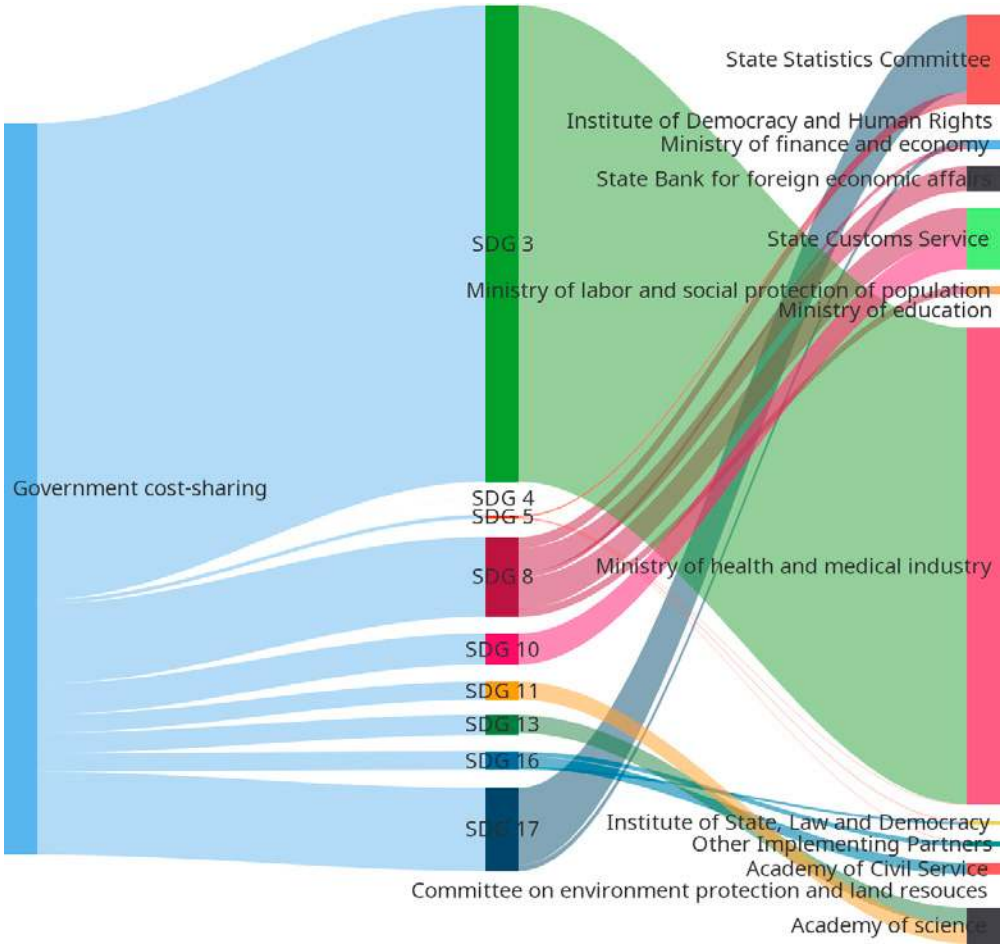


Figure 7 **Resources flows by source/UN agency/implementing partner**

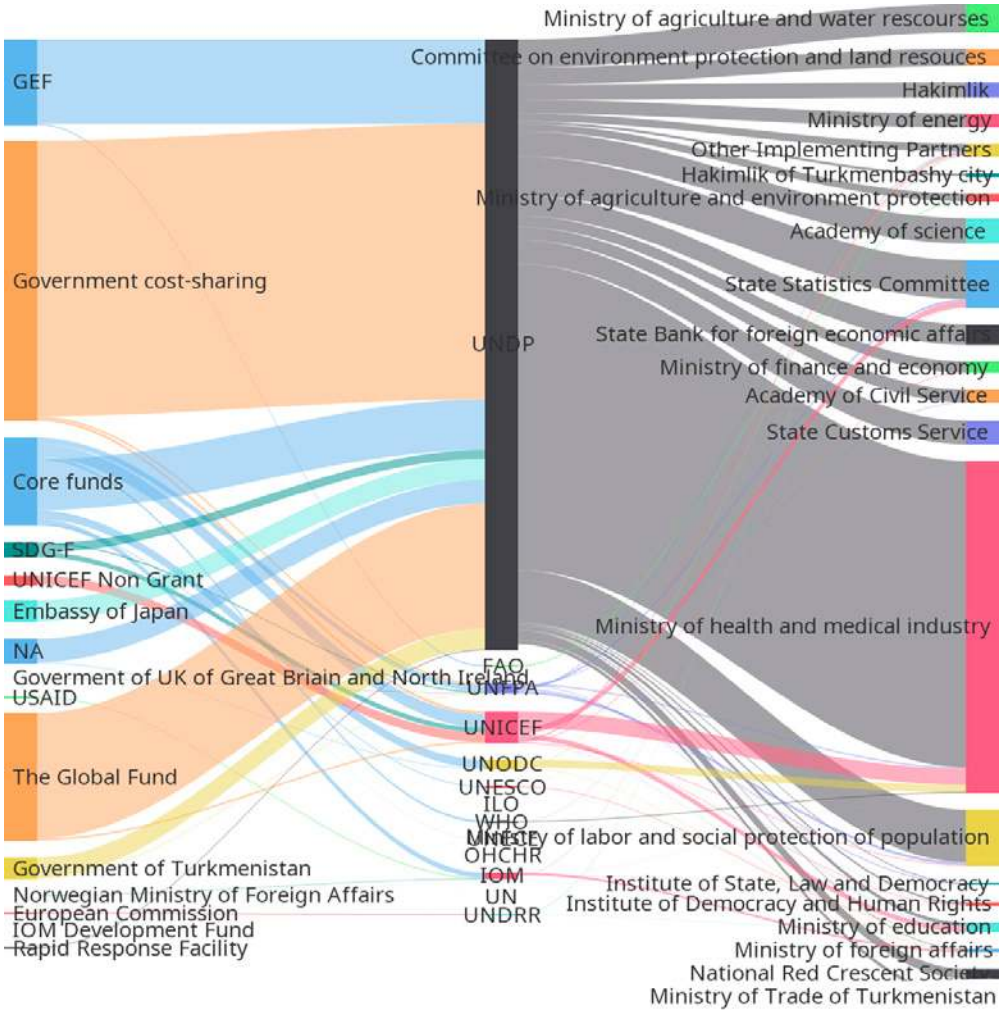


Figure 8 **Planned and actual contributions by signatories and non-signatories of the 2016-2020 UNPFD in 2020 (in USD)**

	UN Agency	2020			
		Plan	Actual	%	Gov cost-share
1	UNDP	11,300,000	11,800,000	104	6,230,062
2	UNICEF	1,900,000	1,808,584	95	
3	IOM	386,455	376,284	97	
4	UNODC	340,000	340,000	100	
5	UNFPA	1,535,696	1,535,696	100	666,726
6	UNHCR	111,662	108,281	97	
7	WHO	3,073,129	2,864,562	93	
8	UNESCO	70,750	37,000	52	
9	OHCHR	10,800	580	5	
10	FAO	257,984	140,890	55	
11	UNECE	9,000	9,000	100	
12	ILO	4,699	4,699	100	
13	ITC	300,000	300,000	100	
14	UNDRR	74,000	74,000	100	
	Total:	**19,374,175**	**19,399,576**	**100.13**	**6,896,788**

The Planned and actual contributions to implementation of the programme by signatories and non-signatories of the 2016-2020 UNPFD in 2020 are shown in above Figure 8.

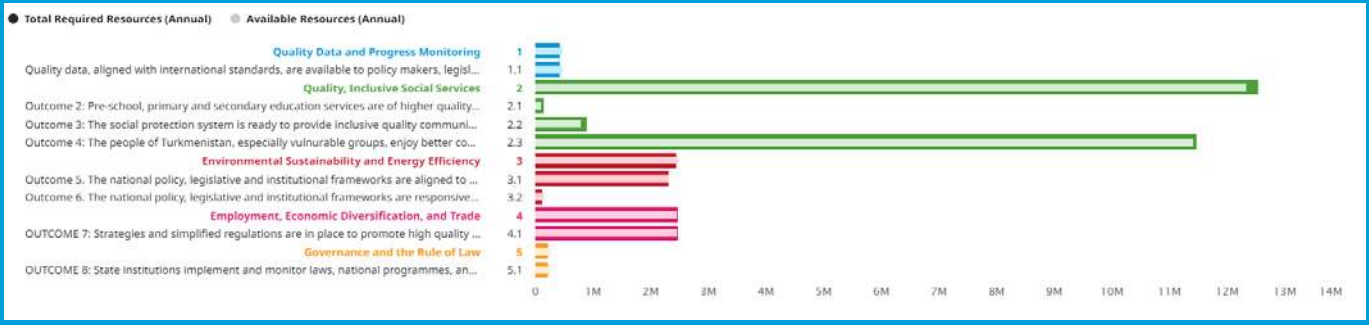
Beyond the above programme costs for the UNPFD implementation in 2020, the vaccines for the regular immunization schedule and flour premix procured through UNICEF, amounted to around US$ 14 million. The total amount of the vaccines and flour premix procured through UNICEF during the UNPFD 5-year-cycle was US$ 43.5 million USD in total.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Owing to the UNCT efforts, the donor base was diversified and expanded. Strong coordination and teamwork were the most important triggers in resource mobilization for the UNCT activities in Turkmenistan.

As per the PFD priority areas, the overall required funding VS the available resources for the programme implementation in 2020 are reflected in Figure 9 below.

Figure 9 **Available / required resources comparison, 2020, all UN agencies**



Source: UNINFO

UN KEY FOCUS FOR NEXT YEAR

The UN-Government cooperation in 2021 will be continued under the newly signed Cooperation Framework 2021-2025. In 2021, the UN will continue collective efforts towards supporting the national health and socio-economic response to COVID-19 through diverse partnerships and funding for implementation of the CPRP and SERP which will be quarterly monitored via joint UN-Government meetings.

Within the **Outcome 1** People-centred governance and rule of law, the key interventions will be around:

- Digital government and provision of efficient services to the population
- SDG integration into the National Plans and Programmes
- Enhancing professional skills, knowledge and practical skills of the civil servants
- Government agencies effectively implement programmes and mechanisms in the field of human rights and labour rights and gender equality
- Strengthening capacities of Government agencies to collect and analyse disaggregated data

Under the **Outcome 2** on Sustainable economic diversification, competitive private and financial sectors, enhanced trade and investment promotion, the UN will support the Government in:

- Improvement of regulatory framework to simplify business procedures, particularly for SMEs and women entrepreneurs
- Support in diversification and digitalization of economy with the focus on vulnerable groups
- Innovations in banking and finance sector
- Promotion of foreign investments, transport connectivity and trade facilitation
- Strengthening the capacities of Government agencies to collect and analyse disaggregated economic sector data and measure progress on SDGs

Within the CF **Outcome 3** the UN will support the Government in:

- promotion of climate change adaptation and CO2 emission reduction through various activities around piloting of sustainable water, land and energy practices
- development of national action plan on Climate change for health sector
- support in implementation of Green School Initiative and drafting of the Child-focused DRR Strategy
- capacity building of agricultural communities in Ahal, Dashoguz and Lebap regions on climate change adaptation, wheat rust diseases, locust management practices, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture management, and reduction of food loss and waste, as well as hands-on trainings on DRR and forecasting, monitoring and assessment of seismic risks
- updating of reports to submit towards international agreements on climate change, including Paris Agreement and the 2nd Nationally Determined Contributions.

In the **Outcome 4** on Quality, inclusive, affordable health and social protection services, the UN will strengthen national health and social protection systems through:

- development, finalization and implementation of several legal regulatory documents including, National immunization strategy and deployment of vaccination plan against COVID-19, National Reproductive, maternal, newborn, Child and adolescent health (RMNCAH) Strategy and Action Plan for 2021-2025, regional program to improve the health and nutrition status of mothers and children, and strengthen capacity of health professionals in the Aral Sea region, State Nutrition Program for 2020-2025 on improvement of nutrition status of mothers, children and adolescent, and Regional Nutrition Partnership Platform Secretariat for 2021-2022, Law on Propaganda and Support of Breastfeeding, National Lab Network Plan 2021-2025, people-centred TB care model, National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Tuberculosis (TB) 2021-2025, Tobacco control strategy for 2022-2025, National Action Plan for Health Security, State budgeting of RH services with focus on women at risk, National strategy on cervical cancer, Action Plan for the National Early Childhood Development Strategy for 2020-2025
- enhancement of employment opportunities for people with disabilities, and
- reinforcement of legislative and regulatory frameworks and establishment of institutional mechanisms to facilitate the introduction of the new community-based social service delivery system

The UN will contribute to **Outcome 5** on Quality, inclusive, affordable education and skilling systems, through support in

- development of the National Concept of Inclusive Education,
- implementation of the National ECD Strategy for 2020-2025 with focus on monitoring and quality assurance for early learning and pre-primary preparation, and
- multi-disciplinary services for children with disabilities towards inclusive pre-school education and capacity building initiatives in teaching methods, vocational trainings to enhance skills and employability of PwD.

In delivering support to the Government, the new UNCT will engage expertise from across the broader UN system and beyond to respond to the emerging development needs of the country, including UNDESA, ITU, UNCTAD, WTO, EU, OECD, and IFIs (EBRD, ADB, IMF, IsDB, WB).

ANNEX. PROGRESS ON INDICATORS, 2016-2020

OUTCOME 1: Quality data, aligned with international standards, is available to policy makers, legislators, and the interested public to monitor the major goals of national programmes, the post-2015 SDGs, UNPFD and to formulate new national strategies and programmes

Indicator 1.1 **% of the recommendations from the adapted Global Assessment of the National Statistical System (NSS) implemented**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
20	21.6	33.7	36.1	41	40

Indicator 1.2 **SDG targets adopted and incorporated into national strategies and sector plans**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
MDG Targets, adopted by Turkmenistan	As a result of «Super March» in 2016 among 169 global SDG Targets Turkmenistan adopted 148 Targets. In 2017, Rapid integrated assessment identified, that nearly 84% of SDG targets are incorporated into national strategies	Programme of socio-economic development for 2019-2025 developed and SDGs incorporated (12 environment-related SDG Targets mentioned in the text of the Programme)	RIA 2019 showed, that 85% SDG Targets are incorporated into the National programmes and only 29% SDG Indicators, are included into the National programmes	In 2020 a workshop on SDG Targets integration into the National Plans and actions was conducted with a follow-up steps agreed and proposed Indicators for the following programmes: • National Action Plan for Human Rights for 2021-2025 • National Action Plan for Ensuring Gender Equality for 2021-2025 • National Action Plan for the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings 2021-2025 (roadmap/action plan is being developed) • National strategy for reproductive health, maternal, child and adolescent health for 2020-2025 • Action plan of the National Strategy for Early Childhood Development for 2020-2025 • NCD Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2030 • National strategic plan for the provision of services to combat tuberculosis for 2021-2025 • Monitoring system for the National Nutrition Program for 2020-2025 • National program of the President of Turkmenistan for the transformation of social and living conditions of the population of villages, settlements, cities of etraps and etrap centers for the period until 2025 • National Program for the Development of the Digital Economy until 2025 • Law «On Land» • Forest program 2021-2025 • Plan of the President of Turkmenistan on civil defense and emergency situations • Program on youth policy for 2021-2025 and an action plan for it	SDG targets, adopted by Turkmenistan

Indicator 1.3 **National system on SDG monitoring is in place in line with international standards**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
No	Presidential Decree on the establishment of monitoring system on SDGs and creation of the National working group	National system on SDG monitoring including indicators, responsible parties, sources of data and frequency of data collection, with the special focus on VNR SDGs	Regular Goal by goal meetings allowed to revise SDG Indicators and responsible data collection entities 2019	Development of National SDG monitoring Database is in progress	Yes

OUTCOME 2: Preschool, primary and secondary education services are of higher quality, in line with international standards, and with priority given to inclusive education

Indicator 2.1 % of five-year-old girls and boys enrolled in pre-primary education

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
33.5	46.2	To be obtained from MICS 2019 results	47.6	To be obtained from next MICS	Target, 2020

Indicator 2.2 % of secondary (incl. primary) schools that implement quality and inclusive education standards

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
4.2	4.2	MICS 2019	To be obtained from MICS 2019 results	Was not included into the MICS 2019. Will be obtained from next MICS	5.5

Indicator 2.3 % of secondary school Basics of Life Skills teachers certified in comprehensive gender sensitive and age appropriate reproductive health education

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
42	51	68	84	95	95

Indicator 2.4 Availability of sex and age disaggregated data to track access to education for girls and boys, including children with disabilities

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
Disaggregated data on primary education coverage (SSC, 2015)	In progress	In progress	Data partially available	Data partially available*	All TransMonee indicators, related to education

* http://transmonee.org/country/turkmenistan/

OUTCOME 3: The social protection system is ready to provide inclusive quality community-based support services

Indicator 3.1 Coverage of social protection systems, disaggregated by sex, age, rural / urban and at risk groupsand inclusive education standards

SDG Indicator 1.3.1. Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, disaggregated by sex, with break down by children, retired persons, people with disabilities, pregnant women/new-borns, work injury victims	01.01.2016	01.01.2017	01.01.2018	01.01.2019	01.01.2020	31.12.2020
Pensions	**6.8**	**7.0**	**7.2**	**7.3**	**7.5**	**7.6**
Incl. Women	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.8
Disability Pension	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Social allowances	**8.1**	**8.1**	**8.0**	**7.8**	**7.6**	**7.2**
Incl. Women	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.0	6.7	6.3
Disability Pension	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9
Incl. children under 18 years old	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Childcare allowance	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.1	1.8

Indicator 3.3 % of Population (disaggregated by residence, age, and disability status) who have knowledge of where and how to access community based social services

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
To be measured in 2018 MICS	To be measured in 2019 MICS	To be measured in 2019 MICS	81.60*	Data from next MICS. Progress is also expected as a result of Joint Programme on inclusive social services	Data from MICS 2019

Indicator 3.2 Availability of inclusive community-based support services compliant with international standards

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
Services not available	In Progress	Developed plan for 10 years on the introduction of social work	Number of people receiving social services in the territorial centers: Turkmenistan: 1963 418 1545 Ashgabat: 505 109 396 Ahal: 169 35 134 Balkan: 130 25 105 Dashoguz: 266 63 203 Lebap: 507 133 374 Mary:386 54 332 Joint programme 2020-2022 on creation of inclusive social services aligned with international standards approved	Number of people receiving social services in the territorial centers: Turkmenistan: 2003 424 1579 Ashgabat: 504 113 391 Ahal: 164 33 131 Balkan: 138 24 114 Dashoguz: 269 64 205 Lebap: 504 126 378 Mary: 424 64 360	Development of the conceptual basis for the reform of social services

* Indicator 3.3 was not covered by 2019 MICS Survey that is why proxy indicator «Percentage of household questionnaire respondents who are aware of and report having received external economic support» included in 2019 MICS is shown here

OUTCOME 4: The people of Turkmenistan, especially vulnerable groups, enjoy better coverage of quality health care services focusing on women and child health, nutrition, NCDs, Multiple Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDRTB), early detection and early prevention of diseases

Indicator 4.1 U5 mortality rate, %

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
51 (UNINGME)	47 (UNINGME) 29 (MoHMI)	46 (UNINGME) 31.8 (MoHMI)	38 (MICS 2019)	MoHMI data are expected later in 2021	43.4

Indicator 4.2 % of pregnant women covered by antenatal care in 1st trimester

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
70	76	82	85	91	90

Indicator 4.3 % of maternity facilities providing comprehensive emergency obstetric and neonatal care in line with adopted clinical protocols

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
42	68	74	76	83	60

Indicator 4.4 Mortality rate from cardio-vascular diseases, cancer, diabetes mellitus and chronical respiratory diseases, %

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
24.9	24.5	24.8	23.2	In progress	14.9

Indicator 4.5 Proportion of people receiving medical treatment and counselling (including glycemic control) for prevention of heart attack and stroke, out of all in need, %

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
25	In progress	79.3 (STEPS, 2017-2018)	Planned for 2023	Planned for 2023	50

Indicator 4.6 Tobacco use rate among population groups of 18-64 age, %

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
8.3	In Progress	3.4 (STEPS, 2017-2018)	Planned for 2023	Planned for 2023	6

Indicator 4.7 TB and MDR-TB incidence rate disaggregated by sex, age and urban / rural groups, %

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
42.6/100,000 (MoHMI 2014)	34.1 (MoHMI, 2017)	34.1 (MoHMI, 2018)	32.9 (MoHMI,2019)	MoHMI data are expected later in 2021	20% reduction by 2020

Indicator 4.8 Neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) disaggregated by sex

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
23 (UNIGME)	22 (UNIGME)	22 (UNIGME) 13.6% (MoHMI)	22 (MICS 2019)	MoHMI data are expected later in 2021	21.85

Indicator 4.9 Prevalence of stunting, moderate and severe , %

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
11.5 (Moderate) 2.7 (Severe)	In Progress	MICS 2019	7.1 (Moderate) (Source: MICS 2019) 2.4 (Severe) (Source: MICS 2019)	In progress (Next MICS is planned for 2024)	10% reduction by 2020

OUTCOME 5: The national policy, legislative and institutional frameworks are aligned to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to promote sustainable practices on energy efficiency, the use of renewables, urban development and waste management

Indicator 5.1 **Number of current and new institutions that research, pilot and replicate sustainable energy efficiency initiatives in rural and urban development, and the use of renewables, urban development and waste management practices**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	1 • Ministry of Construction and Architecture	4 (+3) • Ministry of Construction and Architecture • Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection • Hakimlik of Ashgabat city	7 (+3) • Renewable Energy Research and Production Center of the State Institute of Energy of Turkmenistan • Laboratory of the Center for Technology of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan «Technology of Energy Production and Energy Saving» • State Institute of Energy of Turkmenistan	8 (+1) • Renewable Energy Research and Production Center of the State Institute of Energy of Turkmenistan	2

Indicator 5.2 **Number of state laws, regulations and procedures developed or amended that incorporate energy efficiency standards and practices, the use of renewables and sustainable waste management**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	4 Construction norms	6 (+2) Regulations and decree on exploitation of water pumps	7 (+1) Law «On Amending the Law of Turkmenistan on Waste»	8 (+1) Draft Law on Renewable Energy submitted to Mejlis	2

Indicator 5.3 **Annual emissions of carbon dioxide (in million metric tons) are measured by an established integrated monitoring system in place**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
53 (2010, 3d national communication)	No data	No data Started development of National strategy on climate change	• A national climate change strategy has been adopted • In preparation for the 4th National Communication • Action Plan on implementation of Paris Agreement	Preparation of 4th National Communication to the UNFCCC in process	Not identified (4th National Communication development)

OUTCOME 6: The national policy, legislative and institutional frameworks are responsible to climate change issues by promoting climate resilience, adaptation, climate risk management and disaster risk reduction measures at sector and community level

Indicator 6.1 Availability of solutions developed and implemented at national and sub-national levels for climate change adaption, sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems services as part of National Programme on implementation of Paris Agreement, %*

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	3 (applied solutions to reduce water losses in reservoirs and sordobs by applying a geomembrane anti-filter film, demonstration of laser land leveling, production of biocompost, etc.)	8 (+5) (a research area of 145 hectares in Geokdepe etrap with modern irrigation systems are installed: drip, center pivot, linear-move, improved furrow irrigation and sprinkler irrigation systems. Agroinformation centers created and operating in two regions)	9 (+1) (installation of EE pumps in 5 regions)	10 (+1) (technology for pumping and desalination of water using renewable energy in remote desert territories)	10

Indicator 6.2 Availability of DRR and CRM / adaptational legal instruments approved and under implementation with appropriate financial and technical arrangements, and quality sector plans developed and initiated that have DRR / CRM adaptation practices, include gender aspects and appropriate DRR cross-sector coordination mechanisms included

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	4 laws (On introducing amendments to the Law of Turkmenistan «On Nature Protection»; ST «On Environmental Safety»; on introducing amendments and addenda to the Turkmenistan Code «On Land»; «On the State Land Cadastre» 11/25/2017)	6 (+2) laws (On state regulation of agricultural development; on introducing amendments and addenda to the Turkmenistan Code «On Land»)	7 (+1) laws and 2 plans (National strategy; The main directions of the State policy in the field of civil defense for 2019-2030; Memorandum of Understanding between the UN and the Government of Turkmenistan in coordinating emergency preparedness and response)	8 (+1) Law of Turkmenistan on International Humanitarian Assistance in Case of Emergency Situation	3 laws and 2 sectoral plans

Indicator 6.3 Number of cross boundary water and climate change initiatives undertaken to support regional efforts for building climate resilience and adaptation

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	0	2 (UNICEF – updated climate change-sensitive environmental education curricula)	6 (+4) Regional Environment and Sustainable Development Program (EEPAP); Aral Sea Basin Assistance Program (ASBP-4); Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Program in the Aral Sea Basin (CAMP4ASB); Climate Box Regional Initiative; (UNDRR) Strengthening disaster resilience and accelerating implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Asia	9 (+3) regional projects CACILM II, CADI and Ecosystem-based land use and preservation of ecosystems along the lower sections of Amu Darya River	2

* Indicator is calculated as Number of solutions developed and implemented at national and sub-national levels for climate change adaption, sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems services.

There is no National Programme on implementation of Paris Agreement

OUTCOME 7: Strategies and simplified regulations are in place to promote high quality inclusive employment through sustainable economic diversification

Indicator 7.1 **Number of enhanced and simplified legal instruments (or measures), by-laws to facilitate import and border crossing procedures**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
2 programms: • export orientation • import substitution	4 (+2) • 2 state programs • 2 regulations	6 (+2) • 2 state programs • 4 regulations	+3 laws: • Law of Turkmenistan on Amendments and Additions to the Law of Turkmenistan on Free Economic Zones • Law of Turkmenistan on Amendments and Addenda to the Law of Turkmenistan «On Trade Activities» • Property Law	+3 laws and 3 by-laws: • Law of Turkmenistan «On Amendments to the Tax Code of Turkmenistan» • Law of Turkmenistan «On Amendments to the Law of Turkmenistan» on Currency Regulation and Currency Control in Foreign Economic Relations • Law of Turkmenistan «On Electronic Document, Electronic Document Circulation and Digital Services» • Decree of the President on invalidating the Decree of the President on certified types of export products • Decree of the President on the approval of the Intersectoral Commission to increase the security prod. goods and the regulation of their import and export • Resolution of the President on the establishment of the Commission to control the sale of products abroad	4

Indicator 7.2 **Share of non-hydrocarbon sectors to GDP, %**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
73.1	82.2	81.9	83.5	88	80

Indicator 7.3 **Number of state, sectoral, regional programs including on SME development aimed at piloting new initiatives related to economic diversification at national and sub national levels**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
2 • State program of support for small and medium-sized businesses in Turkmenistan 2011- 2015 • State program of privatization in Turkmenistan of enterprises and objects of state ownership for 2013-2016	–	3 • Program for the development of small and medium businesses 2018-2024 • Created fund to support small and medium businesses • Created a state commission to support small and medium businesses	7 (+4) • New edition of the Law «About the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Turkmenistan» • Presidential Decree on Privatization of Government Facilities • Decree of the President on Transfer of Refrigeration and Livestock Facilities to the Private Sector • Decree of the President on Joint Stock Companies: Railway, Transport	9 (+2) • Plan of Turkmenistan to Acute Infectious Disease (CPRP) • Immediate socio-economic response plan to the global pandemic (SERP)	4

Indicator 7.4 **Number of newly created jobs**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
10,897	7,268	10,473	10,748	12,006	92,984

Indicator 7.5 **A national action plan has been developed to create conditions and opportunities for the realization of rights for employment of people with disabilities**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
The program of improving employment and creation of new jobs in Turkmenistan for 2015-2020	Progress Report on implementation of the Programme provided by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	Progress Report on implementation of the Programme provided by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	Quota Regulation continues to be implemented	Employment of those in need according to quotas equals to 4.2% of which: • 2.7% – people with disabilities • 5.2% – orphans who first started looking for work • 22.8% – parents or guardians raising one or more minor children alone • 69.3% – other citizens in need (those who lost their jobs due to the closure of an enterprise, job cuts or job completion, citizens from low-income families or other vulnerable groups)	Programme implemented

Indicator 7.6 **A national socio/economic interim plan 2017-2021, developed and a monitoring system established to measure progress in implementation**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
The program of the President of Turkmenistan on the socio-economic development of the country for 2012-2016	In progress	The program of the President of Turkmenistan on the socio-economic development of the country for 2018-2024 and for 2019-2025 approved	The program is approved for 2019-2025	Responsible Government agencies develop their work plans in accordance with the objectives of the Program, constantly monitor the performance of work and report on the progress of the implementation of activities at regular government meetings	The program of the President of Turkmenistan on socio-economic development

OUTCOME 8: State institutions implement and monitor laws, national programmes, and strategies, in a participatory manner and in line with the country's human rights commitments

Indicator 8.1 Number of new laws, and amendments that are gender sensitive and developed in line with UN human rights standards

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
7 Laws of Turkmenistan, amendments and additions to: • Constitution • Equality and Equal Opportunities for Men and Women • Employment • Ombudsman • Volunteering • Social Protection of the Population • Criminal Code	5 Laws of Turkmenistan, amendments and additions to: • Information About Privacy and its Protection • Refugees (new edition) • Labor Code • Guardianship and Trusteeship • Administrative Procedures	7 Laws of Turkmenistan, amendments and additions to: • Family Code • Advocacy • Combating Trafficking in Persons • Education • Employment • Advertising • Social Protection of the Population	5 Laws of Turkmenistan on amendments and additions to: • Labor Code • Criminal Code • Code of Social Protection • about psychological services • Acts of Civil Status	14 Laws of Turkmenistan, amendments and additions to: • Electronic Document Management • Environmental Information • Prevention of Offenses • Physical Culture and Sport • International Humanitarian Aid in an Emergencies • National Council • Consular Service • Youth Right to Work • Public Associations • Tax Code • Labor Code • Education • Electoral Code • Constitution	4

Indicator 8.2 Number of human rights national plans approved and percentage of actions implemented

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
3 2015 (1) 2016 (2)	3 2015 (1) 2016 (2)	1	4 • NAP on Combating Human Trafficking 2020-2022 • National Strategy for the Prevention of Violent Extremism and Counter Terrorism 2020-2022 • Turkmenistan National Strategy for RRR 2020-2025 • NAP to End Statelessness 2019-2024	1 NAPGE 2021-2025	4
% NAP on Gender (2015-2020)	44%	60%	90%	95%	65%
% NAP on HR (2016)	20%	60%	90%	95%	65%
% NAP on TiP (2016-2018)	65%	90%	100%		90%
% NAP on CR (2018)	-	10%	Road Map developed	40%	10%
% NAP on TiP (2020-2022)			NAP endorsed	25%	10%
% NAP on GE (2021-2025)				NAP endorsed	

Indicator 8.3 **Number of civil society development bodies representing women, youth, children and people with disabilities participating in design and implementation of national and sectoral programmes**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
5 • National Red Crescent Society • Union of Women • Keyik Okara • Yenme • Ynam	9 • National Red Crescent Society • Union of Women • Youth Union • Support Center for Disabled • Bar Association • Yenme • Ynam • Keyik Okara • Mashgala	9 • National Red Crescent Society • Union of Women • Youth Union • Support Center for Disabled • Bar Association • Yenme • Ynam • Keyik Okara • Mashgala	19 • National Red Crescent Society • Union of Women, Youth Union • Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs • Trade Union • Society for the Deaf and Blind • Society for the Disabled • Support Center for Disabled • Chess Center for the Blind • Sports and Fitness Club for the Disabled • Society of Lilliputians • Rehabilitation and Rehabilitation Center for the Disabled • Bar Association • Yenme • Ynam • Keyik Okara • Mashgala • Tyaza Zaman • National Paralympic Committee	9 • National Red Crescent Society • Union of Women • Youth Union • Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs • Trade Union • Society for the Deaf and Blind • Bar Association • Yenme • Ynam	10

Indicator 8.4 **Number of new key initiatives implemented that can assist with addressing emerging cross border issues including the legal flows of goods and people in an integrated manner**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	84	108	127	127	3

Indicator 8.5 **Number of e-governance services offered to improve the efficiency and accountability of public governance service delivery**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	1 The concept of development of a digital education system	1 The concept of the digital economy	1 The provision of public services to the population in electronic format invest.gov.tm https://e.gov.tm/ru/	2 • Interdepartmental Commission for the Development of the Digital Economy was approved 01/10/2020 • Law of Turkmenistan «On electronic document, electronic document circulation and digital services» adopted 03/25/2020	2

Indicator 8.6 **Number of new initiatives implemented that strengthens law enforcement and judiciary bodies to promote greater access to justice**

Baseline, 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target, 2020
0	1 State program for the development of the judicial system of Turkmenistan for 2017-2021	1 Providing support to law enforcement, judicial authorities and lawyers in matters of investigation, prosecution, adjudication in criminal cases of trafficking in persons	9 Proposals for amendments to the legislation of Turkmenistan	5 Initiatives and meetings to strengthen law enforcement and judiciary bodies	2

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