



UNITED NATIONS
GUINEA-BISSAU



UN COUNTRY ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

GUINÉ-BISSAU



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ACRONYMS

ABCDE	Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, Exposure
ART	Antiretroviral Treatment
BCG	Bacille Calmette Guerin
CBPP	Community-Based Participatory Planning
CDTOC	Combat Drug Trafficking and Transnational Organised Crimes
CMICS	Centre for Media and Information on Guinea-Bissau
CRAF	Climate Resilience Action Framework
DPCF	Development Partner Coordination Framework
DPT	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ENDA	Environnement, Développement et Action dans le Tiers Monde
EPI	Epidemiologic
ESSMGB	ECOWAS Stabilization Support Mission in Guinea-Bissau
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GAS	Water and Sanitation Partners' Group (Grupo de Água e Saneamento)
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HLPF	High Level Political Forum
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMC	Instituto de Mulher e Crianca - Women and Children's Institute
IMF	Internacional Monetary Fund
INE	Instituto Nacional de Estatistica
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Infection Prevention and Control
JAITF	Joint Airport Interdiction Task Force
JP	Joint Programme
LQAS	Lot Quality Assurance Sampling
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MMFSS	Ministry of Woman, Family and Social Solidarity Ministério da Mulher Família e Solidariedade Social
MOH	Ministry of Public Health
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
NAM	United Nations Electoral Needs Assessment Mission
NDP	National Development Plan
NDVP	National Deployment and Vaccination Plan
NHA	National Health Accounts
NISP	National Integrated Strategic Plan
OGDT	Observatory for Drugs and Drug Addiction

OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PBF	Peacebuilding Fund
PHC	Primary Health Care
PIMI	Integrated Program for the Reduction of Maternal and Child Mortality
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PPM	Proximity Policing Model
CRVS	Civil Registry and Vital Statistic
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
REJOMEI-GB	Rede dos Jornalistas sobre Mercado Ilícito e Economia Ilícita da Guiné-Bissau
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SERP	Socioeconomic Response Plan
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SP-AQ	Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention
SSWF	Social Service Workforce
TES	Transforming Education Summit
THR	Take Home Ration
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDS	United Nations Development System
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIOGBIS	The United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in ´ Guinea-Bissau
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

FOREWORD BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR

On behalf of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) Guinea-Bissau, I am honoured to present the 2022 Annual Report of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026 (UNSDCF). The report marks the first year of implementing the UNSDCF, signed between the Government and the United Nations Development System (UNDS). It showcases the collective work of UN agencies, funds and programmes working closely with partners in the Government, civil society, and communities in Guinea-Bissau, and international community partners to deliver on the promise to leave no one behind and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It reflects shared achievements and challenges of the UN in Guinea-Bissau.

Significant challenges marked the operating environment in 2022. The war in Ukraine and the global surge in inflation put historic pressure on food, fuel, and fertiliser prices, heightening the uneven recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these challenges, the UN system in Guinea-Bissau remained steadfast in its commitment to support the Country in achieving its sustainable development goals.

As the roadmap of our collective development programmes in the Country, the UNSDCF outlines three strategic priority areas. I encourage you to pay attention to how UN Agencies, funds and programmes have delivered under these outcomes areas:

1. Transformative governance where the Country witnessed improvement in the institutional framework and human capacities of state and national actors.

2. Resilient and inclusive economic transformation where the Country has witnessed improved agricultural practices and reduced vulnerability due to food insecurity.

3. Human capital development, where key UN interventions in 2022 have been effective in improving the skills and collaboration with local partners, the UN achieved significant progress in various areas, including health, education, and social services.

Guinea-Bissau has made significant strides in its efforts to achieve the SDGs, despite facing several challenges, such as political tensions, weak governance, and limited resources. The government-led, first ever Voluntary

National Review (VNR) in 2022 provided an opportunity to take stock of the Country's progress, identify gaps and challenges, and prioritise actions towards achieving the SDGs while recalling the many linkages between Agenda 2030 and Guinea-Bissau's human rights obligations. The UN will continue to support the Government in implementing recommendations for the accelerated achievement of the SDGs.

Looking forward to 2023, the UN Country Team will continue to focus on implementing the UNSDCF in ways that foster integrated approaches to achieve the SDGs and, at the same time, support Guinea-Bissau's efforts to fulfil its human rights commitments, also bearing in mind the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration for Human Rights. Priority attention will be on SDG accelerator programmes with catalytic and transformative impacts on vulnerable communities, including livelihoods, gender equality, human rights and inequalities. Our efforts on collaborative partnerships and resource mobilisation will be reinvigorated. Innovative funding streams and catalytic partnerships would also be better explored.

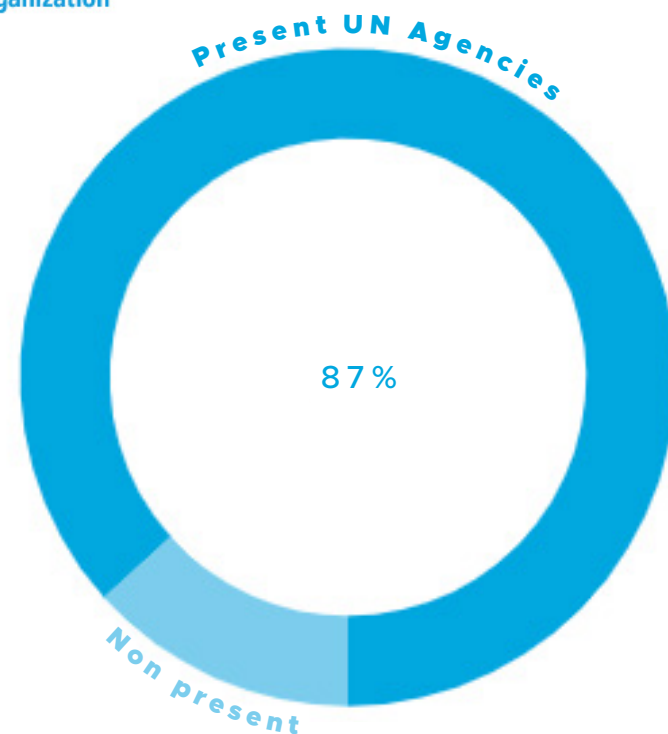


RESIDENT COORDINATOR IN GUINEA-BISSAU

Mr. Anthony Ohemeng-Boamah

United Nations Resident Coordinator in Guinea-Bissau

UN COUNTRY TEAM



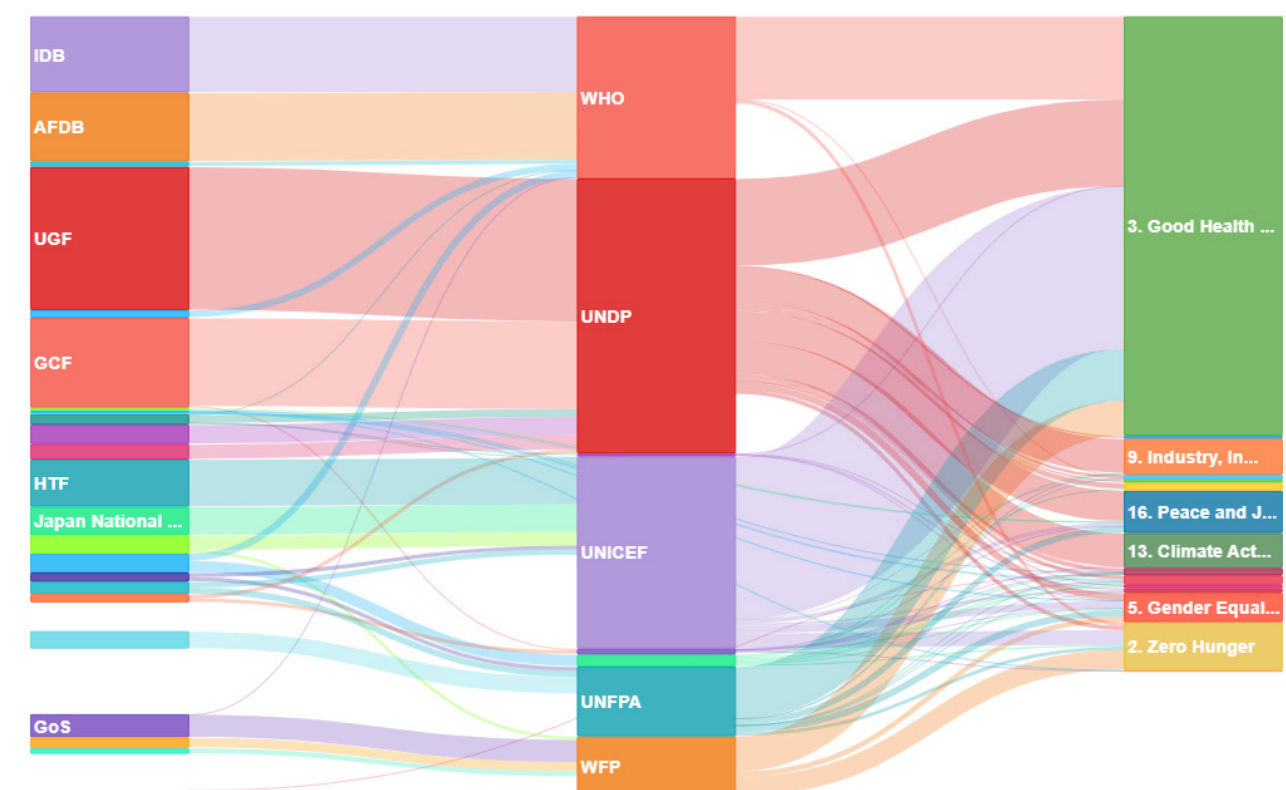
The UN Country Team (UNCT) serves as the inter-agency decision-making and coordinating system for all UN-related strategic planning, policy positions, joint programming, and operational management matters. The system is under the overall guidance and leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, supported by the Resident Coordinator's Office. The UNCT leads the coordination, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, reviews, and evaluation of progress under the Cooperation Framework. The team is comprised of 13 resident and non-resident UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes. Two international finance institutions, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, also participate in the UNCT.

KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY

The UNSDCF's theory of change presupposes a robust governance structure with solid and enduring State institutions and functioning machinery as a pre-condition for investments that will generate dignified livelihoods, guarantee access to basic services, and ensure better well-being outcomes for all citizens. Development partners play different but complementary roles to ensure

this outcome and strengthen the core operations of the Government at every level for effective functioning to serve its citizens. Key development partners include the Government of Guinea-Bissau, international financial institutions, donor governments and organisations, civil society organisations, non-governmental agencies, the private sector, and academia.

Leveraging UN investments to advance the Sustainable Development Goals




UNCT COMPOSITION

GUINEA-BISSAU AT A GLANCE


 **1.9 million**
Total Population

 **2,4%**
Population growth

 **50,5%**
Women

 **49,5%**
Men

 **41%**
Children

 **35%**
Youths (15-34)

 **55%**
Rural

 **45%**
Urban

 **64%**
Multidimensionally poor

 **529k cfa**
GDP per capita

 **918 Billion cfa**
GDP

CHAPTER 01

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND THE REGIONAL CONTEXT

The security and political environment, while fragile, remained stable. In February 2022, a foiled coup interspersed the relative stability enjoyed since the new Government's appointment in 2020. The coup's aftermath led to convening of an ECOWAS Extraordinary Summit on 25 March 2022. The Summit approved the ECOWAS Stabilization Support Mission in Guinea-Bissau (ESSMGB), a force of 771 troops deployed in April 2022. The ESSMGB's mandate is to support stability in the Country for one year and is renewable.

In May 2022, President Embaló exercised his constitutional power to dissolve Parliament. After consulting with political parties and civil society actors, the date for the early legislative elections has been moved from 18 December 2022 to 4 June 2023. Preparations for the upcoming elections are currently underway. Notably, the Government has committed to funding 70% of the elections from its national budget, which marks a milestone. Partners have agreed to mobilise resources to cover the remaining cost. The registration of voters commenced slowly but picked up later after the deadline was extended. As a result, there has been a record number of enrolments.

After rising to an estimated 6.4% in 2021, driven by the rising level of cashew harvest, economic activity slowed to 4.7% in 2022^[1]. Growth remained below its potential. The record level of increased production of cashew has not translated fully into expected strong economic growth, in 2022, due to variable

export performance, owing to a host of internal and external factors, including problems with Maersk, a fall in international prices, and low demand from India and Vietnam, the main export destinations. Capital investment, including infrastructure, private consumption, and net exports, has been the significant driver of growth on the expenditure side. Overall growth post-pandemic has been slightly better than the regional average.

Economic recovery remained weak in poverty reduction; however, while extreme poverty declined slightly from its pre-pandemic levels, the reduction pace slowed overall. Growth in income per capita which averaged 1.5% in 2022, up from -0.7% following the pandemic in 2020, paled in comparison to the population growth rate of 2.4% and was far lower than the pre-pandemic level of per capita GDP growth of 2.3%. The World Bank estimates that approximately 4,000 people escaped extreme poverty in 2022 compared to 14,000 people in 2021^[2].

The slow pace of poverty reduction was driven by inflationary pressures from the spillover from the war in Ukraine, which peaked at 7.2 % in 2022, far above the regional convergence target of 3%, resulting in increased food prices and fuels, with implications on households' consumption. The external shocks worsened non-income dimensions of deprivations, including health, education and living standards. The number of people with insufficient food increased from 0.6 million in

¹ Ministry of Finance. 2023 budget

² World Bank (2023) Economic Update Guinea Bissau: Macroeconomic, gender and education.

2020 to 0.7 million in 2022[3].

While progress has been recorded in the fight against COVID-19, the risks of exposure to new highly infectious variants remain high. The number of confirmed deaths and cases has continued to fall, thanks to the increasing availability of vaccines. However, the level of vaccination, which surged in 2021, apparently stalled, in 2022, falling behind the African average. Since March 2020, there have been 8,947 confirmed cases of COVID-19, with 176 deaths reported to the World Health Organization (WHO). As of 4 December 2022, a cumulative total of 673,091 vaccine doses had been administered. In 2022, 2375 reported cases with over 149,436 vaccine doses for covid were administered, of which - 65,450 doses were administered to men and 83,986 to women.

3 <https://hungermap.wfp.org/>

4 <https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/gw>

Overall, there are promising trends. Most notably, Guinea-Bissau undertook its first-ever Voluntary National Review with recommendations to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The Government has made significant progress in implementing fiscal reforms, boosting credibility with partners, and potentially unlocking additional concessional financing for its development priorities. The Staff Monitoring Programme was successfully implemented, unlocking access to long-term funding on favourable terms through the Extended Credit Facility of the IMF. The Country has ratified the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, becoming the 44th Member State to tap into a regional market of 1.3 billion people.



CHAPTER 02 UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH THE COOPERATION

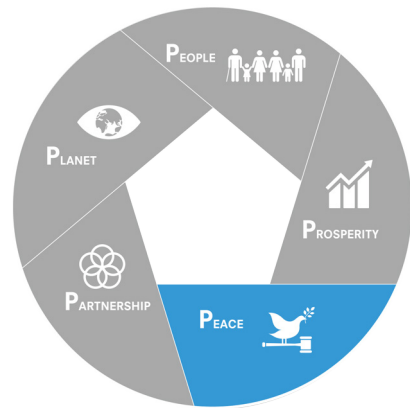
2.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

The UN System in Guinea-Bissau, represented by the Resident Coordinator and the Government of Guinea-Bissau, represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities, signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022-2026 in August 2021. The new generation of the Cooperation Framework replaces the extended UNDAF 2016-2020, which expired in December 2021. The document is the fruit of broad-based consultations including Government, civil society, and private sector

actors. UNSDCF presents three strategic priorities: transformational governance; structural economic transformation, inclusive and green growth; and human capital development. The interlinked and interdependent priorities are organised around three strategic outcomes, 20 outputs and 18 outcome indicators. The strategy is closely aligned with the National Development Plan (NDP) 2020-2023 and the 17 SDGs. It seeks to mainstream the principles of leave no one behind, gender equality and women empowerment and a human rights-based approach. In the context of transition, it integrates the

eight peacebuilding priorities adopted between the Government and stakeholders in the prelude to the closure of UNOGBIS in December 2020. As the primary vehicle of UN support, it also integrates key priorities of the Socioeconomic Response Plan (SERP) against COVID-19 adopted by the UNCT in 2021. In 2022, the UNSDCF was in its first year of implementation, with 13 residents and non-resident entities of the UN system. In 2022, a biannual joint workplan was developed for 2022 and 2023. This report presents the progress achieved in improving the lives and well-being of the people of Guinea-Bissau at the levels of outcome and outputs.

2030 Agenda	UNSDCF Outcomes	NDP Strategic Objectives	SDGs
Peace and partnership	By 2026, people in Guinea-Bissau enjoy improved democratic governance, peace and rule of law and their basic needs are met	Strategic Objective 1	5, 11, 16, 17,
Prosperity and Planet	By 2026, Guinea-Bissau has achieved structural economic transformation driven by enhanced productive capacity, value addition, blue economy and inclusive green growth that leaves no one behind, while capitalizing on SIDS characteristics and ensuring sustainable use and protection of natural resources	Strategic Objectives 2, 3 and 6	2, 5, 8, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15
People	By 2026, the population of Guinea-Bissau, especially the most vulnerable, will have increased and equitable access and use of essential quality social services, including in emergencies	Strategic Objectives 4 and 5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12



2.2. COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

OUTCOME 1: TRANSFORMATIONAL AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE ENCOMPASSING RESPECT FOR THE RULE OF LAW AND SUSTAINING PEACE

The UN results in 2022 were assessed against the SDG goals and funding recorded through UN INFO. In 2022, in partnership with the national authorities and partners, including civil society and non-governmental organizations (CSOs and NGOs), the UN Outcome One joint workplan budgeted USD 7 million for 2022. Partners, including major donors, made USD 6 million available, out of which USD 4 million was used, representing 67% of the amount received. The UN System leveraged its convening role and comparative advantage to support the Government, civil society organisations, private sector, academia, and other key stakeholders to strengthen State and other national institutional frameworks to help shape an environment that favours political dialogue, citizen involvement in establishing sustainable peace and strengthening capacities to fight impunity and corruption to ensure the rule of law. These achievements continue to lay the foundation for progress towards the achievement of the outcome by 2026.



 **USD 7 million**
The UN Outcome Two joint
workplan budgeted for 2022

 **USD 6 million**
provided by partners and
major donors

 **67%**
used to achieve key
reported results

Output 1.1. The institutional framework and the human and operational capacities of the State, non-State actors and agents of change are enhanced to support a transformational change and societal shift in favour of democratic governance and to respond to all citizens' needs.

With the support from the UN Peacebuilding Fund and in partnership with the Government's National School of Administration, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) designed and developed the capacity of young men and women to form a network of young leaders as agents of change in the areas of participatory democracy and entrepreneurial leadership in the Country.

The UN system, through training, strengthened the capacity of 27 officials, including four women from several Ministries, to draft reports to the various Committees supervising the implementation of the human rights treaties ratified by Guinea-Bissau. As a result, two working

groups commenced the drafting of the first-ever report to the Human Rights Committee (on civil and political rights) and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on Guinea-Bissau progress, the later building on the work done for the VNR.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNDP collaborated with youth to map challenges facing youth participation in sustaining peace and democratic process in the Country. Consequently, UN agencies incorporated youth voices into a national youth strategy and agenda, creating a Youth Political Forum. The platform allows youth to contribute to peacebuilding, democratic governance, and sustainable peace through a combination of dialogues, training seminars

and workshops. Using a Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) methodology the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNDP worked and met with communities, partners and local governments to jointly analyse and generate a practical plan to strengthen the resilience of communities (Cufada, Tira-camissa and Madina Atché), mitigate the arising conflicts and inform the upcoming Dialogue Forum with Sectoral and Regional Authorities. The same methodology will be implemented in 14 other communities in Quinará, Gabú and Cacheu.

The adoption and implementation of a Joint Agenda for Peace and Sustainable Development resulted in the development of the Territorial Development

Plan for the Pelundo community, which ensured that the land resources were used sustainably and that the community boundaries were clearly defined to prevent conflicts. The community developed a plan and supporting regulations, including the Land Planning Customs and the Guideline for Demarcation and Participatory Planning of Community Lands, which have been finalised for adoption.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT) trained technicians from the General Directorate of Geography and Registration of the Ministry of Public Works, Housing, and Urbanism, thereby improving their technical skills to manage and analyse spatial data for planning and decision-making at the national level.

Output 1.2 An enabling environment for political and inter-party dialogue, the key reforms' agenda, and citizen engagement involving youth, women, and vulnerable groups, to sustain peace is created.

To promote more participatory and inclusive constitutional review processes, the UN provided technical and financial assistance for the consultations and review of the proposals to the National Assembly of Guinea-Bissau and facilitated dialogue between different political parties and civil society groups in the process of developing the project for the new text of the Constitution.

The role of civil society in monitoring key reforms, particularly in the area of public administration, was also strengthened. Through UN support, civil society groups were better equipped to monitor and report on systemic reforms, contributing to greater transparency and accountability.

To promote independent journalism and enhance journalists reporting capacity, the UN supported the Centre for Media and Information on Guinea-Bissau (CMICS) journalists training on reporting on systemic government institutional reforms efforts, enabling the trained journalists to provide more accurate and objective information to the public.

With contributions from the PBF, UNDP supported the National Institute of Studies and Research, the National Library of Guinea-Bissau, and the Guinean Association of Documentalists, Archivists, and Librarians with new digital equipment to preserve the Country's history. The high-tech digital

equipment and corresponding online portal will help safeguard and preserve the Country's national archives and historical heritage documents. The support will make it possible to digitise 120,000 documents, 3,000 photographic images, 8,000 negative films and 4,000 microfilms, not only preserving the Country's rich cultural heritage but also making it more accessible to the public online.

between the National Assembly of Guinea-Bissau and the Portuguese Parliament (2019-2022). To finalise the agreement, UNDP supported logistic arrangements to gather staff in Bissau and Lisbon. This partnership between the two Parliaments includes staff training to improve communication channels and strengthen the Citizens' Office, among other things. The assistance will increase transparency and enhance the National People's Assembly (ANP) communication.

Output 1.3 Inclusive political processes, including a fair and transparent electoral cycle and a strong and independent mediascape, are strengthened.

In 2022, the UN strengthened the government Civil Registry system and Vital Statistics by improving the data collection mechanisms/systems used to gather relevant data. The "one-stop model" integrating birth registration services within the health sector was supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and a clear roadmap to digitalise birth registration services by the end of 2023 was agreed to by the Ministry of Justice. In this reporting period, 44,477 children (aged 0-17 years) were registered, including 17,375 in 37 health

facilities, such as hospitals and health centres. Registration in these health facilities is directly linked to the efforts to establish interoperability with the health sector. UNICEF further supported the Ministry of Justice in integrating birth registration into a mobile community justice outreach initiative. Civil registration services provided real-time data on registered children, disaggregated by region, gender, and age group, using digital solutions.

Social and community mobilisation efforts were implemented to ensure birth registration for children, especially in remote and difficult-to-access communities. Through the UNICEF/

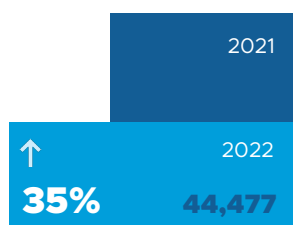
UNDP joint "Mobile Justice", initiative, 1,831 children in all regions benefited from civil registration. This was done in coordination with strengthened national and international partners, the National RCEV Committee, and the Piloting Committee for Digitization.

This initiative is increasing access to justice, and decentralising information and justice services to very remote areas, particularly for the most vulnerable groups. UNICEF's technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice enabled the establishment of a coordination mechanism among development partners, who reviewed the roadmap and key priorities to test and scale up the digitalisation of birth registrations.



37

Health structures



Registered children 0-17 years



17,364

Registered children 0-7 years



1,831

Registered children Candonga of Justice

Furthermore, the development of a digital operating system for the modernisation of civil registration was instituted. It enabled 45 registry centres to use the civil registry software and digitise their birth registration books. Overall, these resulted in a significant improvement in the civil registration system, which is essential for protecting

Output 1.4 Access to quality justice services, especially for vulnerable people, and the promotion of human rights and gender equality are enhanced

The activities implemented by UN in Guinea-Bissau in 2022 have resulted in increased capacities and access to justice, legal support, human rights, and gender equality.

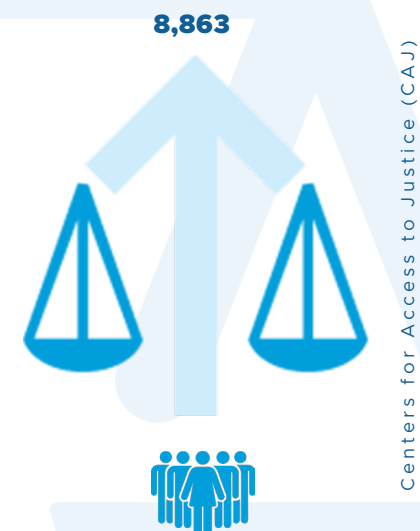
UNDP technically supported the function of the Centres for Access to Justice (CAJ) operation in the Country. The retreat of standardisation of techniques and procedures of the CAJ has increased centres' capacities to guarantee access to justice for more people, especially the most vulnerable communities. In this sense, 8,863 users nationwide accessed CAJs services in 2022.

UNDP supported the Bar Association of Guinea-Bissau in training 137 lawyers (35 women). The project increased the number of qualified lawyers who can provide legal services to vulnerable populations in the CAJs. UNDP also supported four pieces of training on legal aspects, such as money laundering and asset recovery, conducted by the Centre for Judicial Training (CENFOJ).

More than 80 judges and officials from the judicial system participated in the training contributing to institutional capacities to carry out their work in the justice and security sectors.

The joint UNICEF/UNFPA programme advanced progress towards eliminating female genital mutilation (FGM) was through social mobilisation and empowering girls and women. The implementation of eight networks to support sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) survivors, comprised of 276 professionals, has increased the availability of services for survivors of SGBV. The adoption of the National Strategic Plan for Human Rights in Guinea-Bissau by the State in the Council of Ministers which was supported by the UN system in the development of the draft plan, contributed to strengthening human rights protection and increasing the availability of human rights advocacy in the Country. The UN system has advocated for and supported meetings and workshops between state entities and civil society organisations to finalise Guinea-Bissau's first Human Rights Strategic Plan and Action Plan, which is being disseminated in the Country's eight regions.

UNICEF supported the coordination of 37 state institutions and civil society organisations to implement a coordinated incident reporting mechanism on child protection cases has increased the capacities of these institutions to respond to cases of child abuse, neglect and other violations. The reactivation of the Network of Human Rights Defenders through mapping of their members acting in Bissau and the regions have resulted in an increase in the number of defenders who can provide human rights protection services.



137 lawyers trained

THE MOBILE JUSTICE VAN

Mobile Justice was a test developed by the UNDP Accelerator Lab which integrated Civil Registry and Legal Aid into a van, which went to the most remote villages of the country to provide legal services to citizens.

The Mobile Justice van was made up of a multisectoral team that consisted of UNDP, Ministry of Justice, Center of Access to Justice (CAJ), House of Justice, UNICEF, Saudigitos and funded by the Japan.

THE PURPOSE OF MOBILE JUSTICE

- Access to Justice is a human right and covered by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.
- In Guinea-Bissau, the last 2019 MICSreport published, showed that only 46% children were registered.
- The vast majority of the population who does not get access to Justice claims the main reason is the lack of financial resources.
- Taking Justice to the people therefore means we break down that barrier.

KEY STATS

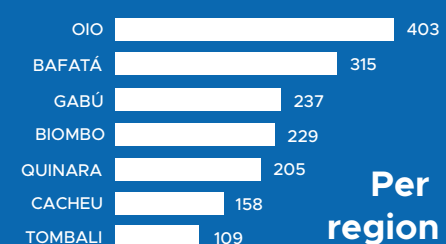
07 
Regions Visited

27 
Remote villages visited

07 
Number of necessary staff per region

1 656 
Number of registered people

1 315 
Number of people who got access to legal aid





Output 1.5 A culture of independence and integrity across the judicial system, including strengthening oversight and accountability mechanisms, is fostered, and the reforms of the security sector and law enforcement authorities are supported to reduce impunity and fight against drug trafficking and transnational organised crime and prevent violent extremism.

The UN has continued to support the efforts of the Government of Guinea-Bissau to strengthen the prevention and fight against corruption by defining a national policy against corruption—the National Anti-Corruption Strategy developed with UN support and approved by the Government in April 2022. To promote a culture of integrity across the criminal justice system, nine trainers from the Judicial Police and the Attorney General's Office were trained on ethics and integrity capacity-building techniques in December 2022. The training of trainers was conducted interactively, allowing the police officers and prosecutors to actively engage in discussions by expressing their perspectives on the various topics tackled and on ways to improve the ethics and integrity systems in their institutions.

Support provided by UNDP, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and International Organization for Migration (IOM) through the combat drug trafficking and transnational organised crime (CDTOC) project, funded by PBF, in 2022, has contributed to the independence and integrity of the judicial system, strengthening oversight and accountability mechanisms. Examples include the development of a National Anti-Corruption Strategy, approved by the Government in April 2022, which represents a crucial step to enhance transparency and confidence within the legal institutions and the population in line with the national policies and international instruments.

The UN contributed through a grant agreement with the Human Rights league to expand the early warning cells with female elements throughout the Country. The permanent presence of trained elements to identify suspicious illicit activities around the Country helped to strengthen coordination between civil society and state representatives with easier access for cross-checking information and follow-up suspicious movements in transit areas as well as promoting accountability and transparency in the judicial system through information sharing with law enforcement. UNDP, UNODC, and IOM supported with processes and technical capacity the drafting and approval of three significant policies in the justice and security sectors, helping to provide a national shared vision to enhance security and reduce instability risks, being:

1. National Anti-Drug Trafficking Integrated Strategic Plan.
2. National Strategy to Prevent Human Trafficking.
3. National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

In collaboration with ENDA Tiers Monde, the UN facilitated a study on the use of injectable drugs in Bissau, Gabú, and Bafatá, the three largest cities in Guinea-Bissau. This study led to the identification of key stakeholders and beneficiaries. A strategy for an awareness campaign was developed with the network of civil society organisations supporting the fight against illicit markets. The Guinean Observatory for Drugs and Drug Addiction was responsible for leading the implementation of the strategy. As a result of this initiative, stakeholders and beneficiaries have made a formal commitment to greater understanding and engagement in addressing the issue of injectable drug use in Guinea-Bissau.

The UN reinforced the technical and operational capacity of the Joint Airport Interdiction Task Force (JAITF) at Bissau international airport with the participation of the Guinea Bissau JAITF Team in a joint Brazil - Portugal - Guinea-Bissau - Cabo Verde "Investigative Forum."; by strengthening the JAITF Unit's operational response by donating a vehicle and X-ray material for drug detection. The JAITF composed of 16 committed and reliable officers from the Judiciary Police and National Guards (Customs), achieved notable results with numerous arrests and seizure of over 40 kg of cocaine. Since the beginning, seizures were mainly done at the arrival of the Sao Paulo-Lisbon-Bissau flight, demonstrating the continued use of the transatlantic route.

The first international control delivery also occurred thanks to the successful cooperation between Brazil, Portugal, Cabo Verde, and Guinea Bissau police. The collaboration between Guinea Bissau, Brazil, Cabo Verde, and Portugal Polices is therefore essential and allowed seizures in Portugal and Cabo Verde. Further, the technical capacities of 11 law enforcement officers (10 male and one female) have been strengthened with training in cybercrime with the participation of the representatives of the Portuguese-speaking African countries (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and S. Tome). This workshop provided an analysis of current trends in cybercrime in the region and how to collect evidence online to respond to cybercrime cases more effectively.

UNDP and UNODC, with the support of the PBF, built a Model Police Station in Gabú, equipped with the necessary furniture, and handed over to the national authorities. The Station is the Country's third place to adopt the Proximity Policing Model (PPM). The joint program further provided training on human rights, gender, and other aspects of law enforcement to 35 Public Order Police Officers and five members of civil society in line with the PPM methodology. Additionally,

the program funded the construction and equipment of two border control posts in the northern part of the Country (Dungal and Cambaju). Both posts are located in regions of difficult access and now have installations with access to solar energy and work equipment, which helped strengthen border control and prevent illegal activities.

To promote independent journalism and enhance the capacity of journalists regarding transnational organised crime, the UN provided training and financial support for the Centre for Media and Information on Guinea-Bissau (CMICS) to build a network of journalists better equipped to report on illicit markets and economy in Guinea-Bissau (REJOMEI-GB) able them to provide more accurate and objective reporting to the public on illicit economies and the impact to the society. Lastly, the joint program also supported the establishment of three regional community networks to prevent and protect violence against women and children in Bafatá, Gabú, and Quinará/Tombali. The project created a multidisciplinary and specialised intervention methodology in legal, psychological, and social support, respecting each partner entity's intervention scope and providing the appropriate referral to the survivors.

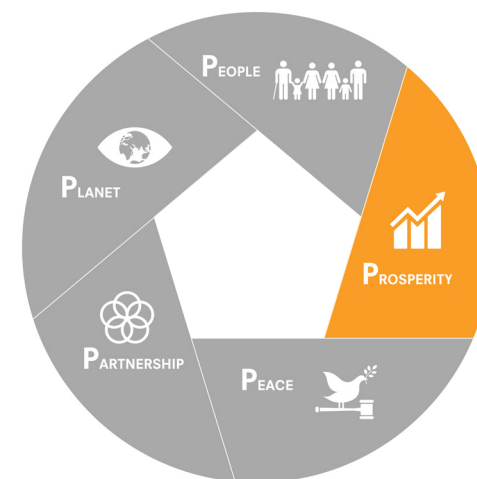


RELEVANT UPR RECOMMENDATIONS

By working together with national partners to achieve these results, the United Nations supported Guinea-Bissau's efforts to meet its human rights obligations and to implement several commitments it made in the context of its third review by the Human Rights Council (2020), including:

- Make all efforts to maintain the country on a path to democracy and consolidation of the rule of law (119.20)
- Finalize the **revision of the Constitution** and ensure that it is aligned with the country's treaty obligations (119.22)
- Consider **developing a national action plan on human rights** (...) (rec. 119.32)
- Strengthen its efforts to **establish a national human rights institution** in compliance with the Paris Principles (rec. 119.33)
- Facilitate and guarantee **access to justice**, in all regions, through the establishment and operationalization of tribunals and the reduction of court fees (rec. 119.68)
- Ensure the effective **implementation of its National Strategic Plan on Combating Drugs and Organized Crime and Reducing Risk** (rec. 119.73)
- Launch a **national plan to combat trafficking in persons**, in particular the trafficking of women and children, ensuring sufficient resources for the prosecution of crimes and the rehabilitation of victims (rec. 119.84)
- Set up mechanisms to **investigate and punish all acts of violence against women and girls** (rec. 119.152)
- Accelerate the adoption of the **draft code of integrated child protection** (...) (rec. 119.187)

For the full report see: A/HRC/44/11/Add.1



OUTCOME 2: STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT GREEN GROWTH THAT LEAVES NO ONE BEHIND

The UN results in 2022 were assessed against the SDG goals and funding recorded through UN INFO. In 2022, in partnership with the national authorities and partners, including CSOs and NGOs, the UN Outcome Two joint workplan budgeted USD 31 million for 2022. Partners, including major donors, made USD 25 million available, out of which USD 15 million, 67% of the amount received, was used to achieve the key results reported, including progress made in the structural transformation of the economy. Guinea-Bissau communities across the nine regions of the country benefited from UNCT actions to enhance the country's productive capacity, value addition, blue economy, and inclusive and green growth. Data collection systems were improved, and capacities for resilient food systems were enhanced. Government Directorate of Planning, as result of financial and technical assistance received from the UNCT, led the first ever Voluntary National Review of the SDGs, thereby, improving the national

knowledge about 17 SDGs attainment status, challenges and made specific development policy recommendations to improve the governments capability for long-term development policy planning and implementation. Local value addition and competitiveness of the agriculture sector were enhanced. The capacity of the private sector to take advantage of national and regional trading opportunities and the blue economy was boosted. One hundred and fifty farmers improved their agroecological practices by adopting high-yield rice varieties with transformative potential. Communities have enhanced their resilience and adaptative capacity to climate change through the City Resilience Action Framework. Sustainable governance and management of the environment and natural resources were improved, including biodiversity protection and renewable energy. These achievements continue to lay the foundation for progress towards the achievement of the outcome by 2026.



USD 31 million

The UN Outcome Two joint workplan budgeted for 2022



USD 25 million

provided by partners and major donors



67%

used to achieve key reported results



Output 2.1 Capacities to foster resilient, inclusive, and diversified economic growth and sustainable human development, leading to poverty reduction and leaving no one behind, are enhanced.

The Government improved its capacity to collect and process agricultural and rural statistical data for evidence-based decision-making following Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) supported training of 23 technicians from the National Statistical Institute (INE) and Ministries of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Government gained better insights into the high-risk regions and food-insecure populations following FAO financial and technical assistance in the implementation of two national surveys within the annual Harmonized Framework of food and nutrition indicators for planning and response to food crises. The FAO assistance enabled the Government to conduct a comprehensive, rigorous, and transparent analysis of the current and projected food and nutrition situation for effective decision-making. The National Soil Laboratory improved its management capacity through an FAO-supported partnership with the Lisbon University Science Faculty and the Lisbon Higher Institute of Agronomy which has trained 17 technicians from the National Soil Laboratory, including six women.

Over 270 technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development benefited from FAO-supported training on the fight against pests, pesticide management, evaluation of agricultural yields, and good practices in the use of veterinary products to protect animal health. The Government successfully implemented a key WFP-supported initiative to purchase locally produced food products for school canteens, strengthening food value chains, entrepreneurship and creating jobs. As part of this initiative, 862 farmers (450 men and 412 women) benefited from special training on monitoring food supply chains in the regions of Bafatá, Cacheu, Gabú, Oio, Quinará, and Tombali to make local produce available for purchase as part of the school canteen. The income of small farmers was improved as 477,620 tonnes of local produce was purchased by school canteens.

FAO assisted rural communities in the Bafatá region in rehabilitating and assessing the economic value of 14 hectares of mangroves for agricultural production and 4 hectares for horticultural production in eight communities in Ganadu. The project also improved the working conditions of at least 558 farmers in these areas. Women gardeners in the eight communities benefited from horticultural materials and inputs, improving their incomes and working conditions.

The technical capacity of the General Directorate of Geography and Registration for evidence-based decision-making was enhanced through FAO-supported training of 10 technical staff in using the Geographic Information System. Furthermore, local populations were better prepared to solve land-related problems due to the training of 100 young people in land conflict prevention and management. Moreover, local populations were better ready to solve land-related issues due to the training of 100 young people in land conflict prevention and management.

The Government benefited from United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) technical assistance to improve the competitiveness of the mango sector value chain, including production, processing, conservation, and marketing capacities of actors: over 700 fruit fly traps and equipment installation were provided. Additionally, two incubation centres were established to support the development of innovative ideas into profitable ventures for empowering young people, including women. Over 13,000 mango saplings were distributed in the regions of Cacheu, Oio, and Bafatá, while targeted training in agribusiness and mango processing was provided to 410 individuals, primarily women, in the beneficiary regions of Bafatá, Cacheu, Oio, and Bissau. Technical support was also provided to the Government to implement a national policy and quality standards for the sector, resulting in further benefits.

UNIDO further supported 110 artisanal fishermen and 80 women from the regions of Cacheu, Buba, and Canchungo to increase their productivity and improve fish conservation capacity through improved fishing techniques and the installation of ice plants.

Government capacity to implement strategies for creating decent jobs has been improved through an International Labour Organization (ILO) supported diagnostic study for formulating a national strategy for implementing an employment-intensive approach towards infrastructure investment. Over 32 representatives from the ministry of labour and employer associations benefited from training on the decent job agenda.

Output 2.2 Enabling environment improved, and private sector capacities, response to emerging market opportunities and contribution to productivity, growth, and livelihoods are boosted

The Government's capacity to implement Land Laws and Regulations has been strengthened through the technical validation of an FAO-supported study to establish the National Land Observatory. Tenure rights have been improved with the delineation of over 50,356.35 hectares of land in 89 communities (tabankas). Training against cashew diseases, pests and parasites was provided to 40 technicians and publicists from the Ministry of Agriculture and 520 farmers, including 60 women.

Over 41,676 farmers, including 27,724 women (67%), were provided essential inputs such as cereal and legume seeds, vegetable seeds, fertilisers, small materials, PVC pipes for water management, medicines and veterinary materials, and vaccines. Furthermore, 150 seed multiplication farmers were trained to apply

good seed multiplication practices for rice. Government capacity to ensure financial inclusion has been enhanced through UNDP assistance to formulate a Strategy and National Action Plan addressing constraints to scaling up microfinance services, including a review of the microfinance regulatory framework and recovery plan. The first Impact Investment Trade Forum organised by UNDP and its partners in Bissau has enhanced private-sector entrepreneurship. This event showcased local business opportunities to domestic and regional entrepreneurs, enabling them to exploit the thriving market.

With UNDP support, the Government has strengthened its capacity to diversify the economy by formulating and implementing the Blue Economy Strategy and Investment Plan.

This plan aims to contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic diversification, promote green and transformative growth, and align with the SIDS program.



50 356.35 ha
Tenure rights have been improved with the delineation of land in 89 communities



520
farmers training against cashew diseases, pests and parasites was provided



41,676
farmers were provided essential inputs such as cereal and legume seeds, vegetable seeds, fertilisers, small materials, PVC pipes



Output 2.3 Stakeholders' capacities in terms of disaster and climate risk-informed development are enhanced

In 2022, the UN-HABITAT interventions addressed climate change risks and disasters. These interventions aimed to enhance the capacity of local government members and enable cities to prevent and respond to climate risks. As part of these interventions, 23 local government representatives received training on climate risks and disasters. The training aimed to improve their understanding of climate change's impacts on the community and the Climate Resilience Action Framework (CRAF) operationalisation. The training successfully enhanced the knowledge and skills of the local government members, who are now better equipped to manage climate risks and disasters effectively.

Another significant intervention carried out by the UN-HABITAT in 2022 was the development and adoption of City Resilience Action Frameworks (CityRAP) in four cities vulnerable to climate change - São Domingos, Mansoa, Cacine, and Bubaque. The CityRAP is a strategic plan that enables cities to identify and prioritise their vulnerabilities to climate change and develop action plans to address them. The UN partnered with these cities to develop the CityRAP, aimed at increasing the resilience of the cities to climate change risks. As a result of the interventions, the four cities are now better prepared to prevent and respond to climate risks. The CityRAP developed has helped to identify and prioritise the risks specific to each city. The action plans aim to reduce the risks and increase the cities' resilience to climate change.

How an old rice production system is saving the year ahead in Bissau-Guinean FAO and WFP joint pilot fields

Djaja Baldé speaks with difficulty, she's a stammer, but that doesn't undermine her glow as she leads through the fields, she cultivates with her household of 17 people: "Look around, see for yourself. Never in all my years have I had so much rice." We are in the Gabú region, in the east of Guinea-Bissau, specifically in the village of Sintchã Benfica. In this area of Fulani and Muslim majority live some of the populations facing the most difficulties in the complex Bissau-Guinean social mosaic. It was one of the regions chosen to pilot the Sustainable Rice Intensification (SRI) technique which had previously led to four-fold increases in rice productivity in its experimental phase. The pilot is expected to provide valuable evidence to the government to support the transition, on the medium and long term, towards increased agricultural productivity and improved food sovereignty.

In total, throughout 2022, 150 farmers participated in this project, co-financed with US\$250,000 by the Joint Fund for SDGs and the FAO and implemented by the FAO with the WFP. In her village, as head of family, Djaja was part of a group of 7 men and 3 women who received training in the System of Rice Intensification's techniques, involving practices different from ancestral production models.

These are not new practices, nor do they call upon recent knowledge. It so happened that, at the end of the 1990s, when this African sub-region received international support for the establishment of pilot fields, Guinea-Bissau was emerging from its devastating civil war – the country remained on the sidelines of the advances verified across borders.

Djaja is adamant and visibly moved: "This year my family will eat properly, with no worries. I will never go back – I will use this new technique until the end of my days, until I die!". So far, two communities in the Bafatá region, with better water resources and more fertile soils, had exceptional results: 6 and 7 tons, respectively. The southern Quinará region, thought especially promising for mangrove rice paddies, turned the lowest results: an average of 2.1 tons per hectare. As for the communities in the Gabú region, they turned a 2,7 average. This falls well short of the expected 4 tons at national level. Broadly, results represent, however, the doubling of the volume of the usual harvests. In regions where acute food insecurity has trapped more than 108,000 people in need of immediate food support, one can easily understand the relief and joy this evokes. ~

Especially at a time with historical levels of inflation and price increases, which have been further aggravating the living conditions of those who were already facing more difficulties and putting the security of new social groups at risk. Adding to this, in a region also struggling with difficulties in the distribution of water resources, the reduction of up to about 50% of irrigation needs for the new production system, compared to ancestral rice production techniques, also comes into play.



Output 2.4 Cities/communities better value the natural capital and improve their resilience to climate and disaster impacts as part of local sustainable and resilient economic development

Regarding climate resilience, UNDP technical assistance protected 1000 hectares of rice cultivation in lowlands from climate risks, improving local communities' food security. In addition, 121.5 hectares of coastal area have been restored through sustainable land use and forest management.

UNDP interventions have strengthened the capacity of 2,768 families, including in remote areas, to sustainably manage their land and practice climate-smart agroecology. Government capacity to implement a framework for climate risk monitoring for the coastal zone has also been enhanced through the elaboration of a cartographic study of the coastal zone and a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) study of the Guinea Bissau Coastal Area.

Coastal communities access to social services for sustainable and resilient economic development has been improved through UNDP support in the construction/rehabilitation of 20.4km of rural roads, including remote areas. Over 136 public and private institutions, and CSOs, including women and faith-based organisations, benefited from UNDP training to address global environmental challenges and sustainably manage natural resources.

Lastly, 150 farmers in the regions of Gabú, Bafatá and Quinará have enhanced their capacity for food self-sufficiency through technical assistance from the UN to adopt the "System of Intensification of Rice Production", an innovative technique which allows farmers to increase rice yields significantly by seven folds from their current level of 800kg to 1000kg per hectare.



1000 ha
of rice cultivation in
lowlands from climate risks



2,768
families, including in remote
areas, to sustainably manage
their land and practice
climate-smart agroecology



20.4 km
UNDP support in the
construction/rehabilitation
of rural roads



Output 2.5 Sustainable governance and management of environmental and natural resources, including biodiversity protection and renewable energy, are strengthened.

UNDP equipped communities in six nature-protected areas with tools to better value natural capital and renewable energy potential for sustainable and resilient economic development. The intervention improved the conservation status of 14 forest and five reforested species and promoted the sustainable cultivation of 11 agroecological products. As a result of UNDP support, 45 communities have been able to implement low-carbon technologies with environmental and livelihood co-benefits. Over 127 young people (41% women) and 130 representatives from government departments participated in eight dialogue sessions on local conflicts, challenges, and opportunities for including young people in local land management.

This resulted in the establishment of 40 youth clubs (boys and girls) in the regions of Biombo, Oio and Cacheu, with a total of 800 youth (50.8% women).

RELEVANT UPR RECOMMENDATIONS

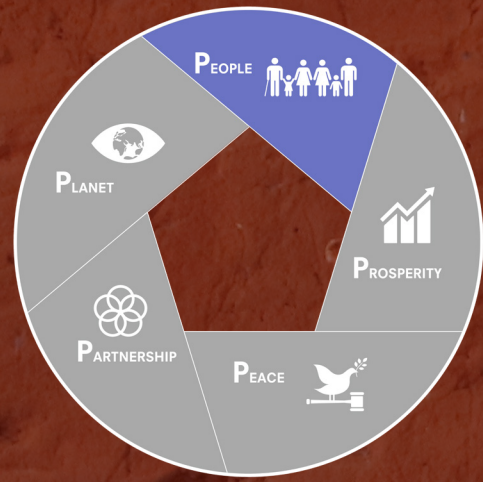
By working with national partners to achieve these results, the United Nations supported Guinea-Bissau's efforts to meet its human rights obligations and to implement several commitments it made in the context of its third review by the Human Rights Council (2020), including:

- Implement policies to **mitigate the effects of climate change** (...) (rec. 119.48)
- Intensify government initiatives to address **youth unemployment** through professional training (rec. 119.93)
- Further accentuate action focusing on the fight against poverty through the **promotion of socioeconomic activities in rural areas** (119.101)

- Take steps to **enhance agricultural productivity**, the delivery of housing and poverty relief (rec. 119.102)

For the full report see: A/HRC/44/11/Add.1





OUTCOME 3: HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

The UN results in 2022 were assessed against the SDG goals and funding recorded through UN INFO. In 2022, in partnership with the national authorities and partners, including CSOs and NGOs, the UN Outcome Three joint workplan budgeted USD 65 million for 2022. Partners, including major donors, made USD 61 million available, out of which USD 29 million, 48% of the amount received, was used to achieve the key results reported, including ensuring the availability of life-saving products at the national level; reinforcing the capacity of the Ministry of Education and other educational actors to increase access to education, and improving the quality and relevance of learning outcomes; laying the foundation for the development of a social protection policy/strategy; improving infrastructure in terms of sanitation facilities; strengthening the capacity of the Government at the central, regional and local levels to carry out interventions that ensure food security and reduce acute and chronic malnutrition; and institutional and technical training of protection actors and advocacy to strengthen political commitments for the protection of children, to advance gender equality and to combat harmful practices. These achievements continue to lay the foundation for progress towards the achievement of the outcome by 2026.



USD 65 million

The UN Outcome Two joint workplan budgeted for 2022



USD 61 million

provided by partners and major donors



48%

used to achieve key reported results



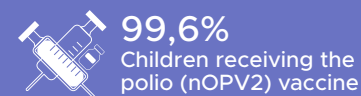
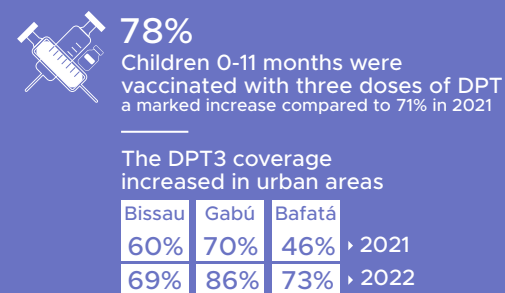
Output 3.1 Guinea-Bissau's health system has the capacity to provide high-quality, with high-impact integrated services, people-centred health services, based on primary health care approach and comprehensive essential service packages as defined in the National Health Development Plan, and applied to development and humanitarian settings

In 2022, the UN system partnered with various stakeholders to strengthen the health system in Guinea-Bissau, focusing on primary care and ensuring the continuity of essential services and responses to potential outbreaks. Support to Guinea-Bissau health services was centred around vaccinations, reducing malaria morbidity and mortality rates, strengthening health system capacities, strengthening maternal and neonatal health, and primary health and governance.

In vaccination, it is important to highlight that performance on immunisation coverage progressed positively in 2022. UNICEF and WHO helped increase vaccination coverage with technical and financial support provided in preparation and implementation of the national vaccination campaigns, including the creation of different databases for data management and use of other platforms (ODK, KIZEO, Cobo collect) for real-time epidemiologic data; strengthening the national cold chain for effective vaccines management and provision of technical support for the development of the national plan for the preparation and implementation of the measles vaccination monitoring campaign; evaluation of the 1st National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP) for COVID-19 and the development of the subsequent NDVP2.1; and substantial mobilisation of resources for the procurement of routine vaccines that were in short supply.

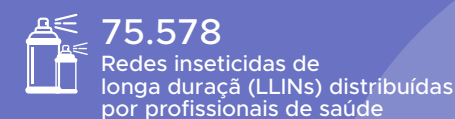
Though falling slightly below the 82% target, 78% of children 0-11 months were vaccinated with three doses of DPT (diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis) containing pentavalent vaccine nationally, a marked increase compared to 71% in 2021. The DPT3 coverage increased in urban areas (Bissau, Gabú and Bafatá) from 60%, 70%, and 46% in 2021 to 69%, 86 and 73% in 2022, respectively. After three unsuccessful years, with the financial and technical support of UNICEF, the Ministry of

Public Health implemented two rounds of vitamin A supplementation and deworming with satisfactory results of 244,445 children out of 319 445 (76%) who received vitamin A supplement twice. The two rounds of polio vaccination campaigns, particularly the second one, were of high quality (administrative data and independent monitoring and Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS), with 99.6% of children receiving the polio (nOPV2) vaccine nationally with the quality of the UNICEF community mobilization receiving wide acclaim . For the first time, Bissau, the Capital, reached 90% coverage. The strategies used during polio campaigns, with specific social mobilisation and community engagement of hesitant communities generating lessons for routine immunisation.



In malaria prevention and treatment, UNDP, as the principal recipient of the Global Fund New Funding Model (NFM3) grant, provided technical and financial support to the National Malaria Control Program to implement its activities. Thus, in 2022, in collaboration with UNICEF's community health programme, several activities were realised and contributed to reducing malaria-related morbidity and mortality in the Country and strengthening the health system. These include specific prevention interventions targeting vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and children under five years of age and ensuring diagnosis and treatment of the rest of the population in public and private facilities as well as in the community with the support

of community health workers and outreach activities by health technicians. Health workers systematically distributed 75,578 Long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) to protect against malaria among 65% of the vulnerable target population, represented by 39,654 pregnant women during antenatal consultations and 35,924 children under one year of age during vaccination activities. In 2022, 112,472 children aged 3 to 59 months benefited from seasonal malaria chemoprevention during the high transmission season, protecting 52% of the target population who received Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention (SP-AQ) treatment in 4 rounds (August, September, October and November) in the four targeted regions with high malaria incidence (Gabú, Bafatá, Bolama, Tombali). In the public sector, 100% of suspected cases (496,988) were tested, and 98% of confirmed cases (179,447) were treated with first-line antimalarial treatment.



In private sector facilities, 94% of suspected cases (41,609) underwent parasitological testing, and 83% of confirmed cases (9,967) received first-line antimalarial treatment. Community-based activities conducted by the CHWs resulted in 71% of suspected cases (3363) being tested and 79% of confirmed cases (1361) being treated with first-line antimalarial treatment.

In maternal and neonatal health, 61% of births were attended by skilled health personnel (doctor, nurse, midwife, or auxiliary midwife), an increase of 19% compared to 2021. UNFPA Guinea leads agencies in (i) ending preventable maternal deaths, (ii) ending unmet need for family planning, and (iii) ending gender-based violence and harmful practices, including FGM and child marriage. The implementation of these three transformative results is part of the

improvement of maternal and neonatal health, access to health rights for everyone, respect, and restoration of the dignity of all women and vulnerable people and the population's living conditions. UNFPA's technical and financial support has enabled the rehabilitation of delivery rooms in four of the six regions targeted by the program for the provision of the integrated service package, according to the integrated service package analysis report, in the regions of Bafatá, Gabú, Quinará and Tombali and within the same vein, and still within the framework of cooperation between UNFPA and the Ministry of Health, UNFPA and European Union Funded Integrated Program for the Reduction of Maternal and Child Mortality (PIMI) provided technical and financial support to the Quinará region. UNFPA proceeded to i) the rehabilitation of the operating room, ii) the recruitment of three specialists, namely an obstetrician gynaecologist, an anaesthesiologist and an instrumentalist, iii) the equipping of the health centre and the operating room, iv) the provision of reproductive health products including life-saving products and contraceptives. From 15 June 2021 to 30 June 2022, the following exceptional results were obtained: i) 563 deliveries, including 476 vaginal deliveries and 87 caesarean sections; ii) 1480 obstetrical ultrasounds and 76 gynaecological ultrasounds were performed; iii) the Buba health centre was able to maintain the functionality of an EmONC and iv) there were no maternal deaths at the Buba health centre during this period under review. In family planning, UNFPA has supported the Ministry of Health with interventions in fixed and advanced strategies and has helped recruit 17,505 new users of modern FP transmitting reports. In the reporting period, 5,439 children under five years of age were identified with fever, 88% (4,788) benefited from a rapid malaria diagnostic test, 29% (1,371) tested positive, and 95% (1,305) received ACT treatment in the community, the rest were evacuated to sanitary structures. 90% (5,943/6,607) of cases of diarrhoea and 89% (1,024/1,146) of cases of pneumonia in children under five years of age were treated in the community with oral rehydration salts, zinc, and amoxicillin, respectively.

In strengthening the technical capacity of health professionals, WHO financially

supported the qualification of 1248 professionals (688 women and 560 men) in Infection Prevention and Control/IPC; 197 (108 men and 89 women) trained in critical care of patients (ABCDE approach, 103 (51 men and 52 women) trained in Basic Emergency Care; 27 trained in data analysis for the preparation of the National Health Accounts (NHA) Exercise 2018-2021. An assessment of subnational health system functionality was also conducted, the results of which indicate that 79.3% of areas with satisfactory indicators for universal health coverage, 63.2% for health security, 71.7% for primary health care, 47.2% for health system functionality and 46% for health system capacity [1]. Diagnostic capabilities have been strengthened with the acquisition of 12 imaging devices (CT, X-ray) and 12,000 viral hepatitis rapid diagnostic tests.

To improve and sustain the above results, UNICEF, UNDP and WHO supported MoH in convening key actors in a comprehensive review of the Primary Health Care (PHC) system to initiate a revitalisation process to address the systemic challenges in the delivery of neonatal, child and maternal health care services, and to counter recent negative trends on key indicators. The consensus on actions will enable a collective effort of accelerating progress from 2023 onwards on (i) investments required to revitalise the national PHC system; (ii) improving access, coverage, and quality of care by 2026, (iii) strengthening the PHC operational levers required to make Universal Health Coverage (UHC) possible in Guinea Bissau by 2030. UN agencies reinforced advocacy to have greater consultations in the development of the new 2023-2028 national health strategic plan and the inclusion of primary health care as a core people centric programming approach, as well as its monitoring and evaluation plan. The development of the Health Information Strategic Plan, and the Telemedicine Strategic Plan will also support health system strengthening.

Moving towards Zero Maternal Mortality in Guinea-Bissau

Buba, Quinará region, Guinea Bissau, zero preventable maternal deaths have been registered at the Buba Health Center over the period June 2021 to June 2022 in a region that was selected for its high rate of maternal mortality. Although the national average rate of maternal mortality is estimated at 746 per 100,000 live births (INASA 2018), the toll in the Quinará region stands at 3,015 per 100,000 live births (INASA 2018), which is four times higher than the national average.

In rural areas like the Quinará region, one of the most remote places of Guinea Bissau, getting to a health center is like an obstacle course, and is even more complicated and dangerous during the rainy season. In these rural communities, health centres may have nurses and midwives but no obstetrician/gynecologists to immediately assess high-risk pregnancies and obstetric cases. The lack of skilled health professionals contributes to high

maternal and newborn mortality rate.

The Buba Health Centre is a referral centre for the Quinará region. The nearest health centre to Buba is in Indjassane, a village 21 kilometres away. “The Indjassane health center receives patients from the southern and eastern provinces of the country. There are cases where the evacuation of pregnant women in need of specialized care to the Buba Health Center is necessary. They travel in very difficult conditions, often by motorcycle, and arrive at the Buba health center very tired. Thanks to the availability and professionalism of the team of specialists, they end up being treated adequately and on time”. José Alexandre da Silva, Head Nurse of Indjassane Health Centre.

Faced with this difficult situation, working in close collaboration with the Quinará regional health directorate of the Ministry of Health and other partners, UNFPA recruited and assigned

a team of 3 persons, made of Dr. Sonia Bako, UN International Volunteer Medical Gynecologist/Obstetrician, Ms. Cadidjatu Culibali, an anesthetist, and Ms. Flaminia Camala, an instrumentist, both national consultants, to the Buba Health Centre since June 15th, 2021. Prior to the arrival of the UNFPA team, Buba Health Centre was facing significant gaps in providing quality maternal health services due to the non-functioning of the operating room, the unavailability of essential equipment and supplies, and limited skilled personnel. Working hands-in-hands with the authorities of the regional health directorate, local health professional and community health workers, the UNFPA technical team, supported by the UNFPA regular resources and the Maternal Health Trust Fund (MHTF), has been working to address all of these issues and reduce maternal mortality.

“During my last pregnancy, I was referred to the capital Bissau, but now, thank God, it is no longer necessary, this time I gave birth in the Health Centre of Buba, I have no complications and I feel well.” Koumba Diouma Diop, patient at Buba health centre.

“The success rates have been exceptional lately!” exclaims Dr. Sonia, as there were zero maternal deaths registered over the course of one (1) year, from June 2021 to June 2022. This news has been celebrated by all the health authorities and development partners, UNFPA, donors and the staff at Buba Health Centre, which receives approximately 50 pregnant women per month in antenatal care, coming from the whole Quinará region, which account for 35,4% women of childbearing age - 15-49 years old (National Institute of Statistics/2022). In total, the team assisted 563 deliveries during this period, including 476 natural Births and 87 caesarean sections with simple post-operative follow-up.

“I thank God, because I gave birth by caesarian section and everything went well, I have my son in my hands, and I feel well. Because in the past, when pregnant women were evacuated to Bissau, in some cases they would die, due to the poor conditions of the roads.” Salimatu Turé, patient at Buba health centre.

Built in 2015 with the support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Buba Health Centre has the only functional operating theatre in the whole Quinará region. In 2020 UNFPA invested to refurbish and equip the Health Center and has since supplied it with life-saving and sexual and reproductive health commodities, including contraceptives. It became operational in 2021 when skilled health professionals were deployed as part of the H4 + Project initiative, implemented jointly by UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and other partners to strengthen emergency obstetric and neonatal care.



“During my last pregnancy, I was referred to the capital Bissau, but now, thank God, it is no longer necessary, this time I gave birth in the Health Centre of Buba, I have no complications and I feel well.”

Koumba Diouma Diop, patient at Buba health centre.



➡ **Output 3.2 Education institutions and teachers have increased capacities to ensure an equitable and inclusive education system and to strengthen access to quality formal, informal and non-formal education for children, youth, and adults, especially for girls and women, to acquire a basic level of literacy, adequate learning outcomes, transversal skills, and lifelong learning opportunities.**


The UN has successfully supported the Government of Guinea-Bissau in mobilising civil society and conducting national consultations for the Transforming Education Summit (TES). This collaboration resulted in the Guinea-Bissau National Commitment to Education, which ensures that the Government meets the clear goals of providing inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, especially for girls and marginalised groups. As the sector lead UNICEF increased coordination in the education sector by guiding financial and technical assistance to the Ministry of Education and coordinating the joint education sector review. This led to the adoption of the 2022 budgeted action plan for the sector.

In the reporting period, over 170,000 students in 690 schools had improved access to learning through daily school feeding provided by the World Food Programme. In 2022, WFP launched a pilot named Schools Connect in two regions, involving 80 schools. This pilot aimed to improve the monitoring of school feeding activities by providing live data on school attendance, food stocks and food consumption, making this data accessible to partners and the Government. WFP distributed tablets to all 80 school directors and organised two trainings for 166 staff at the school, sector, and regional levels to improve monitoring capabilities. As a result, in July, school directors from the 47 schools involved in Biombo successfully shared reliable data on children's attendance and remaining

food stocks. In August, an additional 33 schools in the Oio region were involved in the pilot.

WFP is seeking funds to expand the project to all 693 assisted schools across the Country.

Additionally, with UNICEF support, the Ministry of Education was able to increase its capacity to mitigate the adverse effects of COVID-19 on student access and learning outcomes. UN provided training to teachers to identify learning loss and implement remedial learning activities, as well as catch-up learning for students before the launch of the 2022-2023 school year. UN agencies have also developed, tested, and disseminated high-quality alternative distance learning materials to protect children's right to education during school closures.

 **+170,000 (690 schools)**
Students in had improved access to learning through daily school feeding

At the policy level, the UNICEF provided significant financial and technical support in the development of the National Inclusive Education Strategy for Guinea-Bissau 2022-2028. The strategy which the Directive Counsel approved at the Ministry of Education in late 2022 is a significant achievement as it provides a clear framework and operational plan to ensure that education is inclusive and accessible to marginalised children, with clear guidance to ensure that children with special education needs and disability successfully exercise their right to education.

UNICEF also supported the National Institute for Educational Development (INDE), the National Directorate of Literacy and Non-Formal Education (DGAEnF), and other key partners to complete a diagnostic of the sector and develop a draft National Strategy for Out-of-School

Children which is It is also aligned with the first draft National Literacy Policy, also developed in 2022. UNICEF also continued to develop, test, and disseminate high-quality alternative distance learning materials in partnership with MEN, Television Guinea-Bissau (TGB), and the organization “Animar para Educar” In addition to piloting 216 radio lessons for children aged 5-14 to approximately 70% of the eligible population (336,082 children among which 163,827 girls), 30 television lessons for children 6-14 in the subject areas of Portuguese and Math were produced and aired.

➔ **Output 3.3 National institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear vulnerability criteria and a strong management information system, including in emergencies.**



In 2022, the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity, with the support of UNICEF, WFP and UNFPA, initiated a Joint SDG Funded project for the development of a shock-

responsive social protection system that improves social inclusion, contributes to poverty reduction and underpins program activities while reinforcing coordination and synergies between actors. As building blocks for the development of the National Social Protection Policy and Strategy, the Joint Program has supported the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity in creating technical and steering committees to support the effective implementation and development of the National Social Protection Policy and Strategy in partnership and collaboration with various organisations. Complementary to this, UNDP signed an agreement with UNDP Brazil, the executing agency of the socialprotection.org platform, to map the existing social protection programmes, stakeholders, legal frameworks and databases related to social protection in Guinea Bissau.

Moreover, during the reporting period, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity in identifying and training 350 social protection agents in urban and rural areas who will serve as focal points for social and child protection-related referral mechanisms. Additionally, UNICEF has built and strengthened the capacity of 42 staff members from the Ministry of Finance and other social sector ministries to apply child and gender-sensitive budgeting procedures to support the ongoing 2023 national budgetary processes.

WFP continued to support female schoolchildren through take-home ration to encourage their enrolment, promote school attendance, and reduce the number of cases of early marriage. The Take Home Ration (THR) modality also incentivises

families to bring and keep schoolchildren living with disability at school. As a result, in 2022, THR beneficiaries significantly increased by 43%. WFP has been working closely with the General Directorate of inclusive education and the international NGO Humanity Inclusion (HI) to progressively remove social barriers limiting school access to children with disabilities.

➔ **Output 3.4 Communities in rural, peri-urban areas and small towns increasingly achieve the right to adequate housing and habitat, have access to sustainable water and sanitation services and improved hygiene practices leading to an open defecation-free (ODF) status via scalable service delivery models linked to markets.**

UNICEF has played a vital role in promoting sector coordination in Guinea-Bissau by facilitating the Water and Sanitation Partners' Group (Grupo de Água e Saneamento - GAS). With the UN's assistance, the Country was able to participate in the 9th World Water Forum in March 2022, where the Minister of Natural Resources led the delegation in discussions on reinforcing government engagement to monitor water access and infrastructure functionality under the theme “Water Security for Peace and Development”.

Throughout 2022, the UNICEF has significantly contributed to improving access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene for children and adolescents in 36 targeted communities in Guinea-Bissau. As a result, 1,626 students across five schools have benefited from improved WASH facilities, and ongoing improvements to 10 healthcare facilities will reach 106,700 people. The program has also created safe and inclusive spaces, thus improving the well-being of children in hard-to-reach communities. In rural areas, the WASH program has introduced vaccination promotion alongside Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approaches in 104 communities in six regions, which are on the path to ending open defecation. UNICEF-supported interventions, including the construction of 191 basic latrines,

have led 104 communities to Open Defecation Free, benefiting 20,936 people.



Despite the challenges of mobilising financial and technical resources, UNICEF made significant progress in strengthening government capacity in sector monitoring and data management using digital tools and platforms. Technicians from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Education have received data collection, management, and analysis training. This effort aligns with UNICEF's engagement in improving the availability of data and information to support evidence-based planning and decision-making. UNICEF also supported the production of the dataset on healthcare facilities and infrastructure that was the basis for establishing and adopting the National Health Map by the Ministry of Health.

The UN's work in the Water, Hygiene, and Sanitation sector is promising as the Country continues to march towards achieving universal and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, in line with SDG 6 targets. Guinea-Bissau's performance in reducing open defecation from 18% in 2014 to 10.7% in 2019 has encouraged the Government to request the support of the UN in developing a National Costed Plan to End Open Defecation by 2030 and consequently increase access to basic sanitation and hygiene.



Output 3.5 National institutions have the technical capacity to plan, deliver services, monitor and evaluate the implementation of interventions at central, regional and facility levels to ensure food security and reduce acute and chronic malnutrition among under-five children, adolescents, persons living with disabilities and women in most affected areas, including in emergency situations.

In 2022 WFP distributed 58 Mt of specialised nutritious foods and reached 4026 children from 6 to 59 months of age in Oio, Bafatá and Gabú. Of the children who had completed Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment, 92% experienced a full recovery. From September to November, corresponding to a big part of the lean season, 180 Mt of specialised nutritious food was distributed to 20,000 children aged 6 to 23 months to prevent chronic malnutrition in the regions mentioned above. This coverage is expected to rise with incoming Spanish government funding in 2023. In 2022, WFP resumed support for PLHIV, reaching 960 beneficiaries with specialised nutritious foods. From 2023, WFP intends to increase the available support for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) by providing cash assistance.



58Mt (in 2022)
the nutritious foods distributed for WFP and reached 4026 children from 6 to 59 months of age in Oio, Bafatá and Gabú



20,000
children aged 6 to 23 months received 180 Mt of specialized nutritious food to prevent chronic malnutrition



↑28.6%
of increase in beneficiaries

In 2022, WFP continued tackling malnutrition, doubling the planned number of beneficiaries receiving treatment for moderate acute malnutrition. Compared to 2021, WFP achieved an increase of 28.6% in beneficiaries. WFP also exceeded by 11% its coverage of stunting prevention programs during the lean season over the targeted regions.

The post-distribution monitoring survey conducted in December 2022 showed that 16.8% of assisted children (MAM and stunting) achieved a minimum acceptable diet, an increase of 7.4% compared to last year. In addition, the proportion of women aged 15-49 who achieved minimum dietary diversity increased by 3% compared to the previous year, climbing to 32%.

The Fill Nutrient Gap study was completed, and the results were shared with all partners intervening in food security and nutrition. It identifies the most vulnerable groups and informs policies and decisions that target the most left behind. This study contributed positively to designing and planning the interventions in the new Country Strategic Plan that will be implemented by the Government in 2023. WFP and UNICEF further provided material and technical support for the continuity of services (early detection and treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition- SAM) in the 52 Nutritional Recovery Centres currently active in the Country. A total of 1,899 children were admitted for treatment, of which 1105 were new admissions. The performance of the Integrated Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition program demonstrated that: 891 children (79.1%) were cured; 176 children (15.6%) defaulted; 55 (4.9%) children died, and children that did not respond to the treatment were 4 (0.4%).

After three years of incomplete coverage, UNICEF support enabled Guinea-Bissau was able to implement two rounds of vitamin A supplementation and deworming with satisfactory results for 244,445 children out of 319 445 (76%) who received vitamin A supplement twice. The Percentage of children aged 0-5 months who are exclusively fed with breast milk, children aged 6-23 months receiving

a minimum number of food groups and districts implementing the minimum package to prevent stunting in children remain the same at 59%, 13% and 46%, respectively.

Output 3.6 National systems have strengthened capacity for policy development and implementation of interventions to promote child protection, gender equality & diversity & prevent harmful practices.

In 2022, with UNICEF support, the Ministry of Woman, Family and Social Solidarity (MMFSS) in Guinea-Bissau worked on building a child protection (CP) system to address protection issues children face. The UNICEF organised advocacy sessions with the MMFSS, parliamentarians, social service workforce (SSWF), and other key stakeholders to develop a national referral and case management mechanism.

Despite challenges, progress was made in identifying and reporting CP cases and responding to all forms of violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children. UNICEF also supported the Woman and Child Institute (IMC) to improve the capacity of 29 CP stakeholders from three regions in incident reporting using digital tools. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) further provided support to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and Human Rights to strengthen the capacity of personnel from the judicial system, police forces, and technicians from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and social workers on the legal framework for child protection, child sensitive care and support to children in need of protection. The capacity of 55 actors (21 women and 24 men) was enhanced. OHCHR also supported the MMFSS in strengthening and improving the provision of protection services in the reception centres through capacity building in socio-educational techniques and psychosocial support for child victims of 48 people (20 women and 28 men) and provided equipment and essential materials for three reception centres located in Bissau and regions.

Advocacy and technical support by UNICEF permitted the scale-up of efforts to prevent violence, especially sexual violence, and



244,445 (76%)
Children received vitamin A supplement twice.

to support service points to reach children affected by sexual violence. Most services are managed by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) collaborating with state CP structures, mainly in the health and justice sectors. In 2022, 674 children (574 girls and 100 boys) who experienced violence, abuse, and exploitation were reached by CP services. Sexual violence cases (175) were widely reported through human rights and child rights organisations and the local media. The capacity of 537 teachers and school workers to address gender-based violence in schools was enhanced. The Ministry of Education collaborated with the MMFSS, judiciary police, and CSOs to increase awareness of sexual harassment in schools.



674 (in 2022)
children (574 girls and 100 boys) who experienced violence, abuse, and exploitation were reached by CP services.



175
Sexual violence cases were widely

In 2022, UNICEF and UNFPA jointly worked with key implementing partners to review indicators, priorities, and key strategies to implement the new phase IV of the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Joint Programme (JP), the most extensive programme in the Country addressing FGM. Public declarations to end FGM and strategies to work with families and adolescents were reviewed, and guidance tools to strengthen human rights dialogues were reviewed and approved. In total, 35,667 people from 108 communities participated in 1,189 human rights dialogues to end FGM and child marriage. Community surveillance mechanisms were reinforced in 42 communities to prevent violence.

Moreover, in partnership with the Women and Children Institute (Instituto de Mulher e Criança IMC), the UNFPA-UNICEF FGM JP created four structures of men's clubs supporting



sexual and reproductive health and the abandonment of FGM in three regions. A total of 90 members (62 men and 28 women) received training that increased their knowledge and commitment to engage in community awareness activities for changing gender norms for the elimination of harmful practices, especially FGM.

The UNFPA-UNICEF FGM joint program, in partnership with the Ministry of National Education, through the National Institute for the Development of Education (INDE), supported the production of the reference manual of competencies (program) of Basic Education for Citizenship and Life Sciences of the 3rd Cycle (7th, 8th and 9th year), as part of the curriculum reform of the Ministry of Education. The technical capacities of 33 primary education schoolteachers and 11 inspectors were strengthened in Sexual and Reproductive Health and the Comprehensive Sexual Education program to work in school and out-of-school environments. The teachers' manuals were revised, and the final version is being implemented. Sexual reproductive rights are integrated and available in the school curriculum and extracurricular activities.

RELEVANT UPR RECOMMENDATIONS

- By working with national partners to achieve these results, the United Nations supported Guinea-Bissau's efforts to meet its human rights obligations and to implement several commitments it made in the context of its third review by the Human Rights Council (2020), including:
 - Continue its efforts to formulate a social protection strategy as a good means of eliminating poverty in the country and of measuring progress made towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (rec. 119.96)
 - Continue its efforts to increase the availability of safe, potable water and adequate sanitation facilities in rural areas (119.104)
 - Continue to implement effective measures to combat malnutrition with a view to reducing the main cause of child mortality and morbidity (rec. 119.105)
- Continue its measures to reduce the infant and maternal mortality rates by improving the capacity of medical personnel and providing more and better facilities in health-care services (rec. 119.116)
- Strengthen the reforms and investment in education, with a view to introducing inclusive education (rec. 119.128)
- Undertake specific measures to increase the reporting of all forms of violence and abuse against women and girls, including through the development of education campaigns, enhanced training for police and the judiciary and the provision of survivor support services (rec. 119.155)

Breaking Ground: The Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the 2030 Agenda

In 2022, the United Nations Country Team, under the leadership of RC and RCO using its convening, coordination and facilitation authority, provided technical guidance, material and financial support to the government of Guinea-Bissau and civil society organizations to conduct the country's first-ever Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Government of Guinea-Bissau drove the self-assessment process to ascertain the status of the SDGs achievements, challenges and way forward achieve the SDGs and fostered the integration of gender, human rights, and inclusion of vulnerable groups and those furthest behind.

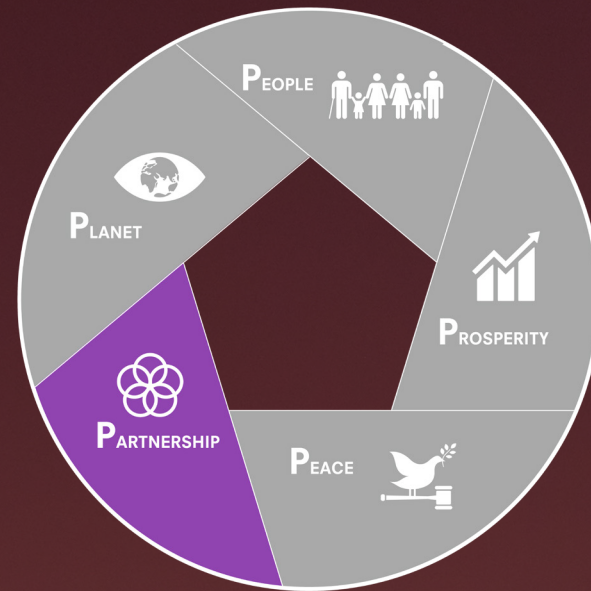
The VNR process in Guinea-Bissau was conducted through an open, participatory, and inclusive, with broad-based regional consultations held in all nine regions in March 2022. The main objective was to ensure that the review reflected rights-holders voices, concerns, priorities, and suggestions. Stakeholders, including representatives of groups left behind, participated in the process. The Government presented its self-assessment report at the High-Level Political Forum

(HLPF) broadcast live from an event in Bissau, which also featured a panel discussion. At the HLPF, a statement by a civil society representative was read.

The VNR process allowed Guinea-Bissau to take stock of its current development policies towards the SDGs attainments and identify what is needed to tackle the challenges ahead. It has laid the groundwork for the government, citizens, businesses, partners, the United Nations, and others to hold each other accountable. The process resulted in tangible recommendations, including strengthening the national system for collecting and disaggregating data, improving the effectiveness of national and regional structures to coordinate sustainable development, and ensuring they are more inclusive, and improving development financing through an Integrated National Financing Framework.

The VNR process also increased awareness of the strong linkages between efforts to implement the Agenda 2030 and the human rights situation in the Country. Building on the VNR report, the UN is supporting the drafting of various human rights reports, including the country's first submission to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Guinea-Bissau consultations were featured in a joint publication by OHCHR/UNDP on "Human Rights and Voluntary National Reviews." Overall, the VNR process in Guinea-Bissau was a successful example of how an inclusive self-assessment process can increase awareness of the linkages between SDGs and human rights and promote accountability and tangible development policy recommendations for achieving the SDGs.

2.3. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda



In 2022, a significant achievement was the establishment of the Development Partner Coordination Framework (DPCF), which aims to promote the implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP) and related sectoral policies. The framework has three mutually complementary components: the Policy Steering Committee, the Technical Committee, and the Secretariat. The primary objective of the DPCF is to foster effective dialogue and cooperation among development partners, stakeholders, and the Government of Guinea-Bissau to ensure coordinated and coherent development interventions. By promoting mutual accountability, the DPCF intends to facilitate the achievement of the priorities of the National Development Plan and Sustainable Development Goals.

While some public health campaigns had to be postponed due to non-payment of arrears for health professionals, viable implementing partners were identified and equipped to accelerate implementation. Community mobilisation for sanitation was combined with vaccination promotion, leading to the detection of several children who did not have a vaccination cards. Parents and caregivers were provided with information on vaccine availability and the vaccination calendar of their area to encourage vaccination. WHO and UNICEF were further able to mobilise resources from the World Bank to purchase vaccines that were in short supply (Bacille Calmette Guérin/BCG, the oral polio vaccine (bOPV) and the tetanus vaccine).

Partnerships were also critical in strengthening the leadership and coordination capacities of the Ministry of Health, particularly in the context of Guinea-Bissau. Resuming partnerships with NGOs AIFO and AMI improved the implementation of community health activities and contributed to capacity building at the regional level on resource management. Mobile money payments directly to health workers helped cut out administrative bottlenecks and inefficiencies: an effective risk management strategy that should be pursued. UN Agencies provided technical and financial support to the Ministry of Public Health in finalising the list of essential medicines to be procured under the SIDS pooled procurement initiative.

WHO also increased its lobbying capacity to address emergencies while integrating health system reinforcement in all interventions, demonstrating the government's and partners' importance in strengthening COVID-19 vaccination coverage. An integrated approach optimised resources and allowed for better coordination of actions with fewer costs. Strengthened partnerships, technical support, and coordination at all levels also supported the implementation of various strategies.

Partnerships were also essential for training teachers and inspectors in the new approach introduced in the curriculum on Comprehensive Sexual Education programme and developing the National Social Protection Policy and Strategy. However, it is crucial to

continue raising the level of engagement at the highest government levels and effective partnerships to develop a viable social protection system.

Overall, broad-based partnerships with civil society organisations and other stakeholders were critical in achieving the results reported. The operationalisation of the National Soil Laboratory was strengthened thanks to partnerships with the Lisbon Science Faculty and the Lisbon Higher Institute of Agronomy, demonstrating the benefits of collaboration in achieving common goals.

Multi-sectoral and integrated approaches were strengthened to combat drug trafficking

and transnational organised crimes (CTOC) by creating coordination and monitoring mechanisms for the Integrated National Plan for Combating Drugs, Organised Crime, and Risk Reduction (2020-2026 Guinea-Bissau NISP). Civil society continued to play a crucial role in CTOC issues. South-South, bilateral, regional and continental cooperation were strengthened to achieve SDG target 16.9 (Legal Identity for All). The joint mission MoJ/MoH/INE to the 6th conference of ministers of the Civil Registry and Vital Statistics (CRVS)/exchange of experiences South/South resulted in greater engagement for coordinated interventions and decision-making for the implementation of innovative approaches.

2.4. UN coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency

To support the implementation, monitoring, learning and reporting on the UNSDCF results, a solid governance structure was established and endorsed by the UNCT comprised of three outcome groups which lead the implementation, a Programme Management Team, a Partnership and Development Financing Group, a Communication Group, and a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group which work with the outcome groups to build synergies between programs, foster innovative partnerships, inform and disseminate information coherently and effectively, provide critical strategic guidance, drive coherence, joint programming, and support formulation of innovative and transformational initiatives, and ensure that the outcome groups respect the engagements in the UNSDCF and the programs that emanate therefrom.

The capacity of staff members of these groups to ensure implementation of the UNSDCF Guiding Principles on human rights-based approach, gender equality and women empowerment and leave no one behind was increased following a training workshop delivered by the RCO Human Rights Unit, with technical and financial support from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The robust governance structure has led to increased collaboration and coherence of program implementation in the UN system in Guinea-Bissau. This is evidenced by the sizeable amount of the joint program portfolio. In 2022 UNCT joint programs cut across all three outcome groups and totalled over \$18M (until 2026), including UN assets such as the PBF and Joint SDG Funds, which are both under the leadership, oversight, and strategic guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator.

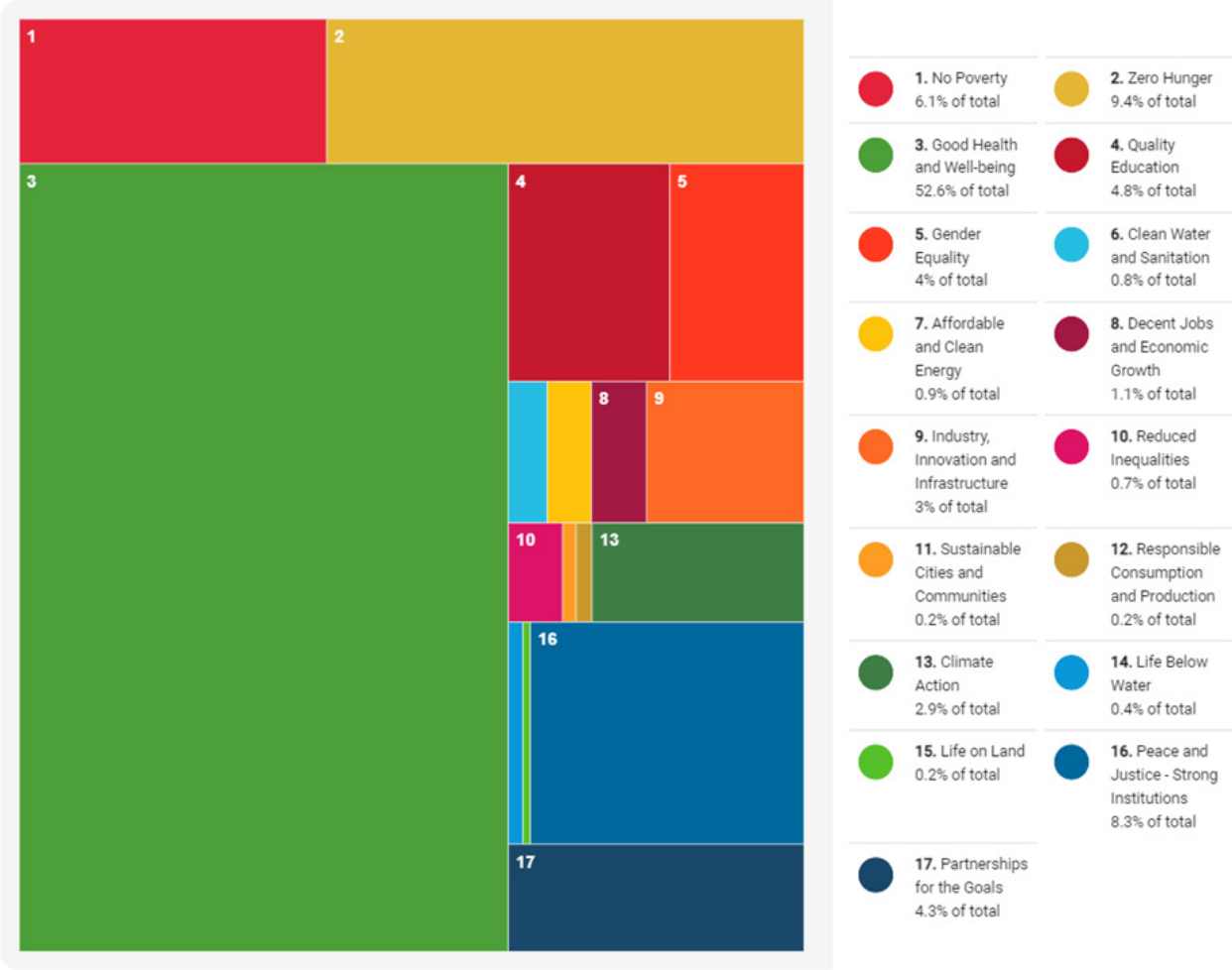
Further to this, and in line with the UN Secretary-General's efficiency agenda of the UN Reforms, UN agencies in Guinea-Bissau are undertaking several common services jointly. Agencies co-located at the UN House participate in joint services like cafeteria, generator maintenance,

gardening, lift maintenance, UN Clinic, electricity provision, and security provision, among others. Furthermore, The Operations Management Team plays a vital role in streamlining, harmonising and providing operational advice to improve almost all aspects of operations, including delivering on our programs in support of Guinea-Bissau.

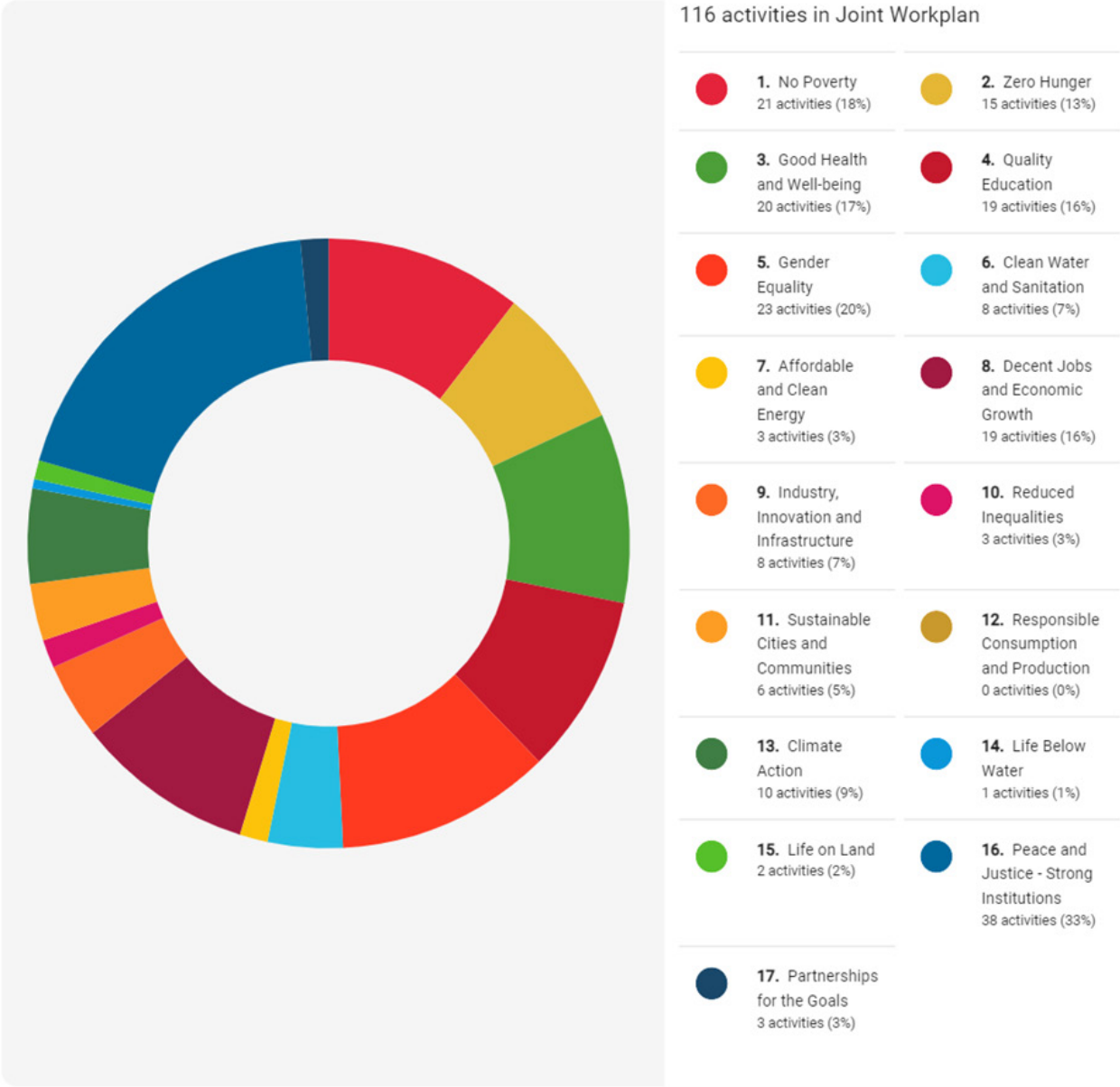
Financial overview

In 2022, the total required budget was US\$103 Million. The UNCT was able to mobilize US\$91 Million, a strong coverage of 90%. Expenditures totalled \$48 Million.

Available Resources by SDG



Tracking the progress of UN activities



CHAPTER 03

UNCT KEY FOCUS FOR NEXT YEAR

As we embark on implementing the UN Cooperation Framework for 2023, we remain steadfast in our commitment to building upon the previous year's successes. Our focus for 2023 is to consolidate the gains made for the acceleration of the SDGs.

The UNSDCF lays out our strategic priorities, guiding our efforts towards sustainable development. The risks and opportunities identified in the update of the Common Country Analysis will be factored into the planning and implementation of programs for the year.

The UNCT has outlined some key priorities for 2023 that will help to achieve sustainable development and promote good governance in the Country. These priorities will require close collaboration with the Government and other partners to ensure that interventions are aligned with national priorities and resources are mobilised to finance the SDGs.

First, operationalise the Development Partner Coordination Framework (DPCF) in ways that support effective government leadership in key sectors, including health, education, agriculture, and economic governance. This will involve working closely with partners to ensure that their technical assistance aligns with the Government's priorities and strengthen government institutions and systems, to fulfil Agenda 2030 and Guinea-Bissau's human rights commitments. This will help improve partner interventions' effectiveness and promote sustainable development in Guinea-Bissau.

Second, support the upcoming elections in the Country. This will involve working with the Government and other partners to ensure the electoral process is transparent, free, inclusive, and fair. The UN will provide technical and financial assistance to the legislative elections to be held on 4 June 2023. The support will align with the UN Electoral Needs Assessment

Mission (NAM) recommendations held on 29 June- 8 July 2022.

Third, strengthen statistics and data systems, including the population census. This will involve working with the Government to improve data collection, analysis, and dissemination. The UN will support the Government in conducting the national census and building the capacity of national institutions to collect and use data for evidence-based policymaking.

Fourth, strengthen integrated planning, policy, and financing for the SDGs. This will involve working with the Government to implement the recommendations of the Voluntary National Review, including a government-led development of an Integrated National Financing Framework as a holistic strategy for mobilising the full potential of public and private financing to achieve the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.

Fifth, strengthen integrated policy support for the acceleration of the SDGs. The UN will prioritise accelerators programs and initiatives that have greater synergistic and transformative impacts on achieving the SDGs in Guinea Bissau. The UN will support the Government in developing sector-specific strategies to achieve the SDGs, including social protection. Transformative initiatives to tackle food security will be prioritised, as well as strengthening health systems.

Finally, scale up resource mobilisation. This will involve working with the Government and other partners to mobilise resources for the implementation of the SDGs. The UN will support the Government in identifying funding sources, developing partnerships, and leveraging private-sector investment to finance the SDGs.

1 <https://aho.afro.who.int/functionality-assessment/af>



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GUINEA-BISSAU

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