



United Nations
KENYA
Umoja ni Nguvu

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK

ANNUAL
RESULTS
REPORT 2021
KENYA

Contents

Foreword by the UN Resident Coordinator

United Nations Country Team

Key Development Partners

CHAPTER 1: KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT 1

CHAPTER 2: UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES 3

Overview of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018–2022 and Its Results 3

Outcome 1: Governance, Justice and Gender Equality 6

Outcome 2: Devolved Services 8

Outcome 3: Peace and Security 10

Outcome 4: Education 12

Outcome 5: Health 14

Outcome 6: Nutrition 16

Outcome 7: HIV Response 18

Outcome 8: Water and Sanitation 20

Outcome 9: Protection 22

Outcome 10: Population and Housing 24

Outcome 11: Disaster and Risk Management 26

Outcome 12: Productivity 28

Outcome 13: Vulnerable Groups 30

Outcome 14: Green Kenya 32

Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda 34

Results of the United Nations Working Better Together 36

Evaluations and Lessons Learned 38

Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization 40

CHAPTER 3: THE UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM'S FOCUS IN 2022–2023 41

Acronyms and Abbreviations 42



Foreword by the UN Resident Coordinator

Barely a week into my mandate as the new United Nations Resident Coordinator for Kenya in March 2021, I took part in a ceremony built around the injection of the first unit of COVID-19 vaccine ever to be administered in Kenya. Thanks to the international partnership between the Government of Kenya and the COVAX Facility – with the active participation of UNICEF, WHO, Gavi (the Vaccine Alliance) and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, as well as the support of Kenya’s many international partners – we saw the first signs that Kenya and the world could move out from under the long shadow cast by COVID-19. COVAX and that ceremony symbolize for me the enduring power and the ongoing importance of multilateralism and partnership. And they renew the opportunity to hold dear in our hearts those we have so tragically lost to COVID-19 – within the UN family and within Kenya as a whole.

Kenya has pursued an incredible development path since independence. Even in the face of the deep socio-economic challenge caused by COVID-19, the Kenyan economy appears to have achieved GDP growth of 7 per cent or more in 2021. This is remarkable, speaking to the resilience of the Kenyan private sector and the stewardship by the Government of Kenya. But scratch the surface and it can sometimes seem like there are two Kenyas. The first is that resilient economy, one of the most powerful on the continent, which exports its agricultural and horticultural produce across the world and beckons tourists to its welcoming shores. It is the Kenya of extraordinary leadership within the UN Security Council, the African Union and the East African Community. And it is the Kenya of a free and outspoken civil society and media.

But there is another Kenya: the Kenya struck by recurrent flooding, locust invasions and intensifying droughts. Since the onset of COVID-19, an estimated 6.2 million Kenyans have been pushed back into poverty. This is the Kenya where many school-aged children are yet to return to their schools, despite their reopening in late 2020. This is the Kenya where gender-based violence has seen a steep rise over the last two years. And it is the Kenya in which close to three million people are currently facing severe food insecurity due to drought. Ensuring that the two Kenyas come back together and that we “leave no one behind” is at the core of what we as UN Kenya aim to work in partnership with the Government of Kenya to deliver.

This report can only showcase a small sample of all that the more than 24 agencies, funds and programmes of the UN Development System in Kenya have undertaken in 2021. We’ve launched a USD 129 million drought appeal to reach more than a million of those left most



vulnerable by three seasons of failed rains. We’ve continued to promote Kenya’s “bounce back” from COVID-19 and helped the government roll out vaccination through COVAX and other sources. Through our Joint Programme on Devolution, we’ve continued to help strengthen the 47 devolved and empowered county governments – among the key delivery vehicles for the SDGs. Flowing from the UN Food Systems Summit, we’ve continued helping improve agribusiness value chains, focusing particularly on women farmers. That and similar work in the primary health care sector has built on our SDG Partnership Platform’s proven experience of crowding in private sector investment for the SDGs. And under our Social Protection Joint Programme and allied innovations we’ve invested in children and youth, working on education, health, water and sanitation, and housing initiatives at both the policy level and the grass-roots level to increase people’s access to vital services.

None of this would have been possible without the extraordinary leadership of my predecessor as UN Resident Coordinator, Sid Chatterjee, and it is an honour to try to continue and build on the incredible legacy he has left in Kenya. Nor could it have happened without the dedication and expertise of the UN Country Team and its deep bench of leadership.

Nor could we have accomplished any of this without our partners. The bond between the United Nations and Kenya is an unshakeable one – emblemized by the fact that this is the

only place in the world with a UN presence that combines a global headquarters in the global south, massive regional presences and a powerful and determined United Nations Country Team for Kenya. Our partnership with Kenyan civil society, the private sector and international partners (both public and private) drives our work forward, and we are profoundly grateful for it and for them.

As we move forward through 2022, four combined challenges lie ahead for Kenya: to re-emerge from COVID-19, absorb the coming financial shockwaves from the war in Ukraine, help those affected to survive the drought and build long-term resilience, and ensure peaceful and successful elections in August. UN Kenya will stay at the side of Kenya’s people and government every step of the way. Our new UN Kenya Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022–2026), which we hope to finalize with the government by mid-2022, will focus intently on the determination to “leave no one behind”. We’re intent on working more closely than ever to “deliver as one” and support Kenya to achieve the SDGs. And we know that a million “projects” and “pilots” just won’t cut it anymore. With only eight years

left until 2030, truly transformational change for Kenya’s poor and the 1 million new young Kenyans coming onto the job market every year require action “at scale”, crowding in government and private sector investment together to accelerate results. Public–private partnerships must power our UN Kenya drive.

In his new vision for the planet and its people – *Our Common Agenda* – UN Secretary General António Guterres has a stark message for us all: the choices we make, or fail to make, today and in the next few years could result in a further breakdown of humanity and perpetual crisis...or a breakthrough to a more sustainable, safer world. Kenya has long been in the vanguard of sustainable development, including combating and adapting to the climate emergency. It is an honour for the United Nations to partner with Kenya to maintain that leadership and to remain a beacon of democracy, stability and progress in a turbulent region and a troubled world.

Stephen Jackson

United Nations Country Team



Key Development Partners

GOVERNMENT OF KENYA

Kenya National Disaster Operation Centre
 Ministry of Defence
 Ministry of Health
 Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs
 Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government
 Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes
 National Cohesion and Integration Commission
 National Counter Terrorism Centre
 National Drought Management Authority
 National Steering Committee on Peace Building and Conflict Management
 Probation and Aftercare Service
 Public-Private Partnerships Unit, Treasury
 Refugee Affairs Secretariat
 State Department for Development of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
 State Department for Gender
 The Presidency – Policy and Strategy Unit
 Witness Protection Agency

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

CIVIL SOCIETY

African Diaspora Network
 Amref Health Africa
 Centre for Effective Global Action
 Early Childhood Development Network for Kenya
 International Peace Support Training Centre
 Kenya Red Cross
 Scaling Up Nutrition Movement
 United Nations Global Compact
 World Economic Forum

DONORS

Africa Venture Philanthropy Alliance
 Children's Investment Fund
 Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
 East Africa Philanthropy Network
 Ford Foundation
 Netherlands
 Rockefeller Foundation
 Safaricom Foundation
 Switzerland
 United States Agency for International Development
 World Bank Global Financing Facility

PRIVATE SECTOR

Aga Khan University
 AstraZeneca
 Dalberg
 Equity Bank Group
 Huawei
 Finance, Trade and Investment Network (FINTRINET)
 Frontier Counties Development Council
 Johnson & Johnson
 Kenya Association of Manufacturers
 Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Kenya Private Sector Alliance Foundation
 Lake Region Economic Bloc
 Marketing Society of Kenya
 McKinsey
 Merck for Mothers
 National Advisory Board for Impact Investing in Kenya
 National Business Compact on Coronavirus
 Royal Philips

CHAPTER 1 KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

Kenya's economic growth averaged 5 per cent before the COVID-19 pandemic, supported broadly by all sectors of the economy. The pandemic, which is much more than a health crisis, disrupted social and economic activities, leading to a contraction of the economy by 0.3 per cent in 2020. With a gradual easing of the containment measures instituted in 2020 to curb the spread of COVID-19, there was an economic recovery with about 6 per cent growth in 2021, driven by rebounds in most local economic activities that had been hit hard, as well as recovery of the global manufacturing and tourism sectors.

The measures taken by the Government of Kenya to manage the spread of COVID-19 and cushion vulnerable groups from the effects of the pandemic have been crucial in saving the lives and livelihoods of many Kenyans. Many more Kenyans would have slipped into poverty through loss of income and closure of businesses were it not for the social protection programmes, tax relief, easing of liquidity management and stimulus package implemented by the government.

The emergence in late November 2021 of a new COVID-19 variant, Omicron, posed substantial risks to the global economy and introduced uncertainty into global and national economic development. While the Omicron spike appears to have subsided, the variant has negatively impacted the first quarter of 2022. The COVID-19 pandemic thus remains a threat domestically and globally. The slow pace of vaccine rollout in the country will continue to weigh on the economy and create opportunities for variants to emerge that are resistant to current vaccines. Ramping up vaccine rollout is the most important economic policy towards sustained high levels of growth going forward.

The COVID-19 pandemic reversed the gains made in poverty reduction in the last two decades by pushing approximately 6.2 million Kenyans into poverty, according to the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis. This is attributed to loss of income (equivalent to 11.7 per cent of GDP) and job losses and pay cuts during the pandemic. Poverty in the country has remained high (36.1 per cent nationally as per the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey 2015/2016), with huge disparities. In remote, arid and sparsely populated north-eastern parts of Kenya, poverty rates were above 70 per cent despite economic growth.

The *SDG Gender Fact Sheet 2021* reported that 38.9 per cent of Kenyans lived in multidimensional poverty in 2014. In 2018, the multidimensionally poor increased to 53 per cent, with 54 per cent of women living in poverty compared to 52 per cent

47.6
million people
live in Kenya



6.2
million Kenyans
pushed into
poverty since
the start of the
pandemic



7%
growth in Kenya
in 2021 after
an economic
contraction in
2020



53%
of Kenyans
live in
multidimensional
poverty



AGRICULTURE
is
23%
of the total value
of the economy



of men. Living in poverty means that income and access to health care, education, decent shelter and other basic services are lacking. The incidence of multidimensional poverty in rural areas, at 67 per cent, is more than twice the incidence in urban areas (27 per cent), implying geographical inequalities in accessibility and availability of public services. More Kenyans are losing the ability to purchase essential commodities for survival.

Although government spending on social protection has been going up over the years, from 0.27 per cent of GDP in 2015 to 0.33 per cent in 2020/2021, this amount is still below the average of 1.6 per cent for lower middle-income countries. Therefore, sustaining and scaling up social protection coverage and supporting the creation of productive jobs with appropriate demand-oriented policies is important in ensuring a recovery process that is inclusive.

Growth is expected to quicken in the medium term to 5.4 per cent a year on average, thereby matching pre-pandemic levels (barring shocks such as drought). A return to a near-normal tourism sector, pro-investment policies such as facilitating public-private partnerships, deeper regional integration, and rising intra-regional trade will be key growth drivers. The rebound of the economy is expected to be driven by recovery in key sectors that were significantly affected by COVID-19; exploiting opportunities such as the African Continental Free Trade Agreement; sustaining government investments in infrastructure; and sustaining prudent economic management.

Kenya has been exposed to multiple disasters, ranging from floods to drought and a desert locust invasion. The compounding effects of these disasters, plus COVID-19, have had severe impacts on lives, livelihoods and the economy. While there exist several interventions to address these disasters, more needs to be done to further strengthen the country's disaster risk management frameworks, including enacting the Disaster Risk Management Policy and Bill and finalizing the Disaster Risk Management Strategy. It is important to strengthen disaster risk management capacity at the county level by scaling up the development of County Emergency Operations Plans and County Multi-Hazard Risk Profiles to cover all the counties.

The COVID-19 pandemic and climate change together have increased the debt burden and directly affected fiscal capacities through their impact on tax bases and spending programmes, as well as through the use of fiscal instruments to respond to climate change-related

effects. It is important to implement and finance locally led climate action programmes that aim to strengthen local communities' resilience to climate change, natural hazards and other shocks. A national framework policy on green fiscal incentives would guide and provide modalities for promoting private sector investment in green projects and programmes, while issuing sovereign green bonds would also finance such initiatives.

Despite robust economic growth of 5.6 per cent forecast for 2022, this could be curtailed by the impact of drought and desert locusts on the agricultural sector, the emergence of new COVID-19 variants, heightened tensions and uncertainty linked to the August election (which could dent investor confidence), and a wider global slowdown linked to occurrences such as ongoing supply chain issues and the war in Ukraine. The war in Tigray, Ethiopia, and the ongoing threat from Al-Shabaab in both Somalia and Kenya will continue to cause uncertainty.

Other constraining factors in 2022 will be tighter fiscal policy (including probable tax hikes), a rise in domestic interest rates in response to global trends and inflationary pressures, as well as still-fragile tourism. Other impediments to growth and investment will persist, including corruption, bureaucratic red tape and skills shortages, but regulatory reform and institutional strengthening will lower the bottlenecks over time.

In an effort to address debilitating cyclical electoral violence, forge national cohesion and cement new political alliances, the President of Kenya and the main opposition leader unveiled the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI). Despite the BBI having reduced tensions in the country, the as yet unimplemented initiative (which was initially ruled unconstitutional) did not resolve the feelings of alienation and marginalization that continue to consume some ethnolinguistic groups that are suspicious of the central government and believe that it is either unwilling or unable to deal effectively with extreme poverty, underdevelopment, inequality and other problems.

Efforts will continue to be made to deepen devolution and make service delivery at all levels transparent, accountable and well coordinated. As the August 2022 elections approach and the highly emotive campaign season reaches its zenith, Kenya continues to put in place mechanisms to ensure peaceful and accountable voting, with a number of media and other initiatives promoting peace and reining in reckless speech.

CHAPTER 2

UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

Overview of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018–2022 and Its Results

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Kenya (2018–2022) articulates UN support to Kenya's Vision 2030, Medium-Term Plan III and Big 4 priorities (housing, health, food security and manufacturing). The 2018–2022 UNDAF is the fifth generation UNDAF in Kenya and the second iteration since the United Nations in Kenya adopted the Delivering as One approach. A Common Country Assessment, undertaken in 2017, informed the UNDAF 2018–2022. It was officially signed and launched by the three UNDAF co-chairs; the Cabinet Secretary for National Treasury; the Cabinet Secretary for Devolution, Planning and Arid and Semi-Arid Lands; and the UN Resident Coordinator on 26 June 2018.

The programmatic scope of the UNDAF consists of three Strategic Result Areas and 14 outcomes. The outcomes cover or correspond to all socio-economic sectors as well as government ministries. The geographical scope of the UNDAF is the entire country.

The UNDAF applies the global programming principles of human rights; gender equality and women's empowerment; sustainability and resilience; and accountability towards the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. The "leave no one behind" principle is central. The framework also embeds social inclusion as a key principle for addressing inequalities and sociocultural discrimination. Other principles driving the UNDAF implementation include capacity building, partnerships, coherent policy support, risk-informed programming, enhanced data quality and availability, result-focused programming, and development, humanitarian and peacebuilding linkages.

The UNDAF has a projected budget of USD 1.9 billion. Of this, 15 per cent was for transformational governance, 58 per cent was for human capital development, and 27 per cent was for sustainable development and inclusive growth.

The framework is implemented by 24 UN agencies in partnership with the Government of Kenya (both national and county governments) and civil society. A well-defined structure was put in place to coordinate UNDAF implementation. The UNDAF was translated into action through the costed annual work plans for each outcome co-created by the United Nations and the Government of Kenya.

UNDAF outcomes emerged from and adequately address the issues identified in the Common Country Assessment. The UNDAF is fully responsive to the international development framework (the SDGs) and international human rights treaties. For instance, the United Nations was instrumental in undertaking human rights data analysis to support government planning, building the government's capacity in reporting to human rights conventions and treaties, and implementing the recommendations from these treaties and conventions processes.

The UNDAF outcomes were selected in a manner that ensured that the UNDAF covers all SDGs. Most indicators in the UNDAF results framework are SDG indicators, and this allows the UNDAF to continuously respond to the SDGs. The United Nations also established an SDG partnership forum that brought the government and private sector together to advance the SDGs.

The UNDAF is also full aligned to national priorities as defined in the national development framework, and this alignment has been maintained at implementation level through United Nations and Government of Kenya collaboration in oversight, planning and implementation. Likewise, UN agencies aligned their programmes with

24
UN agencies under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework



UNDAF STRATEGIC RESULT AREAS
1. Transformative Governance
2. Human Capital Development
3. Sustainable Economic Growth

\$427 million
spent on programmes and operations in Kenya in 2021

17 Sustainable Development Goals supported in Kenya



country-level plans. The UNDAF planning mechanism is adequately flexible to enable the United Nations to adjust its support to evolving national contexts.

This flexibility has been demonstrated in the United Nations' coordinated response to humanitarian emergencies such as COVID-19, cholera outbreaks, the desert locust infestation, floods and droughts. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, UN agencies joined forces. They assisted the Government of Kenya in convening relevant actors to coordinate a rapid medical mitigation plan, as well as a multisector response and recovery plan. In 2020 alone, the United Nations repurposed USD 45 million to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Close to USD 260 was sought that year for the COVID-19 response.

The UNDAF implementation approaches such as capacity building, promotion of ownership, co-creation with government, leveraging government funding and

partnerships are likely to ensure the sustainability of gains made. However, the limited government funding to some departments and the limited focus on strengthening resilience are likely to undermine the sustainability of UNDAF results.

The support of the United Nations to partnerships, programmes, projects and various other initiatives in Kenya has had clear results in 2021 according to emerging data. Under-5 and maternal mortality rates have gone down, along with new cases of HIV. More people in Kenya are using safely managed drinking water services. Civil registration has improved. Certain governance and women, peace and security indicators have improved, and fewer people are living below the poverty line.

The following section details the results achieved by the United Nations in Kenya in 2021.

THE UN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN KENYA



USD 45 million repurposed in 2020 to address COVID-19

Research on the impact of COVID-19 on peace and security supported

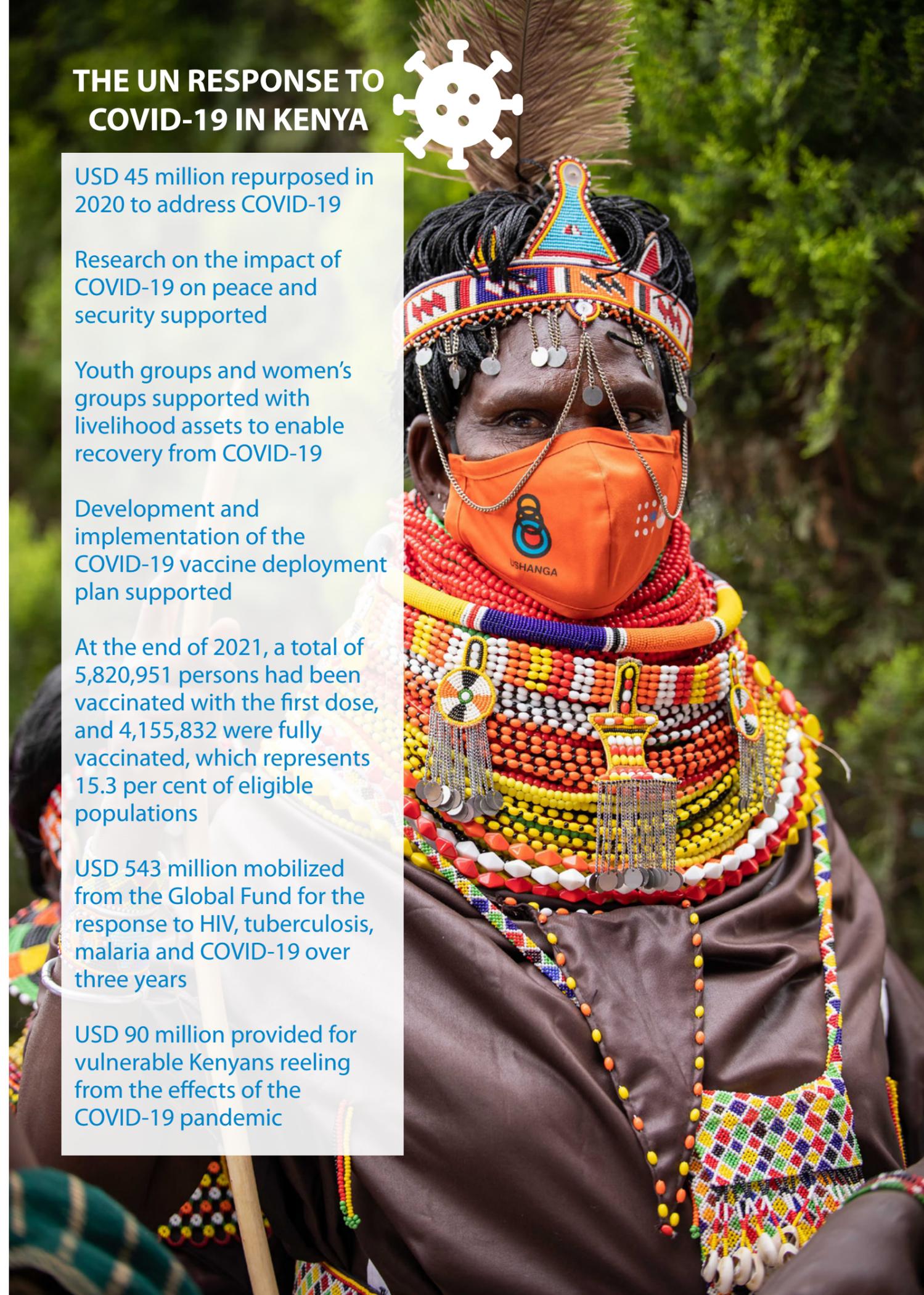
Youth groups and women's groups supported with livelihood assets to enable recovery from COVID-19

Development and implementation of the COVID-19 vaccine deployment plan supported

At the end of 2021, a total of 5,820,951 persons had been vaccinated with the first dose, and 4,155,832 were fully vaccinated, which represents 15.3 per cent of eligible populations

USD 543 million mobilized from the Global Fund for the response to HIV, tuberculosis, malaria and COVID-19 over three years

USD 90 million provided for vulnerable Kenyans reeling from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic



OUTCOME 1

Governance, Justice and Gender Equality

By 2022, people in Kenya enjoy improved governance; access to justice; respect for the rule of law; human rights; and gender equality



Post-Graduate Research Grows Kenya's Gender Database

The United Nations in 2021 supported the development of the compendium *Gender Statistics for Evidence-Based Policies: Women's Economic Empowerment, Health and Gender-Based Violence*. Built on 16 Master's research papers from the University of Nairobi, the book will bridge gaps in data and support evidence-based gender policies in Kenya. The papers were the result of a UN research grant project.

Cynthia Oliech hopes her research will help increase women's access to financial services and reduce poverty. Her work examined the institutional challenges that confront female and male fish traders when accessing financial capital in Homa Bay County.

In the area of women's reproductive health, results from the book show that one in every five adolescents in Kenya has had a repeat pregnancy. It was noted that the probability of repeat pregnancy declines with higher levels of education, but increases with higher poverty.

"Reducing unintended adolescent pregnancy therefore stands as an important target for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to poverty, health, education and gender equality," said Christabel Gero, whose research focused on women's reproductive health.

The publication was produced in collaboration with the University of Nairobi, the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and the State Department for Gender.



UN agencies: UNDP, UN Women, UNESCO, UNODC, OHCHR



One of the comparative advantages of the United Nations is the expertise and support they bring to policy coherence, which assists policymakers and other stakeholders to better understand how policy choices affect the future population and sustainable development. The UNDAF supports policy and stakeholder coherence in the implementation of the country's development agenda (**Vision 2030 and the Big 4 Agenda**) and its international development obligations (the SDGs and Agenda 2063).

In 2021, the United Nations in Kenya focused on enhancing the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implement **human rights and gender-focused laws and policies** and foster respect for institutions set up for social and economic interactions. This included strengthening governance institutions to improve internal governance structures and adhere to constitutional principles. Kenya has improved its institutional structures that ensure compliance with human rights reporting and engaging human rights mechanisms at both the regional and international levels.

Our support has improved the **legal framework for governance and the rule of law**. The overall governance score in 2020 was 58.5 per cent, and Kenya was ranked 14 out of 54 countries (Ibrahim Index of African Governance). The target was 59.8 per cent, and Kenya's score has likely improved since the last update.

The United Nations in Kenya supported the **digitalization of court processes**. Support to the judiciary to develop an Electronic Case Management System that converts manual records into a digital format enabled remote and online access. A number of processes, such as the enterprise resource planning system, were digitized for actors in the criminal justice sector, including courts, and equipment was purchased for government partners. There has been a positive uptake of alternatives to imprisonment such as plea bargaining and diversion by criminal justice actors.

The judiciary adopted technology for use during the lockdown in Kenya, and it is reported that a total of 294,837 cases were resolved between July 2020 and June 2021. The **State of the Judiciary** report indicates that the

performance of the judiciary within this period was at 89.8 per cent.

The COVID-19 pandemic compromised a lot of the work on rule of law and human rights, including on civic space, where certain rights and freedoms had to be curtailed to contain the spread of the pandemic. This provided an opportunity for **innovation** and examining ways in which the **justice system** can become more **efficient and agile**, even in the long term. Strengthening information, communication and technology infrastructure and digitalizing case management became essential.

The United Nations in Kenya continued efforts towards enhancing the capacity of national partners to implement constitutional principles through laws and policies and institutional strengthening. The United Nations worked with the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties to finalize the **gender-responsive Political Parties (Amendment) Bill, 2021**.

We also supported the development of key policy documents such as the elections strategy for the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights and the gender policy for the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties.



OUTCOME 2

Devolved Services

By 2022, people in Kenya access high-quality services at the devolved level that are well coordinated, integrated, transparent, equitably resourced and accountable



UN agencies: UNICEF, UNDP, IOM, UN Women



Devolution in Kenya is largely on track. A June 2020 survey found that respondents prefer subnational service provision, albeit with county and sectoral variations. The United Nations in Kenya has helped to strengthen public financial management. **All 47 counties have established County Performance Management Systems with UN support**, although they are at different stages of implementation.

With the new systems, service delivery to citizens has improved and is more inclusive. The systems have also enhanced strategic planning, as they increase coordination, effective budget allocation and decision-making. In addition, legislation has been passed that emphasizes inclusivity and access to services, especially for marginalized groups. **All 47 counties** are effectively implementing **legislation, guidelines or regulations for devolution**.

The United Nations in Kenya has supported government efforts to approve allocation to the gender machinery (the State Department for Gender and the National Gender Equality Commission), which has improved from .02 per cent in 2018 to .12 per cent in 2021.

We have worked to improve county capacities for revenue projection, generation, collection and reporting. County-level institutions and stakeholders now have strengthened processes and systems for evidence-based planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation for **accountable service delivery**. Overall, the national and county interfaces (NIMES/CIMES) for monitoring and evaluation have improved substantially over the past four years.

Various UNDAF programmes support county governments to establish and operationalize public participation mechanisms, including with the County Assemblies Forum and the Council of Governors, to review the extent to which county assemblies and executives allocate public participation budgets and how these resources are expended.

Overall, the **publishing and publicizing** of seven key budget documents on county government websites improved transparency (36 per cent of the required information was provided to the public by 2020). All

47 county governments have now established **County Budget and Economic Forums** as required by the Public Financial Management Act. Forty-five counties have such forums active in the budgeting process.

There has been an improvement in the institutional capacities for the participation and inclusion of women, youth and persons with disabilities in planning and decision-making processes. The UN Joint Devolution Programme supported the implementation of an electronic data portal at the Office of the Controller of Budget to capture and report budget and financial information. The programme also supported the design of an electronic data system for the office to monitor the **budget implications for children, women and persons with disabilities**, and worked with County Budget and Economic Forums to improve the representation of women, youth and persons with disabilities as required by the law.

The Joint Devolution Programme enhanced the capacity of national and county systems for the **generation of disaggregated data** on gender-based violence, female genital mutilation, violence against children, child marriage and marginalized populations for evidence-based decision-making. This was done through training data users on gender statistics and supporting the **Kenya National Bureau of Statistics** to complete and publish county poverty profiles and undertake inequality analysis. This enhanced the inclusion of women, youth, children and persons with disabilities issues in county planning, budgeting and decision-making processes.

Enhancing Public Service Delivery and Equity through Devolution

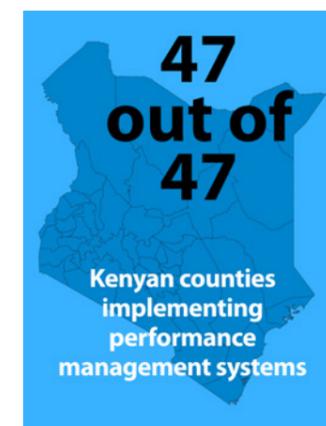
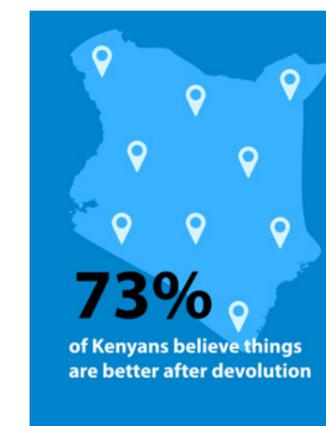
The devolution model was implemented in Kenya in 2013. While the contribution of devolution to service delivery remains mixed, the model is promising.

Devolution has enabled the establishment of institutions and systems that support the delivery of devolved services and has provided a platform for enhanced equity across all regions. But challenges, including ambiguities in financing and service provision, constrain the expected outcomes.

Governance and finance constraints – including a reduced share of government revenue to the counties and suboptimal performance in planning and budgeting – also affected the performance of counties. Other challenges relate to coordination and heavy national government involvement in devolved services.

That said, the overall outlook is positive, considering that there have been no major service delivery disruptions resulting from the transition from national service delivery to local service delivery in most of the 47 devolved units established under the 2010 Constitution of Kenya. Some county governments have become more responsive and accountable, but the quality of devolved services remains mixed.

Most counties have maintained or even significantly expanded the levels of service delivery, which has enhanced citizens' access to quality services, particularly in health, education and water. It is reported that devolution expanded citizens' access to health facilities, increased deliveries by qualified birth attendants, and stabilized immunization rates.



OUTCOME 3

Peace and Security

By 2022, people in Kenya live in a secure, peaceful, inclusive and cohesive society



UN agencies: UNDP, IOM, UN Women, UNHCR, OHCHR, UNODC, UNEP, UNESCO, the Resident Coordinator's Office (Peace and Development Unit)



REFUGEES ACT 2021

The Refugees Act 2021 was assented to by the President of Kenya on 17 November 2021 and is scheduled to come into effect in February 2022. The new law is a culmination of over a decade's worth of legislative review to repeal the Refugees Act 2006. The law reaffirms commitment by the Government of Kenya to offer protection to refugees and corresponds to Kenya's long-standing leading role in upholding refugee and human rights. The United Nations in Kenya has provided support in various ways to this end.

The act provides more opportunities, rights, protection and solutions for refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya and is in line with Kenya's commitments under the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, the Global Compact on Refugees, and other international and regional instruments. Many provisions of the new act also complement the objectives of the road map for solutions developed jointly by the Government of Kenya and the United Nations.

116
out of 163 countries
(an improvement from 125)
KENYA'S RANK IN THE
GLOBAL PEACE INDEX 2021

90
In the Women, Peace and Security Index in 2021, Kenya ranked 90 out of 170 and was among the **six top-ten improvers** in sub-Saharan Africa

Peace is the foundation of all development work. While the COVID-19 pandemic affected planned activities, the United Nations in Kenya rolled out numerous information and peace advocacy initiatives in 2021. These included efforts as diverse as community-based psychosocial support for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in Nairobi, Samburu and Migori Counties, and **the destruction of over 5,000 illicit small arms and light weapons** – an event attended by the President of the Republic of Kenya.

Involving women, youth and vulnerable groups in peace efforts is a necessity. The United Nations in Kenya helped Kenya advance the **women, peace and security agenda** in line with UN Security Council Resolution 1325 by disseminating the popular version of the *Kenya National Action Plan II* in 27 counties. A gender-sensitive conflict and disaster analysis informed policies and programmes, and support was given to the Kenya National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism and County Action Plans to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism. United Nations support gave 467 women increased knowledge and skills on conflict and violent extremism, some of whom have participated in county forums.

The United Nations supported the National Cohesion and Integration Commission to produce its **Roadmap to Peaceful 2022 Elections**, its Strategic Plan, a Peace and Political Accountability Charter, and “naming and shaming” guidelines to call out hate speech and violent behaviour.

Support was given for the launch of a new multi-year project in Kenya entitled Social Media 4 Peace to strengthen the resilience of civil society to contain the spread of potentially harmful content online, in particular hate speech that incites violence.

It is vital to have continual dialogue and forums to reduce tensions among communities and between various groups. The United Nations in Kenya undertook awareness raising among **peace structures** to increase the uptake of early warning and early response mechanisms; hate speech and incitement monitoring; stakeholder

conflict analysis; trust building between security agencies and communities; insider mediation; inter-ethnic, inter-community and inter-faith dialogue forums; and inter-generational platforms. Strengthening the capacity of peace architecture in this way promoted inclusion, reconciliation, social cohesion and integration. Ethnic diversity audits were conducted in 19 counties.

The United Nations in Kenya supported the establishment of the **National Women's Peace Committee Network**, which brings together women, including young women leaders, in County Peace Committees. The network connects local-level action to the national agenda and advocates for women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, while serving as an early warning and rapid response mechanism.

Community theatre supported in Mombasa, Kilifi, Lamu and Tana River helped to promote key **peace messages**, build trust among conflicting communities and ethnic groups, and leverage the **crucial power of the youth on peace and security**. Capacity development training and assessment was conducted for youth, women, vulnerable groups, peace structures, peace actors and community leaders on early warning and early response, conflict resolution, mitigation, peace, security, inclusion, reconciliation, social cohesion and integration.

We supported research on the impact of COVID-19 on peace and security in Kenya. Youth groups and women's groups were supported with livelihood assets to enable **recovery from COVID-19 and climate-induced risks**; livelihood assistance was also given to migrants. The United Nations supported a mentorship programme in Lamu, Garissa and Wajir Counties to enhance coordination and response in countering transnational organized crime along the Kenya–Somalia border.

By enhancing capacities of communities to manage climate-related disaster risks, reduce conflicts, promote peace and build **sustainable livelihoods**, particularly those of the youth and women, the United Nations helped to advance peace and security in Kenya.

OUTCOME 4

Education

By 2022, children, youth and adults have increased access to inclusive, equitable, quality and relevant education and training that integrates sports, culture and the arts and provides life-long learning opportunities



UN agencies: UNICEF, ILO, WFP, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNFPA



While considerable progress has been made across the education sector in Kenya in re-opening learning institutions after the 10-month school closure, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact. The **gross enrolment for pre-primary and secondary in Kenya has continued to increase** from 78.4 to 109.4 per cent and 70.3 to 71.2 per cent, respectively. The United Nations in Kenya generated critical evidence on out-of-school children through a baseline survey, and supported the installation of single-sex and gender- and disability-sensitive sanitation facilities, along with handwashing stations. To reduce the digital divide, **110 schools were connected to the Internet**. This has ensured blended learning and improved learning outcomes that may have dipped due to the long COVID-19-related school closure.

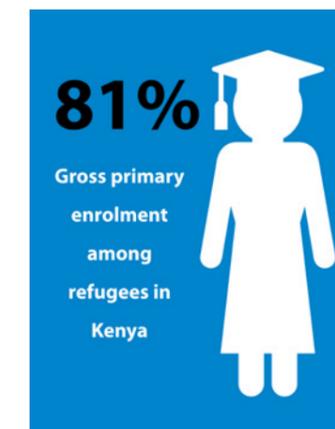
A total of **140,790 refugees and asylum seekers** (44 per cent of whom were girls) were enrolled in **pre-primary, primary and secondary education** by the end of 2021. The United Nations in Kenya continued to contribute fees and other wrap-around costs. Gross enrolment among refugees has been most successful at the primary level, at 81 per cent.

The United Nations has been providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Education and the county governments to ensure sustainability, accountability and transparency in the implementation of the school meals programme. With a budget of USD 18 million, the Government of Kenya provided hot midday meals to about **1.5 million learners** from schools in 26 arid and semi-arid counties, and mid-morning nutritious porridge to pre-school and grade 1–3 learners. With UN support, the Government of Kenya joined the global **School Meals Coalition** and signed the declaration of commitment in July 2021. We also supported the documentation of a history of the school meals programme in Kenya.

Although the government's COVID-19 containment measures significantly affected the implementation of activities that require in-person meetings, the United Nations in Kenya continued to strengthen the capacity of school meal programme managers and food handlers through a variety of training activities.

In a hands-on approach to promote need-based skill-learning outcomes, the United Nations supported technical and vocational education and training. In one result, 68 youth (including 12 females) graduated with the requisite national industrial welding certification. Seventeen of these were retained by various industries, with others gaining internships. Support was also provided to assess youth in the textile, welding and automotive mechanics occupation profiles. A **national online skills gateway on technical and vocational education** was developed, providing potential students with access to opportunities. Information and communication technology and solar equipment was procured and handed over to six technical/vocational institutions.

The year 2021 saw the technical and vocational education and training subsector in Kenya undergo reforms. Supported by the United Nations, a labour market analysis provided direction for the elaboration and finalization of training modules and programmes in the subsector. A **solar photovoltaic curriculum** was developed and digitized. Master trainers were trained as part of larger curriculum-development and -digitization efforts. Kenya formally began its journey to skills competition events with a maiden national competition organized at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology that focused on mechatronics skills.



OUTCOME 5

Health

By 2022, people in Kenya have increased and equitable access to and utilize quality health services, including sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health in emergency and non-emergency settings



UN agencies: WHO, UNOPS, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR



Even as in Kenya and around the world COVID-19 became the new normal, the United Nations in Kenya supported the development and implementation of the **COVID-19 vaccine deployment plan**. As of 31 December 2021, a total of 5,820,951 persons had been vaccinated with a first dose, and 4,155,832 were fully vaccinated, which represents 15.3 per cent of eligible populations. A total of 18,054 **refugees and asylum seekers** residing in camps were vaccinated with at least one dose, with 11,882 fully vaccinated by the end of 2021.

The United Nations in Kenya continued to support programmes to improve the health of mothers and children. Surpassing the target set for this year, **Kenya achieved 79.4 per cent skilled birth attendant coverage**. The proportion of under-5 children with pneumonia receiving appropriate treatment improved from 59.3 per cent in 2020 to 74.5 per cent in 2021. We supported nine counties with a range of **maternal and newborn health interventions**: supporting policies for domestic health financing, conducting trainings on high-impact interventions and providing essential medical equipment. Maternal and newborn health quality improvement teams were trained in three counties to enhance their capacity to collect and utilize clinical data.

Training, mentorship and supervision was provided for the management of medical equipment in 50 select facilities using telemedicine. This increased the availability, functionality and use of essential medical services, ensuring uninterrupted quality delivery. The United Nations in Kenya supported the Ministry of Health to undertake an adolescent health survey and develop the National Adolescent and School Health Strategy, as well as the Primary Health Care Strategy. The government was supported to undertake accelerated human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to reach children missed during the 2020 COVID-19-related school closure.

The United Nations in Kenya assisted in strengthening primary health care networks in target communities and increasing the number of trained community health volunteers and committee members. The finalization and dissemination of the **Universal Health Coverage Policy** was supported. The United Nations supported the development of the National Reproductive Health Policy of the Kenya Health Sector Strategic Plan 2019–2023 and attendant monitoring and evaluation initiatives. UN-supported capacity development and data digitization strengthened the health information system in Kenya.

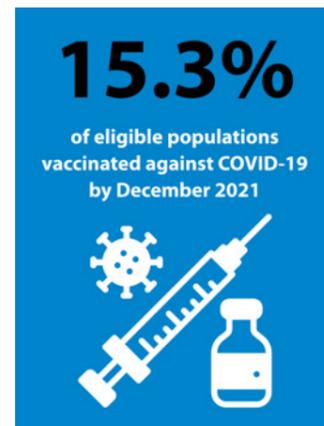
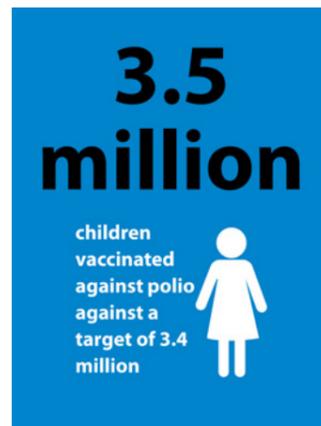
The United Nations contributed to strengthening supply chain systems through digitizing family planning commodity management tools and establishing electronic proof of delivery of essential medicines and supplies. In support of ensuring commodity security, the United Nations procured and distributed **life-saving commodities** that contributed to averting 266,572 unintended pregnancies, 739 maternal deaths and 59,886 unsafe abortions, including in humanitarian settings.

In response to teenage pregnancy, the United Nations supported the establishment of multisectoral forums and strengthened access to youth-friendly services in 50 health facilities. Through multiple platforms, **342,964 adolescents and youth were reached with lifesaving information and services**.

The polio vaccination campaign was supported, **vaccinating 3.5 million children below 5 years of age in 13 high-risk counties**, against a target of 3.4 million children. Furthermore, 3.8 million children aged between 9 months and 5 years in the 22 highest-risk counties were vaccinated against measles and rubella. The United Nations also supported the procurement and delivery of the malaria vaccine.

We provided strategic leadership and coordination support to develop and implement emergency preparedness and response plans and to ensure the maintenance of essential health services during Kenya's drought emergency and the COVID-19 pandemic. The UN provided support in conducting integrated mobile outreach services in hard-to-reach areas. This integrated support **benefited a total of 156,885 people**, the vast majority of whom were women and children.

Through the United Nations, organizations have joined forces to speed up an end to the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting the development and equitable distribution of the tests, treatments and vaccines the world needs. The United Nations in Kenya deployed staff and consultants at national and subnational levels to provide technical, coordination and logistical support to government partners. Community radio stations were supported to share messages in local languages across the regions. The United Nations facilitated the **shipment of PCR testing kits**, as well as the distribution of **personal protective equipment** and related equipment to 47 counties.



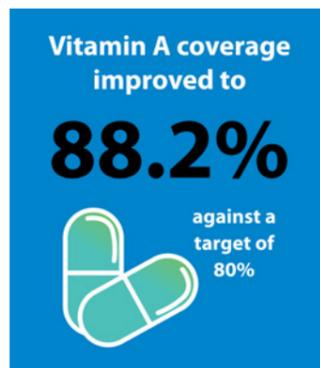
OUTCOME 6

Nutrition

By 2022, increased proportions of girls and boys under 5 years and pregnant and lactating women have equitable access to and use quality nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions to reduce wasting, stunting and micronutrient deficiencies at national and county levels, including refugees and especially during emergencies



UN agencies: UNICEF, WFP, FAO, UNHCR, WHO, IFAD



Towards improved nutrition for mothers and young children, the United Nations in Kenya supported the implementation of the **multi-agency study entitled The Cost of Hunger in Africa: Kenya 2019**. The **Kenya National Nutrition Action Plan 2018–2022** was developed and implemented, and support was given for the subsequent updating of second-generation County Nutrition Action Plans. Through these action plans, the vision and investment plan for nutrition in the country can be provided and institutionalized.

The United Nations supported the development of the **Country Action Plan for Wasting Prevention**, a joint Government of Kenya–United Nations plan that spells out key multisectoral actions required for sustainable wasting prevention. The United Nations assisted in strengthening community capacity to prevent and manage malnutrition through various social and behaviour change approaches in counties and refugee settings.

The Breast Milk Substitutes Regulations 2021 were passed and now facilitate the implementation of the Breast Milk Substitutes Act 2012. The nutrition sector successfully engaged in the **UN Food Systems Summit and the Nutrition for Growth Summit**, which were key advocacy opportunities in 2021 for a systems approach to nutrition in Kenya. These initiatives led to national and international commitments to address and prevent all forms of malnutrition.

At the county level, there has been a slight reduction in the prevalence of stunting in Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu and West Pokot Counties. Based on surveys carried out in 2021, the wasting prevalence in the refugee operation is below the emergency threshold of 15 per cent.

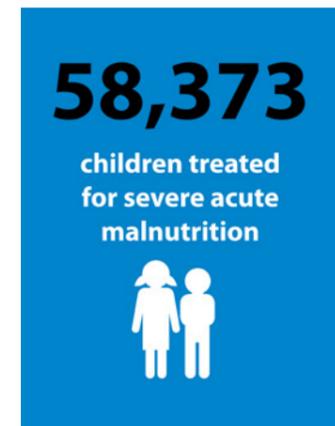
In 2021, the prevalence of stunting was below the emergency threshold of 40 per cent in all refugee camps. In collaboration with the United Nations and partner NGOs, Kenya developed a **National Road Map for Child Wasting (2021–2025)**. It forms part of the first-ever Global Action Plan on Child Wasting.

With our support, **vitamin A coverage** among children aged 6–59 months **improved to 88.2 per cent** against a target of 80 per cent (5.3 million children). The three targets on recovery, death and default were achieved for the treatment of severe and moderate acute malnutrition in 2021. The coverage of iron and folate supplementation improved to 80.1 per cent against a target of 73 per cent in 23 arid and semi-arid counties and 3 urban counties.

The United Nations in Kenya supported the management and treatment of acute malnutrition among children aged 6–59 months in Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camps and more than 11 counties. **Specialized food commodities** were provided to children and pregnant and lactating women in the camps to support complementary feeding.

The United Nations supported the implementation of the Positive Deviance/Hearth approach, with **100 percent success in Wajir** – all malnourished children admitted into the programme recovered within 90 days.

We supported nutrition surveys, providing information to facilitate nutrition sector and programme decision-making. Nutrition improvement was supported through technical assistance in **cash transfer and health education** programming. Additionally, nutrition materials (posters, leaflets and videos on kitchen gardens and recipes) were developed for communities.



OUTCOME 7

HIV Response

By 2022, all women, men and children in need, including key and priority populations, have equitable access to quality HIV prevention, treatment and care services



New HIV infections down by **22%** between 2020 and 2021

AIDS-related mortality declined by **9.5%** between 2020 and 2021



UN agencies: UNAIDS, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, UN Women, ILO, UNODC, UNHCR, WFP, IOM



The United Nations in Kenya supported efforts to combat HIV through information dissemination and medical services. New HIV infections went down by 22 per cent, from 41,000 in 2020 to 32,000 in 2021. There was also a reduction in **AIDS-related mortality, from 21,000 in 2020 to 19,000 in 2021**, reflecting a decline of 9.5 per cent.

In response to the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and HIV, **100,000 hygiene packs** for people living with HIV/AIDS, personal protective equipment and food baskets for **18,000 vulnerable households** of people living with HIV, key populations, people with disabilities, adolescents and young people, and breastfeeding women were provided to ensure the continuity of HIV services. The United Nations mobilized **USD 543 million** from the Global Fund for the response to HIV, tuberculosis, malaria and COVID-19 over three years, and USD 365 million from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Country Operational Plan 2021. An additional USD 102.2 million was mobilized from the Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism to ensure continuity of services. The United Nations monitored and documented human rights violations and disruption of HIV services, advocating for gender-responsive, rights-based and equitable HIV services.

Emergency HIV guidelines were adapted for the COVID-19 pandemic response and integrated into the main Ministry of Health environmental, health and safety guidelines. The United Nations supported the capacity building of health workers through training to implement integrated HIV, nutrition and health-related interventions at the facility level. Vulnerable HIV and tuberculosis clients were reached with cash transfers in urban areas.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in fewer visits to health facilities – and therefore fewer HIV tests, limited enrolment in antiretroviral therapy, and less follow-up for persons living with HIV – **the number of people on treatment increased by 6 per cent**, from 1,160,479 in 2020 to 1,229,995 in 2021. We mobilized USD 200,000 from the UN system to procure and donate 47,000 paediatric antiretroviral formulations (Dolutegravir 50 mg) to bridge the antiretroviral drug stockout. The United Nations also supported the network of people living with HIV to strengthen community antiretroviral therapy groups, trace defaulters and provide treatment literacy. Antiretroviral guidelines for adult and paediatric treatment were developed.

As part of interventions to strengthen the HIV response, the United Nations supported five cities to scale up quality services for adolescents and young people and key populations, which has led to enhanced integrated access to services by young people and key populations and more health facilities offering specialized services, **HIV testing**, family planning, and cervical cancer management. In addition to Nairobi city, the United Nations mobilized Kisumu, Mombasa, Nakuru and Eldoret to sign the Paris Declaration and commit to ending AIDS in their cities by 2030.

The United Nations in Kenya supported the development of a costed **Kenya AIDS Strategic Framework II** to guide the HIV response from 2021 to 2026. County AIDS Implementation Plans were developed to facilitate the implementation of the framework at the county level. We supported the generation of HIV estimates at national, county and subcounty levels to assist in target setting. A **strategic plan for the HIV and AIDS Tribunal** was developed to address cases of HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination. A stigma index survey was implemented, showing a decline in stigma from 45 per cent in 2014 to 35 per cent in 2021.

Information on nutrition promotion and human rights was disseminated through different mechanisms, including digital platforms targeting vulnerable groups (persons living with HIV, persons with disabilities, mothers, adolescents and youth, LGBTI persons, and prison populations). Further support was provided in the production of 75 podcasts and 26 videos on health and well-being in tertiary institutions, which reached about **83,000 young people**. In addition, a national teen pregnancy campaign was launched for awareness and policy dialogue.

With our support, **HIV testing services** were provided, and pre-exposure prophylaxis was integrated into maternal and child health clinics. **HIV awareness campaigns** were conducted at formal and informal workplaces, including outreach with disability-friendly HIV services to hearing-impaired workers. Condom dispensers were procured for all 47 counties. Over 5,500 female sex workers were reached with sexual and reproductive health and HIV services in Kilifi County, including family planning information and condoms.

OUTCOME 8

Water and Sanitation

By 2022, an increased proportion of the population has access to sustainable and safe drinking water and sanitation, and practice appropriate hygiene behaviour



UN agencies: UNICEF, UNEP, UNHCR



123.9%
achieved of the annual target for basic water provision in Nairobi and Nakuru Counties

65%
of water systems in Turkana County are solarized

THE UNITED NATIONS KENYA DROUGHT RESPONSE

- In 14 drought-prone counties, 358,000 people reached with safe water
- USD 100 million provided to vulnerable Kenyans affected by drought and COVID-19
- 37,890 people have improved water supply in Turkana
- 560,000 people in 14 drought-affected counties and 131,434 people in Nakuru County have improved hygiene and sanitation practices
- 255,128 persons in Nairobi County were reached through hygiene-improvement outreach
- Deep aquifer mapping provided in drought-prone areas

The United Nations in Kenya continues to support efforts to improve access to safe drinking water and good sanitation. Climate-smart water services were supported in 2021 to improve the resilience of communities to the effects of recurring droughts. In total, **37,890 people have improved access to safe water supply** through the drilling and solarization of 21 boreholes in Turkana. Emergency response supported 14 drought-prone counties, **reaching 358,000 people with safe water**. Among these, 210,000 people benefited from durable water connections and 25 water kiosks in the informal settlements of Nairobi and Nakuru to achieve 123.9 per cent of the annual target for basic water provision.

Additionally, the governance of water services was strengthened in three counties, contributing to **4.8 million people** having sustained and reliable access to basic water services. Deep aquifer mapping using geospatial techniques was implemented to improve the reliability of groundwater potential in six drought-prone counties. The initiative both develops data analysis capacity and improves water services through high-yield boreholes. At the same time, the United Nations supported water resource mapping in arid and semi-arid counties. Approximately **560,000 people in 14 drought-affected counties and 131,434 people** in Nakuru County benefitted from improved sanitation and hygiene practices, including interventions and supplies during disease outbreaks.

Towards improved sanitation in 2021, 3,384 villages (135 per cent of the target) were certified as open defecation free in nine counties in Kenya, representing **761,400 more people living in open defecation-free communities**. Three county road maps for tackling open defecation were drafted and are in use. In five counties, 144,315 people (289 per cent of the target) gained access to basic sanitation.

The United Nations supported the launch of the **Kenya Sanitation Alliance**, which brought together the 15 counties with the highest open defecation rates to commit to ending open defecation by 2025. The alliance aims to strengthen government capacity to mobilize domestic resources to eliminate open defecation. The United Nations directly supports sanitation and hygiene hubs in 13 counties and 2 at the national Ministries of Health and Water, Sanitation and Irrigation.

We supported the training of 8,092 county Ministry of Health staff and community health volunteers (3,237 males and 4,855 females) on community-led total sanitation facilitation, including strengthened handwashing messages. In 2021, **2,918 public health officers and community health volunteers** (1,167 males and 1,751 females) were trained on **market-based sanitation**. Moreover, 430 local artisans and 226 youth groups were trained to install sanitation products and start sanitation businesses in target counties.

The United Nations supported the **capacity building of 11,666 local government workers, community health volunteers, local artisans, and youth** on community-led total sanitation for the national monitoring and information system, COVID-19 infection prevention and control measures, latrine upgrading and sanitation business with support from the Ministry of Health.

The involvement of community health volunteers is critical. The market-based sanitation approach in particular can create opportunities for youths to develop the skills necessary for running a sanitation business through training, support and coaching, thereby positively influencing both community health and the local economy.

Groundwater recharge structures were developed to improve the capacities of wells; 65 per cent of the systems are solarized in Turkana. A total of 305 members (159 males and 146 females) from 61 water user associations were trained on **sustainable water governance**. The United Nations supported Turkana County to establish urban and rural water utilities and regulate all small-scale service providers through the established utilities.

The United Nations in Kenya provided **water, sanitation and hygiene supplies** to Wajir County to reduce the health and socio-economic impact of COVID-19 among vulnerable border communities, targeting 55,000 people. COVID-19 messaging was also provided to communities and schools. For hygiene promotion and menstrual hygiene management, **255,128 participants in Nairobi County** were reached through various campaigns, including door-to-door campaigns and small group discussions.

OUTCOME 9

Protection

By 2022, marginalized and vulnerable people have increased access to and utilize social protection and services for the prevention of and response to gender-based violence and violence against children



UN agencies: UNICEF, WHO, UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR



The United Nations in Kenya has supported the government in increasing the coverage of social protection floors and corresponding government spending on social protection. The Government of Kenya is exploring the introduction of a **universal child benefit** programme, which will increase social protection coverage in Kenya. In addition, the United Nations supports the strengthening of the policy and legal environment for child and social protection. Evidence was generated to inform both policies and programming.

With UN support, to cushion vulnerable Kenyans against the socioeconomic effects of drought in 2021, the government expanded social protection provisions with a commitment of **KES 1.2 billion** provided as direct **mobile cash transfers**. **KES 10 billion** was provided for vulnerable Kenyans reeling from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is expected that overall government financing to the social protection sector will increase by the end of 2022. The child protection costing model has been updated to be more comprehensive and has been used to inform and influence the ongoing government budgeting processes.

The United Nations supported the review of the **National Social Protection Policy**, which is awaiting Cabinet approval. The Social Protection Investment Plan, which will guide the government's investment priorities towards Vision 2030 and increase financing to the social protection sector, has been aligned with the pillars of the policy.

The Children Bill was approved by the Cabinet and forwarded to the National Assembly. The Cabinet approved the establishment of the Unemployment Insurance Fund and the Migrant Fund. **National plans and strategies on key child protection issues** were also developed: the Care Reform Strategy; the National Prevention and Response Plan on Violence against Children (2019–2023); the National Plan of Action to Tackle Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse; the Justice for Children Strategy; and the strategy for the Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Protection Unit. The United Nations supported the development of county policies and legal frameworks on child and social protection. These included the **Social Protection Policy** for Makuani and Marsabit Counties, and the **Disability Bill** for Wajir County.

The United Nations in Kenya supported the midterm review of the **Civil Registration Strategic Plan 2018–2023**. The United Nations supported the conduct of a knowledge,

attitudes and practices study to identify barriers to birth and death registration. There has been marked improvement in the **registration of children** under the age of five. In 2019, the registration stood at 83.9 per cent, and this increased to 89.3 per cent in 2021.

The United Nations has supported the Government of Kenya and partners to ensure that social and child protection systems have enhanced technical and financial capacity. The **information management system for child and social protection service delivery** was strengthened, launched and operationalized in all 47 counties. Coordination was strengthened, along with intersectoral linkages. The **Sectoral Group for Social Protection** was established as a joint forum of development and government partners to harmonize coordination of social protection.

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect project and programme implementation and increase the risk of gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation, child marriage and violence against children. At the Generation Equality Forum, the Government of Kenya pledged to end all forms of gender-based violence and female genital mutilation by 2026. The United Nations supported the development of legal and policy guidelines on **violence against women and children**. UN agencies also supported access to gender-based violence, female genital mutilation and violence against children services.

Through support from the United Nations, Kenya has made major strides to ensure that policy and legal frameworks are in place for the prevention of and response to gender-based violence and the elimination of harmful practices such as child and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. Among the key policy milestones was the **National Policy on the Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation** (2019). Twenty-one county draft policies and 23 draft county action plans on ending female genital mutilation were developed. The United Nations supported the development of a training curriculum for judicial officers, as well as an e-course for the National Police Service. The United Nations supported initiatives such as Johari Beads, which aims to economically empower women and girls through **developing livelihoods**, which assist in abandoning female genital mutilation. Toll-free helplines such as HAK 1195 were supported for effective gender-based violence response in emergencies. Gender-based studies on COVID-19 and **electoral violence** were also supported.



KES 11.2 billion
committed for cash transfers for social protection in the face of COVID-19 and drought

1.9 million



text messages sent to raise awareness about children's psychosocial well-being during the pandemic

OUTCOME 10

Population and Housing

By 2022, management of population programmes and access to quality, affordable and adequate housing is improved in socially and environmentally sustainable settlements, with a focus on vulnerable groups



Increase in birth registration,
from **76.2%** in 2019 to
82.9% in 2020



10

UN agencies: UNFPA, UN-Habitat



Through UN support, Kenya has made major strides in achieving the objectives outlined under Population and Housing in **Vision 2030's Mid-Term Plan 2018–2022**. The support has resulted in improved availability and accessibility of evidence for decision making through further analysis of the **2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census** and the production of monographs; the publication of the annual **vital statistics** report; and the conduct of the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey and an inequality analysis, among others. The United Nations supported the development of a draft Population Policy for sustainable development, which was submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

The **Kenya Demographic and Health Survey** in particular will provide up-to-date estimates of demographic and health indicators at national, regional and county levels. These indicators will be crucial in monitoring the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, African Union Agenda 2063, Vision 2030 and the Big 4 Agenda, among others.

The United Nations has also supported the enhancement of government officers' capacity to conduct demographic analysis and integrate population dynamics into development plans, policy formulation, and monitoring and evaluation. The capacity of 12 counties to integrate population dynamics into **County Annual/Integrated Development Plans** was strengthened. Additionally, enhancement of the national and county interfaces for monitoring and evaluation (NIMES/CIMES) improved the monitoring and evaluation of development programmes.

As Kenya gears up towards implementing the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda, the United Nations in Kenya, as members of the agenda's national task force, provided support for the review and updating of business processes and tools for birth and death registration to align with the anticipated **National Integrated Identity Management System**. Additionally, technical and financial support has been provided in developing the draft Huduma Bill currently under review.

The United Nations supported strengthening the capacity of **55 National Habitat Committee members** and 24 County and National Directors for Housing on

monitoring and reporting on Sustainable Development Goal 11 ("make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable") and the New Urban Agenda, and helped develop a road map on the same. This will contribute significantly to the development of the National and Local Voluntary Reviews.

With UN support, a parks challenge, a courtyards challenge and a child-friendly spaces challenge were held alongside the **Nairobi River Challenge**. These challenges inspired public-private partnerships for parks and gardens, and mobilized residents to reclaim, upgrade and manage **safe spaces within the urban environment** for children to learn and play, promoting their health and well-being. More than 1,000 young people from 114 teams participated.

The United Nations supported enhanced public participation in improving the local urban environment through the creation of key linkages between the **Nairobi River Life Project, part of the Nairobi River Regeneration Initiative**, and other proposed developments such as the transformation of City Hall Way, the Accra Road corridor, Haile Selassie Avenue, Kamukunji Grounds and Jacaranda Grounds. Members of the public were able to give feedback on the designs before these were handed over to the Government of Kenya for implementation.



413
courtyards in Nairobi
identified as shared
neighbourhood assets, to be
promoted as public spaces

OUTCOME 11

Disaster and Risk Management

By 2022, individuals and communities in Kenya have reduced exposure to risks and are more resilient to disasters and emergencies



390,000

persons in arid and semi-arid areas received cash and food transfers



11

UN agencies: UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDRR, UNHCR



The United Nations in 2021 contributed to reducing the number of people exposed to disaster risk in Kenya, and developed the **resilience of communities**. This contribution was achieved through strengthening risk governance through strategies, policies and legal frameworks; enhancing institutional and human capacities for preparedness, response and recovery; and building community-level capacity for resilience.

The Government of Kenya was supported to review the **National Disaster Risk Management Policy 2021**, which will indirectly benefit the entire Kenyan population. As a result, 12 of the 14 target counties were allocated an estimated KES 1.4 billion (USD 12.8 million) in local budgetary resources for disaster risk management in the 2021/2022 financial year. The United Nations contributed to reducing exposure to risk in 23 counties through the development of a resilience programming framework for the arid and semi-arid areas. The government was supported to undertake the Minimum Initial Service Package Readiness Assessment.

The United Nations in Kenya further supported the improvement of community-level resilience through cash and food transfers to **390,000 beneficiaries in nine arid and semi-arid counties**. This was combined with livelihood diversification strategies along priority value chains. The United Nations assisted an additional **250,000 drought-affected people** with critical health, water and sanitation, nutrition, education, and protection (gender-based violence and child protection) support in humanitarian settings.

In six counties, **entrepreneurship initiatives** were started for **11,846 youth and women** affected by drought and floods. Significant support was provided to the COVID-19 response, including medical and non-medical equipment, cash transfers and non-food items.

Towards improving risk knowledge, hazard atlases were developed in 14 counties. The United Nations also supported **gender- and child-responsive risk management** through the development of child-focused county-level risk profiles (focused on drought and flood)

in 15 counties. Coordination capacity between national and county levels was enhanced, allowing for better management of resources as well as clearer separation of duties.

The United Nations in Kenya **enhanced resilience programming and disaster risk management** at county and national levels through financial and technical support to mandated institutions. A disaster risk reduction specialist was placed at the Resident Coordinator's office to support both the government and the UN system to coordinate **strategic disaster management** issues. Resulting interventions were undertaken collaboratively, thus enhancing governance.

We provided technical assistance to the State Department for Development of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands. This enabled the drafting of the resilience framework, which will guide resilience programming within the country. The United Nations supported the government to undertake a medium-term review of the **Framework for Ending Drought Emergencies**.

Five counties were supported to develop capacity for planning and executing **food security interventions**. This will reduce their reliance on relief food, as well as enhance the utilization of local resources for food security. The United Nations also supported the development and launch of a USD 138.5 million flash appeal to support drought response.

434,000
refugees in
refugee camps
received life-
saving assistance
coupled with
nutrition support
and self-reliance
initiatives

OUTCOME 12

Productivity

By 2022, productivity in the services, agriculture, manufacturing, extractives and blue economy sectors and their value chains increased



Self-Help Groups Boost Livelihoods in West Pokot

Located in the heart of Riwo Ward in West Pokot, Kutung Self-Help Group is a farmers' group that was formed and mobilized in September 2021. The group has 30 members: 28 are female and 2 are male, while 21 are young people and 1 person is living with disability. With savings and loans training, the group immediately began their activities, and have begun the formalization process with the Ministry of Social Services.

Access to affordable finance is a major limiting factor for farmers engaging in profitable climate-smart agribusinesses. The group aims to bridge the supply-demand finance gap that exists. They have three types of savings: Regular, Emergency and Saving with a Purpose, two of which are providing weekly dividends. As farmers, they mainly take care of their *shambas*, but the group has decided to branch out into livestock.

Currently, only five members in the group have sheep, and the group's vision is to have each member own 7–10 sheep within the next three years. The group selected the Dorper sheep value chain following a rigorous gender-responsive enterprise-selection process. Besides its dietary benefits, the Dorper sheep breed is a non-selective grazer and is said to be hardy. Rearing them is not labour intensive. The group further envisions forming a cooperative society and engaging in collective marketing as a means of increasing their bargaining power and accessing competitive markets both locally and nationally.

As an income-generating activity, the group has one loan product known as a regular loan. The members borrow twice the equivalent of their savings at an interest rate of 10 per cent, and the group dispersed more than KES 40,000 within four months. The members are excited about the project and the change it will bring to their households and communities, especially to the women. According to Susan Longereing of Batei Village: "We face prolonged dry seasons caused by climate change, and this has taken away our livelihoods. With your support, we will buy more pipes, water tanks and sprinklers to sustain our small onion farms, and hopefully, expand to larger parcels of land."



UN agencies: WFP, ILO, UNHCR, IFAD, IOM, FAO



12

To support the Government of Kenya's socio-economic recovery, the United Nations in Kenya continued to support **productivity in the services, agriculture, manufacturing, extractives and blue economy sectors**. The focus was on value chain support and upgrading; capacity strengthening; catalysing and promoting investments, standards and conformity; technology transfer; and knowledge sharing. The United Nations continued to support the government to create an enabling policy and investment environment in key sectors contributing to the growth and transformation of the agriculture sector.

In 2021, there was an increase in women's income security, productivity and economic autonomy in Kenya. The United Nations supported **women farmers** to enhance their **resilience to climate change** and increase their productivity. Women were also supported to access markets and procurement opportunities in government (via the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities programme) and the private sector through the implementation of affirmative procurement policies and by strengthening the capacity of **women-owned businesses** to become more competitive in the market.

The United Nations in Kenya also supported an enabling policy and business environment for women through support for the **Women's Empowerment Principles** and developing the Women Economic Empowerment Strategy (2020–2025), Women's Economic Empowerment Policy, Simplified Bidder's Handbook and Agriculture Sector Gender Policy. The Unstereotype Alliance, which focuses on eliminating stereotypes that hinder women's economic empowerment and improving the economic environment, was also launched.

We supported the government to provide an enabling environment for the transformation and **growth of the agriculture sector under the devolved system**. Development funding of USD 20 million was provided towards improving access to productivity-enhancing assets, technologies, and rural finance and services, as well as enhancing access to improved post-production technologies, markets and nutrition. The United Nations supported the government to develop the Migratory and Invasive Pests and Weeds Management Strategy and the Livestock Master Plan.

In 2021, the United Nations supported **47,939 value chain actors** and promoted **improved technologies**. Fifty per cent of the producers in this intervention were women. Almost 5,800 micro, small and medium-sized enterprises were supported to gain access to markets. Through various interventions, the United Nations, in partnership with government (national and county), development partners, research institutions, academia and the private sector, continued to strengthen the value chains of produce ranging from groundnuts to goat meat to herbs and spices. Value addition training on leather and beadwork was conducted for women and youth. Moreover, **390,000 smallholder farmers** are being supported to cope with the effects of climate change, with 53,003 individuals and 2,124 community groups engaged in natural resource management and climate risk management activities. The total land under **climate-resilient practices** is **27,727 hectares**, with 27.3 per cent of households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies.

We supported **agribusiness training** in six counties with a focus on technical skills. In addition, three standards-enforcing national partners were trained on laboratory quality management; measurement and traceability; and implementation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017, which plays a critical role in food safety and quality. The United Nations provided **technical input** to the draft Food Safety Bill, which seeks to enhance protection of consumers. Our work also strengthened Kenya's **sustainable development** aspirations by supporting the development of four draft pieces of subsidiary legislation for the Climate Change Act 2016. The long-term strategy towards net-zero emissions was also developed.

30 laboratories set up and **60** public health officers trained to strengthen the localized response to mycotoxins in food

Nutrient-dense, climate-tolerant crops were introduced to address micronutrient deficiencies

8,500 smallholder farmers (55 percent women) supported to produce orange-fleshed sweet potatoes

OUTCOME 13

Vulnerable Groups

By 2022, marginalized vulnerable groups and regions in Kenya have increased access to decent jobs, income and entrepreneurship opportunities



688
farmer service centres

an increase of 70% since 2020

7,279
small businesses trained and mentored to increase their entrepreneurial capacity


78,700
metric tons of food valued at USD 24 million procured from

18,292
smallholder farmers



13

UN agencies: UNIDO, IOM, UNDP, UN Women, FAO, UNHCR, ILO



The United Nations in Kenya supported a wide range of initiatives in 2021 towards improving the **economic opportunities for marginalized vulnerable groups** and regions. In collaboration with business member organizations, 47,939 value chain actors, 14,572 micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and 54 producer cooperatives were trained in investment profiling and investment opportunity identification. We strengthened the capacities of labour migration actors on ethical recruitment, and provided support to **vulnerable migrants** returning to Kenya. Support was provided for technical training to fishermen and pastoralist women on climate change adaptation and resilient agriculture. The **livelihoods of 88,692 vulnerable households** affected by the desert locust invasion were safeguarded.

The United Nations has contributed to the Government of Kenya's efforts to **transform agriculture** from a largely subsistence base to a commercial endeavour. This has been realized through the expansion of selected value chains for decent employment creation, particularly for women and youth; development of capacities for business development plans; and improved animal health, along with increased production along livestock value chains. Support for strategies, policies, guidelines and programmes to enhance decent **rural employment** opportunities, entrepreneurship and skill development has boosted decent work in agriculture.

Job creation was enabled through business development training, value addition, business mentorship and improved lending services. For example, our support allowed Nakuru County to finalize the **SME Fund Bill**, which set aside KES 52 million as interest subsidy and saw a major bank reduce its interest rate from 17 per cent to 7 per cent for small enterprises. The United Nations supported projects targeting 80 per cent **women farmers** in arid and semi-arid areas and using a poverty graduation model to assist the poorest of poor women.

The United Nations supported the derisking of KES 5 million worth of **microloans** for women in small business who were affected by COVID-19 in 29 counties in Kenya. In 2021, women's economic empowerment supported

the distribution of **106,543 face masks**, largely to women, schoolchildren and vulnerable men in informal settlements. The masks were hand-produced by women trained with UN support. United Nations support helped to keep women safe in rural areas by tracking the prevalence of COVID-19 in 14 counties and facilitating women's involvement in COVID-19 **decision-making** committees. **Personal protective equipment** was delivered to border points to enhance safe business transactions.

Targeted United Nations funding aimed to improve access to assets and technologies, as well as rural finance and services. It also enhanced access to improved post-production technologies, markets and nutrition so as to increase the incomes of **smallholder farmers** and create jobs within value chains. The United Nations in Kenya helped organize buyer-seller forums with the aim of linking smallholder farmers to efficient markets.

An estimated **7,279 small enterprises** (including farmers) were supported through training, coaching and mentoring programmes to increase their entrepreneurial capacities. In the food production sector, the United Nations facilitated market and business opportunities valued at close to USD 1 million.

The United Nations strengthened support for biodiversity and nature in Kenyan conservancies, improving conservancy landscapes that are home to threatened species and habitats. The support enabled both **healthy ecosystems and sustainable livelihoods**. Elgeyo Marakwet and Nyeri Counties were supported to develop Forest Management and Conservation Policies.

Our technical support enabled the development of **COVID-19 recovery plans**, including the National Economic Recovery Strategy. The United Nations further supported the development of Kenya's **Third Generation Decent Work Country Programme** (2021-2024) to promote decent jobs. The Government of Kenya was supported in the development of the Labour Migration Policy and Labour Migration Management Bill. The United Nations also supported crucial efforts to prevent trafficking in persons.

OUTCOME 14

Green Kenya

By 2022, people in Kenya benefit from sustainable natural resource management and a resilient green economy



55,884
hectares of forest reclaimed and restored

250,000
tree seedlings propagated and provided to refugee and host communities



14

UN agencies: UNEP, UNDP, UNHCR, FAO, IFAD, UNIDO, IOM



Kenya has achieved growth of the **renewable energy** contribution to the electricity grid to a high of **93 per cent**, and is expected to reach a clean grid by the year 2030. The United Nations in Kenya contributed to the improvement of the proportion of Kenyans using clean fuels and technology, from 8.5 per cent in 2020 to 13.42 per cent in 2021.

Private sector capacities to undertake **waste-to-energy projects** were enhanced through best practice knowledge and information sharing. The United Nations supported the installation of Internet of things technologies at Olkaria Geothermal Power Station for enhanced efficiency of **clean electricity generation**. Kenya Electricity Generating Company staff were trained on the operation and maintenance of the technology.

The United Nations strengthened Kenya's sustainable development aspirations with support for four draft subsidiary legislations for the **Climate Change Act 2016**. The long-term strategy towards net-zero emissions was also developed. A scoping mission that revealed the cause of the rising Rift Valley lakes was supported. The United Nations' Climate Finance Synthesis Report informed the design and launch of the Financing Locally Led Climate Action Programme endorsed by the World Bank at COP26.

We enhanced the forestry area under the Nationally Determined Contributions (national plans for climate action), resulting in public forests being put under enhanced protection, with afforestation and landscape restoration efforts at all levels. As affirmed by the President of Kenya at COP26, **55,884 hectares** of encroached public forests were **reclaimed and restored**. Kenya's integrated Measurement, Reporting and Verification System was developed. The United Nations supported the finalization of the draft **National Forestry Policy**. UN support to the southern rangelands' ecosystem has enhanced space for wildlife security.

In 2021, the United Nations initiated a study on **human mobility**, aiming to contribute to the reduction of vulnerabilities to adverse effects of climate change through the development of **green jobs** and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

The United Nations strengthened institutional and human capacities for early warning, preparedness and response, as well as **mitigating the impact of climate change** and other shocks and improving resilience. Moreover, partnerships with various stakeholders have helped institutions at national, county and community levels to improve their natural resource management capacities. The United Nations supported the development of **county climate change funds** through the enactment of legislation that ensures that county governments allocate at least 1 per cent of their county budgets to climate-resilient community assets such as earth dams.

With our support, the introduction of **cash-based interventions for cooking fuel** is playing a vital role in diversifying the availability of alternative/clean cooking fuels in refugee camp communities, reducing the over-dependency on woody biomass. In promotion of efficient energy, 1,256 **fuelwood-saving stoves** were issued to new arrivals and 4,000 were given to existing households. The United Nations enhanced the capacity of the private sector to undertake waste-to-energy projects.

The United Nations disbursed development funding of USD 7 million specifically to enhance community-based natural resource management and improve the conservation of **water catchment** areas. The United Nations supported numerous landscape restoration initiatives, resulting in regenerated areas, forest management plans, and the first tree-marketing cooperative in the country. To support desert locust control operations, more than **2,000 persons were trained** on desert locust surveillance and reporting, environmental health standards, and the safe use of pesticides.

We also supported the development and roll-out of the **National Land Information Management System**, which enables the capture, management and analysis of geo-referenced land-related data to inform land administration and management decisions; the establishment of 9 geographic information system (GIS) laboratories; the establishment and refurbishment of 14 **land registries**; and the recognition, protection and legal registration of 19 community lands and access to newly secured land (approximately 386,204 hectares) by 29,686 individuals.

Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

The 2018 UN Development System reforms and the repositioning of the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Office had the single intention of driving a shift in paradigm and programming and putting in place a leadership structure for the United Nations in country that is fully “fit for purpose” for Agenda 2030.

The United Nations in Kenya has consolidated its new leadership roles and has been one of the UN Country Teams blazing the trail globally on strategic partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2017, the Government of Kenya and the United Nations in Kenya together launched our flagship SDG Partnership Platform (SDGPP) at the UN General Assembly.

The SDG Partnership Platform is a United Nations Kenya flagship initiative that convenes and connects leadership from government, the UN family, development partners, the private sector, philanthropy, civil society and academia to catalyse SDG partnerships, financing and innovations in alignment with the Government of Kenya’s Big 4 development agenda. The SDGPP is a core component of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and the United Nations in Kenya has continued to expand the impacts of the SDGs through this initiative.

The SDGPP has taken on a central role in curating and launching innovative public-private partnerships across the President’s Big 4 Agenda (food security and nutrition; primary health care; industrialization; and affordable housing). The SDGPP brings together the Government of Kenya (including its Public-Private Partnership Unit within the National Treasury), international government partners (such as the Netherlands), Kenyan private sector actors (such as Equity Bank and the Kenya Private Sector Alliance), philanthropy actors (such as Conrad N. Hilton, Ford and Rockefeller Foundations), and international actors (such as Philips, AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, Huawei and Merck for Mothers).

The SDGPP under the Resident Coordinator is positioned to act as an honest broker with the confidence and trust of the entire United Nations Country Team and multiple

other stakeholders who appreciate its neutral convening roles. This has proven to be a successful model. The SDGPP is supported by a Multi-Partner Trust Fund administered by UNDP (New York and Kenya) under the management of the SDGPP’s governance structure as a flagship of the current United Nations Development Assistance Framework. More agencies and philanthropic organizations have joined the Multi-Partner Trust Fund to support the collaborative efforts of the private sector. Participating UN agencies include UNDP, UNFPA, FAO, IFAD, WFP, UNAIDS, UNIDO, UNOPS, UNICEF and WHO, with UNHCR, IOM, UNCDF and others also expressing a strong interest in joining.

The SDGPP has successfully worked in four primary ways:

1. It identifies new market opportunities for “profit with purpose” or “triple bottom line” investing towards the SDGs. A case in point was the study commissioned by the SDGPP in 2018 with McKinsey (with USAID support) that pointed to a USD 6 billion profit-making investment opportunity in the provision of primary health care in Kenya, detailing subsectors, deal sizes and margins. This study has helped the SDGPP to generate a pipeline of USD 165 million of private sector investments in primary health care provision, beginning with Philips’ (a pioneer signatory) public-private investments in primary health care clinics in Makueni County.

2. It pioneers innovative financing instruments and approaches for the SDGs. An example is the world’s first Development Impact Bond supporting adolescent reproductive and sexual health services being launched with support worth USD 7 million from the United Nations Joint SDG Fund, to be further leveraged by investments from the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation and other public and private sector actors.

3. Finally, it facilitates partnerships that curate, incubate and then launch public-private partnership projects aligned with the Big 4 Agenda. The platform has helped to convene, connect and catalyse SDG partnership investments and financing to the tune of USD 165 million in the



Kenyan primary health-care ecosystem with private and public partners, including investors and blended financiers. Similar work is underway in the food and nutrition and manufacturing sectors. An example would be the launching, with President Kenyatta, of the development process for the Nyamira Agro-Industrial Park, with a potential value of USD 700 million. The feasibility study for the park has been completed, financing has been identified and the deed for the 265-hectare site is now ready. Once complete, the agro-industrial park will act as a magnet for agro-processing, value addition and exports from Kisii, Nyamira and Migori Counties. The park has the ambition to create a large number of sustainable livelihoods for young workers and smallholder farmers, hence also contributing directly to the youth and livelihoods agenda.

4. The three above are further buttressed by deliberately building out in the ecosystem new networks and platforms of private sector actors and financiers with a proven commitment to shared value social engagements and “profit for purpose investing”. One example of this is the Finance, Trade and Investment Network in Kenya. The SDGPP fostered the launch of this new network in 2021 to bring together the national government, county governments, the private sector (such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Private Sector Alliance and the Kenya Bankers Association) and development partners, as well as the National Advisory Board for Impact Investment in Kenya. The process was led by SDGPP aggregating all financing associations on post-COVID-19 economic recovery and long-term growth and transformation up to 2030.

The new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework envisaged in 2022 will have partnerships as a key foundational enabler, which will be strongly supported by the SDGPP as Kenya continues to transition from SDG funding to financing. The SDGPP’s Multi-Partner Trust Fund will also potentially be an option to expand into a One Kenya Fund to underwrite the entire United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Kenya.

Results of the United Nations Working Better Together

The COVID-19 pandemic over the last two years brought the UN Country Team closer together than before under the strengthened mandate of the Resident Coordinator, as per the intention of United Nations reform.

Through this coordinated approach and under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, the United Nations in Kenya was able in 2021 to be true partner for the Government of Kenya and other stakeholders in their work to combat COVID-19 and to counter its impacts and build back better.

The strengthened collaboration under the UN Country Team also strengthened UN Kenya's response to the locust invasion and the drought, and on issues related to refugees and refugee camps in Kenya.

The country team worked closely together in the process of writing the Common Country Analysis, with a solid "leave no one behind" analysis at the core, and the initial steps to develop the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

The ambition from the UN Country Team is clear: going forward, there is a wish to collaborate even more with joint programmes and joint funding, leveraging joint financing. This closer collaboration is already manifesting itself. In 2021, the Sustainable Development Goal Partnership Platform saw even more UN agencies signing on, and the work of the platform matured.

In communication, the ambition to come together as one is abundantly clear. The United Nations in Kenya has, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, provided consistent, high-level joint communication in Kenya on such issues as the "two-thirds gender rule", Generation Unlimited and youth, among others.

Devolved Services

Through the Joint Programme on Devolution, the United Nations in Kenya has sought to strengthen service delivery through devolved government bodies. These efforts have seen successes, including continuous capacity building. Eighty-five per cent of residents of 14 arid and semi-arid counties reported satisfaction with devolved services. The performance management framework for counties was launched, and a curriculum for transformative women's leadership was developed (housed at the Kenya School of Government).

To improve the capacity of counties to manage public finances and generate own source revenue, the United Nations worked with the Office of the Auditor-General to provide in-county support to implement audit recommendations. As a result, 71 per cent of the counties reported improved audit performance. Fourteen counties increased their own source revenue by 27 per cent compared to the national average of 15 per cent between the 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 fiscal years.

All told, service delivery performance from the first few years of devolution has been mixed, but counties have generally expanded and invested in services that were devolved to them. Counties have maintained and, in many cases, significantly expanded the levels of, and access to, service delivery in health, education and water.

Total early childhood education enrolment increased from 2.9 million in 2013 to 3.4 million in 2018. Net enrolment went up seven percentage points to 77.2 per cent. In the water sector, access to basic drinking water facilities in rural areas increased from 47 per cent in 2013 to 50 per cent in 2017. Although devolved service delivery remains mixed in a number of sectors and areas, the United Nations is working hard to emphasize improved coordination and efficiency. The Council of Governors is in the process of developing its third strategic plan, and aims to set up a unit to coordinate capacity development efforts for all 47 counties. Policy and legislative reforms are being initiated to improve the enabling environment for devolution.

COVID-19

The United Nations through the Joint Programme on Devolution enhanced public awareness about COVID-19, reaching over 99 per cent of the population. More than 20 million people were reached through television, 23 million people through vernacular radio stations, and 202,050 people through short messaging services. Key messages were sent to 2,934 Members of County Assemblies. Through the Hotline 1195, 753 survivors of gender-based violence were reached and supported, while 2,601 survivors were connected to essential services. The programme facilitated cash transfers to 3,000 urban households with vulnerable, marginalized persons, as well as 5,800 households living below the poverty line.

The COVID-19 Multi-Partner Trust Fund Programme in Kenya has galvanized the broad and diverse expertise of UN agencies in improving the livelihoods of young men and women.

Through the Farm Business School model, the capacity of farmers and county staff to provide extension support was enhanced. Site visits were conducted to reinforce experiential learning and enhance classroom learning.

To create awareness about sexual and gender-based violence, educational and behaviour change materials were developed through a consultative process with stakeholders. Sixty-nine young women and men were supported to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in their communities through the Safe Spaces for Women and Girls Project.

A total of 6,940 young people enrolled in the African Youth Marketplace: 2,347 in Kisumu, 765 in Turkana and 2,689 in Nairobi. The young people created their digital CVs and have access to a suite of personalized courses and training in entrepreneurship, digital marketing, graphic design, basic programming and soft skills for employment. They participated in community activities that included tree planting and cleaning and painting schools.

The United Nations in Kenya has supported youth engagement through various platforms. Youth Unite and Yunitok (a free messaging service) have over 75,647 registered users (36,859 boys and 38,788 girls). Information sharing and polls are shared weekly, and Yunitokers provided feedback. This feedback supported the national dialogue leading up to the United Nations Food Systems Summit 2021 to ensure their thoughts and opinions were included.

Social Protection

The Joint Programme on Universal Social Protection has made considerable progress in providing technical assistance to the Government of Kenya to work towards a more inclusive government-led social protection system. The strategic support primarily comprises building the evidence base to demonstrate the potential benefits of a universal social protection system in Kenya as opposed to the current targeted approach. The feasibility study for a universal child benefit has been completed. A universal child benefit pilot is being implemented, targeting over 8,000 children with cash transfers and services related to nutrition, child protection and disability inclusion.

The midline impact survey for the universal senior citizens grant is underway. The findings will facilitate further expansion of universal old age pensions in Kenya. To deepen the inclusion agenda within the social protection system, a gender analysis study has been commissioned.

The joint programme supported activities related to health insurance: a feasibility study for community-based health insurance in Garissa was conducted, and a communication and advocacy strategy and implementation plan were developed to increase the take-up of the Linda Mama Programme, a government flagship programme offering free universal maternal health services.

The COVID-19 situation has renewed the interest and presented opportunities to further dialogue on social security benefits related to occupational injury and illness compensation mechanisms, unemployment benefit and maternity benefit. Extensive social dialogue with government, employers, and workers' organizations, among other key stakeholders, is ongoing to inform the design of these social security benefits.

An issues paper on the current status of the occupational diseases/illness/injury compensation systems was developed. A maternity benefit feasibility study has been finalized, and design options for the introduction of a maternity benefit are being costed in partnership with the National Hospital Insurance Fund. On employment protection, the Cabinet approved the need to establish an Unemployment Insurance Fund.

The rural population and the economies therein remain a priority for the United Nations. To this end, the Kenya Integrated Agriculture Management Information System has been designed and is being developed.

Evaluations and Lessons Learned

The reporting period saw a number of challenges that impeded the achievement of planned targets and results. In 2021, COVID-19 became the new normal. Online platforms and Internet access became vital lifelines for individuals, communities and development programmes. The pandemic made it clear that investments in information technology and digitization would be important in both the short and long term.

The limitations placed on physical gatherings meant that diversifying methods of community interaction became crucial. Policy work was reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to slow legislative processes. The pandemic compromised a lot of the work on rule of law and human rights, including on civic space, where certain rights and freedoms had to be curtailed to contain the spread of the pandemic.

Generally, the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted programming, affected gains made and left the most marginalized groups and communities further behind. Girls were disproportionately affected, with anecdotal reports of early marriage, pregnancy and household responsibilities preventing them from rejoining schools. Sixty per cent of those enrolled are overage, while over half of all school-aged children remain out of school.

More than 2 million people have been severely affected by drought in Kenya's arid and semi-arid areas. Multiple other shocks and emergencies have undermined livelihoods and worsened the poverty situation. These include not only the COVID-19 pandemic, but also floods, the desert locust invasion and animal and plant diseases.

The reporting period saw stockouts of crucial HIV treatments. With a decrease in visits to health facilities during the COVID-19 period, HIV testing, enrolment of antiretroviral patients and follow-up activities for persons living with HIV have also decreased.

Inadequate funding towards evidence generation has been the major constraint in implementing key projects such as the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey. It has also hindered further analysis of the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census, improvement of vital statistics, and dissemination of evidence generated.

Political and financial dynamics have continued to affect the development agenda. This has been seen in efforts to implement devolution and broader policy, fight corruption, and enhance service delivery, particularly for marginalized communities. With the 2022 elections looming, politics in Kenya will continue to have an outsized effect on general development and specific programming.

Rule of law in Kenya saw setbacks, with government ministries, departments and agencies often failing to implement decisions. Despite very progressive constitutional provisions, there was limited movement towards gender equality and better representation. Kenya is ranked 23 out of 54 countries in the political representation of women. The reporting period also saw an increase in extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, and sexual and gender-based violence, including femicide cases. Maintaining the civic space has been a challenge, with Kenya ranked 33 out of 54 African countries. This is unfortunate, as Kenya is known for its strong civil society and the role they play in governance.

Funding, coordination, coherence and partnership challenges persisted in United Nations and Government of Kenya efforts to improved devolved services. Legislation, guidelines and regulations require constant attention to ensure they are relevant to changing conditions and meet the needs of citizens. Additionally, comprehensive devolution sector reporting is needed.

There must continue to be a greater focus on marginalized counties, climate change and environmental management. Peer learning between county governments provides an important mechanism for developing homegrown solutions to local problems. Regarding fiscal flow challenges, it remains crucial to address the bottlenecks and consider the review of legal frameworks. National and county planning and budget cycles must be aligned for greater coherence and synergy. Support must be targeted appropriately and tailored to county-level language, culture and capacity. In addition, embracing multilingualism in the delivery of training initiatives significantly increases the interest and participation of beneficiaries.



Given the slow progress towards eliminating open defecation in arid and semi-arid counties, context-specific implementation protocols and guidelines are necessary to address the diverse sanitation challenges. It is also critical to ensure the meaningful involvement of the elderly, young children and persons with disabilities in all aspects of programming for inclusive water, sanitation and hygiene.

A key lesson from 2021 is that inclusion is vital for ownership. Development programming also needs to be adaptable and flexible. The importance of good coordination among actors (state and non-state actors) and UN agencies cannot be overstated. In the health sector, for example, the review and revision of policies, strategies and guidelines should be used as an opportunity to identify co-financing with other partners, as well as to improve domestic funding to help scale up activities.

Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

OUTCOMES	EXPENDITURE \$
1 Governance, Justice and Gender Equality	3,372,531
2 Devolved Services	9,881,463
3 Peace and Security	45,421,785
4 Education	18,167,373
5 Health	66,280,207
6 Nutrition	22,052,501
7 HIV Response	7,078,817
8 Water and Sanitation	24,913,377
9 Protection	128,161,523
10 Population and Housing	24,820,421
11 Disaster and Risk Management	4,816,737
12 Productivity	26,026,721
13 Vulnerable Groups	16,146,370
14 Green Kenya	30,030,027
Total Expenditure 2021	
427,169,853	

CHAPTER 3 THE UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM'S FOCUS IN 2022–2023

In 2022, the current United Nations Development Assistance Framework draws to an end, and the United Nations in Kenya is currently giving their absolute best efforts to complete the UNDAF results as targeted.

The UNDAF 2018–2022 evaluation, which was finalized in January 2022, shows that there are lessons to be learned. Therefore, the process of selecting the number of outcomes in the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, as well as selecting such things as indicators and baselines, has been carefully conducted to provide a targeted and strategic set of priorities for the next four years. The process has involved the entire UN Country Team, the government and stakeholders.

In the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, the United Nations in Kenya is requested by its host government to identify the clear added value of the work done by UN Kenya, and to deliver more transformative results that can propel the

overall Kenyan context towards the realization of the SDGs while leaving no one behind. The Government of Kenya also requests that the United Nations in Kenya over the coming years does this in a concerted fashion through joint programmes and joint funding and financing. These requests from the Government of Kenya are in line with the recommendations coming from the UNDAF evaluation.

Kenya holds presidential elections in August 2022, which can have additional impact on the work the United Nations does in Kenya. UN Kenya holds Vision 2030 as its guiding star, and this will help in the upcoming transition of government.

The risks for the work within the current UNDAF pertain to the ongoing strains on Kenya resulting from COVID-19-related setbacks and the ongoing drought, as well as coping with the residual effects from previous natural disasters (droughts, flooding and locust invasions).



Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
COP26	Twenty-sixth UN Climate Change Conference
COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
KES	Kenya shilling
LGBTI	lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDGPP	Sustainable Development Goal Partnership Platform
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment)
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
USD	United States dollar
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization





United Nations
KENYA
Umoja ni Nguvu

