



UNITED NATIONS
GHANA

ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT 2023





TABLE OF CONTENT

Foreword by the Resident Coordinator

UN Country Team

Key development partners of the UN development system in Ghana

Chapter 1.

Key developments in the country and regional context

Chapter 2.

UN development system support to national development priorities through the Cooperation Framework

2.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

2.2 Cooperation Framework Outcomes, and Outputs, achievements, and progress

2.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

2.4 Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency

2.5 Evaluation and Lessons Learnt

2.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

2.6.1 Financial Overview

2.6.2 Resource mobilization

Chapter 3:

UNCT in Ghana: Building a brighter future together in 2024

Annex A. UN Partners



FOREWORD BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR

In 2023, Ghana faced a complex development landscape, navigating through multiple global crises, including the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, the consequences of the Russia-Ukraine war, sub-regional instability characterized by unconstitutional government changes, the growing threat of violent extremism in the Sahel, and the growing influx of refugees.

Amidst these challenges, Ghana demonstrated resilience, underpinned by its ongoing economic recovery efforts, the initiation of comprehensive fiscal and structural reforms, and its strategic positioning on the international stage, notably transitioning from the Security Council to a role on the Human Rights Council.

The signing of the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2025 in April 2023 stands as a testament to our collective commitment to Ghana's development. This framework, aligning with national priorities, the SDGs and the AU's Agenda 2063, emphasizes inclusive and sustainable economic growth and transformation, equitable access to quality social services, and the promotion of strong institutions, durable peace and security. The Cooperation Framework marked a shift to more integrated approaches with an upstream-focus on policy and joined-up working (on the connected issues of sustainable finance, climate change, digital transformation, and inclusion among others) and an emphasis on multi-stakeholder partnerships with the Government, civil society and the private sector as well as leveraging (something we know will begin to yield dividends in 2024). The UN Country Team has made significant advances in the mindsets, capacities, accountability, and strategic resource deployment - fostering a more agile, responsive, and impactful UN system in Ghana.

In response to multifaceted development challenges, in 2023 the United Nations Country Team in Ghana, under my leadership, embarked on several strategic initiatives across key development areas. These ranged from supporting food systems transformation, driving digital transformation, enhancing educational reforms, strengthening peace and security frameworks, addressing climate change impacts, to advancing urbanization efforts and humanitarian preparedness and response. Our collective efforts aimed not only at addressing immediate concerns but also at laying the groundwork for long-term sustainable development, fully integrating the principle of Leaving No One Behind.

Our partnerships with the Government of Ghana, civil society, private sector, and development partners have been instrumental in achieving significant milestones. Through innovative financing solutions, policy advocacy, and targeted interventions, we have supported actions, mobilized resources and fostered an enabling environment for

“

The challenges we all face are daunting, yet the resilience, creativity, and spirit of partnership that define our work in Ghana give me confidence in our collective ability to navigate the complexities and support a brighter and more inclusive future for all Ghanaians.

”



development. As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, it is evident that the path ahead requires sustained collaboration, innovation, and a renewed commitment to the SDGs. We hope this report gives you a sense of our progress in partnership with Ghana.

In our 2024 strategic outlook, the UNCT in Ghana aligns closely with the Ghana's development aspirations and six transitions designed to accelerate progress towards the SDGs, focusing on the advancement of sustainable food systems, the digital economy, energy access and efficiency, and the creation of decent jobs and employment opportunities through innovation and finance. Concurrently, we are dedicated to contributing to transforming skills and education, health, nutrition, and social protection services to make them more inclusive, equitable, and accessible, with a particular emphasis on supporting vulnerable groups. Our efforts in peace and security will focus on strengthening institutional capacities for good governance and accountability, human rights, enhancing social cohesion, and boosting the participation of women, persons with disabilities, and youth across all areas. A cross-cutting emphasis on climate change, urbanization, inclusion, and innovation underpins these priorities, ensuring a holistic approach to addressing development challenges - leveraging data and innovative financing models and partnerships to generate additional investments for the SDGs as we support Ghana to achieve measurable impacts.

As we embark on this journey in 2024, the UNCT's collaborative and focused initiatives under the new Cooperation Framework signal our renewed commitment to driving meaningful change in Ghana, working hand in hand with partners to catalyze the highest possible impact as we progress towards a prosperous, equitable future.

CHARLES ABANI,
UN Resident Coordinator in Ghana



UN COUNTRY TEAM IN GHANA

The UN has 41 entities (including International Financial Institutions) operating in-country comprising 24 entities who have signed the UNSDCF and a 17 non-UNSDCF entities operating in Ghana.

ENTITIES SIGNATORIES TO UNSDCF (RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT)









NON - UNSDCF ENTITIES (NON-RESIDENT)



KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN GHANA

TOP FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO THE UN SYSTEM IN GHANA

1		U.S. GOVERNMENT \$11.9 mln.
2		GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT HIV, TB AND MALARIA \$8.1 mln
3		EUROPEAN UNION \$5.7 mln.
4		GREEN CLIMATE FUND \$5.5 mln.
5		GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY \$4.8 mln.
6		CANADA'S GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR VACCINE EQUITY (CANGIVE) \$4.6 mln.
7		GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN \$4.5 mln.
8		GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY \$3.8 mln.
9		INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTER \$3.3 mln.
10		GOVERNMENT OF CANADA \$3.1 mln.
11		GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE \$3.1 mln.

INDIRECT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS



Key development partners of the UN in Ghana are the Government of Ghana, IFIs, donor Governments and development agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs), private sector partners, other public sector institutions, academia, the mass media, and the people of Ghana.

Through these invigorated strategic multi-sectoral partnerships, the UN Development System in Ghana was able to refine its engagements in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and advance priorities that support Ghana's journey to self-reliance and prosperity and support of vulnerable and marginalized populations.

The UNCT acknowledges the special contribution of the Ministry of Finance, co-Chair of the UNSDCF and Government interlocuter, and the National Development Planning Commission.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT



¹Ghana 2021 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER 1

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT



The Adome Bridge was built in the years 1955-1956 and spans 805 feet in its main part.

The weight of the steel is 320 tons according to the plaque at one end of the bridge. Unfortunately, a lamppost, which obstructs reading was recently placed directly in front of the plaque.

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY CONTEXT

Sub regionally, Ghana continued to recover from the socio-economic impacts of COVID 19 and intensifying global crisis (most notably impacts from the Russia-Ukraine war), three additional sub-regional issues impacted the country's development trajectory. Firstly, unconstitutional changes to Governments, notably in Niger, brought about political and economic instability, echoing beyond borders. Secondly, the intensification of violent extremism and terrorism in the Sahel, extending towards coastal regions, posed enduring threats, compounded by climate vulnerabilities and weak governance systems in Sahelian states. Thirdly, the growing influx of refugees across Ghana's northern borders intensified political, security, and humanitarian crises. Amidst these challenges, Ghana navigated a complex landscape, marked by the lingering effects of global crises, economic recovery efforts supported by an IMF program, and complexity in the responses to regional instability and human rights concerns. As Ghana transitions from its tenure on the Security Council to a new role on the Human Rights Council, the nation stands at a critical juncture, poised to address emerging challenges and harness opportunities for sustainable development.

Economically, though Ghana's economy experienced strong recovery from the impact of COVID-19 in 2021, with real GDP growing at 5.1%, the events of 2022 confronted Ghana with significant economic challenges in 2023, marked by a macroeconomic crisis driven by pre-existing fiscal imbalances and external shocks. The fiscal deficit surged to 11.8%, with public debt exceeding 90% of GDP and growth tumbling to 3.1% of GDP. The lingering effect of COVID-19, Russia-Ukraine crises and global inflationary pressures exposed the economy's structural imbalances and associated vulnerabilities to external shocks – translating, in 2023, into higher costs of living and doing business and debt crises.

In response, Ghana successfully negotiated a US\$3 billion IMF Extended Credit Facility (ECF) for three years and initiated comprehensive fiscal adjustments, debt restructuring, and structural reforms under a recovery plan, the Post COVID-19 Programme for Economic Growth (PC-PEG) to restore macroeconomic stability and return the economy to sustainable growth path while ensuring access to basic services and building resilience – learning from COVID 19. By the first half of 2023, GDP growth had recovered to 3.2% (against a projection of fall to 1.7% in 2023), fueled by robust performances in the services and agriculture sectors, while the industrial sector contracted. Growth, however, has since declined marginally to an estimated 2.3%. Despite marginal improvements in fiscal balances, inflation remained high at 23.2% in December 2023, exacerbating poverty rates, which climbed to 27%. The economic outlook for the country remains subdued, with growth forecasted at a modest uptick to 2.8% in 2024 and 4.4% in 2025. This subdued growth trajectory is primarily attributed to ongoing fiscal consolidation measures and corrective monetary policies.

The IMF Programme, domestic debt exchange, fiscal adjustments, and structural reforms, though critical to restore macroeconomic stability and underpin poverty reduction over the medium term, brought significant socio-economic cost to the vulnerable. Delivering crucial public services like health, education, and social protection has become



more challenging. This is marked by delayed access to benefits, higher out-of-pocket costs for households, and a significant accumulation of debts to suppliers.

The current crisis has impeded Ghana's poverty reduction initiatives, with elevated inflation disproportionately affecting the poorest. Concurrently, the effectiveness of social protection programs has been restricted in the past two years due to the Government's acute financial challenges, leading to diminished actual delivery of social spending and the absence of indexation for social benefits. In addition, regional inequalities increased, as the affluent Southern regions experienced a decline in poverty, while the North witnessed stagnant or escalating poverty levels. Ghana's flagship cash transfer program, the Livelihood Against Poverty (LEAP) has pulled over 80,000 individuals out of extreme

poverty. The Government doubled the LEAP budget allocation in the 2023 budget, has adopted an indexation framework to protect the real value of LEAP benefits and are working towards further increasing the benefits and expanding the coverage under the LEAP program to all extreme-poor households, from about 6% to 12% of household pre-transfer consumption. Within the education sector, there are plans to boost benefits in 2024 for both the Ghana School Feeding Program by 25%, aiming to eventually cover 30% of a child's daily caloric intake, and the Capitation Grant by 25%. Simultaneously, in the health sector, there will be an expansion of allocations to the National Health Insurance Authority by over 40%. This increase is intended to cover medical claims, essential medicines, and vaccines for the most vulnerable populations.

Political and Security Context: In 2023 Ghana demonstrated political resilience amidst the turmoil prevalent in a regions characterized by terrorism, violent extremism, and unconstitutional changes of Government. The year 2023 showcased robust democratic ethos marked by a degree of autonomy among the three branches of Government, efforts to preserve political and civil liberties, and harmonious coexistence among diverse ethnic and religious groups. Throughout the year, Ghana maintained a predominantly peaceful and secure environment, devoid of external aggression, limited internal unrest and civil conflict, achieving a score of 0.71 out of 1 for order and security on the World Justice Rule of Law Index. However, notwithstanding these achievements, conflicts such as communal chieftaincy disputes, land disputes, and clashes between farmers and herders in regions like Bawku, Bimbilla, and Daboya intensified and continue to threaten peace and security of certain communities. These conflicts were exacerbated by climate change and the proliferation of small arms induced vulnerabilities.

As a multiparty democratic state, the country witnessed the onset of the 2024 presidential and parliamentary electoral processes. The year saw the conduct of two by-elections, district-level elections, and the opening of the voter register. Despite efforts to create space for free and robust citizen participation, challenges such as vote buying, physical barriers, inaccessibility, and mistrust in the electoral process persisted.

Regarding the rule of law, the judiciary remained the primary avenue for dispute resolution in 2023, accessible to ordinary citizens for peaceful grievance redressal. However, issues such as discrimination, corruption, and improper influence of public officials hindered the accessibility and affordability of civil justice. Corruption, particularly political corruption,

² World Justice Project Rule of Law Index (2023), Corruption Perception Index (2023), Democracy Index (2023)

remained a significant challenge in 2023, despite ongoing activism by the media, civil society, and the implementation of anti-corruption measures like the Office of the Special Prosecutor. Ghana scored 43 out of 100 points on the 2023 Corruption Perception Index reported by Transparency International, indicating inadequate progress in the fight against corruption and low transparency levels across various sectors.

In the year 2023, Ghana's governance environment exhibited a degree of stability, notwithstanding a slight downturn observed in several pivotal governance metrics, including corruption, civil liberties, Government functionality, press freedom, and human rights, among others. Although Ghana surpassed its regional counterparts and comparative nations in certain aspects, there was a noticeable decrease in its overall governance index².

Human Rights: Marked by country's election to the Human Rights Council, beginning on 1 January 2024, and adoption of 265 out of 298 recommendations at the conclusion of the 4th cycle UPR process at the Human Rights Council in July 2023 (an increase of 25% in respect to the 3rd cycle – with key recommendations adopted notably supporting the achievement of SDGs 4, 5, 8, 10 and 16), Ghana made significant steps in terms of human rights. Ghana's performance in guaranteeing these fundamental human rights in 2023 was relatively strong, earning a score of 0.58 out of 1 on the World Justice Rule of Law Index, ranking 66th out of 142 countries globally and 7th out of 37 in Africa. Indeed, human rights remain largely respected in Ghana with the Open Society Barometer indicating that 78% of Ghanaians considering human rights to be a force of good for the world, and 78% believe human rights reflect values they believe in.

However, the rights of marginalized persons continued to be threatened with progress in the passage of the "Promotion of Proper Human Sexual Rights and Ghanaian Family Values 2021" Private Members Bill in Parliament, whose proposed provisions include stringent legal and punitive measures for same-sex relationships, impacts across public health, education and social cohesion and the criminalization of organizations supporting these marginalized groups, marked by increases in violence against the targeted communities. On women's participation, structural, economic, cultural and patriarchal barriers remained, with advancements on the Affirmative Action Bill remaining stalled. Progress made on the criminalization of accusing persons of witchcraft and on proposed legislation on the partial abolition of the death penalty (for everything except high treason) were stagnated by constitutional issues arising from their introduction as a Private Members bills that impact the consolidated fund.

Although freedom of the press is constitutionally guaranteed and generally respected in practice, the year saw at least 4 instances of attacks on journalists, with death threats and assaults, as well as occasional Government intolerance towards dissent from reporters, leading to possible curtailing of freedom of expression and media freedom in the country.³ Moreover, with spillover from the Sahel crisis and conflicts within the region, several ongoing and emerging challenges arose concerning the Burkinabe refugee context, whereby human rights issues continued to run at risk with regards to protection and safeguarding of vulnerable persons, risk of refoulement, and with insecurity and displacement increasing. Further instability was found in terms of reports around potential arbitrary detention of successionist groups within the Western Togoland region. This instability could impact the rights of citizens in terms of free movement, freedom of expression, association, safety, and political expression.

All of the above served to impact progress on achieving the SDGs.

On a positive note, the country identified five key accelerators (Improved Governance, Energy efficiency and access, Job creation, Education, and Water and Sanitation). Three, along with other efforts described above, align well with the UN's mid-SDG-identified accelerator-investment areas (Food systems, Jobs and social protection, Digital transformation, Climate change and environment, Energy, and Education).

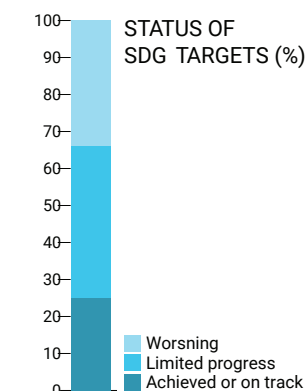
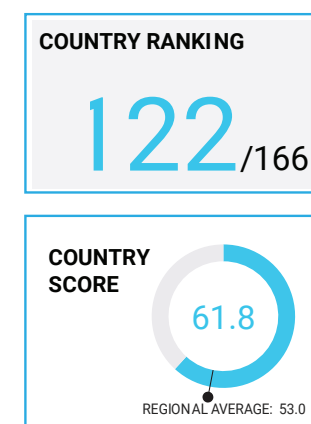
³ Freedom House: Freedom in the World Index 2024

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

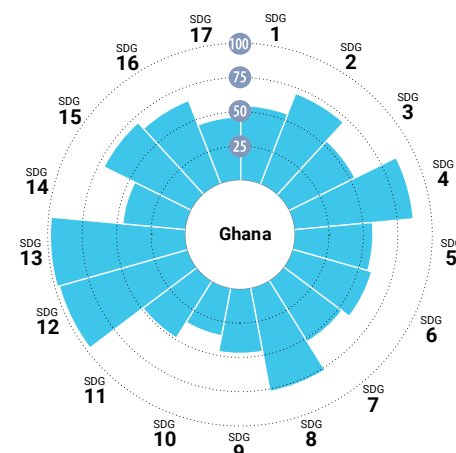
GHANA

Sub-Saharan Africa

OVERALL PERFORMANCE

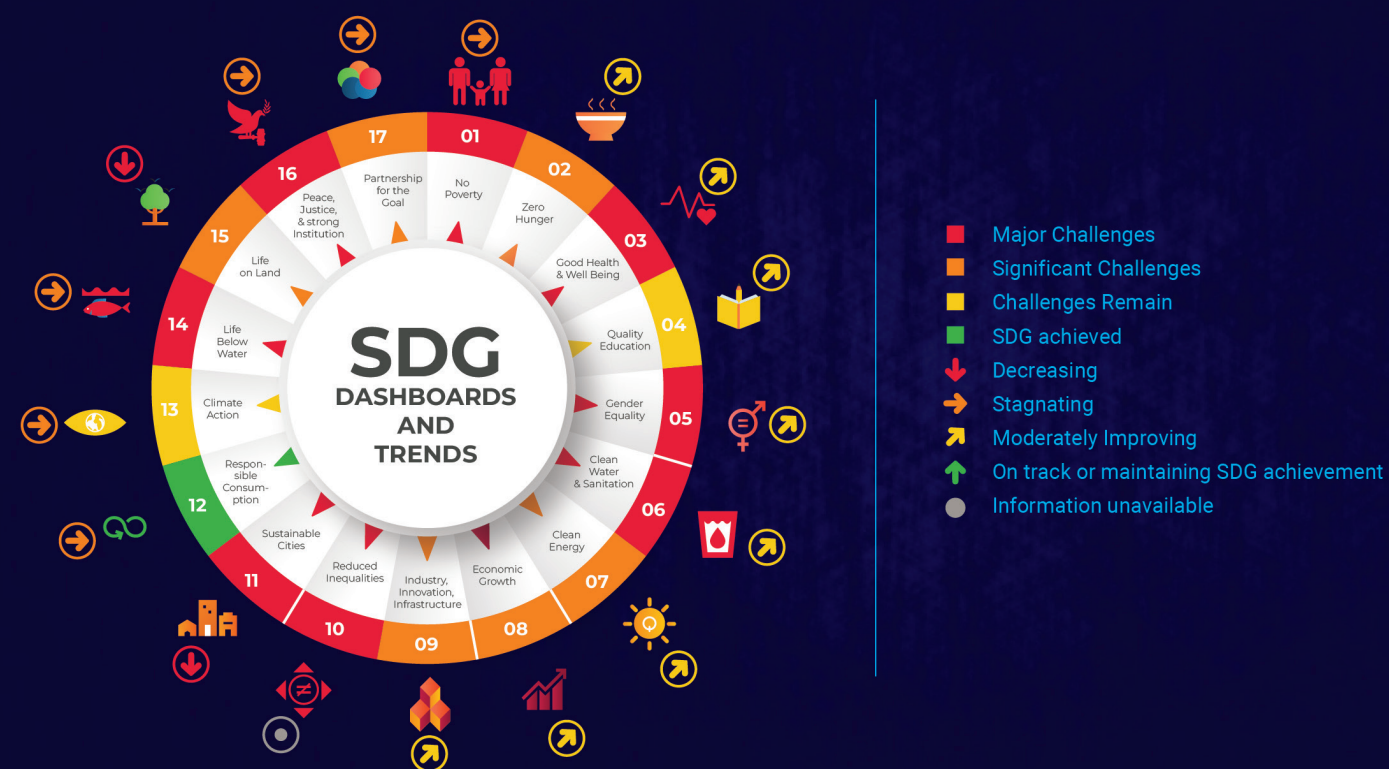


AVERAGE PERFORMANCE BY SDG



Data source <https://dashboards.sdginde.org/profiles/ghana>

SDG DASHBOARDS AND TRENDS





CHAPTER 2

UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK



Officers from the Ghana Armed Forces assist officials during flag-raising ceremony marking United Nations Day

2.1 OVERVIEW OF THE KEY COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITIES AND RESULTS IN 2023

In April 2023, the UN System in Ghana and Government of Ghana signed the new Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (Cooperation Framework) for 2023-2025, pledging over \$500 million in collective support and commitment to Ghana's through a set of development outcomes to be reached jointly by 2025. The Ghana Cooperation Framework, embodying the essence of UN reform, embraces innovative working methods and integrated approaches to effectively carry out the UN's mandate. The UNSDCF focused its support, resources, and partnership priorities around three main outcomes:

- (i) **Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth and Transformation**
- (ii) **Accessible, Equitable, Inclusive, Sustainable Quality Basic Social Services;**
- (iii) **Durable Peace and Security in Ghana and the sub-region**

The Ghana's Cooperation Framework identifies crosscutting areas including sustainable finance, digitalization, urbanization, climate and environmental considerations, financing, and partnerships, and prioritizing inclusion to ensure no one is left behind.

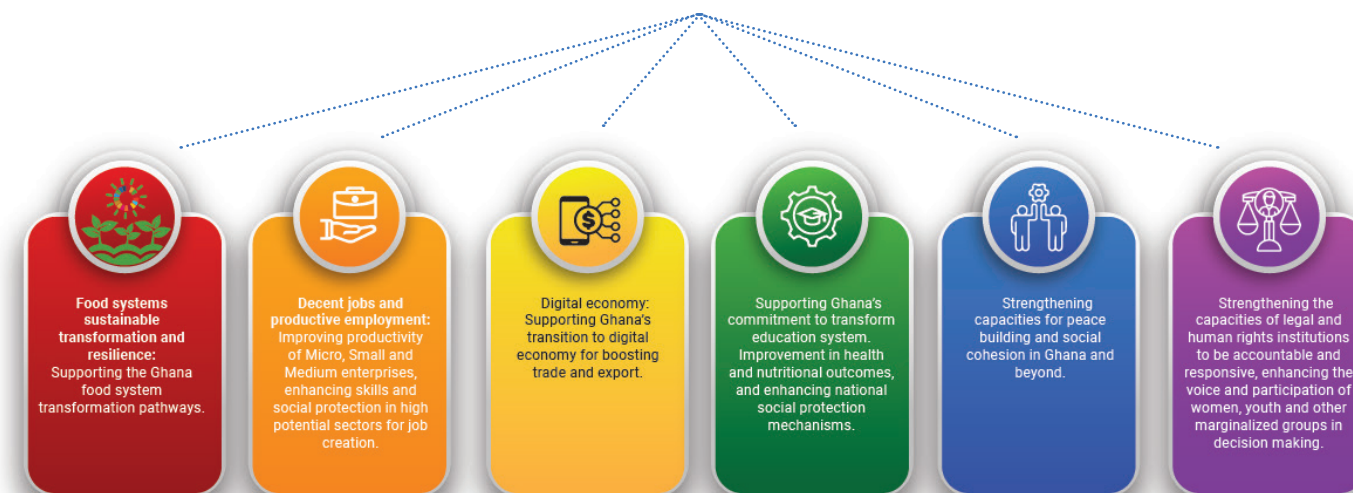
With the new Cooperation Framework, the UN committed to integrated approaches and implementation structures to achieve these outcomes. This includes key strategic shifts, such as:

- **Strengthened partnerships with civil society and the private sector.**
- **More focused initiatives and a greater emphasis on policy upstream work.**
- **Enhanced integrated programming, with a focus on joint and joined-up work.**
- **An emphasis on leverage to maximize impact.**

This marked a significant departure from business as usual. The Cooperation Framework aimed for transformative approaches aligned with thematic priorities under the framework's three pillars and cross-cutting areas to create an environment that catalytically supports Ghana's development ambitions in key sectors.

The UN Country Team (UNCT) made significant progress on four key drivers: mindsets, capacity, accountability, and strategic resource deployment. These, along with improved horizontal-vertical integration within the UN system, led to increased agility, responsiveness, adaptability, and ultimately, a more transformative impact.

KEY UNCT STRATEGIC FOCUS IN 2023



Through an integrated and collaborative approach to implementation of these priorities, the UN mainstreamed cross-cutting themes in its overall joint programming including integrating climate change and environmental considerations, addressing gender equality, boosting trade opportunities for MSMEs, enhancing ethical and sustainable data practices and research. The UN also supported interventions to empower youth and persons with disabilities with sustainable livelihoods, while leveraging digitization for quality services, and multistakeholder partnerships and innovative financing to support Government accelerate attainment of SDG priorities.

Under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator (RC), the UNCT achieved several critical milestones across the three UNSDCF outcome areas within one year of the UNSDCF's implementation. These achievements were made possible by leveraging innovative approaches, strong multi-stakeholder partnerships, and the integration of LNOB principles.

Food Systems Transformation. Support for Ghana's food systems transformation pathways in 2023 by the UN enabled the Government to convene diverse stakeholders to formulate and enhance implementation strategies for food systems action plans, including Planting for Food and Jobs 2.0, towards enhancing agricultural sustainability, food security and economic growth, development of Food Systems Strategy and Investment Plan to prioritize investments, development of the national food-based dietary guidelines to promote healthy eating through increased access to evidence-informed nutrition and health information; collaboration with Africa Development Bank to develop the Ghana Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact which aims to mobilize investments to reduce the food self-sufficiency gap, enhancing investment in organic fertilizer production and marketing; Strengthening food security and nutrition monitoring system. **Entities involved: FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNICEF and UNIDO**

Digital transformation. The UN, involving, played a pivotal role in spearheading the development of the national digital economy policy, eTrade Readiness and various digital initiatives across critical sectors such as digital literacy, digital finance, food systems, and health. These efforts were geared towards enhancing knowledge dissemination and empowering stakeholders with real-time information. Specifically, The UN assisted the implementation of E-extension services to benefit farmers, facilitated the development of E-Systems for early warnings and market surveillance with the support of FAO. Additionally, the UN contributed to the establishment of a Smart Classroom and played a key role in enabling Government to digitize curriculum and educational content, furthering the integration of technology into the educational landscape. **Entities involved: UNCDF, UNCTAD and UNICEF**



Transforming Education. To advance Ghana's national educational sector reforms, the UN leveraged its leadership of the Education Sector Development Partners Group, which enabled Ghana to mobilize a grant of \$72,100,000 from the Global Partnership to improve foundational learning and other key reforms. **Entities involved: UNESCO and UNICEF**

Peace and security. The UN facilitated national capacity strengthening for peacebuilding and conflict prevention, bolstering the infrastructure for peace through collaborations with entities like the National Peace Council. Key achievements include mobilizing of circa US\$3.5 million for peace building efforts, and establishment of two regional peace councils, to address critical conflict drivers. Additionally, the UN supported Ghana to successfully host the 2023 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial in Accra and facilitated a pool-fund mechanism managed by UNDP, showcasing Ghana's commitment to fostering peace and security on a global scale. Recognizing the escalating security challenges within the Sahel region, led by the RC and in collaboration with UNOWAS, the UN accelerated stakeholder dialogues on security concerns, including initiatives like the Accra Initiative and addressing the refugee and migrant situation in Northern Ghana through the efforts of Interagency Working Group on Emergencies. Towards a peaceful election in 2024, the UN launched the "I Pledge for Peace" Campaign, reaching one million Ghanaians and facilitated conversations between development partners and the electoral management body on the electoral processes. **Entities involved: UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, IOM, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNODC, WHO, UNFPA and UNIC.**

Climate change. The UN also engaged and supported Ghana's participation in the Africa Climate Summit and COP 28, building strong synergies with Sustainable Energy for All initiative in Ghana through partnership with SE4All Secretariat. The impact of the UN's contribution includes enhanced Government capacity for innovative climate financing through climate risk insurance support, rehabilitation of degraded forest and shea parklands translating into reduction of 46.69 CO2 eq emissions and improved management of protected areas. At COP28, the UN assisted Government to participate, negotiate and broker investment deals with bilateral partners and investors towards mobilizing additional finance for implementation of climate vulnerability plan, US\$500 billion for pipeline projects in its energy transition plan, additional finance through the loss and damage funds to mitigate climate impacts, such as floods, on vulnerable communities. Under strategic leadership of RC, the UNCT signed a joint communique with the EU and Government advocating for policy changes dialogues around the inclusion of women and children, leading to an Africa-focused conversation on women and climate at the Africa Climate Summit and COP 28. **Entities involved: UNDP, FAO, WHO, UNEP, ILO, UNOPS, UNICEF, UNCDF, UNECA, UN Habitat, WHO, UNFPA and UNESCO.**

Sustainable Urbanization. Ghana has emerged as the first country, with Kyebi (Abuakwa South) being the first city, to implement the Smart SDGs Cities Programme. The primary objective of this program is to expedite the achievement of SDGs within urban areas. Initially targeting ten Local Authorities as beneficiaries, the initiative will strengthen national capacity in data collection and urban planning. SDGs cities digital platform with support from a private sector partner, Capcade (Swiss technology company) has been created and currently allows cities to onboard to the smart SDGs cities initiative and access tools to enable cities take stock of available data and strategic plan in line with SDGs, identify gaps and plans other SDG Cities journey. Moreover, it will facilitate the development of transformative and financially viable pipeline projects, while also fostering youth engagement at all levels. Revision of the existing (2011) Housing Profile in 8 cities (Accra, Kumasi, Tamale, Takoradi, Sunyani, Wa, Ho and Techiman) was initiated to reflect current realities of the housing sector to inform housing investment decisions, guide the functioning of the National Housing Authority and subsequently inform policy review. **Entities involved: UN-Habitat, UNCDF and UNOPS.**

Humanitarian Response: In response to emergencies and humanitarian crises, comprehensive support has been provided by the UN in 2023 to enhance the capacity of the National Disaster Management Organization and the Ghana Refugee Board. This support covered various dimensions, including host community assessments in the Northern region. The joint assessment informed targeted response efforts, ensuring that affected communities receive timely assistance. Furthermore, in the aftermath of the Volta Floods, a collaborative effort of the UN and other partners has been instrumental in delivering humanitarian aid and cash transfers to over 26,000 flood victims across the Volta, Savannah, and Eastern Regions. Additionally, support has extended to over 10,000 asylum seekers and host communities affected by crises in the Sahel Region. **Entities involved: WFP, UNFPA, FAO, UNICEF, IOM, UNOPS, WHO, UNHCR.**

HUMAN RIGHTS IS FOR EVERYONE

Human Rights and Leaving No One Behind:

The UN system in Ghana made collective efforts to integrate the Leave No One Behind principles into the country's development priorities. Under the strategic leadership of the RC and with technical support from the Interagency Working Group on Human Rights and Inclusion, the UN engaged with the Government of Ghana and civil society organizations to advance progress on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and address complex human rights issues. Efforts were made to support those at risk of being left behind, enabling them to participate in and benefit from development progress. The UN supported extensive civil society engagement on the UPR process through the POS Foundation, which led to the development of a national action plan and a civil society roadmap. Support was also provided to human rights defenders and duty bearers to advocate for marginalized persons.

The UN spearheaded the development of an inclusive National Business and Human Rights Action Plan. In collaboration with the Ghana Platform of the Global Compact on Migration, the UN supported the development of the National Implementation and Reporting Plan. Additionally, the UN backed the integration of anti-discrimination elements within the Labour Act and the ratification of ILO Convention No. 190. Furthermore, the UN worked with key actors, resulting in Ghana joining the "Global Partnership for Action to Eliminate all forms of stigma and discrimination." Significant improvements were made in Ghana's prison system through collaboration with the Ghana Prisons Service, enhancing compliance with global standards. The UN also supported initiatives that directly impacted the lives of vulnerable groups. The School Feeding Programme ensured nutritious

meals reached schoolchildren via digital platforms. The Adolescent Girls Programme provided sexual and reproductive health services to 239,248 adolescents. Moreover, the development of the National Safe School policy contributed to the prevention of bullying and violence in schools. **Entities involved: UNFPA, UNDP, IOM, UNICEF, ILO, UNAIDS, UNODC, WFP, and UNESCO.**

Collaborating with the Ghana Disability Council, the Federation of Disability Organizations, and the Committee of Parliament, the UN supported the development of the Persons with Disabilities Bill through the Joint Programme on UNPRPD. This collaborative effort has strengthened the legal and policy environment for disability inclusion, enhanced the capabilities of disability-focused stakeholders, and upgraded data collection methods for better national planning. As a result, the Parliamentary Disability Caucus has been rejuvenated, ensuring disability considerations are integrated into all parliamentary activities. Additionally, the UNCT, through its Operations Management Team, has evaluated all UN offices for disability inclusion, identifying and addressing any gaps. **Entities involved: UNDP, UNFPA, and UNICEF.**

@UNIC "Human Rights is for everyone"- Ghana marks 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The event organized by the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) in collaboration with the UN in Ghana and other partners, was attended by human rights advocates including the Head of CHRAJ, Joseph Whittal, the UN Resident Coordinator for Ghana, Mr. Charles Abani, the European Union Ambassador to Ghana, Irchad Razaaly, Ghana's Deputy Attorney-General and Deputy Minister for Justice, Mr. Alfred Tuah-Yeboah, representatives from CSOs and the private sector.



Strengthening Partnerships. The UN tri-sectoral partnerships, encompassing the Government, civil society organizations, development partners, and the private sector, experienced significant growth as we capitalized on various opportunities to fast-track innovative financing solutions and pinpoint investment opportunities across all sectors, pillars and issues. Collaborating with the network of actors facilitated through our partnership with Africa Prosperity Network (and its flagship Africa Prosperity Dialogues) and our collaboration with Impact Investing Ghana and Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs, we facilitated global and regional conversations for policy shifts and reforms to enhance the implementation of AFCFTA (as per the Africa Compact) and advanced dialogues to create the enabling environment for businesses to thrive.

The UN has partnered with private sector and development entities, including MTN, Airtel Tigo, and banks, to improve women's health in Ghana, focusing on eliminating Obstetric Fistula through public education and direct interventions. This includes collaborations with international partners like the Canadian Government and the Mastercard Foundation to address issues like sexual health, gender violence, family planning, and HIV. Agreements with Ghana's First Lady's Office aim to enhance obstetric fistula repair and support broader health initiatives for women. **Entities involved: UNFPA, WFP and UNICEF**

Policy upstream work. Through joint advocacy led by UNICEF, WHO and UNDP the UN successfully advocated for fiscal reforms and IMF requirements to protect social protection spending. Under the RC leadership (as co-chair of the Development Cooperation Platform) the UN facilitated the finalization of the Government of Ghana Development Cooperation Policy – set for Cabinet approval in early 2024; contributed to coherent programming across development partners and IFIs (notably the \$150m SOCO programme of the World Bank and towards shaping AFDB's Medium Term Strategy with Government) in Northern Ghana, and supported engagement to improve implementation of the Tax Exemptions Bill.

SDGs Summit In the lead-up to the SDG Summit in September 2023, the UN provided the experts support to Ghana's National Development Planning Commission. This support helped to determine Ghana's SDG transformation priorities and commitments in five key areas:

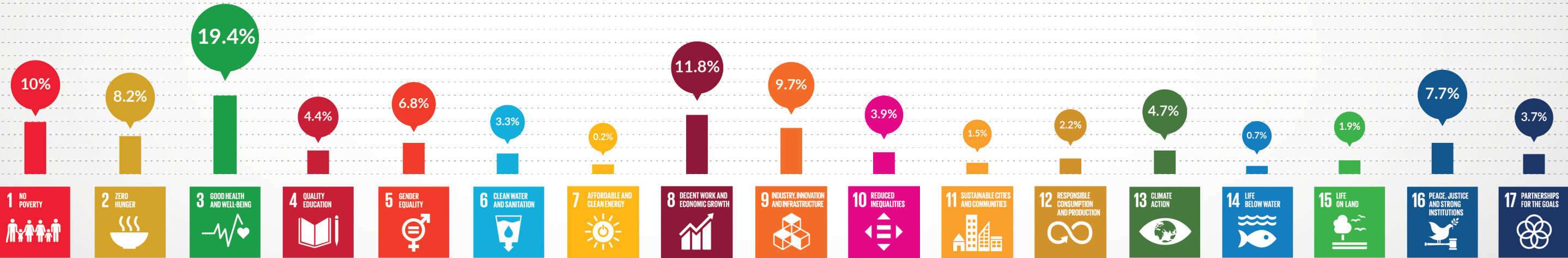


The UN further supported Ghana by co-hosting a side event titled "Accelerator Actions and Innovative Financing to Deliver on the SDGs by 2030." This event, held in collaboration with Uganda, Nigeria, Tonga, the Copenhagen Consensus, and IRC, resulted in valuable recommendations. These included creating knowledge-sharing platforms, reducing reliance on grants, prioritizing cost-effective interventions, economically empowering women, and enhancing African connectivity through the African Continental Free Trade Area.

To strengthen the data ecosystem, the UN (serving as co-chairs of the DP Data Group) supported GSS and partners in ongoing efforts to strengthen and harmonize the data ecosystem particularly on persons with disability, thematic report on the census and support to Ghana as a High-level Impact Initiative on the Power of Data Initiative.

SDG Financing and Leveraging. Under RC's strategic leadership, the UN worked arduously through 2023 to facilitate improved mobilization of public and private finance for SDGs. Working in tandem with the Government, the UN has enhanced the capacity of state institutions to establish tools and systems for investment mobilization, infrastructure, and health financing strategies. This collaboration has resulted in evidence-based analysis of SDG financing gaps through the work of WHO, UNDP and UNICEF, paving the way for targeted ecosystem financing interventions. Leveraging joint programming, the UN has mobilized

UN CONTRIBUTION TO ACHIEVEMENT OF SDGs



Total Available Resources \$173.9 MILLION

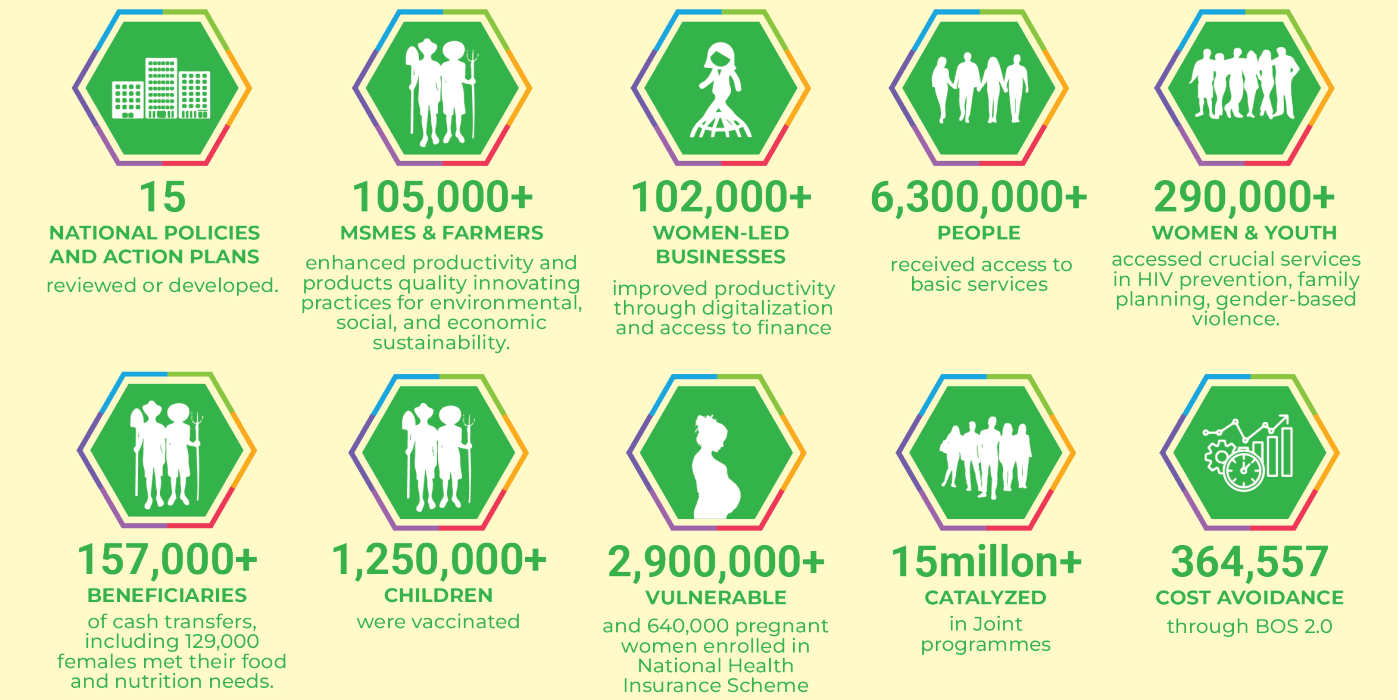
additional finance, including a noteworthy US\$15 million⁵, facilitated the basis for a US\$250 million SMEs Funds of Fund pipeline of blended finance which is set to be funded in 2024 (in partnership with the SDG Office of the Presidency and GIPC); and collaborated with Impact Investing Ghana to launch the first Impact Investing Summit and maiden West Africa Deal Summit, involving UNDCF, WFP, UNECA, and UNDP. The UN with the support from UNDP assisted Government on climate finance risk insurance to leverage US\$10 million insurance cover by Global Shield Insurance and risk management further fortifying investment mobilization efforts. The UN's collaboration has enabled the Government to secure over \$31.43 million from the Global Partnership for Education, supplementing an initial \$670,000 and building on \$40 million previously raised domestically, with a further \$40 million Multiplier Grant anticipated for key sector reforms.

Strengthened inter-agency collaboration mechanisms. In 2023 in the spirit of the UN reforms the UN shifted to significant improvement of its inter-agency mechanisms. Strengthening cross-pillar collaboration of the Results Groups, Inter-Agency Working Groups, and Task Teams led to the development of coherent positions on critical issues like food systems, climate action, energy, finance, social spending protection, human rights engagement, disaster preparedness (including responses to the Volta flooding and refugee influxes), and support for host communities.

Accountability. The first year of implementation of the Cooperation Framework created an opportunity for the UNCT to strengthen its accountability using the global UN DATA portal (UNINFO) as the main planning and reporting tool for capturing UN entire footprint in country and reporting on results.

Improved Efficiencies. The UNCT significantly enhanced the Operations Management Team (OMT) work in Ghana on both macro issues, such as improvement of the implementation of the Tax Exemptions Bill, and internal UN operations. This included advocating for equal employment opportunities for persons with disabilities through non-discriminatory job postings and stronger collaboration with disability organizations. The UNCT further championed disability inclusion by conducting assessments of all UN premises for accessibility and appointing a person with a disability to lead integration efforts. Additionally, the UNCT instigated the adoption of new environmentally friendly commuting options for staff, such as carpooling initiative. The implementation of the BOS efficiency agenda led to cost avoidance totaling to \$364,577 in 2023

KEY RESULTS OF THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK IN 2023



In 2023, the UNCT implemented 468 strategic interventions of the Cooperation Framework.

2.2 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOMES, AND OUTPUTS, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND PROGRESS

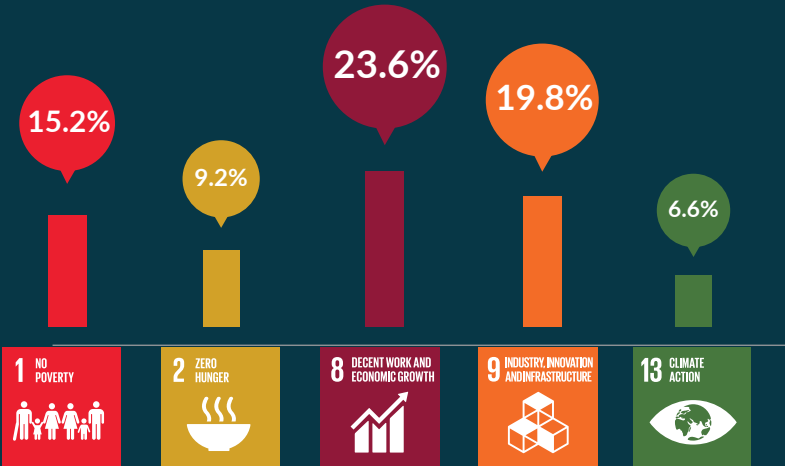
OUTCOME 1: INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION

By 2025, people in Ghana, particularly women, youth, persons with disabilities and those furthest behind will enjoy an inclusive and transformed economy that creates decent jobs and sustainable livelihoods by reducing inequality and safeguarding the environment.



Available Resources \$81.1 million

Top five SDGs supported



KEY OUTCOME ACHIVEMENTS



OUTPUT 1.1: Strengthened institutional and stakeholder capacities and regulatory frameworks for integrating climate change, environmental considerations, and economic diversification, including natural resources management, food systems, value chains, enhanced trade, the blue, green and circular economy, private sector development, digitalization, decent employment, and livelihoods.

The UN support to Government has made significant contributions to agricultural and economic development in Ghana. A total of 26,925 farmers have benefited from income-generating activities, while 16,780 vulnerable farmers and 1,500 pregnant/lactating women and children have been able to address hunger and malnutrition. Joint capacity building initiatives have empowered over 75 Government institutions and 190 stakeholders to design and implement policies enhancing productivity and working conditions in the agrifood sector. **Entities involved: WFP, UNICEF, UNIDO, FAO and IAEA**

Digital training and financial access have improved productivity for 28,677 women-led businesses, and 27,122 private sector MSMEs have seen increased productivity and income through UN support. Business support organizations, thanks to the UN, can now promote economic development and decent work. The support has also enabled 2,100 private sector MSMEs to innovate practices for environmental, social, and economic sustainability. **Entities involved: WFP, FAO, IAEA, ILO, IFAD and UNIDO**

The UN has directly benefited 1,411 Ghanaians through various projects, including employment in nurseries, training in cooperative governance, sustainable utilization of the facilities, as well as on cultivation techniques, and interventions in the cocoa and shea value chains. These efforts have contributed to a reduction of 46.69 CO2 equivalent emissions, restoration of degraded forests, including the planting of 400,000 trees, and improved management of protected areas. The UN support extended to the cultural and creative industry, fort conservation, and safeguarding Ghana's intangible cultural heritage. The UN's

impact includes enhanced Government capacity for innovative financing, rehabilitation of degraded forests and shea parklands, covering a total of 1,130 hectares. The UN supported the strengthening of Ghana's capacity to grow and produce rice in two districts through the construction of a rice mill factory. This included the supply and installation of rice mill equipment, and the construction of a rice seed storage facility with supporting equipment, providing benefits to 5,000 farmers in the Central Region and 30,000 indirect beneficiaries (including farmers) in the Central Region and other regions. **Entities involved: UNESCO and UNOPS.**

OUTPUT 1.2: Gender equality, youth and persons with disabilities are empowered for employment, and sustainable livelihoods are addressed and enhanced.

The UN enhanced the capabilities of 1,960 cassava producers, promoting agribusiness investments and food security. Efforts to eradicate gender-based discrimination in the labor market involved improving gender mainstreaming in the maritime sector and enhancing the knowledge of 70 agricultural value chain actors in structured marketing. Through digital financial inclusion initiatives, the UN assisted 600 women LEAP beneficiaries in accessing digital finance and technology. In women's economic empowerment, 13,237 women-led MSMEs saw improved productivity via digital tools and cash-based support. UN-supported initiatives benefited 3,115 women-led businesses and 23,999 SMEs, including tech-focused startups and agripreneurs, contributing to increased income generation. Additionally, the joint efforts have protected 608 children from child labor and trafficking. **Entities involved: UNIDO, UNCDF, WFP and UNICEF.**

OUTPUT 1.3: Inclusive, ethical, and sustainable data collection, management, analysis and use is in place, and Government institutions offer quality services including through digitalization, chains, enhanced trade, the blue, green and circular economy, private sector development, digitalization, decent employment and livelihoods.

The UN's support has led to remarkable advancements across various sectors in Ghana. This includes enhancing the capabilities of nine laboratories to set standards in cosmetics, personal care products, and cassava production. Women-led SMEs now utilize digital tools for business record-keeping and have enhanced their financial literacy through D2MR technology. UN support has enabled 20,000 cosmetic manufacturers and shea producers to meet market standards, thereby facilitating access to the EU market. Furthermore, 38 factories have benefited from policy formulation support to safeguard scientific freedom. UN initiatives have also driven business innovation among 14 private sector entities in the palm oil milling sector, positively affecting over 800 SMEs, predominantly women-owned. An additional 9,500 individuals now enjoy access to improved infrastructure. Moreover, the UN's efforts have led to the introduction of two policy measures to implement the Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement. The UN also aided the development of crowdfunding guidelines for Ghana's Security and Exchange Commission. Joint collaborative efforts have reinforced various facets, including monitoring systems, data collection tools, and gender and child-focused budgeting. The development of National Human Development Reports has also been a significant achievement, demonstrating the UN's comprehensive impact on Ghana's development. **Entities involved: UNIDO, UNCDF, UNESCO, FAO, ECA, WFP, UNICEF and UNDP**

KEY CHALLENGES

- Enhancing the capacity of various stakeholders, including Government officials and local communities, remains a persistent challenge that affects the effectiveness and sustainability of economic growth efforts.
- Ensuring seamless coordination among various stakeholders, especially among development partners and among Government partners, remains a challenge, potentially leading to inefficiencies and overlapping efforts.
- Coordinating policies across sectors and ensuring they align with overarching development goals requires continuous effort to overcome bureaucratic obstacles.

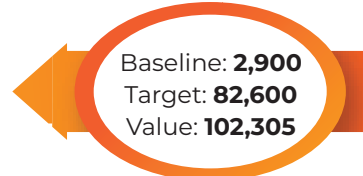
Progress achieved in relation to system-wide UNSDG Indicators

OUTCOME 1: INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION

1.5 Number of people benefiting from income generating activities



5.5 Number of women-led businesses with improved performance, increased business transactions, and/ or income generation as a result of UN support



12.3 Number of people directly benefitting from initiatives, with UN support, to protect nature and promote sustainable use of resources



9.2 Number of private sector entities (including micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)) that innovated their business practices, by mainstreaming environmental, social, or economic sustainability elements, with UN support



2.2 Number of rural organizations, government institutions and other relevant stakeholders with enhanced capacities for designing and implementing policies, strategies and programmes that improve productivity, net income and working conditions within the agrifood system



17.1 Number of policies developed or improved for the benefit of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) with business sector input, and promulgated or implemented by the Government, with UN support



From Small Farms to Big Dreams:
The Rise of Ghana’s Qualipine
Pineapple Farmers

Ghana’s Eastern Region has witnessed a remarkable transformation. Once individual pineapple growers, 273 farmers have joined forces as the Qualipine Cluster, growing high-quality fruits that meet international standards. This success story is paved with not just perseverance, but also the helping hand of the WACOMP program. “Before, we weren’t even visiting international fairs,” says George Dekpor, a member of Qualipine. WACOMP not only provided extensive training in good agricultural practices but also linked them with international markets.

They participated in a major fruit fair in Berlin, Germany, and secured a partnership with another WACOMP beneficiary, opening doors to exports. The impact goes beyond just markets. WACOMP fostered collaboration within the group, provided essential office equipment, and connected them to microfinance for increased production capacity. This newfound strength allowed Qualipine to negotiate better prices and secure agreements with major fruit processors. “WACOMP’s commitment to sustainable development has sown the seeds for a brighter future,” says Mr. Edward Ntow Adjei, Chairman of Qualipine.

Their partnership with AGROPAL West Africa, another WACOMP beneficiary, has seen their high-quality pineapples reach Belgium, Netherlands, and Luxembourg. Qualipine’s journey is evidence to the power of collaboration and support. From individual farmers to a thriving export force, their story is a beacon of hope, inspiring not just Ghana’s fruit industry, but communities seeking a path to shared prosperity.

UN entities contributing to the Outcome 1: FAO, IFAD, ILO, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS, WFP, IOM, IMO, UNEP, UNECA, IAEA, ITC, UN Women.



Diaspora's Role in Climate Action: Gideon Commey's Journey from the UK to Ghana's Environmental Frontlines

In the bustling heart of the United Kingdom, where the Ghanaian diaspora thrives amidst the fast-paced life of the developed world, Gideon Commey stands as a lighthouse of proactive change and unwavering commitment to his homeland, Ghana. As a researcher and environmental activist, Gideon's voice rings clear and powerful, echoing the urgent call for diaspora youth to recognize and respond to the climatic adversities their home countries face.

"Diaspora youth should be aware of climate change and how it impacts their home countries. There are lots of brilliant projects and initiatives in Ghana championed by youth to address climate change which the diaspora youth can offer support to," he passionately declares. This call to action comes against the backdrop of Ghana's pressing environmental challenges, including devastating plastic pollution, the scourge of illegal mining known as "galamsey," water pollution, rampant deforestation, and the threat of coastal erosion. These issues not only endanger the environment but also the lives and livelihoods of countless Ghanaians, making the fight against climate change not just a matter of environmental concern, but of human survival. Recognizing the unique position and potential of the Ghanaian diaspora in the UK, the Diaspora for Climate Action (D4C) is a joint action with the Government and diaspora members that aim to harness the innovation, knowledge, skills, and global networks of the diaspora to foster effective, coordinated climate action in Ghana.

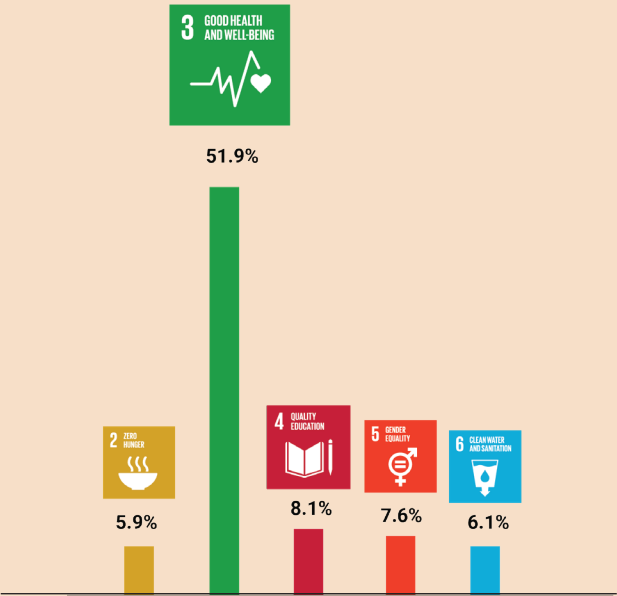
Despite being miles away from his native soil, Gideon's dedication to Ghana's environmental well-being is as strong as ever. Through his support of local youth initiatives aimed at combating climate change, Gideon leverages his position within the diaspora to inspire action, bridge connections, and facilitate meaningful contributions to Ghana's fight against environmental degradation.

OUTCOME 2. ACCESSIBLE, EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE QUALITY BASIC

"By 2025, people in Ghana, particularly those furthest behind, will have access to and use of quality, resilient, inclusive, equitable, innovative and digitalized integrated social services, supported by well managed and accountable institutions and governance systems".

Available Resources
\$60.1 million

Top five SDGs supported



KEY OUTCOME ACHIVEMENTS



1,500+
TEACHERS & LEARNERS
HAVE ACQUIRED
FUNDAMENTAL DIGITAL
LEARNING SKILLS



28,409
INDIVIDUALS
INCLUDING 17,931
CHILDREN
ACCESSED
INTEGRATED
SOCIAL SERVICES



293,946
WOMEN & YOUTH
RECEIVED CRUCIAL
SERVICES IN HIV
PREVENTION, FAMILY
PLANNING, GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE SUPPORT, AND
ADOLESCENT-FRIENDLY
SERVICES.



156,993
**CASH TRANSFERS
BENEFICIARIES**
INCLUDING 129,240 WOMEN,
IN GHANA'S NORTH-EAST,
NORTHERN, UPPER EAST,
AND UPPER WEST REGIONS
MET THEIR FOOD AND
NUTRITION NEEDS.



16,000
**VULNERABLE
SMALLHOLDER FARMERS**
AND 1,500 PREGNANT /
LACTATING WOMEN LIFTED
FROM CHRONIC HUNGER AND
MALNUTRITION



1,258,546
CHILDREN
ACCOUNTING FOR 98%
OF THE TARGET,
VACCINATED.



2,937,483
INDIVIDUALS
AND 648,887 PREGNANT
WOMEN ENROLLED IN
NATIONAL HEALTH
INSURANCE SCHEME



Growing a Greener Future: Helping to restore degraded forests in Akyem Abuakwa

In the heart of Akyem Abuakwa, where the once lush forests have suffered from the ravages of illegal mining, logging, and unsustainable farming, emerges through the FOREST Okyeman project. This initiative, funded by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, is sowing the seeds of change in local communities, aiming to restore degraded lands and revitalize the environment. Albert Nti, a dedicated volunteer in the restoration efforts, reflects on the project's impact, "Watching our forests come back to life through agroforestry has given us hope.

Our community used to suffer from land damage, but now we foresee a future of healthy lands and improved lives because of the project's intervention." The journey wasn't easy. With the establishment of twenty-six community nursery enterprises and the involvement of over 300 volunteers, challenges arose at every turn. Grace, one of the volunteers, recalls, "Working on community nursery enterprises was a challenge for us because we are new to raising and nurturing economic tree seedlings. But gradually our capacity was built with directions from the Forest Service Division and the technical institutions." Despite facing unpredictable weather and limited resources, the community remained resilient.

Daniel Osei-Frempong, the Project Coordinator, acknowledges the perseverance of the volunteers, saying, "Challenges may have slowed us down, but every tree planted is a step towards a better, greener future." As nearly 400,000 tree saplings take root in the soil, a symbol of unity and unwavering determination emerges. The FOREST Okyeman project isn't just about restoring the environment—it's about inspiring community-driven change. It's about people coming together, facing challenges head-on, and nurturing hope for future generations.

OUTPUT 2.1: Social sector laws and regulations are compliant with norms and standards, and enforced with implementation, and monitoring capacity of institutions and communities are enhanced.

Health

With the UN's support the Family Planning Protocol is being updated to better accommodate vulnerable groups, especially persons with disabilities, alongside revisions to the Private Health Sector Policy, the Ghana Family Planning Costed Implementation Plan, and the Condom and Lubricant Strategy. The Cervical Cancer Strategy for Ghana was also finalized in 2023. The Oncology Directorate at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital now boasts a new Nuclear Medicine facility with a SPECT Gamma Camera for advanced patient scanning, while both the Komfo Anokye and Korle-Bu Teaching Hospitals' radiotherapy centers have been upgraded with the latest quality control equipment and phantoms, enhancing the quality and efficacy of cancer care. The essential Health Services Package was developed for harmonization with insurance benefit packages ensuring essential health benefits are covered. **Entities involved: UNFPA and IAEA**

Education

The Inclusive Education Policy and the Early Childhood Care and Development Policy have been updated, reflecting a commitment to more accessible education. Additionally, the UN's collaboration, particularly UNESCO's coordination, has enabled the Government to secure over \$31.43 million from the Global Partnership for Education, supplementing an initial \$670,000 and building on \$40 million previously raised domestically, with a further \$40 million Multiplier Grant anticipated for key sector reforms. With UNESCO and other partners' support, a legislative instrument now operationalizes the CBE Policy and the CEA Act, promoting inclusive education. The revised ICT in Education Policy strategically integrates technology and AI, alongside the finalized ICT Competency Framework for Teachers, enhancing public-school teachers' skills for modern classrooms and supporting the E-School vision. Pending Cabinet approval, the Early Childhood Development Policy is advancing. The signing of the West and Central Africa Commitment by Education and Health Ministers, facilitated by the UN, aims to expand national programs for adolescent and youth well-being, reflecting a holistic approach to enhancing education and health outcomes. **Entities involved: UNESCO**

Nutrition

The Government, with support from WFP has developed and launched the first-ever national Food-based dietary guidelines. This landmark initiative aims to promote healthy eating practices among the population. Further efforts will be made to ensure the widespread dissemination of these guidelines, encouraging their adoption across the country to improve nutritional health and well-being. The Government's School Feeding Programme under the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection (MoGCSP) was supported with an initial review of the 2015 School Feeding Policy. A broader assessment will be conducted in 2024 to inform a revised policy, which will guide the revision of the draft School Feeding Bill. **Entities involved: WFP, FAO, UNICEF, and WHO**

Social protection

With the support of the UN and the World Bank the Social Protection Bill is presently under parliamentary review following its revision by the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection MoGCSP and the Attorney General's Department. This review is part of the broader engagement with the IMF/GOG ECF work. Additionally, the drafting of the Social Work Profession Bill has been completed by the MoGCSP and is now awaiting consultation in parliament. This development is anticipated to culminate in the establishment of the Social Work Council, which will regulate social work practice in Ghana through a system of registration and licensing, enhancing the professionalism and effectiveness of social work across the country. **Entities involved: UNICEF and the World Bank**

OUTPUT 2.2: Inequalities in all sectors are addressed by equitable distribution and effective management of resources, including through the use of innovation and technology.

Education

With support from the UN, significant progress has been made in digital learning for public school teachers and learners through the interventions implemented by the Centre for National Distance Learning and Open Schooling. The establishment of national learning platforms, such as the OER Portal Ghana and Learning Passport Ghana, has significantly enhanced the coordination of the digital learning ecosystem. Over 1,500

teachers and learners have acquired fundamental digital learning skills through hands-on capacity-building programs, and this has led to ongoing enhancements in professional teacher development, especially in Continuous Professional Development, bridging educational gaps between urban and rural areas. This effort has provided a digital platform for foundational literacy and numeracy learning, offering credit points and aligning with the National Teaching Council's promotion criteria, thereby boosting teachers' professional growth and effectiveness nationwide. **Entities involved: UNESCO and UNICEF.**

Health

With the support of the UN the Ghana Integrated Logistics Management Information System underwent significant improvement by integrating 216 health centers and CHPS compounds into the Electronic Logistics Management Information System. This integration enabled the Ghana Health Service to join the Global Family Planning Visibility Analytics Network, enhancing decision-making on commodity management. Furthermore, health information systems' effectiveness notably improved, with data availability for health-related SDG indicators rising from 64% to 85% as of June 2023. This advancement has bolstered evidence-based policy-making in the health sector, leading to more informed and effective interventions and strategies. **Entities involved: UNFPA and WHO.**

Social protection

With the UN support digital technologies for child protection case management expanded to 10 additional districts, aligning with national SOPs for Children in Need of Care and Protection. This expansion, implemented through the primero-based Social Welfare Information Management System (SWIMS), brings the total to 170 districts utilizing SWIMS, enhancing policy and program interventions related to child protection and GBV. Additionally, assistance facilitated the training of 1,617 individuals, including district social welfare and community development officers, regional heads, CSO partners, and licensed residential care institutions, in the SWIMS system. This training resulted in the digital management of over 20,000 child protection and GBV cases, directly benefiting 20,000 children and women. **Entities involved: UNFPA and UNICEF**

A total of 28,409 individuals, including 17,931 children (201 with disabilities), have accessed integrated social services, covering child protection, GBV, social protection, and health services. The UN efforts in sexual and reproductive health have benefited 293,946 women, girls, and boys, offering crucial services like HIV prevention, family planning, gender-based violence support, and adolescent-friendly services. Furthermore, 8,464 young individuals have received sexual and reproductive health information through the YOU MUST KNOW initiative, empowering them for informed decision-making. The UN, in collaboration with the World Bank, has facilitated the integration of the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Case Management system with the Single Window Citizens Engagement Services, enhancing the efficiency and accessibility of social services. This integration represents a significant step forward in streamlining social protection and citizen engagement services, ultimately benefiting the program's beneficiaries and stakeholders. Through cash-based transfer services, a total of 156,993 beneficiaries, including 129,240 females, in Ghana's North-East, Northern, Upper East, and Upper West regions met their food and nutrition needs. Additionally, the Ghana Health Service disseminated vital nutrition information to 5,754 individuals, including pregnant and



breastfeeding women, adolescent girls, and children positively impacting their overall nutritional status. Entities involved: **UNICEF, the World Bank and WFP**

Water and Sanitation

The Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources has initiated the first phase of the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Sector Information System rollout in two of Ghana's 16 regions, specifically the Ahafo and Upper West Regions. This phase has already seen the commencement of data collection activities extending to all 16 regions. Building on this momentum, the Ministry is actively engaging WASH Development Partners to extend support to the remaining 14 regions, with the World Bank and USAID already indicating their commitment to support the rollout in four regions in 2024. Entities involved: UNICEF

OUTPUT 2.3: National and subnational institutions have enhanced coordination, delivery capacity and resources, including by leveraging innovation and digital technologies

Education

Through the UN strategic coordination support the Education sector development partners have collaboratively supported the Government's education policies and programs. This joint effort includes assistance with the Global Partnership for Education grant application processes, the celebration of National Education Week, the organization of the National Digital and Distance Learning Conference, the Ghana Teacher Prize, and initiatives for ICT integration within the education system.

Social protection

Supported by the UN, a network of 98 entities—including key ministries, regional and district social welfare departments, and various CSOs like NORSAC, INGH, ADO, and SSG — has launched Integrated Social Services. This initiative unites efforts in child protection, GBV prevention, social protection, and health services to address violence and harmful practices such as GBV and child marriage, demonstrating a cohesive strategy for tackling these significant challenges. The UN has also partnered with CSOs to initiate a national rights and social protection campaign with the primary goal to elevate public awareness about social protection from a life cycle and rights-based perspective, highlighting existing social protection programs. Furthermore, the campaign seeks to generate public demand for improved coverage and adequate financing for comprehensive social protection programs, aiming to strengthen the social safety net for vulnerable populations. **Entities involved: UNICEF**

Health

A remarkable achievement was made in child health through the Enhanced Programme for Immunization, with 1,258,546 children, accounting for 98% of the target, successfully vaccinated. Additionally, the National Health Insurance Scheme saw significant enrollment figures, with 2,937,483 indigent individuals and 648,887 pregnant women actively enrolled by the end of December 2023, ensuring broader access to healthcare services for vulnerable populations. 3,127 children, including 1,487 girls, now have access to menstrual hygiene and health management and WASH services in schools. This has created a safer and more supportive educational environment for adolescent girls, helping to remove the barriers associated with menstrual hygiene. The integration of WASH services into school



monitoring systems has been strengthened by developing guidelines for School Improvement Support Officers. Furthermore, a formative study identifying the barriers to accessing menstrual hygiene materials has greatly improved understanding in this area. **Entities involved: WHO and UNICEF.**

OUTPUT 2.4: Civil society is supported and their capacities are built to support the delivery of transparent and accountable social services.

The UN has fostered engagement with CSOs in Ghana to advance a broad spectrum of developmental objectives. 200 members of the Ghana National Association of Teachers have been empowered to champion the Comprehensive National Teacher Policy, aiming to address challenges and enhance the teaching profession. The UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) Joint Programme has notably strengthened the capacity of the Organization of Persons with Disabilities enabling them to lead disability inclusion activities by engaging with Parliamentarians on the Disability Act and collaborating with the Ghana Statistical Service to establish an inclusive data collection framework. A collaborative network of 42 entities, including 5 national organizations (Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, MCRA, Ghana Health Service, Ghana Police Services, Attorney General's Department), 30 sub-national entities, and 7 CSOs, has been a driving force in implementing policies on gender equality, human rights, and gender-based violence (GBV). CSOs including SEND Ghana, PAYD, PPAG, ARHR, and International Needs have critically reviewed the health sector's compliance with key agreements, focusing on budget allocations, financial commitments, and spending to ensure adherence to the Abuja health spending targets and UNFPA co-financing agreements for contraceptives. Furthermore, they've played an important role in the development of a roadmap for the implementation of UPR recommendations and ICPD+30 commitments, significantly contributing to strategic health sector planning and policy execution. Six CSOs—POS, HRAC, PAYDP, INGH, PPAG, and FBOs—have strengthened their advocacy and dialogue capabilities on development issues. Their engagement with key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, and MCRA across various levels has enabled them to influence development discourse and policy advocacy more effectively. National organizations such as the National AIDS Control Program and the Ghana Health Service, with support across the national landscape, have launched initiatives targeting gender equality and GBV. Partnership with SWIDA and World Vision aimed to promote gender equality and prevent GBV, assisted to

enhancing the capacity for gender equality within the Regional Agriculture Department in the Upper East region. **Entities involved: UNESCO, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA, UNDP and UNOPS.**

OUTPUT 2.5: The private sector is engaged and multisectoral SDGs partnerships fostered for social services for people in Ghana, particularly those furthest behind, through the efforts of the Government, civil society and the private sector.

The UN work in Ghana showcases a dynamic approach to collaboration, particularly through strategic partnerships with the private sector, aiming to advance SDGs related to health, education, and women's well-being. Investment cases developed to achieve SDGs 3 and 5 were made possible through partnerships with the private sector, Ghana Statistical Services, the Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations, and the Schools of Public Health and Economics at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. A notable collaboration with Huawei Technologies Ltd has led to the pilot of an e-school project in ten districts, focusing on enhancing digital learning skills for teachers, including pedagogical support for educators at the Akropong School for the Blind. The UN has established a robust network of multi-sectoral partnerships with entities like MTN, Airtel Tigo, Access Bank, and Fidelity Bank under a platform aimed at eradicating Obstetric Fistula in Ghana. This effort is complemented by public education on the prevention and management of Obstetric Fistula through collaboration with the Canadian Government, the Mastercard Foundation, and Prudential Life Insurance to implement joint programs addressing SRH, GBV, FP, and HIV. Formal agreements with the Office of the First Lady further enhance obstetric fistula repair efforts and broader health programming. Furthermore, collaboration with Lead for Ghana to recruit university graduates as primary school teachers and partnerships with the Center for Social Policy Studies, the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, the American Institute of Research in the Humanities, and trained Journalists in Social Protection underscore a comprehensive strategy to improve education and health outcomes. Enhancement of health services through partnerships with Ashesi University, the Ghana Coalition of NGOs in Health, the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons, Youth Advocates Ghana, and AMMREN, along with UNICEF's work with the International Cocoa Initiative and NGOs to tackle child labor, online safety, and adolescent well-being, exemplifies the UN's commitment to fostering an inclusive, educated, and healthy Ghana. **Entities involved: UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO.**

OUTPUT 2.6: Ghanaian social service institutions and systems are more resilient to shocks and able to ensure timely and quality response to emergencies, protecting the most vulnerable.

Resilience to shocks and emergency response

Throughout the year, the UN has been instrumental in fostering resilience across various sectors in response to emergencies such as the Akosombo Dam Spillage and the Sahel crisis. Through the development and operationalization of contingency plans, approximately 20,000 children in the Volta Region were enabled to return to school, setting a precedent that inspired additional support from development partners for essential teaching materials and shelter. The provision of Sexual and Reproductive Health information and dignity kits to around 3,100 refugees/displaced persons, alongside cash transfers to host communities of displaced refugees from Burkina Faso, underscored the UN's commitment to comprehensive humanitarian response. Further, capacity enhancement programs for healthcare providers, WASH, Social Protection, and Child Protection services benefited over 92,372 individuals, including access to free health insurance, resilient water supplies, and mobile birth registration services. The strengthening of disaster preparedness, particularly in earthquake readiness for over 50 officials, alongside a WASH System Resilience Study, has set a foundation for implementing robust guidelines and resilience strategies. Collaborative efforts have also led to a shock-responsive review of social protection policies, aiming to integrate 100,000 individuals into agricultural value chains and enhance Farmer-Based Organizations' capacity in climate adaptation. Lastly, ensuring the continuity of health service provision at selected safe havens following emergencies highlights the UN's holistic approach to disaster response and resilience building across diverse sectors. **Entities involved: UNICEF, WFP and UNFPA.**



KEY CHALLENGES

- Health financing challenges, exacerbated by the IMF program and insufficient mobilization of domestic resources, have resulted in recurrent shortages of vaccines for routine immunization and other essential medical supplies. These shortages have adversely impacted service delivery and coverage nationwide. Inequitable access to health services, particularly in hard-to-reach areas remains as one of the biggest challenges.
- The absence of up-to-date data on poverty and extreme poverty poses a significant challenge. The most recent data available, sourced from the Ghana Living Standards Survey, is over five years old. Consequently, decision-making processes rely heavily on estimations rather than concrete figures. This lack of current data makes it challenging to accurately assess the effectiveness of various social protection interventions on poverty alleviation.
- The incomplete status of certain education sector policies has significantly impacted program support, primarily due to the absence of clear policy direction on specific issues. Notably, key policies such as the draft Safe Schools Policy, the comprehensive national teacher policy, and the draft gender in education policy remain unfinished. This lack of finalization hampers efforts to address crucial matters effectively within the education sector.

Progress achieved in relation to system-wide UNSDG Indicators

OUTCOME 2. ACCESSIBLE, EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE QUALITY BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES

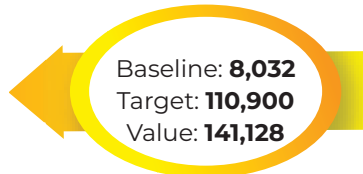
3.1 Number of national policies on health including overall health or specific health areas such as nutrition policies, physical activity, sexual and reproductive health, non-communicable and communicable diseases, in accordance with human rights standards are developed and adopted



1.4 Number of people accessing basic services, with UN support



10.3 Number of people who are internally displaced, migrants, refugees or part of the host communities, or communities left or affected populations, benefiting from integrated and targeted interventions, including on strengthening social cohesion, with UN support



3.3 Number of people benefitting from UN supported health services: a) Communicable diseases; b) non-communicable diseases (NCD); c) Sexual and reproductive health (SRH); d) Integrated management of childhood illnesses services; e) Other



4.2 Number of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions with improved capacity to deliver training and assessments with UN support



Flora: Protecting Paga, one checkpoint at a time

Nestled on the bustling Ghana-Burkina Faso border, Paga thrives thanks in part to Flora Apam. This public health officer isn't just passionate about her community's well-being, she's its guardian angel. Flora's days are a whirlwind of activity. Working with the Ghana Health Service, she monitors border sanitation, collaborating with both Ghanaian and Burkinabe authorities. "It's all about keeping everyone healthy," she explains, "travelers, locals, everyone." Flora isn't alone. Her team of environmental health officers and community health nurses ensures strict adherence to public health measures at the border. Their vigilance keeps cross-border movement safe.

The recent pandemic highlighted the importance of Flora's role. Working with the UN, she boosted Paga's port health services. "Thanks to the support," Flora says, "travelers now have access to improved sanitation facilities and isolation units, reducing infection risks." Flora's dedication extends beyond health. She fosters strong relationships with other border agencies, especially the Ghana Immigration Service. Community engagement is also crucial. "When an anthrax outbreak hit the region," Flora recalls, "we used the community platform to inform residents.

They followed health instructions immediately." Flora acknowledges the progress, but her vision stretches further. She seeks more support to prepare for future crises and provide immediate assistance. Her unwavering commitment to public health and unity is a beacon of hope, a testament to the power of one person to make a difference. Flora Apam: guardian of Paga, protector of its health, and symbol of its unity.

UN entities contributing to outcome: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UN-Women, WFP, WHO, IAEA, UNEP

From shy to head prefect: Christabel breaks barriers

Christabel Akposu beams with pride, a stark contrast to the shy girl she once was. This Junior High School student at Agormanya Methodist School has just achieved a dream she once thought impossible: becoming Head Prefect. For many girls, school leadership positions seemed out of reach, a domain dominated by boys. Gender stereotypes and fear of the election process often held them back. But that's changing, thanks in part to Christabel's story.

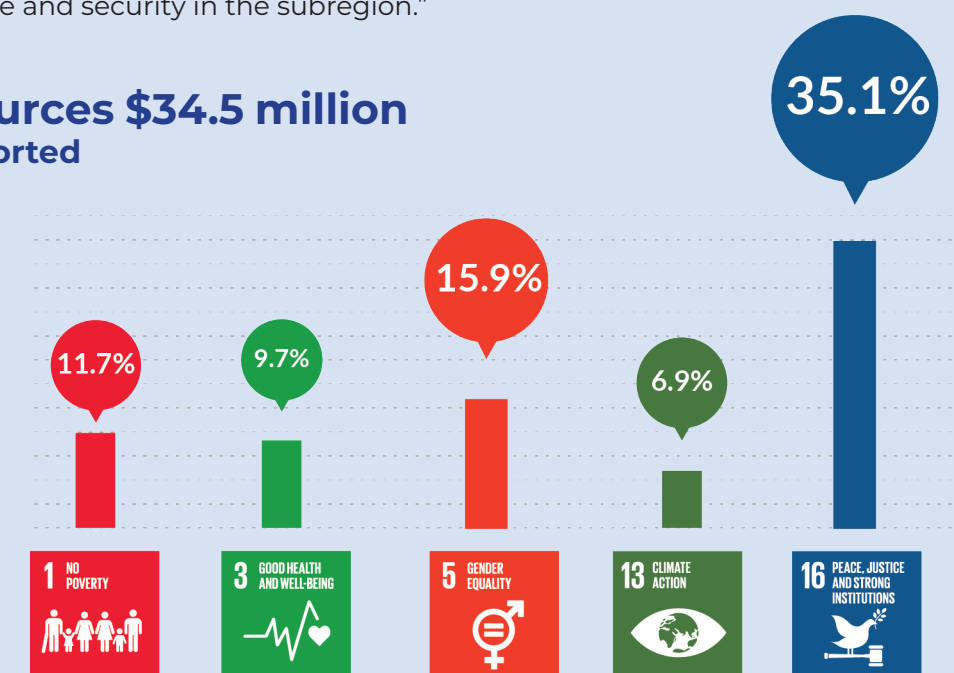
Through workshops and training sessions, the project tackled issues like reproductive health, gender roles, and most importantly, leadership skills. Christabel was one of 100 girls who benefitted from this program. The training challenged her perception of traditional gender roles and instilled in her a powerful belief: "I am bold, I am beautiful, and I can become anything I want to become if I put my mind to it." This newfound confidence became her armor. When self-doubt and discouragement from friends threatened to derail her dream of becoming Head Prefect, Christabel held onto that mantra. She stepped outside her comfort zone and ran for the position. Not only did she overcome her fear, but she won the election. In one school, a record-breaking 11 girls from the program now hold leadership positions.

This surge in female leadership is a testament to the impact of the project and the power of believing in oneself. Christabel's story is proof that with the right support and a little courage, girls can shatter stereotypes and take their rightful place at the head of the table.

OUTCOME 3: DURABLE PEACE AND SECURITY IN GHANA AND THE SUB-REGION

"By 2025, people in Ghana will benefit from transparent, accountable, inclusive institutions and systems, including quality integrated digital services delivering a peaceful, cohesive, and just society supporting durable peace and security in the subregion."

Available Resources \$34.5 million
Top five SDGs supported



KEY OUTCOME ACHIVEMENTS



22

INSTITUTIONS

ACTIVELY BUILDING INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES AND PROMOTING PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY THROUGHOUT THE ELECTORAL CYCLE.



35,000

WOMEN, YOUTH AND PWD OF 7,000 HOUSEHOLDS

RECEIVED MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE ENABLING THEM TO STRENGTHEN CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITIES.



127,543

MEMBERS IN BORDER COMMUNITIES

RECEIVED ACCESS TO WASH SERVICES.



7,000

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

INCLUDING 4,000 WOMEN AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES) ENHANCED THEIR ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE, EVALUATE, AND ADDRESS THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH CONFLICTS, VIOLENT EXTREMISM, AND CROSS-BORDER INSTABILITIES.



90,000

YOUTH AND YOUNG WOMEN

INCLUDING 70,000 YOUNG WOMEN INCREASED CAPACITY IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION TECHNIQUES.

OUTPUT 3.1 Institutions and communities have strengthened capacities to identify, analyze, and mitigate risks, vulnerabilities and the effects of conflicts, violence, and crime, as well as cross-border and transboundary risks.

Risk Identification and Analysis

The UN's support has catalyzed the formulation of both national and sub-national policies, strategies, and an action plan dedicated to conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Dynamic sensitization campaigns and strategic initiatives have significantly increased community awareness about border security vulnerabilities, nurturing peace and trust among 6,500 individuals across six beneficiary communities. In tandem, national and local authorities, alongside communities, have enhanced their peacebuilding and social cohesion skills, including the empowerment of five influential women from Northern Ghana who have become key figures in regional political discourse. The establishment of six dialogue platforms in critical locales has enriched dialogue and trust-building among border communities, management agencies, and district assemblies, fostering a climate of cooperation and understanding. Collectively, eight national and sub-national policies, strategies, and action plans for conflict prevention and peacebuilding have been developed, addressing key areas such as violent extremism prevention, reconciliation, reintegration, conflict-sensitive climate adaptation and mitigation, and Women, Peace, and Security. Four sensitization activities reached 3,000 individuals, focusing on trust-building initiatives, while sensitization and awareness campaigns through community-based radio stations engaged thousands more, promoting gender inclusivity. The development of a policy brief aimed at advancing the Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination agenda has further promoted social inclusion and regional integration, laying the groundwork for comprehensive frameworks to foster peace, stability, and inclusive development. **Entities involved: IOM, UNESCO, UNHCR, and UNDP.**

Capacity Building for Durable Peace

The UN focused on empowering communities and strengthening regional peacekeeping capacities. The expansion of the National Peace Council to include the Oti and North-East Regional Peace Councils has greatly enhanced local access to mediation services, effectively reducing the wait times for community mediation in these regions. This is part of a wider initiative that has engaged over 600 individuals (444 males, 154 females, and 57 with disabilities) across 22 communities in 7 districts in Ghana, educating them on conflict prevention, violent extremism mitigation, and improving relationships with security agencies. These trained individuals now actively contribute to conflict prevention efforts within their communities. In parallel, support to 8 organizations at various levels has bolstered abilities in dialogue, social cohesion, conflict prevention, counteracting hate speech and misinformation, and mental health support. The comprehensive approach has significantly enhanced organizational capacity to address peace and development challenges effectively. Additionally, 24 officers from the Navy, Army, Air Force, Accra Initiative, and counter-terrorism units have fortified their collaborative skills for prevention, while 14 managers of stockpiles in Ivory Coast are now better equipped to prevent the proliferation of arms. These efforts, aimed at countering violent extremism, radicalization, and small arms proliferation in the Sahel and adjacent coastal countries in West Africa. **Entities involved: UNDP, IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNICEF.**

OUTPUT 3.2 Institutions are better enabled to coordinate, design, implement and monitor laws and policies and integrate digital services at all levels, including cross-border and transboundary laws/policies.

Enhanced Institutional Coordination

The UN collectively has elevated the operational efficiency, accountability, and transparency of Ghana's governance structures. Through collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, the national budget now more effectively aligns with the SDGs, facilitating enhanced tracking of SDG-related expenditures. This alignment incorporates gender-responsive budgeting and has led to the creation of SDG Budget Reports, notably the 2022 edition launched in August 2023, which incorporates a budgeting manual updated to monitor investments related to gender and child-focused SDGs. Furthermore, efforts to boost the performance of Ghanaian institutions in public administration, service delivery, and community security have seen significant enhancements, with initiatives ranging from the development of a governance framework for integrated social services, capacity building for Regional Peace Councils, support in establishing a centre for GBV victims, to logistical support for Ghana Statistical Services. In addition, concerted efforts have led to notable progress in making the judiciary, parliament, public administration, and independent institutions more accountable, gender-sensitive, transparent, and effective. This includes training for the Criminal Investigations Department to improve their handling of cases, digitization of processes at land border crossings for better traveler facilitation and control, and enhancing the judiciary's understanding of key issues like freedom of expression and journalist safety through targeted training. **Entities involved: UNFPA, UNDP, UNOPS, IOM, UNICEF, and UNESCO.**

Integration of Digital Services and Cross-Border Policy Implementation

Support from the UN in evaluating and documenting obstacles to the effective implementation of digital health interventions at sub-national levels has catalyzed remarkable progress. This initiative has empowered national institutions to leverage digital technologies creatively, yielding significant enhancements in public health outcomes across the country. Concurrently, the modernization of border posts at Namoo, Mognori, and Pulmakom, coupled with the adoption of the MIDAS border management information system has transformed three border crossing points. These enhancements have facilitated smoother travel processes and heightened control, showcasing the pivotal role of digital technology in advancing operational efficiency and security at the nation's borders. **Entities involved: UNDP and IOM.**

OUTPUT 3.3 Citizens, communities, and civil society, particularly those furthest behind, are informed of their rights and responsibilities to effectively participate in decision-making at all levels, including in the digital space and cross-border areas.

Empowering Citizens and Civil Society

Supported by the UN the integration of inclusive dialogue mechanisms in policy design and delivery, especially in the workforce, has seen significant advancement among national authorities and the public. This progress was propelled by organizing three town hall meetings with 200 participants from the Ministry of Finance, CSOs and Development Partners, focusing on amplifying investments in the social sector. Additionally, high-level officials from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ghana Health Service, and National Development Planning Commission were supported to partake in strategic dialogues at UN and African Union forums to expedite the International Conference on Population and Development agenda nationally.

Collaboratively, the joint initiatives have facilitated the proactive engagement of 713 women, youths, and individuals with disabilities in dialogue, decision-making, and peacebuilding, through comprehensive research, advocacy, and workshops. These efforts aimed at integrating disability issues in development planning and budgets, and provisioning targeted services for sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence, peace, and security at disability clinics, thereby fostering leadership and inclusivity in public institutions, elected positions, the judiciary, the private sector, and peacebuilding efforts. The development and utilization of data on access to services and funding for children with disabilities have further cemented societal inclusivity and empowerment. In particular, collaboration with SEND Ghana orchestrated town hall meetings that gathered insights from civil society for the Ministry of Finance, emphasizing "Increasing Investment in the Social Sector." **Entities involved: UNDP, UNICEF, and UNFPA.**

Inclusive Decision-Making

The collaboration between UN agencies has significantly increased the leadership and engagement of women, girls, and individuals with disabilities. This has been achieved across various domains, including public roles, elective positions, judiciary capacities, private sector endeavors, and in key areas such as mediation, reconciliation, peace efforts, and sustainable resource management. Efforts have been made to spotlight the plight and rights of children with disabilities in Ghana through the support to the Centre for Social Policy Studies in advocating for the access to essential services and funding for children with disabilities in Ghana,. Initiatives like "Innovate for Clean Energy Technologies" champion the adoption of clean energy solutions to enhance agricultural output and income among rural smallholders. Advocacy efforts have improved the inclusion of marginalized groups in public discourse. Their concerns are now integrated within policy frameworks and amplified in technical discussions. This inclusivity extends to a broad spectrum of society, including transient traders known as Kayaye, adolescent mothers, key populations, individuals with disabilities, refugees, and those displaced within the country. 728 young individuals from five tertiary institutions in Ghana has committed to becoming advocates for good governance and inclusive democracy. Furthermore, 41 parliamentary champions and 42 staff members from state agencies have improved their understanding of disability issues and the rights of persons with disabilities, in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the SDGs. **Entities involved: UNICEF, UNFPA and UNU-INRA.**

OUTPUT 3.4 Legal and human rights institutions are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced, independently adjudicated and consistent with international norms and standards.

Promulgation of Laws

With the support of the UN, three laws and regulations have been developed, aligning with international human rights norms to address and eliminate violence against women and girls, including harmful practices. These legislative advances also aim to ensure equal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, information, and education. A notable

achievement includes the review of the Domestic Violence Act 2007 (Act 732), enhancing its efficacy in protecting individuals from violence. Additionally, oversight, accountability, and protection mechanisms for civic space have been established and are currently operational. This includes the establishment of a migrants' human rights desk at the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, providing a critical resource for upholding the rights of migrants in line with international human rights standards. **Entities involved: UNFPA**

Elections

With the support of the UN, 22 institutions have actively engaged in fostering inclusive societies and participatory democracy throughout Ghana's electoral cycle. This milestone was reached with assistance of the UN that led to the creation of the Elections Working Group platform, providing a pivotal space for the Electoral Commission to share information with key stakeholders. Furthermore, collaborations with organizations like CDD-Ghana have facilitated stakeholder involvement in discussions and initiatives aimed at improving the electoral process in Ghana. **Entities involved: UNDP**

International Standards Compliance

The UN assisted in strengthening the capacities of institutions, systems, and stakeholders in Ghana to meet their national and international human rights commitments. Their efforts span across the rule of law, justice, human rights, and the private sector, including state-owned enterprises, as detailed in the UPR and the UN General Comment on Ghana. Support included review of Ghana's 2023 UPR to ensure it aligns with human rights obligations, and enhancing the capacity of 27 District Directors from the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice in the Ashanti region in Child Rights Monitoring. Ghana is advancing responsible business practices in line with the SDGs, finalizing a National Action Plan NAP on Business and Human Rights, with the UN supporting consultations in various regions and among marginalized groups. **Entities involved: UNFPA and UNICEF.**

OUTPUT 3.5: institutional capacities and governance systems supporting resilience to climate change and disasters, including cross- border and transboundary impacts, are strengthened.

The Government has successfully aligned its National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy with the Sendai Framework for DRR. Initiatives such as the development of the CADRI report and reorganization of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Emergencies have aimed to enhance public awareness about earthquake disaster risk, particularly in the Greater Accra Region's vulnerable locales. Additionally, training for 60 officers from the National Disaster Management Organization and community sensitization efforts in Weija-Gbawe have improved local disaster preparedness and response capabilities. **Entities involved: WFP and UNESCO.**

UN collective efforts have played crucial roles in improving the ability of community groups to manage natural resources and address climate-related challenges effectively. Sustainable resource management among communities has been promoted through the creation of a Community Resource Management Area and a Modified Taungya Group, with 90,000 youths, including 70,000 young women and 10,000 adults increasing capacity in climate adaptation techniques to foster sustainable agricultural practices. **Entities involved: UNDP and WFP**

127,543 individuals in different communities now enjoy improved access to essential WASH services. This achievement includes food assistance benefiting 1,097 households, WASH projects reaching 12,000 people across three communities, and GrEEen project, which has provided climate-resilient infrastructure to 104,058 individuals in the Western and Ashanti Regions. **Entities involved: WFP, IOM and UNCDF**

Emergency multipurpose cash assistance delivered by the UN to flood victims in the Volta and Greater Accra Regions has supported 7,000 households, approximately 35,000 individuals, with a total of GHS 986,720.29 (USD 82,570.74), prioritizing women, persons with disabilities (41% of aid recipients), and youth-led households (15%). This assistance has provided financial stability, especially to the most vulnerable, including the chronically ill, pregnant and breastfeeding women, the elderly, unaccompanied minors, and those not receiving other forms of assistance, amid challenges of limited funding. Additionally, the distribution of 40 family-sized tents has offered shelter to 200 displaced individuals, enabling school buildings to be used for educational purposes again.

The UN Inter Agency Working Group on Emergencies in collaboration with NADMO conducted crucial assessments targeting asylum seekers in the Upper East and Upper West regions, flood victims in the Volta region, and infrastructure in the Volta and Greater Accra regions. Joint collaborative effort, involving 16 organizations including UN agencies, development partners, and NGOs, provided comprehensive support to 22,485 individuals through cash, food, and non-food items, including WASH facilities in border areas.

KEY CHALLENGES

- The escalating security crisis, marked by insurgency, violent extremism in Burkina Faso and Mali, and unconstitutional Governmental changes within the Sahel and certain areas of the Gulf of Guinea, poses a significant challenge to peacebuilding initiatives, especially along the border areas of Northern Ghana. This deteriorating security situation in these regions substantially hinders peace efforts in nearby border locales. Such instability not only affects peace and stability efforts in parts of Northern Ghana but also negatively impacts local communities and cross-border relations.
- The constrained financial capacities of most Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies hinder their significant project implementation contributions. Delays in releasing the District Common Funds, coupled with insufficient revenue generation in many districts across Northern Ghana, pose significant challenges for impoverished MMDAs to allocate financial and human resources to various projects in these regions.
- In specific regions of Northern Ghana, a lack of coordination and redundant programmatic interventions have hindered the effectiveness of United Nations support for governance and peacebuilding. Disjointed efforts and duplicative activities by various Governmental and non-Governmental organizations have led to operational inefficiencies and overlap. This lack of streamlined coordination has negatively impacted the efficient use of UN assistance in these areas, reducing the overall effectiveness of initiatives aimed at promoting stability and effective governance.



Progress achieved in relation to system-wide UNSDG Indicators

OUTCOME 3: DURABLE PEACE AND SECURITY IN GHANA AND THE SUB-REGION

1.4 Number of people accessing basic services, with UN support



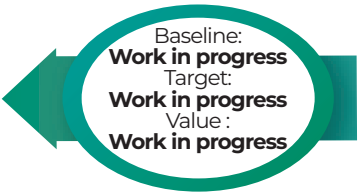
16.4 Level of meaningful participation of right-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes, supported by the UN



17.2 Degree of alignment of national budgeting system with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that enable tracking of budget allocation for the SDGs, including through gender-responsive budgeting, supported by the UN



5.3. Extent that measures developed/implemented with UN support are in place advance women´s and girl's and persons with disabilities leadership and equal participation in decision-making, with UN support, in: a) Public institutions; b) Elected positions, including parliaments; c) Judiciary; d) Private sector; e) Mediation, reconciliation and peacebuilding mechanisms; and f) Natural resource management



Ramatu: A light of peace in a troubled region

In the heart of the Sahel's turmoil, where violence has torn families apart, a glimmer of humanity shines through in Ghana. Known for its hospitality, the country has opened its arms to over 74,000 refugees fleeing conflict in Burkina Faso and Mali. They join the ranks of 1.8 million already displaced within Ghana's borders, straining resources and raising security concerns. Yet, amidst these challenges, stories of resilience emerge.

Meet Ramatu, a 32-year-old woman selling cereals in the bustling town of Kpatia. She's not just a vendor; she's a beacon of hope. Ramatu is one of 600 individuals trained by the UN and the Upper East Regional Peace Council. Their program empowers ordinary citizens to recognize signs of violent extremism and raise awareness in their communities. For Ramatu, the training was more than just a workshop—it was a call to action. As an active member of the local agro-business association, she embraced the opportunity to make a difference. In just three days, she transformed from a participant to a leader, driven by a determination to educate her community about the perils of extremism. Chief Naba Amadu Shaibu attests to Ramatu's dedication, stating, "Ramatu has been relentless in spreading the message of 'see something, say something.'"

Her efforts haven't gone unnoticed; she's made her community more vigilant and security-conscious. Ramatu's journey embodies the power of ordinary people to effect change. "Without peace," she emphasizes, "we can achieve nothing." Armed with her newfound knowledge, Ramatu stands as a shield against violence, protecting her community and nurturing a brighter future for all.



UN entities contributing to Outcome: IOM, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS, UNU-INRA, UN-WOMEN, WFP, UNOWAS, ILO

2.3 SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA

In addition to the above results, the UN forged strategic collaborations with diverse stakeholders which propelled the UN in Ghana to leverage financing and establish innovative partnerships, yielding significant outcomes across various sectors.

In partnership with the SDG Office of the Presidency and GIPC and the Pipeline Project, the UN facilitated the basis for a US\$250 million SMEs Funds of Fund pipeline of blended finance which is set to be funded in 2024. This pipeline-builder partnership will leverage Ghana's public-sector capital to effectively catalyze domestic and international capital inflow into the MSME sector. Through joint programming, the UN in Ghana mobilized additional finance, including a noteworthy US\$15 million 4 to accelerate interventions in food systems, disability inclusion, urbanization, and youth empowerment. The UN's collaboration, particularly UNESCO's coordination, has enabled the Government to secure over \$31.43 million from the Global Partnership for Education, supplementing an initial \$670,000 and building on \$40 million previously raised domestically, with a further \$40 million Multiplier Grant anticipated for key sector reforms. In a concerted effort to enhance the resilience of Ghana's food systems, the UNCT secured US\$250,000 (supplemented by an additional US\$60,000 from the FAO) from the Joint SDG Fund to foster sustainable and transformative solutions for Ghana's food systems. Led by UNDP, the UN supported Government on climate finance risk insurance to leverage US\$10 million insurance cover by Global Shield Insurance, further fortifying investment mobilization efforts. These initiatives have not only mobilized additional finance but have also strengthened investment mobilization for priority sectors and SDGs and created an enabling environment in the country.

In collaboration with the Government, the UN strengthened the capacity of state institutions to establish robust tools and systems for investment mobilization, infrastructure, and health financing strategies. This concerted effort led to the generation of evidence-based analysis regarding the financing gaps for achieving the SDGs, facilitated by WHO, UNDP, and UNICEF. Consequently, targeted ecosystem financing interventions were developed. Notably, FAO, in a novel partnership with the European Union, launched a €10 million project titled 'EU Food Security Response in Northern Ghana.' This initiative directly benefited over 10,000 vulnerable households across three agricultural seasons, aligning closely with the Ghana Planting for Food and Jobs program and the SDGs. The UN led the formulation and presentation of the Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact at the Dakar2 Summit in February 2023. This marked a significant milestone toward advancing agricultural development and food security in the region.



Additionally, to fast-track implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement, the UN (through UNDP, UNECA) supported the maiden Africa Prosperity Dialogue which culminated in the adoption and presentation of a 'Kwahu Compact' to AfCFTA and the Africa Union requesting member States finalize negotiations on Protocols on Digital Trade and Women and Youth in Trade and support private sector engagement with the AfCFTA market. Furthermore, our collaboration with Impact Investing Ghana and Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE) to influence policy, create pipeline investments and support deal rooms.

The UN supported the Africa Women and Children Conference (AFRIWOCC) to elevate African women and children's voices in climate action. Through this collaboration, indigenous solutions were honored, and advocacy efforts prioritized their inclusion in climate policies. AFRIWOCC outcomes were disseminated at Africa Climate Week and COP28, reaffirming the UN's dedication to fostering inclusive climate action in Africa. In partnership with Impact Investing Ghana, the UN facilitated the inaugural West Africa Deals Summit in Ghana, catalyzing collaboration among stakeholders to identify and pursue impactful investment opportunities that drive sustainable development across the region. This summit showcased Impact Funds, engaging a diverse array of development practitioners from the private sector, development finance institutions, Government, and civil society organizations, thereby fostering investment in West Africa's SME sector.

Under the RC's leadership (as co-chair of the development cooperation platform) the UN facilitated the finalization of the GoG Development Cooperation Policy – set for Cabinet approval in early 2024; contributed to coherent programming across development partners and IFIs (notably the \$150m SOCO programme of the World Bank and towards shaping AFDB's Medium Term Strategy with Government) in Northern Ghana, and supported engagement to improve implementation of the Tax Exemptions Bill.

UN Women and UNFPA's support for the Ghana Chapter of the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) has empowered women to emphasize initiatives centered around their interests and rights. The AWLN Ghana Chapter was presented to President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, securing his commitment to tackle crucial issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment in Ghana. Furthermore, the FAO facilitated the Parliamentary Forum on achieving gender equality and women's empowerment in Ghana in May 2023, reinforcing the national agenda towards equitable opportunities and rights for women.

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

With the signing of the new UNSDCF 2023-2025 in 2023, the

UN Country Team in Ghana has embarked on a new development journey alongside the Government of Ghana, civil society, academia, and the private sector. Together, they are committed to fostering an inclusive and transformed economy, ensuring universal access to comprehensive, high-quality, resilient, and equitable social services, and promoting enduring peace and security in Ghana.

Under the strategic leadership and coordination of the Resident Coordinator, UNCT has transformed its programmatic approach, adopting innovative and inclusive strategies. This shift has led to notable accomplishments, including improved internal cohesion within the UNCT, a stronger external presence and reputation, and efficient realization of the Cooperation Framework objectives. As the UNCT continues to make incremental progress and the benefits of collaborative, transparent, and coherent work become increasingly apparent, both the UNCT in Ghana and the country as a whole stand to benefit from the positive outcomes of UN reform, marking a significant step towards achieving collective development goals.

The sustained and intensified efforts by the Resident Coordinator's Office to ensure the effective operation of various coordination structures—including Cooperation Framework Result Groups, Inter-Agency Working Groups, cross-cutting task teams, and management groups—have fostered a significant change in agencies' mindset towards collaboration. This has created a conducive atmosphere for enhancing the UNCT's image as a cohesive entity, with agencies increasingly willing to engage in and support integrated initiatives.

The **UN Human Rights and Inclusion Group**, with Government and civil society partners, successfully advocated for key recommendations at the 53rd Session of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review, leading to the development of a UPR Implementation Plan. This plan outlines strategic human rights interventions for Ghana. Celebrating International Human Rights Day and the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Group enhanced national human rights discourse. The recommendations, focusing on press freedom, witch camps, marginalized individuals' protection, business and human rights, and environmental rights, are poised for Government presentation, marking progress in human rights advocacy and implementation in Ghana. The UN in Ghana has advanced disability inclusion by forming the **UN Disability Working Group**, which has refined its focus and planned activities. This group supported the 2023 International Day of Persons with Disabilities with the Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations, pushing for awareness and

the passage of the Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2023. Disability inclusion principles have been integrated into the UN's 2023 joint work plans and data collection methods. Operationally, the UN has adopted inclusive employment practices, promoted job vacancies among disability organizations, sought agreements for sign language interpretation, and developed plans to make UN premises more accessible following accessibility assessments. Infrastructure audits were conducted on 11 premises in 2023, with further audits and enhancements for accessibility planned for 2024, demonstrating a commitment to improving access and inclusion for persons with disabilities.

The **UN Gender Theme Group** led the integration of gender considerations into Ghana's Cooperation Framework, ensuring alignment with Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) and Leave No One Behind (LNOB) principles. In 2023, a significant 96% of UN projects in Ghana focused on SDG 5 (gender equality), with 72% directly tackling issues of gender equality and women's empowerment. The group enhanced gender advocacy in areas like technology and investment, partnering with various stakeholders during key events such as International Women's Day and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. It also provided essential technical support for integrating gender in peace and security efforts, particularly for the National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 (GHANAP II) during significant meetings and the Peacekeeping Ministerial in Ghana. Moreover, the group contributed to the first African Women and Children Conference (AFRIWOCC) 2023, influencing discussions at the Africa Climate Summit and COP 28 in Dubai to highlight the vital roles of women and youth in climate change decision-making processes.

The **UN Working Group on Youth**, collaborating with the Government and Youth Networks, made significant strides in youth engagement, enhancing access to education, health, employment, and participation in civic and peace activities across Ghana. UNICEF's Youth Engagement Centre project reached over 10,000 adolescents with digital, mentorship, and entrepreneurial training, improving their skills for the future. The ILO and the Commission for T-VET worked together to engage young apprentices in entrepreneurship, while UNDP's Youth Sounding Board sought to integrate youth views into national development. A Youth Advocacy Guide and a UNICEF-led Generation Unlimited assessment further aimed to empower young people and scale effective initiatives. Economic empowerment was addressed through training 90,000 youth in climate adaptation, supported by the UNCDF's GReen Project, enhancing the agricultural sector and promoting youth employment and financial literacy in partnership with ABSA Ghana. The year also saw the launch of StartUp Labs,

supporting 20 new youth-led ventures. Additionally, the "Youth Forum on the Role of Young People in the 13th African Games," a collaboration with the AU Sport Council, focused on leveraging sports for peace and social cohesion, highlighting the pivotal role of youth in societal development and preventing violent extremism.

In 2023, the **UN Communications Group** focused on strengthening joint communication strategies to enhance the coherence and visibility of UN initiatives, aligning them with national priorities. Through active dissemination, the UNCG published 57 stories, 24 press releases, four op-eds, nine publications, 21 speeches, and seven video stories, alongside daily social media updates. This effort led to a noticeable increase in social media engagement, with one platform's followers rising from 16,000 to 20,000 and Facebook's from 9,000 to 11,000. The UNCG successfully raised awareness on key advocacy campaigns such as International Women's Day, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, and the "I Pledge for Peace" campaign, reaching over 500,000 people and significantly increasing social media followers. Organized UN Days and events, including health walks and exhibitions, along with the coverage of the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial, further amplified the UN's contributions to Ghana's development. Additionally, partnerships with the UN Global Compact (Ghana Network), Innova DDB Ghana, and Kek Insurance Brokers Ltd. led to increasing public awareness about SDGs. The collaboration with ZED multimedia further extended the campaign's reach, securing pro-bono advertising support for the UN in Ghana.

The **UN Monitoring and Evaluation, Data and Learning Working Group** has notably improved the UNCT's capacity for monitoring and reporting through its involvement in the Joint Workplans formulation. This process has refined the selection and development of Output indicators by the Results groups and increased the use of UNINFO by various agencies, enhancing data collection on UN initiatives. A collaborative RBM training by six UN entities (IOM, WFP, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNFPA, and UNDP) has equipped 26 staff members with essential RBM skills, promoting its application across the UNCT. The creation of a knowledge management platform has fostered the sharing of information and experiences, boosting collaboration among M&E colleagues. As the convenor of the Development Partners platform supporting the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), the UN in Ghana has not only ensured the platform's continued operation but also launched a newsletter for advocacy and visibility. The introduction of dialogue sessions in bi-annual meetings has opened up valuable discussions for national data/policy stakeholders, directly influencing GSS's strategic direction. These efforts have greatly

enhanced collaboration and coordination between the GSS and Development Partners, thereby improving the effectiveness of data and policy development initiatives.

With the **Operations Management Team's** support, the Ghana UNCT has made significant steps in disability inclusion, service efficiency, and cost reduction through the BOS 2.0. Initiatives such as including non-discrimination statements in job adverts have aimed to secure equal employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. Comprehensive data collection on gender and disability across UN agencies supports inclusive strategy development. Accessibility audits for UN premises and digital services are underway, improving access for people with disabilities. The OMT Finance Working Group created a database for Implementing Partners, streamlining assessments and avoiding redundant costs. Negotiations with Absa Bank aim to reduce banking fees for UN agencies, enhancing financial efficiency. Adjustments to LTAs in response to the Ghanaian Cedi's depreciation resulted in a 25% salary increase for local security and cleaning staff, maintaining their commitment and service quality. New LTAs have been initiated, covering services from sign language to travel, bolstering communication with the Deaf community and service efficiency. These efforts, supported by the formulation of the OMT and Common Services Budget for 22 resident UN agencies, position the UNCT for further advancements in operational efficiency and inclusivity in 2024. The implementation of the BOS efficiency agenda led to cost avoidance totaling to \$364,577 in 2023.

JOINT PROGRAMMING

The UNCT through collaborative efforts catalyzed over \$15 million in Joint programmes from several sources including the Peacebuilding Fund, Multi-Partner Trust Fund, Global Affairs Canada, The Governments of Belgium, Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the European Union, the United Kingdom and the United States. These funds helped to accelerate interventions in food systems, early child marriage, disability inclusion, Ghana Smart SDGs Cities Programme among others. UNCT is actively exploring innovative financing models to address the critical need for funding the SDGs. These models include mobilizing public and private investments, enhancing domestic resource mobilization, and promoting innovative mechanisms such as impact investing, diaspora and green bonds. By exploring these innovative approaches, the UNCT aims to maximize more joint programmes and joined up work financial resources and accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs in our country.

Alimata Abdul Karimu, UN-Ghana Disability Inclusion Adviser

For me, working within the RC system signifies a commitment to ensuring that disability and its inclusion are integral to the UN's broader development agenda in Ghana. My passion lies in weaving disability inclusion into the fabric of our inter-agency processes and the work of every colleague. This commitment is also reflected in my close collaborations with the operations management team, human resources, information and communication technology/digital sectors, procurement, and administration groups to champion disability inclusion across our Common Services.

Achieving disability inclusion is not the work of individuals alone; it requires a collective effort. Each of us must ensure that our actions and work inclusively embrace persons with disabilities. Beyond the RCs leading and advocating for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in both public and private sectors, it is imperative that agency heads and all senior managers actively promote and champion this cause within their respective domains



2.5 EVALUATION AND LESSONS LEARNT

In response to the recommendations from the UNSDP 2018-2022 evaluation, significant actions were taken in 2023. These actions included forming an enhanced National-UN Joint Steering Committee, co-chaired by the Minister of Finance and the Resident Coordinator, and broadening its scope to include the Private Sector and Civil Society. This expansion has provided additional perspectives. Furthermore, the UNCT has strategically shifted its operational approaches, leading to notable outcomes as outlined in this report.

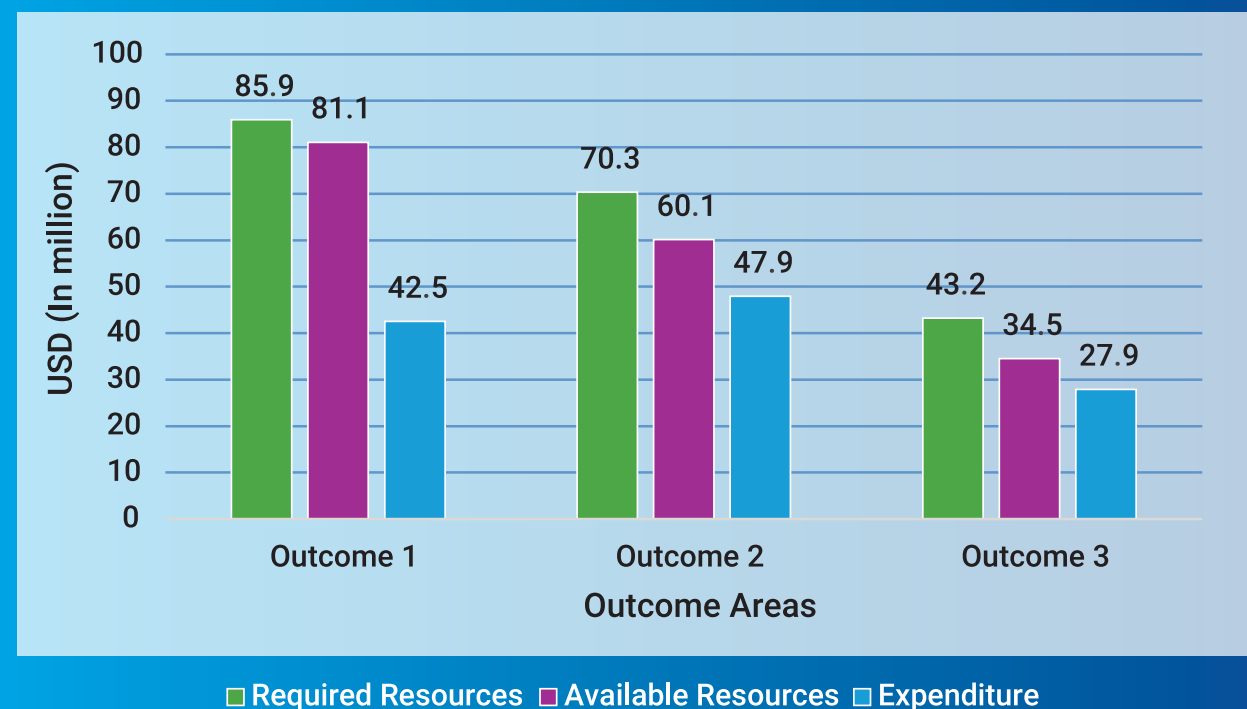
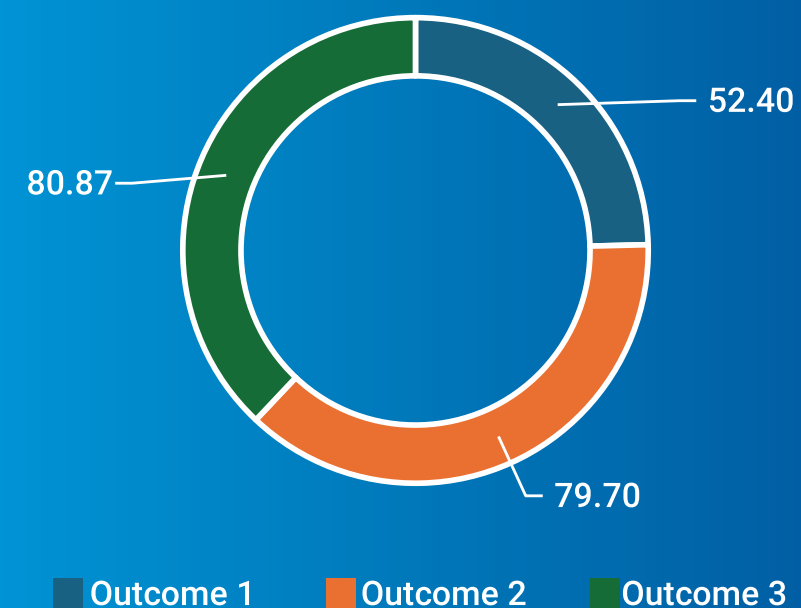
In addition, there has been a concentrated effort on capacity building for key staff through training in political economy analysis, aimed at improving the quality and accuracy of analysis and delivery aligned with the new Cooperation Framework priorities. Moreover, the UNCT has increased its use of IMS/UNINFO for more effective planning, monitoring, and reporting, thereby strengthening accountability.

2.5 - FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

2.6.1 Financial Overview

2023 Required Resources, Available Resources, and Expenditures by Cooperation Framework

Delivery Rate Per Outcome



2023 REQUIRED RESOURCES, AVAILABLE RESOURCES, AND EXPENDITURES BY COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME (\$)

OUTCOMES	REQUIRED RESOURCES	AVAILABLE RESOURCES	EXPENDITURE
OUTCOME 1	85.9m	81.1m	42.5m
OUTCOME 2	70.3m	60.1m	47.9m
OUTCOME 3	43.2m	34.5m	27.9m

2023 BUDGET BREAKDOWN BY AGENCY (\$)

AGENCY	REQUIRED RESOURCES (USD)	AVAILABLE RESOURCES (USD)	EXPENDITURE (USD)
FAO	4.1m	4.1m	4.1m
IAEA	1.2m	1.1m	131k
IFAD	40.6m	40.5m	16.6m
ILO	2m	1.9m	1.1m
IMO	321.3k	321.3k	265.3k
IOM	9.5m	8.7m	8.1m
UN WOMEN	95k	85k	82.8k
UN HABITAT	2.3m	2.1m	1.3m
UN AIDS	1.3m	1.2m	1m
UNCDF	3.1m	4.2m	2.5m
UNDP	21.4m	11.8m	9.8m
UNEP	2.1m	2.1m	1.6m
UNESCO	4.7m	1.7m	1.1m
UNFPA	13.0m	9.4m	8.3m
UNHCR	10.3m	7.4m	7.2m
UNICEF	33.1m	20.7m	13m
UNIDO	6.8m	6.8m	6.4m
UNODC	4.1m	3.8m	3.1m
UNOPS	8.7m	8.7m	8.3m
UNU	3.7m	3.7m	861k
UNV	175.5k	175.5k	67.2k
WFP	18.6m	23.7m	13.9m
WHO	10.6m	10m	9.5m

2.6.2 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Total resources mobilized by source of funding, (\$)

Funding Source	Programme Title	UN Agencies	Approved Funding
Norwegian Government	Ghana Smart SDGs Cities Programme	UN-Habitat, UNCDF	\$5,200,000
Global Affairs Canada	UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on Empowering Adolescent Girls through Improved Access to Comprehensive Sexuality Education and Rights Based Quality Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Ghana	UNFPA, UNICEF	\$2,377,333
The Governments of Belgium, Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the UK, U.S., EU and Zonta International	UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage	UNFPA, UNICEF	\$1,215,108
Peacebuilding Fund	Reducing Vulnerability to Violent Extremism in Northern Ghana through Youth and women empowerment	UNDP, UNFPA, WHO	\$1,399,986
UN Fund on Human Security	Forest Okyeman	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO	\$1,364,949
European Union	Global Compact for Migration in Ghana	IOM, OHCHR	\$ 1,000,000
UNPRPD	Implementing essential pre-conditions	UNDP, UNFPA	\$498,885
UNDP Administered Donor Joint Trust Fund	Ghana One Health Antimicrobial Resistance Multi-Party Trust Fund (MPTF) Project	FAO, WHO	\$303,886
US Government	Human Rights and Elimination of Stigma and Discrimination	UNAIDS	\$120,000
NDP Administered Donor Joint Trust Fund	Scaling Up of Food Security and Financial Systems Resilience	WFP, FAO, UNICEF	\$100,000
UNOPS	Revision of the Ghana Housing Profile	UNOPS, MWHS, UNH	\$100,000.00
Global Alliance for Buildings and Constructions (Global ABC) and UNEP	Transforming the Built Environment Using Sustainable materials	UNH, UNEP, UN-OPS, MWH	\$85,200





CHAPTER 3

GHANA: BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER IN 2024



As 2024 unfolds, the UNCT in Ghana remains steady in its commitment to supporting the Ghana's sustainable development journey. The focus will be on scaling up impactful initiatives while streamlining the approach to align with the UN's six transitions and four engine rooms.

Building upon the momentum of 2023, we will prioritize the scalability and long-term sustainability of ongoing programs within the three key areas outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework to translate to concrete action and measurable results for people in Ghana.

Integration is key. The UN will champion a holistic approach, ensuring cross-cutting priorities like Financing for the SDGs, Urbanization, Climate change, Digitalization and Migration. The LNOB principles, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, and Human Rights are woven into the fabric of all UN work in Ghana.

Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of a stable democracy. The UNCT will offer substantive support for Ghana's upcoming elections. This includes

promoting productive dialogue, addressing potential flashpoints, and fostering an environment conducive to a peaceful electoral process. Additionally, we will strengthen the Government's capacity to address security concerns, especially in border communities.

With the highly anticipated "Future Summit" on the horizon in 2024, we will actively support Ghana's potential to play a leading role in this international dialogue. Ghana's unique experiences and perspectives hold valuable lessons for the global community.

Our approach will be guided by data. We will work closely with the UNCT to leverage data analytics for informed decision-making. This data-driven approach will underpin our thought leadership engagement with the Ghanaian Government, ensuring our support aligns with national priorities.

Together, through collaboration and a shared vision, the UNCT and Ghana can build a brighter, more prosperous future for all.

**Ghanaian students in a classroom*

UNCT IN GNANA STRATEGIC PRIORITIES IN 2024

Ghana National SDG Acceleration Priorities					
Energy Efficiency	Full and Productive Employment and Decent Work	Primary and Secondary Education	Sanitation and Hygiene	Strong Institutions	
Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Transformation		Accessible, Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Quality Social Services		Durable Peace and Security In Ghana and Subregion	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Supporting Ghana food systems transformation pathwaysImproving productivity, skills and social protection in high potential sectors for jobs creationSupporting transition to digital economy for boosting trade and export		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Equitable access to well financed and quality Primary Health Care services, including access to WASH services, to ensure UHC and health security.Strengthening institutional capacity of key education sector agencies to deliver quality basic education and skills development programmes, especially for girls and children with disabilitySchool health and nutrition - development of school food guidelines and standards, and school-based food and nutrition education curriculum.Ghana's social protection systems are more shock responsive, gender sensitive and disability inclusive in building the resilience of the most vulnerable.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Strengthened capacities of legal and human rights institutions to be accountable and responsive (Changing electoral environment in focus).Strengthened capacities for peace building and social cohesion in Ghana and beyond (Changing conflict and security dynamics in northern Ghana and at regional level in focus).Enhanced voice and participation of women, youth and other marginalized groups in decision making (District level reforms in focus).	
Cross-cutting: Climate change, Gender, Trade, Data and Research, Gender, Equity and Rights, Innovation, Science and Technology					
Energy Accessibility and Affordability.	Jobs and Social Protection	Food systems	Education	Climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution	Digital Connectivity
Six SDG Transitions					
UN Inter-agency Collaboration					
<p>HUMAN RIGHTS Policy framework on Death Penalty, National Human Rights Action Plan, development of the Actions Plan to implement the UPR recommendations</p> <p>Advocacy and engagement with critical partners for establishing a HR Committee in Parliament</p>	<p>GENDER Policy framework on Affirmative Action Bill, Witch Camps</p> <p>Advocacy and engagement with GEST-DP Group, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection and other critical partners.</p>	<p>YOUTH Development of National Action Plan On Youth, Peace And Security</p> <p>Advocacy and engagement of youth in climate action.</p> <p>Supporting Youth Dialogue with youth leaders.</p>	<p>DISABILITY Disability sensitive programme design and implementation.</p> <p>Engagement of OPDs in co-design.</p> <p>Human Rights Mechanisms Reporting - CRPD in Parliament</p>	<p>EMERGENCY Emergency preparedness supported by simulations and resourcing for emergency response Committee in Parliament</p>	<p>JOINT COMMUNICATION Enhanced UN visibility and reputation</p> <p>Increased advocacy for specific development needs</p> <p>Strengthened communication capacities of UNCG and Inter-Agency groups</p>

ANNEX A.

List of the Key Development Partners

Government. African Institute of Management Science, Centre for Social Policy Studies, Cocoa Processing Company, Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana, COCOBOD, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research / Science and Technology policy research institute (STEPRI), Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS), Environmental Protection Agency, Food and Drug Authority, Forestry Commission, Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA), Ghana Agriculture Insurance pool (GAIP), Ghana Agricultural sector investment programme (GASIP), Ghana Atomic Energy Commission, Ghana Commodity Exchange, Ghana Enterprises Agency, Ghana Health Service, Ghana Library Authority, Ghana Medical Association, Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority, Ghana Standard Authority, Ghana Statistical Service, Ghana Technical and Vocational Educational Training Institute, Institute of Statistical social and Economic Research, Management Development and Productivity Institute, Ministry for Employment and Labour Relations, Ministry for Interior, Ministry of Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Ministry of Communications and Digitalization, Ministry of Communications and Digitalization, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Environment Science Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Veterinary Services Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Regional Integration, Ministry of Gender, Children And Social Protection, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice and Attorney General's Department, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of National Security, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resource, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Works and Housing, Ministry of Youth and Sports, National Development Planning Commission, National Disaster Management Organization, National Youth Authority, National Food Buffer stock Company, National Entrepreneurship & Innovation Programme, Northern Development Authority, Ministry of Local Government Decentralization and Rural Development, Office of the President, Office of the Second Lady, Office of the National Chief Imam, Pan African Heritage Museum, SDG Advisory Unit, Tree Crops Development Authority, University of Ghana, World Rally Championship, Ghana Immigration Service, Ghana Immigration Service (GIS), Ghana Institute of Procurement & Supply, Ghana Integrity Initiative, Ghana Investment Promotion Centre, Ghana Journalist Association, Ghana National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Accra Metropolitan Assembly, Sekondi Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly, Abuakwa South (Kyebi) Municipal Assembly, International Olympic Committee.

Private Sector. Ghana Commodity Exchange, Global Compact, Impact Investing, Standard Chartered Bank, Fidelity Bank, Societe Generale, Absa, MTN, Vodafone, Decathlon, Amazon, IamtheCODE Foundation

Civil Society. Peasant Farmers Association, Savanna Women Integrated Development Agency, Trade Union Congress, WANEP, Youth Advocate Ghana, SightSavers, Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG), Plastic Punch, POS Foundation, Netright, Media Foundation for West Africa, Mastercard Foundation, IMANI Ghana, IDEG, Human Rights Advocacy Centre, Ghana Civil Society (CSO) Platform on SDGs, Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition, GenCED, BASICS International, A ROCHA GHANA, ACET, PROLINK, National Association of Person's living with HIV (NAP+), Hope for Future Generations (HFFG), Peoples Dialogue on Human Settlements (PD), Ghana Federation of the Urban Poor (GHAFUP), Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations (GFD)

Development Partners. United States Agency for International Development, MARBURG USAID, United States Department of Labor, Clarios Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates, Swedish International Development cooperation Agency, Flex funds -UK Government, Norwegian Agency for Development cooperation, KOICA –Korea International corporation Agency, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Swedish International Development cooperation Agency, European Union, Japanese Government, Government of France, African Development Bank, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization Asia- Pacific Economic Cooperation, American Physical Therapy Association, International Finance Cooperation, The President's Emergency Plan for HIV (PEPFAR) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), The French Government's L'Initiative Program.

ADINKRA SYMBOLS, REPRESENT CONCEPTS AND APHORISMS IN THE AKAN CULTURE OF GHANA.

Adinkra Symbols are used as Emblems of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)-heading

<div>1 NO POVERTY</div>	<div>2 ZERO HUNGER</div>	<div>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</div>	<div>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</div>	<div>5 GENDER EQUALITY</div>
<div>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</div>	<div>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</div>	<div>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</div>	<div>9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</div>	<div>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</div>
<div>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</div>	<div>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</div>	<div>13 CLIMATE ACTION</div>	<div>14 LIFE BELOW WATER</div>	<div>15 LIFE ON LAND</div>
<div>16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</div>	<div>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</div>			



UNITED NATIONS
GHANA



ghana.un.org