



UNITED NATIONS
NIGERIA



ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT



Nigeria | 2023



UNITED NATIONS
NIGERIA



Annual Results Report

Nigeria 2023

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Foreword

I am delighted to present the One UN Nigeria report for 2023, which marks a significant milestone in the implementation of the Nigeria United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027. This report provides a comprehensive overview of UN Nigeria's performance on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the midpoint of Agenda 2030, offering an opportunity for reflection and strategic planning to ensure the achievement of our collective goals.

The preparation of this report has been a collaborative effort that showcases the dedication and commitment of the UN Country Team (UNCT) in supporting the Nigerian government to advance development priorities and the SDGs. Together, we have worked tirelessly, to address the challenges and seize the opportunities presented by the evolving landscape of sustainable development.

The year 2023 marked a period of transition for Nigeria, with national elections ushering in a new government. Whilst the introduction of economic reforms aimed to address structural issues, such as the removal of subsidies on petroleum products and the floating of the foreign currency exchange rate, it also brought about challenges, particularly for the most vulnerable households. In response, the government injected an \$800 million facility to mitigate the negative effects of these reforms on those most in need.

Amid these changes, the UN refocused its

efforts in the second quarter of 2023 to align with the country's development agenda and identified six Transformative Initiatives (TIs) aimed at accelerating SDG implementation. These initiatives, covering key areas such as health, education, job creation, food systems, governance, and gender and human rights, are derived from the Cooperation Framework and are strategically aligned with the government's Renewed Hope Eight Point Agenda and the Six Transitions pathways for SDG acceleration. Whilst the Annual Results Report highlights significant achievements in nutrition, health, education, gender equality, agriculture, water, sanitation, and climate action, it also acknowledges the mixed results and challenges encountered in economic, social, and environmental domains. Nonetheless, we remain steadfast in our commitment to driving progress and leaving no one behind.

Looking ahead to 2024, our focus will be on forging stronger partnerships and collaboration to harness all available assets in accelerating SDG implementation and advancing towards Agenda 2030.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all UN key stakeholders, including the government, academia, private sector, donors, development partners, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and communities, for their unwavering support and collaboration.

Together, we can build a brighter and more sustainable future for Nigeria.

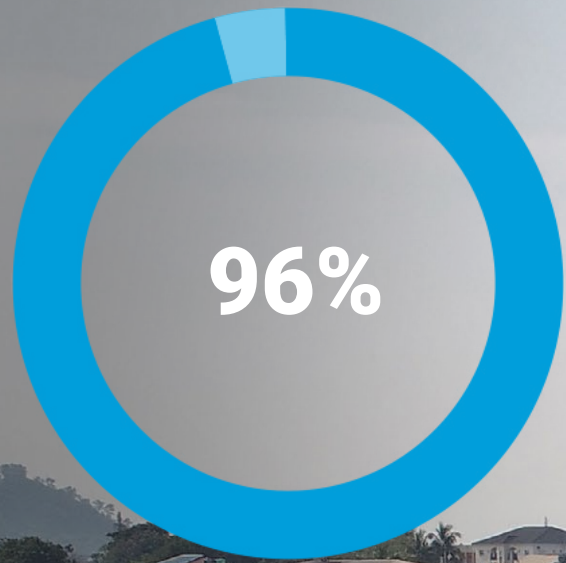


MOHAMED MALICK FALL
Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian
Coordinator in Nigeria



Photo: © IFAD

Physical presence of UN Agencies in Nigeria



Physical presence of UN Agencies

● Present ● Non Present

Resident Agencies

Non-Resident Agencies



The UNCT is comprised of the heads of UN agencies and programmes that operate in Nigeria. It is headed by the Resident Coordinator (RC) and oversees the implementation of the UNSDCF 2023-2027. In 2023, 19 UN resident agencies implemented the UNSDCF. OHCHR provided human rights advisory to both the RC

and the UNCT, while UNIC provided systemwide communication and advocacy support. UNCDF expressed the willingness to join the UNCT through a request that is under review by the UNCT.



UN For All

Dignity and inclusion in the UN world

www.uncares.org/eg

Key Development Partners of the UN System in Nigeria

UN Nigeria expresses its gratitude to the Government of Nigeria, donor agencies, member states, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), civil society organisations, the private sector, academia, and the media, for all the collaboration rendered to achieve the results of 2023. The key partners of the UN included:

1 Government Ministries

- Women Affairs and Social Development
- Health
- Justice
- Education
- Humanitarian Affairs. Disaster Management and Social Development
- Science, Technology and Innovation
- Industry, Trade and Investment
- Youth and Sports
- Labour and Employment
- Environment and Power and Mines

2 Departments, Agencies and Others

- Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on the Sustainable Development Goals (OSSAP)
- National Population Commission
- National Bureau of Statistics
- Nigeria Immigration Services
- National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA)
- National Information Technology Development Agency
- Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA)
- National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
- Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet)
- Federal and states inland revenue services
- National Social Safety-nets COordinating Office
- Teachers Registration COuncil of Nigeria (TRCN)
- National Teachers Institute (NTI)
- Nigeria Police Force (NPF)
- Civil Society Organizations

3 Member States

Private partners: Airtel Nigeria and IHS Towers supported schools’ connection to the internet, facilitating access to quality education. Sterling One Foundation and MTN worked with several UN agencies in spearheading the development agenda

Top 10 Contributors in 2023

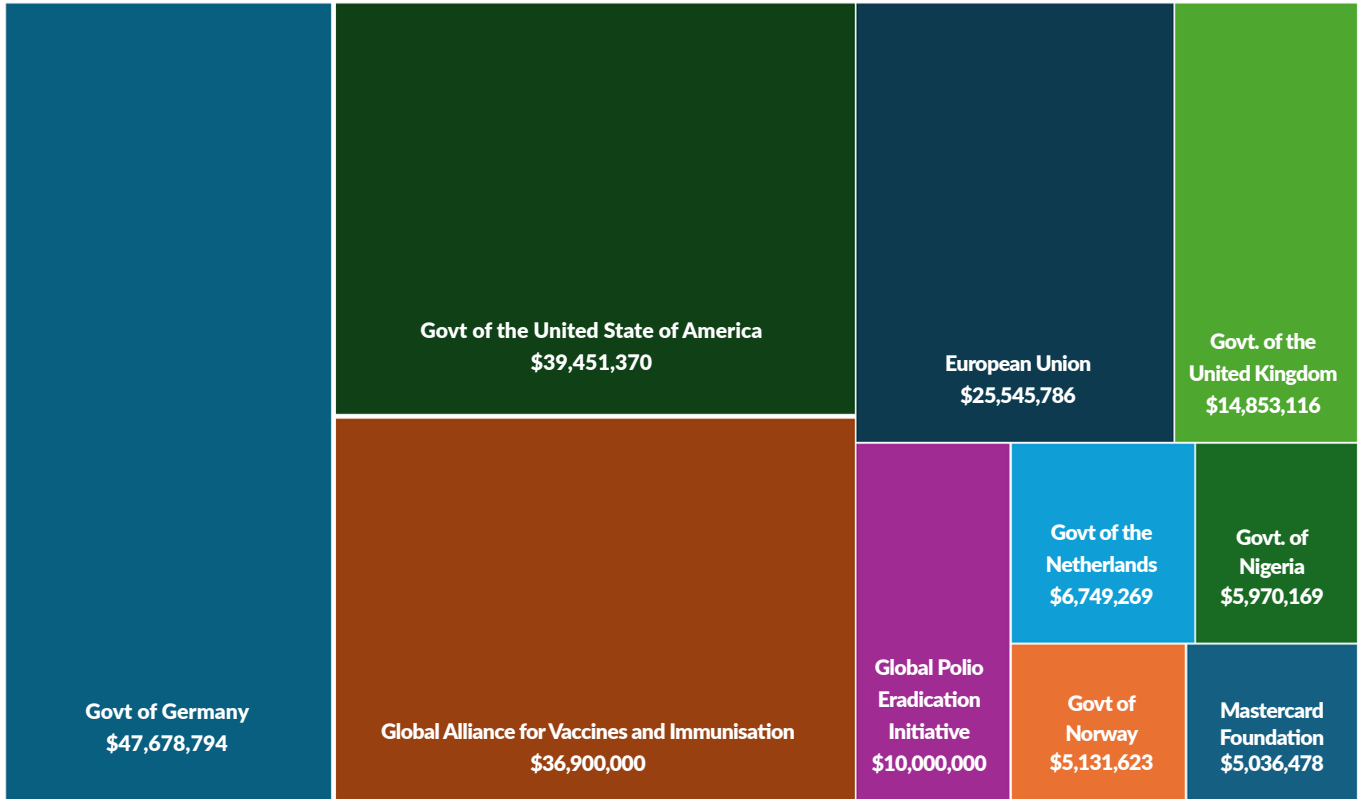


Figure 2: Available resources from 10 key contributors

As depicted in Figure 2, Ten (10) key development partners donated 226.07 million USD (84%) of the voluntary contributions, with the Government of the Germany donating the largest share of USD 47.38 million USD (21%) of the funds. The Nigerian Government also contributed 2% of the funds.



Photo: © IFAD

Chapter 1: Key development trends, emerging issues in the year and implications for national SDG priorities

In 2023, Nigeria experienced a transition of power with elections held in February and March at the federal and state levels for both executive and legislative positions. Although the elections were not without logistical and security challenges, they demonstrated the dynamic democratic culture of the country. There were also some improvements in the use of technology, especially the use of the biometric voter authentication system to reduce fraud. Despite these successes, trust in electoral official remains a key challenge.



Photo: © UNIC

These short-term challenges, however, have brought increasing difficulties for the most vulnerable households. This is typified by rising levels of hunger, with the 2024 Cadre Harmonisé estimating that at least 31.5 million people across 26 states and the FCT will be food insecure between June and August 2024, up from the previous estimate of 26.5 million. In the interim, social protection programs aimed at managing these challenges have faced implementation issues. The short-term challenges arising from the reforms risk setting back progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The negative social impact of the economic reforms calls for UN support to assist the government, both in the short and long term, to alleviate the effects on the most vulnerable households.

¹ National Bureau of Statistics

⁴ National Cadre Harmonise Consolidation

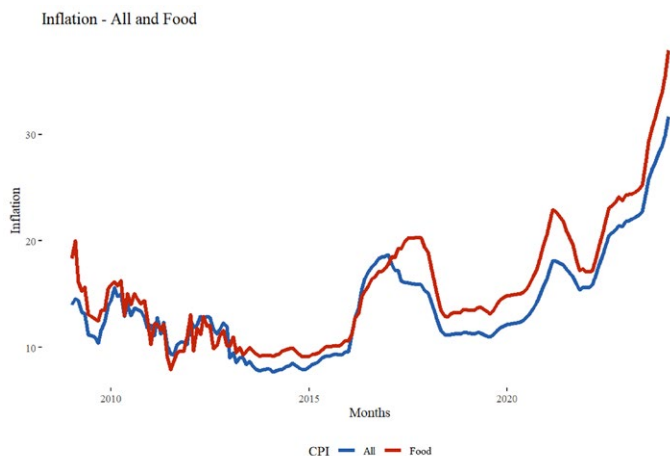


Figure 3: Inflation and Food Inflation ¹.

A key challenge in 2023 was macroeconomic imbalances, including high and rising inflation, exchange rate vulnerabilities, and tightening fiscal space. In response to these challenges, the government implemented key economic reforms in 2023 by removing fuel subsidies and liberalizing the exchange rate. These reforms were expected to lead to short-term challenges around inflation and the cost of living, with the medium-term objective of restoring macroeconomic stability and setting the country on a more sustainable development trajectory.

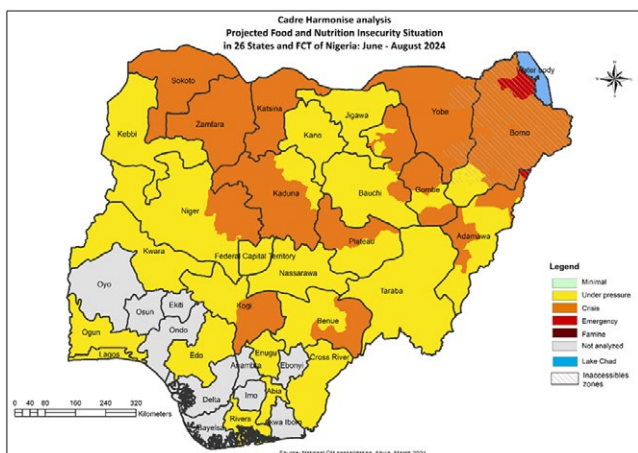




Photo: © IFAD



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Nigeria at a glance



POPULATION – 223.8 million (2023)³



43% of Population under 15 years



54% age 15 - 64 years



3% age 65+ years

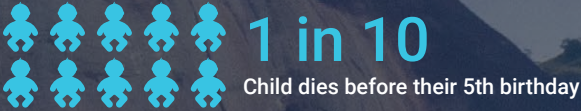


53.6% Life expectancy at birth⁴

³ <https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population/NG>

⁴ Human Development Report 2023/2024

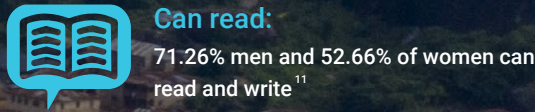
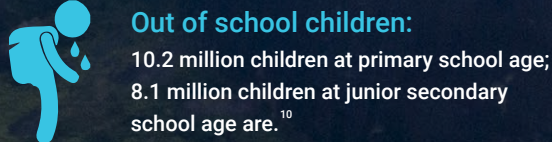
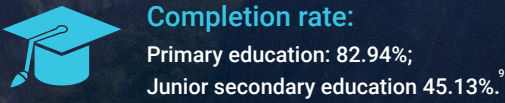
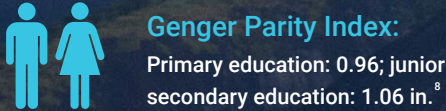
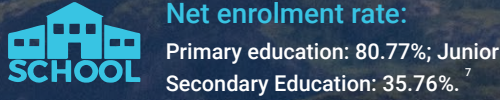
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH⁵



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH⁶



EDUCATION



EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS¹²



⁷ UBEC (2024). National Personnel Audit 2022.

⁸ UBEC (2024). National Personnel Audit 2022.

⁹ UBEC (2024). National Personnel Audit 2022.

¹⁰ UBEC (2019). Personnel Audit and Digest of Basic Education Statistics in Nigeria 2018.

¹¹ UNESCO Institute of Statistics (2024). UIS Stat.

¹² National Bureau of Statistics website

⁵ 2021 Nigeria Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and National Immunization Coverage Survey (NICS)

⁶ <https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population/ng>

Chapter 2: Support to National Development Priorities Through the Cooperation Framework

2.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

2.1.1 Results achieved in 2023

This was the first year of the implementation of the UNSDCF 2023-2027. A total of 18 agencies, including one non-resident agency, participated in the implementation of the UNSDCF in 2023.

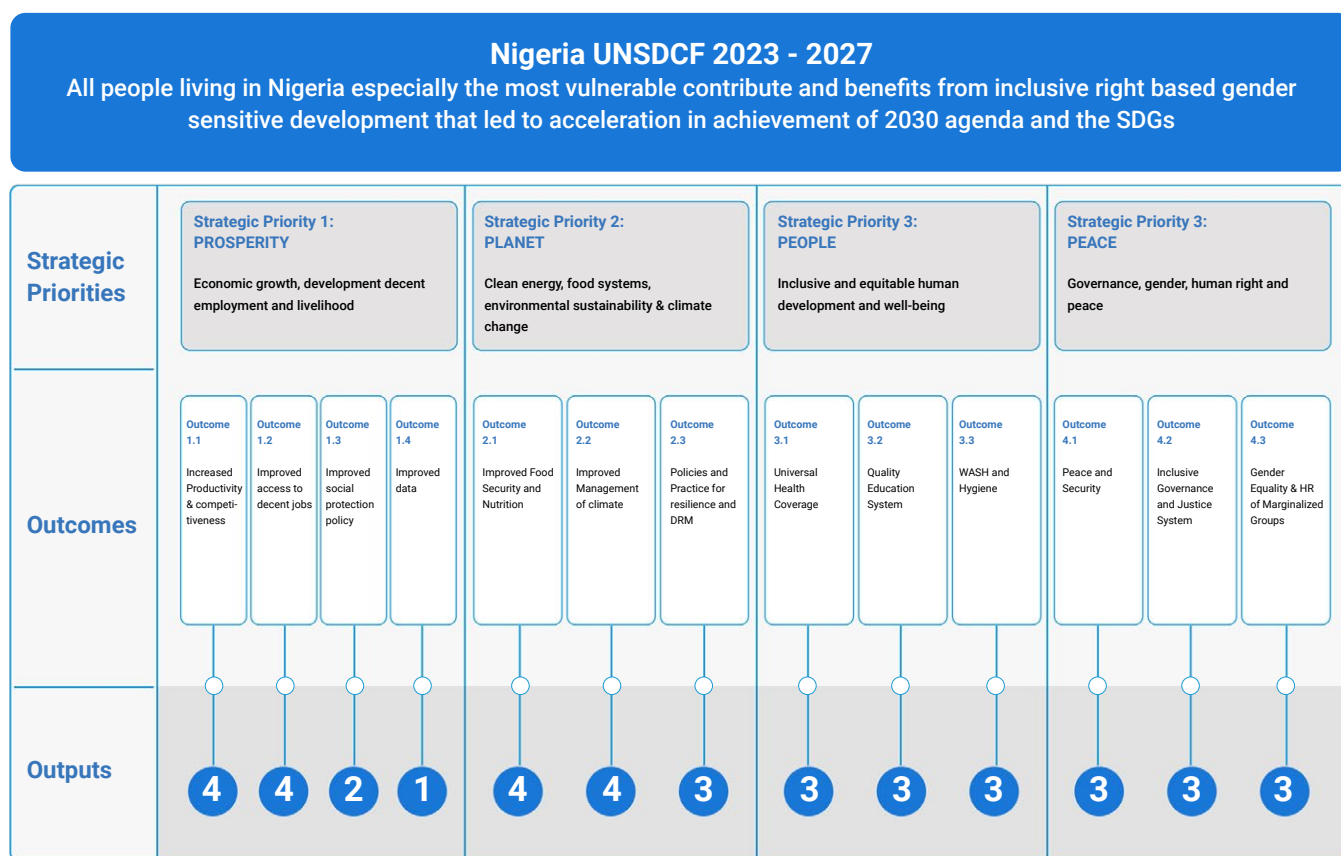


Figure 5: Graphic Representation of the Nigeria UNSDCF 2023 - 2027

In line with the 13 outcome areas outlined in the Cooperation Framework, the UNCT identified six Transformative Initiatives (TIs) to reposition the UN for impactful support to the government. The TI groups were set up and concluded discussions on focus areas, deliverables, and results expected at the end of implementation. The implementation of the TIs will commence in 2024, aligning with the six transition pathways.

Significant achievements and milestones of the UN's strategic work during the first year of the framework include:

a) The development of six transformative initiatives focused on: 1) Food security;

- 2) Decent jobs;
- 3) Education;
- 4) Health;
- 5) Governance; and
- 6) Gender Equality

- b) The completion of the multi-year funding framework.
- c) The development and implementation of the 2023-2024 Joint Work Plans.
- d) The commencement in 2023 of the update to the Common Country Analysis (CCA).
- e) Discussions on the Partnership Strategy.

279 programmatic interventions in Joint Workplan

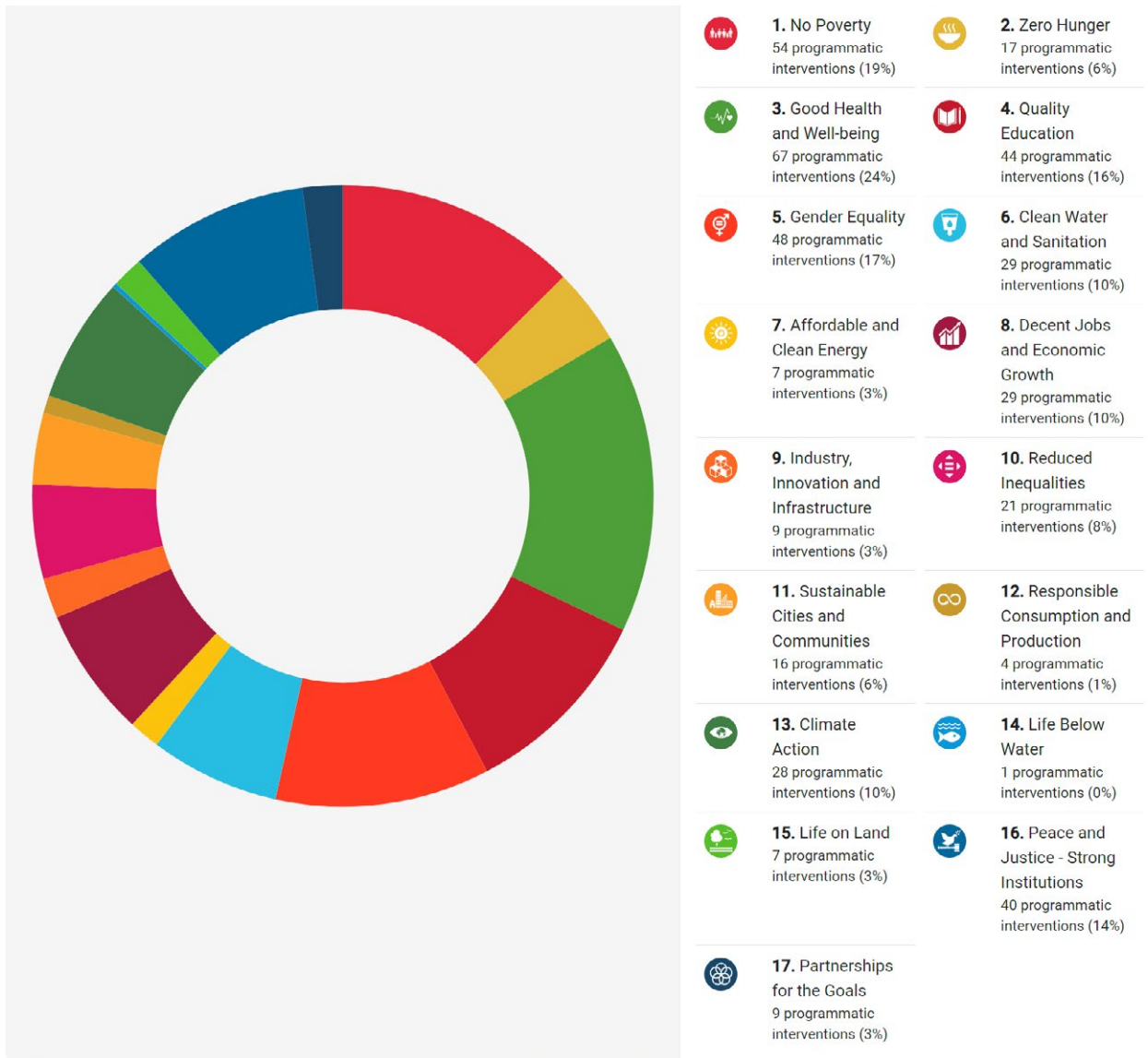


Figure 6: Distribution of agencies activities in the 2023 joint workplan per SDGs.
Please Note: Data presented is as of May 8, 2024

2.1.1.1 UNSDPF Results:

Strategic Priority 1: PROSPERITY: Economic growth, development, decent employment, and livelihood.

a) Outcome 1.1: Improved Productivity and Opportunities:

The manufacturing value added as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has not been published for 2023. However, it is expected to have declined in line with the reduction in the growth of the manufacturing sector by 1.40 percent in 2023 due to the import dependency of the sector and the unfavourable foreign exchange policy.

b) Outcome 1.2: Improved Access to Decent Jobs: During the reporting period, and with support from the United Nations, Nigeria recorded some progress in addressing decent work deficits. The unemployment rate stood at 4.2%, representing a slight increase from the 4.1% target, the underemployment rate was 11.8%, slightly lower than the 12.2% target, while the proportion of youth (15-24 years) identified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) was 13.8%, which was higher than the 10% target for 2023.

c) Outcome 1.3: Improved Social Protection: There was a 3% increase from 11% to 14% in the total number of individuals covered by one form of social protection in the country. The government increased budget allocation on social protection services in 2023 from 1.2% to 2.6% of the GDP. This came as a result of the UN's support at the policy, programme design, and implementation levels to the Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning.

d) Outcome 1.4: Improved Data: The latest report on SDGs published by the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (OSSAP) indicates that 61.3% of SDG indicators were reported, totalling 141 out of 230 indicators. This suggests an ongoing effort towards monitoring and evaluating Nigeria's progress towards achieving the SDGs. However, there is a need to enhance data collection and reporting on the remaining indicators to provide a comprehensive assessment of the country's sustainable development efforts.

The 2023 census was postponed by the government. However, the UN provided technical and financial support to the National Population Commission (NPC) on the conduct of the census. The postponement of the census poses significant challenges for governance, resource allocation, and long-term development planning in Nigeria. It underscores the importance of timely and accurate data collection for informed decision-making and sustainable development. The UN will continue in 2024 to work with the government and advocate for the census.





EXQUISITE YOU
COLORED LIFE

Strategic Priority 2: PLANET: Clean energy, food systems, environmental sustainability and climate change

Outcome 2.1 Improved Food Security and Nutrition: Nigeria faces significant challenges in meeting SDG targets related to malnutrition. Although stunting rates have decreased marginally from 36.8% to 33.3% , this reduction is insufficient to meet the SDG target of a 50% reduction. Wasting has increased from 6.8% to 11.6%, which is far from the target of reducing it to below 3% by 2030. Conversely, the rate of overweight individuals has decreased from 2.1% to 1.5%, achieving the SDG target of no increase. However, anaemia among women of reproductive age remains high at 54.6%, indicating a failure to meet the 50% reduction target. Contributing factors to these off-track indicators include inadequate feeding practices, significant food insecurity (affecting 25 million people), prevalent childhood illnesses, and widespread poverty, with 63% of the population (133 million people) living in multidimensional poverty.

Outcome 2.2 Improved Management of Climate:

Data on total greenhouse gas emissions was unavailable; however, during the year under review, the UN collaborated with the Nigerian government to integrate climate change considerations into government planning and budgeting. This support extended to various stakeholders to incorporate climate considerations into their economic development plans.

Outcome 2.3 Policies & Practices for Resilience & DRM:

With support from the United Nations, the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NiMet) was able to provide accurate aeronautical meteorological predictions, thereby boosting confidence among airlines operating within the Nigerian airspace.



13 CLIMATE ACTION



Strategic Priority 3: PEOPLE: Inclusive and Equitable Human Development and Wellbeing.

Outcome 3.1: Universal Health Coverage

There has been a 7.7% reduction in the incidence of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) between 2022 and 2023, indicating a downward trend due to various interventions implemented over the year. The 2023 NDHS report, expected in 2024, will provide updated data on skilled birth attendance and maternal mortality rates.

Outcome 3.2: Quality Education

While there was no new data available in 2023 to track the outcome indicators in the UNSDCF, the UN has worked with the Nigerian government to enhance education access and quality. This collaboration has supported the development of educational plans in 8 states, safe school plans in 22 states, and strengthening the Education Management Information System (EMIS) in 11 states. Over 1.5 million individuals were trained, and more than 2 million children were enrolled in formal and informal education systems.

Outcome 3.2:

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Sub-Hygiene: Progress was made in WASH:

i) **Water and Sanitation:** Through the UN's support, 4 million Nigerians gained access to safe drinking water, increasing the coverage from 78% to 80%. This was achieved through the construction, rehabilitation, and upgrading of water facilities.



Photo: © IOM

ii) **Basic Sanitation Services:**

4.3 million people accessed basic sanitation services through UN-supported community-led approaches in over 25 states.

Open defecation rates were reduced from 19% to 18% in 2023, equating to 2 million fewer people practicing open defecation in Nigeria. This improvement was driven by the 'Clean Nigeria: Use the Toilet' campaign, which resulted in 118 validated open defecation-free local governments.



Photo: © UNICEF



Strategic Priority 4: PEACE: Governance, Gender, Human Rights, and Peace

Peace and Security:

Nigeria is ranked 37th out of 44 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and 144th globally on the Global Peace Index (GPI), reflecting significant challenges in peace and stability. Internal conflicts, such as insurgencies in the northeast (e.g., Boko Haram) and clashes between farmers and herders in central regions, along with high levels of crime including armed robbery, kidnapping, and communal violence, underscore these challenges. Improvements in government policies and institutions could enhance Nigeria's future GPI scores.

Inclusive Governance and Justice System:

The United Nations has been actively supporting stakeholders to uphold the rule of law. However, Nigeria's score in the Rule of Law and Justice category of the Ibrahim Index of African Governance remains a concern at 48.9% in 2022. Throughout the year, the UN supported initiatives aimed at improving accountability for international crimes, prison reform, countering human trafficking, promoting gender equality, and strengthening child protection services.

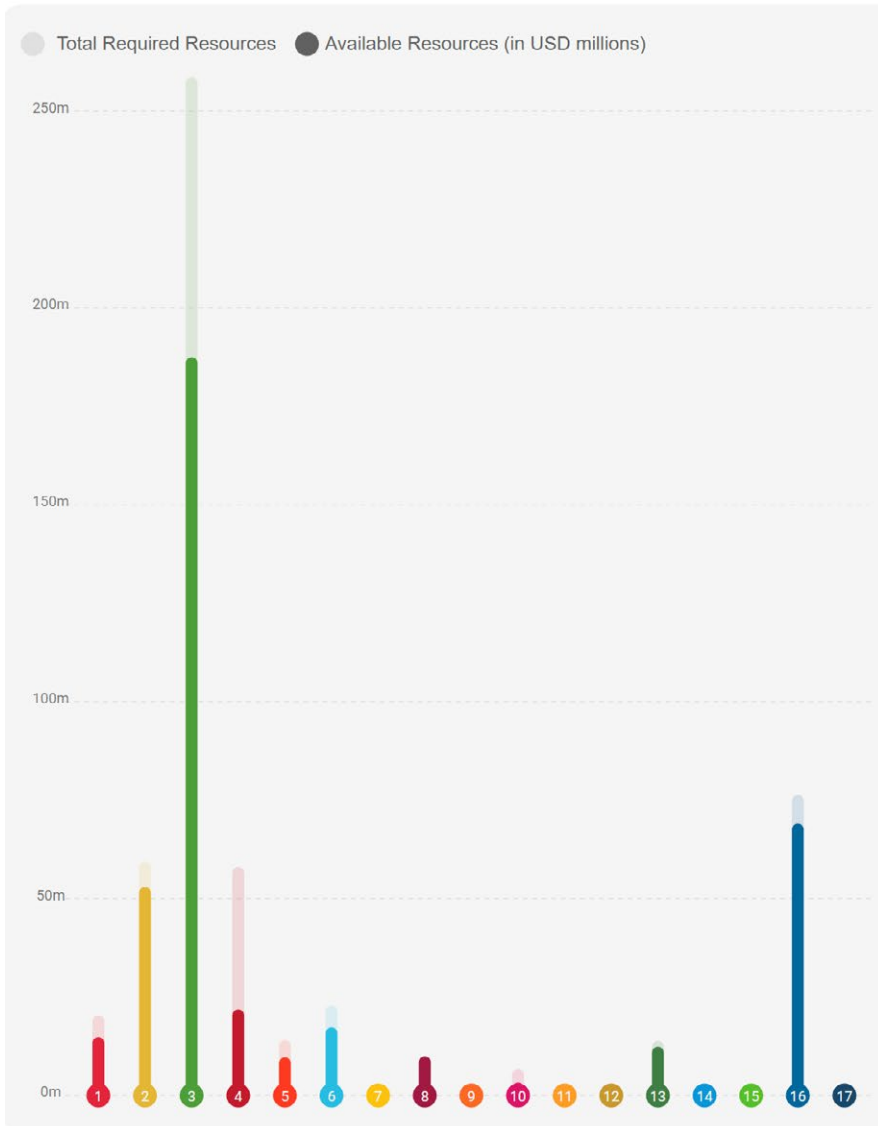
Gender Equality and Human Right of Marginalized Groups:

In 2023, Nigeria observed increased female representation in legislative bodies. Despite a decrease in the Senate (from 8 to 4), there were marginal increases in the House of Representatives (from 13 in 2019 to 17 in 2023) and State Houses of Assembly (from 44 in 2019 to 54 in 2023). Although lacking new national data, existing figures show a decline in Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) prevalence among younger age groups, reflecting progress. Nevertheless, older cohorts exhibit higher rates due to entrenched cultural norms. The UN's ongoing awareness campaigns, educational efforts, and legal enforcement are vital to protecting women and girls from FGM/C.

Globally, Nigeria has one of the highest rates of child marriage, underscoring the need for continuous concerted efforts to protect the rights of girls.

In 2023, the accessibility to information and forms of redress provided by Nigeria's Human Rights Commission and Judicial System increased from 40% at baseline to 65%.

2.1.1.2 UNSDPF Financial Summary

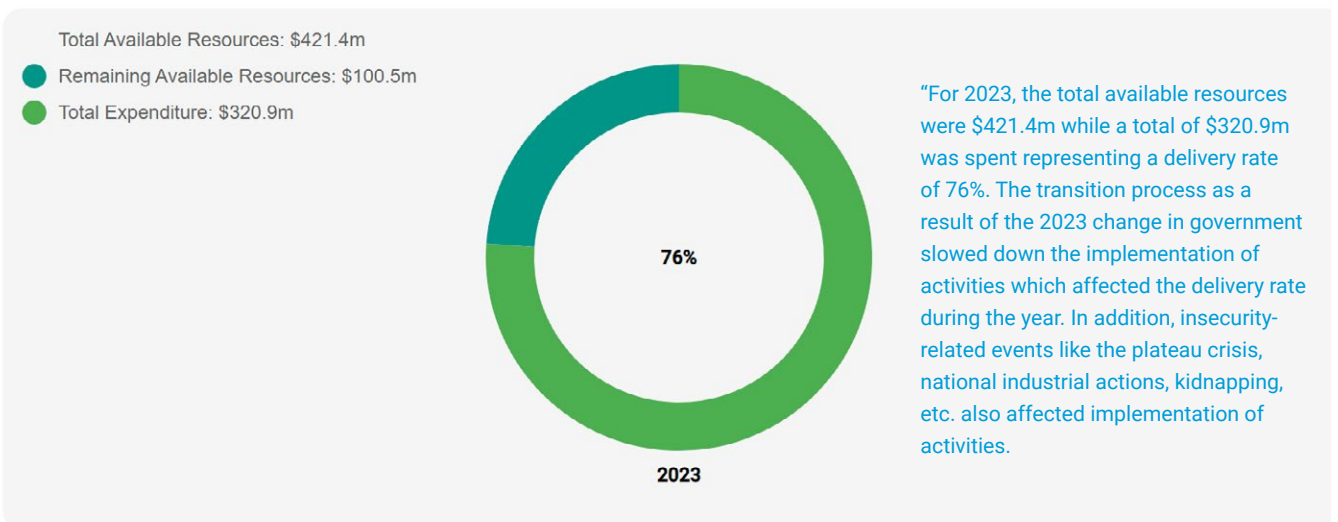


568.2m required resources
421.4m available resources
74.2% coverage of required resources

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. No Poverty
74.9% coverage | 2. Zero Hunger
89.4% coverage |
| 3. Good Health and Well-being
72.7% coverage | 4. Quality Education
39.2% coverage |
| 5. Gender Equality
71.9% coverage | 6. Clean Water and Sanitation
77.3% coverage |
| 7. Affordable and Clean Energy
65.3% coverage | 8. Decent Jobs and Economic Growth
99.3% coverage |
| 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
84% coverage | 10. Reduced Inequalities
57.8% coverage |
| 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
44.2% coverage | 12. Responsible Consumption and Production
100% coverage |
| 13. Climate Action
90.4% coverage | 14. Life Below Water
100% coverage |
| 15. Life on Land
99.6% coverage | 16. Peace and Justice - Strong Institutions
90.7% coverage |
| 17. Partnerships for the Goals
37.9% coverage | |

Figure 7: Analysis of UN funding in Nigeria by sustainable Development Goals (2023)
Please Note: Data presented is as of April 19, 2024

Delivery Rate in 2023



Amount of expenditure compared to the available resources.

2.1.2 Joint Programmes



Spotlight Initiative:

The Spotlight Initiative programme implemented from 2019-2023, led to significant results, including the passage of Violence Against Person Prohibition (VAPP)/Child Rights Act in focus states (Lagos, Adamawa, Ebonyi, Cross-river, Sokoto and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT)). This created a ripple effect that resulted in the passing of the VAPP/Child Rights Act in thirty (30) more states beyond the project's purview. 6,605 personnel were trained in planning, monitoring, and prevention of GBV. Access to services was provided for 72,809 individuals. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) reporting through data systems established resulted in 11,404 reported incidents of violence against women and girls (VAWG) for case management services. The Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Accountability Tracker also resulted in collaboration with the Nigerian Governors' Wives Forum.

256,792 teenagers received high-quality Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) services from Youth Friendly Centres, while the "in-school" and "out-of-school" interventions reached over 182,000 children and adolescents. Furthermore, 4,919 service providers were trained, and 72,809 women and girls accessed essential services including long-term recovery services in the life of the project. A Private Sector-Led GBV Fund committed \$25 million for sustainable programming (2024-2028), focusing on grassroots empowerment and societal awareness.





Photo: © UNFPA

Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation:

The joint programme between the UN and the Value Female Network to eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) helped 583 adolescents, including 69 girls with disabilities, and reached 38,021,662 individuals with FGM messaging through mass media. The UN trained 250 health workers, on the National Protocol for the management of FGM complications resulting in over 17,280 reported cases of FGM and 339

complications. The government prioritized FGM reporting and prevention, with commitments from the National Assembly for aggressive campaigns and budget allocation. Also working with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the Ministry of Youth agreed to mainstream awareness-raising on FGM into their youth-focused activities. The Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs had also agreed to address FGM in their pre-marital counselling services.

2.2 Cooperation Framework Priorities, Outcomes and Outputs

Strategic Priority 1: PROSPERITY Economic growth, development, decent employment, and livelihood.

ILO, UNIDO, UNDP, IOM, UN Women, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNODC, UNFPA, UNAIDS, WFP, UN Habitat, WHO and FAO

Top 5 Contribution to the SDGs



SDGs Theme: Prosperity contribution to SDGs



31.42M
Total Available
Resources



26M
Total Expenditure

5 Key Achievements



21
National
and 2 state
policies/plans
developed/
reviewed.



**over
8,000**
Decent jobs
created.



**Over 12
million**
entrepreneurs'
capacity
built



**over
8 million**
households
benefitting
from Income
generating
activities.



**Over 42
million**
Households
received social
protection
benefits with
UN support.



OUTCOME 1.1: Increased Productivity & Competitiveness

“The UN supported the Government of Nigeria to review and update its National Employment Policy, improve stakeholders’ engagement towards continuous implementation of the National Youth Employment Action Plan and facilitated dialogue among actors working in cross-cutting developmental issues such as social protection, business training, and skills development including for marginalized groups.

The government was supported to lay out blueprints for inclusive and sustainable industrial development at the national and state levels. Notably, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investment, the UN was instrumental in the review and updating of the National Industrial Policy (NIP). In addition, UN support was extended to the development of state industrial policies in Kebbi and Imo states and the approval of the Nigerian Investment Policy by the Federal Executive Council.



Over 12M
Entrepreneurs’
capacity built

Youths, local manufacturers, entrepreneurs, artisan small scale miners, and aspiring business owners benefitted from UN’s entrepreneurship capacity-building initiatives. Support received included training on business plans development, tailored business aids, production of health products, and access to finances. The support received resulted in

1) the enhancement of youth skills and job prospects, job creation, and sustainable livelihoods for women and youth-led businesses.

2) 3.5 million USD secured by twenty-five (25) social impact businesses, and this enabled them to gain access to the vast African market through African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Three (3) entrepreneurs participated in the global UNIDO Cleantech Days forum at Vienna, Austria where two (2) of them won a global prize for Best Women-led pitch under winners of the Cleantech Days Pitching Competition and most inspiring solutions from the Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN) in Sub-Saharan Africa.



Over 8M
Households
benefited from
service provided



Over 1M
Micro Businesses
supported with cash
transfers

UN’s efforts to support economic recovery and community cohesion led to the transfer of conditional and unconditional cash transfers to households and micro-businesses to aid income generation activities.

Revenue generation at the national and sub-national levels was strengthened. Notably, Kaduna and Ondo states Internal Revenue services integrated gender perspectives into finance and tax policies.

In addition, partnership with Federal and State Inland Revenue Services (FIRS) led to notable progress in revenue collection with 16.182 (USD) assessed and 13.517 (USD) million collected by the FIRS in 2023 which marks a significant improvement of 3.77% over 2022 performance.



Photo: © IFAD

Outcome 1.2: Improved Access to decent jobs

With support from the UN, some achievements were recorded in tackling decent work deficits.

Key accomplishments include the development and launch of the first National Policy on Women's Economic Empowerment, with affirmative procurement processes recognized as accelerators. Kaduna and Lagos states drafted affirmative policies set for approval in 2024.



In response to the evolving digital landscape, the UN supported the government to advance digital skills training by redesigning the national digital skills training toolkits. Through the Nigerian Youth Jubilee Fellow Programme and Lagos State Employability Support Programme, 8,651 decent jobs (4,141 Female and 4,510 male) were created, benefiting both formal (5,132) and informal (3,519) sectors.

In a bid to improve access to markets and financial services for marginalized groups, a total of \$6,217,220 was mobilized to support women, youth, and vulnerable groups through cash transfers and grants. Over 13,000 vulnerable households, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and host communities benefitted from the funds and were provided with skills training and startup kits, fostering self-reliance and peaceful coexistence.

Continued emphasis was placed on social dialogue and inclusivity, with a focus on addressing vulnerabilities of marginalized groups. This effort aligns with Nigeria's commitment to include 25% of working-age refugees in economic development programmes by 2027 as pledged during the Global Refugee Forum meeting in December 2023.

Outcome 1.3: Improved Social Protection

To strengthen the social protection system, with UN support, the government produced the first national Cash and Voucher Assistance Policy, promoting the use of multi-purpose cash assistance to foster common understanding of innovative cash and voucher usage within social protection frameworks. Also, support was provided for the development of a national standard operating procedure for Shock Responsive Social Protection, clarifying the roles of agencies like National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), National Social Safety-Nets Coordinating Office (NASSCO), National Cash Transfer Office (NCTO) and Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (FMHAPA). A rapid capacity assessment of NASSCO identified areas of support and gaps for an improved efficient national social registry which included data collection methods and standardising the registration process, dynamic social registry formulation, management information services, grievance redress mechanism, etc which is expected to remove the suspicion and doubt around the use of the registry.

Advocacy efforts by UN through the FMHAPA led to a pledge by the Federal Government of Nigeria at the Global Refugee Forum to include poor and vulnerable refugees in the National Social Registry by 2027, with a goal of at least 5% of refugees benefiting from national social investment programmes. Also, advocacy effort of UN led to the Government of Nigeria ratifying two International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions (C143 - Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143) and C181 - Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181) in 2023, demonstrating a commitment to improving labour standards and occupational safety through provision of social protection services.



Over 42M HH
received Social
Protection benefits
with UN support

To provide quality social protection services, 150 government social protection technical working group members were trained across 15 states on social protection, while another 200 stakeholders were trained at both federal and state levels with a focus on integrating refugees and poor children into national social assistance schemes. This capacity building led to the development of 15 costed policy implementation plans to combat poverty and deprivation through social protection interventions. To expand social protection services to marginalized persons, 140 (72 Female and 68 Male) migrants and returnees were trained on skills development for income generation and social reintegration. In addition, 200 women entrepreneurs were linked to health insurance and social protection schemes.

Outcome 1.4: Improved Data

To enhance evidence-based planning and budgeting for inclusive economic growth and development, the UN facilitated needs assessments in Akwa Ibom and Lagos states, leading to healthcare pledges by the Federal Government of Nigeria at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023 to include eligible refugees in various health interventions. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) was supported to conduct two Essential Needs Assessments across six states and implement 38 activities (advocacy, training, provision of equipment, census budgeting, trial census, and monitoring and evaluation) towards the 2020 round of population and housing census. However, the census was postponed in May 2023. The NBS was also supported to roll out the Gender-Based Violence Case Management System (GBVCIMS) in the country to obtain data to monitor progress towards zero GBV and harmful practices.

To provide evidence-based data for planning, two national corruption surveys were conducted for policy insights as well as a flood impact assessment survey in Lagos state. The UN also facilitated a Voluntary Local Review (VLR) for Lagos state in partnership with OSSAP.

The support provided by the UN to the Government of Nigeria to conduct the Data Quality Audit, client verification study, drug consumption analysis, and fingerprint capture led to getting the HIV data right for the first time and enabled the country to run estimates and produce an elaborate GAM report for 2023.

Strategic Priority 2: PLANET

Clean energy, food systems, environmental sustainability, and climate change

FAO, IFAD, ILO, UNOPS, UN Women, IOM, WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNDP, WMO, UNESCO, UNEP, UNHCR, UN-Habitat, UNIDO, UNOPS

Top 5 Contribution to the SDGs



109.48M
Available
Resources



83.53M
Total Expenditure

5 Key Achievements



over 39M
benefitted from
nutritional
activities.



Over 130,000
Smallholder
farmers
supported.



**5 bills/
Acts**
Drafted,
reviewed, or
amended.



Over 55,000
people
capacities
enhanced.



25
Companies
engaged to
pilot mini grid
services.



Outcome 2.1: Improved Food security and Nutrition



Photo: © UNFPA

The UN supported advanced agricultural development, nutrition, clean energy adoption, and livelihood restoration. Capacity building efforts improved productivity and market access for farmers, with a focus on empowering women. A warehouse receipting system was piloted in six local government areas in Yobe State to facilitate access to credit and premium market prices.



More than 55,000
(over 23,000 Female and over 32,000 Male)
Farmers trained on business development.



Over 6,000
new enterprise jobs created.



About 800
enterprise incubators strengthened.

Efforts to enhance financial inclusion resulted in loans and credit totalling 105,400 (USD) for 111 beneficiaries, while 345 Commodity Apex Development Associations received training in business development, benefiting 1,683 members. Additionally, 86,460 beneficiaries accessed formal financial services, and 33,763 were linked with off-takers for cassava (9,844) and rice (23,919).



Over 80,000
beneficiaries reported
increase in profit.

Nutritional health of people in Nigeria improved through food assistance, vitamin A supplements provided to children, and treatment for severely wasted children and pregnant women.



2.4 Million
people benefited from food
assistance.



34 Million
children aged 6-59 Months reached
with Vitamin A supplements



Over 1 Million
Severely wasted children
received treatment.



About 3 Million
pregnant women received Iron
Folic Acid/Multiple Micronutrient
Supplements

The UN supported the government in addressing water challenges, promoting Integrated Water Resources Management and the City Blueprint Framework (CBF) for urban water management. 200 government officials were trained on the CBF for urban water management, and guidelines and tools for water management were convened to discuss biodiversity and green economy activities in biosphere reserves, with implementation set for 2024.

Overall, the UN's interventions demonstrated significant progress towards Sustainable Development Goals, highlighting the importance of collaborative efforts in addressing multifaceted challenges.

Outcome 2.2: Improved Management of Climate, Sustainable energy production and consumption and climate finance.

The UN aided Nigeria in integrating climate change concerns into government planning and budgeting, by supporting various stakeholders to embed climate considerations into economic development plans. Efforts included assisting the Department of Climate Change and the Nigerian Meteorological Agency in developing mitigation and adaptation strategies. The UN supported drafting and presentation of the Nigerian Natural Capital Accounting Systems Bill to the Nigeria senate. The bill aimed at integrating ecosystem accounts into economic planning. Also, the Climate Change Act of 2021 was reviewed to incorporate economic accounting principles, and this has resulted in government mainstreaming environmental consideration into its functions including budget planning. In addition, collaboration with CLOBE Nigeria led to proposed amendments to environmental legislation which are: i) Great Green Wall Establishment Act: ii) Environmental Impact Assessment Act and iii) Nigerian Minerals and Minerals Acts., enhancing environmental consideration in government functions. Climate education initiatives were launched, including a Climate Landscape Analysis for Children action plan. Human capacity development for meteorological and hydrological experts was prioritized, with training for 72 (56 males, 13 females) professionals.

In addition, the UN supported Mini grid developers with equipment leasing schemes, social impact assessments, and drafting a Mini Grid Pilot Plan and the selection of 25 companies to pilot the provision of Mini Grid Service.

To enhance clean energy for cooking, UN initiated pilot programme on biogas as an alternative energy source, addressing the removal of fuel subsidies and promoting clean cooking fuel adoption among women in rural communities. This initiative Garnered government and donor support for scaling up biogas initiatives with the pledge from the Minister of Women Affairs, to allocate over 300 million naira of government resources to the low-cost biogas initiative, showcasing the potential for sustainable energy solutions to alleviate poverty and empower women.

The UN also improved access to water in refugee settlements through five (5) solarized borehole schemes, benefiting 15,000 individuals, and reducing water-related trips and gender-based violence.

These initiatives signify a collaborative effort to address climate change and energy production and consumption in the country.

Outcome 2.3 Policies and practices for resilience and Disaster Risk Management



With the support of the UN, the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NiMet) was able to provide accurate aeronautical meteorological predictions for the aviation sector, boosting confidence among airlines operating in Nigerian airspace. The seasonal climate prediction was widely disseminated to climate-sensitive sectors. The Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) prepared its Annual Flood Outlook, which informed disaster preparedness by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other stakeholders, thereby safeguarding lives and property.

Strategic Priority 3: PEOPLE Inclusive and equitable human development and wellbeing.

UNICEF, IOM, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNOPS, UNHCR, UNFPA, WHO, WFP and UN Women

Top 5 Contribution to the SDGs

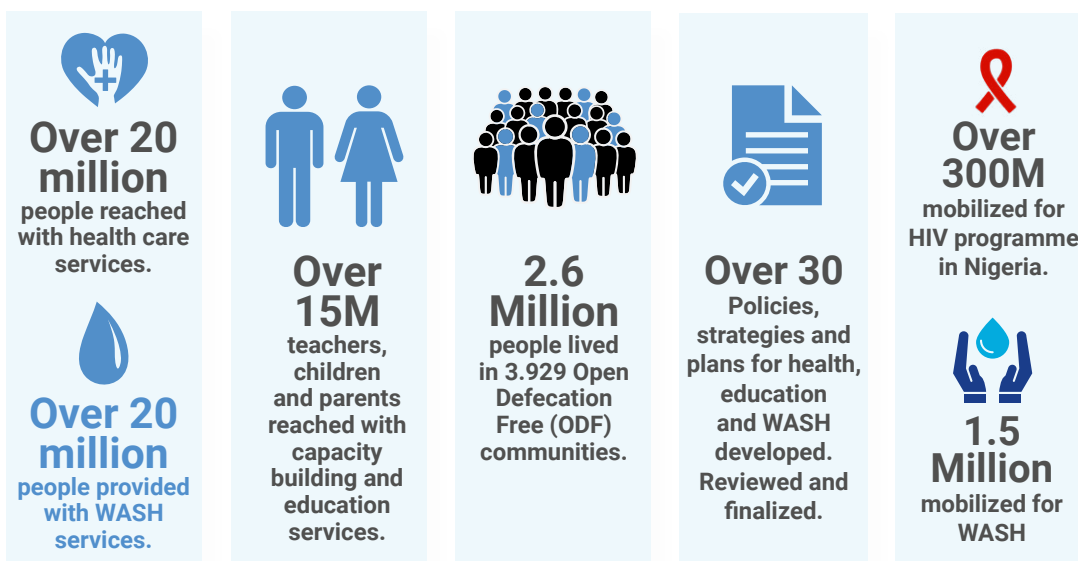


195.21M
Available
Resources



154.22M
Total Expenditure

Key Achievements



Outcome 3.1: Universal Health Coverage

The UN supported Nigeria's healthcare sector by expanding coverage, improving infrastructure, strengthening disease management programmes, and enhancing the capacity of healthcare providers. These efforts collectively contributed to advancing health outcomes and building resilience in the face of healthcare challenges.

Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) saw notable progress, with 89% accreditation nationwide, reaching marginalised groups in 34 states. Nigeria's regulatory infrastructure achieved a maturity level 3 benchmark, with significant milestones such as the first-time local manufacturing of Zinc Sulphate dispersible tablets used in the treatment of diarrhoea, local vaccine manufacturing, and updated traditional medicine policies..

In UN supported states:







80% HFIs did not experience stock out of essential/tracer drugs.

Over 1.5 million pregnant women assisted with skilled birth attendance.

Over 1 million children under 5 treated for diarrhea.

About **330,000** children treated for pneumonia

Six Strategic plans and policies were initiated or revised as follows:

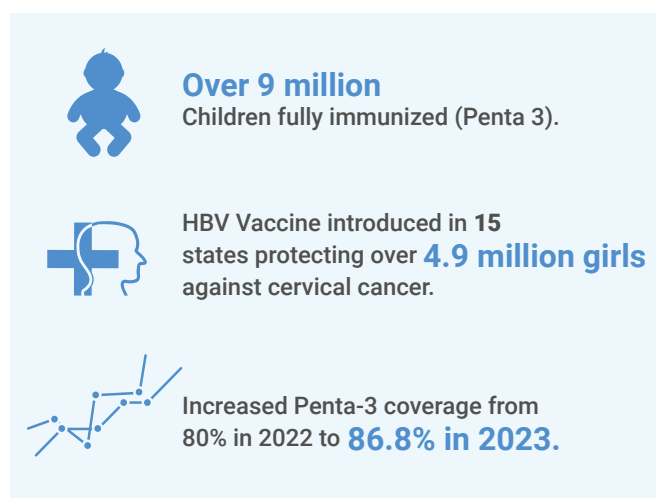
<p>A</p>  <p>Strategic plan for local manufacturing of Vaccines initiated.</p>	<p>B</p>  <p>Revision of the Nigeria Traditional Medicine Pharmacopoeia 2008 and the Traditional Medicine Policy 2007</p>	<p>C</p>  <p>5- years strategic plan for the Community Influences Promoters and Services (CHIPS)</p>	<p>D</p>  <p>National Human Resources for Health (HRH) policy</p>	<p>E</p>  <p>National Plan for Health Security Workforce</p>	<p>F</p>  <p>Review and update seven modules of the Mandatory Continuing Professional Development Programme of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria</p>
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UN advocacy led to consensus-building on Primary Health Care (PHC) among government and partners through the PHC Leadership Challenge Awards for best performing states, in which 12 states were successful. Investment summits were convened to guide strategic investments in PHC for the award-winning states.

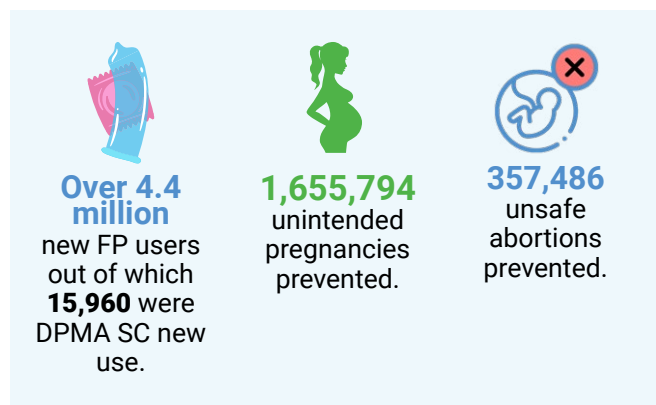
With UN support playing a pivotal role, Nigeria expanded health insurance coverage to 9 million, benefiting mainly impoverished communities. An innovative "adoption mechanism" in Anambra State funded health insurance for underprivileged individuals, enhancing financial risk protection for 35% of the covered population. UN interventions on health insurance extended to over 70,000 vulnerable individuals in underserved areas across five states Niger, Yobe, Sokoto, Gombe and Taraba. UN efforts also improved reporting and tracking of health insurance interventions, enhancing governance and coordination of health insurance.

Immunisation supply chain and vaccine availability were strengthened through improvements in storage infrastructure, including the construction of the Abuja vaccine hub, the conduct of a three-hub operationalisation assessment, rollout of an open Logistics Management Information System (LMIS), conduct of cold chain inventory assessment, and data control tower rollout for immunisation.

Out of the 2.3 million zero-dose children in Nigeria (who did not receive the Penta1 vaccine), 254,630 children were fully protected (received the Penta3 vaccine) across 18 states in 2023. The COVID-19 vaccine deployment reached 70.56% full vaccination, which surpassed the 70% benchmark set in 2022



For essential preventive treatment care, shipments of antimalarial drugs (15,929 boxes) ensured effective malaria treatment. In Yobe State, two (2) general hospital renovations and infrastructure upgrades bolstered healthcare services. UN support extended to HIV programs, mobilizing funds USD84,000 for community-led monitoring and digitalization efforts with the development of the Community iMonitor which is available on the Google Play Store for large scale coverage and scope of Contraceptive Logistics Management (CLM) in Nigeria. Technical assistance provided also facilitated significant funding mobilization of over 300 million USD for HIV programs in the country.



Family planning efforts were advanced through contraceptive procurement (4,490,949 Couple-Years of Protection (CYP) contraceptives), investment case development to accelerate attainment of health and economic goals, and supply chain management enhancements – deployment of warehouse management systems (eWMINS) in 3 states (Borno, Cross Rivers and Ogun).

Support for obstetric fistula management included the validation of training manuals, provision of free treatment services for 683 women and girls with fistula, and economic empowerment for 94 survivors, which facilitated their reintegration into communities.



Outcome 3.2: Quality Education



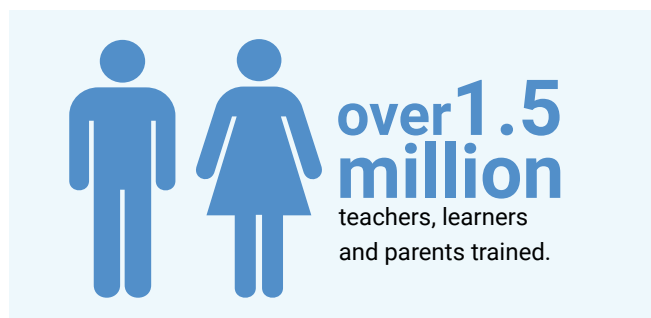
The UN collaborated with the Government to strengthen the education sector, focusing on data-driven planning and improvements in service delivery. Initiatives included enhancing the Education Management Information System (EMIS), benefiting over 11 states. Additionally, support was provided for the National Assessment of Learning Achievement in Basic Education (NALABE), generating crucial data for education finance reforms in 13 states. In terms of safety and resilience, 22 states developed safe school plans, while climate resilience programming was enhanced through the integration of climate change education.

professional in-service training provided by the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) and pre-service training through the National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE) and the National Teachers Institute (NTI). Furthermore, the UN's support extended to skills development, equipping individuals with foundational, transferable, digital, employability, and anti-corruption skills through the National Skills Development Framework

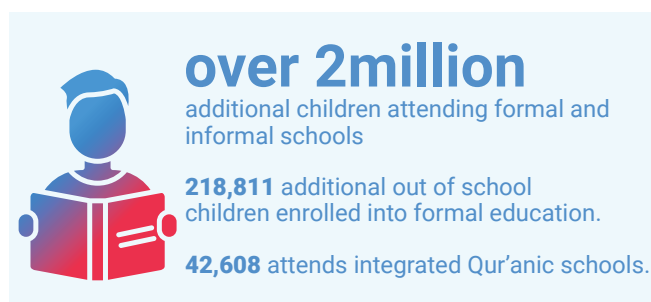
Education Plans developed with UN Support

- a) Education Sector Roadmap 2024 – 2027
- b) Universal Basic Education Commission's 10 year plan
- c) National Strategy on Almajiri education
- d) National strategy for digitalizing technical and vocational education and training (TVET).
- e) 22 State education sector operational plans.

The UN collaborated with the Federal Ministry of Education to enhance staff capacity in curriculum development, health, peace education, and pedagogical practices. Teachers, learners, and parents received digital learning support through the Nigeria Learning Passport platform and internet connectivity initiatives. Teachers also benefited from



The year also witnessed significant achievements in reducing the number of out-of-school children through widespread advocacy and policy prioritization. This included enrolling out-of-school children into formal education and establishing a National Commission on Almajiri and Out-of-School Children



Strategic partnerships facilitated the scaling of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) models, reaching approximately 169,730 children across four states. The school feeding program, implemented by the UN, played a crucial role in enhancing enrolment and retention rates, with 10 million children receiving daily meals in 57,717 public primary schools.

In the health sector, UN initiatives targeted adolescents and young people, integrating health indicators into education monitoring systems. Noteworthy efforts were made in menstrual health management, reaching over 24,560 students with essential skills. The UN also supported the development of the SRGBV data collection tool, AnImRS (available at nemis.gov.ng/srgbv), aimed at addressing school-related gender-based violence. Additionally, psychosocial support

and vocational skills training were provided to 1,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and members of the host community in Gombe State.

Strategic partnerships with the private sector Airtel Nigeria and IHS Towers led to 979 schools being connected to the internet, facilitating access to quality education in various settings.

Overall, the UN's comprehensive approach to education and health in Nigeria in 2023 resulted in significant progress in addressing the learning crisis, promoting holistic development, and fostering resilience among vulnerable populations.

Outcome 3.3: Wash and Sub Hygiene



In 2023, the UN's support to the government of Nigeria significantly enhanced access to sustainable Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services. A total of 251 public facilities were equipped with safe drinking water facilities, with an emphasis on operational sustainability and maintenance practices. Advocacy efforts culminated in the development and implementation of a WASH sector finance advocacy strategy, aimed at boosting financing and private sector engagement. Strategic engagement resulted in a USD 1.5 million investment from the government and private sectors. Additionally, 3,000 communities implemented Facility Management Models, which included the rehabilitation of 936 water sources and the construction of 113 new ones, along with 73 solar-powered boreholes in remote areas.



Over 2.4 million

Provided with safe drinking water.

Community-led sanitation marketing initiatives conducted by the UN enhanced demand for sanitation practices, involving 603 small businesses in the sanitation value chain. Furthermore, 148 institutions, including schools and healthcare centers, were equipped with safe sanitation facilities. Training on handwashing was provided through «tippy tap» sessions, and 1,000 dignity kits along with reusable menstrual pads hygiene kits were distributed, collectively improving hygiene and sanitation practices among children, pupils, women, men, and internally displaced persons (IDPs).



Over 20 million people

Practice proper handwashing and access safe sanitation practices.



2.6 million people living in 3,929 ODF communities.



118 ODF LGAs in the country



Over 40,000 improved toilets constructed or upgraded.



16 states have road maps and costed workplan for ending Open defecation.

The UN played a crucial role in advancing Nigeria's Open Defecation Free (ODF) campaign, particularly at the grassroots level. Thirteen additional UN-supported Local Government Areas (LGAs) achieved ODF status, bringing the total to 118 nationwide. The UN also empowered 2,500 Toilet Business Owners to construct improved household toilets for both households and institutions. Overall, the UN's efforts significantly advanced Nigeria's sanitation goals, aligning with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6.2.



Photo: © UNICEF

Strategic Priority 4: PEACE Governance, Gender, Human Rights and Peace

FAO, IOM, UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNODC, UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNFPA, WFP, WHO

Top 5 Contribution to the SDGs



85.28M
Available Resources



57.16M
Total Expenditure

Key Achievements

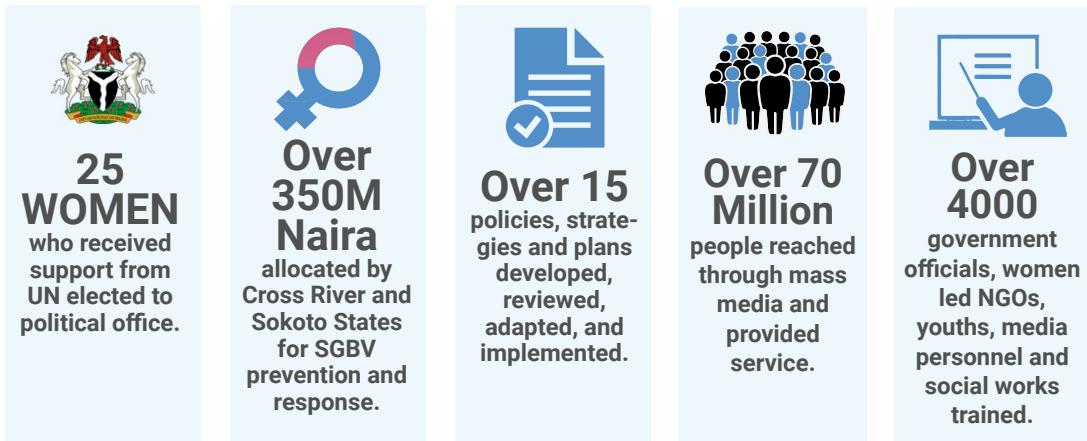


Photo: © UNODC

Outcome 4.1: Peace and Security

In 2023, Nigeria faced substantial challenges in conflict, displacement, and fragility, underscored by its rankings in both the Fragile States Index and the Global Peace Index. Despite these hurdles, collaborative efforts led by the UN, in conjunction with government and civil society organizations, have started to yield encouraging outcomes in fostering peace, security, and sustainable development.

During the review period, the UN supported the development of National Action Plans (NAPs) and operational frameworks such as the Global Compact on Refugees, the National Policy on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE), and the National Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration (DDRR) Action Plan. Infrastructure enhancements for gender-responsive peace and social cohesion were realized, including the establishment of forensic laboratories and training for law enforcement personnel, aimed at improving access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence.


Efforts to strengthen early warning and early response systems were notable, with the operationalization of systems for the Kaduna State Peace Commission and the Katsina State Three-Tier Peace and Security Structure. These initiatives facilitate both citizen and governmental collaboration in mitigating risks and threats to peace and security. Additionally, women-led organizations have been pivotal in community building and fostering inter-state networks.


- ✓ 7 peace and securities policies and framework harmonized and operationalized.
- ✓ 27 infrastructures for gender responsive peace and social cohesion established and functional.
- ✓ 30 Government institutions strengthened to deliver on the Women, Peace, and Security Commitments
- ✓ 15 Women led organizations implement peace-building activities.
- ✓ Over 700 government officials trained on DDR and PCVE.
- ✓ Over 87,000 people supported to transition to sustainable development solutions.
- ✓ 5 states adopted the Youth Peace and Security (YPS) National Action Plan.


In promoting the women, peace, and security agenda, the UN assisted 16 government agencies in refining their policy and operational procedures to be more strategic and results-oriented. To enhance the localization of Nigeria's Action Plan


on Women, Peace, and Security, seven community-based, multi-level coordination mechanisms were established and strengthened at the national level and in nine states, actively engaging in the implementation of their respective action plans.

In alignment with the Nigeria Police Act of 2020, UN support helped strengthen the internal oversight mechanism of the Nigeria Police Force through its Complaints Response Unit (CRU) in Kano State and the Federal Capital Territory. This resulted in increased public trust from an unclear baseline of 15% to 48%, according to a public perception survey. Enhanced cooperation and referral arrangements between the CRU and external oversight bodies (the Police Service Commission and the National Human Rights Commission) led to a heightened focus on police accountability by the National Bar Association, resolving 65% of complaints to the satisfaction of complainants.

 **5** International airports and NIS headquarters equipped with forensic investigation machines.

 **122** NIS officers trained on the forensic investigation machines.

 **11 points** of entry into the country have improved border management capacity.

 **Over 10,000** people benefited from legal protection services for forcibly displaced persons.

The UN's efforts also addressed climate-induced conflicts, wildlife and forest crime, and border security and governance enhancements. These achievements were supported through technical assistance, capacity building, and collaboration between Nigerian and international stakeholders. The national climate change policy was implemented at state levels. The National Commissions for Refugees, Migrants, and IDPs (NCFRMI) Bill was enacted, and international conventions such as the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention) were domesticated. These measures significantly improved the legal frameworks and institutional capacities for refugee protection. Additionally, support in drafting an action plan on durable solutions was provided in Adamawa State, and UN support on Climate Peace led to land allocations for constructing Climate-Peace Hubs in Jibia (Katsina) and Ilela (Sokoto), with budget allocations in both states' annual budgets to sustain and scale these initiatives.

Furthermore, the UN prioritised support for regional stabilisation, recovery, and resilience in the Lake Chad Basin, enhancing the capacity of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) and facilitating the development of Territorial Action Plans (TAPs) in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states.

Overall, these collaborative endeavors have significantly strengthened legal frameworks, enhanced climate resilience, combatted wildlife and forest crimes, and addressed transnational organized crime in Nigeria.

Outcome 4.2: Inclusive Governance and Justice System

To foster a more just, secure, and inclusive society, the UN's support focused on prison security, accountability for international crimes, countering human trafficking, promoting gender equality, and strengthening child protection services. This led to advancements in prison security and vocational training opportunities, particularly aimed at improving the management of violent extremist prisoners. Over 100 prison officers received comprehensive training to handle conflict situations effectively and ensure the safety of both staff and inmates. These interventions contributed to safer and more secure prison environments. Vocational training for inmates in prisons was also enhanced through the construction of a multi-purpose skills acquisition hall and new courses such as masonry. Equipping inmates with practical skills improved their rehabilitation and social reintegration prospects, ultimately reducing recidivism rates.

Furthermore, the UN supported accountability for international crimes, particularly addressing conflict-related sexual violence in the North-East. Through capacity building and project interventions, a member of Boko Haram was charged with multiple counts of sexual violence, marking a significant milestone in seeking justice for victims.

Collaborative efforts with the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights and NGOs strengthened cooperation in fighting organised crime and provided support to trafficking victims. Policies and guidelines on monitoring, reporting and countering hate speech for media personnel were developed to further improve their operations and reporting.

To promote inclusive governance, efforts were directed towards enhancing women's political participation through the establishment of three resource centres in Abuja, Borno, and Cross River states. Also, advocacy sessions aimed at fostering an environment for female legislators to thrive effectively in their roles were organised in Kaduna and Kwara states, especially in the passage of the Gender and Equal Opportunity Bill (GEOB).



Over **200** female legislators and women capacity in political participation built.



Over **2,500** law enforcement officers, media personnel and social workers trained.



Over **120,000** children and women reached with child protection services.

The UN also focused on countering human trafficking, with the construction of office space for the Countering Human Trafficking Office in Lagos State, facilitating a coordinated action against trafficking and smuggling. Seventy returnees and potential migrants were reintegrated into society. Specialised training sessions on cyber intelligence, evidence handling, reporting of sexual abuse, and trafficking were organised, benefiting law enforcement officers, media personnel, auxiliary social workers, and youth organisations.

In addition, the UN strengthened internal oversight mechanisms of the Nigeria Police Force in Kano and the Federal Capital Territory with the training of 82 members of the oversight bodies on gender- and conflict-sensitive approaches to policing to increase public trust and accountability of the police force. Support was also provided to the Federal Ministry of Justice and relevant organisations to better implement the UN's Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), contributing to increased transparency and accountability in Nigeria's recovery and management of proceeds of crime.

Outcome 4.3 Gender Equality and Human Right of Marginalized groups



L-R) HRM Alhaji Muhammad Idrissa, Emir of Fika, Yobe State; HRH Dr Haliru Yahaya, Emir of Shongo, Kwara State; and HRM Oba Adedapo Aderemi, Oba of Ido, Osun State, at the Roundtable where traditional leaders and clergies renew their commitment to curb violence against Women and child on Nigeria.. Photo: UN Women Nigeria.

In promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in states such as Adamawa, Cross River, Kwara, Kaduna, Ebonyi, Sokoto, and Lagos, assistance was provided to develop costed model action plans for the implementation of the Violence Against Person's Prohibition (VAPP) Act. This support resulted in significant achievements, including: i) the establishment of One Stop Centres in Ebonyi State; ii) a budgetary allocation of 30 million Naira by the Sokoto State government to support the Nana Khadijah Centre, which aids survivors of Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV); and iii) a 350-million-Naira allocation by the Cross River State government for SGBV prevention and response interventions. Partnerships with organizations such as the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) and Kimpact Development Initiatives (KDI) facilitated the passage of the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill in Kaduna and Kwara States.



Over 500

people trained to address GBV, child marriage and FGM.




More than 16,000

girls and women received FGM, GBV and other services.

Efforts were also directed towards reducing child marriage, FGM, and other harmful practices, improving access to education, and enhancing access to justice for GBV survivors. Forensic laboratories were established to strengthen evidence collection, and capacity-building programs were implemented to support survivors throughout the legal process. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) prioritized FGM as a critical issue in its reporting to international treaties, supported by the UN in developing and using the training manual 'Integrating FGM Indicators into Nigeria's Human Rights Treaty Reporting Template'. Two ministries, namely the Federal Ministries of Youth, and Government and Community Affairs, also prioritized FGM awareness in their programs, focusing on pre-marital counselling for couples and youth-focused activities. To prevent Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), UN agencies integrated PSEA protection into programming, reaching over 141,000 individuals with awareness-raising activities.

In the political arena, following the 2023 general elections, 25 women supported by the UN were elected to office. The increase in women's representation was commendable in Kwara State, which moved from no female representation to five representatives, and in Ekiti, from one to six representatives. The only women's radio station in Nigeria played a pivotal role in promoting gender equality and

mobilising support for women's candidacies in the 2023 elections. Technical support was provided for the review of the 2006 National Gender Policy and the development of a strategic implementation framework, which proposed a 50% quota for women's representation in politics, aiming to address gender disparities.



70M+
people reach with information on radio to support women's candidacies in 2023 general elections.



25 Women
who received support from UN were elected to political office.

In addressing human rights issues, the UN supported participation of over 60% of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes. Additionally, the NHRC was supported to submit four reports to international and regional human rights mechanisms. During the 2023 election, incidents of digital shutdowns and restrictions related to civic space and public participation were recorded, with fines imposed on media houses and harassment, threats, and attacks from state authorities against digital activists and the public, thereby hindering their ability to express their opinions.

Overall, these collective efforts reflect the progress made in advancing gender equality and empowering women and girls in Nigeria, particularly in reducing harmful practices, promoting women's political participation, improving access to education, and preventing GBV. The prioritisation of FGM by the NHRC and federal ministries further underscores the commitment to addressing gender-based challenges in Nigeria.



GENERAL CHALLENGES



Insecurity:

Nigeria continued to experience escalating incidents of kidnapping for ransom in 2023. In some cases, kidnappers resorted to killing their victims as a means of pressuring families to pay the ransom. Additionally, the activities of the proscribed Indigenous People of Biafra in the South-East increased in 2023, with the imposition of a stay-at-home order on Mondays. This resulted in killings, destruction of property, and a negative impact on economic activities, affecting the implementation of activities in the region. The overall insecurity situation hindered the movement of people, goods, and services, as well as farming activities and businesses, thereby reducing humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations, with women and children being most affected by the crisis.



Inflation and Economy:

In 2023, Nigeria faced economic challenges, with inflation reaching 28.9% by December. The Naira plummeted against the dollar, exceeding N1,000, and parallel market rates deviated from official ones despite interventions by the Central Bank. Government measures such as introducing new Naira notes, implementing cashless policies, and removing oil subsidies led to cash shortages and price hikes in goods and services. However, these measures were deemed essential for economic recovery to increase government revenue and enhance social welfare improvements.





Photo: © IOM

2.3 Support to partnerships and financing the 2023 agenda

Social Impact Investment



Photo: © UNIC/ Oluseyi Soremekun

The UN's collaboration in Nigeria has improved significantly through strategic partnerships spanning diverse stakeholders such as the private sector, civil society organisations (CSOs), government, and academia. One noteworthy collaboration was with the Sterling One Foundation, where the Resident Coordinator played a pivotal role in co-hosting the Africa Social Impact Summit (ASIS) in Lagos. ASIS served as a nexus for various entities including the private sector, CSOs, government officials, entrepreneurs, investors, the Global Compact network, and the broader UN and development community.

Under the theme 'Global Vision, Local Action: Repositioning the African Development Ecosystem for Sustainable Outcomes' ASIS convened more than 4,000 participants. The summit's significance lies in its ability to foster partnerships among stakeholders from diverse backgrounds, uniting them in addressing Nigeria's challenges. One notable outcome was the facilitation of connections between small to medium-sized businesses and financiers through deal rooms, underscoring the summit's tangible impact on Nigeria's development landscape. This collaborative approach holds promise for catalysing sustainable solutions and fostering inclusive growth in Nigeria.

Youth Employment Decent Jobs for Youth



Photo: © ILO

The UN in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Employment (FMLE), Nigeria's Consultative Association (NECA), the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), and the Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUC) launched the Nigeria Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP III) to be implemented over five years from 2023 to 2027 with the objectives of job creation for men, women, youths, and people with disabilities; rights at work; and extending social protection.

By addressing these objectives, DWCP III aimed to contribute to sustainable development, social justice, and poverty reduction in Nigeria. The collaboration between the UN, government agencies, employers' organisations, and labour unions underscored the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships in advancing decent work and inclusive economic growth.

Gender-Based Violence

The EU-UN Spotlight Initiative's collaborative efforts have had a lasting impact on Nigeria's approach to combating gender-based violence (GBV) against women and girls.

Overall, the Spotlight Initiative's interventions have not only catalysed legislative reforms but also strengthened community-level responses to GBV, whilst enhancing data-driven approaches for more effective interventions and policy formulation.

Gender-Based Violence Fund



Photo: © UNICEF

The launch of the Private Sector Led Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Fund in 2023 represented a significant step towards addressing the pervasive issue of GBV in the country. With endorsements from various private sector companies across multiple sectors, the initiative demonstrates a collaborative effort to combat this scourge.

The initial commitment of \$5 million over five years showcases a long-term dedication to addressing GBV, with the potential for significant impact over time. However, with the inauguration of the High-Level Steering Committee (HLSC), comprised of private sector stakeholders from diverse industries, the funding commitment has been elevated to \$25 million. This increase underscores the seriousness with which the private sector views the issue of GBV and its commitment to making a substantial difference.

Overall, the Private Sector Led GBV Fund represents a collaborative and strategic approach to addressing GBV in Nigeria, with the potential to make significant strides in combating this pervasive issue.

2.4. Results of UN working more and better together

Programme Management Team (PMT):

The Programme Management Team, headed by the WHO representative, provided oversight and technical support in the development of the joint work plans by the outcome groups.

Technical Working Groups:

1. Youth Inter-Agency Group:

The Inter-Agency Group organised two main events:

- a) Hosting of a physical and virtual watch party as a side event of the ECOSOC Youth Forum 2023, at UN House, Abuja with 63 young people in attendance. The watch party successfully engaged young people in discussing challenges and solutions, contributing to a nationwide social protection programme benefiting 12 million vulnerable individuals in Nigeria.
 - b) Commemoration of the International Youth Day: 75 young people from across Nigeria participated in the event, which featured perspectives on the importance of Green Skills with open discussions between international organisations, the Federal Ministry of Youth and Sports Development.
-

2. Disability Inclusion Group:

The UN Nigeria Disability Inclusion Technical Working Group conducted the following:

- a. **Accessibility assessment of the UN House:** The Disability Inclusion Technical Working Group, together with Persons with Disabilities organisations, conducted an accessibility assessment of the UN House. Recommendations were adopted, leading to a USD 151,150 action plan for improvements developed by the OMT for implementation by UNCT.
- b. **Capacity Building:** Two training sessions were held for UN staff on mainstreaming disability into programming and orientation on Disability Inclusion, with over 100 participants. Furthermore, three members of the DI TWG participated in an African Regional training on the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy.
- c. **Open House forum:** A well-attended Open House forum was conducted with 90 attendees. It facilitated discussions among UN management, OPDs, and stakeholders and was used to validate findings from the accessibility assessment. It served as a key advocacy platform for driving disability inclusion across the UN system.
- d. **Meeting with the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities:** Meetings were held with the Executive Secretary of the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities to identify collaboration areas such as conducting a national

disability survey and celebrating the International Day for Persons with Disabilities.

- e. Implementation of a Disability Inclusion marker in the Nigeria UNINFO workspace was initiated to track the implementation of disability inclusion programmes within UNCT Nigeria.
 - f. Funding of USD 70,000 was received from the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to conduct multi-stakeholder capacity-building workshops and a situation analysis on disability rights in 2024.
-

3. Gender Technical Group (GTG):

The Gender Technical Team, in 2023:

- Supported the assessment of five indicators in the UNCT SWAP Gender scorecard and produced a report. Coordinated, planned, and mobilised the UN system for International Women's month, Commission on the Status of Women, 16 days of activism, supported the Ministry of Women Affairs, the UNCT, and other development partners at the national, zonal, and state level to plan and carry out relevant activities.
-

4. Business Operating Strategy (BOS):

The group worked with the outcome groups to review the results framework of the UNSDCF. The group was also instrumental in the preparation of the 2022 One UN Report by providing the data used in the preparation of the report.

5. UN Communication Group

The UN Communications Group (UNCG) under the leadership of the UN Information Centre (UNIC), has significantly enhanced the visibility and impact of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Nigeria. Using the One-UN communication tools and platforms, including the UN Nigeria website, newsletter, and social media platforms, UNCG has effectively disseminated the results and activities of various UN agencies.

Communications Output:

Newsletters: Twelve editions were produced, featuring knowledge management materials, and documenting the success stories of the Spotlight Initiative.

Website Usage: Publications on the UN Nigeria website were downloaded 82,033 times during the year, and a substantial increase of new users from 271 in 2022, to 50,000 in 2023 was recorded.

Social Media Reach: Content reached 47,216 people on Facebook, 52,585 on Twitter, and 11,007 on Instagram.

Training and Capacity Building:

UNCG conducted training for media partners and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to deepen their understanding of the Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), enhancing their skills in human rights advocacy and reporting.

Furthermore, a mental health capacity-building programme for journalists was organized and this culminated in the establishment of a network for sensitive reporting of mental health issues in Nigeria.

Engagement and Dialogue:

Under the leadership of the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), the monthly XSpace Dialogue Series from July to September, tagged 'Road to COP28', engaged youths across Nigeria in discussions on various thematic areas of climate change, raising awareness and encouraging innovative solutions.

Special Events and Observances:

UNCG led the observance of the 75th anniversary of UN Peacekeeping, highlighting Nigeria's contributions to UN and regional peacekeeping missions. In collaboration with UN agencies, UNCG supported the special Malala Day celebration with UN Deputy Secretary-General Ms Amina Mohammed, focusing on driving progress in girls' education in Nigeria.

UNCG organized workshops within the academic community to promote research focused on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), thereby contributing to public policy for sustainable solutions.

Strategic Consultations:

UNCG supported the Nigerian government on drafting the Communication Strategy for the National Food Systems Transformation Pathway Implementation.



UN Volunteers

In 2023, UNV integrated volunteerism into the UN system by deploying 170 volunteers in Nigeria with 135 being Nigerians, across 14 agencies, spanning all geopolitical zones with a 50:50 gender parity. About 15% of the volunteers recruited were youths fostering youth participation and employability. Over 1,500 university students, secondary students, health workers, and women in IDP camps were trained on peacebuilding, gender, and volunteerism, which empowered them to be volunteer champions.



**UN VOLUNTEERS
(UNV)**

Some human-interest stories from the field

A. Mustapha Ali – The Village Chief happy to be back home



Mustapha Ali, the village head of Tarmuwa in Borno State's Bama Local Government Area, returned to Banki town with his 38-member family, among 1,320 refugees facilitated back from Cameroon by Nigerian and Cameroonian governments with UNHCR support. After eight years at Minawao refugee camp, fleeing NSAG attacks in 2014, Ali and his family, including four wives, 17 children, and 11 grandchildren, were allocated five shelters by UNHCR. Ali recounted the traumatic events of 2014 when NSAGs raided Tarmuwa, leading to deaths, rapes, and destruction. The family initially fled to Kangallari village in Cameroon before moving to Minawao camp, where they were well-received.

Now back in Nigeria, Ali expressed joy for the shelter and belonging given to his family and other returnees. 'I can't explain how happy I am that my family and the other Nigerians who have finally gone back home have been given shelters,' he said. He looks forward to returning to Tarmuwa to resume traditional farming and activities near their ancestral lands.

He appealed to state and federal governments for assistance in rebuilding the village and providing agricultural support. Upon arrival, UNHCR and partners provided shelters and essential items, while WFP and other agencies offered food and cash assistance to the returnees.

B. Sanitation business is good business



When Odigbo Moses Edo, a trader from AINU Council Ward in Benue State, Nigeria, first heard of SATO pans, he was selling cement and mattresses. His interest in contributing to a cleaner environment led him to interact with the local Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Committee (WASHCOM). His engagement led to participation in UNICEF's 'Make a Splash!' programme, where he was trained in selling toilet products and installing SATO pans in the neighbouring Ado local government area.

Following the training, Odigbo expanded his product range and was "empowered with 315 SATO Pans," significantly boosting his business. He ingeniously integrated his new knowledge with his existing business, setting up a one-stop-shop for selling and installing precast toilets equipped with SATO pans. Starting with just himself and his wife, his business now employs 12 people and has installed over 4,000 SATO pans and toilets across Oju and Ado local government areas.

Odigbo's efforts have markedly improved community hygiene, transforming a community previously afflicted with open defecation. He states, "I am happy to install toilets because I contribute to the cleanliness of our community. Before now, the community was filthy, with people defecating openly. The case is different now." Furthermore, his business success has enabled significant personal achievements, "The business has greatly improved my income. I bought a motorcycle with the money I made from the business, and I branded it with UNICEF as a form of appreciation and to also tell people about the impact of UNICEF in my life."

C. From tragedy to entrepreneurship: Maagaji's journey in the face of adversity



Maagaji Bana, a resident of the former Teacher's Village IDP camp in Maiduguri, found new hope in poultry farming thanks to training and resources from UNHCR and the American University of Nigeria (AUN). Forced to flee her village in Borno State in 2014 due to attacks by Non-State Armed Groups, Maagaji and her family struggled with severe hardships, including food scarcity and the inability to afford education fees for their children. After refusing to return to their unsafe ancestral home in 2021, they faced even more difficulties when the camp closed.

Despite these challenges, Maagaji's fortunes changed in 2022 when AUN selected her for a livelihood training program. "After my training, I was given farming tools, feed, and some money with which I bought ten chicks for a start," she explained. Her poultry business thrived, allowing her to reinvest in more chickens, improve her family's living conditions, and support her children's education.

With a growing flock, including 25 layer chickens ready to lay eggs, Maagaji is optimistic about her family's future. "Words are not enough to appreciate UNHCR for restoring joy and dignity in the lives of my family and me, after several years of pain and misery," she gratefully acknowledges.

D. Spotlight initiative gives hope to Elizabeth Eyu Francais



Eyu Elizabeth Francis, a 22-year-old who lost both parents during her second year of high school, expressed her struggles and renewed hopes at the launch of a skill acquisition training programme in Obubra, Cross River State, Nigeria. Elizabeth highlighted the obstacles that impeded her education, noting, "One significant obstacle preventing me from finishing my education, despite my attempts to raise funds over the years, has been the loss of both of my parents during my second year of high school." She is now an active participant in a second-chance education and skills training organised by UNESCO and its partner ETSI, which began in March 2023.

The programme aims to empower 50 young women and girls in Obubra and Obanliku through various skills, including confectionery. Elizabeth, enthusiastic about her future, stated, "I was more excited when I heard about the skills acquisition; this will get me busy while I make ends meet and fund my school needs as I intend to further my education." She looks forward to applying her new skills in potentially opening a confectionery shop.

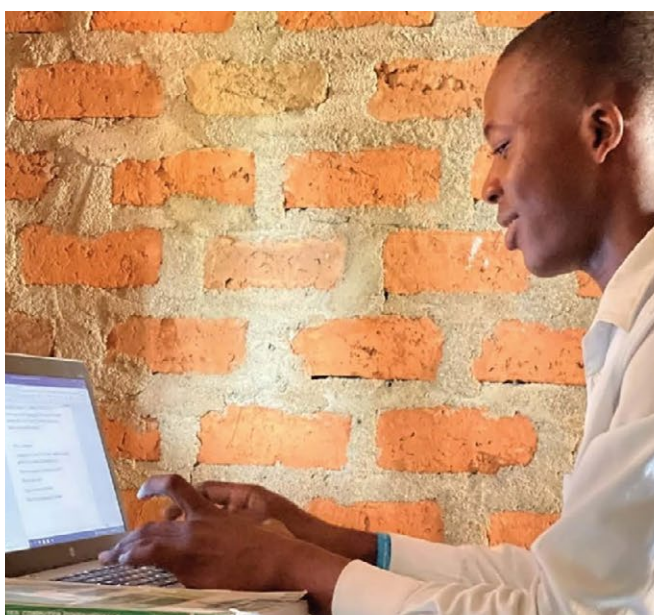
The initiative has seen substantial community support, as emphasized by Chief Amon Oboh, who remarked on the pervasive misconception of age limits in education: "People tend to think that education has an upper age restriction, but UNESCO helped me see that there is no upper age limit for education."

E. Refugee education journeys: The inspiring stories of Rose and Prosper in becoming changemakers.



Prosper, originally dreaming of being a mathematician, faced educational disruptions due to strikes and conflict in Cameroon. He relocated to Nigeria in 2018 and, with UNHCR's support, completed his secondary education as the senior school prefect. A DAFI scholarship enabled him to study Mathematics and Computer Science. He shared his passion, "Ever since I was a child, mathematics has been my best subject. It is in my blood, and none of my classmates could compete with me." Prosper also discovered his interest in computer science at a connectivity centre established by UNHCR at the settlement, saying, "I had my first knowledge of computers here in the Adagom settlement through the connectivity centre, and that is where my passion for computer science started."

F. Overcoming challenges to protect children: A mother's story



Rose Mbachilina and Prosper Etongwe, two young Cameroonians displaced by conflict in their homeland, have found refuge and renewed hope at the Adagom refugee settlement in Cross River State, Nigeria. Rose, aspiring to work in healthcare, secured a DAFI scholarship—part of an initiative supported by Germany, Denmark, UNHCR, and private donors—that allowed her to study Community Health. Now a volunteer at the Adagom Primary Health Centre, she expressed how transformative this opportunity has been: "The Scholarship programme has changed my life. Now I act and think like a health personnel, especially in my community. I can identify health problems and use my skills to help treat the sick. That alone gives me joy." Rose's ambitions didn't stop there; she also pursued further qualifications and opened a small medicine store.



Elizabeth Bem, a 41-year-old mother of six and tailor in Wadata, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria, emphasised the significance of immunisation: "It was not easy to have all my children fully immunized including my last child who is just 6 months. But I had to do it in order to save them from the diseases that kill children," she said. Bem has been proactive in ensuring her children receive vaccines, participating in the immunisation outreach programme by UNICEF and the Ministry of Health, launched during World Immunisation Week (WIW). "I make efforts to immunize all my children because I don't want to lose any of my children to childhood killer diseases," Bem stated.

The initiative, named "The Big Catch-Up," targets 20 countries significantly affected by vaccination delays, primarily caused

by the COVID-19 pandemic, to boost immunisation rates. In Wadata Ward, the immunisation officer, Grace Ande, was delighted with the high turnout during WIW, remarking, «It is indeed a big catch.» Ande praised the collective efforts in providing vaccines and necessary infrastructure.

UNICEF Health Specialist, Dr. Ifeyinwa Anyanyo, highlighted the urgency of the situation: «No child should be denied the right to a lifesaving vaccine. We must quickly find and vaccinate children who missed vaccines,» emphasizing the need to prioritize immunisation amid pandemic recovery efforts.

G. Sebastien's journey of hope and self-reliance

Six years ago, Sebastien, a young Cameroonian, witnessed his peaceful hometown demonstration in Tinta, Akwaya Subdivision, descend into violence. «Out of nowhere, the demonstration spiralled into chaos, with gunshots resulting in two fatalities and several injuries,» he recalls. After fleeing, Sebastien and his family were displaced to Nigeria's Cross River State and later relocated to the Ikyogen refugee settlement in Benue State by UNHCR.

In 2021, UNHCR selected Sebastien for vocational training in poultry farming, a career he has always been passionate about: «I've been interested in poultry farming since I was a child. This is my passion, and I have no regrets,» Sebastien states. With the provided starter kit, he has successfully maintained a 100% survival rate for his poultry, expanded his operations, and now enjoys a profitable business. «This business has proven to be the most profitable in the neighbourhood,» he notes, with chickens selling for around 3,500 Naira each.

Sebastien aspires to become a lawyer despite educational setbacks due to school closures in Cameroon. With UNHCR's support, he has completed secondary education. However, the limited availability of scholarships for refugees remains a barrier to further education. Sebastien's story underlines the urgent need for more educational opportunities for refugees to secure better futures.

H. Mariam Magaji: From struggles to dreams of a brighter future



Maryam Magaji, an 11-year-old student from Banganange in Sokoto, Nigeria, aspires to be a successful trader like her mother. As one of 20 siblings, Maryam's responsibilities included laborious daily trips to fetch water, significantly impacting her education and health. "I was always tired before going to school in the morning because I had to walk for one hour to fetch water in the morning. By the time I got to school, I could not focus on math, which is my best subject, so I struggled a lot to catch up," Maryam explains.

Recently, UNICEF installed a solar-powered water facility near her home, significantly easing her burden. This development allows Maryam more time to focus on school, particularly her favourite subject, mathematics, and to enjoy typical childhood activities. With dreams of running a profitable local yogurt (Fura) shop, she sees her education as critical: "I know that if I learn mathematics well, I can calculate my income and run my business successfully."

I. From cultivation to nourishment: a journey of empowerment and health



Aishatu Zakari and her husband Abubakar, from Briyel village in Borno State, Nigeria, farm various crops primarily for sale, though they didn't utilize them to nourish their family adequately. Aishatu revealed, «My husband cultivated millet, beans, guinea corn, maize, groundnuts, and soybeans. But all these were mostly for sale in the village market. As a family, we were not eating all these food items. The guinea corn was what we mostly cooked for the children, and I never knew I could add soybeans and groundnuts to the guinea corn to prepare a balanced diet for them.» Their son Mohammed suffered from malnutrition, which was initially treated ineffectively at home with herbs.

The situation improved when Hauwa Idi, a community nutrition mobilizer from the UNICEF-supported Multisectoral Integrated Nutrition Action (MINA) project, intervened. This project, funded by the British Government, focuses on educating caregivers on nutritious diets through support groups close to their homes, which include cooking demonstrations using local crops. These groups also screen children for acute malnutrition and refer them to health facilities.

Through the project, Aishatu gained knowledge on preparing nutritious meals, significantly enhancing her family's diet and overall well-being, demonstrating the project's effectiveness in empowering families with sustainable nutritional practices.

J. Connected Learning: Transforming Education for Refugees and the Host Community



Cameroonian refugees and locals learn using digital methodologies in St. Eugene Primary School Ukende, Cross River State. © UNHCR/Lucy Agiende

In Nigeria, the challenge of providing quality education to nearly 87,000 refugee children, over half of whom are school-aged and primarily from Cameroon, is significant. Presently, only 49% of refugee children attend primary school, compared to the national average of 86%. This gap widens at the secondary education level. Schools in refugee-hosting areas suffer from overcrowded classrooms, a lack of resources like textbooks and computers, and inadequate infrastructure, including the absence of electricity and internet access. Additionally, limited sports facilities curtail a well-rounded educational experience.

To tackle these issues, the UNHCR and ProFuturo Foundation have initiated an innovative educational project in Benue and Cross River States. Eileen Akintemi, UNHCR's Assistant Education Officer, called it a «pioneering initiative» aimed at transforming education through modern technology and solar power. The project has already impacted over 3,500 children and 90 teachers, providing them with tablets, laptops, and interactive learning setups. Gift, an eight-year-old pupil at St. Peter's Primary School in Adagom, commented, «I learn faster through pictures.» The digital and visual learning tools enhance student engagement and motivation, crucial for improving enrollment and retention, while also developing essential digital skills.

However, the project's scope remains limited, underscoring the need for broader, more inclusive educational programmes that benefit both refugee and host communities to promote shared progress.

K. Rebuilding Dreams: Hafsat's Journey from Loss to Empowerment



Hafsat Adam, a 34-year-old from Maiduguri, Borno State, has shown remarkable resilience since her displacement from Baga in 2014 due to an armed attack, during which she tragically lost her daughter and mother. Initially reliant on humanitarian aid at Bakassi IDP camp, Hafsat's family attempted to return home after the camp closed but faced ruin and insecurity. They eventually settled in the Muna Ethiopia community in Maiduguri, renting a room with government help. Here, Hafsat's fortunes changed after UNHCR and the American University of Nigeria provided her with cap-making training and a start-up kit. This opportunity enabled her to diversify into producing liquid soap, oils, and cosmetics, generating enough income to cover her family's rent, the educational expenses of six children and six dependents, daily meals, and medical costs. Additionally, her business success funded her brother's education in Business Administration.

Hafsat's entrepreneurial success has ensured long-term security and self-reliance for her family, turning her into a pillar of stability. Her daughter's academic achievements further motivate her as she supports her dream of becoming a doctor. Hafsat expresses deep gratitude towards UNHCR, stating, "Instead of giving us fish, they have taught us how to fish," highlighting the transformative impact of skill development and entrepreneurial support.

L. Riyom, where women are advancing women's inclusion in peacebuilding and decision-making



In the village of Riyom, Jos Plateau state, a significant peacebuilding reform is underway, championed by a dedicated group of women. Supported by the UN Women's Peace and Security (WPS) project, funded by the Norwegian Government, these women are overcoming traditional barriers to engage actively in leadership, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding. The representation of women in the local traditional council has impressively increased from three to eight members, marking a 166% rise.

These women have been empowered through training workshops, advocacy, and ongoing support, becoming key decision-makers in their community. Structures such as the Women Peace Mentors, HeForShe Network, and Women's Peace and Security Media Network have been instrumental in supporting these efforts across Plateau State and beyond. Chong-Lyop Samuel stands out among these women, having gained and passed on crucial skills in security and peacebuilding to at least 80 other women in Riyom. These women are now mentors in their communities, promoting peace and unity. In times of crisis, the solidarity and skills fostered by the WPS project have proven essential, enabling coordinated rescue activities and communal support systems that ensure community safety.

Women in Riyom, once sidelined from important discussions, are now active participants in local youth and security meetings. This transformation, through persistent training and advocacy, has dismantled previous barriers to women's participation. The peacebuilding efforts in Riyom exemplify the power of empowerment and perseverance, with women leading the way in promoting gender equality and social change. The community's journey towards peace and equity is ongoing, but the women of Riyom serve as inspiring beacons of hope, illustrating that empowered women can lead communities to thrive.

M. Asmau, married at 14 and subjected to years of domestic violence, but emerged as a beacon of inspiration



Asmau's story reflects the successes of policy reform and institutional strengthening initiatives. Married at the age of 14 and suffering from years of domestic abuse, her transformation into an advocate is a testament to resilience and hope. Supported by the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative, Asmau discovered a safe haven at the Nana Khadija Center, dedicated to survivors of violence. The education and vocational training she received at the Second Chance Education Center helped her become an inspirational figure within her community. As the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative comes to a close, it is crucial to continue promoting empowerment and addressing violence. Asmau notes, it is important that we carry forward the torch of empowerment and continue to shine the spotlight on the shadows of violence in our communities.



2.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

2.6.1: Financial Overview

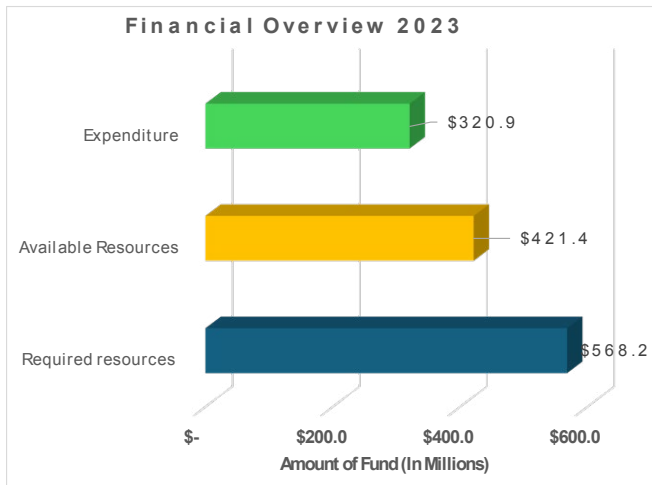


Figure 9: Required Funds vis-à-vis Available Funds and Expenditure in 2023

The common budgetary framework of the UNSDCF shows USD552.7 million required to implement development activities in 2023, out of this, USD421.4 million was available representing 74.6% coverage of required resources. From the available resources, USD320.9 million was spent in the provision of services and programmes representing 77% delivery rate.

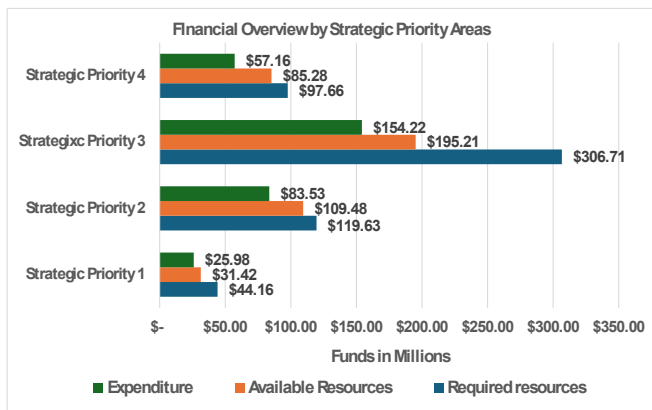


Figure 10: Financial Overview by Strategic Priority areas.

46% percent of available resources went to Strategic priority three (3): Inclusive and equitable human development and wellbeing, followed by 26% Strategic Priority 2: Clean Energy, food systems, environmental sustainability and climate change. 20% to Strategic Priority 4: Governance, Gender, Human Rights and Peace 7% went to Strategic Priority 1: Economic growth, development, decent employment and livelihood. The same pattern was observed for the expenditure where 48% of the USD320.09 million was spent by Strategic

Priority 3 with a delivery rate (ratio of expenditure vs available resources) of 79%, followed by strategic priority 2 (26%) with a delivery rate of 76.3%, Strategic Priority 4 (18%) with a delivery rate of 67% and strategic Priority 1 (8%) with a delivery rate of 83%

Strategic Priority 1: Available Resources and Expenditure by Outcome areas.

For Strategic Priority 1, of the available resources, 38% (USD 12.09 million) was allocated to Outcome 1.2 Improved Access to decent jobs, 36% to Outcome 1.1 Improved Productivity and opportunities, 14% to Outcome 1.4 Improved data, while the remaining 11% to Outcome 1.3 Improved social Protection

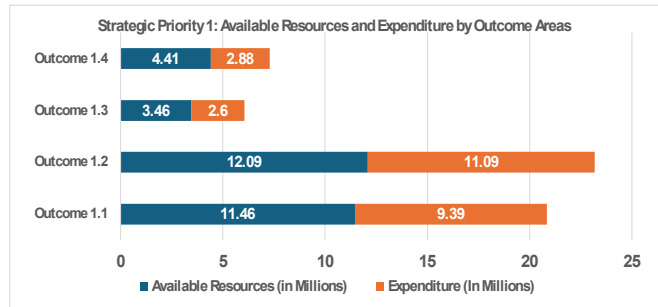


Figure 11: Strategic Priority 1: Available Resources and Expenditure by Outcome Areas

Strategic Priority 2: Available Resources and Expenditure by Outcome areas.

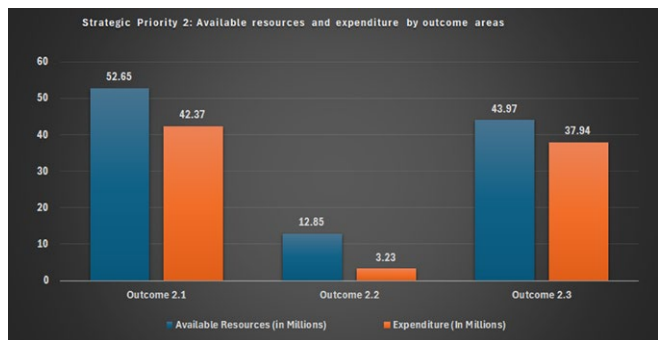


Figure 12: Result Area 2: Available Resources and Expenditure by Outcome Areas

For Strategic Priority 2, 51% of the fund was allocated to Outcome 2.1: Improved food security and nutrition, 43% to Outcome 2.3 Policies and practices for resilience and DRM while 7% was to outcome 2.2 Improved management of climate.

Strategic Priority 3: Available Resources and Expenditure by Outcome Areas.

For strategic priority 3, 76% of the allocated resources went to Outcome 3.1: Universal Health Coverage while 12% was allocated to Outcome 3.3: WASH and the remaining 11% was allocated to Outcome 3.2: Education.

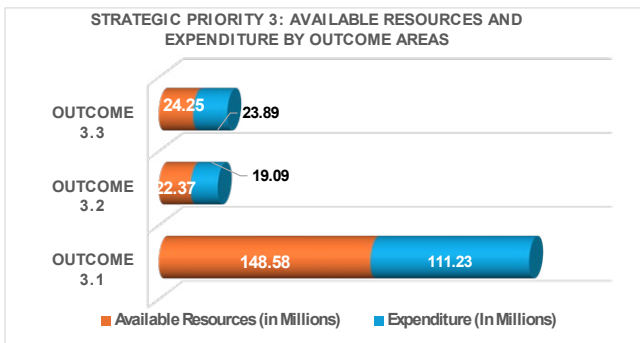


Figure 13: Strategic Priority 3 Available Resources and expenditure by outcome areas

Strategic Priority 4: Available Resources and Expenditure by Outcome Areas.

Under Strategic Priority 4, 59% of the funds was allocated to Outcome 4.1: Peace and Security, 40% Outcome 4.2: Inclusive governance and Justice System, and only 2% to Outcome 4.3: Gender Equality and Human Right of marginalized groups.

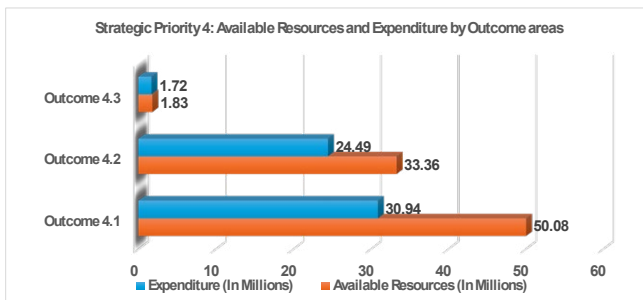


Figure 14: Strategic Priority 4: Available Resources and Expenditure by Outcome Areas.



Photo: © UNICEF

2.6.2 Resource mobilization and quality of funding

How much we need, how much we have: The UN funding gap by UN Entity in Nigeria - 2023

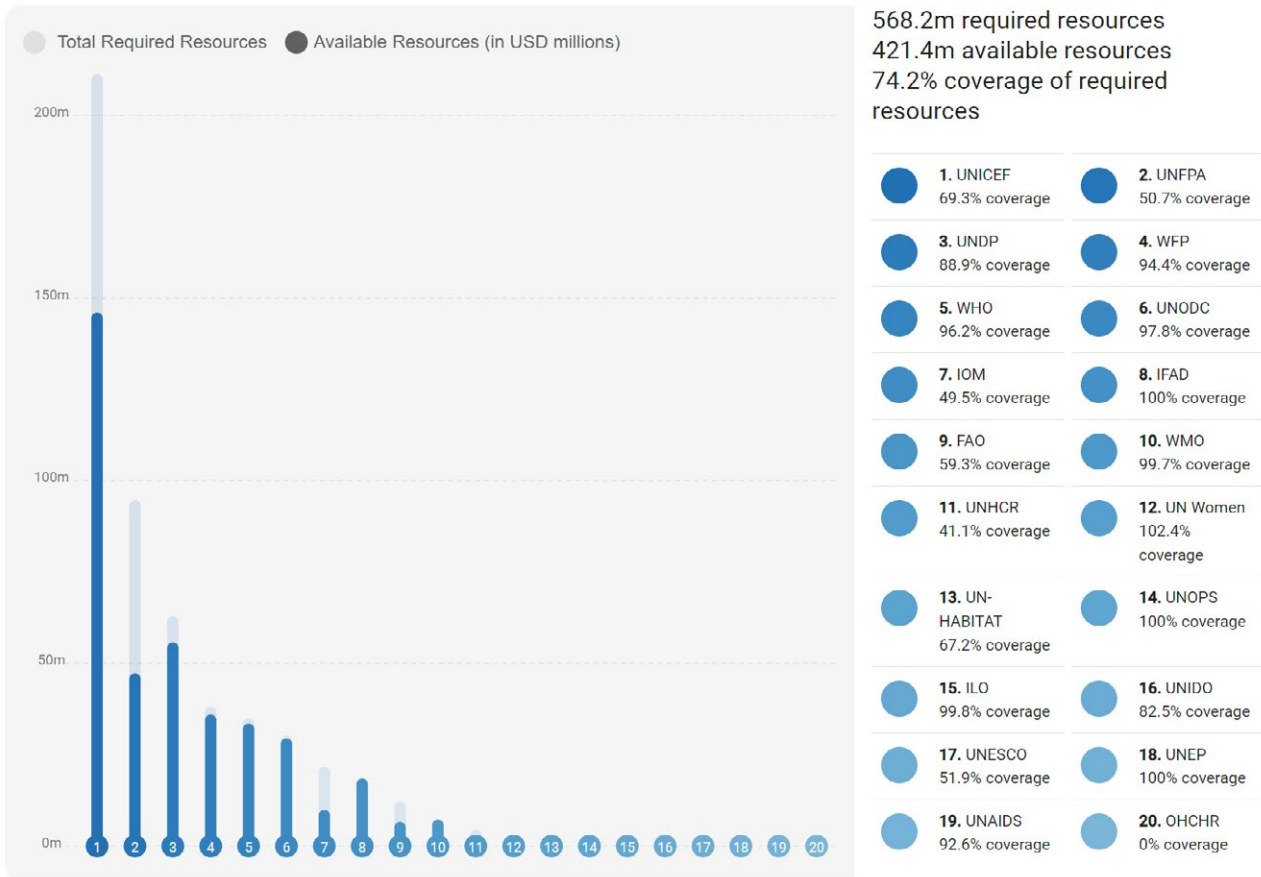


Figure 15: Funding coverage by UN entities in 2023
Please Note: Data presented is as of May 8, 2024

2023 Expenditure per Agency

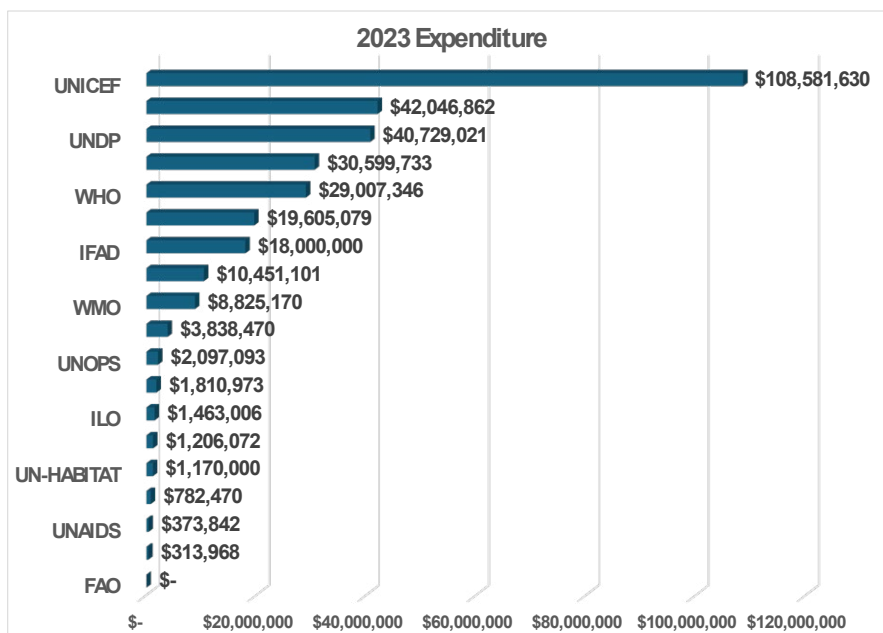


Figure 16: 2023 Expenditure per agency.
Please Note: Data presented is as of May 8, 2024

A total of **320.90 million USD** was spent by different agencies in 2023 to implement the development programme. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) accounted for over 60% of the expenditure while the remaining agencies (16) spent the remaining 40% of the available resources.

FAO expenditure data was not available at the time of reporting.

Gender marker

50% of the funds (158 million USD) was spent on activities that significantly contributed towards realization of gender equality and women's empowerment. Only 12% of the funds spent was principally for gender equality and women's empowerment.

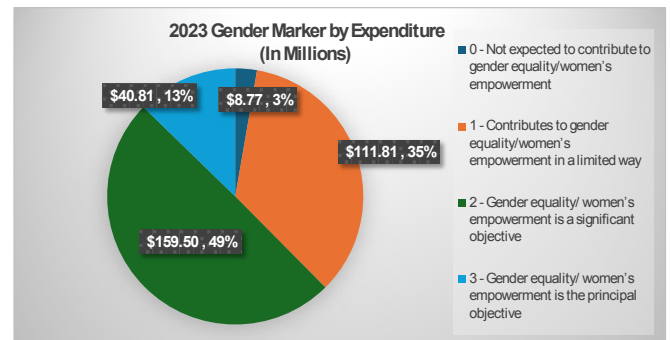


Figure 17: Gender Marker by Expenditure

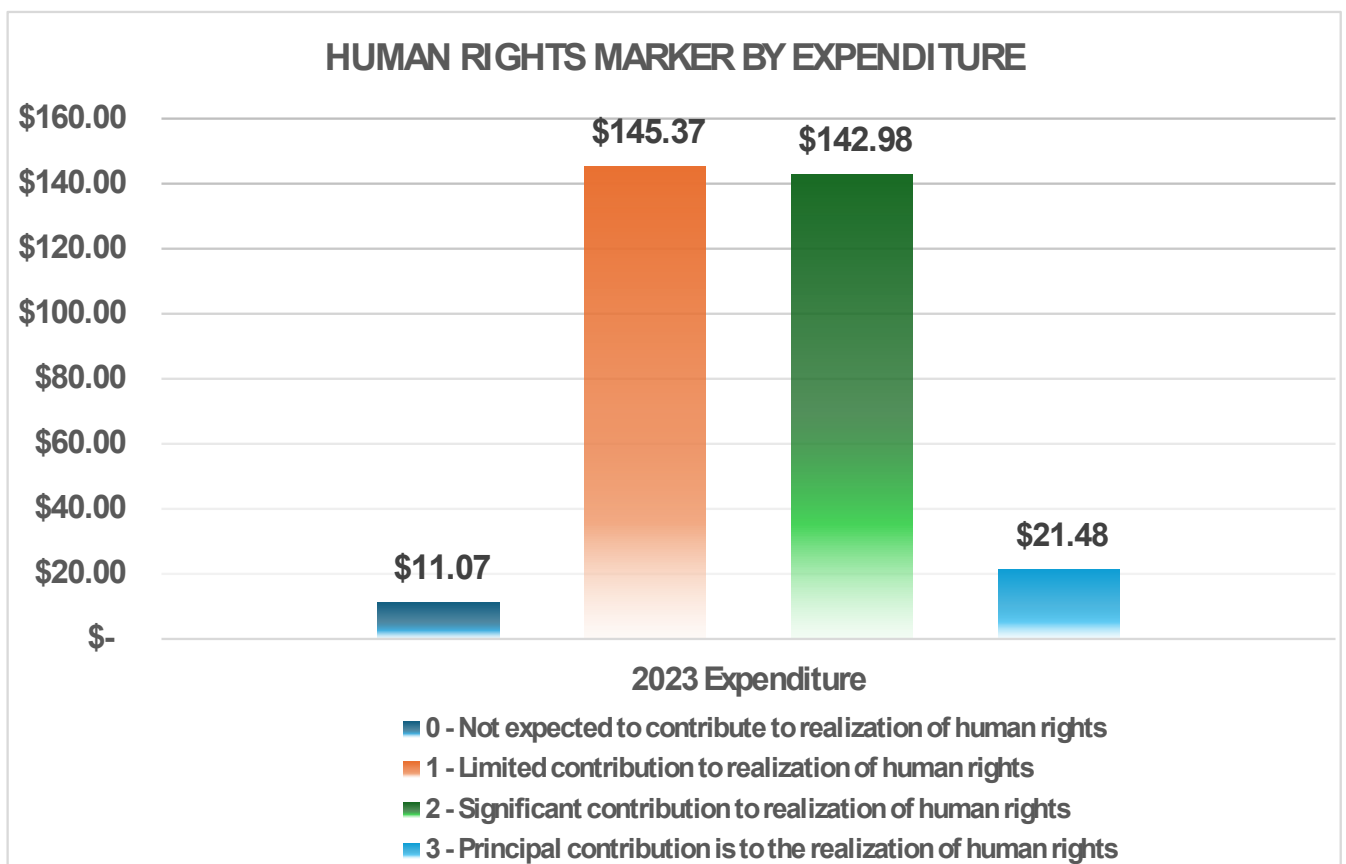


Figure 18: Human Right Marker by Expenditure

51% of the funds spent (USD163.33 million) were spent on activities that contributed towards the realization of human rights. While 45% was used to implement activities that made little contribution towards realization of human rights and 4% of the funds spent did not contribute to human rights.

Chapter 3: UNCT Key Focus Areas for 2023







-  **Implementation of the New Cooperation Framework:** The implementation of the UNSDCF 2023-2027 commenced in 2023 with the development and monitoring of the UNSDCF Joint Work Plan. The implementation guide, which defines the governance structures and groups, was developed and is currently being reviewed and finalised to drive the implementation process. The 2023-2024 joint work plans were finalised and uploaded onto UNINFO. The resource mobilisation strategy is expected to be developed in 2024 along with a partnership strategy. The implementation of the identified Transformative Initiatives that foster working together by the UN for collective and impactful outcomes will commence in 2024 after careful alignment with the six global transition pathways.
-  **SDG Implementation:** The UNCT will continue to domesticate the Secretary-General's Data Strategy to improve evidence-based planning and development of programmes. The UNCT will actively participate in the power of data initiative, which the Nigerian government has initiated for implementation. This will be done in collaboration with relevant government agencies including the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Office of the Special Assistant to the President (OSSAP) on SDGs, and other national and regional entities to ensure that data is available for decision-making purposes. In addition, the UNCT will continue to provide advice and support to the national government to integrate all SDGs into its national development strategy.
-  **Strategic Financing and Partnerships:** The funding gaps in the implementation of the UNSDCF have been identified and a robust resource mobilisation strategy will be developed to cover the framework period. Further engagement with the private sector will be solidified to harness common approaches and resources to achieve Agenda 2030.
-  **Leaving No One Behind, Human Rights and Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda:** The UNCT will continue in 2024 to uphold the inclusion of youth, gender, and disability in all programmes.
-  **COVID-19 Response:** In 2024, the UNCT will continue to monitor and respond to issues related to COVID-19 as the need arises.
-  **Peace and Security, and National Census:** The UN worked with various peace infrastructures, security operatives, police, army, DSS, paramilitary, and others to find lasting solutions to the security challenges affecting the country.



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List of Acronyms

AfCFTA	African market through African Continental Free Trade Area
BOS	Business Operation Strategy
CBF	City Blueprint Framework
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CHIPs	Community Influences Promoters and Services
CBF	City Blueprint Framework (CBF)
CLM	Contraceptive Logistics Management
CRA	Child Rights Act
CRU	Complaints Response Unit
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CYP	Couple-Years of Protection
DDRR	Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration
EMIS	Education Management Information System
EU	European Union
eWMINS	Warehouse Management Information Systems
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
FIRS	Federal and State Inland Revenue Services
FLN	Foundational Literacy and Numeracy
FMEPM	Federal Ministry of Environment, Power and Mines
FMHAP	Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation
FMLE	Federal Ministry of Labor and Employment
FMOH	Federal Ministry of Health
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEOB	Gender and Equal Opportunity Bill
GPI	Global Peace Index
GTG	Gender Technical Group
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRH	Human Resources for Health
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFIs	International Financial Institutions
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Immigration
JP	Joint Programme
KDI	Kimpact Development Initiatives
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
LGAs	Local Government Areas

MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOWASD	Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development
MSMEs	Micro, Small Medium Enterprises
NALABE	National Assessment of Learning Achievement in Basic Education
NAP	National Action Plan
NASSCO	National Social Safety-Nets Coordinating Office
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NCCE	National Commission for Colleges of Education
NCFRMI	National Commissions for Refugees, Migrants, and IDPs
NCTO	National Cash Transfer Office
NDHS	Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey
NDP	National Development Plan
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NIHSA's	Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency
NILDS	National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies
NIP	National Industrial Policy
NPC	National Population Commission
NPHCDA	National Primary Health Care Development Agency
NTI	National Teachers Institute
ODF	Open Defecation Free
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSSAP	Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals
PCVE	Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism
PHC	Primary Health Care
PMT	Program Management Team
PSEA	Prevent Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
RC	Resident Coordinator
SAPs	State Action Plans
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
TAPs	Territorial Action Plans
Tis	Transformative Initiatives
TRCN	Teacher's Registration Council of Nigeria
TVET	Technical and vocational education and training
UN	United Nations

UNCA	UN's Convention Against Corruption
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIC	United Nations Information
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
USD	United States Dollars
VAPP	Violence Against Person Prohibition
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
YPS	UN's Convention Against Corruption

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS







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