



UNDP Inputs to the thematic review of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in 2024.

1. Impacts of multiple crises on the implementation of SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 from the vantage point of your intergovernmental body.

[SDG1] Across the globe, over 1 billion people are grappling with multidimensional poverty, concentrated in nearly 110 countries. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly reversed decades of progress in poverty reduction, marking the first increase in extreme poverty in a generation and triggering the largest surge in between-country inequality in three decades. This setback, compounded by the climate crisis, escalating conflict and fragility, a weak global economy, and the lingering effects of the pandemic, has exposed vulnerabilities and obstructed the 2030 Agenda's progress. The world's poorest and most vulnerable populations bear the brunt of these global challenges. UNDP estimates indicate that economic shocks during 2020-2023 pushed an additional 165 million people into poverty, defined by the \$3.65-a-day poverty line, all residing in low- and lower-middle-income economies. Should current trends persist, an estimated 575 million people, including 342 million women and girls, will remain in extreme poverty by 2030, with only one-third of countries on track to halve their national poverty levels.

UNDP highlights the following trends related to poverty:

- **Concentration of Poverty and Geographic Disparities:** By 2030, the majority of developing countries are projected to have regions falling behind national averages, where extreme poverty is prevalent.
- **Growing fragility and conflict:** On the current trajectory, by 2030 up to two-thirds of the world's extreme poor will live in fragile and conflict-affected countries. Globally, about 110 million people endure forced internal and external displacement due to persecution, conflict, violence, and human rights violations, with women and girls facing disproportionately higher risks and burdens. Climate change has increased natural disasters, resource scarcity, and environmental degradation, with the potential of forcing 216 million people to move within their own countries by 2050.
- **Demographic transformation:** Changing population age structures significantly influence developmental paths in countries, presenting both opportunities and challenges. Countries grappling with high poverty rates often harbour substantial youth populations yet struggle to harness the potential benefits (e.g. youth dividend). Meanwhile, numerous middle-income countries are already experiencing rapid ageing, intensifying pressure on inadequate social support systems. Women are more likely to face economic insecurity in old age due to persistent



gender gaps in pay, savings, and pensions, coupled with a longer life expectancy compared to men.

[SDG2] The world is currently experiencing another global food crisis, resulting from a confluence of crises: the war in Ukraine and its impact on two of the major food exporters; continued disruptions from COVID-19 on global supply chains and the slow, uneven recovery from the pandemic-induced recession; climate shocks, including floods in Pakistan and droughts and heatwaves affecting regions from the Horn of Africa to China; energy price shocks contributing to spiraling global inflation, which in turn causes spikes in food and fertilizer prices; and a debt crisis that disproportionately affects vulnerable countries, undermining their resilience to these shocks. Consequently, several countries are witnessing a rise in food insecurity.

The challenges to overcoming this crisis are immense. According to the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report 2023 (SOFI 2023), global hunger in 2022 impacted 9.2% of the world population, amounting to between 691 and 783 million people, with a total of 2,356.9 million people experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity. The Global Report on Food Crisis (GRFC) 2023 indicates that over a quarter of a billion people were acutely food-insecure, requiring urgent food assistance in 58 food-crisis countries/territories in 2022.

Growing inequalities are causing food systems to struggle to provide nutritious, safe, and affordable foods for everyone. This situation has led to millions facing food insecurity and malnutrition, while simultaneously, there is an increase in the number of people suffering from being overweight and obese.

[SDG13] The stakes could not be higher. With 2023 confirmed as the hottest year on record, the impacts of climate change are becoming more widespread and devastating. This new climate reality is further intertwining with other evolving crises – from geopolitical instability and biodiversity loss to the rising costs of food and fuel, and financial volatility. The next two years represent the best opportunity the international community has to ensure that global warming stays below 1.5°C.

As part of the Paris Agreement, countries have submitted national climate pledges, known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which outline their plans to address climate change. Ahead of the 30th Conference of Parties (COP30) in 2025, there is a historic opportunity for countries to revise their NDCs to align with a pathway that limits warming to approximately 1.5°C and ensures that national development efforts are compatible with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. This period also offers a significant chance to synchronize NDCs with other key frameworks such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), facilitating a comprehensive response to the impacts of the triple planetary crisis.

[SDG16] The Global Progress Report on SDG 16 developed by UNDP jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), warns that SDG 16 is dangerously off track:



- Violence is on the rise: intentional homicides peaked in 2021, and armed conflicts claimed the lives of nearly 17,000 civilians, marking a 53 per cent increase from the previous year.
- Increase in child trafficking: the percentage of child victims has risen from 28 per cent in 2014 to 35 per cent in 2021.
- Access to justice remains limited: less than half the population reports crimes to authorities, and the number of detainees continues to grow, with a rising share of unsentenced detainees.
- Corruption is prevalent, with a higher prevalence in low- and middle-income countries.
- Women remain underrepresented in senior decision-making roles, facing glass ceilings in public service and the judiciary.
- Increase in risks for human rights defenders and journalists: killings and enforced disappearances of defenders and journalists rose significantly in 2022.
- Widespread discrimination: one in six people has experienced discrimination in the last year, with women, persons with disabilities, and racial minorities disproportionately affected.

The world is witnessing democratic governance systems under immense strain to respond to multiple crises against a backdrop of increasing global uncertainty.

Widespread abuses targeting human rights defenders continue with activists jailed, religious groups and minorities – including Indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees and the LGBTIQ+ community – facing new levels of persecution.

Diminished political will and respect for human rights and the rule of law in conflict and fragile contexts present challenges to efforts aimed at improving rights-based governance, conflict prevention, sustaining peace, and ensuring people-centered justice and security, in alignment with the 2030 Agenda.

Overlapping crises have also spurred pushback against gender equality, exacerbating existing legal and social gender discrimination. Spillover violence from neighboring countries, transnational violent extremist groups, divisive narratives, depleted governance capacities, insufficient resources - including financial resources - and the impacts of climate change are also among the major challenges to implementing SDG 16.

[SDG17] The number of fragile and crisis contexts continues to rise. In this era of polycrisis, the global community must recognize that today's crises are increasingly long-lasting, recurring, and complex, and therefore require multi-year, integrated development and financing solutions.

Sustainable finance is essential for countries to reduce risk, prevent crises, respond and recover from them, and build long-term resilience. Ensuring sustainable development requires the ability to cope



with shocks, adapt to stress, and transform through crises. This cannot happen without sustainable, risk-informed financing. Sufficient, well-aligned public and private finance, steered by the appropriate national and international policies, will largely determine whether we live in peace and prosperity or insecurity and constant want.

The financial system is not fit for purpose in driving investment toward sustainable development and more resilient futures. As the global economy faces multiple shocks and crises that exacerbate higher borrowing costs for developing countries, disparities in countries' access to liquidity, fiscal stress, and budget constraints result in many governments from developing countries being compelled to allocate a substantial portion of their revenue to debt service payments instead of investing in health, education, and social protection.

More than 50 of the poorest developing countries are in danger of defaulting on their debt and becoming effectively bankrupt, including 28 of the world's top 50 most climate-vulnerable countries. While they represent just 3% of the global economy, they account for over half of the people living in extreme poverty. Most vulnerable countries are not on the verge of default but rather risk facing a future of high economic and development costs from dealing with large debt overhangs. How vulnerable developing countries will emerge from this crisis will crucially depend on liquidity risk in the short term and their ability to undertake quality investments in physical and human capital to boost future growth, as well as external demand for their commodities. For all countries, this will require access to stable and low-cost finance, and for some countries, a debt restructuring will have to precede such access.

2. Key areas where sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for achieving the SDGs are being effectively delivered, especially related to the cluster of SDGs under review in 2024, bearing in mind the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the Goals and targets.

[SDG1] Eradicating extreme poverty requires targeted strategies tailored to the unique challenges different countries encounter. UNDP employs various pathways and bespoke development solutions depending on the specific country context, operating across 170 countries. These interventions promote social protection with an increasing emphasis on adaptive social protection, community-based responses, and risk insurance. They also focus on creating jobs and livelihoods through labor market interventions, green jobs, women's economic empowerment, and youth employment. In addition, UNDP supports local economic development, enhances SMEs, trade, and value chains by improving access to productive assets and credit, fostering e-commerce, inclusive economies, and integrating the informal economy. Development planning efforts include the implementation of anticipatory systems, risk-informed development, and planning for a just and green transition.



[SDG2] UNDP has been at the forefront of addressing food and agricultural systems' challenges for over two decades, working in more than 140 countries. Its efforts are deeply rooted in understanding and tackling the interconnected challenges that food systems face, including governance, climate change, crisis response, and poverty alleviation. With an investment exceeding \$4 billion across over 170 countries, UNDP's commitment to Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems is a testament to its strategic approach towards sustainable development.

Recognizing the complexity of food systems, UNDP advocates for a holistic strategy that necessitates collaboration across various governmental sectors, from Finance to Health, to address the multifaceted nature of food systems effectively. Such an integrated method underscores the importance of considering the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in tandem, aligning closely with the SDGs' interconnected goals and targets.

As we look towards the cluster of SDGs under review in 2024, UNDP's initiatives in transforming food systems epitomize the kind of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions required to meet these goals. Leveraging its unique convening power, UNDP fosters systemic transformations through cutting-edge methodologies that prioritize co-creation and deep collaboration with all relevant stakeholders.

[SDG13] Leveraging its newly established Climate Hub, UNDP delivers the UN System's most extensive portfolio of support for climate action in nearly 150 countries, with over US\$2 billion in grant financing. This support is complemented by UNDP's expertise in gender, energy, poverty, health, and climate security, ensuring sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions that bridge SDG13 with other SDGs and targets. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), as sovereign and politically backed pledges, stand as one of the most potent tools to integrate climate considerations with national development priorities, plans, and investments. For instance, nearly all NDCs include specific measures related to energy (SDG7). Implementing these measures and transitioning to clean energy can create millions of new jobs, boost global economic growth (SDG8), and provide energy access to approximately 785 million people, as well as clean cooking solutions (integrating SDGs 2, 3, 5) for 2.6 billion people.

Through its Climate Promise initiative, UNDP supported 85% of all developing country submissions during the last NDC revision cycle, with 91% of these submissions increasing their mitigation ambition and 93% enhancing their adaptation ambition. Nearly 95% of all NDCs supported by UNDP included considerations for gender equality and made references to youth. The revised NDCs featured higher quality data, analysis, and information, indicating a more informed and comprehensive approach to addressing climate change and its interlinkages with sustainable development goals.

[SDG16] High-quality SDG 16 data is necessary to inform policies that uphold human rights and ensure just and inclusive governance. While data is available for all global SDG 16 indicators, country



coverage remains limited for some indicators, highlighting the need for further investment to expand data availability. Several tools have been developed in a relatively short timeframe to address the demands of measuring governance, corruption, crime, and access to justice, and to provide guidance on applying a human rights-based approach to data collection. Some of these initiatives have been mentioned in response to the question about "measures to support the implementation of the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit.

Globally, crises continue to impact the world's poorest and most left behind where they live. These complex, high-risk and fast evolving places must be a priority development focus – for both prevention and response - if we are to collectively make progress towards the 2030 Agenda and reduce drivers of conflict and address the root causes of crisis. We must invest in peace, through making necessary funding, financing, and resource commitments to help prevent conflict. UNDP supports conflict-affected communities in transitioning from dependency on aid and coping economies to getting the local economy running again, creating livelihoods, and achieving peace, stability and solidarity based on a renewed social contract.

Target 16.9 on ensuring legal identity for all is a critical enabler for inclusive development. People with no legal identity are often pushed to the margins of society, unable to prove who they are, secure decent work, acquire a driver's license, apply for benefits, or "exist" in society. They are often exposed to extreme vulnerabilities and have limited access to public goods and services. UNDP works to increase the number of countries with national and sub-national initiatives, policies, and strategies to address legal identity issues and ensure that everyone, without exception, has access to essential public goods and services. The United Nations Legal Identity Agenda Task Force, co-chaired by UNDP, UNDESA, and UNICEF, is working with member states to ensure that more than 300 million people acquire a legal identity by 2025. UNDP is strengthening the capacity of member states to develop comprehensive birth-to-death civil registration and national ID management systems.

Recognizing that inclusive societies are a precondition for achieving sustainable development, integrating a gender perspective into public policies will make these policies more effective, efficient, and targeted to the needs of those most severely impacted by multiple crises. UNDP plays a crucial role in promoting gender-responsive public policies and services through the Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions. The Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions program, driven by SDG 16 and SDG 5, provides public institutions with a practical framework to enhance their capacities and deliver on gender equality in a more effective and visible manner. In 2023, UNDP expanded its work to 30 countries and 91 public institutions, aiming to build gender-responsive public administrations, policies, and services.

Target 16.10 that promotes effective institutions speaks to the fundamental role of public institutions to deliver development for people. Major investment is needed to strengthen public sector capabilities to unlock accelerated delivery of the SDGs. As the world becomes increasingly volatile,



uncertain, complex, and ambiguous, public institutions can no longer do business as usual. Governments must be equipped to anticipate development risks and effectively adapt and transform their public sectors for sustainable, inclusive development that speaks to the aspirations of their people. UNDP is supporting FutureGov (a UN Development System High Impact Initiative) to help member states in their ‘transformation journeys’ as they improve the way they design, finance, deliver, and evaluate public services.

Justice is fundamental in both preventing and responding to conflict, crisis, and fragility. This is crucial for strengthening the rule of law and realizing the transformative ambition of Agenda 2030. To remedy injustices, end impunity, and protect the rights of current and future generations, justice systems, services, and institutions must be fair, accountable, and accessible. They must also deliver quality justice services for all, especially for the most marginalized, vulnerable, and those left furthest behind. To address the widening justice gap, UNDP is implementing people-centred approaches to transforming justice systems, so they respond to the perceptions, needs, and experiences of those facing injustices.

Amid growing global insecurity and securitisation, UNDP's people-centred security approach serves as an innovative tool for the UN and other international development actors. It aids governments in providing inclusive and sustainable solutions based on strong partnerships between institutions and the populace. Through policy and programming, UNDP supports countries in pivoting towards people-centred and community security initiatives. This enables transformations at both national and local levels to meet the actual security needs of populations.

[SDG17] Thematic bonds represent sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions for achieving the SDGs, offering a practical approach to finance projects aligned with specific goals. For instance, in the domain of life below water (SDG 14), Indonesia, with the support of UNDP, issued a blue bond for \$150 million in 2023. Similarly, UNDP supported Fiji in launching its first-ever listed blue bond, valued at \$20 million in the same year. In the realms of climate action (SDG 13) and life on land (SDG 15), UNDP supported Uruguay in the issuance of a sovereign Sustainability Linked Bond. This bond, released in two tranches - one for \$1.5 billion in October 2022 and another for \$700 million in 2023 - features payment triggers (KPIs) connected to the preservation of forest cover and the reduction of CO2 emissions intensity. Moreover, other thematic bonds focusing on a broad range of SDGs have been issued in Indonesia, Mexico, and Uzbekistan over the last year, demonstrating the diverse applicability and potential of thematic bonds in contributing to sustainable development goals across different sectors and regions.

3. Examples of specific actions, policies and measures that are most urgently needed to effectively deliver sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to eradicate poverty and reinforce the 2030 Agenda, building on interlinkages and transformative pathways for achieving the SDGs.



[SDG1] Amid multifaceted global risks and uncertainties, UNDP's SDG insight reports - covering over 90 countries - on SDG trends, national priorities, interlinkages, and potential futures have revealed that countries worldwide are increasingly prioritizing the achievement of broad-based inclusive growth measures to accelerate poverty reduction and ensure no one is left behind. These measures include the creation of quality jobs, livelihoods, and income-generation opportunities, skills development, and robust social protection measures, all while reconciling national ambitions for a just and green energy transition.

[SDG2] To support achieving the zero-hunger goal, UNDP seeks to advance holistic efforts to transition food systems from a state of crisis to resilience.

While countries have nutritional, agricultural, and environmental policies, they often lack a food systems approach that integrates these various policies.

The current crisis presents a unique opportunity to adopt a systemic approach to addressing both the immediate issues stemming from the food crisis and the long-term impacts and challenges in food supply chains. This involves addressing the drivers of fragility, crisis, and conflict, as they directly impact food security.

Addressing food systems challenges and implementing complex solutions require strong multistakeholder cooperation among different agencies and global stakeholders, such as the Rome-based agencies (WFP, IFAD, FAO), among many others. It is only through their collective work that we can address the structural drivers of food systems. UNDP has signed a global Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FAO, under which the organization is advancing several flagship initiatives, including food systems transformation. This involves supporting countries to develop and implement their national pathways and promoting the inclusion of small-scale producers in the sustainable transformation of agri-food systems.

[SDG13] UNDP, through its Climate Promise, is in a unique position to support developing countries to align their latest Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with the 1.5°C goal and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This effort aims to strengthen the quality and investability of these NDCs and accelerate their implementation to drive sustainable development, eradicate poverty, and reinforce the 2030 Agenda. Despite emerging signs of hope, such as the record-high global investments in energy transition technologies, which reached US\$1.3 trillion in 2022, UNDP will continue to advocate for:

- **Reinforcing the commitment to multilateralism for climate action.** The climate crisis transcends borders, making it impossible for any single country to succeed alone. The global community must come together to pool our expertise, resources, and innovation to



comprehensively tackle climate change, ensuring a sustainable future for all. Multilateral cooperation is not just an option but a necessity.

- **Accelerating investment in NDCs.** UNDP urges high-income countries to co-invest in partnerships with developing countries to jointly address climate change and development challenges, extending finance, debt relief, and technical support. Developing economies need sufficient fiscal space to undertake ambitious actions, including essential climate adaptation and mitigation investments. For many, achieving this will only be possible through partnerships aimed at comprehensive debt relief policies and increased access to long-term affordable finance.
- **Enhancing inclusivity.** The latest NDCs have seen a significant shift towards greater inclusivity, integrating the voices of women, Indigenous Peoples, and youth more strongly. However, there is still more to be done. UNDP advocates for inclusivity in climate action, recognizing that the climate crisis affects every layer of society indiscriminately. By ensuring that these diverse voices are included in decision-making, we are not only adhering to a moral imperative but also devising climate action plans that genuinely reflect the varied needs of our global community.

[SDG16] SDG16 plays a dual role as both a goal and as a critical enabler for efforts to eradicate poverty and reinforce the 2030 Agenda. For example, UNDP’s SDG Insights Reports found that “effective and accountable institutions” (Target 16.6) are a driver of societal well-being and a priority area for Member States. They have the highest SDG-related impact when co-invested with sustainable economic growth, poverty and inequality reductions, and expansion of health care coverage and quality education for all.

UNDP’s research “Connections that Matter” also finds that increased accountability, adherence to the rule of law, enhanced participation, and greater inclusion are positively associated with progress in social protection and poverty reduction.

Prevention must also be prioritized as the most sensible, effective, and economically sound approach to create a more peaceful world. A development pathway towards peace can be paved by investing in dignified access to services, livelihoods, inclusive governance, and opportunities for the billions of people who lack them. It is important to break out of mandate and finance silos, resist patchwork or sequenced approaches, and hold us accountable to the most vulnerable who deserve the best effort, leveraging the HDP Nexus as a critical, timely space for collaboration across these self-imposed divides. Instead of succumbing to a ‘clash of principles’ between humanitarian, development, and peace actors, a people-centered approach should be embraced where impartiality, independence, neutrality, and humanity sit side-by-side with dignity, inclusion, justice, human rights, agency, and social cohesion.



SDG 16 highlights the importance of access to justice for all for the development of peaceful and inclusive societies. Meaningful access to justice can only be achieved when people know their rights, are empowered to claim them and have access to fair, independent and inclusive systems that will respond in a timely and effective manner. Access to justice is indispensable to protect human rights and fight punctual or systemic inequalities, discrimination, and exclusion. It is at the heart of the social contract: accountable, transparent, and people-centered justice systems contribute to stronger governance, greater confidence in public administration, and increased state legitimacy. When effective and accessible mechanisms are in place to solve disputes amongst individuals and groups, they also contribute to conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

With human rights under increasing attack in many regions across the globe, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) are the cornerstones of a rights-based approach to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. NHRIs have a mandate to promote and protect human rights including providing rights-based advisory support to governments. Despite facing reprisals, themselves in some circumstances, NHRIs have been active in strengthening protections for human rights defenders and expanding civic space, including by serving as a bridge between communities and the state, monitoring and reporting on violations, and engaging in advocacy with national authorities. Much more needs to be done to support Member States in establishing NHRIs and to strengthen existing NHRIs to be fully capacitated.

Despite recent efforts to monitor progress, data show that women remain underrepresented in senior decision-making roles, encountering glass ceilings in public service. Significant data gaps persist, highlighting the urgent need to invest in disaggregated data to improve our understanding of representation in decision-making (SDG 16.7.1b). Additionally, there is a need for increased investment in addressing barriers to the participation of women at senior decision-making levels in the public sector.

[SDG17] Country-led technical assistance with systemic dimensions is essential, focusing on enhancing the stability and sustainability of the national macroeconomic context. Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) offer a holistic view of a country's financing landscape and are utilized by governments to shape financing strategies. These strategies comprise financing policies, reforms, and instruments designed to unlock both public and private financing sources for sustainable development. INFFs emphasize strengthening governance and institutional coordination. An INFF enables work on intragovernmental policy coordination to address feedback loops between macroprudential policy, climate strategy, and financial stability.



4. Follow-up actions and measures being undertaken by your intergovernmental body or forum to support the implementation of the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit.

[SDG1] The Political Declaration of the SDG Summit emphasizes eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, as the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. It commits to bold, ambitious, and accelerated actions to combat poverty and inequality, highlighting the importance of international cooperation and partnership. The declaration also recognizes the persistent and multidimensional impacts of crises like COVID-19 on poverty levels, underlining the need for a concerted global effort to support the most vulnerable populations and ensure no one is left behind.

Firstly, UNDP will continue to invest in priority areas that significantly impact poverty reduction. This includes ensuring universal access to essential services, which are driven by public investments. In addition, UNDP's programmes facilitate access to decent jobs, sustainable livelihoods, and productive assets, supporting the economic empowerment of women, youth, and other marginalized groups.

Secondly, UNDP strengthens local public service provision by supporting local and regional governments. These entities are not only service providers but also facilitators of partnerships that ensure participatory and democratic policymaking. This approach enhances multi-stakeholder governance and ensures that policies are shaped by the needs of the most vulnerable.

UNDP also champions digital transformation by leveraging generative AI technologies. By enabling marginalised groups to share their experiences and learnings widely, UNDP fosters collective resilience and prosperity. The organization harnesses digital public infrastructure (DPI) to address poverty pockets and associated challenges, including climate change and gender inequalities.

Innovation is at the heart of UNDP's support, with a particular emphasis on meeting the needs and challenges faced by women and girls. This is achieved through an intersectional approach that integrates education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, ensuring that these innovations are inclusive and effective.

The political declaration acknowledges the substantial investment required to lift people out of poverty. UNDP plays a key role in advocating for and facilitating this investment, recognizing that education, health services, housing, infrastructure, and social protection systems are all crucial elements.

Despite improvements in financial markets and resilience in the global economy, developing economies face considerable challenges, with growth expected to be subdued. These economies struggle with a cycle of debt and underdevelopment that impedes their ability to invest in growth and welfare. Here, UNDP's advocacy for an enhanced multilateral financial system is crucial. The



organization emphasizes the need for better debt restructuring, liquidity support, and affordable capital to support these countries in achieving sustainable development.

[SDG2] To support the implementation of the Political Declaration (paragraphs 14, 18, 25, 38b), UNDP will continue leveraging its unique position and its convening power to support a sustainable transformation of food systems through a systemic and integrated approach, applying cutting edge methodologies focusing on co-creating solutions and deep collaboration with all the relevant key stakeholders, through:

- **Multi-stakeholder Collaboration.** The transformation of food and agricultural commodity systems to achieve carbon neutrality requires an enormous effort and necessitates working collaboratively for systemic change at both the country and global levels. UNDP will continue to work closely with UN agencies specialized in food and agricultural commodity systems - such as FAO and IFAD - as well as with UNEP, WHO, other multilateral institutions like the World Bank, and international NGOs. This collaborative approach ensures that each agency contributes its expertise to the partnerships for maximum impact.
- **UNDP FACS Strategy Implementation.** In 2020, UNDP launched its Food and Agricultural Commodities Systems (FACS) strategy and practice to guide its future programming, partnerships, and investments in this field. UNDP envisions transforming food and commodity systems through multi-stakeholder collaboration into resilient, equitable, inclusive, and environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable systems.
- **Expertise on Integrated and Systems-oriented Approaches.** UNDP focuses on transcending sectoral challenges to identify opportunities for transformative change, understanding interdependencies, and leveraging linkages across interventions to achieve broader goals. This encompasses promoting sustainable food production, ecosystem conservation, climate change adaptation, sustainable and renewable energy, stronger social protection mechanisms and institutions, inclusive growth and job transition, and gender-transformative policies.
- **Support for Governments with Policy Advice.** UNDP assists governments in addressing the long-term effects of crises and creating sustainable and resilient food systems. This includes providing improved inter-ministerial/integrated decision-making based on a systemic perspective, shifting investments and incentives in domestic agriculture and food production, and promoting the sustainable diversification and intensification of agriculture.

UNDP will also continue to work closely with the governments of producing countries on sustainable agricultural commodities, ensuring that commodity supply chains, which employ millions of people, support their livelihoods and food security while preserving the environment. This is being achieved through global and country programs and projects, such as:



- The Green Commodities Programme (GCP), which, over the last decade, has supported 13 key producing countries in transforming the national, economic, social, and environmental performance of 8 agricultural commodity sectors. This effort has also improved the lives of farmers and their communities while protecting high conservation value forests and important vulnerable ecosystems.
- The GEF 7 funded Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Programme (IP). UNDP has mobilized USD 213 million for 8 country projects under the FOLUR IP that will be implemented over the next 5 years.

[SDG13] To support the implementation of the Political Declaration (particularly paragraphs 7, 19, 25, and 38), UNDP, through its Climate Hub, will continue to build on its Climate Promise - the largest offer of support to developing countries on NDCs to date. UNDP will leverage its experience, expertise, and infrastructure to further connect global dialogues with action on the ground. The existing infrastructure uniquely links climate diplomacy and thought leadership with climate action and sustainable development at both national and local levels. With over 35 partners already engaged, the Climate Promise is a high-visibility initiative aimed at linking with critical global political processes. Working closely with strategic partners, it will continue to support countries in scaling up urgent and ambitious action to deliver their NDCs and achieve the 2030 Agenda.

[SDG16] UNDP supports countries in building peaceful, just, and inclusive societies (Political Declaration, paras. 14, 20, 26). UNDP assists states in strengthening inclusive, accountable, and effective governance systems while promoting meaningful participation and representation of historically marginalized groups, including women and youth, to leave no one behind. Alongside providing electoral and parliamentary development assistance, we prioritize women's political participation and support the development of an enabling environment for civic participation and healthy information ecosystems. We also focus on efforts to build effective and accountable institutions, strengthening national anti-corruption capacities, and supporting public sector transformation, including through the FutureGov High-Impact Initiative launched with UN DESA during the 2023 SDG Summit. UNDP also supports the design of inclusive digital public infrastructure for a rights-based governance of digitalization and digitalization of governance systems.

UNDP supports member states in strengthening international, national, and local data systems to collect high-quality, timely, relevant, disaggregated, and reliable data on SDG 16, as well as their data and statistical capacities (Political Declaration, page 9, para. 38.r). UNDP is a custodian for 4 SDG 16 indicators, supporting governments to produce, monitor, and report on SDG 16 progress. With UNODC and OHCHR, UNDP leads the joint initiative "Measuring Progress towards Peace, Justice,



and Inclusion,” aiming to strengthen national capacities to monitor progress on SDG 16, including through the deployment of the SDG 16 Survey, a modular and cost-effective instrument to collect data on survey-based SDG 16 indicators. In partnership with UNODC and OHCHR, UNDP also prepared the flagship Global Progress Report on SDG 16, providing the first overview of SDG 16 resourcing to nationally owned, approved, and produced statistics.

UNDP works alongside partners to support anti-corruption efforts (Political Declaration, page 10, para. 38.t.vi) at global, regional, and country levels, integrating anti-corruption across all development areas, including biodiversity preservation, climate, energy, health, and justice systems. UNDP recognizes the importance of mainstreaming anti-corruption as a cross-cutting enabler for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, UNDP continues to work on strengthening the role of anti-corruption networks of governments, civil societies, businesses, and academia to promote a “whole-of-society approach” to combat corruption. UNDP, UNODC, and UN/DPPA, as co-chairs of the UN Global Task Force on Corruption, work together to implement the ‘UN Common Position to Address Global Corruption’ and provide technical support to member states by strengthening our coherence and coordination across UN agencies and institutions.

[SDG17] To support the implementation of the Political Declaration, UNDP has also been advancing integrated planning and implementation at the local level to achieve policy coherence for financing sustainable development. The Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) is the primary financial planning tool at the country level, serving as a country-led vehicle for an integrated approach to financing across climate, biodiversity, resilience, peace, and SDG targets. In terms of strengthening capacity, UNDP’s SDG Finance Academy has released an open-access e-Learning Programme on sustainable finance. This program provides capacity building for governments on mobilizing domestic resources through training on public finance for SDGs and on unlocking private capital for private sector investment.

5. Recommendations and key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2024 HLPF.

[SDG1] Advancing the implementation of SDG 1 requires strong partnerships and supporting synergies with other goals and targets, including:

- Partnerships involving financial technology (FinTech) solutions, which facilitate financial inclusion and access to credit, especially in rural communities.
- Collaborations with private sectors, such as cross-border trade organizations, that integrate local solutions to de-risk investments and offer lower interest credit to non-banked populations.
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships that include local and regional governments, civil society, private sector, academia, and youth, aimed at creating jobs, advancing social protection, and supporting just and green energy transitions.



- Tailoring solutions to specific community's needs and ensuring responsible engagement of the private sector.
- Leveraging digital innovations to support the creation of quality jobs, skills development, and robust social assistance measures.
- Ensuring that partnerships reconcile national ambitions with sustainable development goals, particularly through financing models that combine efforts from international financial institutions, the private sector, and public partnerships.

There is a pressing need for reforms in the global financial architecture to ensure more equitable and targeted funding, especially for communities most affected by poverty and inequality. Additionally, the importance of targeted funding for community solutions led by frontline groups such as women, youth, indigenous people, and persons with disabilities cannot be overstated.

Furthermore, the necessity of quality education, technical and vocational training, and apprenticeships is crucial to unlock economic opportunities for youth.

This approach ensures that interventions are precisely targeted and that local and regional governments are empowered to implement policies driven by the SDGs. These partnerships and strategies are underscored as vital for meeting the ambitious targets set for poverty reduction under SDG1 and achieving broader sustainable development goals.

[SDG2] Advancing the implementation of SDG 2 and achieving its targets relies on several factors and processes, including:

- Prioritizing attention and providing expertise to the systemic and structural dimensions of food, which makes UNDP highly complementary and an important agency in the holistic efforts to transform food systems from a state of crisis to resilience.
- Employing systems-thinking approaches and governance mechanisms that can embrace complexity and facilitate more effective collaborative action to deliver food systems with economic, health, and environmental outcomes that are ideal for humanity and the planet.
- Focusing on co-creating with diverse stakeholders through multi-stakeholder dialogue, effective collaborative action, and cooperation, bringing system-wide perspectives beyond sectoral approaches.
- Strengthening food systems governance and cooperation.

[SDG13] In addressing the urgent challenges posed by climate change and its impacts, UNDP's approach to enhancing global efforts towards achieving SDG 13 includes the following recommendations and key messages:



- The Paris Agreement’s goal of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C remains critical, but the world is significantly off track. The world must cut global emissions by nearly half by 2030, on the way to net zero by 2050.
- It is the poorest and most vulnerable people who are the most affected by the climate crisis. Approximately 1.5°C warming could drive an additional 122 million people into extreme poverty by 2030. Youth, women, indigenous communities, and other marginalized groups are at greatest risk.
- Our collective challenge is to transition the global economy to an inclusive, resilient, and net-zero emissions path. Vast and transformational change is required across energy and food systems, infrastructure, transportation, land, industry, and other sectors, to combat climate change and eradicate poverty.
- There are signs of hope, such as the global investments in energy transition technologies that reached USD 1.3 trillion in 2022, a record high. Yet, the current pace of investment in climate action is not sufficient.
- UNDP is uniquely positioned to support countries in accelerating climate action. Leveraging its vast development and climate portfolio across 150 countries, UNDP takes an integrated approach to development and climate finance, while also supporting climate action across mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage.
- Developing countries, particularly SIDS and LDCs, are on the frontlines of climate change, but also leading on decisive and bold climate action.
- Ensuring climate justice and inclusion are at the heart of our collective efforts. To win this fight, we must bring to bear all the knowledge, skills, and perspectives available to us, building from the experience of those on the frontlines. We must also ensure that vulnerable countries have the support they need, including by operationalizing the new fund on loss and damage.

[SDG16] Achieving SDG 16 requires strong multi-stakeholder partnerships, integrated solutions, and proactive leadership. A whole-of-society approach, with enhanced cooperation and coordination among governments, the private sector, civil society, and international and multilateral organisations, is essential to:

- Address the deep-seated causes of inequality and exclusion captured in SDG 16 to achieve progress on an inclusive, human rights-based approach to sustainable development.
- Invest in strengthening national statistical systems to produce accurate, reliable, and disaggregated data which would inform national and local policies on peace, justice, and inclusion. SDG 16 data remains a key area for leveraging partnerships. Collaborating with more countries to track and report progress is essential to address reversals and stagnation across the Goal.



- Strengthen commitment to data availability to track progress on women's participation in decision-making in public service, SDG 16, and Agenda 2030.
- Commit to investments in quality data collection (and the availability of data) on gender parity in public administration to support evidence-based policy and programming.
- Strengthen data collection systems for reporting on SDG 16.7.1b. and tracking achievement of Target 16.7 of SDG 16 that aims to ensure “responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.”
- Support public institutions in carrying out institutional changes and reforms to better equip them to deliver gender-responsive policies, programs, and services that effectively address gender gaps.
- Transform organizational cultures and support public institutions' efforts to achieve substantive gender equality and accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

Key to strengthening Member States to uphold their human rights obligations will be their efforts to strengthen national human rights systems and specifically to establish National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) in line with the Paris Principles. This is an indicator of SDG 16 and some progress has been made, however more needs to be done to accelerate the growth rate of strong and independent NHRIs globally. Currently, six out of ten countries worldwide still lack independent NHRIs.

Multistakeholder partnerships are key, breaking silos and recognizing the interconnectedness of injustice, inequality, and violence. Platforms like VNRs and the HLPF are crucial, but follow-up at the local and community levels is critical for realizing commitments.

The multidimensional nature of today’s crises and conflicts forces us to cooperate and consciously consider prevention and peace entry points at all stages of crises. Investing in prevention not only saves lives but also significantly reduces the economic, social and humanitarian costs associated with conflicts. We need to proactively support and invest in the capacities of our national partners, capacities that are essential to building stable, resilient communities and institutions, that can prevent conflict escalation and relapse.

[SDG17]

Achieving SDG17 requires an integrated approach to sustainable finance, encompassing:

- Strengthening domestic resource mobilization by supporting governments in harnessing the power of taxation to achieve the SDGs.
- Assisting Ministries of Finance in undertaking budget reforms to integrate the SDGs into public finance.



- Developing a financial planning tool to advance systemic change by unlocking and aligning financing across all action areas of the Financing for Development (FFD) agenda, thereby expanding the SDG policy space.

UNDP's Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) helps advance systemic change at the country level by unlocking and aligning financing across all action areas of the FFD agenda to expand the SDG policy space. INFFs serve as a vehicle for an integrated approach to financing for the SDGs, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and priorities related to nature, biodiversity, resilience, and peace at the country level. The revised FFD agenda should advocate for an integrated alignment with sustainable development across all facets of public finance, including taxation, budgeting, and debt management.