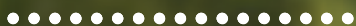




UNITED NATIONS
KAZAKHSTAN



UNITED NATIONS



KAZAKHSTAN

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



UNITED NATIONS
KAZAKHSTAN

UNITED NATIONS

KAZAKHSTAN

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR	6
CHAPTER 1. THE UN COUNTRY TEAM IN KAZAKHSTAN	8
CHAPTER 2. KEY PARTNERS OF THE UN IN KAZAKHSTAN	10
CHAPTER 3. KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT	12
CHAPTER 4. UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES	14
4.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results	15
4.2 Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs	18
4.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda	52
4.4 Results of the UN working more and better together	56
4.5 Evaluations and Lessons Learned	60
4.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization	63
CHAPTER 5. UNCT KEY FOCUS FOR 2025	70
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	74

FOREWORD BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR

I am honoured to present this Annual Report of the UN Country Team in Kazakhstan for 2024. Throughout the year, the United Nations and its partners in Kazakhstan have worked steadfastly to support the country's development agenda in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Kazakhstan's national priorities.

Kazakhstan has continued to demonstrate its commitment to multilateralism and sustainable development, deepening its partnership with the United Nations. We have witnessed country's advancement on climate action and energy transition with renewed commitments to achieve carbon

neutrality by 2060. In 2024, Kazakhstan strengthened policies to protect vulnerable populations, including women, children, and persons with disabilities. The enactment of enhanced legislation to combat domestic violence and the continued emphasis on inclusive education and healthcare were key achievements. The UN system worked closely with the government and civil society to promote human rights, enhance social protection mechanisms, and ensure that no one is left behind.

The year also brought challenges. The floods in early 2024 — the worst in decades — tested the resilience of communities and institutions.

These events underscored the importance of disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, and preparedness for future crises.

Looking ahead, our collective efforts must remain steadfast in accelerating the implementation of the SDGs, fostering innovation, inclusive public services provided by accountable state institutions, and ensuring that economic growth is inclusive, green, and sustainable. The UN Country Team remains committed to supporting Kazakhstan in its journey toward a resilient, prosperous, and equitable future.

On behalf of the United Nations in Kazakhstan, I extend my deepest gratitude to the Government of Kazakhstan, our development partners, civil society organizations, and, most importantly, the people of Kazakhstan, for their unwavering commitment to building a more just and sustainable society.



Stephen O'Malley
UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in Kazakhstan
March 2025

THE UN COUNTRY TEAM IN KAZAKHSTAN

The United Nations initiated its country-based operations in Kazakhstan in early 1993, shortly after the country's accession to the United Nations in March 1992. The UNCT in Kazakhstan is comprised of 27 agencies, funds and programmes (of which 20 are resident and 7 non-resident) led by the UN Resident Coordinator. To facilitate country-based and regional operations, the UN is located in two cities: Astana and Almaty.

In 2024 the UN in Kazakhstan accounted for 468 staff, including 397 national and 71 international.

The UN system in Kazakhstan commits to remain a valued, rights-based and trusted partner of the Government and people of Kazakhstan, able to mobilize the best expertise and knowledge across key development areas.

The UN Country Team in Kazakhstan is comprised of **20 resident organizations**

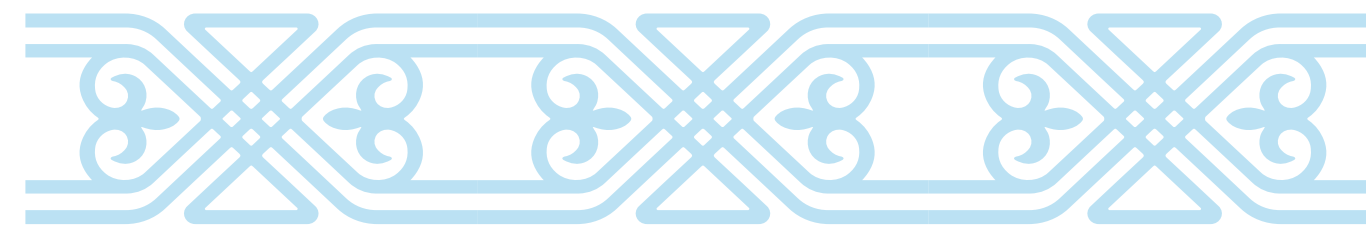
and **7 non-resident entities**



Department of Global Communications



2 KEY PARTNERS OF THE UN IN KAZAKHSTAN



Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires the collective efforts of a diverse range of stakeholders. The UN's support to Kazakhstan is made possible and indeed is enhanced by strong partnerships with government institutions at all levels, civil society organizations (CSOs), the private sector, bilateral and multilateral donors, academia, and international financial institutions (IFIs). Partners play a vital role in advancing rights-based policies, fostering inclusive development, and ensuring that no one is left behind. The achievements highlighted in this report reflect the invaluable contributions of our partners, whose commitment and collaboration contribute to meaningful progress.

A key milestone in 2024 was the extensive consultation process for the formulation of the next **UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2026–2030**. These consultations brought together government entities, CSOs, businesses, development partners, and other key stakeholders to align priorities and shape a collective vision for Kazakhstan's sustainable development over the next five years. This process reinforced the value and importance of multi-stakeholder engagement in setting a shared development agenda.

The **Government of Kazakhstan** remains the UN's key partner in translating development priorities into action and advancing the 2030 Agenda. The country's leadership and financial contributions are instrumental in implementing UN programs and initiatives. In 2024, Kazakhstan reinforced its commitment to the SDGs through the continued operation of the SDG Coordination

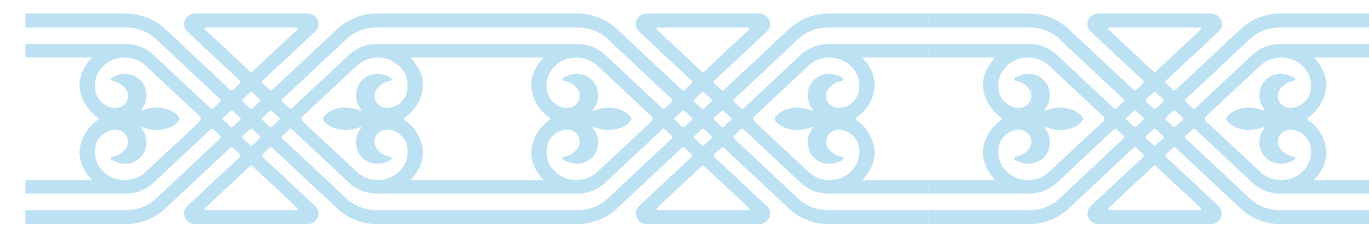
Council under the Prime Minister's leadership, the work of five cross-ministerial working groups aligned with the SDG "5P" framework, and the SDG Monitoring Committee in Parliament.

Civil society is a long-standing and critical partner of the UN Country Team in joint strategic planning, policy partnerships, advocacy, and program implementation. Leveraging the unique expertise of CSOs, their access to communities and first-hand knowledge of development challenges fosters the UN's support to people-centered policy making. The Youth Advisory Board established in 2024 is now an important platform to advise the UN to support and improve analysis, communication, advocacy and programme implementation.

In Kazakhstan, the role of the **private sector** in social development has been growing steadily, primarily through the voluntary commitments of leading companies to embed SDG principles in their operation. Members of the Global Compact — our major partner for private sector cooperation — integrate ESG principles and participate in a series of SDG Ambition Accelerators programs that demonstrate the private sector's commitment to SDGs into corporate strategies.

In addition, the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Kazakhstan collaborates with a broad spectrum of partners, including International Financial Institutions (IFIs), academia, universities, and think tanks. By leveraging expertise across sectors, the UNCT strengthens its ability to deliver impactful, sustainable solutions for Kazakhstan's progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3 KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT



In 2024, Kazakhstan's GDP growth reached 4.8%, with a robust growth in non-oil sectors. The main contributors to GDP growth were trade (1.67 p.p.), industry (0.76 p.p.), construction (0.73 p.p.) and agriculture (0.52 p.p.). The economy is expected to accelerate at 5% in 2025 driven by the expansion of the Tengiz oil field, followed by a more moderate pace of 3.5-4.0% in 2026 and 2027. Investment in fixed assets has seen a prolonged decline, from 31.9% of GDP in 2005 to 14.3% in 2024. The banking sector remains stable despite the ongoing surge in consumer credit growth.

Inflation has gradually decreased from 9.8% in 2023 to 8.6% in 2024. This was primarily driven by lower food inflation (5.5%). However, services inflation remained high at 13.3% due to sharp hikes in utility tariffs—water (43.1%), heating (22.3%), and electricity (18.4%)-aimed at attracting investments. Despite the overall improvement in inflation, risks remain due to fiscal expansion, currency depreciation, and rising tariffs. Amid slowing inflation, monetary policy was initially eased by reducing the policy rate by 100 bps to 14.25%. However, Kazakhstan reversed this monetary easing due to persistent inflationary pressures and the depreciation of its currency against U.S. dollar by 15.25% over the year.

Public debt remains manageable at 23.5% of GDP, a relatively low level by global standards. Nevertheless, fiscal pressures have intensified, leading the government to implement tax reforms. In 2024, the state budget deficit increased by 27.6% to KZT 3.6 trillion (ca. \$7.2 billion), driven by lower-than-expected revenue collection and increased spending to mitigate the severe floods that affected 10 regions and displaced 118,200 people. To finance the growing deficit, authorities raised transfers from the National Fund from KZT 4.0 trillion in 2023 to KZT 5.6 trillion in 2024 (bringing total fund assets to KZT 30.6 trillion) and increased borrowing to KZT 7.5 trillion, up from KZT 5.5 trillion in 2023. As a result, the share of debt servicing and repayment in total expenditures increased to 19.4% up from 16.8%.

In 2024, the country has advanced its sustainability agenda by releasing key strategies such as the National Development Plan until 2029 and the 2060

Carbon Neutrality Strategy, and by updating the Green Economy Transition Concept to align with the Paris Agreement. The focus now is on effective implementation, including gradual progress in renewable energy, which accounted for 6.43% of the country's total electricity production. Additionally, in 2024, a national referendum saw 71.12% of voters support building a nuclear power plant.

In 2024, Kazakhstan completed its term as a member of the UN Human Rights Council. At home, Kazakhstan over years implemented key reforms, including the abolition of the death penalty for all crimes; the decriminalization of defamation; the elimination of prohibitions on certain jobs for women; strengthening protections from violence for women and children; and the adoption of constitutional laws on the Commissioner for Human Rights. Challenges remain in fully ensuring freedom of expression, assembly, association, equality, and non-discrimination, presenting opportunities for further progress in aligning with international human rights standards.

Kazakhstan is making notable progress toward sustainable development, outperforming the global average in SDG achievement, with 42% of targets on track or progressing versus 16% globally. Accelerating structural reforms, strengthening climate adaptation and mitigation measures, harnessing the potential of critical minerals, and expanding its role as a transport and logistics hub could further enhance sustainability and resilience. However, downside risks remain, including slower growth in key trading partners, declining oil prices, and more frequent extreme weather events. Domestically, structural challenges such as slow diversification, inflationary pressures, low productivity, and investment constraints persist.

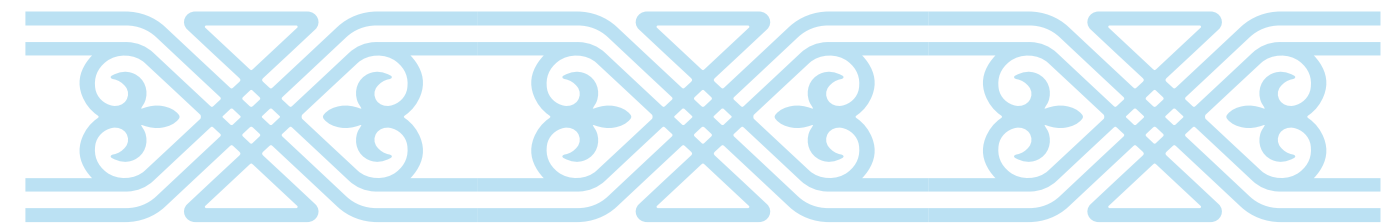
 GDP: \$288.1 bln

 Real GDP growth: 4.8%

 Inflation: 8.6%



4 UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES



4.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2021-2025 (hereinafter Cooperation Framework or UNSDCF) sets the strategic key principles and priorities of cooperation between the UN and Kazakhstan. The Framework is governed by a high-level UNSDCF Steering Committee (SC), co-chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and the UN Resident Coordinator. The SC meets annually to discuss results of the UN operation and agree on plans for future programming. The Cooperation Framework mainstreams environmental sustainability and gender-sensitive programming, permeated by the Leave-No-One-Behind (LNOB) principle. It is tailored to the country context and reflects the UN's normative role in strengthening national authorities and policymakers' capacities in creating an enabling policy environment for sustainable development. The Framework is structured along three Strategic Priorities (Pillars) and six Outcomes.

The Framework is structured along three Strategic Priorities (Pillars):

- 1) Empowered People:** Human Capital Development and Social Services;
- 2) Good Governance:** Effective Institutions, Human Rights and Gender Equality;
- 3) Sustainable Development:** Inclusive Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability.

Each Strategic Priority (Pillar) has two Outcomes:

► **Outcome 1.1.** By 2025, effective, inclusive and accountable institutions ensure equal access for all people living in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, to quality and gender-sensitive social services according to the leaving no one behind principle.

Pillar 1

► **Outcome 1.2.** By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable are empowered with knowledge and skills to equally contribute to sustainable development of the country.

► **Outcome 2.1.** By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan are protected and enjoy full realisation of human rights and gender equality and a life free from discrimination, violence, and threats, and equally participate in decision-making.

Pillar 2

► **Outcome 2.2.** By 2025, state institutions at all levels effectively design and implement gender-sensitive, human rights, and evidence-based public policies and provide quality services in an inclusive, transparent and accountable manner.

► **Outcome 3.1.** By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economic development with improved productive capacities, skills and equal opportunities for sustainable and decent jobs, livelihoods and businesses.

Pillar 3

► **Outcome 3.2.** By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan, in particular, the most vulnerable, benefit from increased climate resilience, sustainable management of environment and clean energy, and sustainable rural and urban development.

In 2024 the United Nations Country Team began the design of the new UNSDCF (2026-2030) by developing a comprehensive Common Country Analysis and completing the evaluation of the current Cooperation Framework. Through a collaborative process and in partnership with the Government, the UNCT has identified the strategic priorities for the next cycle by integrating results of SDG Summit (including six transitions) and the Summit of the Future, and maintaining the UN's focus on leaving no one behind agenda in the upper-middle income country context.

In the past year, the UNCT has fostered a dialogue on the Summit of the Future among key partners in the country, supported Government's participation in COP29, and has started providing support on the formulation of the new Nationally Determined Contribution. The UNCT contributed to the Universal Period Review process by preparing its public report, and fostered Kazakhstan's co-chairpersonship of the Beijing +30 Regional Review for UNECE region.

The United Nations continued to provide high-quality policy advise and supporting implementation of international norms and standards in Kazakhstan. The UN recorded progress across all six Outcomes and 242 activities implemented in 2024, and contributed addressing risks and improving public services, including healthcare and education, protection of human rights, environment policies, gender equality, economic diversification and many other. Nearly two-thirds (65.6%) of activities in 2024 focused on driving progress towards SDG 3 (28.9%), SDG 16 (13.5%), SDG 5 (7.8%), SDG 8 (7.3%), and SDG 4 (6.2%). The results achieved reflect the transformative nature of the SDGs and their seamless alignment with

national priorities—including the Kazakhstan 2050 Strategy, the National Development Plan of Kazakhstan until 2029, the Government Action Plan for the Promotion of Equal Rights and Opportunities for Men and Women (2024-2027), the National Action Plan for 2022-2025 on implementing UN Security Council resolutions on women, peace, and security, the Concept for Digital Transformation, ICT Development, and Cybersecurity (2023-2029), the Artificial Intelligence Development Plan until 2029, the Strategy for Achieving Carbon Neutrality by 2060, and other sectoral strategies.

Top 5 SDGs with the greatest financial allocations



Inclusive process of the Cooperation Framework design

The Cooperation Framework is the result of analytical, consultative and collaborative work of the UN Country Team. In addition to the Common Country Analysis, the evaluation of the Cooperation Framework 2021-2025, the UN Country Team conducted two foresight exercises with UN colleagues, civil society and the private sector. A multidimensional risk analysis based on a survey of 63 experts from the government, civil society, academia, and international experts, as well as focus group discussions with 6 LNOB groups, completed the analysis.

The UN Country Team used this evidence base to consult with the government on

strategic priorities. The Strategic Prioritization Workshop in October 2024 included Government, UN entities, civil society, experts, youth representatives, and private sector representatives. Regional UN offices and Issue-Based Coalitions were consulted as well.

The UN Country Team also organized two consultations with civil society organizations on accelerators (transitions) for the SDGs in Kazakhstan and held a dialogue with the newly-formed Youth Advisory Board to ensure young people's needs and expectations were reflected. The UN Gender Theme Group has separately reviewed and discussed the draft Cooperation Framework.



Pillar 1. Empowered People

4.2 Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs

OUTCOME 1.1

By 2025, effective, inclusive and accountable institutions ensure equal access for all people living in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, to quality and gender-sensitive social services according to the leaving no one behind principle.



Multifaceted support to Family Support Centres provided



2 mln parents/caregivers increased awareness on public health emergencies



New national nutrition standard for educational institutions in 2024 introduced, positively affecting 1.7 million children and future generations



The median income methodology for defining poverty introduced



4.6 mln people have more information on vaccination benefits



Effective rollout of the human papilloma virus vaccination campaign



Concept of Inclusive Policy for 2025-2030 supported

In 2024, the fourth year of the UNSDCF implementation, the United Nations in Kazakhstan continued to contribute to the sustainable development goals through promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities of all groups left behind in accessing social services, by supporting policy development, policy implementation and piloting scalable programmes to improve social safety of people in Kazakhstan. Important improvements in health, social inclusion, gender equality, and education laid a strong foundation for continued progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

Health systems and Healthcare enhanced

The UN fostered better nutrition in schools by supporting the adoption of the national nutrition standard for educational institutions in 2024. This standard ensures balanced and diverse nutrition for 1.7 million primary school children, including restrictions on sugar, salt, and saturated fats. UN has trained 2,000 school health workers on the standard's principles and the use of a customized online application for monitoring school meal quality. The UN has also completed a technical workshop on food safety and healthy nutrition in schools, and launched a cooking masterclass for middle school students and parents to promote healthy eating habits.

The UN boosted a communication campaign to overcome vaccination hesitancy in the country, which reached



Outcome 1.1 brings together the efforts of



SDGs targeted:



4.6 million people, including 3.1 million women and 1.5 million men. The UN ensured an effective rollout of the HPV (human papilloma virus) vaccination campaign through training 130 master trainers and regional trainers in 20 regions who then delivered hundreds of cascading trainings. To further foster immunization awareness, a special “Immune Patrol” digital platform was launched with 40 pilot schools participating. UN has also increased awareness on public health emergencies of 2 million parents/caregivers, distributed materials to 500,000 people in healthcare organizations, and built capacities of 25 policy makers on family medicine, health management and human resources for health. Moreover, 20,000 medical workers, including visiting nurses and PHC personnel, were trained for the Universal Progressive Home Visits.

The UN continued to build capacity and knowledge of medical policymakers and experts through regional and national conferences attended by 372 participants. 70 children with rare diseases have gained access to essential medications, significantly improving their health conditions, while 4,478 cancer patients have received critical treatments, contributing to a strengthened national response to cancer. This achievement was made possible through collaboration with the Ministry of Healthcare and its unified distributor, resulting in savings of over \$5.5 million for the state budget by securing medicines at costs below the Ministry’s set limits. The UN contributed to prevention of HIV epidemics by supporting Kazakhstan’s development of an HIV roadmap and trained 60 epidemiologists and lab specialists. Community capacities were strengthened through training for 40 key population representatives to implement human rights-based, gender-responsive HIV prevention programs, enabling over 500 people who inject drugs to access publicly funded opioid substitution therapy. Additionally, 140 community leaders and individuals living with HIV improved their skills in providing people-centered care and adherence support.



The UN also conducted studies and trainings on HIV and drug use to provide evidence-based advisory services to the Government, supported effective national programming both in drug use treatment and related co-occurring disorders, including HIV, and build further evidence on empowerment policies by conducting a full-fledged national study on HIV and sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) awareness among young people.

Social protection strengthened

Following adoption of the Social Code in 2023, in 2024 Kazakhstan allocated nearly 52% of its budget to education, healthcare and social protection. The UN played a role in informing the government’s decision to use the median income methodology for defining poverty, replacing the subsistence minimum as a poverty line starting in 2025. This is a considerable change in social policy and ensures that more vulnerable people may become eligible for the state support. The UN has also supported the development of the Concept of Inclusive Policy for 2025-2030, shifting from a medical model of disability to a human rights-based approach. We strongly contributed to adaptation of public services to become youth-friendly both at policy level and among population: the “Shyn.kz” TikTok initiative on youth-friendly services amassed 211,800 followers and 2.6 million likes, with some videos exceeding 76 million views.

The UN has also supported the development of Family Support Centres (FSCs) in all regions, providing guidelines and capacity-building. Our work, among others, led to the increase of 3,800 recipients in targeted social assistance coverage. UN has supported 582 people with disabilities (including 362 children) by piloting integration centre pilot program in five regions.

Refugee protection improved

UNHCR advocacy has contributed to the Ministry of Internal Affairs recognizing refugee certificates as valid documents for obtaining Individual Identification Numbers (IIN) that enhance refugee access to services in Kazakhstan. The Mazhilis (Parliament) convened a thematic briefing with the UN and state authorities on the legal status of refugees. The advocacy and support has helped to prevent rejections to seven asylum seekers. The UN continued supporting the Government to improve legal protections for stateless persons, enabling easier access to documentation and services, and align the national legislation with international refugee protection standards.

Women empowered and GBV awareness built

In April 2024, Kazakhstan reintroduced criminal penalties for domestic violence. The UN continued to support efforts to advocate and support GBV policies through a Central Asian Alliance to End Gender-Based Violence, as well as trained 305 specialists and service providers across seven regions on GBV response, including support for survivors with disabilities. The UN has fostered new commitments on women’s rights and gender parity by supporting Kazakhstan’s co-chairpersonship in the Beijing+30 Regional Review. We have also trained 60 government officials and municipal representatives on gender equality fundamentals and contributed to the high-level policy recommendations to strengthen institutional frameworks for gender equality.



Building a More Inclusive Kazakhstan


In Atyrau, western Kazakhstan, Zhannat Yesmaganbetova, who served as a disability rights advisor between 2020 and 2023, is a vivid example of hope and resilience for the disability community.

Having battled cancer and gone through rehabilitation herself, she understands the hurdles faced by the over 24,000 people with disabilities living in the Atyrau region. Beyond her personal challenges, Zhannat advocates for accessible infrastructure and social spaces, working closely with the Governor to foster inclusivity.


Reflecting on the UN’s role, Zhannat acknowledges, “I’ve seen firsthand how the UN champions the rights of all members of society, including people with disabilities.” She praises the UN’s projects and advice, recognizing their impact on her work. Zhannat views the UN as a guardian of rights and a source of expert guidance, enhancing the lives of people with disabilities in Kazakhstan. Through her motto, “By helping others, you help yourself,” Zhannat exemplifies the ethos of service and advocacy.

OUTCOME 1.2


By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable are empowered with knowledge and skills to equally contribute to sustainable development of the country.




Education curriculum reviewed on blended learning, AI and climate action




1,861 schools connected to satellite-based internet solutions




728 persons with undetermined nationality identified and 642 received legal documents



500 rural women trained on digital safety and online security



170,000 youth learned about HIV, reproductive health



Voucher system policy applied to private preschools

In 2024, the UN Country Team continued to open opportunities for all people of Kazakhstan in terms of knowledge and skills to contribute to the sustainable development in the country. The UN has been focusing especially on people at risk of being left behind, including refugees, people living with HIV, and vulnerable women and children. Our collective efforts in various areas across health, education, gender equality, environmental sustainability, digital innovation, and social inclusion fostered significant improvements in the well-being and capabilities of Kazakhstan's diverse communities.

Education opportunities and quality improved

In 2024 the Government continued the education reform, and through our support it accredited private preschools (48% of all preschools in the country) to voucher system policy. This improved the educational and development chances of considerable part of preschoolers, and also improving the waiting list (and accelerate the achievement of SDG4 targets). We have contributed to making the education more responsive to modern labour market needs; with UN's support the curriculum was reviewed to strengthen blended learning, AI and climate action skills. Our work has also led to government commitments for more equitable financing in education. UN advisory and advocacy efforts led to integration of the UN recommended action package for children with autism into the National Roadmap for 2025–2027. We have also supported the “Education for Sustainable Development 2030” strategy, approved by the Ministry of Education, and built awareness on it among thousands of educators. 3,700 teachers and curriculum developers were trained on integrating health education and social skills in the education. 35,000 young people participated in surveys and focus groups on green skills and climate education.



Outcome 1.2 brings together the efforts of:



SDGs targeted:



Population is healthier

The UN has supported and advocated for the legislation and policies related to sanitary requirements, tobacco control, and control of the sale of energy drinks. This work led to redefinition of sanitary standards in schools, total ban on import, and production and distribution of vapes, and a ban on sale of energy drinks to persons under 21 year of age. We supported the update of the roadmap for implementation of the International Health Regulations and the Global Health Programme. The UN team has also supported the development of the Respiratory Disease Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan, and many other policy frameworks on universal health coverage and primary healthcare. We strengthened health services in penitentiary by conducting research and developing recommendations to the government. The UNCT conducted multiple assessments and analyses on various areas of health and immunization, such as causality analysis of adverse events following immunization, cold chain analysis etc. This work lays the ground for evidence-based recommendations that are often adopted by the government and affect millions of people. Furthermore, in 2024 we held more than 130 trainings, workshops and roundtables reaching 7,800 participants, including 4,655 healthcare personnel at national and subnational levels. Topics trainings included: infection prevention and control (which also included an assessment of 23 hospitals, as well as e.g. measles control workshop), laboratory safety, mental health, health in schools, environment and health nexus, and sanitation. We covered 50 campaigns and 150 events in social media, reaching dozens of thousands of people, and produced content and specialized videos on health topics.

Digital connectivity of education accelerated

Internet is key for modern education. The Accessible Internet Programme supported by the UN connected 1,861 schools to satellite-

based internet solutions. The Internet Speed Monitoring Daily Check App is now used by 6,916 schools, increasing average internet speed from 13 Mbps to 17 Mbps. We have also conducted a market assessment on satellite-based broadband solutions to connect remote schools. 7,000 adolescent girls participated in online webinars on space and ecology, and the Learning Samgau (UPSHIFT) Digital platform saw a 21.7% increase in users, with 10,594 participants in 2024. The UN conducted the assessment of the cybersecurity risks in education, and three education policymakers participated in a study visit to South Korea on digital learning and cyber safety.

Women in education empowered and teachers' capacities built

The UN trained 30 rural girls (8th grade) in STEM on 3D modelling, programming, robotics, and digital security. The "Women in STEM" Leadership Programme helped young rural women develop leadership skills through training and job shadowing with women politicians and business leaders. The UN has also launched a Master's Degree in Gender Studies, piloted at Kazakh National Women's Teacher Training University. To build teachers capacities, we initiated a Rural and Remote Schools pilot in 11 schools across 3 regions to enhance teacher collaboration. Furthermore, 128 teachers and 22 facilitators participated in professional learning communities to strengthen their leadership skills. Teachers' skills are crucial for delivering better learning results for schoolchildren in Kazakhstan, allowing to accelerate of the achievement of quality education objectives. 91 teachers enhanced their social-emotional skills through teacher trainings to promote culture of gender equality and non-discrimination at their teaching practice. We have also reviewed educational programme materials through anti-discrimination and gender lens and provided recommendations to the national partners.

Education on health fostered

Thanks to UN support, 170,000 youth learned about HIV, reproductive health and personal development through social media. With our support the socioemotional learning (HAT package) was integrated into the 2023–2025 National Plan for suicide prevention and children's rights. To improve the well-being of children, the United Nations trained 130 education specialists and psychologists on SRHR, STI prevention, modern contraception, and gender equality across Abai, Ulytau, Zhetysu regions, and Astana. We also trained 100 youth volunteer leaders who delivered gender equality education to over 10,000 young people. The UN has also built awareness on healthy lifestyle and developed social skills of over 1,000 young people in Kazakhstan.

Positive social norms promoted

We continued our focus on creating equal opportunities for people under the risk of being left behind and trained 23 young people with disabilities in Turkestan region on sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, and GBV prevention. We also trained 75 psychologists and theologians in Turkestan on culturally sensitive support for GBV survivors, and developed faith-based educational materials on family planning, gender equality, and GBV prevention for Muslim communities. The UN has also held two premarital training sessions in Astana and Shymkent, reaching 70 individuals (23 couples and regional family support centres), and supported the 9th Annual Father's Forum in Kyzylorda which had 250 participants, including government officials, parliamentarians, and civil society members.



Gender based violence prevented

During 2024, the UN trained 500 rural women in Kazakhstan on digital safety and online security best practices. Furthermore 28 rural women and girls participated in GBV Self-Defence Training, developing intuition, self-confidence, and decision-making skills. The UN continued supporting the Central Asian Alliance to End GBV, by facilitating a dialogue and adoption of the Statute, Principles, and Regulations. 50 representatives from organizations of people with disabilities participated in a hybrid Regional GBV Meeting, leading to the creation of the 2025 Roadmap for the Network of Women with Disabilities. UN hosted a citywide case championship dedicated to the launch of the global campaign “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence”, where students could raise awareness of gender-based violence and offer their practical solutions. Five teams representing the capital's universities had the opportunity to demonstrate their creative approach to cases of gender-based violence developed by UN agencies.

Refugees and stateless protected

The UN’s assistance improved the legal and social protection of the refugees and built capacities of Kazakhstan to better align policies with international protection standards. We have trained 20 judges on national refugee law and international protection standards, and 43 local officials on asylum law implementation. The lectures on statelessness prevention and refugee protection were delivered in four major universities of the country With the UN team’s support, more than 400 lawyers and legal consultants received training on international refugee protection. The UN provided cash assistance to most vulnerable refugee and asylum-seeker families supporting 493 aid applications, including medical aid cases. 5 refugee women in Almaty completed professional sewing courses, receiving sewing machines to support income generation.

45 refugee families received humanitarian clothing, and 20 families received hygiene products. 4 refugee children successfully enrolled in schools with the UN support. In 2024, 728 persons with undetermined nationality were identified and 642 received legal identity documents. 17 refugee youth were empowered with the opportunity to pursue higher and tertiary education through the DAFI scholarship program, enrolling in diverse fields such as medicine, information technology, design, and many more

HIV risks addressed

The UN supported the Government in developing the National HIV Roadmap for 2024–2026, aligning it with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and supported national epidemiological forecasts which projected HIV trends for 2025 and 2030. We have trained 40 regional AIDS specialists on

data analysis and strategic forecasting for HIV prevention, as well as provided technical assistance for Kazakhstan’s Global Aids Monitoring (GAM) reporting, leading to a 90% improvement in HIV data tracking. The United Nations improved the quality of HIV testing by training 40 epidemiologists and 20 lab specialists, as well as implemented recency HIV testing across 20 regional AIDS centers. We have significantly strengthened HIV prevention efforts by expansion of pre-exposure prophylaxis access from 9 users in 2022 to 7,822 users in 2024. Finally, we supported evidence building on HIV policies in the country by completing a Stigma Index Study (1,500 people living with HIV), as well as a Gender Assessment Report. Both studies highlight key recommendation and priorities for awareness, advocacy, legal actions and gender-specific services. These recommendations will be addressed through advocacy for policy amendments.



Digital Skills, Real Impact

Iminzhan Kadyrov has a visual impairment, and he joined a UNICEF-backed program on digital skills for visually impaired teens that opened doors for him in the digital world. He mastered digital skills through the program, securing a position at the Asian Society for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities “Zhan”.

Despite initial doubts, he thrived in his role and now advocates for hiring individuals with disabilities. Since May 2021, 131 visually impaired youths gained digital skills training. In 2023, the project expanded to Pavlodar city with UNICEF-trained instructors.

Iminzhan’s journey highlights inclusivity’s importance in education and employment, underscoring the potential and dedication of people with disabilities.

OUTCOME 2.1

By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan are protected and enjoy full realisation of human rights and gender equality and a life free from discrimination, violence, and threats, and equally participate in decision-making.



Child online safety campaign covered more than **900,000** people



People living with HIV benefitted from over **4000** support trainings and services



Law enforcement is better equipped to investigate crypto crimes



16 laws to better protect women and children amended with UN advocacy and policy advice



5900 prison officers trained on Nelson Mandela Rules



Over **100,000** people reached by the positive social norms campaign "HeforShe"



100 women in 5 regions received leadership training

In 2024, the UN Country Team continued to open opportunities for all people of Kazakhstan in terms of knowledge and skills to contribute to the sustainable development in the country. The UN has been focusing especially on people at risk of left-behind, including refugees, people living with HIV, and vulnerable women and children. Our collective efforts across health, education, gender equality, environmental sustainability, digital innovation, and social inclusion fostered significant improvements in the well-being and capabilities of Kazakhstan's diverse communities.

Legal frameworks improved to better protect rights of people

The United Nations continued to support alignment of the legal framework in Kazakhstan with the international commitments and standard. With our support and advocacy efforts 16 laws were amended through the law on women's rights and children safety, including in the criminal code and the administrative code. Changes were made in the key areas of domestic violence, intentional harm, bullying (including cyberbullying), kidnapping, sexual harassment of minors, unlawful deprivation of liberty. Our advocacy and policy advice helped to establish the family support centres to assist victims of domestic violence.

Women have greater protection against gender-based violence and more empowered to participate in political life

The UN Country team continued to advocate and support country's efforts to prevent and address gender-based violence. For instance, we trained 255 women and girls in self-defence techniques and emotional and



Outcome 2.1 brings together the efforts of



SDGs targeted:



social development. We have also trained 289 women trainers on cyber safety — who trained further 2,389 women in cascading workshops. Through the “HeForShe” campaign the UN reached over 100,000 people to promote positive (non-violence) social norms, and 2 GBV awareness films attracted 2 million viewers. We have also worked with fathers to instil non-violence values in the family, and supported 70 individuals with premarital counselling. The UN further trained 354 law enforcement officers (police, prosecutors, emergency responders) on the UN Security Council Resolutions on women’s security and peacebuilding.

The UN has continued focusing on human-centred support to women living with HIV through mentoring programmes (206 women attended), as well as rights awareness (225 attended trainings, 376 participated in self-help groups and 3074 consultations were provided). Moreover, we have delivered 287 individual therapy sessions and 7 group trainings for women affected by HIV stigma.

United Nations continued to enhance skills of women in the political leadership — 100 women in 5 regions received training in leadership and election campaign management.

Protection of vulnerable groups improved

The UN continued to focus on groups at the risk to be left behind. With our policy advisory services and capacity building, 65 family support centres (FSCs) implemented child-sensitive case management protocols. The UN team trained 300 specialists and 100 mental health professionals. We also improved child online safety awareness, engaging 500 parents across 5 cities in interactive workshops on cybersecurity. Finally, the Government and the UN joint communication campaigns on child online safety reached nearly 900,000 people in Kazakhstan.

Law enforcement and justice capacities strengthened

The United Nations contributed to the commitment to the human-rights principles by the penitentiary system, through training of 5900 prison officers on Nelson Mandela Rules. We enhanced the capacity of the Kostanay Training Academy of Kazakhstan as a Regional Knowledge Hub for professional training of prison and probation officers. We have also built capacities of 34 law enforcement officers (6 women) in parallel financial investigations and illicit financial flows suppression. We provided policy advisory services to the Parallel Financial Investigations Institute, and expert guidance to the General Prosecutor’s Office and Anti-Corruption Agency. Following UN’s support on port-control and air cargo control units, Kazakhstan completed 104 seizures of illegal matters (including 40 kg of drugs, illicit medical products, and weapons). The UN country team strengthened national capacities to fight against synthetic drugs — through of series of engagements, we have trained **122 law enforcement and customs officers (16 women)** to combat the threat to society from synthetic drugs. We have also supported to the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors (CARICC) in Almaty. The Centre successfully coordinated an international controlled delivery operation from Kazakhstan to Europe, resulting in the apprehension of members of an international organized crime group.

The UN has strengthened anti-corruption efforts of Kazakhstan by creating 7,500 analytical schemes supporting 140 corruption investigations (some of them of involving muti-billion tenge cases). We have also delivered a workshop to 120 judges (45 women) on corruption-related crime adjudication, and increased youth awareness on corruption roots and response (100 university students took part in the Youth Anti-Corruption Summer Schools).



Driving Change in Sexual and Reproductive Health

Aslan Temirkhan advocates for sexual and reproductive education and youth rights. His recent address at the UN high-level conference in Geneva highlighted the critical need for quality sexual and reproductive information among adolescents, stressing its impact on their choices and outcomes.

Utilizing his Instagram platform, Aslan promotes healthcare, reproductive rights, and awareness about sexually transmitted infections, reaching thousands beyond his clinic’s walls. He sees the UN as a unifying force for humanity, expanding his impact beyond individual patient care to education and prevention on a larger scale.

The Y-PEER network in Kazakhstan is one of the most successful youth networks in the world. Within two decades, more than 300,000 adolescents and youth were trained on the issues of gender-based violence, comprehensive sexuality education, and youth rights.

The UN in Kazakhstan has built government capacities to prevent and investigate modern risks. For instance, we trained 36 law enforcement and financial regulators on virtual asset risks and cryptocurrency fraud prevention, and provided *Chainalysis Reactor* software licenses to Kazakhstan’s Anti-Corruption Agency for crypto investigations. The Government of Kazakhstan with the UN support established the specialised “Crypton” unit within the Financial Monitoring Agency of Kazakhstan, a pivotal step in improving cryptocurrencies regulation. Furthermore, we built cybersecurity awareness among parents which is important to prevent children’s exposure to cyber risks.

Refugees protected

With UN’s support refugees and stateless people are better protected through building capacities of the government officials, legal support and advocacy outreach. In 2024, 600 people with undetermined nationality received legal assistance in 11 regions through outreach missions. We provided policy advice to strengthen statelessness determination procedures and trained 44 officials and NGO on statelessness. We also trained over 80 law students and faculty members on statelessness prevention and refugee law.



OUTCOME 2.2

By 2025, state institutions at all levels effectively design and implement gender-sensitive, human rights, and evidence-based public policies and provide quality services in an inclusive, transparent and accountable manner.



SDG monitoring strengthened through multiple platforms



5,332 youth engaged into participatory governance



Gender-responsive budgeting integrated into the Budget Code draft



New methodology for gender expertise of regulatory legal acts endorsed



550 civil servants trained in digital governance reforms and project management



90 members of the National Preventive Mechanisms trained

The results summarized below represent a concerted effort by various UN Agencies to bolster the capacity of state institutions in Kazakhstan for implementing inclusive, evidence-based, rights-based and gender-sensitive public policies and services.

Governance and SDG implementation strengthened

The UN's support is critical for deepening the alignment of national policies and governance solutions with the SDGs. We have fostered the SDG monitoring and regional collaboration on SDGs by establishing the Central Asia SDG Platform and SDG Localization Methodology. Our advisory support and cooperation with the Kazakhstan's Parliamentary Commission on SDG Monitoring in integration of SDGs into national strategic documents. We equally put our emphasis on building capacities at the local level by training 200 local government officials (79 women) on SDGs localization in Akmola region. We have identified digital governance priorities in the region for a regional conference attended by representatives of 13 countries.

The UN improved the quality of governance by supporting the digital governance and public sector innovations through building institutional capacities on digital governance in 12 countries. We have trained 550 civil servants (23 women) in digital governance reforms and project management. Furthermore, 60 officials were trained on the use of AI in public sector.

In 2024, the UN in collaboration with the Pardee Centre at the University of Denver, conducted a comprehensive study on forecasting and development modelling for the Government of Kazakhstan This study equips policymakers with evidence-based insights to support long-term decision-making, particularly by offering alternative projections on development trends and enhancing the efficiency of strategic forecasting.



Outcome 2.2 brings together the efforts of:



SDGs targeted:



Gender-Responsive Governance and Budgeting strengthened

The UN in Kazakhstan has built state capacities on policies that allow for accounting the impact of legislation and budgeting on gender equality. With our support a new methodology for gender expertise of regulatory legal acts was developed and endorsed. The UN Country team fostered integration of the gender-responsive budgeting into the draft new Budget Code and trained 60 government officials on gender analysis and gender-sensitive policy development. We provided advisory services on transition to progressive personal income tax for equity in taxation. Finally, we engaged 5,332 youth into participatory governance through the U-Report initiative.

Legal Reforms and Human Rights enhanced

The UN’s support has strengthened the Government’s capacities to better protect human rights. We helped to draft the first Action Plan on Human Rights in Business. Our team also trained 90 members of the National Preventive Mechanisms and other human rights institutions on human rights monitoring. Targeted support was provided to the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) to enhance its functional capacity in line with the Paris Principles. Key achievements included analyzing the existing functions of the Human Rights Commissioner, followed by the development of recommendations to refine roles, improve handling of citizen complaints and appeals, and enhance communication and public awareness of human rights. Furthermore, as an international norm setting organization, we provided our recommendations to the Law on Ensuring Women’s Rights and Safety of Children, which led among others to 16 legal acts protecting children and women from violence. Our support and research resulted in a ministerial order defining operation rules of the Family Support Centres (which provide

support to survivors of domestic violence), as well as improved budgeting for social service delivery.

Youth and women’s capacities built

With UN’s support young people and women can act to protect their rights and safeguard their security. With our support 150 volunteers were trained and engaged on child rights and inclusivity. Furthermore, 289 women now can better protect themselves against cybersecurity risk, and 2,348 women participated in cybersecurity awareness campaigns. The UN team in Kazakhstan trained 20 researchers and activists on femicide research in Central Asia, and 18 artists on gender data visualization.

HIV epidemics is prevented

UN in Kazakhstan is critical to continue prevention and response efforts to the world’s AIDS epidemics. In 2024, the Agencies have delivered 580,000 water-based lubricants and 2,009,232 condoms to AIDS Centres across Kazakhstan. We have facilitated 287 therapy sessions and 7 group trainings conducted for women affected by HIV stigma. Furthermore, 206 women with HIV joined mentorship programs, and 3,074 consultations were provided. The UN Country Team has also built capacities of 35 professionals and 15 MSM activists to implement HIV prevention strategies.

Migration governance strengthened

The UN has bolstered evidence-based migration policies through supporting the Baseline Mobility Assessments in 14 regions to improve migrant worker protections. We have continued building capacities of government officials in migration policy, including through a dedicated training of 27 government officials on international principles and implementation of the National Migration Policy.



A Second Chance

Murat’s life story unfolds as a narrative of transformation and second chances. Once an inmate, he now navigates life outside prison walls as an electrician, a job he secured thanks to the support of probation supervision.

The UN and local foundations played crucial roles in his transition. “After release, the UN aided with legal issues,” Murat recalls. Engaging in community events, like soccer tournaments, boosted his reintegration. Probation support was pivotal, assisting with documentation and finances.

Since 2018, Kazakhstan has joined a global initiative with the EU and UN to manage violent extremist prisoners. With UNODC and other partners, the program involved 100 violent extremist prisoners in two pilot regions — Karaganda and Pavlodar, promoting rehabilitation and preventing radicalization.

OUTCOME 3.1

By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economic development with improved productive capacities, skills and equal opportunities for sustainable and decent jobs, livelihoods and businesses.



22 community-led sustainable initiatives supported



Paid internship program for **300** socially vulnerable youth



Remote-sensing-based agricultural yield predictions developed



52 regional capacity-building for heritage managers conducted



Regulatory framework enhancements for 5G rollout supported



15 start-ups in creative economy established

In 2024 the UN continued to support inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economic development in Kazakhstan by building skills of officials, entrepreneurs, farmers and other people. The UN has focused on the empowerment of vulnerable groups, gender equality, and the promotion of environmental sustainability, reflecting the UN's multifaceted approach to supporting Kazakhstan's development goals.

Green Economic Diversification and Job Creation enhanced

The UN has boosted capacities of Kazakhstan's small business for the green economy. We have provided 22 grants under the Small Grants Programme (SGP) for community-led sustainable initiatives. Furthermore, 8 agricultural businesses received support on greenhouse farming, grain drying, dairy operations, and renewable energy facilities. Our team has trained 73 farmers in pasture management (34% were women) and built 10 greenhouses for vulnerable women. We have promoted environmental friendly agriculture by trained 42 farmers on pesticide use reduction and triple rinsing of empty pesticide containers. While supporting small businesses and farmers, we have also built capacities of government that enables effective governance of economy — 181 government officials (44% women) trained in green economy and low-carbon development. Thanks to our support, the business enacts fair practices — 8 new companies with over 50,000 employees signed on the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) to ensure gender equality at the workplace.



Outcome 3.1 brings together the efforts of



SDGs targeted:



The UN in Kazakhstan supported clean technologies innovation by supporting best projects out of 142 applications for green business acceleration (with 70 from women-led teams). Some supported start-ups from Kazakhstan were among the Top 6 Performers at a global innovation competition. We have built national capacities for clean technologies focusing on ecosystem development and policy framework by conducting the national workshop, as well as conducting 19 trainings sessions (on accelerator support, impact forecasting, and policy innovation) as well as training 17 for mentors (including 4 women). A six-member team from Kazakhstan participated in the Cleantech Days conference and received post-acceleration business training.

Employment boosted

The UN team in Kazakhstan expanded employment opportunities for the people of Kazakhstan, especially women and young people. For example, we facilitated a paid internship program for 300 socially vulnerably youth in 2 regions, with 80% (240) securing jobs. Further 250 young people were trained in entrepreneurship, resulting in 15 start-ups in crafts, music, marketing, design, and architecture. The UN has improved employability of hundreds of unemployed people by launching online courses on digital and professional skills. It is worth to mention that Kazakhstan ranked 48th globally in the Labor Resilience Index and 2nd in the Central Asia-South Caucasus region — meaning that the country has good mechanisms to respond and adapt to external shocks to labour market.

Trade and transport enhanced

The UN improved Kazakhstan's trade cooperation. Kazakhstan Trade Portal established earlier has reached its 12,000 users. Thanks to our support Kazakhstan integrated trade data into the Global Trade Helpdesk, improving international business information access. We



have trained 100 businesses on e-commerce reform. We have also trained 35 customs officers from 6 countries on border control and risk management. Our focus on improving the transportation connectivity was focused largely on supporting Kazakhstan in international dialogue on transport, such as the 5th session of the Transport Coordination Committee sessions, and awareness raising workshops on railway transport resilience and GIS technology. Kazakhstan representatives also participated in a regional workshop on climate resilience in railway transport in Istanbul.

Agriculture is more sustainable

The UN in Kazakhstan improves economic outcomes of the agriculture while keeping it planet-friendly and safe for the people. We partnered with the government to develop remote-sensing-based yield predictions for improved food security interventions. We supported preparation to the first-ever Agricultural Census (analysis of all agricultural lands in the country) scheduled for August-October 2025. To enhance agriculture's sustainability we delivered a workshop on green agriculture to representatives of five relevant ministries.

We have boosted efficiency of agriculture by treatment of 100 hectares in Aktobe region against Italian locust infestations, as well as conducting a cross-border locust survey covering 2,000 hectares in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

The food is safer

The UN support contributes to the safe food policies directly affecting the health and livelihoods of large groups of population. The UN works to reduce antimicrobial resistance in food and agriculture through a new project focusing on agricultural practices of Kazakhstan farmers and modern technologies. We have also trained 42 farmers on pesticide use reduction and waste management and conducted an assessment of agrifood systems

in Kazakhstan. UN serving a convening platform conducted a workshop on “Assessment of Agri-food Systems Potential” was conducted with government, parliament, local authorities, farmers, and retailers; we also conducted three national food balance training sessions, improving data collection for food security planning. We supported integration of antimicrobial resistance into primary healthcare through a dedicated mission, and a public awareness campaign which reached to over 36,000 people.

Regional cultural heritage preserved

UN has contributed to preservation of the cultural heritage in Kazakhstan and wider Central Asia region. We have conducted 52 regional capacity-building events held for heritage managers, archaeologists, museum workers, and TVET students. With UN support 5 cultural and natural World Heritage sites were valorized in Central Asia. The UN has convened 37 stakeholders to dialogue and develop recommendations on cultural heritage in emergency response. We have further built awareness on cultural heritage that allows to better protect it: 16 educational videos and 60 animated videos were developed for the Silk Road Virtual Exhibition, and 4 interviews with travel guides and 5 videos on traditional crafts were produced.



Environmental Statistics and Modernization supported

The UN hosted the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics in Geneva, which allowed for the completion of a sectoral review of Kazakhstan’s environmental statistics. Kazakhstan participants also attended a workshop on the Modernization of Official Statistics. Additionally, Sector Reviews on Environment and Climate Change Statistics was conducted. These activities improve the overall statistical capacity in a critical area such as environment evidence-based policy-making.

Connectivity and Cybersecurity enhanced

The UN in Kazakhstan supports implementation of the Government’s vision of a modern economy and society. Among others, we have supported the regulatory framework enhancements for 5G rollout in Kazakhstan, and conducted study on rural connectivity gaps, informing policy measures for digital inclusion. We have further provided technical assistance to the Kazakhstan’s National Cybersecurity Strategy 2024–2027, improving national defence mechanisms against cyber threats. Furthermore, we trained 30 cybersecurity specialists, focusing on critical infrastructure protection.



Woven with Hope

Originally from the Osh region of the Kyrgyz Republic, Khurshida’s life changed dramatically in the late 1990s when her family moved to Karaganda, Kazakhstan due to regional circumstances. There, she faced new challenges, marrying and starting a family of five children while her husband worked as a baker. Document-related issues hindered her job prospects, further compounded when she faced penalties for overstaying due to her children’s illness.

Seeking assistance, Khurshida turned to the NGO “Kaisar” and joined an IOM program, receiving a micro-grant to buy a sewing machine. With support from “Kaisar,” she obtained her residence permit in 2022 and now runs her sewing business, specializing in Kazakh dowries.

Her work not only provides for her family but also allows her to support other migrants facing similar challenges. Reflecting on her journey, Khurshida acknowledges the UN’s crucial support, providing hope for women like her.

OUTCOME 3.2

By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan, in particular the most vulnerable, benefit from increased climate resilience, sustainable management of environment and clean energy, and sustainable rural and urban development.



\$4.2 mln
investments in
renewable energy
projects triggered



19 renewable energy
projects reduce
163,500 tons
of CO₂ emissions



Legal amendments to
renewable energy laws
supported



First National Action Plan
to Combat Desertification
supported



Policy recommendations
for DRR response
capacity provided

In 2024, the UN Agencies in Kazakhstan continued to provide policy support on addressing climate change, loss of biodiversity and pollution. We fostered significant policy changes, improved management of natural resources, increased access to clean energy, and enhanced capacities in disaster risk reduction and climate action. The efforts have directly impacted the livelihoods, health, and resilience of communities, particularly benefiting vulnerable groups through access to sustainable resources and education on climate action, sustainable environment management, clean energy, and rural and urban development.

Climate Policy and Governance strengthened

The United Nations in Kazakhstan supports the environmental resilience in partnership with the Government and other partners in Kazakhstan. In 2024, we have contributed to the update of the Green Economy Concept that was adopted in June 2024, aligning national policies with SDGs and the Paris Agreement (focusing e.g. on waste management, recycling, and landfill improvements). Kazakhstan has also submitted its First Biennial Transparency Report, meeting its obligations under the Paris Agreement, and presented it at COP29 in Baku with support of the United Nations. We also supported Kazakhstan in finalization and launch of the National SDG7 (Affordable energy for all) Roadmap, including through convening a dedicated workshop. The UN provided technical assistance to enhance climate resilience in urban planning and engaged over 5000 people on urban sustainability awareness campaign.



Outcome 3.2 brings together the efforts of



SDGs targeted:



Use of renewable technologies and biodiversity enhanced.

The United Nations commissioned 19 renewable energy projects (11.767 MW capacity) which led to the reduction 163,500 tons of CO₂ emissions. Thanks to our engagement \$4.2 million in private sector investments was mobilized for renewable energy projects. We have also supported legal amendments to renewable energy laws which were signed in June 2024, removing barriers to small-scale projects. As a team, we continued to support Kazakhstan's Strategy for Achieving Carbon Neutrality until 2060, including in the areas of agriculture, forestry, and methane emission reduction.

The UN has spearheaded the biodiversity actions by successfully reintroducing two Turan tigers and 43 kulans the Ile-Balkhash National Nature Reserve as part of efforts to restore ecosystems. We have worked on improving the hydrological regime of the Ile River and Karabakanas River to preserve floodplain forests. Furthermore, we have harmonized eco-certification in the tourism sector, introducing sustainability standards in Kazakhstan.

Disaster preparedness improved

In 2024 Kazakhstan faced the worst flooding in 80 years in 2024, affecting 119,000 people, including 45,000 children. The Government of Kazakhstan mounted a strong response, and UN has provided small-scale support at initial stages by distributing 1,000 hygiene kits to the affected population. Events showed the need to further strengthen DRR policies, and UN continued to provide tailored policy support that reflects Kazakhstan's upper middle income country status. We have provided policy recommendations for improved national DRR response capacity, as well as conducted workshops in 10 flood-prone communities. The United Nations enhanced selected cities' and schools' ability to manage seasonal floods by providing emergency response equipment. The UN has also developed a Damage and Loss



Assessment methodology to improve the agriculture sector disaster reporting. The team has also conducted three series of workshops with the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) on the Sendai data loss accounting system. Over 50 representatives of regional emergency authorities and cities are now better equipped to collect disaster and impact assessment. The United Nations has also conducted a resilience assessment of urban centers, using the Preliminary Assessment Scorecard to measure disaster preparedness levels. We have continued to advocate for gender-responsive DRR frameworks and improved national data collection on climate impacts on women.

Importantly, we ensured the leaving no one behind approach is adopted in disaster

response. For that purpose, the United Nations assessed Almaty's disaster resilience for persons with disabilities, and held consultations to ensure disability inclusion in emergency planning. Recommendations were shared with the city government for the future implementation.

Sustainable Agriculture strengthened

The UN's focus in 2024 in sustainable agriculture was to build policy frameworks and capacities of state officials to respond to adverse impact of the climate change. We have helped to develop Kazakhstan's first-ever National Action Plan to Combat Desertification, and supported the launch

of the first geoportal that allows to monitor land degradation. We have engaged locally with land degradation through showing best practices on a pilot 20 hectares of degraded pastureland. The UN has further trained 73 farmers (34% women) in pasture management and introduced sustainable irrigation technologies. One of the team's project piloted sustainable soil management in 2 Kazakhstan's regions.

Water management is more effective

In 2024, Kazakhstan took steps toward joining the Protocol on Water and Health to improve sanitation and drinking water standards, and the UN has supported the country in

drafting national water, sanitation, and health targets. We have also conducted a regional assessment of Kazakhstan’s glacial water reserves, identifying climate change threats, as well as initiated a project to strengthen water governance in the Syr Darya and Naryn river basins. The UN has also supported partners coordination on water issues by supporting the creation of the Coordination Council of Partners for Water Sector Development under the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, and holding its first meeting to discuss the Water Partnership 2024-2030.

Air quality improved

Air quality is one of key parameters for healthy life, and UN has supported policy actions that support Kazakhstan’s commitment to make the air cleaner. The UN Country Team supported National Air Quality Inventory to align GHG and pollutant reporting. We have also jointly reviewed air quality monitoring systems and produced recommendations to enhance public health protection — Kazakhstan committed to updating air pollution standards for child health following UN’s advocacy. Thanks to our efforts specialists are better equipped on data collection and analysis to meet international standards (53 government specialists trained). We also brought together 98 air quality practitioners in Central Asia to discuss solutions on air quality monitoring, as well s trained 35 experts in Central Asia on integrating air quality considerations into urban mobility and transport systems.

Prevention of antimicrobial resistance in veterinary services supported

The UN has contributed to prevention of the overuse of antibiotics in animal feed (which is critical to prevent spiral of antimicrobial resistance in people, therefor critical for overall health of the population) through antimicrobial resistance training programs for veterinary professionals. We have

also conducted antimicrobial resistance surveillance in veterinary clinics and led two field assessments. We have also improved the zoonotic disease response in Kazakhstan by training for 40 veterinary specialists on early outbreak detection.

Women and youth engagement in climate action strengthened

The UN worked to ensure that climate action is sustainable and bottom-up by engaging people in Kazakhstan, especially women and young people, as ecological awareness is key for planet-friendly behaviour. For instance, the UN has supported 6,037 school children in green skills development, led by 131 trained youth volunteers. We have built capacities of 100 young climate activists on COP29. Through the network of partners and series of events, our team expanded the “Women for Just Transition Network”, supporting gender-sensitive climate policies, as well as advocated for gender-responsive budgeting in climate resilience programs (2-day workshop). We have further trained 35 high school female students in STEM fields, promoting women’s participation in science.

Zoonotic diseases risk reduced

The diseases that are transferred from an animal to a human being remain one of the key health risks in today’s world. The UN has provided a wide-scale response to support government to prevent and respond to these risks through e.g. support to the review Multisectoral workforce strategy, and development of Standard Operating Procedures for monitoring and controlling zoonotic diseases. We have organized 5 workshops for over 150 professionals in the country to build their capacities on prevention, emergency management, biosecurity, as well anti-microbial resistance etc.



Busy as a Bee

Lyudmila Vysotskaya has been running a successful apiary in Turkestan for four years, with 50 bee colonies. After retiring she turned her long-standing interest in beekeeping into a full-time venture. In 2021, Lyudmila joined the UNDP’s Eco-Damu Loan Programme, which supports rural entrepreneurs in green businesses. With this support, she invested in high-quality equipment and materials, making her honey a competitive, 100% organic product in the region.

Lyudmila reflects, “Starting an apiary was a conscious decision, which I’d been planning for many years. I got used to regarding bees as my own children. I know every bee colony. Each one has its own character and order.”

Her journey highlights the importance of rural entrepreneurship and sustainable business practices, with over 120 entrepreneurs benefiting from the Eco-Damu Programme, which has boosted eco-friendly businesses in Kazakhstan.



4.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

In our commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined in the 2030 Agenda, partnerships and strategic financing play a pivotal role. This section delves into the collaborative efforts and financial mechanisms that have been instrumental in driving the UN Country Team (UNCT)'s progress towards SDG achievement in Kazakhstan.

Strengthening Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships

Achieving the SDGs requires a collective effort from governments, businesses, civil society, and academia. Our partnerships with diverse stakeholders have facilitated the exchange of knowledge, resources, and expertise, fostering innovative solutions to complex challenges. In 2024, major

areas of focus included briefings on the Summit of the Future and consultations in preparation for the formulation of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2026-2030. Additionally, the UNCT maintained dialogue with key stakeholders during the floods in Kazakhstan in spring 2024 and providing technical support on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Private Sector Engagement

The collaboration between the UN Global Compact and the UNCT has been exemplary, particularly in aligning business strategies with the SDGs. The “Kazakhstan Business for Sustainable Development” roundtables in Almaty and Astana brought together business leaders, government officials, NGOs,

academia, and the international community to discuss Kazakhstan’s SDG progress and explore pathways for deeper engagement.

A notable initiative is the SDG Ambition Accelerator, a six-month educational program launched in October 2023 to help companies integrate SDGs into their core business strategies. To date, two rounds of SDG Ambition Accelerator trainings have been completed, alongside Business and Human Rights Accelerator and Climate Ambition Accelerator programs, involving over 130 companies and 400 representatives from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan. This amounts to more than 120 hours of specialized training.

The SDG Pioneers competition, the first event of its kind in Central Asia, celebrates private sector individuals championing the SDGs in their companies. The winners, announced on July 1, 2024, represent Kazakhstan’s innovative business leaders committed to sustainable development.

Over the past two years, Global Compact membership in Central Asia has grown from seven to 104 participants, reflecting increased awareness of the SDGs and the tangible support provided through UNCT-led programs.

Collaboration with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Think tanks

The UN Country Team (UNCT) in Kazakhstan collaborates with both traditional and non-traditional partners, including International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and think tanks. Dialogue with IFIs is critical for, among others, looking for the development of sustainable financing solutions. The UNCT works closely with independent research centers, and policy think tanks to foster evidence-based policymaking, drive innovation, and enhance capacity-building initiatives. One such example includes support to the SDG Acceleration programme spearheaded by the MIND Centre. Through collaborative data collection, research, analysis, and advocacy, these partnerships contribute to generating cutting-edge knowledge and shaping policies that effectively tackle complex development issues. By harnessing expertise across various sectors, the UNCT enhances its ability to deliver impactful and sustainable solutions, accelerating Kazakhstan’s progress towards achieving the SDGs.



UN|20 DAY|24

Civil Society Engagement

The UNCT in Kazakhstan is dedicated to fostering the active participation of civil society organizations (CSOs) in policymaking, planning, and SDG implementation. With over 23,000 registered CSOs in Kazakhstan, the UNCT ensures inclusive engagement through four key avenues:

- Contributing to strategic planning initiatives, including the UNSDCF and Country Program Documents (CPDs).
- Forming policy partnerships to address national and regional challenges.
- Engaging in advocacy efforts to amplify SDG-related priorities.
- Actively involving CSOs in program and project implementation.

This comprehensive engagement strategy underscores the UNCT's commitment to leveraging the expertise and networks of civil society for impactful sustainable development.

Academic Partnerships

Recognizing the critical role of academia in advancing sustainable development, the UNCT has established partnerships with universities. Over the past year, academia-focused initiatives have strengthened research and education on the SDGs, including but not limited to:

- Model UN programs at the Universities in Kazakhstan.
- Summit of the Future, Women in Diplomacy and "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence" campaigns with Maqsut Narikbayev University.
- SDG briefings at Turan University, AlmaU, and Kazakh-German University.
- Establishment of sustainable development centers at Satbayev University and AlmaU.
- Lectures at leading universities, including Eurasian National University, Kazakh National University, KIMEP, and Nazarbayev University.
- Hosting student groups to engage in discussions on the UN's work and SDGs.

A robust UN-Academia network, established under the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) and the UN in Kazakhstan, includes over 30 leading universities. This platform actively promotes UN priorities at global, regional, sub-regional, and national levels, ensuring academia's role in sustainable development is fully leveraged.



4.4 Results of the UN working more and better together



Three joint programmes implemented



Nearly 10 million people reached through social media



\$ 545,000 realised in cost avoidance through BOS 2.0 in 2023

UN System Delivering as One

In 2024 the UN Country team continued its joint work within three key Result Groups to identify synergies and cooperation in key areas through joint work plans. As a result, we streamlined our advocacy, policy support, and discussed challenges and results. Tailored UNCT configuration and architecture allows to provide integrated policy support (e.g. Carbon Neutrality Strategy, Nationally Determined Contributions and many other), reduce transaction costs, and avoid duplication of UN efforts.

In 2024 we continued operate 15 thematic groups and task forces that allow us to provide better integrated policy advice to the Government of Kazakhstan:

- Extended Gender Thematic Group
- Internal (UN) Gender Thematic Group
- Rule of Law Thematic Dialogue
- Poverty Reduction Group
- Joint UN Team on AIDS
- Common Pledge for Refugees Task Force
- Human Rights Working Group
- Private Sector Working Group
- Disability Inclusion Team
- Youth Thematic Group
- UN Network for Migration
- PSEA Task Team
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Thematic Dialogue on Water (within Result Group 3)

Our collaboration is further enhanced through several joint programmes that allow for joint support by the UNCT, and these programmes included:

- Partnership for Action on Green Economy — PAGE (UNDP, UNEP, UNITAR, UNIDO)
- Economic empowerment of Afghan women through education (UNDP, UN Women)
- UBRAF (Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework) Country Envelope 2024-2025 (UNAIDS, UNODC, UNFPA, UN Women, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP)

The UNCT is currently exploring possibilities of enhancing joint area-based planning for specific vulnerable regions in the country.



Communicating the United Nations’ Joint Achievements in 2024

In 2024, the UN Communications Group continued to advance its initiatives in alignment with the objectives set in the Joint Communications and Advocacy Strategy 2021-2025 and the Joint Annual Communications Plan 2024. Joint communications efforts proved to be an effective tool in uniting diverse stakeholders, resulting in an increased media presence across all platforms, including a significant rise in both traditional and digital media coverage.

A notable achievement was the UN & Me photo exhibition and media campaign, which showcased 30 impactful stories of UN beneficiaries whose resilience and determination led to personal transformations and contributed to sustainable development. This campaign garnered extensive coverage in both local and international media, emphasizing the significant role of individuals in driving positive change.

Key activities throughout the year concentrated on the Summit of the Future. These efforts included panel discussions, briefings, and targeted social media campaigns designed to raise awareness and foster engagement.

In addition to these major events, the UN actively observed key international days such as the International Day for Nuclear Disarmament, International Day of Women in Diplomacy, UN Peacekeepers Day, and the 16 Days of Activism campaign. Over 30 events took place across Kazakhstan, engaging local communities in meaningful discussions and actions.

The UN Country Team also participated in prominent local events, including the World Nomad Games, where two UN Agencies set up dedicated booths and ran promotional campaigns. The UN Day 2024 was another success, with a focus on Kazakhstan’s rich historical and cultural heritage, supporting



a performance of the “Jibek” musical by the Youth Theatre.

Communications support was also provided for various UN Global Compact activities, including the SDG Pioneers Award and the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Digital Inclusion, demonstrating continued support for global efforts on sustainable development.

In 2024, extensive communications support provided for the senior UN officials visits, including UN Secretary-General António Guterres and USG for Disarmament Affairs Izumi Nakamitsu, highlighting the continued importance of multilateralism and global collaboration.

The year’s communications strategy leveraged advanced AI tools for rapid visual content creation, ensuring that messaging remained dynamic, innovative, and impactful. This technological integration enhanced the effectiveness of communication efforts, reinforcing the UN’s commitment to utilizing cutting-edge digital tools to engage global and local audiences.

Improved Efficiency of Operating as One

The UNCT in 2024 has further implemented the Business Operations Strategy (BOS) to leverage joint business operations through eliminating duplication, strengthening collective bargaining power, and maximising gains from economies of scale. As part of the BOS 2.0 annual review, the UN Operations Management Team (OMT) prioritised improved effectiveness and cost-efficiency, simplification and harmonisation of procedures, high impact/low complexity interventions, and going beyond operational procedures towards shared organisational goals. The BOS review affirmed cost savings of nearly \$545,000 in 2023, with a total of \$2.4 million in cost-avoidance in 2019-2023.



4.5 Evaluations and Lessons Learned

The UNCT conducted the evaluation of the ongoing Cooperation Framework in 2024 which provided the following conclusions and recommendations along with key evaluation criteria:

Relevance and Adaptability: The UNSDCF 2021-2025 evaluation showed that the United Nations’ work in Kazakhstan is highly relevant and well-aligned with the country’s needs and priorities, reflecting the specific challenges and advantages of operating in an upper-middle-income country. Kazakhstan values multilateralism and views the UN as a crucial partner. The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and UN operations align well with Kazakhstan’s strategic framework, including the 2050 Strategy and National Development Plans for 2025. The UN has shown a strong degree

of adaptability and flexibility in responding to changing contexts and emerging priorities, effectively managing challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the January 2022 events, and the war in Ukraine.

Looking forward, the next Cooperation Framework should clearly articulate the UN’s role in the upper-middle-income country (U-MIC) context and its added value. It has been recommended to maintain focus on i) normative work and international standards, ii) policy advice and capacity building, iii) knowledge and expertise provision, and iv) sharing best practices and promoting networking, which proved to be valued by national partners and effective; as well as continue aligning the UNSDCF with the national planning documents and international commitments.

Coherence and Coordination: The evaluation has also concluded that CF has significantly enhanced the coherence and impact of UN interventions in Kazakhstan by promoting complementarity, harmonization, and coordination with the Government and key development partners. By aligning with national priorities, the CF ensures that UN interventions complement the government’s strategies, avoiding duplication and addressing critical gaps. This alignment facilitates effective partnerships with various stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, Parliament, academia, and international development partners. The CF’s coordination mechanisms, involving regular consultations and joint planning, improve information sharing, resource mobilization, and collective decision-making, leading to more effective and sustainable development outcomes.

In the future CF cycle, it has been recommended to strengthen and systematize linkages of all UNSDCF governance and implementation structures to national structures. The evaluators proposed to enhance partners coordination, and proactively engage with the private sector, especially through initiatives like Global Compact.

Effectiveness: The evaluation evidence indicated that UN Agencies have been largely effective in contributing to the achievement of UNSDCF outcomes. The review of the UNSDCF Indicators Framework reveal a commendable accomplishment rate at both outcome and output levels, highlighting the success of implementation strategies and effective stakeholder collaboration. The assessment of the UNSDCF Indicators Framework shows a strong performance, with over 70% of indicators likely to be achieved by the end of the implementation period. However, challenges such as insufficient funding, limited national capacity, weak regulation enforcement, and low public awareness hinder progress in some areas.

Looking ahead it was recommended to accelerate progress, especially in areas significantly behind, and reflect on and accelerate the further operationalization of cross-cutting issues/programming principles in CF design and implementation. It has also been proposed to reflect on the UN work with civil society and vulnerable groups and factoring them in the next CF design.

Efficiency: The evaluation showed progress on improvement of the joint execution of the CF, including consolidation of the monitoring



framework to better align with national and agency-specific indicator frameworks, which has improved coherence and effectiveness in evaluation practices. The evaluation also noted the optimized operation of the three Results Groups. Resource management remains a critical focus, especially in navigating a demanding funding landscape. Current expenditures stand at about 63.1% of the required resources, which aligns with the expected delivery after three years of CF implementation.

Moving forward, the evaluation recommended to optimize efforts and ensure the participation of key staff, maintain the combined meetings of RGs. Incorporate more open and forward-looking discussions on priority and emerging issues. Foster cross-sectoral cooperation and synergies through these joint meetings. Importantly, it suggested to simplify the next Indicators Framework by having fewer, but more focused indicators. It also proposed to pursue Pooled Funding and Innovative Financing, as well as promoting the Integrated National Funding Framework.

Sustainability and Orientation on Impact: The report noted the progress on sustainability of UN interventions. It identified challenges in ensuring that compliance translates into actual implementation and sustained impact, underscoring the need for continued monitoring and enforcement

mechanisms. The report called for flexibility and adaptability in UN programs, as well as for proactive risk management, given the evolving assumptions and risks.

For the future UNSDCF cycle, the report recommended to leverage political will for systemic change and enforcement mechanisms, invest in the capacity building of national institutions and local partners, as well as focusing on environmental sustainability. It also suggested to prioritize inclusive development, and promote proactive risk management, flexibility, and adaptability in programs.

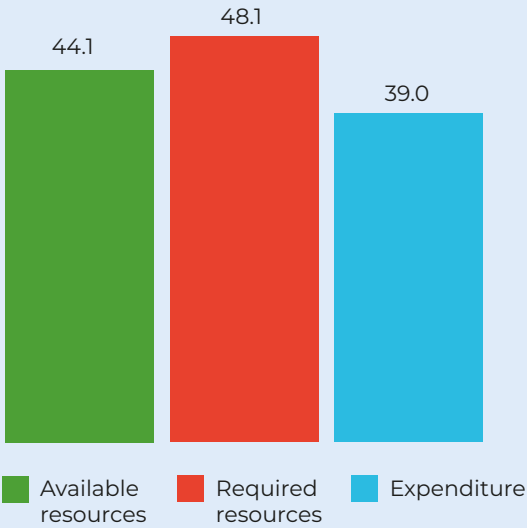
The UN Country Team has already implemented many recommendations by e.g. streamlining the structure of the outcomes in the upcoming Cooperation Framework, simplifying the results framework, strengthening the partnerships with SDG architecture in the country (e.g. with the Economic Research Institute). The draft UNSDCF 2026-2030 clearly identifies the value added and specificity of the UN engagement in Kazakhstan as the upper middle-income country. We have reviewed the effectiveness of our work and put greater emphasis on areas that are unlikely to be achieved (in the result area 3 of the current UNSDCF) — this also led us to bring two separate results areas and outcomes on economy and environment that allow better focus our efforts in the next UNSDCF cycle.



4.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

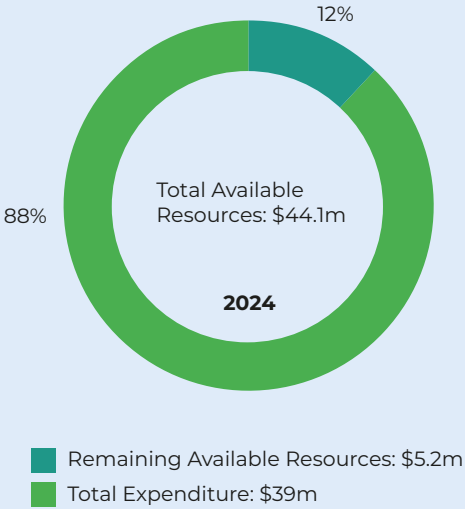
4.6.1 Financial Overview

GRAPH 1. Required, Available, and Expenditure Resources in 2024 (in \$ Millions)



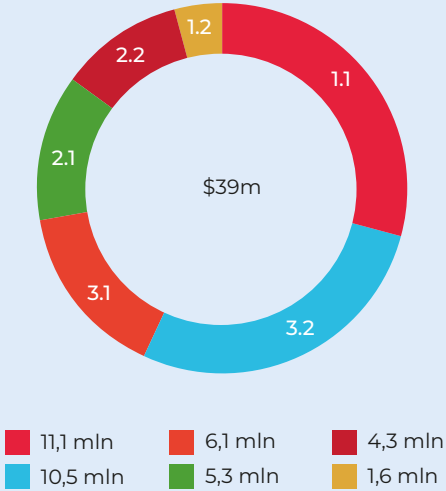
GRAPH 2. Delivery Rate in Kazakhstan

Amount of expenditures compared to the available resources.



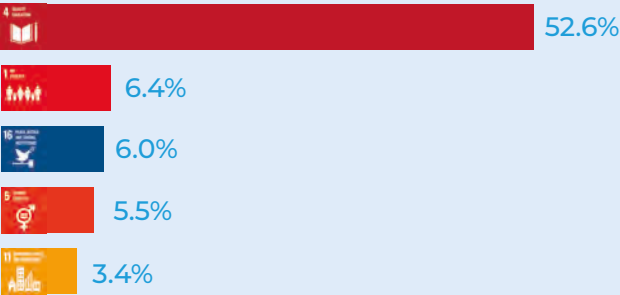
Expenditure data for year 2024 will be published after April 2025

GRAPH 3. Expenditures by Outcome (in \$ Millions)



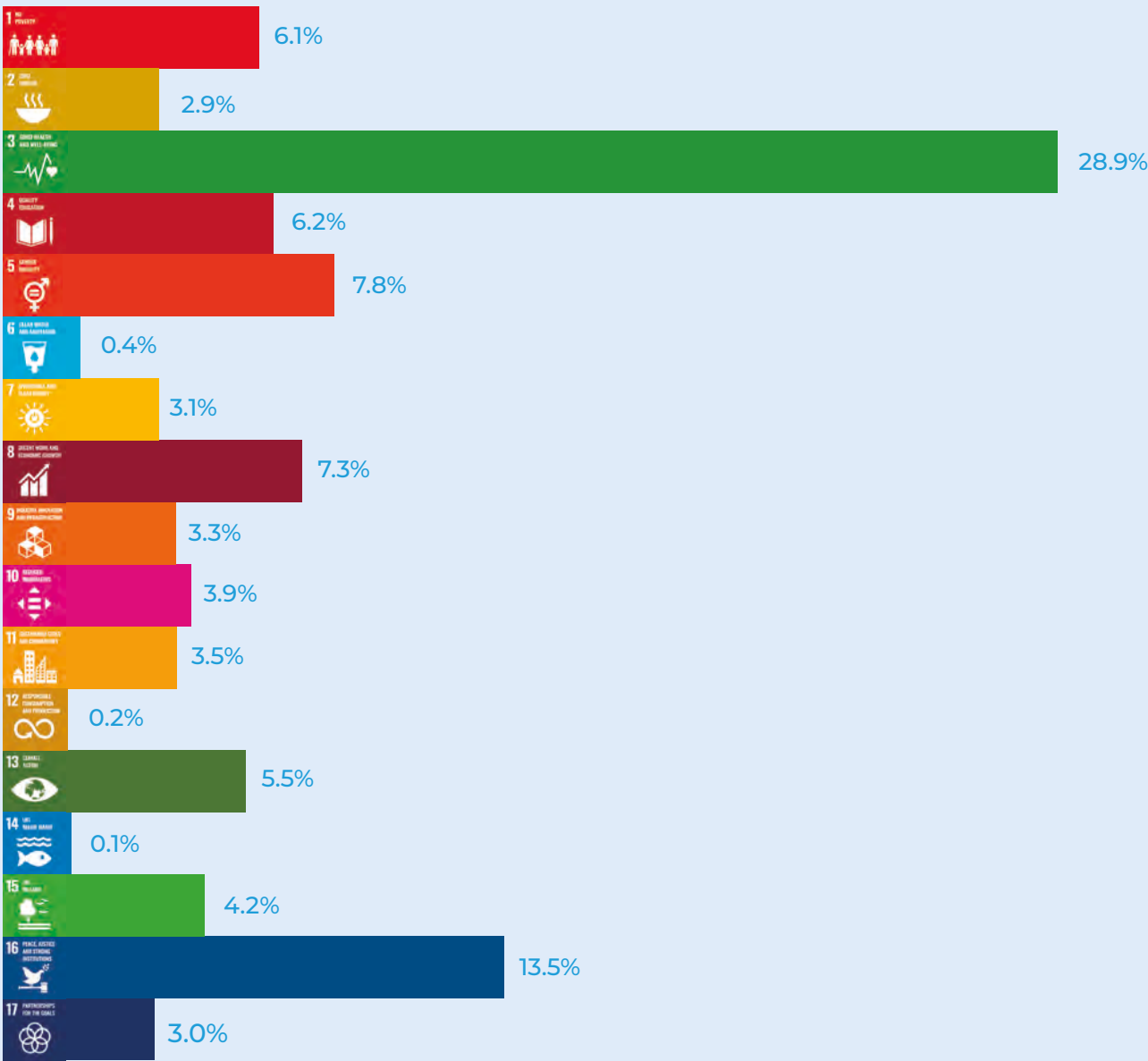
GRAPH 4. UN funding gap by Sustainable Development Goal in Kazakhstan

This chart shows Top 5 SDGs with the highest funding gap in 2024, based on difference between required and available resources. Funding gap is expressed as a percentage of total required funding for each SDG.



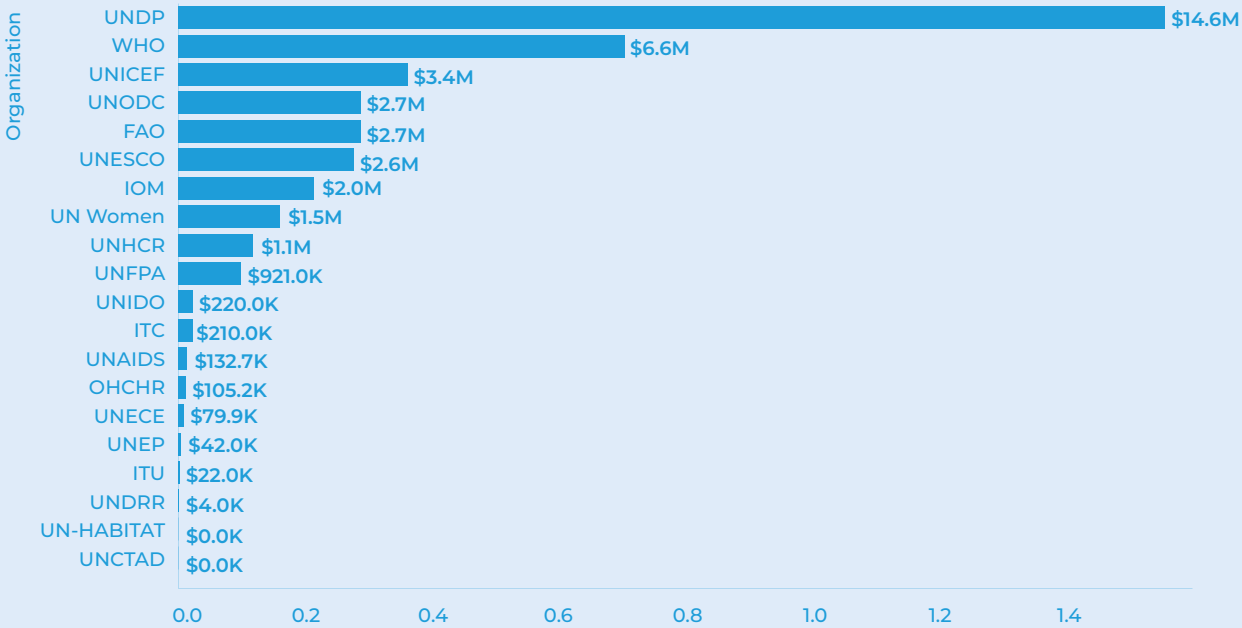
Top 5 SDGs with the Highest Funding GAP

GRAPH 5. SDG Funding Distribution by % of 2024 Total Expenditure



- GOAL 1: No Poverty
- GOAL 2: Zero Hunger
- GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being
- GOAL 4: Quality Education
- GOAL 5: Gender Equality
- GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality
- GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- GOAL 13: Climate Action
- GOAL 14: Life Below Water
- GOAL 15: Life on Land
- GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
- GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

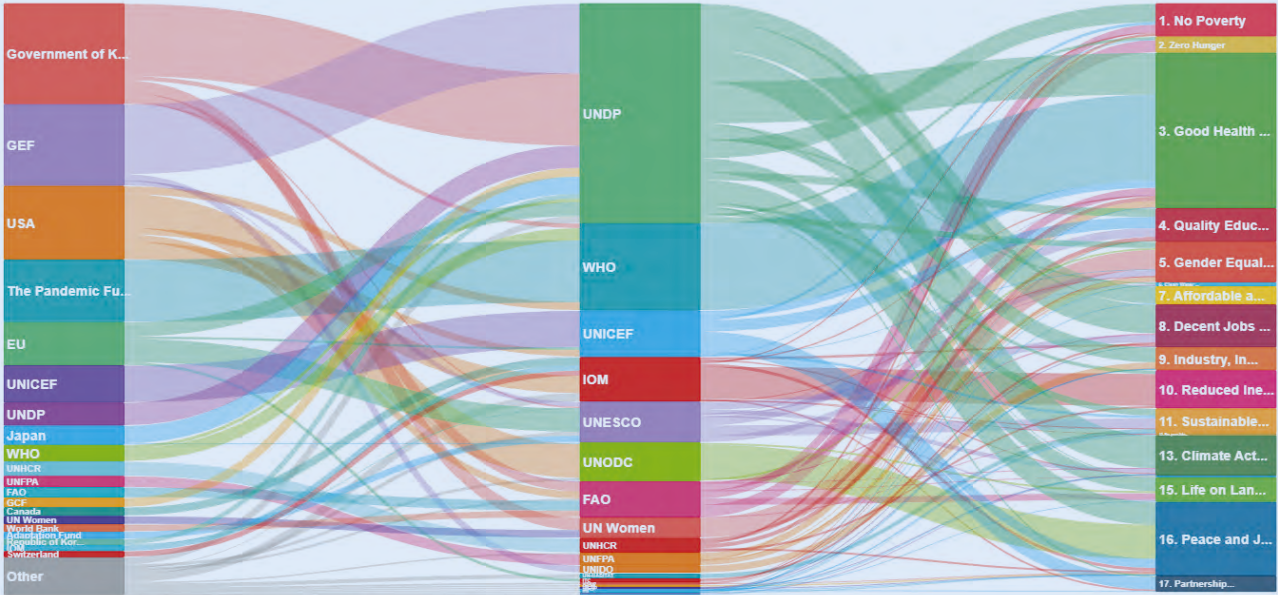
GRAPH 6. 2024 Expenditures by UN Entity. Funding Distribution Among UN Organization



GRAPH 7. Leveraging UN investments to advance the Sustainable Development Goals

This graphic shows how UN funding is contributing to the work of different agencies and partners to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The width of the lines represents the relative amount

of resources being contributed. This chart displays the top 20 contributors in the left side. It excludes some contributing partners and agencies due to data visualization limitations.



4.6.2 Resource mobilization and quality of funding

In 2024, the UN delivered 90% of \$41 million of available resources. The total expenditures reached \$37.1 million, out of which 25.06% represented core-funding and 74.94% non-core funding. Non-core funding, in its majority, was mobilised from other sources, including Government of Kazakhstan — 24.89%; The Global Environment Facility — 19.07%; The Pandemic Fund — 17.13%; Government of the United States of America — 14.72%; European Union — 11.69%.

GRAPH 8. Distribution of 2024 Core and Non-Core Resources

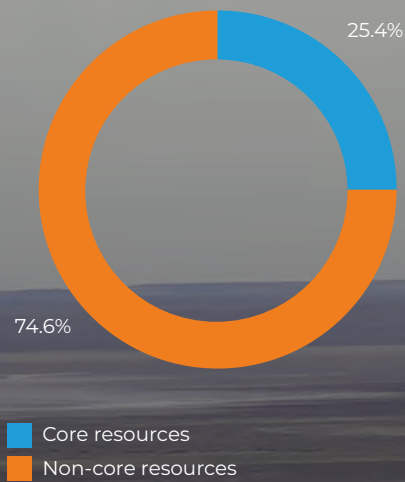


Table 1. Financial Share of Non-Core Donors (\$)

Contributing Partner	2024 Available resources (\$)	2024 Expenditure (\$)	Share from Non-Core 2024 Expenditures (%)	Share from total 2024 Expenditures; (Core and Non-Core) (%)
Government of Kazakhstan	7,688,635	6,866,486	23.62	17.62
The Pandemic Fund	4,758,896	4,758,896	16.37	12.21
Government of the United States of America	5,594,677	4,679,042	16.09	12.01
The Global Environment Facility	5,174,241	4,270,993	14.69	10.96
European Union	3,248,033	3,210,810	11.04	8.24
Government of Japan	1,416,907	1,398,623	4.81	3.59
Global Environment Facility — Small Grants Programme	1,045,897	1,026,364	3.53	2.63
The World Bank	500,000	500,000	1.72	1.28
United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	380,000	380,000	1.31	0.98

Contributing Partner	2024 Available resources (\$)	2024 Expenditure (\$)	Share from Non-Core 2024 Expenditures (%)	Share from total 2024 Expenditures; (Core and Non-Core) (%)
Government of the Republic of Korea	382,000	368,675	1.27	0.95
Adaptation Fund	491,208	272,609	0.94	0.7
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation	393,847	267,485	0.92	0.69
Government of Italy	200,000	174,307	0.6	0.45
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada	607,389	162,367	0.56	0.42
Private Sector	162,540	150,114	0.52	0.39
The Green Climate Fund	671,668	135,954	0.47	0.35
Global Fund for Fighting AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	98,260	97,744	0.34	0.25
Heritage Emergency Fund	112,000	95,000	0.32	0.24
Coca Cola Foundation	93,454	89,614	0.3	0.23
Asian Development Bank	41,556	38,118	0.13	0.1
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway	37,500	37,500	0.13	0.1
Government of Russia	33,650	33,008	0.11	0.08
Republic of Korea Ministry of Education	26,000	26,000	0.09	0.07
Government of France	20,286	20,282	0.07	0.05
Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	11,841	11,841	0.04	0.03
Eurasia Foundation	4,000	4,000	0.01	0.01
United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund	99,167	-	0	0
Republican Centre for up-grading Teachers' education Orleu"	14,891	-	0	0
Total:	33,308,543	29,075,832	100	74.63

Table 2. Financial share of Core resources allocated to UN by member states (\$)

Contributing Partner	2024 Available resources (\$)	2024 Expenditure (\$)	Share from Core 2024 Expenditures (%)	Share from total 2024 Expenditures (Core and Non-Core) (%)
UNICEF	2,809,542	2,692,828	27.24	6.91
UNDP	1,704,307	1,421,306	14.38	3.65
WHO	1,196,074	1,189,666	12.04	3.05
UNHCR	1,059,567	1,059,567	10.72	2.72
FAO	886,039	826,039	8.36	2.12
UNFPA	794,200	793,400	8.03	2.04
UN Women	570,840	570,840	5.78	1.47
IOM	609,144	565,144	5.72	1.45
UNAIDS	280,286	275,686	2.79	0.71
UNESCO	167,879	144,629	1.46	0.37
UNEP	246,002	138,098	1.4	0.35
OHCHR	105,248	105,248	1.06	0.26
UNECE	94,900	79,900	0.81	0.21
ITU	67,000	22,000	0.21	0.06
UN-Habitat	215,366	-	0	0
UNESCAP	30,933	-	0	0
Total:	10,837,327	9,884,351	100	25.37

While the Government remains the UN's largest contributor, a combination of the country's upper-middle-income status, declining core resources, and fluctuating government cost-sharing, increased the need to innovate and diversify the resource portfolio. Both the UN and the Government emphasize diversifying the source of resources and partners, particularly from the private sector, to implement the current strategic frameworks, including the SDGs and Agenda 2030 priorities encapsulated in the Cooperation Framework.

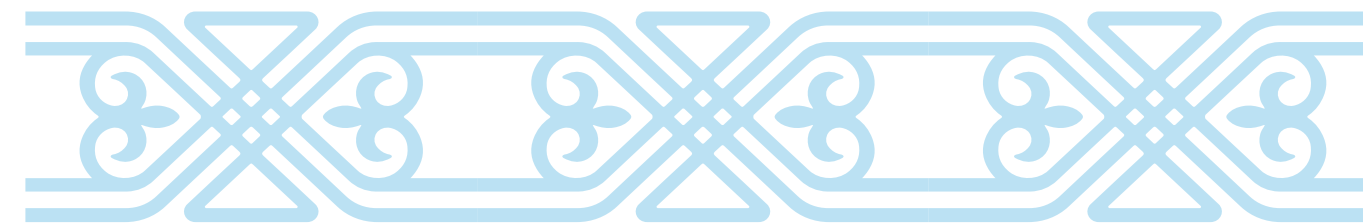
To align with the evolving global development landscape and the unique circumstances within the country, the United Nations Country Team persisted in its efforts to

identify existing and emerging collaborations. This involved enhancing value, seeking fresh avenues for financial and programmatic backing, such as:

- Collaborative initiatives with the Government of Kazakhstan, involving cost-sharing and partnerships.
- Engaging with conventional donors in Kazakhstan on both bilateral and multilateral fronts.
- Exploring the potential involvement of International Financial Institutions.
- Increasing opportunities for cooperation and partnerships with the private sector.
- Seeking collaboration with non-traditional partners through the provision of information, incentives, and instruments.



5 UNCT KEY FOCUS FOR 2025



The year 2025 is the last year of the current cycle of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. During the year, the UN will embark with the Government of Kazakhstan and other partners on a journey to complete and sign an ambitious Cooperation Framework that will accelerate the achievement of SDGs in Kazakhstan. As of March 2025, we

have already identified and agreed priorities with the Government, drafted the initial text, finalized the configuration exercise, and prepared the funding framework draft. The new CF builds on the previous CF and provides a streamlined and clear-cut result-oriented framework for UN's operation tailored to the upper-middle income country context.

Four outcomes in the next Cooperation Framework cycle (2026-2030) will include:

Outcome 1. Empowered People and Strong Institutions. By 2030, the well-being of all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, is improved and they fully enjoy human rights and equal access to age and gender-responsive and increasingly digitalized and people-centered public and private services, provided by inclusive, effective and accountable institutions.

Outcome 2. Resilient and inclusive economy. By 2030, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from the sustainable, rights-based, gender-responsive, diversified and innovative economic development that promotes decent work, productivity and entrepreneurship.

Outcome 3. Sustainable Environment. By 2030, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from enhanced age and gender-sensitive environmental resilience, as well as inclusive, rights-based climate, nature and pollution action and sustainable management of natural resources.

Outcome 4. Strengthened social cohesion. By 2030, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable, have equal access to fair justice and the rule of law in line with international human rights standards, and the inclusive, meaningful and gender-balanced participation in decision-making for all, as well as civic engagement is enhanced.

We will continue providing out policy advisory support aligning our engagement with national priorities, taking into account recent statements of the President of Kazakhstan, and government planning documents. Among others, we will support the process of defining the new Nationally Determined Contributions 3.0, that will define the highest possible ambition to contribute to emission reduction and other targets. The UN will continue supporting policies that ensure that no one is left behind, human rights are observed, discrimination is addressed, social support is effective, the economy is diversified, and moves toward green solutions. We will continue our advocacy and piloting solution for the decarbonization of industry by strengthening small and medium enterprises, entrepreneurship, digital and green innovations, improved health and education governance, as well as further engagement in empowering skills, competencies and opportunities of people that have been left behind and exposed to poverty and exclusion.

The UN will remain a committed partner of Kazakhstan for the Voluntary National Review and will engage with the Government to ensure inclusive and effective process of report preparation. We commit to continue to support Kazakhstan at the Astana International Forum initiative, as a platform that brings a wide array of stakeholders to discuss global challenges and solutions. We will foster dialogue on Financing for Development, and enhance the dialogue on funding compact among partners in Kazakhstan — a very timely discussion allowing for a qualitative change in a challenging global context. We will support Kazakhstan's participation in the review and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action — most progressive blueprint for advancing women's rights.



Human rights protection and gender equality will remain among key priorities of the United Nations. The UN will advocate and assist the Government in meeting its international human rights obligations in the area of human rights. The UN will continue building the institutional capacity of the relevant Government bodies and the National Human Rights Institution, along with to support the country's fulfilment of obligations under treaty bodies and/or potential human rights mechanisms. Simultaneously, remaining adamant to eliminating gender disparities, the UN will continue empowering women, enhancing women's political representation, preventing and responding to gender-based violence. We will support the Government of Kazakhstan to implement the accepted recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review that took place in January 2025.

The UN system configuration remains adequate for the tasks, represented by a variety of resident and non-resident entities, Agencies, Funds and Programmes, including regional commissions. The UNCT can draw from a wide range of thematic expertise, both national and international. In 2024, continued efforts will be made to enhance operation of non-resident Agencies in Kazakhstan. We will harness the UN 80th anniversary as an opportunity to bring attention to development challenges, discuss solutions for Kazakhstan, and create platforms to renew commitment of all stakeholders for sustainable development that is at risk of revers in the world.

The resource mobilization efforts will continue in 2025, and a greater focus will be made on harnessing expertise and leveraging partnerships at strategic entry points, as well as outreach to both bilateral partners, private sector and pooled funding mechanisms.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

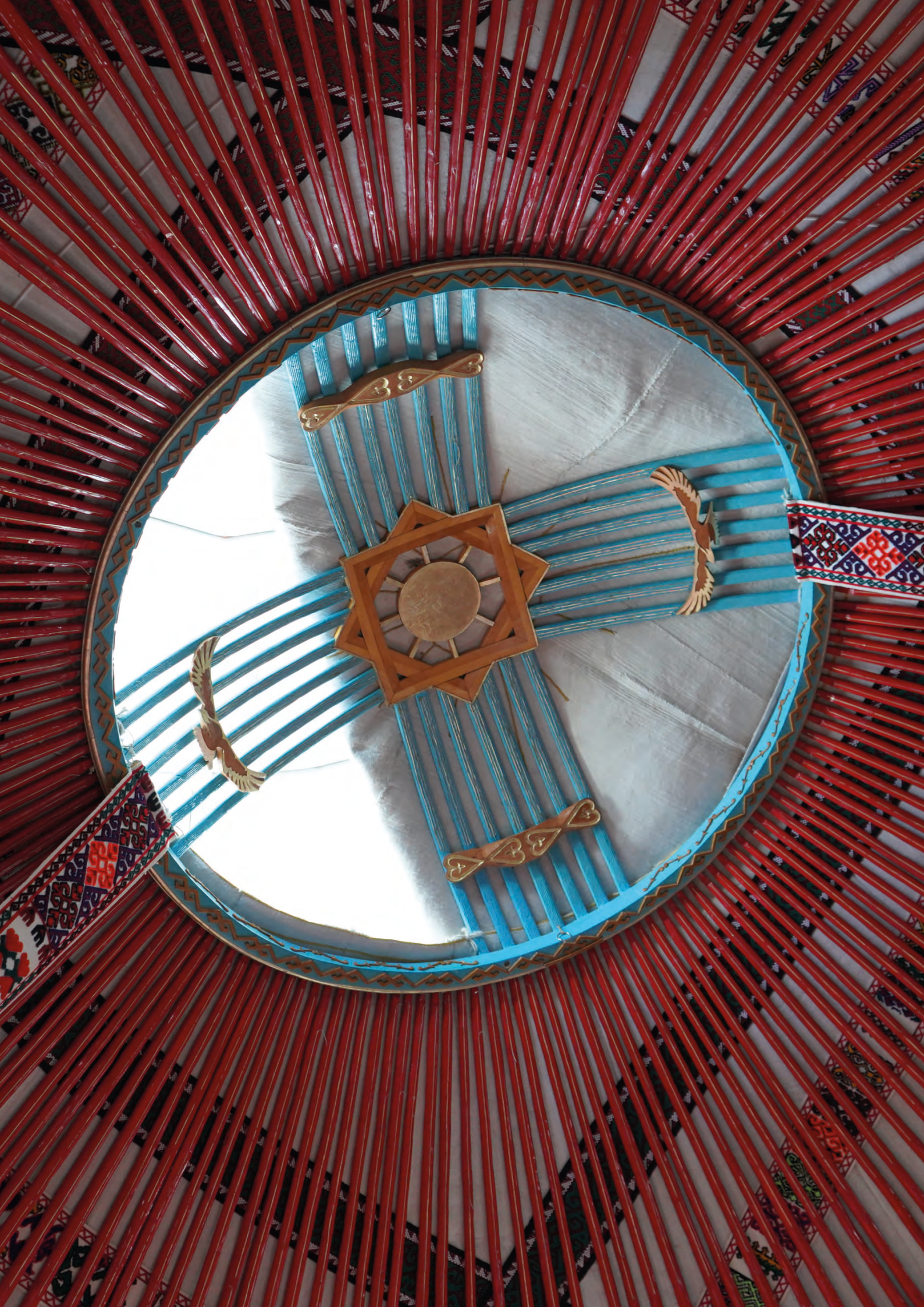
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
BOS	UN Business Operations Strategy
CCA	United Nations Common Country Analysis
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
COP29	The 29 th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DAFI	Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative
DAMU	State-owned Fund for the Entrepreneurship Development
DGC	Department for Global Communication
ERI	Economic Research Institute
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESG	Environmental, Social, and Governance
EU	European Union
EU CBAM	European Union Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GRF	Global Refugee Forum
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HPV	Human Papillomavirus
IBC	Issue-Based Coalition
ICT	Information and Communication Technology

IFIs	International Financial Institutions
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Infection Prevention Control
IT	Information technology
ITC	International Trade Centre
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
LNOB	Leave-No-One-Behind Principle
MPTF	Multi-partner Trust Fund
MSMEs	Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OMT	UN Operations Management Team
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PAGE	Partnership for Action on Green Economy
PSEA	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
RCO	UN Resident Coordinator Office
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SMEs	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
UN	United Nations
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
UNCG	UN Communications Group
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNRCCA	United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
WEPs	Women's Empowerment Principles
WHO	World Health Organization

CREDITS

Photography: © UN Kazakhstan;
© FAO Kazakhstan; © UNDP Kazakhstan;
© UNESCO Kazakhstan; © UNFPA Kazakhstan;
© UNICEF Kazakhstan; © UN Women Kazakhstan;
© WHO Kazakhstan; © Elnara Bainazarova





UNITED NATIONS KAZAKHSTAN

.....

The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator
in the Republic of Kazakhstan

Address: A. Mambetov Str. 14, Z11D8T7,
Astana, Kazakhstan

Phone: +7 (7172) 696550

Email: rccs-kz@un.org

kazakhstan.un.org

[@uninkazakhstan](https://twitter.com/uninkazakhstan)

[@uninkazakhstan](https://facebook.com/uninkazakhstan)

[@uninkazakhstan](https://instagram.com/uninkazakhstan)

