



United Nations in Bhutan

Country Results Report 2017



Delivering as One with:



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime





The United Nations House in Kawajangsa, Thimphu

ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS IN BHUTAN

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945. Currently made up of 193 Member States, the mission and work of the United Nations are guided by the purposes and principles contained in its founding Charter.

On September 21, 1971, the Royal Government of Bhutan became the 128th member of the United Nations. Since then, the country has been home to many UN agencies, funds and programmes, that together support the Government in delivering national development needs and improving the socio-economic conditions of the people of Bhutan.

KUZUZANGPO LA!

Partnerships drive and sustain the work we do at United Nations Bhutan. I thank our partners from the RGoB, CSOs, and our development partners, including academia, the private sector and the international community. With your continued support, we bring transformative and lasting development for the people we serve.

On a day-to-day basis, the following UN agencies are delivering development results in-country: Food Agriculture Organization, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Children's Fund, World Food Programme, UN Women and the World Health Organization.

The following UN Non-Resident Agencies also provide support: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, International Fund for Agricultural Development, International Trade Centre, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UN Human Settlements Programme, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UNAIDS, UN Capital Development Fund, UN Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Environment Programme, UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Information Centre, UN Industrial Development Organization, UN Office for Project Services, and United Nations Volunteers.

For 47 years, we have worked closely with the RGoB, our partners, and stood for the most vulnerable. Our partnership is reinforced through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2014-2018, an agreement signed between the RGoB and the UN. It is the guiding document that enables us to work in support of national priorities (including Gross National Happiness), and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) tailored to the country's needs.

The UNDAF is centered on making a difference in the key areas of: Children and Youth, Gender, Governance, Disaster Preparedness and Response and Climate Change. It also targets the most vulnerable populations in the country. On behalf of the UN Country Team I am pleased to bring you this Annual UN Country Results Report for 2017. This documents how we have mobilized and disbursed 17.7 million to support Bhutan's national development priorities through the Delivering As One (DaO) Approach.

The successes and lessons highlighted in this Report are attributable to the collective efforts of many. On behalf of the United Nations, I wish to expressly thank the Royal Government of Bhutan for the close collaboration over the past year. As we move forward with the SDG Agenda, the RGoB's commitment to achieve the Goals with a special focus on "leaving no one behind" is crucial to ensure that the benefits of development are shared by all.

The UN is honoured to be a valued and trusted development partner of Bhutan, not only because of the unique advantages we offer as a global organization (made up of 193 member states), but also because of the commitment and support we have received from our partners over the years. We remain steadfast in sustaining and building new partnerships for the people of Bhutan. We remain with you in this journey towards a peaceful, inclusive and sustainable Bhutan.



Gerald Daly

Resident Coordinator
UN in Bhutan



A highland woman takes her Yak back home after the annual Highland Festival in Laya

Executive Summary

The following were the key achievements of the UN Country Team (UNCT) in 2017:

- United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) One Programme (2014-2018) implementation;
- UN Sustainable Development Partnership Framework (UNSDPF) preparation,
- Joint Programmes, and
- Joint Business Operations.

UNDAF One programme (2014 – 2018) Implementation

The UN supported formulation of policies that would ensure sustainable development in the environmental and agricultural sectors. The UN also supported enhanced access to alternative income generation activities through the Access and Benefit sharing (ABS), a mechanism that promotes sharing of economic benefits to local communities on the

use of biological resources.

The UN's overall support to enhancing essential and inclusive social services also reaped substantial results. Services for children with disability have improved and the first-ever standards on inclusive education were developed and launched in 2017. An investment case for Early Childhood Care and Development was also launched and this serves as an example for developing investment cases logic for other priority development issues. The traditional support to school-feeding has been taken to the next level, by moving from "feeding" to "nutritious feeding" through the introduction of fortified rice. Services for youth have also expanded, both in size and scope with 26 Y-PEER networks now available across the country.

The UN continued to support the Ministry of Health in procuring essential vaccines and in strengthening the Health Information



Students enjoying a happy meal through the School Feeding Programme

Management System (HIMS). District health information systems are now linked to the national HIMS. Through the training of key health workers in all the districts on the Minimum Initial Services Package, they are now better prepared to respond to emergencies. Emergency response has been further strengthened with improved ICT facilities.

Towards reaching the unreached, the UN supported the RGoB in developing the Baseline Vulnerability Assessment Report 2017, which identified 14 vulnerable groups. The UN also supported the RGoB in conducting studies on children and women so as to strengthen the legal and policy environment that will in turn help advance the rights of children and women in the country. In 2017, the UN continued to support the Virtual Zomdu project to enhance capacities of local government and public administration bodies in delivering effective public services. The UN supported the RGoB

and Civil Society Organizations to strengthen active engagement of adolescents and young people in civic activities through a series of programmes, including Youth Fora, Sustainable Development Goals Youth Forum, Youth integrity and entrepreneurship programmes. Further, the Strategic Plans of the National Assembly and National Council were reviewed and strengthened with the UN's support, including enhanced capacity to the Parliament to oversee Bhutan's progress towards the SDGs. People with disabilities, women with children, prisoners and sick people will now be able to effectively participate in the national elections in 2018 and beyond. Postal ballot facilities and polling stations located in the vicinity of these people with needs will be provided by the Election Commission of Bhutan. This is made possible through the UN's support to the Election Commission of Bhutan to better facilitate electoral access for all.



Young monks making the best use of access to clean water

UNSDPF One Programme (2019-2023) Preparation

The UNSDPF One Programme Preparation was a key joint project undertaken by the UN in close consultation with the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) and be a direct support to the RGoB 12th 5 year plan. UN agencies volunteered to lead/co-lead the key UNDAF Roll-out elements based on their agency mandate and strengths. UNICEF, for example, took the role of overall lead agency for the Common Country Analysis (CCA) which is comprised of five analytical modules; Population Analysis led by UNFPA ; UN Comparative Advantage Analysis led by WHO ; Capacity Development Analysis led by WFP ; Vision 2030 led by UNDP ; and Development Finance Assessment (DFA) led by UNDP and UNFPA. The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator (RCO), in close collaboration with the Development Cooperation Division of the GNHC Secretariat, was responsible for the overall coordination of the UNSDPF development process.

After the completion of the UNSDPF milestone planner formulation at the beginning of 2017, an

UNDAF One Programme (2014-2018) evaluation was initiated and the CCA was conducted. In September, a CCA Validation Meeting was held with the RGoB and other national stakeholders. A Strategic Prioritization Workshop (SPW) was held in November with the participation of UN resident and non-resident agencies, the RGoB, development partners, academia, CSOs and the media. After the SPW, the UNCT prepared a causality analysis for each of the development priorities identified during the SPW. A Theory of Change (ToC) Workshop took place in mid November with facilitation support from the UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA), (Chief, Regional Programme and Planning and M&E Specialist) and UNDP technical support (Planning and Results). An advanced draft of the UNSDPF was finalized by the end of January 2018 aligning with CPD submissions of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF.

Signing of the UNSDPF, is expected to take place in the second half of 2018 after the final validation of the UNSDPF against the approved 12th FYP.



Women and men attending a community Zomdu (meeting)

Sustainable Development Partnership Framework' (UNSDPF). After the completion of the UNDAF milestone planner formulation at the beginning of 2017, an UNDAF One Programme (2014-2018) evaluation was initiated and the CCA was conducted. In September 2017, a CCA Validation Meeting was held with the RGoB and other national stakeholders. A Strategic Prioritization Workshop (SPW) was held in November 2017 with the participation of UN resident and non-resident agencies, the RGoB, development partners, CSOs and the media. After the SPW, the UNCT prepared a causality analysis for each of the development priorities identified during the SPW. A Theory of Change (ToC) Workshop took place in November 2017, with facilitation support from the UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA), (Chief, Regional Programme and Planning and M&E Specialist) and UNDP technical support (Planning and Results). Following the SPW and ToC exercise, drafting of the UNSDPF began. As per the UNSDPF Milestone Planner, the UNSDPF was

finalized by the end of January 2018 aligning with the time for the CPD submissions of UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA.

Signing, however, is expected to take place in the second half of 2018 after the final validation of the UNSDPF against the approved 12th FYP.

Joint Business Operations

The UNCT made important progress in Operating as One, especially the endorsement and implementation of the Business Operation Strategy (BOS). The BOS was signed by the UNCT in June after extensive UNCT discussion. With UNDP's leadership in the Operations Management Team, the activities and budget for 2017 were prepared and endorsed in line with the BOS which covers Common Finance; HACT; Common Procurement; Human Resources; UN House and Premises; ICT; and Logistics and Transport. Under this plan, the UNCT completed over 98% of planned activities with a budget expenditure of USD 244,535 and savings of USD 45,231 were achieved.



Joint Programmes

The UN emphasized joint programmes to achieve greater UN system-wide coherence in support of national priorities and needs. The strategic intent of joining UN actions together is to help countries to coordinate development programmes themselves. In 2017, Inter-Agency Task Teams (IATTs) led by the UNCT, made important progress in four joint programmes namely: i) Sustainable Development Goals and Data; ii) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment; iii) Disability; and iv) Emergency Preparedness and Response.

SDGs, and Data Task Team

Programme Aim: The programme supports the RGoB to develop a result-oriented and an inclusive 12th FYP based on data for evidence-based decision making through three activities: measure the impact of the SDGs; a data ecosystem to support evidence-based decision making; strengthened advocacy to public and private sectors on the SDGs.

2017 key achievements: The UN has jointly supported the preparation of the 12 Five Year Plan. The preparation of the 12th Plan started with extensive consultations to ensure that it is more inclusive in accordance with the SDGs principle of 'leaving no one behind'. The SDG indicators were used as a basis of discussion to support the thinking process in the formulation of the national key result areas (NKRAs), sectoral key result areas (SKRAs) and the key performance indicators (KPIs) of the Plan, given its comprehensive content of indicators across various sectors such as gender, environment,

poverty and inequality, etc. As a result, the 16 NKRAs are closely related to that of the 17 SDGs and relevant SDG indicators have been integrated in the KPIs.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Task Team

Programme aim: This joint programme addresses the fragmented support from various UN agencies and it also seeks to increase collaboration with other development partners who are committed to support gender equality in Bhutan.

2017 key achievements: A Violence Against Women (VAW) study was initiated with a completion date in 2018. A Gender Expert Group across sectors have been trained to establish a functional and effective national level human resource pool on gender issues. Social messaging on Gender issues was incorporated in national and local festivals to raise awareness on gender issues.

Disability Task Team

Programme aim: To strengthen the policy environment and inclusive services in Bhutan to advance the rights of people with disability.

2017 key achievements: Joint advocacy for early ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was carried out with the RGoB and a project proposal for disability for \$400,000 was prepared – also in conjunction with RGoB. The proposal was approved by the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). This joint project will invest in a new policy environment in Bhutan that advances the rights and principles detailed in the CRPD. It will invest in the meaningful engagement of people with disabilities in the development and implementation of policy reforms focused on leaving no-one behind. Bhutan's first National Disability Policy is being formulated through a consultative process as a result of the discussions through the development of the UNPRPD proposal. The capacity of people with disabilities to participate meaningfully in the development and implementation of the policy framework is one of the outcomes of the proposal.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Task Team

Programme aim: Considering Bhutan's disaster risk profile, the UNCT decided to develop a multisectoral contingency plan for disaster risk management. The TT, in consultation with the RGoB, especially the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, the Department of Disaster Management and other key ministries and development partners will develop a UN Inter-Agency Contingency Plan for Earthquakes that delegates the roles and responsibilities of various partners and actors and conduct regular earthquake simulation exercises to test contingency plans.

2017 key achievements: The TT with UN OCHA, Regional WHO, Regional UNICEF and Regional WFP organized a multi-stakeholder consultation workshop in Paro. The workshop was attended by more than 100 participants from His Majesty's Secretariat, key ministries, autonomous agencies, military and development partners. The TT (in conjunction with the World Bank) led the joint development of an Inter-Agency Contingency Plan proposal for Earthquakes to support the RGoB Department of Disaster Management. The proposal was submitted to the Global Preparedness Partnership.

<p>SDGs and Data Task Team <i>Lead Agency:</i> UNDP <i>Agencies:</i> UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, WFP, UN Women, FAO <i>Focal:</i> Niamh Collier-Smith (UNDP)- Alternate: Jigme Dorji Udaya Sharma (WFP) Suraj Man Shrestha (WHO) Rinzi Pem (UN Women) Yeshey Dorji (UNFPA) Wangchuk Lhamo (FAO) Hiroshi Kuwata (RCO)</p>	<p>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Task Team <i>Lead Agency:</i> UNDP <i>Agencies:</i> UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, WHO <i>Focal:</i> Namgay Wangchuk (UNDP)- Alternate: Sangay Wangmo Karma Tshering (UNFPA) Rinzi Pem (UN Women) Aniruddha Kulkarni (UNICEF)- Alternate: Deki Dema Kesang Choden Phuntsho (RCO)</p>
<p>Disability Task Team <i>Lead Agency:</i> UNICEF <i>Agencies:</i> WHO, UNDP <i>Focal:</i> Bishnu B. Mishra (UNICEF) Sangay Wangmo (UNDP)- Alternate: Namgay Wangchuk Tshering Dhendup (WHO) Kesang Choden Phuntsho (RCO)</p>	<p>Emergency Preparedness and Response Task Team <i>Lead Agency:</i> WHO <i>Agencies:</i> UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP <i>Focal:</i> Dr. Egmond Evers (WHO) Yeshey Dorji (UNFPA) Piet Vochten (WFP) Sonam Gyaltsen (UNICEF)-Alternate: Bishnu Bhakta Mishra Nawaraj Chettri (UNDP)- Alternate: Dago Tshering Kesang Choden Phuntsho (RCO)</p>

Programme Monitoring & Evaluation
Lead Agency: UNICEF
Chair: Beate Dastel (UNICEF)
 Hiroshi Kuwata (RCO), Phurpa Tshering (UNDP), Dechen Zam (UNICEF), Suraj Man Shrestha (WHO), Karma Tshering (UNFPA), Udaya Sharma (WFP)

Outcome 1: Sustainable Development

By 2018, sustainable and green economic growth that is equitable, inclusive, climate and disaster resilient, and promotes poverty reduction and employment opportunities, particularly for vulnerable groups are enhanced.



Dophu from Samdingkha village in Punakha stands in front of the UN funded GLOF early warning system

Key Development Trends:

Lead Agency



Participating Agencies



unicef
for every child

The Constitution of Bhutan mandates to maintain a minimum forest cover of 60% for all time. Bhutan has a forest cover of 72% and is the only country in the world that has declared it will remain carbon neutral. The RGoB raised USD 2.7 billion for the maintenance of protected areas, as a result of which the innovative funding initiative 'Bhutan for Life' was launched in 2017. Bhutan's poverty rate is estimated at 8.2%. Poverty is still a rural phenomenon with about 11.9% of the rural population being poor against 0.8% in urban areas. Youth unemployment has increased to 10.7% in 2015 from 9.4% in 2014. The national unemployment rate stands at 2.5%. It is estimated that 51% of the population resides in urban areas and about 8,000 young people join the workforce annually.



92 jobs
(347 males and 145 females)
created.



Livelihood benefits to **20,562** people
(10,734 males and 9,792 females)
generated.



Rural women heading home after collecting firewood from the forest

Output 1.1: Development of policies and studies to adapt to climate change

A policy that empowers the communities to conserve and avail benefits from genetic resources through the Access and Benefit sharing (ABS) mechanism was approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests in 2017. A framework to ensure access to the transport system is safe, reliable, and affordable was updated through the draft National Transport Policy of Bhutan, 2017 was updated. A simple excel-based methodology to help the RGoB track Environmental Expenditure Reviews which segregates climate change and biodiversity expenditures on an annual or periodic basis was developed through the UN Biodiversity Finance Initiative Climate Policy Institutional Review. In accordance with the Paris Agreement ratified in 2017, a Low Emission Development Strategy was developed for human settlement, ensuring cleaner production in industry and renewable energy.



Disaster Management and Contingency Plan now covers 444,078 people



80% of Gelephu residents have restored access to safe and reliable drinking water.



Operational and response capacity enhanced through: mock drills, pre-positioning of 24 emergency shelter tents & supply of 10 satellite phones

The UN also supported the framework to roll out integration of information and communications technology in the agriculture sector.

Output 1.2: Enhanced response to and reduce climate change induced disaster risks

The UN supported the four districts of Wangduephrodrang, Mongar, Trashigang and Lhuentse to enhance local governments' operational and communication capacity to respond to disaster. Phuentsholing Thromde, and Ramjar and Jamkhar gewogs in Trashiyangtse were supported with the establishment of Disaster Management Committees and the preparation of Disaster Management and Contingency Plans. NAPA II project also supported the Phuentsholing Thromde construct critical infrastructures, such as flood retention walls in Pasakha and Rinchending. The four districts of Wangduephrodrang, Mongar, Trashigang, Lhuentse and eight gewogs are better prepared to manage forest fires with the institution of a forest fire management group and forest fire management plan through UN support.

Output 1.4: Food and nutrition security policies developed

Skill development training to enhance analytical capacity to conduct various impact assessments was provided to the officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests. The United Nations also helped the ministry to complete an impact study on farm roads, irrigation, paddy and maize program. This study provided critical recommendations to improve farm roads and irrigation against the impacts of climate change. With technical support from the United Nations, the ministry today is in a better position to generate reliable data through standardized methodologies of the annual survey which is in line with global approaches.

The Royal Government of Bhutan's e-Agriculture Strategy helps integration of information and communications technology in the agriculture sector.

The United Nations also supported the ministry prepare the Forest Reference Level report to be submitted to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

“I still remember that morning in 1994, when I saw my community members being swallowed by the GLOF from Lugge Tsho. I could do nothing but stand there and witness my friends and neighbours disappear in the flood. I wish the early warning system developed by the project had been in place back then. Things would have been different.”

- Dophu, 82 years old, Samdingkha, Punakha

Output 1.6: Access to alternative income generation opportunities

The UN facilitated the signing of the Access and Benefit Sharing agreement with Bio Bhutan, Menjong Sorig Pharmaceuticals and the National Biodiversity Centre to produce herbal products from Rhododendron, Himalayan Gooseberry and Himalayan ginger. This helps in assuring the sharing of economic benefits to local communities on the use of biological resources.

The UN's support to encourage private sector participation and engagement for biodiversity value chain business development showed the way for development projects to have an exit strategy from grant financing. Based on the comprehensive Policy and Institutional Review for Biodiversity and Climate Change, an Expenditure framework adapted from BIOFIN Workbook, CPEIR methodology and local context was developed to carry out Expenditure Reviews. A thorough review of Climate change and biodiversity for all relevant agencies was conducted, providing clear expenditure trends, including private sector expenditures. This will inform the next steps of the Finance Needs Assessment for biodiversity targets which are aligned as per the National Biodiversity Targets and mainstreamed into the draft 12th Five-Year Plan for the biodiversity sector. Based on the series of comprehensive BIOFIN steps for an Integrated approach to green financing, a Green Investment Plan is being drafted with potential financing solutions.

Outcome 2: Essential Social Services

By 2018, increased and equitable access, utilization and quality of inclusive essential social services for all, with a focus on sustaining the SDGs and addressing emerging challenges is achieved.



In 2017, there were 94,184 primary students (PP-VI) enrolled in 515 primary and secondary schools

Lead Agency



Participating Agencies



Education

Key Development Trends:

The RGoB continues to give the highest importance to education. The education sector was allocated 18% of the total budget for 2016-2017. The general literacy rate among the population of six years old and above, stands at 66%, of which 82% in urban areas and 58% in rural areas. Across all ages, 73% of males and 59% of females are literate. Literacy rates are higher among the younger age groups and are lowest for the older age group of 65 years and above and 93% of youth (15-24 years) are literate. There are marked differences in educational attainment levels between females and males. About 47% of females have had no education as compared to 36% of males, and 5% of females have tertiary education as compared to 8% of males. 67% of students attend public schools at higher secondary level as compared to 96% at primary level.



Bhutan achieved the MDG target for gender equality in school with progress in tertiary enrollment

Output 2.1: Education systems capacity strengthened

The Ministry of Education completed the Knowledge, Attitude and Practices study on Children with Disability (CWD) in Bhutan through UN support. The study confirmed that services for Children with Disability have improved over the years in education and social services. However, there are significant knowledge gaps which lead to negative attitudes and lack of support for families with Children with Disability. The report findings will inform the development of a comprehensive behavior change communications strategy to address the challenges and gaps identified. The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) supported the RGoB prepare the School Education Sector Blueprint, guided by the Bhutan 2020 vision to enhance student learning and competencies equivalent to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average by 2020.



18 new Early Childhood Care and Development (model) centres built and 12 centres renovated
 158 new Early Childhood Care and Development facilitators trained
 Play & learning materials supplied to 30 centres

Output 2.2: Enhance capacity for quality and inclusive education services

As a sustainable approach to developing in-country capacity for education of Children with Disability, the UN supporting Paro College of Education to launch a Post Graduate Diploma in Inclusive Education to increase access to inclusive education for Children with Disability. In 2017, the first standards on inclusive education were developed and launched by the ministry at the National Inclusive Education conference. Stakeholders have the capacity to effectively coordinate, plan, implement and monitor the provision of quality and inclusive education services.

Early Childhood Care and Development

The UN partnered with the Ministry of Education in developing an Investment Case for Early Childhood Care and Development in Bhutan. The launch of the Case Study in July with the first-ever National Early Childhood Care and Development week increased awareness and support for Early Childhood Care and Development at all levels, from communities to policy makers and parliamentarians. The investment case report is intended to support Bhutan to meet its national goal to reach at least 50% of children aged 3-5 years with ECCD by 2024 as well as its commitment to achieve the Early Childhood Care and Development target of the Sustainable Development Goals to reach all children (3-5 year) by 2030.



Students during an earthquake emergency preparedness simulation

Output 2.5: Improved preparedness in emergency and disaster

The UN further strengthened the capacity of teachers and education officials, to enhance school safety and children's resilience to disasters. More than 100 teachers and District Education Officials were oriented on the Education Sector Disaster Management Plan developed by the ministry. These educators will work closely with District Disaster Management Committees to strengthen School Disaster Management Plans in their districts. Nuns also received training on the basics of disaster management through a four-day workshop. The nuns learned how to evacuate to safe places during major disasters, fight fires and administer basic first aid during disasters.

Output 2.6: Enhanced school feeding and water, sanitation and hygiene

Fortified Rice: The UN established capacity to locally process fortified rice. The rice mill in Phuentsholing is capable of blending white rice with fortified rice kernels. After purchasing white rice from a supplier in West-Bengal, the UN ensures quality and quantity control. Once the fortified rice kernels have arrived, a preliminary blending test using the actual fortified kernels is established to allow calibrating the equipment and confirming the validity of the Standard Operating Procedures established by experts. This will include procedures to ensure food safety and quality control as well as procedures to ensure the final product achieves the required 1:100 blending ration. After this actual blending can start. Fortified rice was distributed from April 2017 to UN supported schools.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Water supply and child-friendly, gender sensitive sanitation for 2,660 boys and 2,700 girls from 10 schools was strengthened through UN support. These interventions have also contributed to a total of 30 water supply and 84 toilets with bathing and hand-washing facilities in monastic institutions since 2003.



The UN distributed a food basket of 945 tons of fortified rice, 68 tons of vegetable oil, 68 tons of chickpeas and 68 tons of yellow split to 16,860 students in 171 schools across 20 districts

Output 2.7: Increased access to and utilization of youth friendly services

The UN supported the RGoB in carrying out a review of the functioning of Drop-In-Centres that provide preventive and rehabilitative services for substance users. The findings and recommendations of this review will directly influence the 2018 Plan of Action of the Bhutan Narcotics Control Authority, which manages the drop-in centres spread across eight districts.

UN supported the RGoB in assessing the functioning of the existing integrated Youth Centre (Gelephu), which resulted in a review of programme implementation guidelines and programme delivery. Given the role played by Youth Centres in capacity development of adolescents, UN supported the RGoB to map and review existing training materials and curricula, especially focusing on those Not in Education and Employment or Training (NEET) adolescents. This resulted in a comprehensive training catalogue, which will be part of the annual plans of the Youth Centres for training of adolescents and youth. In school and out of school youth have increased access to utilize youth friendly services.

“ I can be a positive agent of change and this I can do only when I have correct knowledge and Information. During this Y-PEER workshop, I came to know about how to manage and take care of my SRHR needs for healthy life style ”

Pema, Y-PEER member, Sherubtse College



Y-PEER: Y-PEER Bhutan has several local and regional networks established in different districts where there are institutes and colleges. As a peer to peer support to improve people's health and well-being, this network provides on-going training sessions aimed at helping young people build skills and change risky behaviours. Y-PEER started its first network in Sherubtse College and today it has 26 Y-PEER networks established in colleges, Vocational Training Institutes and higher learning institutes.



The health system in Bhutan is founded on the principles of Primary Health Care Approach

Health

Key Development Trends:

The budget allocation for health is 8% in 2017 from the total national budget. This is facilitated by 5,028 medical and health professionals working across the country. Further analysis of the National Nutrition Survey 2015 carried out in 2017 helps to understand the determinants of stunting, wasting, anemia and poor infant and young child feeding practices. The general nutritional status of Bhutanese people has been improving over the last decade. Malnutrition indicators such as underweight prevalence and wasting have improved, however, stunting prevalence remains a major public health issue. Stunting prevalence stands at 21.2%. However, regional disparities remain persistently elevated with a 29.1% prevalence rate in the Eastern region followed by 18.5% and 16.2% in the Central and Western regions respectively. Over 9 in 10 women who gave birth in the past 12 months received antenatal care, while about 87% received postnatal care. Only 3% of all women who gave birth in the past 12 months, gave birth at home without skilled attendants.

Lead Agency



Participating Agencies



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

unicef
for every child





Immunization protects children from life-threatening diseases. early and complete immunization is critical for children

Output 2.3: Strengthened capacities of national health system and vaccine procurement

The completion of the National Health Accounts Study 2014-15 and 2015-16 by the Ministry of Health indicated that the RGoB is the principal financier of the health system. The RGoB share of current health expenditures in financial year 2015-16 was 70%. This study will help the RGoB support health financing decisions and health policy reform. The UN gave financial and technical assistance to conduct the study.

The UN continued to support the Ministry of Health in procuring traditional vaccines, cold chain equipment and injection devices in 2017. Procurement Service support for GAVI funded vaccines have continued along with procurement of HPV vaccine for ACCF (Australian Cervical Cancer Foundation). This has helped the cost effective procurement of quality vaccines and ensured 100% availability of all vaccines at all health facilities. The UN supported MoH, to migrate the District Health Information System (DHIS-2) to the national server.



95% of essential medicines and vaccines at any point of time maintained at 100%



45% of essential reproductive health commodities (contraceptives) and 50% of antigens financed through the national budget

Output 2.4: Health facilities better able to provide quality services

Improving the quality of newborn care continued to be an area of focus for the UN as newborn mortality contributed to two thirds of infant deaths in the county. The UN in partnership with the Ministry of Health endorsed and disseminated the Bhutan Every Newborn Action Plan (2016-2023) to improve the health of every newborn in the country. The action plan aims to reduce the newborn death rate of 13.2 per 1,000 live births by 2023 from 21 per 1,000 live births (NHS 2012). The UN and its partners reached about 70% of newborns with life-saving interventions by training over 450 health staff in 10 hospitals on Early Essential Newborn Care and Kangaroo Mother Care programmes.

The UN supported MoH and MoE to develop a 'Child Development Screening Tool' for universal screening and identification of developmental delays, birth defects and disabilities. The tool was validated in 2017 and will be mainstreamed in MCH routine services from 2018 onwards, to facilitate screening of infants from the age of 10 weeks to five years.



The school meal programme promotes school enrollment and attendance

Output 2.5: Improved health and education systems during disaster and emergencies

At least one health worker from 20 districts in health facilities have been trained on the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP). To enhance food security and nutrition during disaster and emergencies, and to further enhance preparedness and response capacity, a nutrition in emergency situation contingency plan was developed.

To continue strengthening the emergency preparedness and response management system, the UN in coordination with the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) procured and installed telecommunication and ICT equipment for NEOC and four municipal areas.

Output 2.6: Enhanced management of school feeding and water, sanitation and hygiene

Upon the request of the RGoB, the UN supported the introduction of fortified rice to the school feeding programme. The school feeding programme was enhanced through capacity development activities such as reviews of existing aspects of the school feeding programme,

improving nutrition in school meals, enhancing its supply chain and strengthening its monitoring and evaluation systems.

Improved water supply and child-friendly, gender sensitive sanitation support was given to 2,660 boys and 2,700 girls from 10 schools. Construction of toilets, bathhouses, handwashing facilities and water supply schemes have contributed to an improved learning environment for 185 monks from five monastic schools.

About 42 water caretakers were trained and provided tool boxes for regular maintenance of water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in their respective monastic schools and nunneries.

Output 2.7: Increased access to and utilization of youth friendly services by in-school and out-of-school youth

A guideline on nutrition package for adolescents was developed to improve the physical and mental health of adolescents and youth. Adolescent focal persons were trained on the nutrition guideline.

At least one health worker from all 32 hospitals (in the country) were trained to provide Adolescent-Friendly Health Services.



The youth have access to youth-friendly services to improve mental and physical health

An evidence-based practice on Gestational Diabetes Mellitus and Episiotomy through action research was generated which indicated the prevalence of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus in Bhutan.

Nurses and midwives from all over the country gathered to share their learning experiences in bringing about improvement in nursing and midwifery care. A network on Sexual Reproductive Health was developed for Y-PEER to promote youth participation on issues relevant to youth like sexual and reproductive health.

To promote the health and wellbeing of adolescents and young people, an Adolescent health program under the Ministry of Health through support from the UN will use an existing mobile app developed by Ministry of Education called "mPower Youth", to reach youths with scientifically accurate information they need to make healthy decisions.

Output 2.8: Enhanced knowledge and skills to adopt behaviours and practices for improved health, nutrition and well being

A high level advocacy on Maternal, Newborn, Child Health and Nutrition and other priority health and social issues was conducted in 19 districts.

In partnership with the Rural Sanitation and Hygiene Programme (RSAHP), the UN mobilized 579 communities in three districts to understand the need and invest in improved sanitation facilities.

In partnership with the rural households reached by Rural Sanitation and Hygiene Programmes, more than 500 communities in three districts understand and invest in improved sanitation facilities. Mongar has been declared a 100% Open Defecation Free district. Samdrup Jongkhar and Wangduephrodang reached 96% improved sanitation coverage. During World Toilet Day in 2017, 15 blocks from five districts of Wangduephrodang, Mongar, Samdrup Jongkhar, Lhuentse and Trashigang were certified as being 100% improved sanitation coverage and open defecation free blocks, bringing the number in Bhutan to 39 (which is 19 % of the total).

Best practices of the Rural Sanitation and Hygiene Programme were documented and disseminated on World Toilet Day 2017.

Outcome 3: Gender Equality & Child Protection

By 2018, communities and institutions strengthened at all levels to achieve enhanced gender equality, empowerment and protection of women and children.



“Investing in women’s economic empowerment will be key to poverty reduction, inclusive growth and achieving gender equality.”- First female Minister, Dorji Choden

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Key Development Trends:

According to the Human Development Report, 2016, Bhutan ranks 110th in the Gender Inequality Index indicating disparities between female and male achievements in health, education, economy and politics in the country. Studies have highlighted that Bhutan has seen a widening gender gap in female labour force participation, estimated earned income and wage equality. Currently, women comprise only 6.9% of elected representatives in Parliament and occupy only 6% of leadership positions in the civil service. The Labour Force Survey, 2015 highlighted that the quality of jobs held by women are inferior to that of men, with a higher proportion of women categorized as unpaid family workers. The Gross National Happiness survey 2015, found that men are significantly happier than women.

Output 3.1: Strengthened legal and policy environment to advance the rights and protection of women and children

To strengthen the legal and policy environment to advance the rights and protection of women and children, the UN supported the National Commission for Women and Children to conduct a qualitative assessment on child marriage and cohabitation practices to help understand the situation of child marriage in Bhutan.

The UN also supported the National Commission for Women and Children to adopt Standard Operating Procedures for women and children in difficult circumstances as per the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and Child Care and Protection Act and Standard Operation Procedures for Child Protection for children in monastic institutions. The National Commission for Women and Children initiated a Violence against Women study with support from the UN (to be completed in 2018).

The Violence against Women study will obtain reliable data on the prevalence of various forms of violence against women aged between 15 to 49 years and assess the situations and characteristics associated with such violence. It will also explore the effects of violence on women as well as children and analyze the coping strategies used by women to respond to violence. Based on the major findings, the report will include recommendations for practical interventions for prevention and treatment of violence against women.

Output 3.2: Gender mainstreaming with resourced gender mainstreaming strategies

To mainstream gender in key ministries, autonomous bodies, non-governmental organizations, the United Nations provided training to Gender Expert Groups across all sectors to mainstream gender in their respective sectors.



A Brokpa from Merak sells dairy products in Trashigang

“This workshop has taught me how to facilitate and deal with situations related to child protection.”

- Jigme Samdrup, 22-years old, RENEW, workshop participant

Output 3.3: Increased awareness of and positive attitudes towards preventing and eliminating gender-based violence

To increase awareness of and positive attitudes towards preventing and eliminating gender-based violence, the UN achieved the following:

- Strengthened coordination among various stakeholders working on gender-based violence and violence against children;

- Incorporated social messaging on Gender Equality, Gender Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights which were disseminated through national and local festivals;
- Published a book titled Tsechui' Garcham Gyi Shepa.

The UN sensitized on social issues such as sexual and reproductive health including Violence against Women, teenage pregnancy, suicide, abuse of harmful substances including alcohol. The local leaders, school authorities and health workers at the district level were encouraged to budget and integrate priority social issues through the local level annual work plan.

Respect, Educate, Nurture, and Empower Women (RENEW), Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law, National Commission for Women and Children, Royal Bhutan Police and the UN initiated a programme for RENEW-Community Based Support System Volunteers on the use of consensus building to help address 'difficult to prosecute' cases which are notoriously difficult to prove in the court of law in situations involving economic or emotional forms of domestic violence.

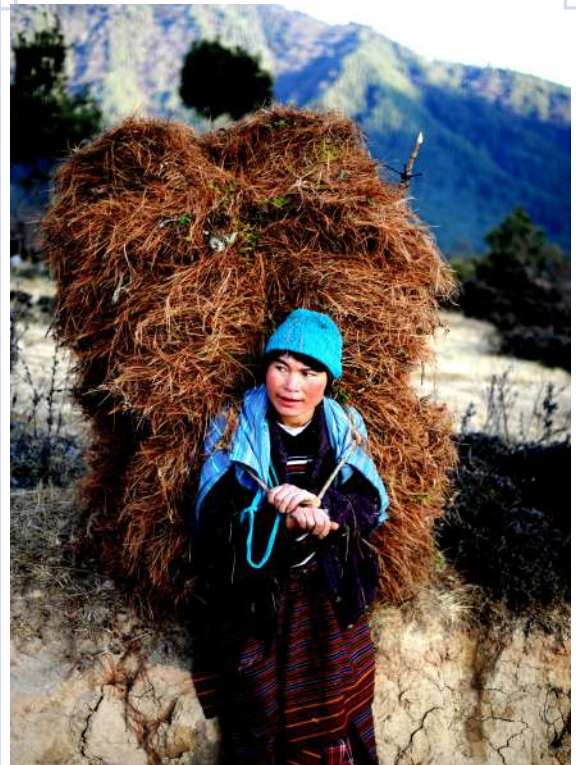
Output 3.4: Enhanced knowledge, skills, resources, mechanism to prevent, respond to violence against children

In the process of enhancing capacity of institutions, communities, families and children to have knowledge, and resources to respond to violence against children, the UN introduced the standardized curriculum for capacity development of children and adolescents on child protection and Violence against Children. The UN further strengthened capacities of key social service professionals including school

counsellors and allied professionals such as justice and law enforcement officials, as well as those who work with disabled children.

Capacities of community-based volunteers to respond effectively to incidents of violence against children was also enhanced.

The UN supported the Royal Government of Bhutan to establish the Rules of Procedure on Treaty Making to address human rights and participation of vulnerable groups in accordance with international standards and awareness raising on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and questioning (LGBTIQ) individuals. This resulted in the review of relevant laws by the Parliament's Committee for Women, Children and Youth, with a recommendation for the removal of section 213 and 214 from the Penal Code of Bhutan (which criminalizes unnatural sex and sodomy). This also reviewed the provisions in the Penal Code related to violence against children, harmonization of various legislative provisions such as Child Care and Protection Act, and the revision to the Marriage Act to make it gender just.



Capacity of community-based volunteers to respond effectively to incidents of violence against children has been enhanced

Output 4.1: Strengthened key national and local institutions

Considerable progress has been made to strengthen integrated monitoring plans and programmes through the UN joint programme on the 12th Five Year Plan. This joint programme enabled partners to work together on developing the 12th Five Year Plan and in the process, enhanced capacities on participatory and inclusive planning, including mainstreaming of the SDGs into Bhutan's national development plan.

Advancement in harmonising national statistics to enhance evidence based decision was achieved through completion of the Data-ecosystem mapping report. Further, the UN supported revision of the Gewog Data Base Manual to feed into Web-based Gewog portal and trained Gewog focal points on the use of the Web-based Gewog Portal. Further, advocacy and technical assistance resulted in the registration of the Evaluation Association of Bhutan as a Civil Society Organization.

Important progress has been made on public finance management through institutionalization of Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting in four RGoB sector including agriculture, health, education and employment.



Sustainable Development Goals alignment with the 12th FiveYear Plan:

Out of 169 Sustainable Development Goals targets, alignment: 40 full, 58 partial, 71 not

Out of the 244 indicators, alignment: 62 full, 54 partial, 128 not



205 Gewogs are now able to compile administrative data like health, education, and agriculture and share it with the central government online



We now know what the Sustainable Development Goals and the National Key Results Areas are, and how we as youth can help bring these plans to life.



-Sejal Chhetri, Harmony Youth Volunteer

Output 4.2: Enhanced ability to deliver effective and equitable public services

To enhance capacity of local government and public administration bodies in delivering effective and equitable public services, the UN continued to support the Virtual Zomdu project. The UN will continue to sensitize and advocate in 2018 responding to the finding of the evaluation report that found the Virtual Zomdu facility is not optimally used.



Virtual Zomdu project reached 89 community centres in 89 Gewogs.

Outcome 4: Good Governance

By 2018, governance institutions and communities exercise the principles of democratic governance at the national and local levels with a focus on inclusiveness, transparency, accountability and evidence-based decision making.



The Home Minister, Dawa Gyeltshen with Haoliang Xu, the Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations and Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific, UNDP, at the launch of Virtual Zomdu

Key Development Trends:

According to the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index 2016, Bhutan is the 27th least corrupt country with a score of 65 (from a scale of 0–100 where 0 equals the highest level of perceived corruption and 100 equals the lowest level of perceived corruption). The UN partnered with the RGoB in developing a Baseline Vulnerability Assessment Report which identified 14 vulnerable groups, thereby providing the evidence base for focused and effective programmes to support the most vulnerable in the society. The inclusion of Justice as NKRA provided an opportunity for the previously disconnected Agencies and Institutions in the justice system to work together for a more coordinated, strategic approach to access to justice. The strategy, being developed for the very first time would provide a high-level framework to guide coordinated, integrated and flexible Justice Sector development. The UN support to the RGoB towards the 12th FYP Formulation enabled a review of the data ecosystem in the country in support of the 12th FYP and the 2030 Agenda and also enabled the development of an advocacy and communications strategy for the 12th FYP and the SDGs. Under this, youth consultations were also held to discuss sustainable development and the role of youth in its advocacy, implementation and monitoring.

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An Eminent member of the National Council, Tashi Wangmo, at a National Council session

Output 4.3: Increased opportunities to participate in leadership, policy making, planning, and implement station of development plans

Advancement has been made in increasing the opportunities of women and youth to participate in leadership as well as in policy making, planning, and implementation of development plans. The inclusion of gender as a National Key Result Area raised the profile of gender and resulted in the drafting of a gender equality policy. The policy will provide the overarching policy directive to ensure gender equality.

The UN supported the RGoB and Civil Society Organizations to strengthen active engagement of adolescents and young people in civic activities through a series of programmes, including Youth Fora, SDGs Youth Forum, Youth integrity and entrepreneurship programmes.

About 112 youths were engaged directly through youth integrity clubs. The findings of the assessment reveal positive behavioural change in the youth, in particular the club members on upholding values of honesty, sincerity, care and transparency. Through active engagement of adolescents and young people in civic activities, more than 3,000 young people from across the country acquired skills to identify and articulate the issues that matter to them the most.

Output 4.4: Media and Civil Society Organizations better able to promote the participation of people

Advancement has been made to promote the participation of people, in particular the youth, in democratic processes, public dialogue and discourse. With support from the UN, Strategic Plans of the National Assembly and National Council were strengthened. In addition, the development of an orientation handbook for new Parliamentarians was updated, and the capacity of parliamentarians was enhanced to oversee Bhutan's progress towards the SDGs. Moreover, the number of public hearings doubled from 2016, illustrating an increased space for public engagement in Bhutan's decision-making process. With UN support, Bhutan hosted the first and largest regional meeting of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly. More than 100 parliamentarians and officials from 20 Asian countries participated. Deliberations led to the unanimous adoption of ten far reaching resolutions which will help the media and Civil Society Organizations promote participation of people, in particular youth, in democratic processes, public dialogue and discourse.



Government officials including police officers and prosecutors join hands against human trafficking with the UN

With UN support the Journalist Association of Bhutan improved its outreach to local communities regarding responsible social media engagement which included increased awareness of the opportunities and challenges of using social media platforms like Facebook and WeChat. The UN's support to develop the capacity of the Election Commission of Bhutan contributed to its ability to better facilitate electoral access for persons with disabilities, women with children, prisoners and sick people. The commission in the 2018 elections will provide postal ballots for persons with disabilities, priority for women with children, prisoners and people in the hospitals through polling stations in their localities.

Output 4.5: Enhanced awareness of rights and access to formal and informal justice redressal mechanisms

Good progress has been made to increase people's awareness on rights and access to formal and informal justice redressal mechanisms through the development of the Legal Aid Guideline, establishment of the Bar Council, drafting of Regulations for Bar Exams, and rules of conduct for

lawyers. In the absence of a clear means of measuring Access to Justice in Bhutan, these interventions helped remove perceived barriers to accessing justice. Increasing progress is made towards the goal of 'Leaving no one behind,' with the launch of the Bhutan's first Vulnerability Assessment with UN support. This vulnerability assessment ensured progress was made to advance the rights of persons with disabilities by understanding the impact of ratifying the convention for the rights of persons with disabilities in Bhutan. In order to ensure law enforcement officers, stay abreast with advancement in the skills and technology in criminal proceedings, 34 officials of 17 law enforcement agencies were trained on financial investigation and asset recovery. The program enhanced the understanding and correlation between the existing laws to enable greater awareness on various laws and promote the rule of law. Fifteen state-owned and listed companies pledged to promote 'clean business' activities in the country that embraces the principles of fairness, equity, transparency and accountability. This would in turn strengthen greater awareness on anti-corruption and other legal obligations.

Non-resident Agencies

The following are the Non-resident Agencies that have contributed to the four outcome groups in 2017



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization supported the RGoB for consultations on the National Heritage Bill.

The tripartite agreement was signed in 2012 between the RGoB, UNESCO New Delhi and Kyushu University, Japan for the development of the National Heritage Bill. The draft bill on Heritage Sites and the draft bill on Intangible Cultural Heritage were merged and further combined with the existing Cultural Heritage Property Act for a single comprehensive heritage law. Consultations on the bill continued in 2017.

The RGoB also received support from UNESCO, the Oriental Cultural Heritage Sites Protection Alliance and Kyushu University, Japan for a 2017 Workshop on managing the cultural landscape. The workshop provided an improved understanding of the methodology of culture landscape management and the capacity of the RGoB to develop management plans for Bhutan's cultural sites. UNESCO supported the RGoB to prepare the School Education Sector Blue-print guided by the Bhutan 2020 vision to enhance student learning and competencies equivalent to the OECD. UNESCO

also supported Ministry of Education in preparation of the proposal to the Global Partnership of Education (GPE) in collaboration with Save the Children and UNICEF.



In 2016-2017, United Nations Environment Programme supported three projects in Bhutan. For Sustainable Consumption and Production, support was provided to develop and launch paperless guidelines to cost effectively reduce the environmental footprint of RGoB operations; Green Hotel Guidelines for Bhutan; an SCP Baseline Study and Asia Pacific Low Carbon Lifestyles Challenge in 2017.

For the Montreal Protocol, UNEP contributed to a survey on the use of alternatives to Ozone Depleting Substances, the ratification of the Kigali Amendment, border dialogue between customs officials of Bhutan and India, training of customs and enforcement officers on trade control of Ozone Depleting Substances and the inauguration of the 'Ozone' park. For the Poverty-Environment Initiative, support was provided through Assessments on fiscal decentralization, main streaming reference groups and the institutionalization of gender, environment, climate, disaster risk reduction and poverty mainstreaming and the Strategic Environmental Assessment of Thimphu City's Master



With 28% of cultivable land used for rice cultivation, Bhutan is 47% self-sufficient in rice

Plan. UNEP also worked closely with UNDP and BIOFIN on integrated financing for biodiversity and climate change and is currently working on a value chain study on ecotourism in 3 districts.



United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) assisted Bhutan in roadmap diversification of renewable energy particularly in remote areas. UNIDO involved Bhutan in their regional trade capacity building project with the SAARC countries. Bhutan will also be involved in the Hindu-Kush Himalaya Sustainable Energy Centre which is currently being established and which will be hosted by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development in Nepal. For this, Bhutan's delegation participated in the scoping activities and validation workshop.



International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) contributed to Bhutan through the Commercial Agriculture and Resilient Livelihoods Enhancement Programme and the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme Trust Fund. All IFAD funds go directly to the RGoB as loan or grant financing.



The United Nations Information Center for and Bhutan has been pivotal in maintaining and disseminating information about the UN in Bhutan. It reaches out to the media and educational institutions, engages in partnerships with governments, local civil society organizations and the private sector, and maintains the library and electronic information resourcing



United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) contributed directly to Outcome 1 through the assistance they provided to the RGoB towards preparing the technical foundation for securing long term assistance from the international green finance institutions. This assistance in partnership with the Korea Environment Institute and the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs focused on a climate resilience model identifying the climate change vulnerable regions in the country with the help of remote sensing data and field interviews. This will provide a strong platform for long term climate resilience planning. UNCDF also supported Bhutan's participation in the Local Adaptive Climate Living program which was instrumental in supporting local governments in developing and rolling out guidelines, supporting vulnerability assessments and local planning, and raising awareness.



Rice constitutes 53% of daily dietary energy requirement for Bhutanese

Communicating as One

Communicating as One is critical for ensuring a strong, clear and consistent strategic positioning of the UN in Bhutan.

A new era of global public engagement and communication is required as we actively implement the SDGs. Communications and advocacy which engage governments, organizations and rights holders in a constructive dialogue to advance sustainable development is needed more than ever. To engage people in the new agenda, the 2030 Agenda builds from a strong UN Communications Group which included the following activities in 2017:



(a collaboration between the Loden Foundation and the UN)

Bhutan Dialogues aims to invigorate development thinking in Bhutan and challenge experts and practitioners to deliberate on critical development issues. This is an open space for critical and dynamic conversations with thought leaders and change makers drawing upon their expertise, achievements and inspiration. Its objective is to refine ideas in the pursuit of progress, and to align national goals with the global agenda. We had three Bhutan Dialogues in 2017:

- 'Why discuss Media and Development?' with Dasho Kinley Dorji, the editor of the Druk Journal
- 'What is Good Governance?' with Aum Pem Lhamo, the Executive Director of Bhutan Transparency Initiative
- 'Finance and Economy: Money Matters' with Kanokpan Lao-Araya the Country Director of the Asian Development Bank in Bhutan



A session of Bhutan Dialogues

Civil Society Organizations' training

The UN organized an 'Access to Finance Workshop for CSOs.' The training was composed of 'Project Design and Proposal Writing Workshop' in November and a 'Workshop on financing CSOs in Bhutan' in December.

My Bhutan Survey

MyBhutan Survey (www.mybhutansurvey.bt) was launched on UN Day on 24 October. The survey is designed to help people strengthen their thinking about development priorities and to understand the national level results as well as the SDGs. The MyWorld Survey provides national level data to better understand people's development priorities.



Two boys from Laya hold up UN flags

Common Business Operations

The quality of administrative support is critical to the quality of programme delivery. Common Business Operations are based on local capacity and needs, allowing for a localized, realistic and scalable approach that matches specific country needs and requirements. The Business Operations Strategy outlines the outcomes and the outputs required from the Operations Management Team and endorsed by the UNCT. The budget for each year is prepared in line with the Business Operations Strategy. Under this plan, the UNCT completed over 98% of planned activities with a budget expenditure of USD 244,535 and savings of USD 45,231 were achieved.

Long Term Agreement:

A Long Term Agreement for advertising was signed with newspapers and this resulted in a cost saving of 10% on every advertisement.

Saving of Security Cost:

The security contract was outsourced to Jachung Security Services Pvt. Ltd and this shift saved UN Bhutan USD 17,000 of the planned budget. The savings are due to the lower cost of uniforms and less over time by staff.

Business Operations Management Team

Lead Agency: UNDP

Chair: Niamh- Collier Smith

Secretary: Tshering Dema

Phurpa Tshering (UNDP), Suraj Pradhan (UNICEF), Phub Delma (WFP), Sangay Wangmo (FAO), Yeshey Dorji (UNFPA), Rinzi Om Dorji (WHO)



Participants at the Earthquake Contingency Planning Workshop

Emergency Preparedness

In order to prepare for emergencies, the UN Bhutan procured items such as tents, sleeping bags, food, toiletries, emergency lights, rescue materials.

MOU for Helicopter Services:

The MOU for medical emergency evacuation was signed in August with the Royal Bhutan Helicopter Services Ltd. for in-country medical emergency services.

Emergency Trauma Bag Training:

An Emergency Trauma Bag Training by conducted by the UN Department of Safety and Security took place in February. Six agencies receiving certification in Emergency Trauma Bag.

Security Warden's Training:

To enhance the capacity of the security wardens, a special training was implemented to ensure that UN security wardens, including wardens from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities.

Security wardens are the key element in facilitating the coordination of security arrangements, disseminating information and providing security instruction to all UN, WB and ADB staff.

Please contact Karma Chogyal (karma.chogyal@undp.org) for further information



Security Wardens at the training



The Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and the UNDP Regional Director Chair the Round Table Meeting in 2017

Development Partners' Group

The main objective of the DPG is to strengthen the government's work in improving the impact, effectiveness, and coherence of development through enhanced coordination for development results. This is expected to be achieved by:

1. Substantively engaging—in development policy dialogue on national development priorities and emerging development challenges;
2. Promoting information sharing among DPG members
3. Promoting the use of joint evaluation missions and field visits whenever possible
4. Working together on common projects, events, and advocacy

List of Development Partners

Asian Development Bank	International Financial Corporation	United Nations Country Team (UNCT)
Austrian Development Agency	Indian Embassy	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
Bhutan Canada Foundation	Japan International Cooperation Agency	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Bangladesh Embassy	Kuwait Embassy	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Bhutan Foundation	SAARC Development Secretariat	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Bhutan Red Cross Society	Save the Children	United Nations Women (UN Women)
Consulate of Sweden	Stichting Nederlandse Vrijwilligers (SNV)	World Food Program (WFP)
Consulate of the Netherlands	World Bank	World Health Organization (WHO)
European Union	World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
HELVETAS	Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance	

The DPG meeting occurs every 2nd month (last Thursday). Please contact Dechen Yangzom (dechen.yangzom@one.un.org) for further information.

Financial Overview

The United Nations' Country Team mobilized USD 63.5 million by the end of 2017, or 72% of the required budget (USD 86.4 million) estimated during the One Programme planning in 2013. In 2017, the United Nations' Country Team successfully mobilized USD 17.7 million or 103% of the required budget for the year (USD 17.7 million), as shown in the figures below.

Year	A. Total Planned Budget	B. Regular Resources	C. Other Resources	D. Total Mobilized D = B+C	E. Gap (to be mobilized) E = A+D	F. Gap F = E/A %
2014	19.5	5.8	8.8	14.6	4.9	25%
2015	18.5	4.3	10.8	15.0	3.5	19%
2016	16.2	3.9	12.2	16.1	0.1	0%
2017	17.1	5.5	12.2	17.7		-3%
2018	15.1				15.1	100%
TOTAL	86.4	19.6	43.9	63.5	22.9	28%

Table 1: One Program Resource mobilization (2014-2018)

The figure below represents the accumulated result of the outcome resource mobilization against the planned budget (2014–2018). By the end of 2017, Outcome 1, Outcome 2, Outcome 3 and Outcome 4 had achieved 72%, 96%, 39% and 36% respectively against the planned budget (2014–2018). The resource mobilization gap is most significant under outcomes 3 and 4.

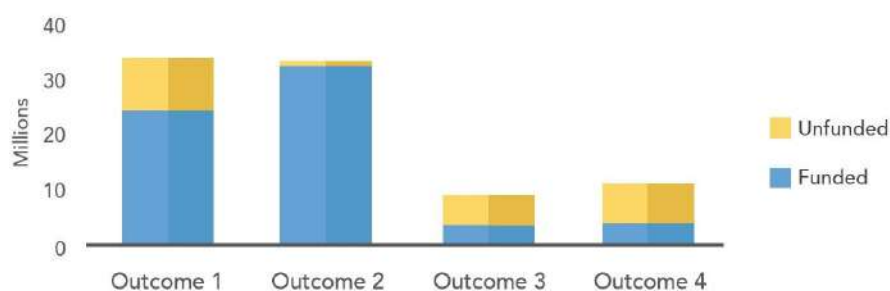


Figure 1: One Program Resource mobilization (2014-2018) by Outcome

The figure below represents the accumulated result of agency level programme implementation.

One Programme Resources mobilized for 2017

Agency	Regular Resources (USD)	Other Resources (USD)	Total (USD)
FAO	456,825	256,919	713,744
UNCDF	-	68,047	68,047
UNCTAD	-	25,000	25,000
UNDP	688,024	6,387,502	7,075,526
UNEP	-	272,932	272,932
UNESCO	-	29,665	29,665
UNFPA	439,400	-	439,400
UN Habitat	-	-	-
UNICEF	986,908	2,754,582	3,741,490
UNIDO	29,600	-	29,600
UNODC	88,878	-	88,878
UN Women	191,632	-	191,632
WFP	-	1,497,390	1,497,390
WHO	2,660,000	900,000	3,560,000
TOTAL	5,541,267	12,192,037	17,733,304

Table 2 : One Program Implementation in 2017 at the agency level



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**NIAMH
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SONAM WANGDI

National Programme
Coordinator
United Nations Office
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RINZI PEM

National
Coordinator
United Nations
Women



PIET VOCHTEN

Head of Office
World Food
Programme



**RUI PAULO DE
JESUS**

Representative
World Health
Organization



UN Agencies based in Bhutan



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Non-resident UN Agencies





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