Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

Executive Board of the United Nations Children’s Fund

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Common country programme document for Cabo Verde, March 2023–December 2027
I. Programme rationale

1. The commitment of the Government of Cabo Verde to the Sustainable Development Goals is producing results and development gains. In 2015, the rate of extreme poverty was 23.7 per cent. Following an increase in economic growth averaging 4.7 per cent between 2016 and 2019, the extreme poverty rate dropped to 13.1 per cent in 2020.\(^1\) The proportion of the population living on half of the average income dropped from 15 to 5 per cent over the same period. In 2020, the population was estimated at 556,857, of which 49 per cent were women. The second voluntary national review (2021) highlighted improvements in indicators related to water and sanitation, environmental sustainability and governance. The impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and four years of drought have highlighted the country’s vulnerability to shocks. A food, energy and finance crisis led to the Government declaring a social and economic emergency in June 2022, with supply chain constraints and rising costs putting the country’s recovery at risk and emphasizing the need to strengthen resilience and risk-informed programming, development finance and a focus on Sustainable Development Goal accelerators.

2. The country’s socioeconomic challenges have been compounded by the pandemic, resulting in a 14.8 per cent drop in economic growth in 2020 and a 9 per cent decrease in employment. Over half of households (50.4 per cent) reported a loss of income in 2020. Declining revenues and investment in social protection contributed to the debt to gross domestic product ratio climbing to 157 per cent in 2021, from 124 per cent in 2019, constraining fiscal space for vital investment in institutional infrastructure and human capital.

3. The country displays profound inequalities due to structural constraints and vulnerabilities. Uneven economic development and access to services result in regional variations in poverty and human development, with a higher incidence of extreme poverty in rural areas\(^2\) and in one third of the country’s 22 municipalities, where the poverty rate exceeds 24 per cent.\(^3\) The 2021 United Nations Leave no one behind assessment\(^4\) found that poverty is common among groups identified at risk of being left behind, including: women in situations of social vulnerability, at-risk children and adolescents, youth not in education, employment or training, the isolated elderly, people living with disabilities and those living in isolated islands and municipalities.

4. There are insufficient jobs for the country’s predominantly young population, with 35.4 per cent of all young people not in education, employment or training. This percentage is notably higher for young women (+6 per cent) compared to young men, especially those living in some islands and municipalities. Youth skills in emerging and Sustainable Development Goal accelerator sectors\(^5\) are limited. The quality of, and access to, primary and secondary education, the quality of foundational learning at primary level, the development of skills for the twenty-first century and access to education for children with special needs remain a concern. Despite efforts to improve the

\(^2\) Ibid. 24.3 per cent rural poverty compared to 8.1 per cent in urban areas.
\(^3\) Ibid.
\(^5\) The Government of Cabo Verde has defined key priorities, including culture, digital services and the blue-green economy, sustainable tourism and culture, digitalization and human capital as key accelerators for the Sustainable Development Goals and economic diversification.
child protection system, limited capacity to both respond to violence and to increase access to quality services continue to expose children to violence and abuse. The country’s health indicators have plateaued since 2015 and imbalances in access to health services persist, especially in remote islands and for persons living with disabilities. Challenges remain regarding high rates of adolescent pregnancy and of stunting and wasting among children. The disease burden is shifting from communicable to non-communicable diseases. Preventive health care and universal health coverage need to be strengthened to address the remaining challenges. In 2020, 36 per cent of the population experienced moderate or severe food insecurity. Although malnutrition in children under 5 years of age is decreasing, the rate grew in rural areas between 2015 and 2018 (from 11.2 to 12 per cent) and has been exacerbated by drought and the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. Although the gender inequality index was 0.397 in 2021⁶, poverty is more prevalent in female-headed households (24 per cent) and women’s dependence on remittances and social protection is high (63 per cent and 67 per cent, respectively).⁷ Women who are engaged in unpaid work or are unemployed are at greater risk of being left behind, and gender inequalities persist in secondary and higher education. Gender-based violence halved between 2015 and 2020 (22 to 11 per cent) but is higher for women and girls in rural areas and with fewer years of formal education (19 per cent). The rate increased by 24 per cent as a consequence of the pandemic. Limited access to justice and protection, especially for women, youth and children, remains a critical concern.

6. The impact of climate change on livelihoods and biodiversity is already being felt. Water shortages and the limited share of renewables in the energy mix remain challenges in a country that relies on desalination and imported fossil fuels. Investing in nature-based solutions to mitigate the impact of droughts, floods and sea-level rise in a context of limited fiscal space is challenging. It requires the potential of climate finance and investment in green energy and a blue-green economy to be fully exploited.

7. National partners have recognized that close collaboration among the three United Nations agencies in implementing the common country programme (CCP) has played an important role in the United Nations response to shocks, providing a coherent approach to multiple and interrelated development challenges. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the agencies collaborated with agility to provide support to sustaining livelihoods, ensuring the continuity of basic health and educational services and providing financial assistance to the most vulnerable. Stakeholders assessed the contribution by the United Nations during the pandemic as being extremely valuable.⁸

8. A theory of change underscores the programme’s offer of thought leadership and on-the-ground experience and capitalizes on the comparative advantages of the three agencies. A new value proposition contributes to the country’s aspirations to become a democratic and resilient mid-Atlantic state, strongly integrated into the Economic Community of West African States region and as a leader in South-South cooperation, especially among small island developing States (SIDS), to leverage regional integration and trade.⁹

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⁸ Ibid.
II. Programme priorities and partnerships


(a) economic recovery, diversification and sustainable growth;

(b) social development through human capital, inclusion, mobility, gender equality and the eradication of extreme poverty;

(c) strengthening territorial cohesion and decentralization;

(d) environmental sustainability, climate action and resilience and valuing biodiversity.

10. Programme priorities were developed with, and unanimously endorsed by, the Government and implementation partners through a national consultation process including the United Nations resident coordinator’s office, United Nations agencies, regional offices and international development partners. The CCP derives from and will substantially contribute to, all four outcomes of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and programme outputs are interconnected and mutually reinforcing to maximize programme synergies between the three United Nations agencies for more coherent, efficient and effective programming for results.

A coherent and integrated programme strategy

11. Based on lessons learned from the 2022 joint independent country programme evaluation, the CCP shifts focus to integrating key cross-cutting issues and Sustainable Development Goal accelerators to provide a stronger and more coherent joint programme approach that contributes to national priorities. Policy advice and technical support will strengthen national policies and strategies for post-pandemic recovery focusing on increasing access to, and quality of, basic services, strengthening government capacities, building resilience and sustainability and reaching the most disadvantaged first. The CCP will prioritize the challenges faced by socially vulnerable women and girls, young people not in education, employment or training, elderly people living in poverty, and children and youth with disabilities.

12. A strategic shift to strengthen the country’s international positioning focuses on the diversification of development and domestic financing and will support women and youth to participate in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The CCP will enhance institutional capacity at both national and municipal level to sustain impact, accountability and transparency through greater and more active and meaningful participation of communities, civil society organizations (CSOs), the private sector and academia. Local development funds and small grants will target regions and municipalities at risk of being left behind or those particularly vulnerable to climatic and environmental threats, maximizing the impact on women and children in poor communities. In partnership with the Cabo Verde Institute for Gender Equality
and Equity, the programme will proactively seek entry points for scaling up gender equality across all programmatic areas.

13. The CCP will consolidate research and development through the UNDP Accelerator Lab, ensuring renewal of its methodology based on solutions mapping, exploration and experimentation to accelerate learning from the country’s complex development challenges, creating new value propositions and partnerships at local and regional level that will be applied to all priority areas, including SIDS-oriented sustainable finance and digital systems for development.

14. A partnership with the National Institute of Statistics and other data producers will strengthen the use of quality data across the Government, generating additional data disaggregated by sex, age, disability and geographical location for more effective and equitable policy development. Legal reforms to improve the anonymity of personally identifiable information, which will allow greater access to and use of developmental and action-based research. In 2024, the CCP will support a national poverty survey that will analyse multidimensional poverty. Technical assistance to the independent Labour Market Observatory, with the International Labour Organization (ILO) will improve understanding of the dynamics of the economy and labour markets. The CCP will enhance digital and statistical literacy and test innovative techniques to disseminate data more effectively to stimulate public debate.

15. The CCP vision is articulated through four interlinked and mutually reinforcing development priorities to be achieved by 2027: developing human talent through education, health and child protection; accelerating progress towards inclusive, sustainable and diversified economic growth and the elimination of extreme poverty; promoting sustainable ecosystems and biodiversity and strengthened resilience; and supporting economic governance, development finance, human rights and justice.

**Developing human talent through education, health and child protection**

16. Improving access to, and the quality of education at all levels, is a national priority, particularly for vulnerable children and children with disabilities. UNICEF will contribute to strengthening institutional capacities to provide inclusive and quality preschool services and foundational learning in safe, healthy and resilient schools for all children. In coordination with the Global Partnership for Education, curriculum reform in secondary education will focus on improving skills for citizenship and entrepreneurship, including digital literacy. UNICEF and UNFPA will jointly support social and behavioural change interventions in schools and training institutes to promote practices that address gender inequality and related negative social norms. UNDP will support universities to become centres for accelerated learning and solutions-based research through institutional and technical capacity-strengthening programmes for students and teachers to promote scientific start-ups, networking and knowledge-sharing.

17. A study of knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights and social norms will inform interventions and accelerate progress on achieving UNFPA three transformative results and the voluntary commitments of the 2019 Nairobi Summit (International Conference on Population and Development +25) through:

(a) Promoting more inclusive, cost-effective and resilient policies to safeguard rights and expand access to sexual and reproductive health and rights,
including universal access to family planning services, maternal and adolescent health, and gender-based violence prevention and care, especially during emergencies;

(b) Improving the quality of care services through rights-based approaches to maternal mortality;

(c) Providing support to comprehensive sexuality education, social and behavioural change and to professional training programmes as part of national efforts to combat gender-based discrimination and violence rooted in cultural attitudes to sexuality and to change deep-rooted social norms.

18. The CCP will support the Government to guarantee equal access to health services for children, adolescents, youth, women, the elderly, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer or questioning and other terms (LGBTQI+) persons and those living with HIV, especially persons with disabilities for whom the HIV prevalence rate was four times the national average in 2018. The CCP will contribute to the improved planning, management, monitoring and multisectoral coordination of health programmes by building government capacities and improving the quality of health data. The CCP will support efforts to reduce all forms of malnutrition and address the nutritional needs of women and children, as well as implement inclusive vaccination programmes, particularly for COVID-19 and human papillomavirus.

19. The CCP will leverage the skills of the three agencies for a continued focus on children at risk of violence, abuse and neglect by strengthening the child protection and justice systems at all levels, as well as the capacities of families and communities for better parenting and care. The establishment and implementation of the legal instruments for the child protection system will strengthen the technical and institutional capacities of the Cabo Verdean Institute for Children and Adolescents and relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for more integrated, resilient and inclusive child protection service delivery. With UNICEF support, the programme will consolidate work to improve justice for children and access to justice services through awareness-raising, training of the judiciary and police, creating special child protection measures for children in contact with the law, giving priority to pending cases involving sexual crimes against children, reinforcing online law enforcement against digital crimes, and working with local authorities, CSOs and the private sector to end violence and sexual exploitation and abuse. Systematic change will be complemented by social and behavioural change interventions that aim to promote positive and gender-equal practices and safe household environments.

Accelerating progress towards inclusive, sustainable and diversified economic growth and the elimination of extreme poverty

20. In partnership with the National Directorate for Employment, the Institute for Employment and Vocational Training and ILO, the CCP will invest in women and youth employability by supporting capacity-building and training in key economic accelerator sectors, focusing on people with disabilities. Women and young people will be mentored to enhance their entrepreneurial skills and develop business plans and will be supported to access microfinance for the creation of microenterprises and to seize regional trade opportunities. Multidimensional support to the National Youth Strategy will be provided through the UNDP YouthConnect programme and the Youth Challenge Initiative, a partnership with between the Government, the Chamber of
Commerce and university associations that encourages students to develop products, business ideas and innovative, community-based solutions for Sustainable Development Goal acceleration, targeting the poorest and most vulnerable communities.

21. With ILO and the World Bank, the CCP will support the development of legal instruments to strengthen the interoperability of the social security register across all sectors. An innovative reporting system will enable more effective monitoring and evaluation of social protection programmes and provide disaggregated data on communities and scaling-up the system to ensure that large families, female-headed households, children, pregnant women, the elderly and persons with disabilities are reached. System training will enable municipal staff to register vulnerable people and follow-up on beneficiary case work. Innovative ways to involve NGOs in targeting vulnerable groups, particularly children and persons with disabilities in remote areas, will be explored.

Promoting sustainable ecosystems and biodiversity and strengthened resilience

22. Leveraging its thought leadership and with multiple funders, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the CCP will focus on three interconnected priorities:

   (a) strengthening capacities at national, local and community levels to implement climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies;

   (b) enabling greater participation by stakeholders, including the private sector, in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the promotion of blue-green growth;

   (c) providing specialist technical advice to enable the Government to secure climate and green finance and to mobilize investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency. A financial needs assessment will define national biodiversity needs, priorities and costs.

23. Funds from the GEF Biodiversity Finance Initiative will strengthen the institutional and financial framework for the valorization and sustainable use of biodiversity and mobilize resources for biodiversity projects. Institutional mechanisms and innovative approaches will engage local institutions and communities, the private sector, academia and other relevant stakeholders in the management, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Through the GEF Small Grants Programme, UNDP will mobilize CSOs to address the major drivers of environmental degradation and help to deliver multiple conservation benefits while promoting sustainable development and improved livelihoods. This will include integrating economic opportunities linked to sustainable tourism and the blue-green economy into biodiversity conservation and enhancing community livelihoods through the sustainable use of natural resources. The Accelerator Lab will test innovative approaches to biodiversity conservation, reforestation, sustainable agriculture, nature based-solutions, local-level energy transition and water management. With the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the CCP will use Sustainable Development Goal emergency funds to address food security issues that result from prolonged drought.

24. Innovative communication techniques will raise awareness of the national disaster risk reduction strategy and the nationally determined contribution. In collaboration with partners, the CCP will enable municipalities and
communities to develop sustainable, gender- and child-responsive climate-adaptation and risk-mitigation measures through local planning and budgeting processes that reinforce transparent, participative and inclusive decision-making. The CCP will collaborate to support disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation strategies, introducing innovative solutions for water management and smart agriculture, ensure greater resilience of schools, improvements to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), safeguard the rights and needs of women, children and persons with disabilities, and ensure that social protection, and essential health services, including maternal health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, are maintained during crises. Strengthening data and information systems on climate and disaster risks, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss will fill data gaps and enhance monitoring, evaluation and learning and evidence-based decision-making for risk reduction, mitigation and recovery and mainstream gender- and child-sensitive climate and disaster risk information across sectors.

**Supporting economic governance, development finance, human rights and justice**

25. The CCP will prioritize a people-centred, human rights-based approach to governance that focuses on strengthening systems resilience, diversifying development finance, improving policy coherence and enhancing transparency and accountability. The roll-out of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) will optimize management of revenue and spending and mobilize international and private finance aligned to national priorities and Sustainable Development Goal accelerators, contributing to the transition from aid dependence to sustainable development finance while promoting the development of regional trade opportunities within the context of AfCFTA. A development finance assessment will support the design of a coherent and sustainable finance strategy by mobilizing private capital flows to support development priorities. Establishing the INFF dashboard will support monitoring of the financing landscape and evaluation of the impact of changes. A partnership with the Cabo Verde Stock Exchange will explore additional innovative financing instruments like blue-green bonds and the use of diaspora funds.

26. The INFF will catalyse greater public sector efficiency, improve evidence-based policy coherence and strengthen the alignment of budgeting, planning and monitoring by integrating financial flows into enabling ecosystems in which resources are applied more transparently and efficiently. Leveraging South-South and triangular cooperation and learning and adopting a whole-of-government approach, the Programme for Consolidating Economic Governance and Public Finance Management Systems in the PALOP-TL (Pro PALOP-TL SAI) initiative will provide expert technical assistance to enhance public finance management and mainstream gender-inclusive budgeting and will introduce innovative, integrated management systems and information and communication technology (ICT)-based solutions to strengthen external control and audit of public finance by Parliament, the Court of Auditors and external control watchdogs. UNICEF and UNFPA will combine efforts to provide innovative support to all 22 municipalities, contributing to social and territorial cohesion by strengthening financial accountability and increasing participation in local economic and social development, especially for women, youth and persons with disabilities, creating a gateway for upstream interventions to strengthen local service delivery and resilience.
27. Recognizing the strategic importance of inclusive and participatory governance in recovery and building back better, the three agencies will work with the Government to create innovative, ICT-based solutions to ensure that civic space at national and municipal level engages women, youth and persons with disabilities so that they have a stronger voice in policy dialogue and decision-making. The INFF envisages a consultative process that will engage all relevant stakeholders, including Parliament, civil society, the private sector and other non-State actors. The PALOP-TL SAI initiative will test innovative approaches for involving CSOs in social monitoring of budgets and public accounts. Best practice will be replicated in 22 municipalities, enabling social monitoring of local development funds for the implementation of municipal sustainable development plans playing a key role in leaving no one behind. Working with regional and national youth forums, the CCP will engage young people, especially those living with disabilities, in dialogue with the Government, municipalities and other development actors, raising their awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals and increasing their civic and political participation in sustainable development. The Be the Change: Advocacy in Action project will harness the voices of young social activists for community advocacy to reduce urban violence and social exclusion.

28. Access to justice remains a challenge, particularly for vulnerable groups. Technical expertise will promote innovative solutions to deliver faster, more resilient, gender-sensitive, human rights-based and inclusive justice and law and order services. The CCP will explore the potential for digital justice systems to bring justice closer to rural populations and support the institutionalization of alternative conflict-resolution mechanisms and non-custodial sentencing and strengthen judicial education and communication. Building on its success in digitally linking free legal aid to the social protection register, the CCP will invest in expanding legal aid and enhancing justice and human rights outcomes, especially for women, children in contact with the law and persons with disabilities, with additional support at community level. Partnering with the justice sector will strengthen the enforcement of intellectual property rights and contracts, a considerable concern for the small business community.

29. The CCP strategy is underpinned by key Sustainable Development Goal accelerators, enablers and drivers of change that will allow it to contribute more effectively to national and UNSDCF priorities:

− **A human rights-based and gender-transformative approach:** to be applied to specific “leave no one behind” target groups: women, children, adolescents, youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, especially children.

− **Strengthening resilience and adaptation:** to build back better through strengthening the resilience of people, systems, institutions, community infrastructure and civil society.

− **Building partnerships and strategic alliances:** to develop new forms of partnership at local, regional and global level, and to strengthen South-South cooperation within the SIDS framework to enhance UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA technical support role as an enabler at national and regional level.

− **Advocacy and high-quality technical expertise:** to capitalize on the comparative advantages of the CCP and draw on local, regional and global technical expertise.
– **Strengthening data, evidence and knowledge:** to ensure the needs of those left furthest behind and the areas with high levels of deprivation are reflected in national and local policies, strategies and interventions.

– **Innovation and digitization:** to exploit the country’s digital infrastructure to promote interoperability, communication and innovative technological solutions.

– **Communication for development:** to maximize the use of communication tools, social networks and technology offered by the regional offices of the respective agencies, to amplify the voice and meaningful participation of target groups, facilitate social and behavioural change and share knowledge and results.

### III. Programme and risk management

30. This common country programme document outlines UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Boards of the three agencies for the alignment of results and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the respective programme and operations policies and procedures and internal control frameworks.

31. The CCP will use diverse implementation modalities, including national and direct execution, among others, as needed. The harmonized approach to cash transfers will be used to manage financial risks. Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness will be charged to the concerned projects.

32. The programme will strengthen partnerships at national and regional level to ensure integrated approaches across all outcomes to achieve greater coherence and synergies, and result in operational efficiency gains in programme implementation. Regular oversight by the Programme Management Team will improve programme effectiveness, facilitate feedback on policy and practice, promote collaboration, adaptive learning and innovation between teams, and strengthen evidence-based decision making and risk management. The Programme Management Team, together with the Accelerator Lab, will continually seek and test innovative solutions to support the CCP interventions.

33. Partnerships with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Regional Integration and other government institutions and implementation partners will ensure the full involvement of CSOs, communities, national counterparts and, where applicable, international development partners, in programme planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning processes and strengthen the capacity of partners to improve delivery and accountability. All programme interventions will be required to engage beneficiaries, especially women, youth and vulnerable groups, in programme implementation, innovation, monitoring and learning.

34. Risks to programme implementation include natural and climate-related hazards, the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the food, energy and finance crisis and related economic shocks, which may reduce resources available to the CCP and the Government and impact programme delivery. The three agencies, working jointly and in close collaboration with the regional offices, have a positive track record in adapting and responding flexibly during the recent drought and the pandemic, when resources were successfully
redeployed, additional funds mobilized and new ways of working developed. Risks will be managed through collaborative and systematic reviews of the operating environment, programme monitoring and the use of tracking tools, and early-warning systems. In the context of a reformed and reinvigorated United Nations country team and with the collective senior executive leadership led by the Resident Coordinator, regular and proactive engagement with the Government will evaluate and address emerging issues and anticipate significant changes in developmental and financial circumstances that may require programme adjustments. To further reduce financial risks, and as part of a longer-term sustainability strategy, an internal financial analysis will facilitate the development of a resource mobilization and diversification strategy, in close consultation with the regional offices. The programme will apply social and environmental standards and an accountability mechanism to manage risks.

IV. Monitoring and evaluation

35. Leveraging its strong partnership with the National Institute of Statistics, the CCP will support the Government in strengthening national monitoring, evaluation and statistical systems to produce up-to-date and accurate information, disaggregated by gender, age and location. This will increase the evidence available to develop national programmes and priorities, further facilitating the identification of those geographical areas and groups at greater risk of being left behind. Approximately 5 per cent of the programme’s annual budget will be earmarked for monitoring, evaluation and learning.

36. The CCP will strengthen internal data systems by introducing innovative, mixed-method data collection and analysis, and drawing on data published on UN INFO and by bilateral and multilateral development partners. An integrated monitoring and evaluation platform with common indicators will track agency-specific indicators simultaneously. Enhanced data and evidence systems will track performance, inform programme management decisions and underpin joint annual reviews within the framework of the UNSDCF. The gender and human rights working group will use gender impact measurement tools and gender markers to track gender equality and improve gender-based planning, monitoring, evaluation, learning and decision-making.

37. The CCP will actively support UNSDCF outcome monitoring, which will be overseen jointly by a United Nations/government results group. In line with the recommendations of the joint independent country programme evaluation, and in partnership with the regional and headquarters of the three United Nations agencies, the establishment of a common platform will be explored to unify and enhance financial data and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for greater efficiency, and to monitor more effectively collective and individual programme contributions to the UNSDCF and national priorities.

38. An inclusive, rights-based approach to conducting programme monitoring, including field visits and innovative data-collection methods, will be promoted. Progress reports will regularly track results and facilitate learning and efficient and timely programmatic adjustments. Through its policy advice and advocacy initiatives, the CCP will encourage a systematic approach to knowledge management, involving government counterparts, implementation partners and specific community groups in monitoring and evaluation and encouraging a culture of reflection and learning. Internally, programme management mechanisms will promote adaptive learning to identify and accelerate the replication of best practices and innovations. Evaluations will be executed
according to the fully costed evaluation plan covering all four UNSDCF outcomes, and will be reviewed annually and when new projects are developed.
Annex: Results and resources framework

Cabo Verde – common country programme document, March 2023–December 2027

**National priority or goal:** Second National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development 2022–2026 (Plano Estratégico de Desenvolvimento Sustentável, PEDS II) Strategic Priority 1: Promote social development and human capital, reduce gender and other inequalities

**United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcome:**
1. By 2027, more people, especially those living in the most vulnerable and marginalized situations and those living with disabilities, have equitable access to and use of high-quality, resilient, gender-responsive, and modern essential social services and protection.

**Related Strategic Plan outcome(s):**

**UNDP:** Outcome 2: No one left behind centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development; Results: 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4.

**UNFPA:** Outcome 2: By 2025, the reduction of preventable maternal deaths has accelerated; Outcome 1: By 2025, the reduction in the unmet need for family planning has accelerated; Outcome 3: By 2025, the reduction in gender-based violence and harmful practices has accelerated.

**UNICEF:** Goal Area 1: Every child, including adolescents, survives and thrives, with access to nutritious diets, quality primary health care, nurturing practices and essential supplies; Goal Area 2: ...learns and acquires skills for the future; Goal Area 3: ...is protected from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cooperation framework outcome indicator(s), baseline(s), targets(s)</th>
<th>Data source and frequency of data collection and responsibilities</th>
<th>Indicative common country programme outputs</th>
<th>Major partners/partnerships frameworks</th>
<th>Estimated cost by outcome (United States dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, Baseline: Receiving at least one social benefit: 51.4% (54.6% female; 48.4% male) (2020) Target: 63.2% (66.4% female; 60.2% male)</td>
<td>Source: Interinstitutional Working Group on Social Protection Statistics (Grupo Interinstitucional de Trabalho sobre Estatística de Proteção Social, GITEPS) Frequency: Annual Responsible: UNDP</td>
<td>1.1: National and local institutions and civil society organizations have enhanced capacities to deliver quality, integrated, gender-sensitive, resilient, innovative and inclusive, child health, mental health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, child protection and education services. Indicators: 1.1.1: Innovations to improve access and learning for the most disadvantaged children are</td>
<td>Ministry of Health (MOH); Ministry of Education (MOE); Institute for Children and Adolescents (Instituto Caboverdiano da Criança e do Adolescente, ICCA)</td>
<td>Regular resources UNDP: 250 000 UNFPA: 1 250 000 UNICEF: 2 000 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.3 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods Baseline: Modern method: 43%</td>
<td>MOE annual report Annual UNFPA</td>
<td></td>
<td>United Nations agencies Global Partnership for Education (GPE);</td>
<td>Other resources UNDP: 0 UNFPA: 1 000 000 UNICEF: 4 700 000</td>
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</table>
### Target: Modern method: 55% (2027)

1.1.6 Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Baseline: 2020</th>
<th>Target: 2027</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-11-year-olds with at least 6th grade completed</td>
<td>92.2% (female: 95.5%; male: 89%)</td>
<td>98% (female: 99.0%; male: 97%)</td>
</tr>
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<td>12-17-year-olds with at least 8th grade completed</td>
<td>79.9% (female: 85.3%; male: 74.8%)</td>
<td>96.0% (female: 97.0%; male: 95%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-22-year-olds with at least 12th grade completed</td>
<td>31.4% (female: 37.1%; male: 26.0%)</td>
<td>44% (female: 50.6%; male: 38.0%)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Baseline: 2021</th>
<th>Target: 2027</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total 0-5 years:</td>
<td>98% (female: 49%; male: 51%)</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-1 years:</td>
<td>96% (female: 49%; male: 51%)</td>
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### Percentage of health delegations with at least one innovative approach for improving availability and demand for integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights/family planning services.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baseline: 2022</th>
<th>Target: 2027</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>75%</td>
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### Number of national institutions with enhanced capacity to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, aligned with national policy measures and child protection guidance.

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<th>Baseline: 2022</th>
<th>Target: 2027</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>27</td>
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</table>

### More children, adolescents, youth and women, especially those from vulnerable groups, have improved skills and learning capacities, are protected from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect, and benefit from TUI; United States Agency for International Development (USAID); Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; Portuguese Committee for UNICEF; National Institute of Statistics - Continuous Multi-Objective Survey (Instituto Nacional de Estatística - Inquérito Multi-objectivo Continuo, INE - IMC)
nutrition, immunization, maternal and newborn health care.

Indicators:
1.2.1: Number of adolescents and youth reached by comprehensive sexuality education interventions disaggregated by sex, age and location. (UNFPA)
Baseline: 1 000 (700 girls, 300 boys), (2021)
Target: 7 500 (4 000 girls, 3 500 boys), (2027)
Source: MOE annual report, Cabo Verden Association for the Protection of the Family, and report for comprehensive sexuality education, Centre for Research on Gender and the Family, University of Cabo Verde annual report
Frequency: Annual

1.2.2: Percentage of districts that have at least 90% of children 0-11 months vaccinated with three doses of DTP-containing/Pentavalent vaccine. (UNICEF)
Baseline: 77% (2021)
Target: 90% (2027)
Data source: National Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) report/MOH
Frequency: Annual

1.2.3: Number of girls and boys who have experienced violence reached by health, social work or justice/law enforcement services. (UNICEF)
Baseline: 1 922 (2021)
Target: 3 078 (2027)
Source: Annual report of ICCA, CSMP report
Frequency: Annual
National priority or goal: PEDS II Strategic Priority 2: Guarantee sustainable growth and economic diversification and eradicate extreme poverty.

UNSDCF outcome: 2.1 By 2027, a more sustainable, inclusive, diversified and integrated economy generates decent jobs, food security and nutrition for the most vulnerable, especially women, youth and the extreme poor.

Related strategic plan outcome(s):
UNDP: Outcome 1: No one left behind centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development; Results: 1.2, and 1.3
UNFPA: Outcome 3; Outputs: 1. Policy and accountability, 4. Population change and data, 6. Adolescents and youth
UNICEF: Goal Area 2 and Goal Area 5: Every child, including adolescents, has access to inclusive social protection and lives free from poverty

Cooperation framework outcome indicator(s), baseline(s), targets (s) | Data source and frequency source and frequency of data collection, and responsibilities | Indicative country programme outputs | Major partners/partnerships frameworks | Estimated cost by outcome (United States dollars)
---|---|---|---|---
2.1.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age
Baseline: 31.7% (32.1% female; 31.3% male; urban 25.8%; rural 44.9%)
(2020)
Target: 26% (2027)
2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).
Baseline: 38.6% moderate and severe (42.9% female; 30.7% male); 6.1% severe (7.4% female; 3.8% male) (2021)
Target: 31% moderate and severe, 3% severe food insecurity (2027)
2.1.6 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill
Baseline: Copy/move files/folders: 88.0% (88.5% male; 87.6% female); Use commands to copy, paste, duplicate, move information 83.5%: (84.2% male; 82.6% female); Send emails with attachments: 62.8%

INE
Annual
UNDP
National Survey of Food and Nutrition Vulnerability Monitoring of Families, 2021 Annual
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
INE-IMC
Annual
UNICEF
2.1: The poorest and most vulnerable populations have access to an integrated, resilient and gender sensitive social protection.
Indicators:
2.1.1: Number of programmes integrated into the social protection system (UNICEF).
Baseline: 6 (2022)
Target: 12 (2027)
Source: Ministry of State for the Family, Inclusion and Social Development (MFDIS) annual reports
Frequency: Annual
2.1.2: Percentage of vulnerable people benefiting from social protection programmes disaggregated by sex, age, and location. (UNICEF)
Baseline: 14% (2022)
Target: 50% (2027)
Source: Unified Social Registry, MFDIS annual reports
Frequency: Annual

MFDIS;
National Institute of Statistics;
Ministry of Sport and Youth;
United Nations agencies
European Union;
Government of Luxembourg;
Government of Spain;
Government of Portugal;
Japan International Cooperation Agency;
Korea International Cooperation Agency;
World Bank

Regular resources
UNDP: 650 000
UNFPA: 375 000
UNICEF: 825 000

Other resources
UNDP: 700 000
UNFPA: 500 000
UNICEF: 150 000
(64.1% male; 61.3% female); Use programming language: 12.9% (15.4% male; 10.2% female) (2019)
Target: Copy/move files/folders: 98.0% (98.5% male; 97.6% female); Use commands to copy, paste, duplicate, move information 93.5%: (94.2% male; 92.6% female); Send emails with attachments: 72.8% (74.1% male; 71.3% female); using programming language: 22.9% (25.4% male; 20.2% female) (2027)

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| 2.1.7 | Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sex  
Baseline: Non-agricultural employment: 51.6% (43.6% female; 56.4% male; 42.8% urban; 76.1% rural (2020)  
Target: 30% (40% female; 60% male; 34% urban; 66% rural) (2027) |
| 2.1.8 | Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training  
Baseline: 32.6% (33.1% female; 32.2% male) (2020)  
Target: 25% (2027) |

To be determined (TBD)
Annual International Labour Organization (ILO)/UNDP

2.2: More women and youth, including people with disabilities, secure decent jobs in SDG [Sustainable Development Goal] accelerators sectors including through starting up businesses and self-employment.

Indicators:

2.2.1: Number of people from vulnerable groups that graduate from technical, vocational and professional training programmes, disaggregated by sex, age, location and type of programme. (UNDP)  
Baseline: 3 450 (2 040 women, 1 380 men), (2022)  
Target: 10 000 (6 000 women, 4 000 men) (2027)  
Source: Institute for Employment and Vocational Training and Institute for Sport and Youth reports  
Frequency: Annual

2.2.2: Number of people in common country programme-financed programmes who secure decent jobs and self-employment, disaggregated by sex, age, location and type of programmes. (UNDP)  
Baseline: 1 750 youth and women inserted in the labour market, 65% women, 35% men (2022)  
Target: 4 000 (60% women, 40% men) (2027)  
Source: PROEMPRESA, Youthconnect Annual Reports  
Frequency: Annual

2.3: National institutions produce and use quality, disaggregated and gender-sensitive data.
### Indicators:

#### 2.3.1: Number of National Institute of Statistics/delegated bodies (Instituto Nacional de Estatística/Orgãos Delegados do INE (INE/ODINE) publications that disaggregate data by age, sex, location. (UNFPA)
- **Baseline:** 10 (2022)
- **Target:** 20 (2027)
- **Source:** INE/ODINE publications
- **Frequency:** Annual

#### 2.3.2: Number of innovative techniques and tools used to disseminate data and information on progress towards achieving the SDGs. (UNFPA)
- **Baseline:** 6 (2022)
- **Target:** 12 (2023)
- **Source:** INE/ODINE annual reports
- **Frequency:** Annual

### National priority or goal:
**PEDS II Strategic Priority 3:** Promote environmental sustainability, climate action and resilience and value biodiversity

### UNSDCF outcome:
**2.2.** By 2027, key marine and land ecosystems and biodiversity are better protected, restored, and more sustainably managed and the resilience to shocks and climate change impacts are improved and gender responsive.

### Related strategic plan outcome(s):**
**UNDP:** Outcome 3: Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk; Results: 4.1, 4.2, 3.1, 3.3, 5.1 and 5.2
**UNFPA:** Output 4: Strengthened data systems and evidence on population changes, including ageing and climate change, in development policies and programmes, especially those related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. Output 5 Strengthened capacity of actors and systems in preparedness, early action and provision of life-saving, climate-sensitive interventions.
**UNICEF:** Goal Area 4: Every child, including adolescents, has access to safe and equitable water, sanitation and hygiene services and supplies, and lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment, Result area 1.: Sustained access to and use of safe water, sanitation and hygiene practices for all children and adolescents, particularly the most disadvantaged and those living in humanitarian and fragile contexts.
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</table>
| 2.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption  
Baseline: 18% (2020)  
Target: 35% (2027) | National Directorate of Industry, Commerce and Energy  
(Direção Nacional da Indústria, Comércio e Energia, DNICE)  
Annual UNDP | 3.1 Government and local communities have strengthened capacity to implement inclusive, gender-responsive and resilient climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures.  
Indicators:  
3.1.1: Integrated, gender-sensitive strategy for risk and vulnerability reduction of WASH [water, sanitation and hygiene] in primary schools resourced and operationalized. (UNICEF)  
Baseline: 0 (2022)  
Target: 1 (2027)  
Source: Strategy document  
Frequency: Annual | MAA; Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Energy; National Service for Civil Protection and Firefighting (Service Nacional de Proteção Civil, SNPCB), Ministry of Internal Administration; United Nations agencies | Regular resources  
UNDP: 250 000  
UNFPA: 100 000  
UNICEF: 155 000 |
| 2.2.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies  
Baseline: 63% (2020)  
Target: 100% (2027) | Municipal councils  
Annual UNDP/United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) | 3.1.2: Number of municipalities with risk and disaster reduction-informed development strategies and plans in place. (UNDP)  
Baseline: 14 (2022)  
Target: 22 (2027)  
Source: MAA/SNPCB reports  
Frequency: Annual | Government of Luxembourg; European Union; USAID; Global Environment Facility; Green Climate Fund; African Development Bank; Government of Spain; Government of Portugal; World Bank | Other resources  
UNDP: 10 000 000  
UNFPA: 1 000 000  
UNICEF: 50 000 |
| 2.2.7 Existence of nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)  
Baseline:  
- nationally determined contributions YES  
- long-term strategies YES – Road map  
- national adaptation plans YES, and  
- adaptation communications to be prepared (2022)  
Target: Reporting/update of the national plans and strategies according to the UNFCCC requirements (2027) | Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (Ministério de Agricultura e Ambiente, MAA), National Directorate for the Environment (Direção Nacional do Ambiente, DNA)  
Annual UNDP/UN-Habitat | 3.1.3: Number of gender-sensitive renewable energy/energy efficiency projects financed. (UNDP)  
Baseline: 3 (2022)  
Target: 5 (2027)  
Source: DNICE project reports  
Frequency: Annual | | |
| 2.2.5 Coverage of protected areas in relation to total marine areas  
Baseline: 5.66% (2015)  
Target: 10% marine protected areas (2027) | MAA Annual Report  
UNDP/FAO | 3.2: Legislative, institutional and financial frameworks for the sustainable use of biodiversity strengthened through more effective and inclusive participation of stakeholders, especially at the local level. | | |
Indicators:

3.2.1: Number of institutional frameworks for sustainable using biodiversity and revised to facilitate stakeholder participation at local level. (UNDP)
Baseline: 0 (2022)
Target: 2 (2027)
Source: MAA/National Directorate for Internal Administration (Direcção Nacional da Administração Interna, DNAI) reports
Frequency: Annual

3.2.2: Total area (hectares) of marine ecosystems with globally significant biodiversity with management instruments integrated in the Marine Spatial Plan and National Blue Growth Strategy. (UNDP)
Baseline: 0 (2022)
Target: 500,000 (2027)
Source: Project reports
Frequency: Annual

3.2.3: Number of civil society organizations involved in legal models of co-management of protected areas. (UNDP)
Baseline: 0 (2022)
Target: 4 (2027)
Source: Directorate for the Environment (Direcção Nacional do Ambiente) DNA reports
Frequency: Annual

National priority or goal: PEDS II Strategic Priority 2: budgetary consolidation; 3: Promote decentralisation and territorial cohesion; and 4: deepen democracy

UNSDCF outcome: 3. By 2027, more people, especially women, youth and those in vulnerable groups, freely exercise their rights, participate in, and benefit from, inclusive, resilient, transparent, and accountable institutions and a more modernized, transformative and effective system of democratic governance that upholds the rule of law, at national and local levels.
**Related strategic plan outcome(s):**

**UNDP:** Governance: Build effective, inclusive and accountable governance, enhance civic space, focus on local governance systems, confront structural obstacles to gender equality and strengthening women’s leadership. Results: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3

**UNFPA:** Output 1: Integration of gender-based violence policies, plans, and accountability frameworks; Outcome 3

**UNICEF:** Goal Area 3. Result area 1: Children, including those affected by humanitarian crises, are protected from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect.

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| 3.1.4 Total resource flows for development, by recipient and donor countries and type of flow (e.g., official development assistance [ODA], foreign direct investment [FDI] and other flows). Baseline: ODA Cabo Verdean escudos (CVE) 18,346 million (2015); FDI CVE 9,036.6 million (2021); Remittances (current and capital): CVE 28,833.4 million (2021) Target: ODA CVE 22,000 million; FDI CVE 14,500 million; Remittances (current and capital): CVE 28,415 million (2027) | Central Bank of Cabo Verde Annual Report Annual UNDP | 4.1: The population, particularly women, youth and people with disabilities, and the CSOs [civil society organizations], at the national and municipal levels, participate effectively in public decision-making. 
Indicators: 
4.1.1: Percentage increase in the number of women, youth and people with disabilities participating in dialogue mechanisms. (UNFPA) Baseline: 0% (2022) Target: 20% (2027) Source: Ministry of Finance and Business Development (Ministério das Finanças e do Fomento Empresarial [MFFE] /Municipal reports) Frequency: Annual 
4.1.2: Number of CSOs engaged in monitoring of public policies and expenditure, at national and municipal level, using a gender and human rights perspective. (UNDP) Baseline: 0 (2022) Target: 3 national, 5 municipal (2027) Source: MF/Municipal Reports Frequency: Annual | National Directorate of Planning, MOJ Ministry of Territorial Cohesion; Parliament; Ministry of Public Administration; Cabo Verde Institute for Gender Equality and Equity (Instituto Cabo-verdiano para a Igualdade e Equidade de Género, ICIEG); United Nations agencies | Regular resources 
UNDP: 500,000 
UNFPA: 400,000 
UNICEF: 325,000 |
| 3.1.6 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms. Baseline: 52.3% (59.9% female; 46.9% male; 57.9%; urban; 34.0% rural) (2016) Target: 56.75% (50.9% male; 65.9% female; 67.9% urban; 40.0% rural) (2027) | INE-IMC Annual United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime | | | Other resources 
UNDP: 14,500,000 
UNFPA: 500,000 
UNICEF: 100,000 |
| 3.1.7 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population. Baseline: 13.0% female; 15.3% male (2018) | Prison Census (2019), Annual UNDOC | | | |
| Target: 6% female; 7.5% male (2027) | 4.2: Institutional capacities enhanced for integrated sustainable financing for development and accountable and transparent management of public resources at national and local level. **Indicators:**

4.2.1: Financing solutions / amount (in United States dollars) of public and private finance leveraged for the SDGs disaggregated by regional/country-level/public/private. **Baseline:** 3 solutions/27 million (2022) **Target:** 6/60 million (2027) **Source:** MFFE reports **Frequency:** Annual

4.2.2: Number of initiatives by state actors that improve accountability and transparency (including focus on human rights, gender equality and the use of integrated management systems and ICT platforms). **Baseline:** 5 (2022) **Target:** 15 (2027) **Source:** MFFE reports **Frequency:** Annual

4.3: Justice and rule of law institutions use innovative solutions to deliver resilient, gender-sensitive, human rights based and inclusive services, especially for vulnerable women and children **Indicators:**

4.3.1: Number of citizens benefiting from free legal aid | 3.1.9 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar). **Baseline:** 85% (2021) **Target:** 90% (2027) |
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<th>Services disaggregated by sex, age, and location. (UNDP)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baseline:</strong> 5 000 (2022)</td>
<td><strong>Target:</strong> 28 000 (2027)</td>
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<td><strong>Source:</strong> Bar Association</td>
<td><strong>Frequency:</strong> Annual</td>
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4.3.2: Percentage of GBV [gender-based violence] cases resolved by the justice system by age and location (UNFPA).  
**Baseline:** 4 173 (2022)  
**Target:** 25 000 (2027)  
**Source:** Court records  
**Frequency:** Annual

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<th>Support to programme/cross-sectoral costs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDP: 223 000</td>
<td>UNFPA: 375 000</td>
<td>UNICEF: 1 000 000</td>
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<th>Other resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDP: 450 000</td>
<td>UNFPA: 0</td>
<td>UNICEF: 0</td>
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