



UNITED NATIONS
CHINA



2023

**ANNUAL
RESULTS
REPORT**

UNITED NATIONS IN
CHINA

FOREWORD



Following the removal of pandemic controls at the end of 2022, the United Nations (UN) in China was able to accelerate the implementation of its United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for the People's Republic of China (UNSDCF) in 2023, resuming normal operations in field locations and visiting project sites.

While China has reopened with the relaxation of travel restrictions, the world remains in a complicated geopolitical and economic scenario. The conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza have exacerbated differences among Member States. This, combined with moves taken by monetary authorities throughout the world to combat inflation, resulted in slow global growth and pushed us further off course in our drive to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Despite the challenging externalities, China's GDP increased by 5.2% in 2023, a significant acceleration from 3.0% growth in 2022. The outlook for 2024 is more uncertain, with the IMF projecting 4.6% growth due to both external (slow global growth and stressed multilateral relations) and internal factors (low consumer confidence, challenges in the property sector, and limited fiscal space, particularly at the local level), necessitating policy actions to mitigate the economic impact.

Amidst this backdrop, the UN in China has continued to work with the Government of China to advance towards the SDGs and fulfil objectives set out in the 14th Five-Year Plan (FYP). During the UNSDCF's third year of implementation, the UN in China increased its contributions to all areas of the Framework. This included work to enhance inclusive social and economic development, rural revitalization efforts, and improve service delivery in the country; support of China's efforts towards

environmental conservation and its transition to a low-carbon and circular economy; and share our knowledge and expertise to align China's international financing, investments, business engagements, and development cooperation efforts with international norms and standards.

To promote development cooperation, the UN in China, in collaboration with the China International Development Cooperation Agency and the Permanent Mission of China to the UN, hosted a briefing for Member States on the Global Development Initiative and how it can contribute to SDG acceleration on the sidelines of the Financing for Sustainable Development Forum in New York in April 2023.

Developing and strengthening partnerships remained a top priority in 2023, as did our collaboration with the Government of China, Member States, civil society, academia, the business sector, and other relevant stakeholders to support initiatives in China and beyond. As the gap between development demands and available financing widens, these collaborations are critical in paving the way for us to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In 2023, the UN in China established the UN-China-Africa Transformative Partnership Initiative (TPI). The TPI is a trilateral collaboration that aims to foster technical exchange and development cooperation between China and Africa, with UN representatives in both China and Africa serving as conveners and providing assistance for these activities. The TPI pilot was successfully launched last year in Horn of Africa countries, with an emphasis on food security and green energy technology. Eritrea, Kenya, and Djibouti are currently developing projects that will begin implementation in 2024.



To incentivize joint programming among UN agencies to assist the implementation of the UNSDCF and UN reforms, a UN in China Pooled Fund for SDGs has been established to offer funds for joint initiatives and programmes among UN Country Team (UNCT) members. The hope is that the fund will be financed, with potential contributions from the Government of China, foundations, the corporate sector, Member States, and other stakeholders; related initiatives are expected to commence in late 2024.

With only six years left to fulfil the SDGs, we are at a critical point. The SDG Summit, called by the Secretary-General in September 2023 to identify initiatives and accelerate progress toward the SDGs, was a watershed occasion, and we must carry forward the Member States' Political Declaration to address the challenges we face.

2024 will be a year of delivery for the UN, both in China and around the world. The Summit of the Future, scheduled for September, aims to revive the multilateral system and establish a new consensus on how the UN can best deliver a better present while also safeguarding the future. For the UN in China, 2024 represents the last year of the current UNSDCF cycle and the start of planning for the next Cooperation Framework.

For China, 2024 is also a year of transition, as the country enters the penultimate year of its 14th FYP and begins preparations for the 15th FYP. At the "Two Sessions" – the two annual plenary meetings of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's

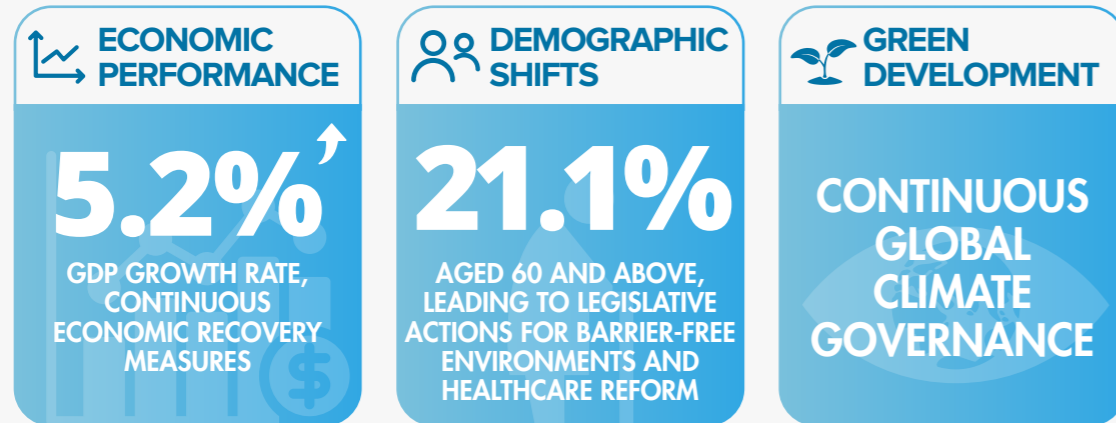
Political Consultative Conference – China presented its outlook for 2024. China continues to see a number of favourable conditions, with the expectation for GDP growth to be similar to 2023. Employment will be a strong focus, with a goal to create over 12 million new urban jobs, and for personal income to grow at a similar rate to the economy. There will also be more focus on innovation and upgrading of industrial systems, with a promised 10% increase in central government R&D spending to address many of the remaining development challenges China faces.

We look forward to maintaining our strong collaboration with China, Member States, and other stakeholders to create a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable world.

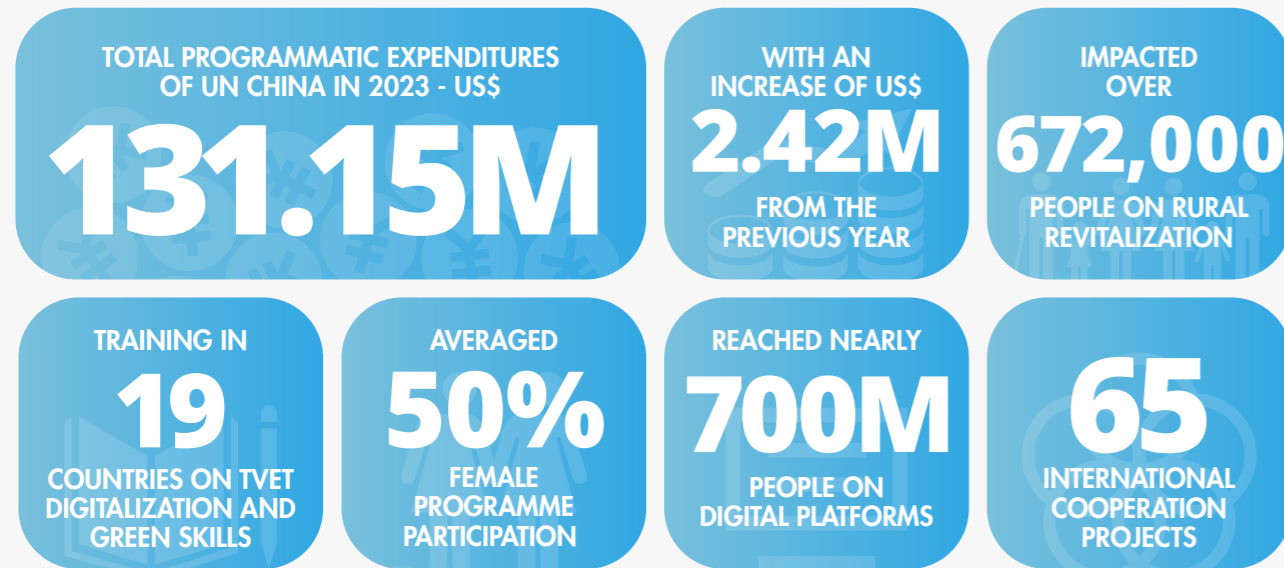
The entire UN Country team in China remains fully committed to integrating its efforts with the UN reform agenda, as well as generating ambitious, innovative, and forward-looking initiatives to deliver on the UNSDCF and the SDGs. We will ensure that the UN Country Team in China is fit for purpose and capable of effectively responding to China's development priorities while promoting more South-South cooperation and learning to advance and accelerate the SDGs.

Siddharth Chatterjee
UN Resident Coordinator in China

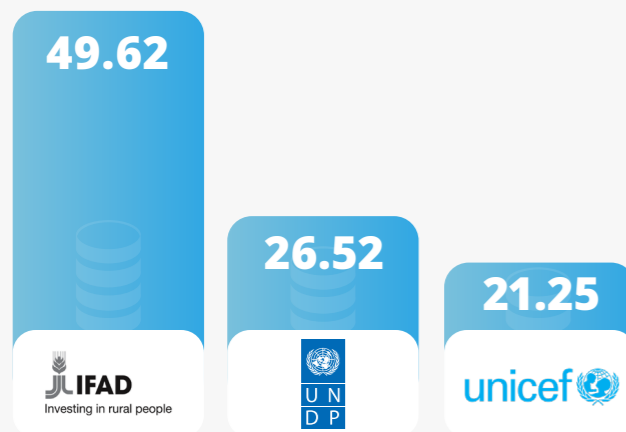
COUNTRY CONTEXT



2023 AT A GLANCE



TOP 3 IN PROGRAMMATIC EXPENDITURE OF THE UN ENTITIES IN CHINA IN 2023 (MILLION US\$)



ALLOCATION OF THE EXPENDITURE

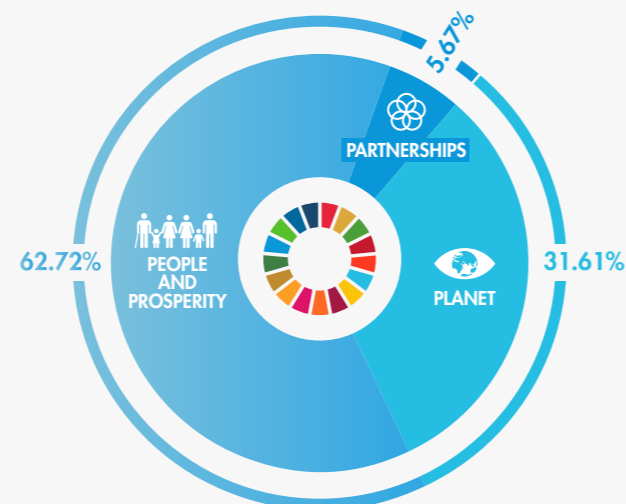


TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

1. BACKGROUND AND COUNTRY CONTEXT	01
2. PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNSDCF	04
2.1. PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY: OUTCOME 1	04
2.2. PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY: OUTCOME 2	07
2.3. PLANET: OUTCOME 3	12
2.4. PLANET: OUTCOME 4	14
2.5. PARTNERSHIPS: OUTCOME 5	16
2.6. PARTNERSHIPS: OUTCOME 6	18
3. UN COHERENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY	21
3.1. JOINT PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING	21
3.2. COORDINATED COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY	22
3.3. COMMON BUSINESS OPERATIONS	25
3.4. CROSS-CUTTING THEMES	25
3.4.1. GENDER EQUALITY	25
3.4.2. YOUTH	26
3.4.3. PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	27
3.4.4. LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND (LNOB)	27
4. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW	28
5. CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD	32
ANNEX. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT LIST	33

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BOS	Business Operations Strategy	MP	Montreal Protocol
BRI	Belt and Road Initiative	MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
CFC	Child Friendly Cities	NDRC	National Development and Reform Commission
China CDC	China Center for Disease Control and Prevention	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
CIDCA	China International Development Cooperation Agency	OMT	Operations Management Team
CLC	Community Learning Center	OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
COP28	28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	PHC	Primary Health Care
CSO	Civil Society Organization	PSEA	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
FCTC	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
FYP	Five-Year Plan	SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
GDF	Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
GDI	Global Development Initiative	SSC	South-South Cooperation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	SSTC	South-South and Triangular Cooperation
GEF	Global Environment Facility	TPI	Transformative Partnership Initiative
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
GHG	Greenhouse Gas	UHC	Universal Health Coverage
GoC	Government of China	UN	United Nations
GRP	Gender Responsive Procurement	UNCG	United Nations Communications Group
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
IHR	International Health Regulations	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
LNOB	Leave No One Behind	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
MOFCOM	Ministry of Commerce	WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
MOHRSS	Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security	WEPs	Women's Empowerment Principles

1. BACKGROUND AND COUNTRY CONTEXT



In 2023, the first year of post-pandemic recovery, China navigated a complex landscape. The nation simultaneously grappled with the impact of high inflation rates globally, export pressures, and heightened geopolitical tensions, posing significant challenges to food security, public health, and socio-economic development. However, amidst these difficulties, a renewed global focus on addressing these challenges emerged, with important agreements reached at the SDG Summit in September and 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) in December. China, along with other countries, prioritized strengthening international cooperation, promoting sustainable development, and bolstering national resilience.

China's 2023 economic performance was a tale of two sides. GDP growth accelerated to 5.2%, demonstrating the resilience of the Chinese economy and the effectiveness of government policies.¹ The economic performance, in line with the Government's target, was nevertheless volatile, and underlying risks remain present. 2023 saw challenging conditions in the real estate sector, subdued household consumption, and constrained expenditure capacity by local governments. At the same time, Chinese exports and imports remained largely stagnant. With substantial idle capacity existing at many Chinese factories and urban unemployment averaged 5.2% in 2023, a 0.4 percentage point decrease compared to last year, with youth unemployment continuing to be a major challenge, closing the year at over 14%.² To support the economy and stabilize consumption, the Government announced a series of policy documents throughout the year, including 28 measures to promote private sector development.³

In the third year of implementing the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development (14th FYP) and the opening year of the comprehensive implementation of the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the

Government of China (GoC) continued to promote Chinese-style modernization and high-quality development. The "Two Sessions", representing the yearly meetings of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, was held in Beijing in March 2023 and detailed priorities across the economic, social and environmental dimensions.⁴

The process of rural revitalization, which is emphasized in the 14th FYP, steadily advanced in 2023: First, food security was further enhanced; Second, the outcomes of eradicating poverty continued to be consolidated and expanded, and the living conditions of rural people continued to improve; Third, the construction of universal and basic livelihoods was strengthened in a focused manner. These outcomes echo the key aims of Document No.1 on promoting the key work of rural revitalization in 2023, demonstrating that the steady progress of China's "Three Rural" development has been further consolidated, providing strong support for economic recovery and high-quality development.⁵

China witnessed a pivotal demographic shift in 2023, losing its position as the world's most populous nation while confronting declining fertility rates and an accelerating ageing population. By the end of 2023, 21.1% (297 million) of the population was aged 60 and above, with 15.4% (216.7 million) exceeding 65 years.⁶ This unprecedented trend, evidenced by older persons exceeding the number of children for the first time in 2021,⁷ prompted legislative action. In June 2023, the Law on Construction of Barrier-Free Environments was passed, aiming to improve accessibility for the ageing population, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups by mandating accessible facilities, information exchange, and social services.⁸ This legislation represented a significant step towards addressing the multifaceted challenges posed by China's evolving demographics and will support ensuring equitable participation for all citizens.

China's urbanization trend continued to accelerate, with 66.2% of residents residing in cities in 2023.⁹ As young people migrated to cities for better opportunities, the proportion of older persons in rural areas sharply increased. This trend, however, presented a unique demographic challenge: a rapidly ageing rural population – which is straining the pension system and public services that are struggling to meet the diverse needs of this growing population. To address this, the GoC issued the Opinions on Further Deepening Reform and Promoting the Healthy Development of the Rural Medical and Health System in February 2023. This initiative aimed to modernize rural healthcare through digitalization and intelligence, ultimately aiming to expand the workforce, optimize personnel structures, improve treatment quality, and effectively resolve issues such as pensions by 2025.¹⁰

China's education sector saw significant policy actions in 2023. The GoC released the Special Action Plan for Comprehensively Strengthening and Improving the Mental Health Work of Students in the New Era (2023-2025) to prioritize student mental health with enhanced support systems,¹¹ the Opinions on Strengthening Science Education in Primary and Secondary Schools in the New Era,¹² and the Notice on Accelerating the Key Tasks of Accelerating the Construction and Reform of the Modern Vocational Education System, aiming to build 300 national and 1,000 regional benchmark colleges by 2025, modernizing vocational training and workforce skills.¹³ These initiatives demonstrated China's commitment to fostering well-rounded, scientifically literate, and career-ready individuals, contributing to its long-term human capital development goals.

Regarding the environment, the GoC continued to carry out actions to combat all types of pollution. The GoC released the third air pollution control plan,¹⁴ aiming to further cut airborne pollutants and to transition toward clean industry, as well as a methane emissions control action plan.¹⁵ At the same time, actions to lower China's carbon emissions continued, promoting green and low-carbon development. To this point, the launch of the national voluntary greenhouse gas emission reduction trading market has marked the initial formation of a complete carbon trading market system in China. This is likely to further facilitate the implementation of the "1+N" policy system for carbon peaking and carbon neutrality.¹⁶ Progress on carbon emissions and transitioning away from fossil fuels, however, has been mixed, adding risks to the 14th FYP environmental targets, reflecting the difficult balancing act between energy transition, energy security and the economy. For example, achievements around the energy intensity target in 2023 were considered "short of expectations" by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).¹⁷ Coal continues to remain pivotal in China's energy system.

Consumption of coal accounted for 55.3% of the total energy consumption (a drop of 0.7 percentage points versus 2022).¹⁸ Permits for coal-fired power plants have increased fourfold in recent years (110GW per year in 2020-23, up from 25GW per year in 2016-20).¹⁹ At the same time, thanks to the robust deployment of solar and wind capacity, China's installed renewable energy capacity surpassed its thermal power capacity two years ahead of the target.²⁰

At the international level, China has continued to engage in global climate governance and environmental negotiations. Bilateral and multilateral environmental and climate exchanges have been carried out through forums, meetings and dialogues such as the Roundtable on BRI Green Development, the fourth High-level Environment and Climate Dialogue between China and the European Union, etc.²¹ China and the United States jointly released "the Sunnylands Statement on Enhancing Cooperation to Address the Climate Crisis" ahead of the COP28, contributing to its successful outcomes. At COP28, China also provided a possible template for enhancing sustainable green development in urban cities, showcasing China's ongoing modernization of harmonious coexistence between human beings and nature, as well as its actions on ecology and environment based on the 2030 Agenda.²²

The year 2023 also marked the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). In October 2023, the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation took place in Beijing. During the Forum, China announced its support for eight actions to build the Belt and Road in a "high-quality" manner.²³ A total of 458 outcomes were forged, including important cooperation initiatives and institutional arrangements, including the Beijing Initiative for Deepening Cooperation on Connectivity and the Beijing Initiative for Belt and Road Green Development. Specific targets, such as conducting green development trainings for partner countries and expanding joint laboratories, reflect China's commitment to enhancing infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity and building an open, inclusive and interconnected world.²⁴

Efforts to scale the Global Development Initiative (GDI), launched by China in 2021, have been garnering international interest, with over 70 countries participating in the Group of Friends of the GDI. The initiative has also fostered collaboration through both the UN system and direct partnerships. Exemplifying this approach, the July 2023 launch of the "Burundi Hybrid Rice Technology Poverty Reduction Demonstration Project" sought to empower local farmers through knowledge sharing, resource provision, and collaboration, ultimately aiding their escape from poverty.²⁵

In 2023, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025, the UN has continued to support China in making progress on the SDGs and in fostering sustainable and inclusive development across the country while strengthening the SDG impact of China's international development cooperation engagements.

¹ National Bureau of Statistics, National Economy Witnessed Momentum of Recovery with Solid Progress in High-quality Development in 2023, 17 January 2024. Available at https://www.stats.gov.cn/english/PressRelease/202401/t20240117_1946605.html.

² Ibid

³ National Development and Reform Commission, Notice on the Implementation of Several Measures to Promote the Development of the Private Economy, 28 July 2023. Available at https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/xwdt/tzgg/202308/t20230801_1359008.html.

⁴ Government of China, 2023 Government Working Report, 5 March 2023. Available at <https://www.gov.cn/zhuanti/2023lhfgzbg/index.htm?eqid=efe6ffe0000c785400000003645a55c5>

⁵ Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Document No.1 on promoting the key work of rural revitalization in 2023 was released, 13 February

⁶ 2023. Available at http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/zwdt/202302/t20230213_6420446.htm.

National Bureau of Statistics, National Economy Witnessed Momentum of Recovery, 17 January 2024.

⁷ China Daily, Nation can cope with demographic 'new normal', 18 January 2024. Available at

<https://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202401/18/WS65a8726ba310513d4e5628ca.html>

⁸ Ministry of Justice of the People's Republic of China, China passes new law on barrier-free living environment, 29 June 2023. Available at

http://en.moj.gov.cn/2023-06/29/c_898657.htm

⁹ National Bureau of Statistics, National Economy Witnessed Momentum of Recovery, 17 January 2024.

¹⁰ General Office of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, "Opinions on Further Deepening Reform and Promoting the Healthy

Development of the Rural Medical and Health System," 23 February 2023. Available at

https://www.gov.cn/zhengce/2023-02/23/content_5742938.htm

¹¹ Ministry of Education, "Special Action Plan for Comprehensively Strengthening and Improving the Mental Health Work of Students in the New

Era (2023-2025)," 20 April 2023. Available at https://www.gov.cn/zhengce/zhengceku/202305/content_6857361.htm

¹² Ministry of Education, "Opinions on Strengthening Science Education in Primary and Secondary Schools in the New Era," 26 May 2023.

Available at http://www.moe.gov.cn/srcsite/A29/202305/t20230529_1061838.html?eqid=ed69d933000e13d100000006647837ce

¹³ Ministry of Education, "Notice on Accelerating the Key Tasks of Accelerating the Construction and Reform of the Modern Vocational Education

System," 7 July 2023. Available at https://www.gov.cn/zhengce/zhengceku/202307/content_6892671.htm

¹⁴ State Council, https://www.gov.cn/zhengce/content/202312/content_6919000.htm

¹⁵ <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202311/10/WS654d85f6a31090682a5ed77a.html>

¹⁶ Ministry of Ecology and Environment, Minister Huang Runqiu's Working Report at the 2024 National Working Conference on Ecological and

Environmental Protection, 27 January 2024. Available at https://www.mee.gov.cn/ywdt/hjynews/202401/t20240127_1064954.shtml.

¹⁷ NDRC, 5 March 2024, Report on the Implementation of the 2023 Plan for National Economic and Social Development and on the 2024 Draft

Plan for National Economic and Social Development.

¹⁸ National Bureau of Statistics, https://www.stats.gov.cn/english/PressRelease/202402/t20240228_1947918.html

¹⁹ <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-record-drop-in-chinas-co2-emissions-needed-to-meet-2025-target/>

²⁰ Government Work Report 2024. Xinhuanet

²¹ Ministry of Ecology and Environment, Minister Huang Runqiu's Working Report, 27 January 2024.

²² Ministry of Ecology and Environment, "Telling the Story of Green and Low Carbon Beijing, COP28 China Corner's Side Event was held", 6

December 2023. Available at https://www.mee.gov.cn/ywdt/dfnews/202312/t20231206_1058311.shtml.

²³ Belt and Road Portal, Full text of Xi Jinping's keynote speech at 3rd Belt and Road Forum for Int'l Cooperation, 18 October 2023. Available at

<https://www.yidaiyilu.gov.cn/p/OPS29GKL.html>. English version at <https://eng.yidaiyilu.gov.cn/p/0FEFLQHC.html>.

²⁴ Belt and Road Portal, Comments by Wang Yi on Important Outcomes of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, 19

October 2023. Available at <https://www.yidaiyilu.gov.cn/p/04A1DS2S.html>.

²⁵ Xinhua Institute, "The Practical Achievements and Global Contributions of the Global Development Initiative," 19 September 2023. Available

at https://www.mfa.gov.cn/eng/topics_665678/GDI/wj/202310/P020231018368829930417.pdf

2. PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNSDCF



2.1. PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY: OUTCOME 1

Relative poverty and multi-dimensional poverty are reduced, and more coordinated development leads to reduction in gaps between rural and urban areas and among regions, as more people in China, including left-behind groups, benefit from sustainable, innovation-driven and shared high-quality economic development, with enhanced access to economic opportunities arising through innovation, entrepreneurship and rural revitalization, enjoying decent work, sustainable livelihoods and the right to development, equally for both women and men.



A trainee working on package sample design during the Second Capacity Building Workshop on Living Heritage for Rural Revitalization. © Suzhou Art and Design Technology Institute

UNDP

In Henan and Yunnan provinces, 1,200 individuals benefited from gender-responsive training programs, unlocking the economic potentials of the local communities by improving the handicraft production skills of the poor, with a focus on women, and equipping them with the skills needed to produce and improve high-quality traditional local crafts, such as embroidery and woolen hand-knitting.

FAO

Launched a US\$1 million research project on digital transformation and sustainable development of agrifood systems in China that included a workshop in June 2023 and work began on a report on digital agriculture.

UNESCO

A pilot activity on Miao Embroidery for Rural Revitalization in Songtao, Guizhou enhanced the cultural creative skills and livelihoods of 45 participants (67.5% female) from four provinces through two workshops on Living Heritage.

WFP

The Jilin project, which introduced insurance and pay-outs, helped 773 smallholder farmer households adopt fertigation technology to improve water, fertilizer, and maize efficiency, as well as manage agricultural risk.

IFAD

A total of 81,538 households with 288,983 rural people,

of whom 45% were women, from Shaanxi, Sichuan, Ningxia, Yunnan and Hunan provinces increased their market access and income, benefiting from capacity building, training, funding and inclusive agribusiness development models.

UN WOMEN AND FAO

Published “Providing Innovative and Gender-responsive Digital Support to Smallholder Farmers in China” that explores the challenges and solutions for rural women’s access to digital growth in China.

UNICEF

Supported the Situation Analysis on Youth Development in China and initiated a communications campaign on ‘Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World’ to recognize the influential role of young people in shaping a green future.

China’s **rural revitalization and development** received the UN’s sustained support in 2023. The UN supported China’s agri-food system transformation with innovative approaches. The main technical entry points were agroecology, green and circular agriculture, nutrition sensitive agriculture, digital agriculture, climate smart agriculture, agricultural mechanization, and agriculture risk management and resilience.

Furthermore, through skills training and networking, the UN

in China promoted policy dialogue on lifelong learning and strengthened community learning centers (CLCs) that directly supported the government’s rural revitalization and eco-civilization agenda. In 2023, CLCs are non-formal education centres that have increased to 84 centers across the country (50 rural and 34 urban). Over 60,000 community members and villagers learned skills in various fields from trainings provided by CLCs. 1,200 CLCs managers and master trainers enhanced their knowledge and skills from workshops and the national and local Lifelong Learning Week.

Vulnerable groups benefited greatly from various UN initiatives. The UN in China continued to support the development of an agriculture revenue protection insurance modality and to promote sustainable agriculture practices in northeast China. This helped smallholder farmers cope with climate-related disasters and market risks, improving their income and livelihood. The resilience and livelihoods of smallholder farmers were also strengthened by enhancing their capacity to produce nutritious and high-quality agricultural products. These actions benefited 6,310 farmers, 40% of whom were women, and contributed to the establishment of a climate-resilient, sustainable, and nutrition-sensitive value chain, resulting in increased income and improved nutritional status for smallholder farmers and their families. The UN also boosted the economic prospects of local communities by improving the handicraft production skills of marginalized groups (especially women), equipping them to produce high-quality local products.



These efforts also helped to advance **employment and decent work** in China. The UN’s analysis and support improved the capacity of China’s government, workers’ and employers’ organizations, and other stakeholders to develop and implement laws, policies and regulations that promote better access to an equitable labour market and job opportunities and that provide adequate protection and equal recognition of employment value for all people of working age in diverse work arrangements. With UN support, over 100 government officials and social partner representatives received training on the effective application of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105). The UN supported the GoC on promoting decent work in the platform economy through joint research on labour disputes regarding new forms of employment. In 2023, the MOHRSS and the Supreme Court jointly issued the Typical Cases on Labour Disputes of New Forms of Employment in 2023, providing legal guidance on classifying the employment status of platform workers.

The UN experimented with various development services for more resilient and inclusive Chinese cities and to reduce poverty. Through SDG Innovation Labs in Suzhou and Chengdu, new approaches for more inclusive, sustainable and future ready cities are being explored. This included leveraging digital and low-carbon technologies and social innovation, as seen in the release of Chengdu’s first map on sustainable living.

The UN promoted **Women’s Empowerment Principles** (WEPs) and gender responsive business culture and practices through events and conferences, supported new signatories to implement WEPs and connected them for peer learning. By December 2023, 384 companies from the Chinese mainland signed the WEPs to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. In September, a new signatory began to develop its policy on gender responsive procurement. A Chinese WEPs signatory company donated US\$10,000 to UN Women in mid-2023.

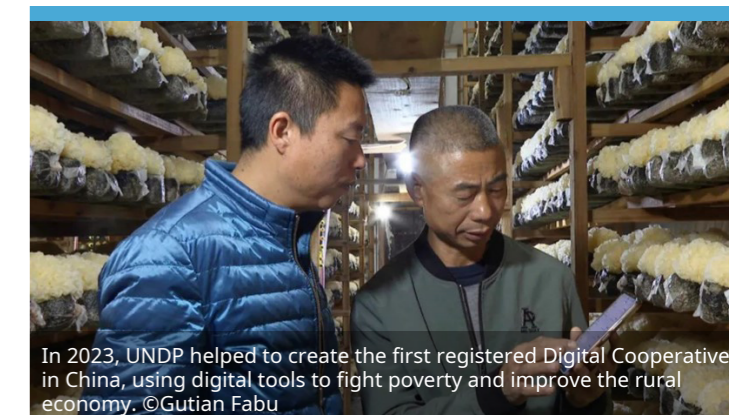
National Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions’ and stakeholders’ capacity in TVET reform, modernization and policy dialogue, entrepreneurship skills, TVET digitalization and green skills were enhanced. Capacity of TVET experts on Global Citizen Education was increased in Shaanxi province, where 259 participants (40% female) from 19 countries received training. A TVET-leadership programme and two Belt and Road TVET forums increased over 1,000 participants’ awareness in TVET reform and skills. The UN supported the GoC in building capacity for quality apprenticeships and lifelong learning for 300 trainers and managers (40% female) from 110 piloting institutions, including enterprises, TVET schools and local authorities

from eight pilot cities and two sectoral leading corporations.

The UN also enhanced its leadership in **sustainable finance** in China. For example, the UN in China launched the second phase of the SDG Investor Maps, identifying 18 new investment opportunity areas worth over US\$280 billion by 2026, focusing on renewable energy and the circular economy. A report on repurposing sovereign debt for SDGs with key financial institutions was published, and research on Prospects of Green Budgeting in China was converted into a policy recommendation paper, including technical inputs provided to the Ministry of Finance.

The UN in China worked with provincial and local governments in various provinces to improve **inclusive cooperative development** through a value chain approach, aligned with the rural revitalization strategy and targeting poor households. These projects supported capacity building, training, funding and standardization for inclusive cooperative development in Shaanxi, Sichuan, Ningxia, Yunnan and Hunan provinces. In 2023, 301 rural cooperatives and enterprises, including 56 women-led ones, were supported. The UN in China assisted in the establishment of 6 cooperatives in Guizhou and Yunnan, benefiting 374 (89% female) villagers, who enhanced their skills in handicrafts and obtained flexible and home-based jobs, including 160 ethnic minority people (90% female).

FIRST REGISTERED DIGITAL COOPERATIVE IN CHINA



In 2023, UNDP helped to create the first registered Digital Cooperative in China, using digital tools to fight poverty and improve the rural economy. ©Gutian Fabu

In 2023, the UN helped to create the first registered Digital Cooperative in China, using digital tools to fight poverty and improve the rural economy. The UN provided technical

HUNAN RURAL REVITALIZATION DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

In 2023, the UN in China provided direct technical and financial support to 108,809 rural people in ten pilot counties in Hunan Province, including 49,442 rural women, to expand their agricultural businesses, increase access to inclusive public services for climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and develop climate resilient infrastructure. The project, which started in 2021, aims to demonstrate replicable, inclusive agribusiness development models adopting value chain approach and leveraging private sector investment to sustainably benefit over 88,000 vulnerable rural households in a gender-transformative and youth-sensitive manner.

A female farmer from project supporting a women-led agricultural cooperative in Longshan County, Hunan Province, is harvesting millet. ©IFAD

support in leveraging e-commerce, social media livestreaming, and supply chain optimization to the pilot counties of Gutian and Youyang. This enabled the creation of digital supply chain platforms that benefited farmers' cooperatives, especially women. These initiatives empowered local entrepreneurs with the skills to adapt to changing market trends and contributed to rural revitalization in China.

With UN support, Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) development in China advanced. The UN in China supported Women-led MSMEs to access markets and financial services. Under the Together Digital programme, 4,114 women-led MSMEs and young women entrepreneurs-to-be in Chengdu and Hunan gained knowledge and digital skills from training modules. A virtual women MSMEs training hub with eleven online modules on gender equality and entrepreneurial skills was created with government partners and Chinese experts. Over 375,900 people joined the digital training activities and knowledge exchange. The UN also developed a strong IP ecosystem in China, aiming to boost the economic and strategic growth of Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SMEs). With the UN's assistance, Chinese SMEs increased their awareness of intellectual property, which contributed to economic, social, and cultural progress.

2023 UN MSME DAY

Held in Beijing and Guangzhou and supported by the UN in China, this event underscored the critical role of MSMEs in achieving the SDGs and highlighted the need for resilience in the face of economic challenges. It convened representatives from 6 UN agencies, 23 international development organizations, various industry groups, research institutions, MSMEs and women entrepreneurs. Over 600 guests attended in person, while a further 200,000 engaged with the event online. This collaboration culminated in a joint UNDP-China Academy for Financial Inclusion report focusing on financing for rural MSMEs.

WIPO

Launched the WIPO-Tsinghua University joint master's program to help Chinese universities cultivate IP talent.

WHO

Promoted WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), collaborated with health and education sectors and reached 16,000 schools. China lowered adult smoking to 24.1%.

In 2023, the UN advanced this outcome through joint advocacy, enhancing the evidence base for policy making, providing technical support for policy-making and law implementation, and strengthening institutional mechanisms for capacity development. Collaborating with its counterparts and partners, UN support for China's development goals and priorities has contributed to milestones and innovations in various fields and sectors.

The UN in China implemented various initiatives, covering a wide range of topics under **education, health, nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)**, such as the hydrogen economy, waste management, human trafficking, climate change, cultural heritage, early childhood development, and obesity control and prevention.

With UN analytical inputs and technical assistance, SDG4 implementation and monitoring of indicators improved significantly. China's Ministry of Education released its national mid-term progress report on SDG4. A national case study publication titled "Towards 2030: Practices of Poverty Alleviation through Education in China" enhanced the policy dialogue on the role of education in poverty

reduction, based on China's experience in eliminating poverty through education.

The UN procured emergency supplies worth US\$1.1 million for rural hospitals in 18 counties of 8 provinces or autonomous regions, including Xizang (Tibet), against potential COVID-19 surges, safeguarding the lives of 1.7 million children and their caregivers. Five provinces in China achieved a key goal in preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B, thanks to the support of the UN and the National Health Commission. In addition, over 385,000 community health workers were trained across China to provide quality early childhood development and infant feeding services, especially for marginalized groups in Xizang and Xinjiang.

Through strengthening exchanges between China and relevant counterparts from foreign countries, the UN contributed to mutual discussions on facilitating mobility in post-pandemic settings. Several activities have been organized in cooperation with Chinese and European Union counterparts, focusing on vulnerable population groups, including regular and irregular migrants, as well as victims of trafficking.

By building national capacity and advocating for food and nutrition, UN agencies aimed to reduce the rural-urban nutritional gap for children. The UN in China partnered with local actors in Hunan, Gansu and Sichuan to provide and link nutritious school meals with local farming. As a result, they improved the health and nutrition of over 15,000 children and adults in 2023. UNICEF pilot projects emphasized food and nutrition advocacy in early childhood for dietary and lifestyle diversity.

2.2. PEOPLE AND PROSPERITY: OUTCOME 2

People's lives in China are improved further as headway is made in ensuring access to childcare, education, healthcare services, elderly care, housing and social assistance, and more people in China, including left-behind groups, benefit from equitable and high-quality public services and social protection systems as well as accelerated efforts to reduce gender inequality and other forms of social inequality throughout the life-course.

UNAIDS

Supported the National Health Commission to completely prevent mother-child transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), syphilis and hepatitis B in five provinces.

UNICEF

Delivered early essential newborn care trainings to 747,710 health professionals.

UNFPA

Commissioned a comprehensive survey of 2,121 Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) education institutions in China, which provided data and recommendations to improve SRH education across the country.

UN-HABITAT

Held two thematic training workshops on waste-wise cities for Chinese officials and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) representatives and developed the China WWC Good Practice Report to demonstrate experiences and lessons learned from different parts of the country.

UNGC

Deployed the second phase of the Eco-Loobox Project in Yunnan Province, offering a cost-effective, replicable, and eco-friendly sanitation solution to address health inequalities and improve access to basic sanitation services for people living in poverty.



The UN supported the GoC reform on [social protection and services](#) in 2023. The UN promoted multi-dimensional approaches in policymaking to address rights deprivations. For example, technical assistance in early childcare services and Child Friendly Cities (CFC) led to more funding and policy improvements. The UN also supported building national capacity to address low fertility and population ageing by generating new evidence and policy options for better social protection and services for young children, women and older persons. The UN efforts resulted in the following policies and guidelines:

ON SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

The UN supported the Ministry of Civil Affairs and nine other agencies to issue a national guideline on monitoring the low-income population and building a tiered and classified social assistance system. The guideline is more child sensitive, gender and shock-responsive.

ON BASIC PUBLIC SERVICE

The UN supported the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) in strengthening the development of inclusive national public service systems through joint policy analysis, advocacy and capacity building. UN supported the organization of the National Basic Public Service (BPS) forum and the provision of on-site training courses to enhance local government officials' capacity to implement the national standards and leave no one behind.

ON SOCIAL SECURITY GOVERNANCE

The UN supported the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (MOHRSS) to develop a digital transformation strategy and a data governance action plan for social security administration and services in China, along with a training programme for social security actuaries of the basic old-age pension schemes.

ON FAMILY-FRIENDLY POLICIES

The UN advocated for family-friendly fiscal policies with the Ministry of Finance (MOF). This resulted in more funding for early childcare services and evidence for updating the Basic Public Health Service. The UN also generated evidence and recommendations for family policies with gender-responsive workplaces, benefits, and care services.

ON LOW FERTILITY

The UN supported the creation of policy options to promote gender equality, reproductive rights, and childcare services for women of childbearing age in China, contributing to the decision to optimize the fertility policy for balanced population development.

ON CHILD FRIENDLY CITIES

The UN supported the NDRC, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD), National Working Committee on Children and Women (NWCCW) and more than 30 local governments in policy development, capacity building and technical consultations for CFC planning. More children are benefiting from improved accessibility, services, and investment in child-friendly spaces and facilities.

ON POPULATION AGEING

The UN supported the review of global experiences on developing a silver economy and the launch of the National Transfer Accounts (NTA) research initiative, focusing on intergenerational financial flows to support national policy making and planning on ageing, as well as regional South-South Cooperation (SSC) on demographic challenges.

ON ICPD IMPLEMENTATION

The UN supported a review of the implementation of ICPD in China since 1994, examining China's achievements and experience in the relevant SDGs in the fields of sexual and reproductive health, adolescent and youth reproductive health, gender equality, and population and development.

ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

The UN successfully advocated for including age-appropriate and scientific Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and youth-friendly healthcare services in the Reproductive Health Promotion Action Plan (2023-2025). The Action Plan sets goals and actions to provide sexuality education and youth healthcare services for young people in China.

ON MATERNAL NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The UN supported the development of China's first national maternal nutrition services guideline and counselling cards, providing evidence-based and standardized recommendations for health workers and pregnant women on maternal nutrition and health. The guidelines and counselling cards support the national strategy of a Healthy China and the realization of the right to health for every child and mother.

ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (UHC)

The UN continued to support China's progress towards UHC through policy-oriented research, local pilots and evidence generation that led or contributed to national policies on people-centered integrated care systems, strengthening primary health care and rural healthcare provider networks, and promoting health insurance payment reforms in five cities.

ON HEALTHY CHINA 2030

The UN supported the comprehensive implementation of the Healthy China 2030 initiative through policy advocacy and facilitating mutual learning with other countries. A series of high-level international conferences on Primary Health Care (PHC), mental health, resilient public health system, and digital health were organized with Chinese counterparts, as well as the release of the Beijing Initiative for High Quality PHC.

ON HEALTH SECURITY

The UN worked closely with China to strengthen its public health system and to improve health security post-pandemic, drawing on the lessons learned and strategic guidance. The cooperation involves sharing experiences of ongoing outbreaks like COVID-19 via the International Health Regulations (IHR) mechanism, strengthening existing public health surveillance systems,

supporting domestic public health system reforms and global negotiation on pandemic accord and IHR amendment.

ON TUBERCULOSIS AND HEPATITIS

The UN expanded the Tuberculosis-free Community Initiative to over 20 provinces and supported the pilot to include hepatitis screening in the basic public health services package in Hainan province, strengthening primary services for tuberculosis and hepatitis.

ON OBESITY CONTROL AND PREVENTION

The UN pioneered high-level dialogues, offered professional insights within and beyond the health sector, including the National Health Commission (NHC) and State Administration for Market Regulation for healthier food environments, and contributed to the national public health agenda with initiatives such as nutrition labelling and marketing restrictions.



Greenway cycling initiative, ActNow Campaign. ©UNDP

Moreover, the UN organized events to review and exchange national and international experiences on population dynamics in China, especially the challenges of population ageing, low fertility, and negative population growth. These events emphasized the importance of unleashing the power of women and respecting individual rights and choices in the new normal of population dynamics.

The principle of Leave No One Behind (LNOB) continues to be at the heart of the UN's work, with a focus on reaching **the most vulnerable and marginalized groups**. In 2023, UN agencies continued to support partners in system reform and institutional capacity development. UN initiatives helped duty bearers learn about the challenges and needs of vulnerable populations in different domains, such as education and environmental protection. As a result, duty bearers were encouraged to adopt policies and measures that addressed these challenges and needs and ensured that vulnerable populations had equal access to opportunities and services. Below are some concrete examples:

- The UN supported the Supreme People's Court in developing and launching the Ten Guiding Cases on Anti-Domestic Violence, supporting alignment with Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the local context. The cases helped local courts and judges improve trial practices and survivor-centred approaches.
- Through a partnership with the Supreme People's Procuratorate (SPP) and the Ministry of Public Security (MPS), the UN continued strengthening child-friendly justice mechanisms, with an emphasis on child sexual abuse and juvenile justice.
- Moreover, the UN trained 397 national stakeholders and 20 Civil Society Organization (CSO) service providers from five provinces in China on the UN Essential Service Package and multisectoral coordination mechanisms for domestic violence cases. The training aimed to improve the access and quality of public services and social protection systems for survivors. UN also supported the

publication of a Domestic Violence Social Service Manual.

- The UN and the MCA/China Centre for Child Welfare and Adoption (CCCWA) completed the first phase of the Integrated Child Protection Model (ICPM). The model supports a county child protection system in 12 counties across four provinces (Jiangxi, Guangxi, Ningxia and Shandong). A mid-term report on the model was completed, which will guide the scaling up of the Country Programme in the next two years and beyond.
- The UN maintained China's high-level political support for Ending AIDS globally by enhancing communication and exchange with National Disease Control and Prevention Administration (NDCPA) and Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC) through various platforms. To inform the in-depth comparative analysis for policy changes, the UN conducted a comprehensive policy analysis of China's current HIV policies and practices, including HIV treatment regimens, fair employment, and healthcare quality, among others, for People Living with HIV (PLHIV) within the context of a

dynamic and evolving HIV epidemic and response. The UN piloted and disseminated community-led models for integrating HIV awareness, testing, oral pre-exposure prophylaxis, and care services to support the national HIV programme and apply public health approaches to scale up HIV services among key populations.

In 2023, the UN also launched several collaborative initiatives to safeguard the rights of marginalized populations. UN agencies, China CDC, Chinese Association of STD and AIDS Prevention and Control (CASAPC) and China AIDS Fund for NGOs (CAFNGO) agreed and approved a plan to support and fund community-based organizations for HIV/AIDS monitoring and responses led by the communities themselves. The UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) China programme, launched in 2014, has improved the lives of persons with disabilities in various areas, such as employment, education, health, justice, and social protection. The programme has also supported legal and policy changes, capacity building, and media and information campaigns.

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY 2023

The UN's World Children's Day campaign in 2023 featured a child-led event themed on building a child-friendly society for all, highlighting children and youth voices. The flagship event in Beijing was attended by 600 guests and live-streamed to more than 1.1 million people. At the same time, 49 cities and counties across China lit buildings in blue, the highest number to date.



Children from the China National Children's Center perform the World Children's Day theme song 'In the Future' created by Ambassador Wang Yuan during the World Children's Day event hosted by UNICEF China in Beijing on 20 November 2023. ©UNICEF/Li Hao



In Hubei, the GEF project of Expansion and Improvement of Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in the Greater Shennongjia Area provided local residents with part-time jobs to support the development of vegetable plantations. ©UNEP

2.3. PLANET: OUTCOME 3

In 2023, in collaboration with the Chinese government, private sectors, and local communities, the UN sustained its support for China's commitments to advancing climate action, sustainable agriculture, and biodiversity conservation. This was achieved through a multifaceted approach, including policy dialogues, pilot activities, capacity-building, awareness-raising, knowledge sharing and the adoption of innovative strategies.

ESCAP-CSAM

Jointly organized the 10th Regional Forum, which addressed gender mainstreaming needs in the development and scaling up of sustainable agricultural mechanization, and brought together 55 participants representing 16 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

FAO

Collaborated with national government organizations and NGOs to implement 8 ongoing, GEF-funded projects.

UNEP

The incorporation of biodiversity into the plans and operations of provincial and county administrations was largely completed in 2023, emphasizing the significance of Shennongjia National Park for regional economic growth.

IFAD

Brought around **15,000 hectares** of farmland under **climate resilience practices**.

UNIDO

Promoted and facilitated the implementation of circular economy practices and eco-design concepts in three industrial value chains including textile, construction materials, and home furnishings.

UNESCO

Jointly organized the First Regional Youth Forum for Asia and the Pacific on Man and Biosphere 2023, which brought together 150 youths from 27 countries.

UNDP

Completed a gap analysis of wetland conservation which identified **487,200 hectares in 112 wetlands** with high ecological value (13.5% of China's total unprotected wetlands). The findings have provided valuable data to support and inform the development of the **China Flyway Conservation and Restoration Action Plan (2024-2030)**.

The UN engaged with various partners to conduct joint research and implement pilot projects to develop **sustainable and resilient communities**. These collective efforts improved the livelihoods of local rural communities, increased the access of local people, especially women, to sustainable practices and attracted support from the local community in the conservation of natural resources and sustainable agriculture. More than **5,000** government officials, farmers, villagers and university students received training on various topics, including black soil protection, law enforcement, biodiversity conservation and nature education. Around **206,960** rural people in the provinces of Shaanxi, Ningxia, Sichuan, Yunnan and Hunan, of whom **45% are female**, benefited from the improved infrastructure and production facilities within their communities.

In 2023, the UN furthered its unwavering dedication to **strengthening China's resources and capacity** for developing, implementing and enforcing sustainable and safe agriculture, food production and consumption practices, urbanization, biodiversity conservation and

green financing transition policies and investments at national and local levels. The UN worked closely with government organizations to develop and implement various initiatives and projects that effectively raised awareness across all levels of government and with relevant stakeholders in the piloted regions. Integrating comprehensive advocacy approaches, the UN promoted the mainstreaming of nature's values and the UN guidelines into China's agriculture and food systems, contributing to the update of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Jointly working with key stakeholders from the MEE and other relevant government entities, the UN supported the continued strengthening of China's National Park (NP) System to be effective by improving governance, planning and institutional mechanisms, including management of NP funds. The GEF-funded global project, Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (GBF EAS) Project, supported Chinese NBSAP updates and biodiversity finance activities in China, through training and exchanges.



WOMEN-LED RURAL COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITION AND GOVERNANCE PROJECT



Representatives of Saniangyuan Female Environmentalist Network. @Courtesy of Qinghai Snowland Great Rivers Environmental Protection Association

In 2023, the UN in China launched a new **“Women-led Rural Community Renewable Energy Transition and Governance Project”** in Qinghai to increase women's access to the use of renewable energy to boost agricultural productivity and promote women's leadership in the green transition.

Through the project, **83 women from 7 women-led agricultural cooperatives** have increased their technical understanding of renewable energy technology, e-commerce and finance, and gender equality, after a series of technical trainings. This knowledge will enable these farmers to develop their businesses, while leveraging renewable energy technologies. Moreover, due to direct financial and technical support, sustainable networks have been put in place to better support rural women's business and leadership development. A network among women led cooperatives, Qinghai Women's Vocational School, and the Qinghai Rural Revitalization Bureau will continue to support women to obtain further technical training and integrate new skills and tools to help grow their businesses.

Young women's leadership in climate response developed.

The first ever Saniangyuan Female Environmentalist Network dedicated to women's leadership in environmental protection was established under the Qinghai Snowland Great Rivers Environmental Protection Association (NGO), with 25 women participating in the network. One of the network pioneers, Bayang, a 22-year-old Tibetan woman, was recognized as one of the 2023 “BBC 100 Women”, acknowledging her contribution on tackling climate change.

Additionally, the UN worked towards **enhancing China's capacity to engage in multilateral agreements** and supported China's participation in the multilateral negotiations and the implementation of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and international environmental governance. With support from the UN, at least **four national and provincial policies and regulations** were issued or proposed to mainstream biodiversity conservation in different sectors in 2023. The ongoing projects funded by GEF have supported China to fulfill international commitments to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2023 through wetland conservation, sustainable land and water management, and sustainable forest management in various provinces. Green Financing Roundtables to advocate for international green financing guidelines were held, attracting the participation of over **50** financial institutions. By the end of 2023, close to **100** Chinese financial institutions are signatories to RPB, PSI and PRI.

In support of the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the UN continued to explore new approaches to strengthen financing for nature. This included piloting financial solutions and incentive mechanisms for biodiversity protection via Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) China. As a result, in Shanghai, green finance regulations are now incorporating biodiversity criteria, and in Guizhou, the provincial Financial Supervision and Administration Bureau has committed to investing CN¥15 million (US\$2.1 million) to develop biodiversity finance solutions in the Fanjing Mountain area. Co-investments into biodiversity protection were also leveraged from private sector partners. Ant-forest, a financial subsidiary of Alibaba group, has pledged to invest CN¥80 million (US\$11.4 million) to protect primates in Yunnan province starting in 2024.

2.4. PLANET: OUTCOME 4

China accelerates its transition to a people-centred, inclusive, low carbon, and circular economy.

FAO

Demonstrated guidelines and implementation schemes on sustainable **forest management, biodiversity conservation** and climate change adaptation and mitigation on **16** farms across China.

UNDP

Collaborated with **30** more enterprises and around **22** manufacturing lines to facilitate **the phase-out of HCFCs**. Partnered with NIO, a leading smart electric vehicle manufacturer in China, to analyze the industry's impact on biodiversity and lay the foundations for subsequent

awareness-raising, capacity-building and the formulation of **green supply chain management guidelines**.

UNIDO

Promoted **inclusive and sustainable industrial development** through projects on Green Small Hydropower Plants (SHP) development, Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Chemical Pollution Solutions, Promoting Energy Efficiency in Industrial Heat Systems and High Energy-consuming (HEC) Equipment, Mercury Reduction and Minimization in the Production of Vinyl Chloride Monomer, and the Phase-out and Management of Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD).

WIPO

Expanded WIPO GREEN, an online platform for technology exchange, now hosting over **9,400** technologies contributed by China in its database.

Launched the Chinese Cities Acceleration Pilot Project in Beijing and appointed its first China Ambassador for WIPO GREEN.

In 2023, the UN maintained its strong commitment to support the Government of China in tackling climate change, promoting Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction, and advancing low-carbon energy transition. UN programmes, analytical inputs and technical assistance were instrumental in supporting China in its development of innovative models, strategic climate response and policy implementation for climate action.

With the UN's support, innovative models to reduce GHG/CO₂ /ODS emissions are available, including demonstration plans and public-private partnership approaches to implement sustainable low-carbon practices. The UN cooperated with leading enterprises in the industry and government departments to establish demonstration zones of ecological low-carbon agricultural technologies and other energy-efficient technologies and practices. More than 50 demonstrations were implemented in provinces spanning from Inner Mongolia, Henan, and Jiangsu to Hainan. In 2023, a total of 95,276 ha of forest enhanced carbon emission mitigation was completed, reducing 10,665,551 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. The pilot plants involved in the demonstration projects have also expanded their installed capacity and annual outputs for power generation, with an additional **20.21 MW** installed capacity and **133,585 MWh** annual electricity output.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT IN PUBLIC SECTOR BUILDINGS

In 2023, a five-year project on improving energy efficiency in public buildings concluded. Across 19 demonstration sites, the adoption of low-carbon practices and technologies such as smart devices, non-fossil fuel electrification, and energy-efficient cooling/heating systems, resulted in the reduction of 73.0 ktCO₂, approximately equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of 56,000 households in China. The demonstration sites included Beijing Daxing

International Airport, Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center, and Shanghai Huashan Hospital, with low carbon practices directly impacting people's day-to-day lives in sectors ranging from transportation to public health. The upgrading of the buildings also led to the creation of 7,397 employment opportunities, helping to support a low-carbon transformation that is just and inclusive.

The UN has remained committed to strengthening the **capacity of national and sub-national authorities** to develop, implement and monitor national commitments and national policies that address climate change, disaster risk, reduce environmental pollution, and ensure sustainable, healthy and resilient living environments. For example, the UN engaged with the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) to strengthen China's national capacity in research and policy making, advocating for carbon neutrality, sustainable consumption and production. In addition, various training activities, study tours, workshops and sharing sessions have been organized to promote **knowledge sharing** and improve the capacity on climate change of government officials, technicians, farmers, foresters, fishers and local communities.

Additionally, the UN engaged with **key government counterparts**, think tanks, and other institutions, to build China's national capacity of policy research and policy making on environment and development, and to advocate carbon neutrality and sustainable consumption and production advice for mainstreaming into national policies, regulatory framework and sectoral practices.

In May 2023, Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) and UNEP signed a MoU to step up joint efforts to address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss and pollution and waste. In the MoU, MEE and UNEP committed to enhance collaboration on efforts critical to the push to restore planetary balance, including on sustainable infrastructure, South-South cooperation and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

The UN also produced several **knowledge products** and organized several **communication activities** to raise public awareness on biodiversity conservation and climate change, in order to promote innovation and practice in carbon reduction and low-carbon development. Key **publicity events** were organized regularly on the occasions of International Water Day, International Forest Day, International Wetland Day, International Biodiversity Conservation Day, World Environmental Day, Earth Day, etc.



UNEP World Environment Day: Themed #BeatPlasticPollution, the World Environment Day Event was hosted in the UN Compound, Beijing, China. An art installation named "No Plastic" was specially designed for this event. ©UNEP

With the theme #BeatPlasticPollution, the World Environment Day 2023 event was hosted by UNEP at the UN compound in Beijing, at the same time when the second meeting of Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee on Plastics was being held in Paris. UN Resident Coordinator in China and representatives from UN agencies in China, GoC, embassies, businesses and NGOs shared steps that governments and businesses are taking to tackle plastic pollution. More than half a million viewers from one media platform in China watched the event online. Beijing Subway also aired the World Environmental Day video/public service announcement, where the network handles about 12 million trips per day.

FAO

Trained over **3,500** government officials, farmers, and villagers on a variety of topics including **sustainable forest management**, black soil protection, improvement of cultivated land quality and reduction of fertilizer usage etc., with female participants accounting for about 30%.

Communications activities were initiated, including the "International Millet Year" publicity forum and the Third Poyang Lake International Bird Watching Season, with more than 800 international and national participants from multiple sectors.

UNESCO

Organized a workshop on "Bamboo for Carbon Neutrality in Rural Areas", enhancing the capacity of **66** participants (10 women, 15% female) on planning the bamboo forest carbon sink projects.

UNDP

Supported the Government of China in submitting the Fourth National Communication (4NC) and Biennial Update Reports (BUR) to the UNFCCC, enhancing the transparency and robustness of China's climate-related communications.



2.5. PARTNERSHIPS: OUTCOME 5

China's international financing, investments and business engagements, including through connectivity initiatives, programmes and projects, contribute to SDG attainment in partner countries.

ILO, UNDP, UNICEF, UN WOMEN

Four UN agencies advocated for the adoption of **Responsible Business Conduct standards and practices** by Chinese overseas businesses and developed a report and a handbook to support their application.

UN WOMEN

Partnered with think tanks and research institutions to organize dialogues on **financing for gender equality**, covering topics such as gender-smart investment, business practices, innovation, technology, and digital education.

UN Women and the International Institute for Green Finance conducted a landscape analysis on **sustainable and gender financing** in China, which will be used to engage key stakeholders from government, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), academic institutions and CSOs.

UN WOMEN

UN Women and partners initiated a regional stakeholder network to promote **women's digital empowerment and entrepreneurship** in the Asia Pacific.

UNDP

UNDP and partners hosted a workshop on low-carbon transition and sustainable finance for 30 Chinese policymakers and development finance practitioners from various agencies and provinces.

Working closely with Chinese institutions, the UN further strengthened the capacities of its counterparts and partners in designing and funding projects that respond to the development needs of SSC partner countries and advance the SDGs. The UN in China held high-level dialogues; conducted foundational research; developed training tools; and launched new joint initiatives aimed at increasing knowledge and understanding of key development topics, including green and sustainable finance, gender empowerment and Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund (GDF) project management.

In the past year, the UN also continued to actively engage in strengthening the ability of private sector partners in China to incubate innovative and gender responsive solutions for sustainable development. For example, in follow-up to a recommendation from China's 4th National Human Rights Action Plan, the UN advocated for the adoption and implementation of UN and international Responsible Business Conduct standards and practices by Chinese enterprises operating overseas to contribute towards SDG achievement. A "Scoping Report: Collaboration on Promoting Responsible Business Conduct of Chinese Overseas Investment for the Contributions to the SDGs" was developed, as was an accompanying practical Responsible Business Practices Handbook for Chinese companies, which will be piloted through learning sessions in the coming year. The UN in China also disseminated, by organizing the fourth edition of the workshops on climate-smart mechanization for dryland farming management, the latest developments and applications of innovative approaches and practices of climate-smart mechanization generated in China that can provide scalable and adaptive solutions to enable transformative changes for agrifood systems in Central Asian countries, contributing to SDG2 and SDG13. The UN in China facilitated export promotion by MSMEs from 29 countries in Africa Asia and Latin America to China, in addition to promoting US\$8 million in new sustainable investment in sectors with high potential for job creation.

The UN in China engaged with Chinese private sector partners to integrate and apply gender-responsive principles in their overseas investments and operations by providing tailored capacity building and technical inputs to occupational safety and health. In addition, a multi-country study on women-led MSMEs to support the design and implementation of gender-responsive women's entrepreneurship programmes was conducted and the UN in China provided support to small businesses in accessing the Chinese market through e-commerce.

On public financing, the UN in China continued to engage with regulatory authorities and national development banks to promote the integration of an SDG-aligned investment lens into policies, strategies, and overseas investment decisions. For example, a capacity-building and knowledge-sharing workshop for national and local policymakers and development finance practitioners was organized to inform policy-making on advancing low-carbon transition and scaling up sustainable finance both domestically and through China's international engagements. To further address the tightening fiscal space for biodiversity investments due to increasing sovereign debt across the Asia Pacific region, the UN led a policy analysis, assessing regulatory and financial landscapes in six AP countries, including China, to point policymakers towards opportunities for the reorientation of debt in favor of investments into nature.

The China-AU-UN Tripartite collaboration framework on local production of medicines and health commodities in Africa was developed. The framework was vetted and endorsed through a high-level consultative meeting of African Ambassadors, GoC, and other key partners. A joint initiative of the China-AU-UN Tripartite Collaboration will be further promoted under the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) framework.

Moreover, the UN in China provided support to enhance Chinese agencies' capacity to assess the development effectiveness of their SSC initiatives. This includes support on the evaluation of the contributions of the GDF towards the SDGs through disaggregated indicators across three main areas: including healthcare, risk management, agriculture and food safety.

The UN in China continued technical support and advocacy for the strengthening of the National Regulatory Authority in its journey towards accreditation for all categories of medical products. In addition, the UN leveraged its multilateral platform for China's global health efforts, such as the Emergency Medical Team and Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network.

Supported by the Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund, the UN in China worked with partners

and experts to support Ebola Virus Disease surveillance and response in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and schistosomiasis control in Cambodia and Lao PDR. The UN also provided technical leadership and inputs for China's

future Development Assistant for Health to contribute to the building of resilient health systems in partner countries to achieve UHC and health security.

2.6. PARTNERSHIPS: OUTCOME 6

Through South-South cooperation and humanitarian cooperation, China makes greater contributions to SDG attainment and the principles of the 2030 Agenda, including leaving no one behind.

The UNIDO Global Call 2023 received over 300 proposals on clean and smart energy from 60+ countries, 88% from developing countries, and showcased the winners at the China International Import Expo.

In 2023, the UN in China made continued and concerted efforts to promote **South-South and Triangular Cooperation**. Leveraging China's resources and experience to facilitate technology transfer and capacity building, including establishing triangular partnerships with development partners, such as Germany and the Netherlands. SSTC efforts continued through innovation, capacity building and technology transfer, leveraging technical resources and encapsulating best practices for knowledge management. Furthermore, the UN in China and Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (MOHRSS) launched the Project titled "Promoting the Global Development Initiative with a Focus on South-South Cooperation in Employment in ASEAN" with the objective of promoting full and high-quality employment in South-East Asia. A regional South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) project with Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) provided 1,879 sets of personal protection equipment, production lines and equipment to four countries (Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Maldives and Pakistan) to boost local resilience.

In addition, the UN in China continued its collaboration with partners in China, including China Internet Information Centre, to develop the second 'Thematic study on Sci-Tech Empowering Rural Transformation' focusing in 2023 on Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The UN also co-organized the Second Session of the International Forum on Sci-Tech Empowering Rural Transformation to draw lessons from Chinese youth's practices on leveraging science and technology to empower rural development and promote the exchange of experience among developing countries through South-South cooperation and knowledge sharing. Mutual understanding and experience exchange between China and Asian and African countries were strengthened through the 8th Annual South-South Collaboration Workshop on AIDS, with support from China CDC.

In 2023, the UN in China further strengthened its partnership with China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), China's specialized agency on international development cooperation, and other line ministries. Multiple UN agencies signed a Letter of Intent with CIDCA to promote the Global Development Initiative, aiming to enhance collaboration and drive a diverse range of activities. In 2023, 13 UN agencies supported the mobilization of approximately US\$115 million in South-South Cooperation Funding, primarily from China's GDF, to assist 85 partner countries in their COVID response and resilience building, social inclusion, food and agriculture development, and climate and energy efforts.

At the same time, the UN in China sought more diversified funding sources from the **private sector and individual donors**. UN agencies operating in China have reached agreements with several private sector companies in 2023, including Cainiao and Tencent, among others.

Below is a compilation of selected completed and new SSTC projects facilitated by UN agencies in 2023:

FAO

A One Country One Priority Product initiative under the framework of the FAO-China SSC Programme.

The concept notes on "Strengthening mango, banana, and durian phytosanitary and value chain capacities and capabilities in Cambodia" received the green light from CIDCA.

IFAD

3 grant projects, funded by the China-IFAD SSTC Facility, successfully concluded in 5 African countries: Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Kenya.

A new project was approved with a specific focus on empowering rural youth through innovative horticultural solutions in the tomato value chain in Kenya.

UNEP

4 SSC projects were successfully funded with a total of **CNY12 million by the GoC** for working in Asia and Africa on climate change, ecosystem management, resource management, and environmental governance.

Facilitated a new funding programme on Sustainable Development International Cooperation (SDIC), under which **29** proposals received a total of **CNY45.4 million** from the National Natural Science Foundation of China.

UNICEF

Engaged CIDCA support to projects in Timor-Leste and Afghanistan.

Initiated climate-resilient WASH SSC pilot projects with Cambodia and South Africa.

UNIDO

Supported SSC in sustainable biogas development between China and the Philippines, and promoted hydro-solar complementary power generation technology in Indonesia and Pakistan.

WFP

Facilitated **5 pilot** projects and **8 opportunity** fund projects covering countries including Sri Lanka, Kenya, Ecuador, Peru, the Republic of Congo, and Ghana.

US\$180,000 was donated by the Gates Foundation to support rice value chain development in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire through SSTC with China.

UNDP

Implemented 13 SSC projects in 15 partner countries with a total funding of around US\$26.2 million, covering areas of post-disaster recovery, poverty reduction, COVID-19 response and recovery, low-carbon development and renewable energy.

UNHCR

Provided humanitarian assistance to meet the basic needs of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, in particular, to improve the well-being and safety of refugee women and girls through the provision of basic hygiene items via a US\$1.5 million grant from CIDCA.

The UN, as a knowledge hub and continues to leverage technical resources and capture best practices for effective **knowledge management**. Various knowledge sharing platforms enabled development partners to share their needs, solutions and connections. The UN facilitated knowledge and technical exchange through various activities, such as policy dialogues, seminars, webinars, study tours and training programs, to foster mutual learning on the SDGs. These events included the launch of the Global Alliance on Artificial Intelligence for Industry and Manufacturing (AIM Global) to foster AI collaboration and development for inclusive and sustainable industrialization. Participants in these activities came from government, international development partners, academia and civil society organizations. As the list of examples below demonstrates, these knowledge and technical exchange activities cover a wide variety of development topics and beneficiaries.

ILO

Organized a high-level Policy Dialogue and Capacity Building Workshop on Quality Apprenticeship in South Africa and the SSTC Webinar on Good Practices in Apprenticeship in China.

IOM

Shared successful practices of collaborative efforts, including in-kind material provision, institutional and technical capacity building, knowledge exchange, and peer-to-peer learning facilitation, at the Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund Best Practice and Experience Exchange Workshop.

UNESCO

Organized a Special Forum on Safeguarding Living Heritage for Sustainability during the 6th International Silk Road Cultural Expo in Dunhuang, Gansu, emphasizing the global importance of leveraging living heritage and creativity for sustainable development and inspiring cities worldwide to enhance creativity.

UNICEF

Organized demand-driven technical exchanges in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH), Early Childhood Development (ECD), nutrition, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), WASH, and climate change benefited over **600** participants from **31** countries.

Trained over **400 health professionals** from **29 countries** through the UNICEF-supported Learning Platform.

UNFPA

In partnership with the Center for Women and Children's Health of the National Health Commission and with

UNICEF's participation and support, UNFPA led a study visit, including a roundtable in Beijing and a workshop in Nanning city of Guangxi on South-South Cooperation for maternal and child health experience exchange with delegates from 11 **African and 5 ASEAN countries**.

UNEP

Co-hosted the 3rd Climate, Ecosystems and Livelihoods (CEL) for Africa Conference, bringing together **100** participants from China and Africa to discuss food security & food system resilience in Africa.

WFP

Directly benefiting over **2,500** participants from more than **90** developing countries through policy dialogues, seminars, webinars, and training programs.

UNDP

Organized a three-day workshop themed "Advancing Renewable Energy Technology Transfer and Knowledge Exchanges towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", bringing together around 50 participants from China, Sri Lanka and Ethiopia to exchange knowledge and best practices on renewable energy and low-carbon transition.

UNHCR

Supported primary school-aged refugee children (9 girls and 7 boys) enrolled in public schools by engaging in knowledge transfer on refugee protection, registration, and refugee status determination.

OSH TRAINING FOR MINING COMPANIES IN ZAMBIA

The UN and Ministry of Emergency Management (MEM) collaborated in building the OSH capacity of mining companies in Zambia, including those invested in by China, through a South-South Cooperation Programme. Via South-South mutual learning, seven tailor-made Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) training modules were developed to align with the capacity needs of the pilot mining companies. These modules incorporate technical expertise and inputs from China. Safety representatives of seven companies which employ over 10,000 people in total were trained.



Occupational Safety and Health Training in Zambia / ILO

These endeavours played a crucial role in **reducing poverty** in the SSC host countries. By tapping into local wisdom and expertise, introducing innovative development approaches, and fostering sustainable opportunities for youth, these initiatives not only benefited the host countries, but also bolstered China's regional and international cooperation. They facilitated the exchange of information and experience while simultaneously strengthening the capacity of Chinese institutions. By investing in effective and durable multi-stakeholder partnerships at various levels, these efforts have significantly enhanced China's expertise in the field of SSTC.

These efforts have also enhanced **China's engagement and commitment** to various global development issues. For example, in addition to increasing its contributions to IOM, China has collaborated with several UN agencies in the migration domain through diverse mechanisms and partnerships.

Vulnerable groups directly and indirectly benefited from the UN's inclusive and rights-based initiatives. For example, the UN in China promoted climate-resilient social services and rights of women, children and youth in China's regional cooperation; with the objective to build talent capacity, the UN continued to promote volunteer-driven exchange programmes in China, utilizing the abilities and expertise of individuals to contribute to SSC and accelerate the

achievement of the SDGs. The UN in China also renewed its partnership with the Chinese Young Volunteers Association and China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE) for three years, with US\$3.3 million in resources to send 130 young UN volunteers on assignments in China and abroad for SSC and peace and development in the Global South.

3. UN COHERENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY



The UN Country Team in China continues to work to deliver as one on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UNSDCF in a more coherent, cohesive, and collaborative manner through joint planning and programming, as well as via coordinated communications and advocacy efforts and common business practices.

3.1. JOINT PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

The implementation of the UNSDCF is bringing all UN entities together to develop and implement an integrated approach to support China in addressing its development challenges. The UN inter-agency working groups²⁶ have played an increasingly important role and have become effective mechanisms to develop and implement joint planning and programming of the UN in China. This enhanced coordination has substantially improved the communication, information exchange, and knowledge and resource sharing between agencies, and led to an increased number of joint activities and initiatives across the UN Country Team in China.

In order to support joint programming and augment the number of joint programmes and activities of the UN in China, the UN in China established the UN in China Pooled Fund for SDGs during a UNCT retreat. This fund should be capitalized in 2024 and will be used to fund joint programmes and projects. The UN in China also began implementing activities under the Transformative Partnership Initiative, which brings together UN agencies in China, together with UN country teams in Africa and the Governments of China and African countries, to develop joint projects that can leverage China's expertise, experience and funding. During the past year, work between the UNCTs in China and countries in Africa led to the development of several concept notes for potential projects to implement under this initiative.

²⁶ Three Results Groups on People and Prosperity, Planet, and Partnerships; four Thematic Groups on Gender, Youth, Disability, and Leaving No One Behind; and the Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Group, the UN Communications Groups, and the Operations Management Team.



Event in Celebration of the 78th United Nations Day

3.2. COORDINATED COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

The UN in China, through the UN Communications Group (UNCG), continued to play a crucial role in supporting the implementation of the Cooperation Framework. By collaboratively strengthening public awareness of the SDGs, the UNCG aims to garner support for the work of the UN in China and to increase the understanding of the UN Country Team's programme, mandate, and key concerns. This past year, the UNCG led efforts to improve the coordination and coherence of its communication and advocacy activities, resulting in a more unified voice.

Through ongoing consultations and dialogue, the UN in China presented a unified voice on traditional and digital media platforms. Partnering with stakeholders, the UN in China ran successful campaigns on International Days and for global priorities, including climate change, gender equality, youth empowerment, and disability inclusion. Looking ahead, the UN in China will explore emerging priorities, such as information integrity.

March 8th

International Women's Day

Invest in women: Accelerate progress

- Roundtable discussion on female leadership and contributions in STEM
- Campaign video with **493,000 views**
- #DigitALL campaign with **20 million views**
- Around **10,000** online discussions across platforms

April 7th

World Health Day

Health for All

- Collaborative activities with government and universities on 7 April

June 5th

World Environment Day

Solutions to plastic pollution

- **50+ million** in China views of the online event and the Beijing Subway airing the WED video in June

June 20th

World Refugee Day

- Ran information on global refugee trends to raise awareness of refugee needs globally among Chinese audiences

July 11th

World Population Day

Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities

- A webinar brought together **100+** national and international experts on gender and demography

August 12th

International Youth Day

Solutions to plastic pollution

- The UN in China's Youth Day celebration reached **3 million+** young people

September 18th-19th

SDG Summit

Act Now

- Act Now campaign: over **250 million+** views on social media
- Re: Think InnoWeek: coverage from **24** mainstream media outlets leading to **305 reposts** and **2 million+** views
- In addition, live-streaming and related videos of the event gained **18 million+** views

October 24th

UN Day

Act Now for the SDGs

- The 78th UN Day, brought together **170+ senior-level guests**, including a **minister-level Guest of Honour**

November 20th

World Children's Day

For every child, every right

- A flagship event in Beijing: **600 guests** and live-streamed to **1.2 million+** people
- **49 cities** and counties across China lit buildings in blue to show their commitment to child rights

November 25th - December 10th

16 Days of Activism against GBV

UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls

- A joint "gesture dance video" with representatives from 13 UN entities: demonstrating solidarity towards a culture of **zero tolerance of violence**, received **310,000 views** across platforms

December 1st

World AIDS Day

Let communities lead

- A series of events attracting nearly **370 million** views on Weibo and two hashtags ranking as 6th and 17th on trending topics

December 3rd

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with and by persons with disabilities

- **Around 100 attendees from the UN**, disability community, private sector, and government participated in person and the online recap of the event **attracted 245,400 views on social media**

December 5th

International Volunteers Day

If everyone did...

- An in-person event with about **100 participants from government, UN entities in China, CSOs, UN Volunteers** and local university volunteers, was held to **recognize volunteering contributions to development and peace**

Moving forward, the UNCG and the UN in China in general, will seek to broaden its communication and advocacy efforts in support of UNSDCF implementation. In adopting a rights-based approach and a normative role, the UN in China has sought and will continue to seek to ensure the voices of individuals in vulnerable groups are heard and to call for greater action to progress towards realizing the central promise of the 2030 Agenda – to leave no one behind.

3.3. COMMON BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Leveraging a revamped Operations Management Team (OMT), the UN in China is strengthening the common business operations' efficiency and effectiveness while prioritizing social inclusion and collaborative efforts.

- Launched guidance in 2024 to improve accessibility and recruitment of persons with disabilities. This will empower these individuals and foster engagement across sectors.
- Contributed to improving UN China's work on diversity inclusion and gender equality. For the first time, the Business Operations Strategy (BOS) of the UN in China endorsed three gender specific actions, including promoting Gender Parity, Gender Responsive Procurement (GRP) sourcing, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). Under the overarching BOS framework, a UN System-wide Gender Parity Data collection and analysis was conducted, and the first-ever training on GRP was organized among procurement practitioners to advance gender equality throughout the UN system.

- Leveraged joint efforts in managing procurement and administrative services, along with group negotiations with the internet service provider. This led to a savings of around US\$60,000 because of cost avoidance in 2023.
- Three new UN common services were added in 2023: catering/external events & assets disposal, and the establishment of the Long-Term Agreements (LTAs) are ongoing.
- Established the OMT SharePoint for better and increased collaboration among UN Agencies, Programmes and Funds in China.

The UN in China remains committed to continuously streamlining operations, prioritizing inclusion, and strengthening collaborative efforts to ensure greater impact and sustainable development advancements in the country.

3.4. CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

As noted in the previous sections, the UN in China continues to prioritize the integration of four cross-cutting themes—gender equality, disability inclusion, youth empowerment, and the principle of LNOB—across all six outcome areas of the UNSDCF, which are pivotal to fostering inclusive and sustainable development. This holistic approach ensures the rights protection and sustainable development of vulnerable populations and guides the UN in China's collective efforts to ensure that no one is left behind.

3.4.1. GENDER EQUALITY

The Gender Theme Group (GTG) focuses on strengthening the UNCT's accountability to gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE), and providing technical support for policy advocacy and programme implementation on key women's rights issues stipulated in the UNSDCF, in alignment with national priorities and international standards. For example, the workshop "Together for an Equal Tomorrow: Workshop on Gender Equality Laws and Policies" co-organized by the All-China Women's Federation, included participants from 17 line-ministries/departments and 10 UN agencies. Participants shared practical experiences and fostered further collaboration between the Government of China and the United Nations in promoting GEWE.

The UN's commitment to gender equality was further exemplified through the first ever GTG's retreat to enhance members' leadership, coordination and advocacy skills, and important progress toward improving the PSEA mechanism for the UN in China. The creation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for an inter-agency community-based complaint mechanism (IA CBCM) marked a critical advancement and will strengthen the PSEA capacity of the UN system in China to achieve and ensure collective accountability in complaint handling, victim/survivor assistance, investigation, and information sharing. The UN in China also successfully organized a workshop on IA CBCM that increased awareness of PSEA challenges and enhanced capacity to jointly address PSEA



International Youth Day on Green Skills for Youth Development: Visualization of ideas collected at the youth consultation workshop.



issues. These actions demonstrate the UN's strong commitment to promoting an environment that effectively prevents and responds to SEA, reinforcing its influence and leadership in promoting a safe and equitable environment.

3.4.2. YOUTH

The engagement of the UN Theme Group on Youth (UNTYG) showcased its dedication to incorporating young people's perspectives and highlights the remarkable outcomes of empowering young individuals for a more inclusive future. The development of the 'Situation Analysis on Youth Development in China' and the celebration of International Youth Day on Green Skills for Youth Development are prime examples of the UN's commitment

to integrating youth perspectives into its strategic planning and operational activities. Through various initiatives, including youth-centered advocacy, strategic engagements, and public-private partnerships, such as with CIDCA's Global Development Promotion Center, and other government counterparts, the group launched and supported activities such as the World Youth Development Forum, the GenU initiative with the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF), and others. Through traditional and social media, the UN in China reached millions of young people, empowering them to become advocates for sustainable development and to actively participate in promoting their communities. Further impact on the lives of vulnerable populations was also achieved by harnessing innovation in a series of UN-led youth innovation competitions, reflecting the UN's goal of creating a supportive environment that promotes inclusivity, resilience, and sustainable development for all.



Special performance of Inclusive drama "Reversing the Future" in celebration of the 2023 International Day of Persons with Disabilities. ©The Pleasure Troupe.

4. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



The UN in China recorded a total of US\$131.15 million in programmatic expenditures²⁷ in 2023, marking an increase of US\$2.42 million compared to the previous year. Among the UN organizations, IFAD recorded the highest programmatic expenditure at US\$49.62 million, followed by UNDP at US\$26.52 million, UNICEF at US\$21.25 million, and UNIDO at US\$10.16 million. In terms of programmatic expenditure per UNSDCF Priority Areas, more than half of the expenditure was allocated to People and Prosperity, whereas 31.61% was allocated to Planet and 5.67% to Partnerships, as shown in Figure 1.

²⁷ The financial report in this section does not include the total expenditure of the UN but counts only the programmatic expenditure for UNSDCF implementation.

3.4.3. PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Under the leadership of the UN Theme Group on Disability (UNTDG), the UN in China continued to implement the UNCT China Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025. The UN in China has made significant strides in promoting disability inclusion, and two indicators in the annual UNCT accountability scorecard related to Inclusive Procurement of Goods and Services and Employment have improved from approaching to meeting requirements in 2023. The UNTDG's collaboration with Chinese local media and partner organizations to celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2023, through the staging of an inclusive multi-disability play and a subsequent panel discussion, showcased the commitment to break down stereotypes and to foster a more disability-inclusive society. Moreover, the "Beyond the disability label, we are all wonderfully ordinary!" photo exhibition, with a wide range of photos, received strong attendance from the UN, the persons with disabilities community, the private sector and governments. This exhibition also received more than 246,500 views online, challenging common perceptions about disability by highlighting the diversity and capabilities of persons with disabilities and demonstrating the UN's ongoing efforts to ensure disability inclusion across its operations and programmes.

3.4.4. LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND (LNOB)

The UN Theme Group on LNOB has made great efforts to integrate the principle of LNOB into the implementation of the UNSDCF and built synergies with the other three theme groups, ensuring that development outcomes reach all people, especially the most vulnerable groups. Through knowledge sharing, training sessions, and high-profile events, the group promoted greater equality and non-discrimination, supporting the UN's efforts to operationalize policies, regulations and practices that uphold the LNOB principle. The working focus on advocacy, capacity building, and broader discussions to encompass the full spectrum of human rights work, underscored the UN's commitment to an inclusive approach that benefits all segments of society.

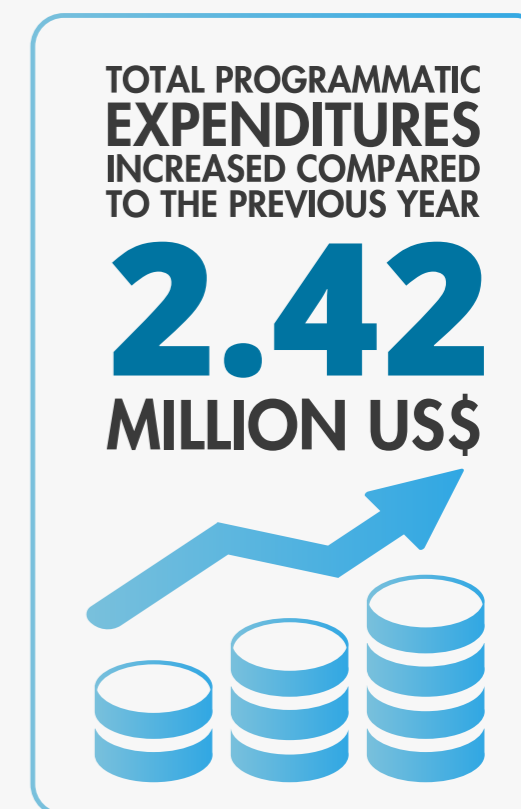
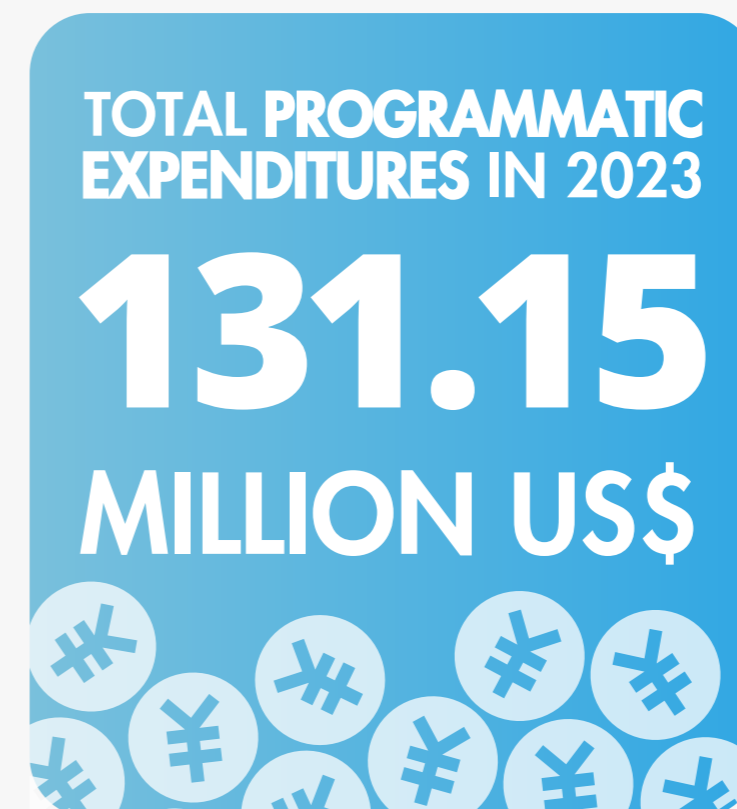


FIGURE 1. PROGRAMMATIC EXPENDITURE OF THE UN IN CHINA IN 2023 PER UNSDCF PRIORITY AREAS



FIGURE 2. PROGRAMMATIC EXPENDITURE OF THE UN IN CHINA IN 2023 PER SOURCE OF FUNDING

As shown in Figure 2, 49.55% of UN in China's funding was provided by UN entities, 20.89% by the private sector, and 6.07% by the GoC. The remaining 23.49% of the funding came from other sources. Among these, funding from foundations, including the Global Environment Facility and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, were the largest funding partners, accounting for 21.04% of the total expenditure, followed by foreign development aid agencies and embassies in China (1.86%), and others (0.59%).

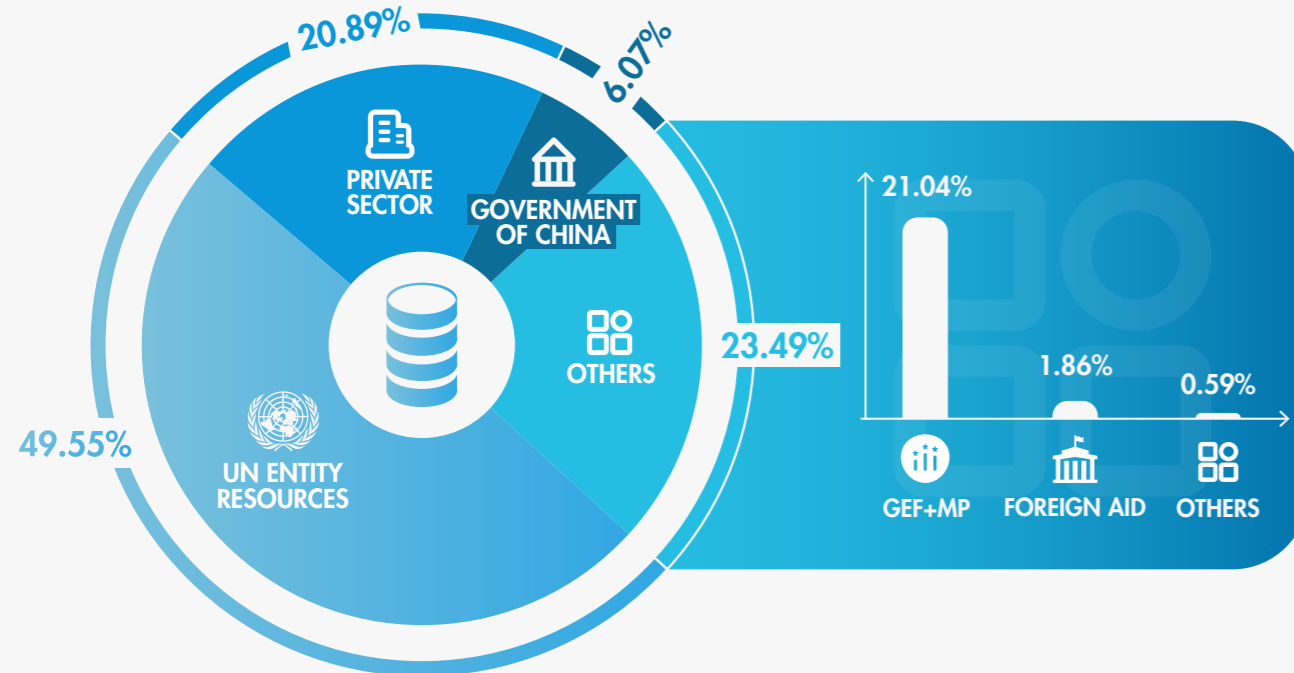


FIGURE 3. PROGRAMMATIC EXPENDITURE OF THE UN IN CHINA IN 2023 PER SOURCE OF FUNDING (EXCLUDING IFAD)

IFAD, as an international financing institution of the UN system, provided loans of nearly US\$50 million to China in 2023, comprising the most significant portion of UN entity resources. However, the funding sources present a different picture if IFAD is excluded. As seen in Figure 3, funding from foundations, including the Global Environment Facility and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, emerged as the largest contributor, accounting for 33.85% of the total funding, while the UN became the third-largest funding source (18.84%) after the Private Sector (33.60%).

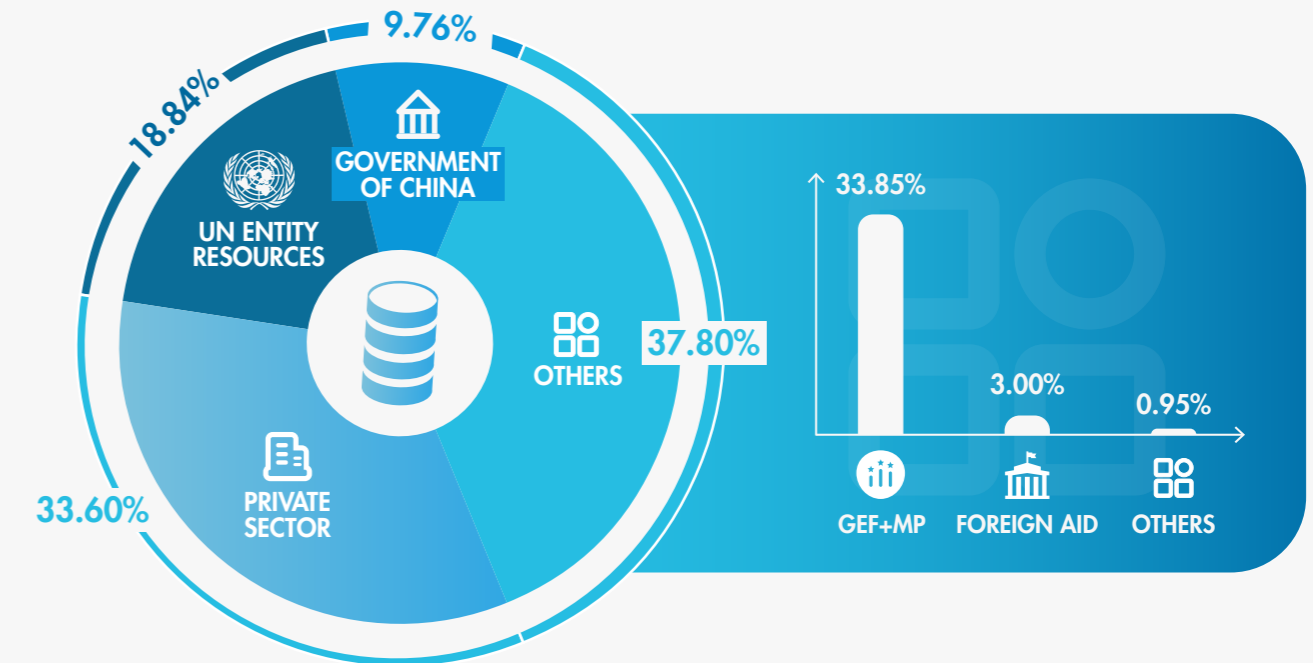
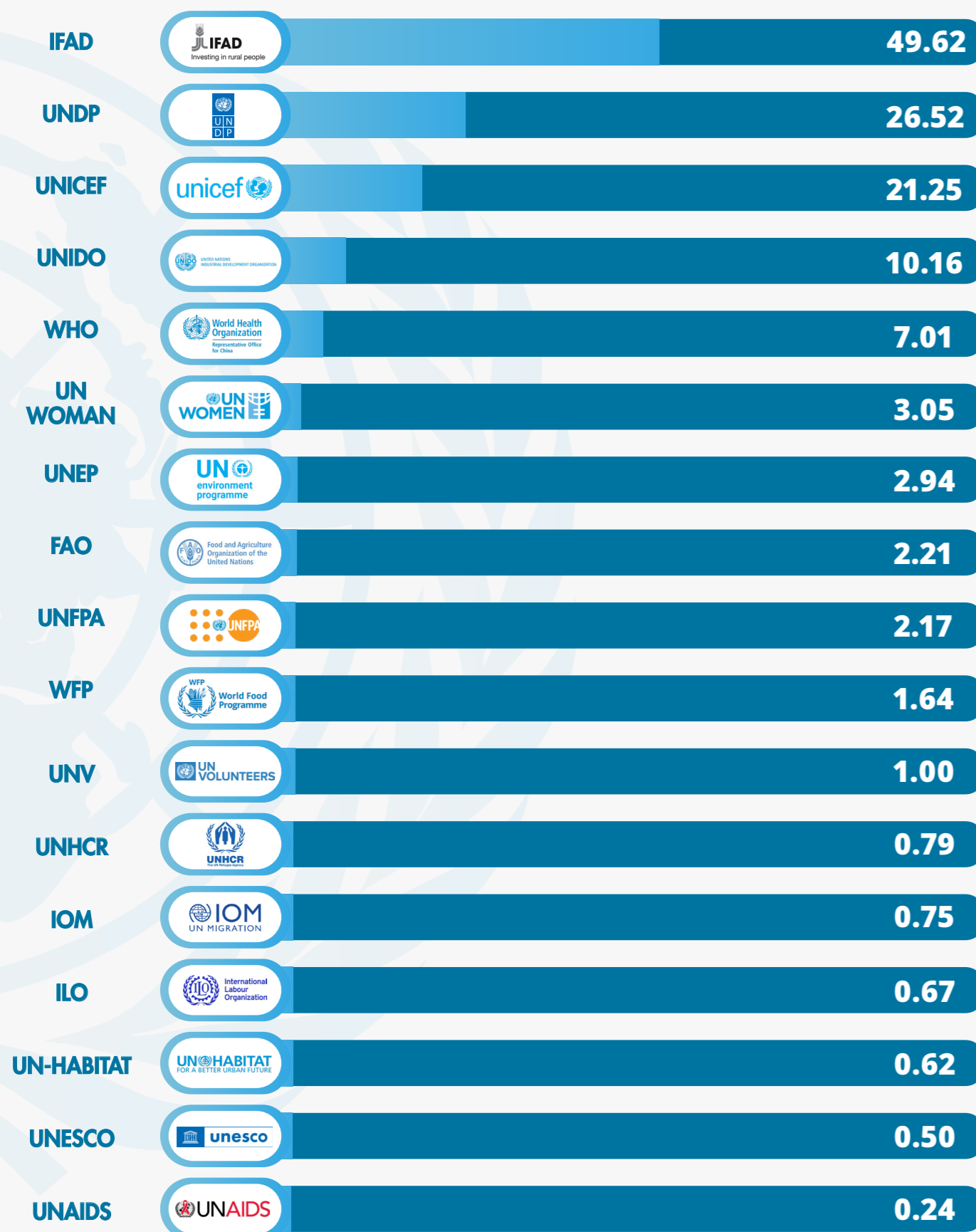


FIGURE 4. PROGRAMMATIC EXPENDITURE OF THE UN ENTITIES IN CHINA IN 2023 (MILLION US\$)



5. CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

With the removal of the COVID-19 measures at the end of 2022, China returned to a sense of normalcy in 2023, with free movement of people and a return to typical activities. These changes allowed UN agencies to recommence in-person meetings with counterparts, on-site project monitoring and technical support, and travel to project areas, allowing for accelerated progress in the implementation of the UNSDCF. During 2023, the UN's activities facilitated inclusive social and economic development, rural revitalization, and enhanced public and social services in China, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups and ensuring no one is left behind. The UN in China also supported China's biodiversity agenda, particularly its implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, along with habitat conservation and green and low-carbon development to achieve a sustainable and resilient environment and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The UN further strengthened its assistance to China's global and South-South cooperation efforts, with a view to ensure compliance with recognized international norms and standards and to accelerate SDG achievement globally.

While China experienced moderate economic growth in 2023, even amidst significant external and internal headwinds, growth rates are not expected to return to pre-pandemic levels in the medium-term. For 2024 and beyond, China will likely record annual growth rates of around 5%, as the economy continues its transition. The UN will continue to work with China to pursue a more balanced, inclusive and green economy. This involves highlighting the situation of the most vulnerable groups, advocating for their

inclusion in the national development agenda, and supporting China's efforts in climate change. These efforts include pursuing its dual carbon goals and transitioning towards a low-carbon and circular economy.

Looking ahead, as the UN in China enters the penultimate year of the current UNSDCF in 2024, preparations will commence for the development of the UNSDCF 2026-2030. This will involve completing a comprehensive Common Country Analysis, the UN's analysis of the country's development context as it relates to the SDGs, in addition to initial work in identifying the key strategic priority areas of work for the next UNSDCF. In addition, the UN in China will continue to support SSC efforts, particularly via the Transformative Partnership Initiative, as it seeks to build partnerships between China and other developing countries to accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

During 2024, it is expected that the initial capitalization of the UN in China Pooled Fund for SDGs will take place. This will serve as a catalyst for joint programmes that will create greater development impact and support key aspects of the UN Reform Agenda. This capitalization of the Pooled Fund, in addition to concretizing many of the public-private partnership activities that are currently being developed, will be priority activities for 2024 and will support progress in areas such as climate, youth, public health and food security. This will allow the UN Country Team to accelerate its impact and deliver on the UNSDCF and SDGs in a coherent and coordinated manner.

ANNEX. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT LIST

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
Humanitarian Assistance Projects				
UNDP	Learning from China's Experience to Improve the Ability of Response to COVID-19	Philippines, Myanmar, Cambodia, Nepal, Lao PDR	5,000,000 CIDCA	Improve the capacity of medical waste management and prevention and control of COVID-19 epidemic of Asia-Pacific countries
UNDP	Assistance to the Internally Displaced People (IDPs) Influenced by COVID-19 in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique	Mozambique	2,000,000 CIDCA	Support post-disaster recovery after Cyclone Idai and assist to reconstruct infrastructure and houses to help women, men, and children build back better after the disaster
UNHCR	Providing Humanitarian Assistance to Meet the Basic Needs of Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh in the Context of COVID-19	Bangladesh	1,500,000 CIDCA	To improve the wellbeing and safety of refugee women and girls through providing access to basic hygiene items and support recovery from COVID-19.
UNICEF	Emergency support to children in response to floods and COVID-19 in Timor-Leste	Timor-Leste	1,474,275 CIDCA	This project aims at providing emergency support to children in response to floods and COVID-19 in Timor-Leste.
WFP	Contribution to WFP Burkina Faso on Food Assistance Programme	Burkina Faso	3,000,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WFP	Contribution to WFP Lao PDR on Food Assistance Programme	Lao PDR	1,500,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WFP	Contribution to WFP Togo on Food Assistance Programme	Togo	500,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WFP	Contribution to WFP Congo on Food Assistance Programme	Congo	3,000,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WFP	Contribution to WFP Timor-Leste on Food Assistance Programme	Timor-Leste	1,000,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WFP	Contribution to WFP Afghanistan on Food Assistance Programme	Afghanistan	2,000,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WFP	Contribution to WFP Yemen on Food Assistance Programme	Yemen	1,000,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
WFP	Contribution to WFP Uganda on Food Assistance Programme	Uganda	2,000,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WFP	Contribution to WFP Burundi on Food Assistance Programme	Burundi	1,500,000 CIDCA	Provide food assistance to vulnerable populations
WHO	Emergency Response to the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Democratic Republic of Congo	2,000,000 CIDCA	Strengthen collaboration in response to the Ebola outbreak in DRC by providing PPEs and secondments of Chinese technical staff to WHO HQ and country office
UNFPA	Providing Health Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response	Botswana, Lesotho	1,000,000 CIDCA	Provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and medical supply to health workers to ensure the continuity of sexual and reproductive health services and the supply of essential reproductive health commodities
		São Tomé and Príncipe, Gambia	1,000,000 CIDCA	
UNFPA	Health Assistance for Women and Girls Affected by Tropical Cyclone Idai	Zimbabwe	1,240,000 CIDCA	Provide essential medicines, contraceptives and equipment, conduct midwifery training, and refurbish maternity waiting homes to reduce maternal deaths
UNFPA	Ensuring Protection of Medical Health Workers through PPE	Sri Lanka	800,000 MOFCOM	Provide PPE and medical supply to health workers to ensure the continuity of sexual and reproductive health services and the supply of essential reproductive health commodities
Development Cooperation Projects				
FAO	Capacity Development on Sustainable Soil Management	Uganda	500,000 CIDCA	Enhance sustainable soil management capacity
		Rwanda	500,000 CIDCA	
FAO	Support of Improving Production and Commercialization of Priority Fruit Value Chains	Sri Lanka	1,550,866 MARA	Increase production and trade of fruits both in the domestic and export markets while promoting the development of an inclusive and efficient agribusiness sector
FAO	Support of Agricultural Production Systems to Enhance Food Security and Nutrition	Cabo Verde	1,790,722 MARA	Support production systems to enhance food and nutrition security in the country
FAO	Support of the Agricultural Sector Strategic Plan in the Republic of Uganda (Phase 3)	Uganda	3,014,434 MARA	Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner and more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels.

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
FAO	Support of the Global Capacity Development for Developing Countries	Global	Global	Strengthen effective responses to the common challenges faced at regional and global levels
FAO	Strengthening the Capacity of Developing Contracting Parties to Implement the International Plant Protection Convention	Global	2,007,541 MARA	Increase capacity of developing countries to implement the International Plant Protection Convention and its standards
FAO	Up-scaling the FAO-China SSC Programme through Triangular Cooperation with the Government of the Netherlands	China the Netherlands, Ethiopia	3,000,909 MARA and the Netherlands	Promote public-private partnerships and strengthen aquaculture value chain development in Ethiopia
FAO	FAO-China SSC Programme on Response and Recovery to the Impact of COVID-19 in CELAC Countries	Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Cuba, Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay	2,000,000 MARA	Contribute to the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, promote the transformation of agriculture and food systems and strengthen the resilience and sustainability of food and agriculture-based livelihoods in CELAC member countries
FAO	Strengthening inter-regional cooperation for sustainable management of fall armyworm through SSC	Global	1,500,000 MARA	Strengthen the capacity of participating countries for early detection of FAW, monitoring and impact assessment for action, and sustainable management of FAW, especially in the smallholder context.
FAO	FAO-China South-South Cooperation Project on Transboundary Animal Disease Control in the Greater Mekong Subregion	China, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar	3,010,382 MARA	FAO-China South-South Cooperation Project on Transboundary Animal Disease Control in the Greater Mekong Subregion
IFAD	Supporting local solutions towards a more resilient food system in Cuba	Cuba and Central America	481,098 China-IFAD SSTC Facility	Increase the efficiency, resilience and nutrition sensitivity of food systems in Cuba by scaling up local solutions implemented in the Gibara municipality and disseminating the results to other municipalities
IFAD	Promoting Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities in Rural Mountainous Areas through Upgrading Cashgora Value Chains	Tajikistan and Afghanistan	446,440 China-IFAD SSTC Facility	Foster sustainable economic opportunities and livelihood development for vulnerable rural households by building strategic partnerships between Tajikistan and China

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
IFAD	Empowering Rural Youth through Innovative Horticultural Solutions in Tomato Value Chains in Kenya	Kenya, China	150,000 China-IFAD SSTC Facility	Demonstrate climate-resilient and innovative horticultural technologies to improve tomato productivity and provide technical training in rural communities; and promote the development of local tomato value chains and increase employment opportunities for smallholder tomato producers and their organizations by building business linkages and expanding access to markets.
ILO	Strengthening Skills Development in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar through South-South and triangular cooperation	Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar	3,999,960 China	This project aims to improve employability of workers and increase productivity of enterprises through better quality of employment services, skills development and institutional capacity building.
ILO	Promoting the Global Development Initiative with a Focus on South-South Cooperation in Employment in ASEAN	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia	999,988, China	The Project seeks to enhance collaboration between China's Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (MOHRSS) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) to promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) among countries in South-East Asia in the areas of employment, public employment services, and entrepreneurship development.
UNDP	Towards Decent Work for Persons with Disabilities: Transforming Social Enterprises into Meaningful Training and Employment Opportunities	Turkmenistan	1,440,000 CIDCA	Increase employment and income generation opportunities among Persons with Disabilities through vocational training and job creation
UNDP	Promoting Post COVID-19 Recovery and Poverty Reduction through Productive Sector Expansion for Women and Youth	Lebanon	1,031,804 CIDCA	Enhance the business development capacity of SMEs/cooperatives and independent traders and improve the capacity of business development service institutions to promote the economic and social recovery and development affected by COVID-19 and Beirut Port explosion
UNDP	Promoting the COVID-19 Response and Public Services Capacity in Balochistan of Pakistan for Accelerating SDGs Delivery	Pakistan	2,000,000 CIDCA	Improve public service facilities, enhance the capacity of local governments on COVID-19 prevention and control, and promote inclusive economic, social, and political development for enhancing stabilization and social cohesion

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
UNDP	South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Disaster Risk Governance in Lebanon	Lebanon	150,000 UNOSSC	Enhance the capacity of disaster risk governance of Tripoli city of Lebanon through learning and exchanging experiences and practice at academic, policy and practical level with selected city of China
UNDP	South-South and Triangular Cooperation in promoting Sustainable and Low-carbon Transportation in the Metropolitan Region of Santiago	Chile	150,000 UNOSSC	Promote the development of sustainable low-carbon urban transport in the metropolitan region of Santiago through digital technology, capacity improvement, knowledge transfer, and city-to-city exchanges
UNDP	Support to Schools and Communities in Remote Areas for Pandemic Prevention and Green Recovery	Nepal	1,500,000 CIDCA	Enhance capacity of remote communities on pandemic recovery and sustainable development by providing integrated support including basic health protection and essential supplies in the remote areas of Province 2 of Nepal
UNDP	Restoration of Livelihoods of the poor households in Balochistan Province by providing small household production supplies	Pakistan	1,500,000 CIDCA	Enhance the quality of life of the Displaced People living in Balochistan within the settlement camps or host families by providing productive tools and generic awareness about the preventive measure against the covid-19
UNDP	Support to Flood-Affected Areas in Balochistan of Pakistan	Pakistan	2,180,000 CIDCA	The project aims to support the recovery and growth of micro and small businesses in the affected areas of Pakistan, provide financial and technical assistance to small businesses to support their recovery and growth, and improve access to livelihood opportunities and financial services with a specific focus on marginalized and disadvantaged groups such as women and youth.
UNDP	Strengthening Firefighting Capacity in Mongolia	Mongolia	500,000 CIDCA	To strengthen wildfire fighting management and capacity in the country through capacity building and access to standard firefighting equipment

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
UNDP	China-Ethiopia-Sri Lanka Biogas, Biomass and Solar Trilateral Cooperation	Sri Lanka	1,000,000 MOFCOM; 1,000,000 co-financing from Government of Sri Lanka and UNDP	Support Sri Lanka GHG emission reduction national targets through trial and demonstration of the potential of biogas and solar in the agro-industry sector for Sri Lanka
		Ethiopia	1,000,000 MOFCOM; 1,042,349 co-financing Government of Ethiopia and UNDP	Address sustainable development challenges related to international cooperation, access to energy for improved service delivery and sustainable integrated farming practices for Ethiopia
UNDP	China-UNDP Triangular and South-South Cooperation Project on Strengthening PPE-related Manufacturing Capacities in the Asia and the Pacific Region	Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Maldives, Pakistan	4,700,000 MOFCOM	Strengthen the COVID-19 preparedness, response and recovery capacities at the Asia-Pacific regional level
UNESCO	Conservation and Utilization of Timber-framed Structures in East Asia	China	62,000 China Youth Development Foundation Mercedes-Benz Star Fund	Enhance exchange of good practices in culture-driven sustainable development at the city-level, and foster dialogue among East Asian countries and beyond.
UNESCO	Safeguarding Living Heritage for Sustainability Special Forum at the 6th International Silk Road (Dunhuang) Cultural Expo	China	56,000 Gansu Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism	Showcase Gansu's innovations, raise awareness about the importance of living heritage safeguarding for sustainable development, foster international collaboration, and facilitate the exchange of innovative practices among countries, organizations, and communities to inspire cities globally to take actionable strategies to enhance creativity in their cities.
UNESCO	The 2019 MAB Youth Forum and Follow-up Activities - Committed to Biodiversity	China	200,000 Shanghai Shimao Construction Co., Ltd	Encourage youth engagement in, in proposing and implementing solutions for global challenges, is highly valued especially in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation.
UNESCO	East Asian Biosphere reserve network (EABRN)	China, Mongolia, ROK, DPRK, Japan, Russia, and Kazakhstan	116,034 Korean National Commission for UNESCO	Help the Member States and stakeholders to achieve Sustainable Development Goals by sharing experiences and lessons learned related to exploring and testing policies, technologies and innovations for the sustainable management of biodiversity and natural resources and mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
UNESCO	Accelerating Carbon Neutrality: Innovative Actions for Sustainable Development	China	1,573,812 China Youth Development Foundation Mercedes-Benz Star Fund	This project aims to fill the gap of China's carbon neutrality action through activities such as "Accelerating youth climate action", "Forest Protection Action" and "Tropical Rainforest biodiversity conservation action" and make a pilot for climate change education and sustainable development education in China and the world by empowering institutions and community residents, including women, children and youth, and contribute to the realization of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a bottom-up manner.
UNESCO	Institutional Digital Integration & Transformation of higher education Institutions in East Asia	China, Mongolia, ROK, Japan	38,745 International Center for Higher Education Innovation	The research aims to serve as a valuable resource for educators, educational administrators, managers, policy makers and others interested or involved in technology-driven higher education within the wider educational community or working in the corporate or government sector. The research outcome will create the resources to develop training and conduct applied research for relevant higher education stakeholders in the future.
UNICEF	Scaling up Treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition for Improved Coverage and Quality of Services	Lao PDR	700,000 MOFCOM	Improve early detection and treatment of wasting in children through capacity building and strengthening nutrition supply chain system
UNIDO	Capacity Building to Upgrade the Livestock Value Chain	Ethiopia	2,000,000 CIDCA	Develop the meat export market and improve the competitiveness of meat value chains through capacity building interventions
UNV	UNV-CYVA Chinese Youth Volunteers Overseas Volunteering Programme	China, Thailand, Egypt, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Kenya, Kazakhstan, Türkiye, Bolivia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Lao PDR, Congo	1,000,000 CYVA	Deploy Chinese Young Volunteers as International and National UN Volunteers to the UN system globally to better contribute to global sustainable development and SSC

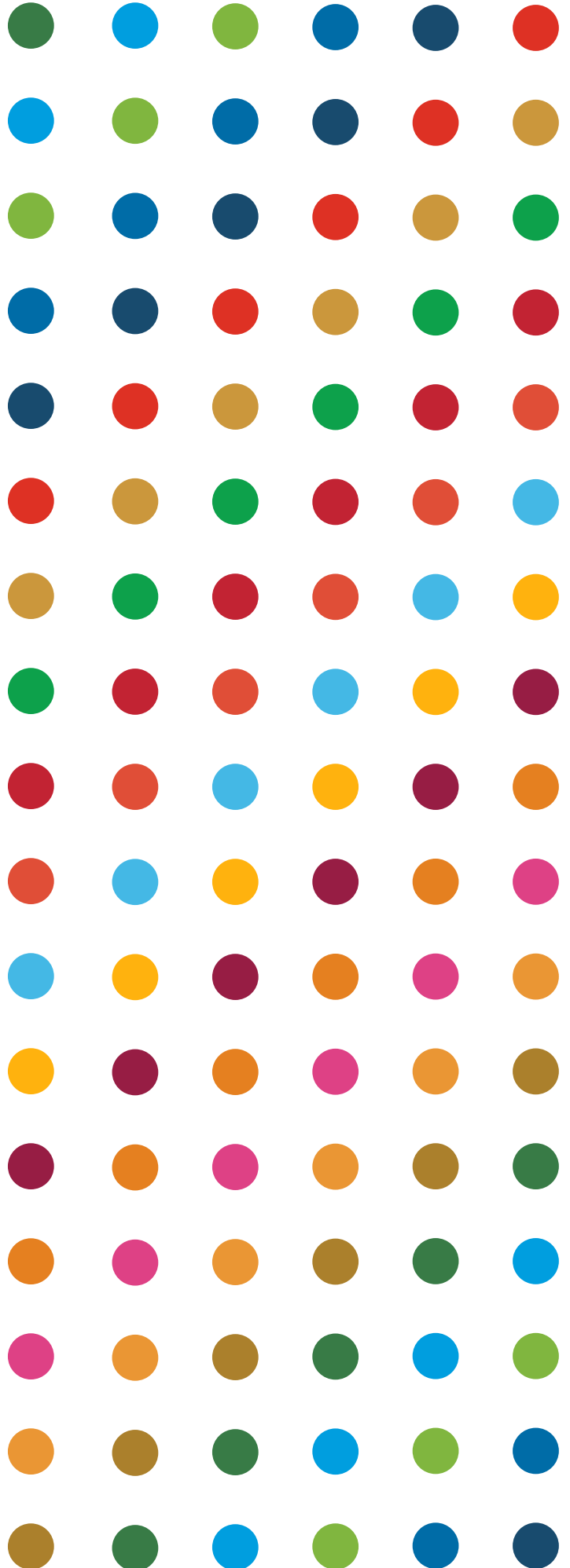
UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
WFP	Implementation of WFP's China Country Strategic Plan	WFP China	1,350,000 MARA	implementing the WFP China Country Strategic Plan (2022-2025)
WFP	South-South Cooperation Activities	WFP Center of Excellence for Rural Transformation	1,000,000 MARA	WFP Center of Excellence for Rural Transformation to implement activities related to the South-South Cooperation(SSC).
WFP	SSC knowledge sharing and management	WFP Center of Excellence for Rural Transformation	1,000,000 MARA	WFP-China cooperation on "SSC knowledge sharing and management" to fund the "WFP Centre of Excellence for Rural Transformation" in utilizing more existing resources for vocational agricultural education
WFP	WFP South-South and Triangular Cooperation Country Pilot Project	Targeted countries under the Country Pilot project WFP HQ SSTC Division	1,950,000 MARA	SSC country projects and capacity strengthening carried out by WFP Headquarters in thematic areas such as smallholder support, resilient agriculture value chains, climate change response and digital agriculture.
WFP	WFP Strategic Partnership Building	WFP HQ STR Division	1,000,000 MARA	WFP Strategic Partnership Building
WFP	WFP's School Based Programs in developing countries	Targeted countries under the school feeding program of WFP HQ SBP Division	300,000 MARA	Support the targeted developing countries to provide school meals and improve the nutrition of school children
WFP	WFP HQ Immediate Response Account	WFP HQ	200,000 MARA	The Immediate Response Account is for WFP to to "kick start" an urgent response or fund critical life-saving activities as a last resort, while additional funding is sought.
WFP	China-Africa Rice Value Chain Enhancement Projects	Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea	600,000 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Improve rice value chain efficiency in Western Africa especially in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea
WFP	China-Africa Rice Value Chain Enhancement Projects	Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea	250,000 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Improve rice value chain efficiency in Western Africa especially in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea (Post-harvest Loss Management)
WFP	School feeding programmes	Lao PDR, Cambodia	1,000,000 Tencent Platform (Chinese online fundraising platform)	Promote access to quality education, nutritious diets and social assistance for children at pre-primary and primary school

UN Agencies	Project Names	Partners	Funding Amount (USD) & Funding Organizations	Objectives
WHO	Building community health resilience and alleviating poverty through multi-sectoral cooperation for elimination of schistosomiasis in Cambodia	Cambodia	732,597 CIDCA	Accelerate interruption of transmission of schistosomiasis in Cambodia, through evidence-informed multisectoral actions, enhanced delivery of neglected tropical disease interventions, empowered community and strengthened health literacy, as well as effective and sustained surveillance and operational analysis.
WHO	Building community health resilience and alleviating poverty through multi-sectoral cooperation for elimination of schistosomiasis in the Lao People's Democratic Republic	Lao PDR	680,263 CIDCA	Accelerate interruption of transmission of schistosomiasis in Lao PDR, through evidence-informed multisectoral actions, enhanced delivery of neglected tropical disease interventions, empowered community and strengthened health literacy, as well as effective and sustained surveillance and operational analysis.
UNFPA	Improving women's health in Sierra Leone: Reaching vulnerable women at high risk of maternal mortality and cervical cancer	Sierra Leone	2,000,000 CIDCA	Improve access to quality maternal care, establish services and improve health seeking behavior for cervical cancer and empower women and girls to seek quality maternal and cervical cancer care





UNITED NATIONS
CHINA



United Nations in China

No.2 LiangMaHe NanLu, 100600, Beijing, China

rco-chinaregistry@un.org

<https://china.un.org/>

Weibo: @联合国驻华协调员办公室

Twitter: @UNinChina

Facebook: @UnitedNationsinChina

Tencent Video: 联合国驻华系统

YouTube: @UnitedNationsinChina