



UNITED NATIONS
BOTSWANA



2021 United Nations Botswana Annual Results Report



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COVID-19
RESPONSE
VACCINES



Resident Coordinator Zia Choudhury with Minister of Finance Hon. Peggy Serame at the signing ceremony of the 2022-2026 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. UN Botswana

Foreword

On behalf of the United Nations in Botswana, I am pleased to present the 2021 United Nations Country Team Annual Results Report on the progress made during the final year of implementation of the Government of Botswana and United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF) 2017–2021.

Through this Framework, the United Nations family has worked together to enhance opportunities, empower the people of Botswana and strengthen institutions, with the overarching goal of “leaving no one behind”.

In partnership with the Government of Botswana and other development partners, the United Nations has been working to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while at the same time supporting the country’s priorities under national policies such as Vision 2036 and the National Development Plan. This report presents just some of the results we achieved in 2021; they translate our continuing pledge to work to improve the lives of all people in Botswana. Like rest of the world, throughout 2021 Botswana continued to grapple with COVID-19, which added to existing challenges and

impacted every aspect of people’s lives, including their education, access to basic services, ability to work, personal safety, physical and mental health, social lives, and their environment. The UNCT continued to keep COVID-19 issues high on the agenda, both with a view to supporting the countrywide efforts to mitigate the spread and effects of the virus, and internally to support staff. The United Nations also supported the country to procure vaccines via COVAX and to ensure accelerated and equitable vaccine roll-out to protect the populations most at risk of severe illness and death. Of the 1,970,444 COVID-19 vaccines delivered in-country, 704,970 doses were done so through COVAX.

While responding to the immediate impact of the pandemic, the United Nations has simultaneously intensified efforts to establish the foundations for the country’s inclusive, diverse growth. The recovery from the pandemic’s effects must be seized as an opportunity to build a stronger, more inclusive, equitable, resilient and sustainable society, with the most marginalized and vulnerable – especially women, young women and youth – at the centre of our work.

Throughout this journey, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – which is underpinned by the strongest commitment to ensuring that the human rights of each individual are secured – remains as relevant as ever, providing us with the ultimate vision and showing us the way to build forward better.

No one should be left behind



Map of Botswana.

As an organization committed to increased inclusiveness in its approach to supporting Botswana to eradicate inequalities and achieve the SDGs, the United Nations input to the UNSDCF was developed with contributions from every corner of Botswana. Representatives of many diverse groups were listened to as part of the prioritization process, which ensured the inclusion of those who are often the quietest, including the survivor of gender-based violence, the abused child, and those who communicate through different languages, including sign language. Their voices are amplified in the UNSDCF, which is a true testament of the United Nation's commitment to leaving no-one behind.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Government counterparts and our other development partners, civil society and every stakeholder for their continuous engagement and cooperation with the entire United Nations team, and for their contribution and commitment towards the achievement of SDGs.

Zia Choudhury

Zia Ur Rahman Choudhury
Resident Coordinator, United Nations Botswana



United Nations Country Team in Botswana

The United Nations Country Team is the leadership team comprising the head of each United Nations entity accredited to work in Botswana.

The work of the United Nations in Botswana is guided by the United Nations Reform Agenda which focuses on achieving a more coherent, integrated, responsive and accountable United Nations system. The United Nations is supporting the Government of Botswana to achieve its national objectives and to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through working together to implement the UNSDF 2017–2021.

This is a tool to bring together the United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes in Botswana in a more coherent and stronger way to “deliver as one”.

The United Nations has committed to supporting the Government of Botswana on its path to attaining the SDGs through focusing on the most marginalized and in society, particularly girls, women and young people.

In 2021 the United Nations in Botswana comprised 23 entities led by the Resident Coordinator.



BNYC and UNDP hosted youth dialogues
UNDP Botswana

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List of Acronyms

AfriYAN	Africa Youth & Adolescent Network on Population & Development	MOHW	Ministry of Health & Wellness
AGYW	Adolescent Girls & Young Women	MSM	Men Who Have Sex With Men
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	MYSC	Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport & Culture Development
ALHIV	Adolescents Living with HIV	MOPAGPA	Ministry of Presidential Affairs, Governance & Public Administration
BAIMS	Botswana Agriculture Information Management System	MoTC	Ministry of Transport & Communications
BB	Business Botswana	MNIG	Ministry of Nationality, Immigration & Gender Affairs
BCM	Botswana Chamber of Mines	MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning
BDIH	Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub	NAHPA	National AIDS & Health Promotions Agency
BEAR	Better Education for Africa's Rise	NASA	National AIDS Spending Assessment
BGBVC	Botswana GBV Prevention & Support Centre	NDP	National Development Plan
BITC	Botswana Investment & Trade Centre	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
BNPC	Botswana National Productivity Centre	NHL	National Health Laboratory
BOBS	Botswana Bureau of Standards	NSO	National Strategy Office
BOCONGO	Botswana Council of NGOs	OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
BOS	Business Operations Strategy	OMT	Operations Management Team
CCA	Common Country Analysis	PSC	Programme Steering Committee
CEDA	Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency	PSEA	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation & Abuse
CF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework	PTE	Path To Elimination
CORB	Cubango–Okavango River Basin	PWDs	Persons With Disabilities
CSO	Civil Society Organization	RMNCAH	Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child & Adolescent Health
DCEC	Directorate on Corruption & Economic Crime	SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
EAFM	Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management	SB	Statistics Botswana
ECOSOC	Economic & Social Council	SBCC	Social & Behaviour Change Communication
EDD	Economic Diversification Drive	SDG(s)	Sustainable Development Goal(s)
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	SEA	Sexual Exploitation & Abuse
GEF	Global Environment Facility	SGBV	Sexual & Gender-Based Violence
GEWE	Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment	SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
GHRTG	Gender & Human Rights Thematic Group	SMC	Special Motivational Class
GoB	Government of Botswana	SRHR	Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights
IAR	Intra-Action Review	SWAP	System-Wide Action Plan
LGBTIQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex & Queer	ToR	Terms of Reference
LED	Local Economic Development	UB	University of Botswana
MDJS	Ministry of Defence, Justice & Security	UBRAF	UNAIDS Unified Budget, Results & Accountability Framework
MENT	Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation & Tourism	UN	United Nations
MFED	Ministry of Finance & Economic Development	UNCG	United Nations Communications Group
MIAC	Ministry of International Affairs & Cooperation	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
MIIIS	Market Information Intelligence System	UNSDF	Government of Botswana & United Nations Sustainable Development Framework
MITI	Ministry of Trade & Industry	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government & Rural Development	VAC	Violence Against Children
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security	VNR	SDG Voluntary National Review
MOBE	Ministry of Basic Education	WAR	Women Against Rape

Chapter 1

Key developments in Botswana and the region



Young women with disabilities share how climate change affects their lives. UN Botswana

One of the key developments in Botswana in 2021 was the Government's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

This was a significant milestone, as it recognizes – and intends to mitigate – the challenges that those with disabilities in Botswana face to exercising their rights to access basic services, including infrastructure, transport and information.

Another key development was that Botswana's strong engagement in regional and global fora was highlighted in various ways, including the Government taking on key roles such as Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Presidency of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The Botswana Head of

State as the current chairperson of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security also leads troops from SADC countries to support Mozambique authorities in combatting terrorism and acts of violent extremism in Cabo Delgado.

The socio-economic and political environment has been unstable during the reporting period. Reasons for this include the increase in COVID-19-related fatalities, the concerning continued use of capital punishment, changes in senior government officials, tensions between the ruling party and the former Head of State, divisions within the ruling political party, reports of security agents monitoring public officers, and increased taxes on main utilities such as water and electricity tariffs.



UNDP is working with the Government to promote production and utilization of biogas from agro-waste. UNDP

Chapter 2

United Nations support to national development priorities through the UNSDF

2.1 Overview of the UNSDF results

During 2021 the United in Botswana collaborated on a number of joint initiatives towards achieving their commitment to “leave no one behind”.

A. Improved access to information and services

To improve access to information, in 2021 the United Nations in Botswana facilitated the production of public information messages about (1) COVID-19 risk, and (2) sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in accessible formats for people with disabilities, including those who are blind and visually impaired.

The SDGs were also translated into braille and local languages, enabling more inclusive participation in the work towards attaining the SDG targets. The Government developed and approved standard service packages for marginalized and potentially vulnerable groups such as sex workers, men who have sex with men, adolescent girls and young women. It also ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

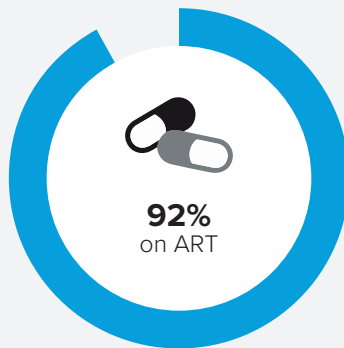
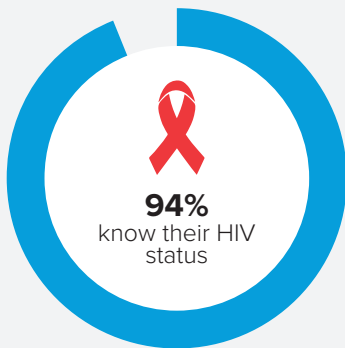
Internally, however, more needs to be done. This includes capacity development for staff on disability inclusion, as well as improving the accessibility of United Nations offices and ensuring that external venues are also selected with accessibility in mind. United Nations procurement processes also need to be more accessible to the blind and visually impaired.



Girl reading braille book. Photo by vectorfusionart



HIV preventive wonder treatment Africans can use. WHO Regional Office for Africa/Tom Saater



B. Human Rights

With an HIV prevalence of 20.3 per cent, Botswana is ranked among the top four countries affected by HIV in the world.¹ Building on the extension of HIV treatment to foreign residents in 2019 – a major development in the fight against HIV/AIDS, achieved through collaboration and advocacy by the UNCT and other partners – Botswana is making good strides towards the 95–95–95 targets, with 94 per cent of the population knowing its HIV status, 92 per cent of those diagnosed receiving treatment, and 91 per cent of those being treated reaching viral suppression (91 per cent).

On 29 November 2021, the Court of Appeal upheld the ruling of June 2019 that same-sex activity between consenting adults should be decriminalized in Botswana. This was another key milestone on the journey towards recognizing the rights of all people living in Botswana.

¹ Behind South Africa, eSwatini and Lesotho. <https://www.unicef.org/botswana/hiv>



UNFPA partners with young people, helping them participate in decisions affecting them. UNFPA

C. Gender inclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic led to an escalation of incidence of gender-based violence (GBV) and violence against children. Key developments in 2021 include special courts of law set up dedicated to GBV and violence against children cases, as well as collaboration by the United Nations with civil society organizations (CSOs) to support survivors of GBV at the Botswana GBV Prevention & Support Centre. The United Nations also conducted a Gender Score Card Assessment in 2021 and was commended on a strong gender analysis, with detailed sex-disaggregated data included in the Common Country Analysis (CCA). Also commendable is that the UNSDCF 2022–2026 developed during 2021 has a specific outcome addressing gender equality, to ensure these issues are consistently kept at the forefront of the United Nations work, while at the same time ensuring gender is mainstreamed through the other four UNSDCF outcomes. The United Nations maintained strong partnerships with the Government, especially through the Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs (MNIG) and Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD), CSOs and other development partners on gender equality. Some learning points from the Assessment included that the United Nations should strive to strengthen systems to ensure gender parity in staffing, as well as putting stronger mechanisms in place to ensure allocation of resources to GEWE and related data tracking.

D. Youth inclusion

Launched in 2021, Botswana rolled out the African YouthConnekt platform in partnership with the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture and the Botswana Digital Innovation Hub. The YouthConnekt platform is assisting 36 youth entrepreneurs and start-ups through tailored entrepreneurship and leadership training and mentorship, with a dual focus on economic growth and social impact. It is also intended for more than 300 youth to benefit from digital spaces and dialogues, social change initiatives and linkages to potential markets, financing services, investors, mentors, and partners. It is anticipated that the YouthConnekt platform and its support services will increase youth job opportunities and start-up success rates; the initiative will continue in 2022



The Youth Connekt platform aims to increase youth job opportunities and start-up success rates.

2.2 United Nations Sustainable Development Framework 2017–2021: priorities, outcomes and outputs

Tables 2 to 4 present the outputs achieved under each outcome of the UNSDF 2017–2021, throughout its five-year period, and which contributed to the 2021 results on which this document reports.



Outcome 1: By 2021, Botswana has quality policies and programmes towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and national aspirations.

During the reporting period, the United Nations in Botswana supported the Government by contributing to advocacy and the development of policies which protect the rights of vulnerable and marginalized groups. These include:

Protection of the rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS – building on the work established by the Government of Botswana’s launch of its third National Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS (June 2019).

Persons with disabilities – ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (August 2021).

Supporting the LGBTIQ+ community – the Court of Appeal upheld on appeal the 2019 judgement to criminalize homosexuality (29 November, 2021).

Advocacy for policy change regarding GBV. Following on from the Botswana Police Service adopting (2020) a policy discouraging the withdrawal of GBV-related cases after they have been reported, the country has established special, friendly courts to handle GBV cases and to treat them as urgent applications, ensuring their expedited management and disposal (December 2020 to February 2021).

Advocacy for countries with smaller populations to achieve equal access to COVID-19 resources and vaccines.



Outcome 2: By 2021, Botswana has fully implemented policies and programmes towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and national aspirations.

During 2021, the United Nations contributed to the delivery of Outcome 2 through new ways of working and partnerships, as follows:

Developing innovative partnerships with development partners including the private sector, civil society organizations and academia.

Supporting the building of sustainable and resilient communities through direct support at community and national levels including support of biogas and BORAVAST coal production.

Ensuring improved service delivery through use of innovative technologies and strategic partnerships and improved early warning systems including COVID-19 vaccine vehicle ‘drive-through’ campaigns.



Outcome 3: By 2021, state and non-state actors at different levels use quality and timely data to inform planning, monitoring, evaluation, decision-making and participatory accountability processes.

To improve availability of quality disaggregated data for the SDGs, during the reporting period the United Nations in Botswana:

Worked to ensure the 2022 Housing & Population census will update key data gaps including those relating to persons with disabilities, to facilitate accurate SDG monitoring.

Supported innovative technology use to improve real-time monitoring, including of COVID-19.

Facilitated key programme reviews and evaluations to improve service delivery and to tailor programmes to emerging needs.

Improved the availability of SDG indicator data by 16.5 per cent, from data being available on 55 out of 158 indicators (34.8 per cent) in 2017 to 81 out of 158 indicators (51.3 per cent) in 2019.

Output 1.1:

Enhanced national capacities to develop integrated policies, strategies and programmes for sustainable development of the economy.

2017

- First draft of Decentralization Policy developed.
- Procurement of consultancies for the development of South-South Cooperation Strategy, Economic Diversification Strategy and ASRH Implementation strategy initiated.

2018

- Consultations on draft of Decentralization Policy ongoing.
- Local Economic Development (LED) Strategy completed.
- Review of current economic diversification drive (EDD) is ongoing to inform revised one.
- South-South Cooperation Strategy completed and submitted to Cabinet for approval.
- Development of the National Labor Migration Policy initiated.

2019

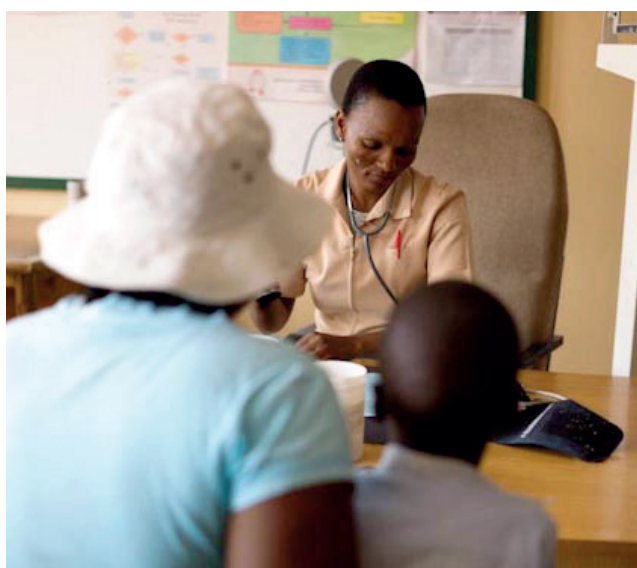
- Decentralisation Policy completed and submitted to Government.
- South-South Cooperation Strategy completed.

2020

- Botswana's Exporter Development Programme and Action Plan finalized and launched.

2021

- Phase I towards the development of guidelines and/or a strategic framework successfully completed. This will support targeted ministries to effectively pilot the zero-based budgeting principle.



UNICEF works to protect children's health, nutrition and education. UNICEF Botswana

Output 1.2:

Enhanced national capacities to develop integrated policies, strategies and programmes to strengthen human and social development outcomes.

2017

- Integrated reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health (RMNCAH) strategy developed.
- Contributed to development of National Strategic Framework on AIDS III (NSF III).
- National Social Protection Strategic Framework drafted.

2018

- Comprehensive Prevention and Treatment Package of services for FSWs and MSMs developed.
- Two technical briefs developed for advocacy with policymakers for non-citizens' access to HIV services.
- Policies and legislation for increased access to cheaper essential HIV medicines revised.
- National Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) Strategy for Prevention of HIV in Young People developed.
- RMNCAH Strategy developed.
- Malaria Insecticide Resistance Management Plan developed.
- TB Strategic Plan developed.
- OSEC Policy developed. ECD Policy approved.

2019

- Poverty Eradication Policy and Implementation Plan completed and submitted to Cabinet.
- Integrated Vector Management strategic plan completed.
- Comprehensive National Policy and M&E Framework on Rehabilitation services completed.
- Gender Mainstreaming strategy completed.

2020

- Decentralisation Policy and Implementation Plan finalised and submitted to MLGR.
- Profiles of adolescent girls and young women finalized.
- Investment case for Prevention of Stunting in Botswana developed.
- Evidence-based advocacy conducted with policy makers for non-citizens' access HIV services including treatment services.
- National strategies for adolescents and young people developed.

2021

- Draft bill for an act of parliament to establish a Social Service Workforce Council is in place. Cabinet Memo submitted for approval.

Output 1.3:

Enhanced national capacities to develop integrated policies, strategies and programmes for the management of the trade-off between economic growth and environmental sustainability.

2017

- Local level land use plans developed in NW District.
- Towards the development of a Climate Change Response Policy, the following were achieved: (1) Inception report for the development of the National Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory database for Third National Communication, (2) Inception Report for Climate change mitigation: Green House Gas abatement measures.

2018

- Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) Strategy and Action Plan developed.
- Boteti and Chobe district- level Land Use Plans developed and approved.

2019

- National Environmental Health Policy developed.
- Public Awareness Strategy for Wildlife completed.
- Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing Framework developed.
- Community-Based Fire Management Strategies completed.
- National Agricultural Policy developed and submitted to Cabinet.
- Review of Wildlife Legislation completed.

2020

- Integrated Vector Management Strategy developed.
- Community-based fire management strategies completed.
- Integrated waste management policy developed.
- Land Rehabilitation programme developed.
- Integrated Land Use management plan for the Kgalagadi dryland landscape developed.

2021

- Draft Review of the Waste Management Act (WMA) 1998 submitted to MENT legal services for final review before being submitted to Attorney General Chambers.
- Draft CBNRM Bill completed and submitted to Government.
- Consultancy to review and update the Nationally Determined Contributions (Paris Agreement) completed.
- Financing strategy report and final updated NDC validated and submitted.

Output 1.4:

Enhanced national capacities to develop integrated policies, strategies and programmes to deepen democracy outcomes and strengthen governance institutions.

2017

- Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response training modules developed.
- First training for national stakeholders towards development of the Migration Crisis Operational Framework conducted.

2018

- National Migration Policy developed.

2019

- Law Reform Strategy developed.
- Technical support provided for review of Ombudsman's Act to confer human rights mandate consistent with the Paris Principles.
- Disability Policy, Strategy and implementation plan developed.

2020

- The Regulations to the Whistleblowing Act developed.
- National Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan developed.
- Law Reform Strategy adopted.
- Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing Legislation improved.

2021

- Draft Botswana Migration Profile developed and submitted for endorsement.
- Revision of Ombudsman Act completed.
- Draft Comprehensive National Human Rights Strategy considered by Human Rights Coordination Taskforce.
- Draft National Sentencing Policy endorsed by Criminal Justice Forum.
- New Government– UNSDCF 2022–2026 developed and signed.



Outcome 2

By 2021 Botswana fully implements policies and programmes towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals targets and national aspirations.



Early moments matter for every child. UNICEF Botswana

Output 2.1:

Improved capacity to plan for delivery, identify and resolve implementation challenges, and account for the delivery of quality interventions that promote sustainable economic development.

2017

- Local economic analysis completed.
- Design and roll-out of national local economic development (LED) fund postponed by Government.
- Review of Better Education for Africa's Rise (BEAR) project cancelled by Government.
- To strengthen youth participation and engagement on leadership and advocacy issues, two young people were supported to participate in the AfriYAN General Assembly.

2018

- LED Implementation Plan completed.
- Business plans for the 4 districts developed for LED.
- Business Botswana Strategic Plan and Implementation completed.
- Consultations for implementation of EDD Policy ongoing.

2019

- Updated budget briefs on education, health, social protection, HIV/AIDS and macroeconomic trends submitted to government.
- Supplier Development Programme (SDP) being implemented, with 45 SMEs enrolled.

2020

- SME capacity development through the Supplier Development Programme continued.
- Three trade agreements simplified for the private sector to be able to utilise.

2021

- Stakeholders in Francistown, Kasane, Gantsi, Tsabong, Jwaneng and Gaborone consulted to strengthen the Botswana apiculture value chain.
- Training of fisher associations in the Okavango panhandle and various extension workers on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) provided to strengthen Botswana's fisheries sector in response to COVID-19.
- Supported MOHW to develop and submit the Global Fund C19RM funding request. The TB HIV 2022– 2024 grant of USD23,314,606 has been approved.



Working to ensure that every young person is in education, training or employment by 2030. UNICEF Botswana

Output 2.2:

Improved capacity to plan for delivery, identify and resolve implementation challenges, and account for the delivery of quality interventions to strengthen human and social development outcomes.

2017

- To support national campaign against sexual exploitation and abuse of children, dialogues with various stakeholders conducted.
- Stakeholder consultations and dialogue with key stakeholders held, with consensus reached on the need to develop a National Strategy.
- Stakeholder consultations held on the roll-out of U-report. Draft toolkit for Parliamentary and gatekeepers on HIV and Health developed.
- Community access to child health pilot completed. Winter out-of-school special motivation class campaign completed.

2018

- OSEC curriculum, learning and teaching materials and costed Implementation Plan developed.
- District level dialogues with First Lady to support youth engagement in SRH conducted.
- Shuga Radio and social media HIV prevention campaign launched.
- Capacity of stakeholders in SBCC strengthened.
- Partnered with MOHW and an NGO (Baylor) to establish implementation and evaluation of comprehensive models of ALHIV.
- Established partnership with 3 NGOs to support testing of ECD models in collaboration with MOHW, Ministry of Basic Education (MOBE) and MLGRD.

2019

- OSEC Manual handed to MOBE.
- Malaria advocacy and Resources Mobilization Plan “Zero Malaria Starts with Me” completed.
- Phase I of roll-out of campaign on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) of Children through key messages to government agencies, CSOs, politicians, religious and traditional leaders in 4 selected districts completed.
- Season 1 of the Shuga radio talk show completed.
- Implementation Plan for the scale-up of a core set of high impact interventions for prevention of HIV among adolescents, with a focus on girls and young women completed.
- For the sustainability of Teen Club models, community workers and Teen Club facilitators trained; Teen Clubs established in 6 districts and 255 adolescents living with HIV (ALHIV) enrolled.
- Testing of ECD models ongoing in three districts (Okavango, Ghanzi and Kweneng West).

2020

- Sexual exploitation and abuse campaign extended to involve private sector and media (radio and TV).
- Over 400,000 people across the country reached with messaging on prevention of HIV, GBV and COVID-19.
- MOBE-supported provision of learning resources for completing students at lower and upper secondary school levels.

2021

- SRH and GBV dialogues conducted for men and boys in Okavango District.
- Child Sexual Exploitation training for 22 teachers and youth in Gumare completed.
- Don't Get it Twisted weekly radio show continues, reaching 21,000+ youth on SRHR and COVID-19.
- Over 100,000 condoms distributed to improve uptake and HIV testing services.
- Supplied health workers with PPE.
- 40 CSO counsellors trained in provision of remote counselling and teletherapy services.
- District-level service providers trained in identification, investigation and reporting of adverse events following immunizations, as well as on management of neglected tropical diseases.
- Malaria Elimination Audit completed and report submitted.
- Botswana National Youth established and strategic framework, two-year Implementation Plan and monitoring and evaluation framework developed and disseminated.
- SBCC elements incorporated into the in- service training curriculum for health workers.
- Food Based Dietary Guidelines produced and validated.



Herd of cattle, healthy animals help communities thrive. By THP Creative

Output 2.3:

Improved capacity to deliver quality interventions for the management of the trade-off between economic growth and environmental sustainability.

2017

- SLM Makgadikgadi supported three CBOs in the area of operation (Gaing –O Conservation trust, Gumalutshaa Conservation Trust and Nata Sanctuary Trust) to develop their capacity to participate effectively in natural resource management.
- Botswana Meat Commission was supported with the expansion of its abattoir to increase slaughter from 80 cattle/day to 120 cattle/day.
- 20 students from Pandamatenga supported to undergo training on tourism- related courses of their choice; they were all employed in tourism enterprises.

2018

- Establishment of Elephant Sanctuary initiative suspended by Government.
- 20 small-scale bio- digestors constructed for demonstration project. Support of the economic revitalization of Selibe Phikwe region completed.
- IMAM Guidelines and Training Manuals completed.

2019

- GEF-supported pilot projects completed in Makgadikgadi and Chobe.
- 40 masons trained and have constructed 30 small-scale biodigesters for demonstration.
- 5 environment videos (on bush encroachment management, soil conservation, land management, used oil recycling, biogas production) produced to be aired on national television.
- Piloting initiatives geared towards the conservation and management of the Okavango World Heritage site were conducted – 65 members trained.
- Biodiversity Finance Plan and review of Park Fee Review Framework produced.
- The Third National Communication Report on Climate Change produced.

2020

- Projects for Sustainable Land Management completed in Makgadikgadi, Ngamiland and Chobe.
- Ministry of Environment (MENT) supported to roll out SDGs.
- Pilot initiatives geared towards conservation and management of the Okavango World Heritage site completed.
- Botswana Laws, cases and parliamentary documents made publicly available online.
- Judicial Code of Conduct has been developed to strengthen the integrity of the Judiciary.

2021

- 175 of 200 small-scale biodigesters constructed.
- Countrywide Land Degradation assessment completed.
- Community engagement conducted with Habu Village to support the Kavango-Zambezi Transboundary Conservation Area for sustainable wildlife management.
- Installation of communication infrastructure to support capacity building for horticulture farmers in Botswana conducted.



Every individual has the right to make choices about their sexual and reproductive health. UNFPA BW

Output 2.4:

By 2021 Botswana fully implements policies and programmes towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals targets and national aspirations.

2017

- An Information Session on the Assisted Voluntary Return and Re-Integration (AVVR) Programme with representation from 7 diplomatic missions held to create awareness on AVR as an alternative to detention.
- Training of immigration officials, police and social workers to identify and make referrals of different types of migrants conducted.
- Draft National Referral Mechanism for unaccompanied/separated migrant children and other vulnerable migrants completed.
- Universal Periodic Review draft report finalized.
- Draft law to establish NHRI reviewed, and concept developed.

2018

- Trained Government and consular officials, creating awareness of Assisted Voluntary Return as an alternative to detention.
- Assisted voluntary return services to vulnerable migrants to their countries of origin provided.
- Partnerships established with CSOs (e.g. Young Love) for the design and implementation of innovative combination prevention interventions for AYPs Technical support provided as part of the work towards the development of the County CEDAW Report.
- United Nations Botswana submitted a confidential report on the implementation of CEDAW in Botswana in June 2018.

2019

- To support District Natural Resource Management, 10 CBOs received grants to start conservation projects which have income-generating components including construction of camp sites, cultural villages and used oil receptacles.

2020

- Human rights database for Botswana developed.
- Implementation Plan for the Convention on the Rights of the Child developed.
- Staff of Department of International Trade trained in trade law and policy.
- Draft of legal instruments drafted to facilitate implementation of the Nagoya Protocol completed.

2021

- To strengthen judicial integrity, training of judicial officers in Code of Conduct and judicial ethics conducted.
- Quality Management System developed, incorporating standard operating procedures to be followed in investigating corruption cases by Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC). DCEC received Botswana Bureau of Standard (BOBS) certification for compliance to Quality Management System ISO 9001:2015.
- Disability radio show airs every Wednesday from 2–3 pm on Duma FM.



Partnering with men and adolescent boys in sexual and reproductive health is a way to improve SRH outcomes through a gender sensitive approach. UNFPA

Output 3.1:

Increased institutional capacities to collect, manage, analyses, package and utilize data to improve planning, monitoring, evaluation and decision-making towards sustainable development of the economy.

2017

- TORs developed for M&E system for LED and assessment of Botswana Economic Diversification strategies.
- Condom market research completed.
- Supported development of Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Policy, which was approved by Cabinet.

2018

- Youth Employment Study conducted.
- EDD Evaluation ongoing.
- Evaluation of Botswana Export Development Programme ongoing.

2019

- Research to contribute to Baseline to determine status and capacity needs of micro- entrepreneurs and cooperatives completed ECD baseline evaluation in four districts completed. An expenditure analysis of the national HIV/AIDS response conducted.

2020

- Market information intelligence system (MIIS) developed for Business Botswana.
- Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) Report launched.
- Rapid Data Landscape Analysis conducted to assess the immediate data needs and cross- cutting issues and to identify opportunities for investments in data related to COVID-19.
- Phase 1 of the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) completed.

2021

- Preliminary report of the Market Intelligence and Export Gap Analysis as part of implementation of the Botswana Exporter Development Programme developed and approved by TRG. Performance Monitoring and Evaluation System developed for CEDA.
- Data collection for National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA) completed.

Output 3.2:

Increased institutional capacities to collect, manage, analyses, package and utilize data to improve planning, monitoring, evaluation and decision-making to strengthen human and social development outcomes.

2017

- On-going advocacy and support for the inclusion of SDGs in policies, programmes and strategies (e.g. International Working Group supported to develop the Gender in Sports Advocacy strategy).
- Benefit incidence analysis of poor people benefiting from social protection services completed.
- Joint External Evaluations on International Health Regulations Capacities completed.
- Global AIDS Monitoring report completed and used in the development of NSF III, Global Fund, COP 18 planning and 2017 Global AIDS Update report.

2018

- Development of NSFIII fast-track targets completed
- KAP study completed.
- Through partnering with MOHW and NGO (Baylor), needs assessment of comprehensive models of ALHIV conducted.
- PMTCT and Syphilis Data Quality Assessment conducted.
- Global AIDS Monitoring Report for 2018 completed and submitted after endorsement by National AIDS Coordinating Agency.
- Monitoring of Acute Flaccid Paralysis Surveillance to meet global AFP indicators completed.
- Completed the national assessment of availability and accessibility of contraceptives.

2019

- Value-for-money evaluation of the Botswana vulnerable feeding programme (Tsabana/Malutu) completed.
- Evaluation of differentiated models of care for ALHIV in 4 districts (Selibe Phikwe, Ghanzi, Boteti and Tutume) (with Baylor, as research partner) completed.
- Baseline evaluation of sustainable Teen Club models (facility and community-based) for improved treatment adherence; support transition to adult care models (SOPs and standard packages of services) completed.
- Inequality study postponed indefinitely.
- Domestication of the SADC SRHR Score Card completed.
- Baseline assessment of the SRHR programme conducted.
- Documentation of the Letsholathebe II District Hospital Best Practice experience in reducing Maternal Mortality completed.

2020

- National Reception Class Programme evaluation report generated.
- Nutrition Information System developed.
- Quality SRH/HIV and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) services assessment (including of post-abortion care and family planning services integration) conducted.
- Capacity of the national Health Management Information Systems strengthened to generate disaggregated SRHR/HIV and SGBV data.
- Factsheet and slideset on status of HIV epidemic in Botswana developed.
- Data compiled for HIV service disruptions during COVID-19.
- Rapid needs assessment conducted for people living with HIV in the context of COVID-19.
- Stigma Index 2.0 inception report and electronic database done.
- Key census personnel participated in a five- country census study tour to prepare for 2021 Population and Housing Census.



A census enumerator explained the importance of being counted.
UNFPA Botswana/Priscilla Rabasimane

2021

- Evaluation of National Policy for Rural Development completed.
- Elimination of Mother-To- Child Transmission pre- validation and validation assessment completed and report finalized Botswana certified to have achieved the Path to Elimination silver tier target.
- Malaria case-based surveillance for the 2020/21 transmission season completed, including case and foci investigation, reporting, and using data to inform malaria response activities.
- Data collection for the National Health Accounts 2018/19 data completed.
- COVID-19 vaccination roll-out Intra-Action Review completed, with 920,006 people (around 38 per cent of the total population) reported to have received at least one dose of vaccine as of 10 November 2021.

Output 3.3:

Increased institutional capacities to collect, manage, analyze, package and utilize data to improve planning, monitoring, evaluation and decision-making for the management of the trade-off between economic growth and environmental sustainability.

2017

- Initial Process Plan integrating SDG roll-out and environmental information system developed.
- Development of data collection instruments and conducting of data analysis of National Disaster Risk Management Plan supported.

2018

- Malaria data quality assessment completed.
- Social impact assessment of the BCL mine closure in Selebi Phikwe completed.

2019

- Feasibility study for Biogas both small and medium sized digesters completed.
- Training for communities on Human–Wildlife Conflict mitigation and Management Oriented Monitoring System conducted.
- Mid-term evaluation of biogas project completed.

2020

- Domestication of SDG targets and indicators into MOA sectoral plans and financial plans conducted.
- Botswana Agriculture Information Management System (BAIMS) developed.
- Land Degradation Assessment and Monitoring for Land Restoration Strategy Development completed.

2021

- Sentinel surveillance for Soil Transmitted Helminths survey conducted for 9 endemic districts (60 schools sampled) and completed.
- Cubango–Okavango River Basin (CORB) Strategic Environmental Assessment scoping report developed and submitted.
- Mid-term evaluation of the Kgalagadi–Gantsi Drylands Ecosystem project completed.

Output 3.4:

Increased institutional capacities to collect, manage, analyze, package and utilize data to improve planning, monitoring, evaluation and decision-making to deepen democracy outcomes and strengthen governance institutions.

2017

- Convened the Gender Stakeholders.
- Consultations on the 25 April, 2017 to consolidate SDG 5-related inputs for inclusion in the National Stakeholders Consultations on VNR Report for the High-Level Political Forum.
- Supported Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs in preparation of Commission of the Status of Women reporting and UPR reporting.

2018

- Bottleneck analysis to improve access and effective coverage of mobile birth registration in remote areas completed.
- Baselines for SDG Framework validated and approved.
- Community-based monitoring system reviewed and evaluated.
- Development of Migration Profile ongoing.

2019

- Training of District M&E Officers on monitoring of integrated service delivery conducted.
- Development of a national electronic repository for Traditional Knowledge in line with the Draft Industrial Property Act (under review) completed.
- 2020 Population & Housing Census Questionnaire reviewed.

2020

- Supportive and mentoring visits conducted to 5 integration scale-up districts to increase reporting on SRHR/HIV and GBV integration indicators.
- COVID-19 Social and Economic Impact Analysis (SEIA) conducted.
- Joint Programme on Strengthening of migration data collection, analysis and management systems in Botswana proposal approved for the pipeline.
- UNSDF Summative Evaluation conducted.
- 2020 CCA conducted.

2021

- BAIMS developed.
- Development of DCEC M&E system supported through situational analysis, staff training on RBME, development of SMART KPIs and Implementation Plan.
- Development of Results Framework for new Government–United Nations Cooperation Framework 2022–26 completed.



Rear view of people sailing in lake against sky. Photo by Fabian Lang / EyeEm

2.3. Support to partnerships and financing the 2030 Agenda

The focus of partnerships for 2021 was to respond to the COVID-19 situation and its negative effects on the country's progress. As such, the United Nations in Botswana worked with a diverse range of actors including Government, civil society, academia, communities, private sector and other development partners to strengthen Botswana's capacities in pursuit of sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection. Some examples include:



Street vendor. By poco_bw

Improved institutional capacities for quality service delivery in pursuit of sustained and inclusive economic growth

During the reporting period, the United Nations worked with the Botswana Investment and Trade Centre and the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry, as well as private sector and non-state actors, to produce a Market Intelligence and Export Gap Analysis. This was aimed at enhancing implementation of the Botswana Export Development Programme, the purpose of which is to increase exports of products and services which add domestic value and contribute to the diversification of the economy. The programme offers an integrated approach to training and educating potential exporters, to enhance their export competitiveness to penetrate regional and international markets. The analysis identified four value chains in targeted sectors including textiles and garments, meat and meat processing, jewellery-making, arts and crafts, services, leather and leather products, glass and glass products, and chemicals.



Routine immunization has saved lives for generations and will continue to save lives far into the future. UNICEF

Improved institutional capacities for quality service delivery in the health sector

Several initiatives were undertaken to improve institutional capacities for quality service delivery in the health sector with various development partners. Work included completion of necessary assessments and reporting requirements, which resulted in Botswana certified to have achieved the path to elimination silver tier target through the collaborative efforts of UNICEF, UNAIDS and WHO, among others.

Examples of these initiatives include:

- Support to rolling out the Nutrition Information System that strengthens routine collection of data, analysis through innovative improvements in the existing Health Information System. The Nutrition Information System will enable service providers to better identify and target malnourished children and trigger timely targeted interventions in response to changes in nutritional status at individual, community, district and national level.
- Support to MOHW to develop and submit the Global Fund C19RM funding request. Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) elements were incorporated into the in-service training curriculum for health workers.
- Covid-19 vaccination roll-out intra action review was completed with 920,006 people reported to have received at least one dose of vaccine as of 10 November 2021.



Child participation is important. UNICEF

Improved institutional capacities for quality service delivery in relation to education

Initiatives included field assessments of remediation and enrichment activities in primary and secondary schools to inform the design of a national remediation and enrichment programme to be undertaken by UNICEF working in collaboration with the Ministry of Basic Education (MOBE) to address gaps in learners' knowledge, skills and attributes.



Okavango Delta. By Juan Carlos Munoz

Improved institutional capacities for quality service delivery for environmental protection

This initiative focused on wetlands management. It conducted the Cubango– Okavango River Basin (CORB) Strategic Environmental Assessment scoping study and the Mid-term evaluation of the Kgalagadi- Gantsi Drylands Ecosystem project with the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism, and developing the Botswana Agriculture Information Management System (BAIMS).

Partnerships for increasing awareness and coordination of monitoring human rights and SDG implementation in Botswana

Throughout 2021, OHCHR, UNDP and the Resident Coordinator's Office collaborated with the Government of Botswana (specifically, the SDG Technical Task Force at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MFED), Botswana Council of NGOs (BOCONGO) and other partners to kick-start a project that seeks to:

1. Develop a database for improved coordination and planning of the SDGs and human rights indicators by civil society.
2. Develop capacity building for civil society, Government and other partners in the coordination and monitoring of human rights and SDG implementation.
3. Support data development on the same.



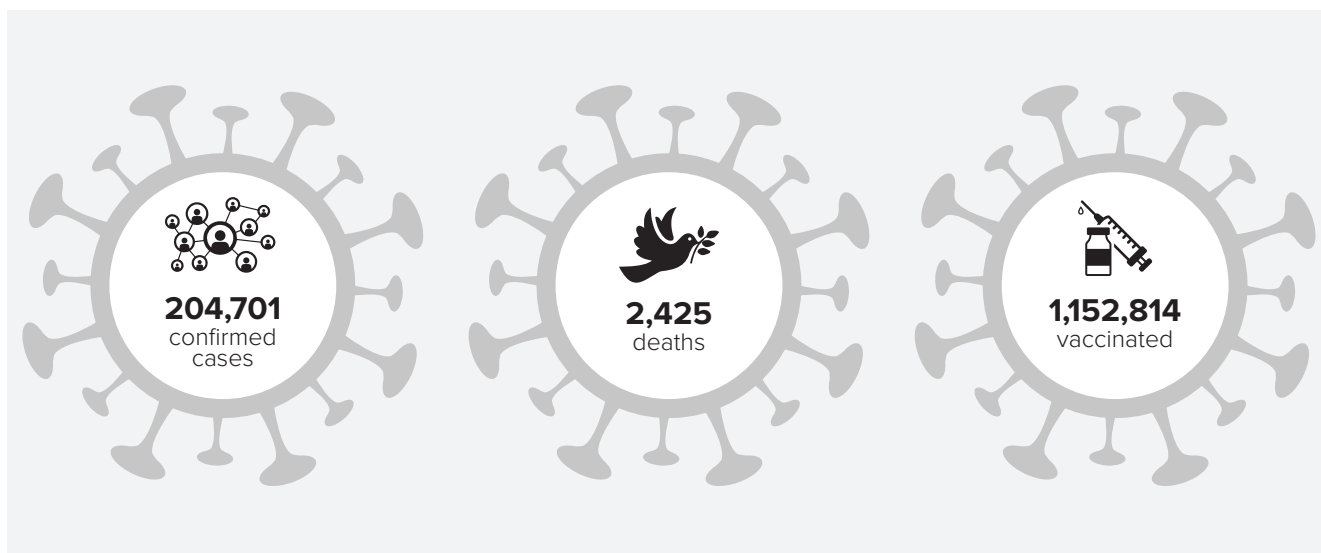
The United Nations has delivered COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX facility, ensuring equitable access globally. UN BW

2.4. Results of the United Nations working more and better together: coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency

Development of UNSDSCF 2022–2026

The UNSDSCF 2022–2026, signed on 4 November 2021, was formulated as a result of a collaboration between the United Nations and the Government of Botswana, and involved intensive consultations with government ministries, the private sector, CSOs, academia and other development partners. This commitment to inclusiveness as part of the prioritization approach to its formulation resulted in inequalities emerging as the most urgent focus the next five years.

The new Framework has the 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships) of Sustainable Development at its core, and is aligned to the Government's NDP 11 (and forthcoming NDP 12) and Vision 2036. One of the key changes in the UNSDSCF is the welcoming of UN-Habitat as a member of the United Nations in Botswana from 2022.



COVID-19 response²

In 2021, the United Nations COVID-19 coordination and response mechanisms that had been set up in 2020 were modified to ensure coordination between the Government and other development partners and the United Nations system. Internal to the United Nations, the COVID-19 response was monitored by the COVID Operations Management Team. To accelerate vaccine roll-out, the United Nations supported the Government to procure COVID-19 vaccines through COVAX facilities. Of the 1,970,444 COVID-19 vaccines delivered in-country, 704,970 doses were delivered through COVAX.

Gender and Human Rights Thematic Group

One of the key successes of the Gender and Human Rights Thematic Group (GHRTG) in 2021 was the conducting and submission of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan (UN SWAP 2.0) Gender Equality Scorecard and the Action Plan of the gender scorecard. The United Nations–SWAP 2.0 provides an accountability framework which defines commonly agreed standards and coordinated approaches for the United Nations to reach its goals and measure progress systematically. The SWAP comprehensive analysis is expected to be conducted once within the five-year plan, with Action Plans to accompany ratings for all indicators, including timelines, resources and responsibility for follow-up actions in order to keep or improve current ratings. Annual reviews are conducted to report on progress towards addressing the identified gaps.

In 2021, the GHRTG supported by UN Women conducted the SWAP 2.0 Comprehensive Analysis, in which Botswana exceeded minimum requirements in 6 out of 15 (40%) indicators. The United Nations in Botswana missed some indicators (such as Gender Parity and Resource Allocation and Tracking) because there is no mechanism in place to monitor them. Included in the Action Plan is gender training for all Cooperation Framework structures to enable them to support gender mainstreaming in all their initiatives.

The GHRTG also organised the commemoration of Human Rights Day (10 December), under the slogan “All Human, All Equal” and the theme “Equality: reducing inequalities, advancing human rights”. To mark the annual 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence, the GHRTG collaborated with the United Nations Communication Group (UNCG) to organise a number of events including the United Nations Country Team courtesy visit to the Botswana GBV Prevention and Support Centre (BGBVC). The team was led by the Resident Coordinator accompanied by UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP.

The GHRTG also supported the United Nations in Botswana to submit to the Human Rights Committee for consideration the second periodic report of Botswana on the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)/133rd Session of the Human Rights Committee (24 November, 2021). The report is a summary of key issues that the United Nations in Botswana had identified, based on recent analysis and information available. This included the recent CCA 2020, which informs and underpins the UNSDCF 2022–2026.



Delivering life saving vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic. UNICEF

² 23 December 2021 - <https://newsaf.cgtn.com/news/2021-12-24/Number-of-fully-vaccinated-people-in-Botswana-surpasses-1-02-million-16eK21CziyA/index.html>

The report raises key issues, including corporal punishment (of children in particular), violence against women and girls including sexual and gender-related killings, low levels of women's participation in decision-making in the political sphere, capital punishment, issues related to child labour and children's rights in general, and discrimination against members of specific vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as members of the LGBTIQ+ community, persons with disabilities, migrants and refugees.



Women in agriculture are leading the change for a food secure world. FAO Botswana

Joint Communication Group

In collaboration with the Government, the UNCG organized the 2021 United Nations Day commemoration (5 November, 2021) which featured the signing of the new UNSDCF 2022–2026. The United Nations also jointly planned and funded the commemoration of International Women's Day (8 March, 2021) and the launch (21 November, 2021) of 16 Days of Activism to end Gender-Based Violence (25 November–10 December 2021). This featured several events including Men Talk, an awareness activity for male United Nations personnel in Botswana, organized in partnership and in collaboration with Men and Boys for Gender Equality, to discuss positive masculinity and the role of men and boys in promoting gender equality. The Resident Coordinator hosted several virtual townhall meetings to engage all United Nations Botswana staff in the spirit of 'Delivering as One' (or 'One-UN') approach, particularly pertinent at a time when UN colleagues were working largely from home at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Delivering as One” refers to a concept at the core of the UN reform process: coordinating different agencies to exploit their competitive advantages.

Efficient country operations

Aligned to the forthcoming UNSDCF, the Operations Management Team engaged in the development of the new Business Operations Strategy (BOS 2). Its Terms of Reference (TORs) were revised to improve collaboration with the UNSDCF Results Groups for 2022 onwards. These TORs have increased focus on joint resource mobilization, financial planning, and monitoring. A key priority area in 2021 was the inclusion of PWDs including in BOS. This included the construction of accessible bathroom facilities in the UN building.

Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS (JUTA)

The Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS was instrumental in ensuring the successful completion of the path to elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV country assessment. The technical support provided to MOHW led to Botswana being the first African country and first high-burden country to have achieved silver tier status on the path to elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (WHO Global, 2021).

During the reporting period, JUTA has worked jointly with national partners to develop guidance documents to facilitate delivering high impact interventions for key populations, AGYW and strengthening condom programming. These policy documents include a National Comprehensive Condom Programming Strategy with a costed implementation plan, HIV service packages for the delivery of differentiated services for young people and key populations, a Revised School Health Policy, and profiling of HIV infections among AGYW. The documents have been instrumental in resource mobilization efforts, particularly USD18 million for the Global Fund.

With JUTA's support, in July 2021 the First Lady of Botswana as UNAIDS Special Ambassador for the Empowerment and Engagement of Young People In Botswana 2020–2023, launched a Strategic Framework as part of this collaboration. The collaboration seeks to carry out interventions for young people through different programmes such as Gender Based Violence (GBV) Life skills, education and economic empowerment.



Access to safe, voluntary family planning is a human right. UNICEF



Delivering life saving vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic. UNICEF

2.5. Evaluations and lessons learned

UNSDF 2017–2021 Summative Evaluation Recommendations	Action Plan	Progress Updates
Stakeholders (such as the private sector, labour unions, media and academia) who already regard themselves as the country's development partners should be included as critical partners in the design and implementation of new Framework, that is, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022–2026.	Engage multi-stakeholders in new Cooperation Framework design.	Done. Summary of consultative process available in the Cooperation Framework document.
The design process of the UNSDCF must clearly identify reliable sources of funding to create certainty in resource mobilization and budgetary allocations. It is therefore recommended that a resource mobilization strategy should be part of the next Framework.	UNSDCF 2022–2026 to include a Resource Mobilization strategy, which considers collaboration with other stakeholders – the private sector, development partners, and other funding opportunities.	In development.
The Programme Steering Committee (PSC) should review the adequacy and effectiveness of its bi-annual meetings as a monitoring tool. PSC should establish a middle level joint structure chaired by the National Strategy Office and Resident Coordinator's Office representative to meet in between PSC meetings to review project implementation.	Government/United Nations to strengthen Joint National UN Steering Committee to meet regularly, through revised TORs.	Joint steering committee TORs developed to meet twice a year. MEL Group co-chaired with NSO will meet quarterly for closer monitoring.
	Results groups made of both partners to meet regularly (at least every 2 months) to monitor progress and make informed decisions.	Results Groups are co-chaired by UN Heads of Agencies and Government DPS and meet quarterly.
Government and United Nations system should work jointly to build capacity of Parliament, local councils, CSOs and media, and delegate more work to local NGOs, CBOs and local government institutions to improve implementation of projects at local level.	Continue dialogue between United Nations in Botswana/ Government on finding practical and sustainable solutions to implementation bottlenecks.	In Results Groups and joint steering committee TOR.
The UNSDCF should reach out and mobilise academic research institutions to progress the initiative on open data, open access and data analysis in order to support Botswana to move quickly to exploit the opportunities created by the data revolution.	UNSDCF to reach out and mobilize stakeholders, including academic research institutions, to explore opportunities created by the data revolution.	MEL Group TOR includes academic institutions and Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) in their membership.
The UNSDCF should also use academic and research institutions in collaboration with Statistics Botswana to develop tools and procedures for data collection, standardization and analysis usable by programme implementers at facility level and help build capacity for data utilization for monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in the Framework.	Expand to regional level the collaboration with Statistics Botswana to develop tools and procedures for data collection, standardization and analysis usable by programme implementers.	In the MEL Plan for 2022–26.
Strengthen support for institutional reforms and capacity development of existing coordination mechanisms and institutions dealing with gender equality and human rights.	Strengthen support to MNIG on gender budgeting and gender mainstreaming.	UNSDCF Outcome 1.
Support national efforts on legal reforms (statutory and customary laws), in particular on justice for children and women, in line with recommendations of CEDAW Committee to Botswana.	Continue efforts to strengthen the legal reform.	UNSDCF Outcome 1 – Output 1.2.
UNSDCF partners should develop an accountability matrix to enable CSOs to maximise their capacities, and scale up their service delivery activities and engage more actively with the private sector, to explore how it can finance some of the programme activities in a sustained manner.	UNSDCF to include an accountability matrix to enable CSOs and private sector to maximise their capacities and scale up their service delivery activities in a sustained manner.	Partnership mapping and strategy development planned for 2022.
The United Nations system and Government need to improve coordination of, promote and commit to joint projects (adhering to the Delivering as One principle) through joint planning (internally in the United Nations in Botswana) and involvement of the Government PSC side more closely at the points of priority setting and development of annual plans of United Nations agencies before they are presented at PSC meetings.	UNSDCF to promote and commit to joint projects through joint planning and involvement of Government more closely at the points of priority setting, development of annual plans and tracking progress.	UNSDCF priority setting done with GOB. Workplans done in collaboration with implementing partners. To be endorsed by joint steering committee before being made public in UNINFO.
Strengthen sharing of UNSDCF results to promote closer engagement with key stakeholders/social partners at: national, district, local and community levels.	Strengthen wider, innovative dissemination of UNSDCF results.	Annual Results Reports will be summarised into an e-Report which will be disseminated widely.



Young African girls hugging wearing surgical masks. Photo by 5D Media.

2.6. Financial overview and resource mobilization

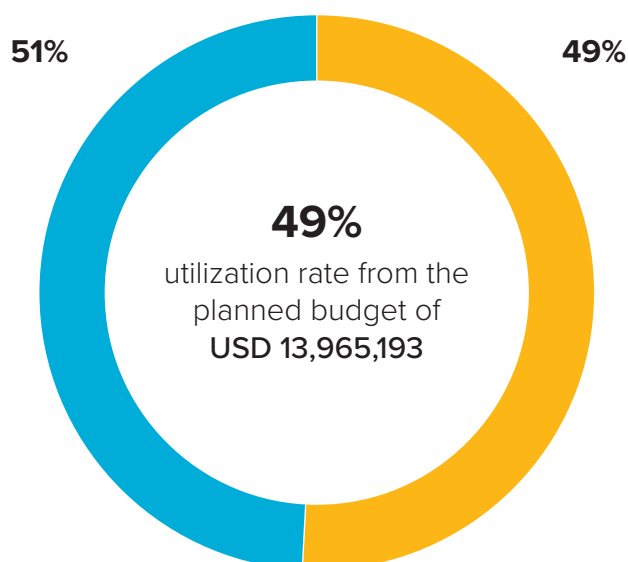
2.6.1 Financial Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic fundamentally changed the development context in Botswana, leading to shifting priorities on the part of implementing partners and the United Nations. Funding limitations also compounded the negative impact on implementation. As a result, some planned activities had to be reprioritized or re-purposed.

The relatively low overall utilization rate of 49 per cent is therefore not an accurate reflection as it does not account for budget revisions made during the year. Nonetheless, there were areas where the United Nations and implementing partners delivered effectively, especially against outputs 1.2, 1.4, 2.2 and 3.4. Utilization rates against these outputs were all above 95 percent.

Output 2.3 accounts for a significant proportion of the total budget. However, projects and initiatives under Output 2.3 faced several constraints in utilizing funds, including the fact that funding against some of the initiatives was not made available during 2021. This means that implementation was severely hampered and affected the overall utilization rate. Utilization rates would reflect a more positive outcome if funding was made available earlier in the year.

Figure 1: Overall budget utilization rate



In summary, the pandemic not only had a severe impact on society and the economy but also seemed to have hamstrung institutions – the Government, and others – and prevented the effective delivery of resources and funds. The financial analysis reflects that there is scope to work much more closely with implementing partners during 2022 to ensure that necessary steps are taken to make funding available in a timely manner so that resources are effectively and efficiently delivered.

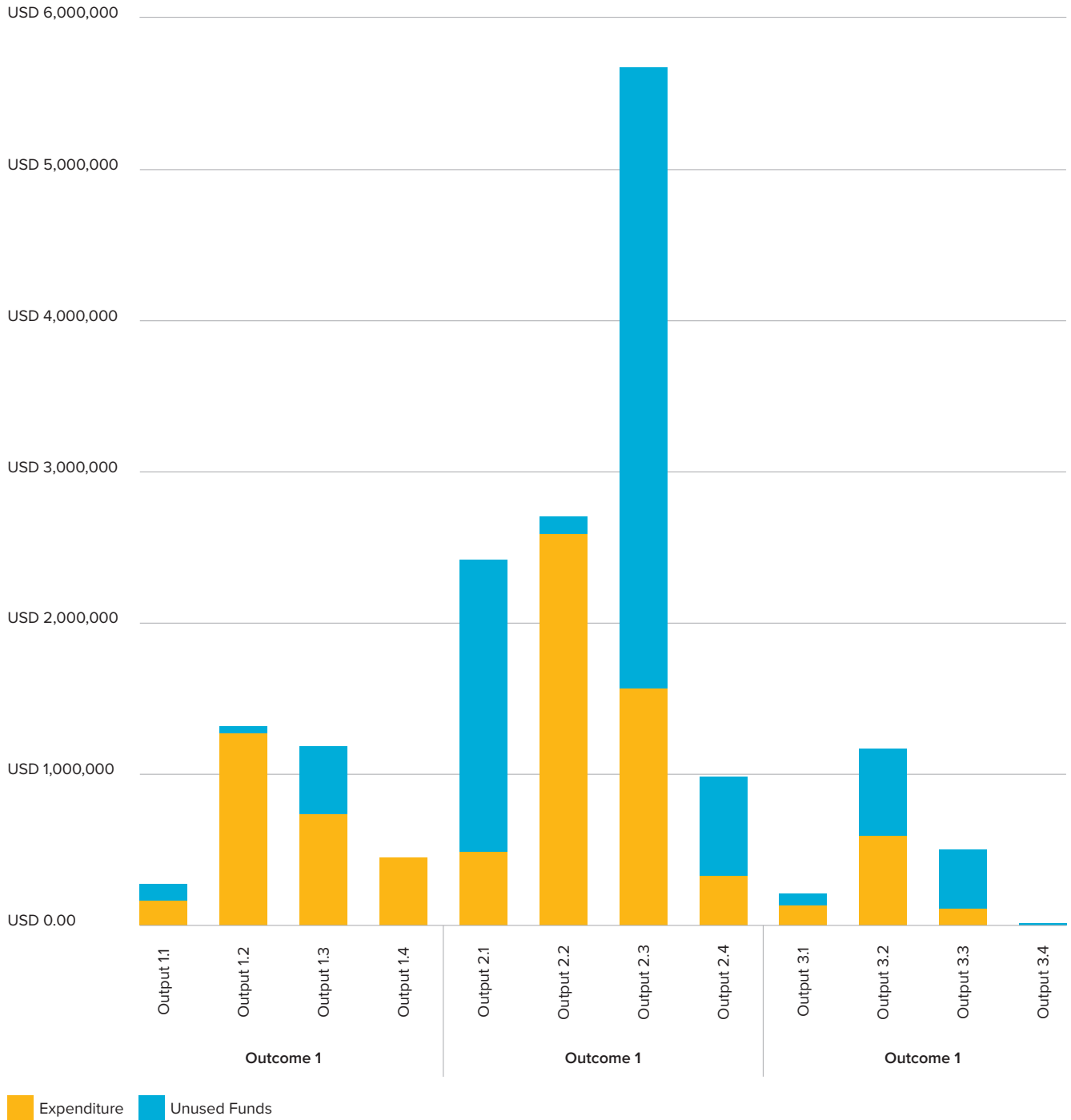
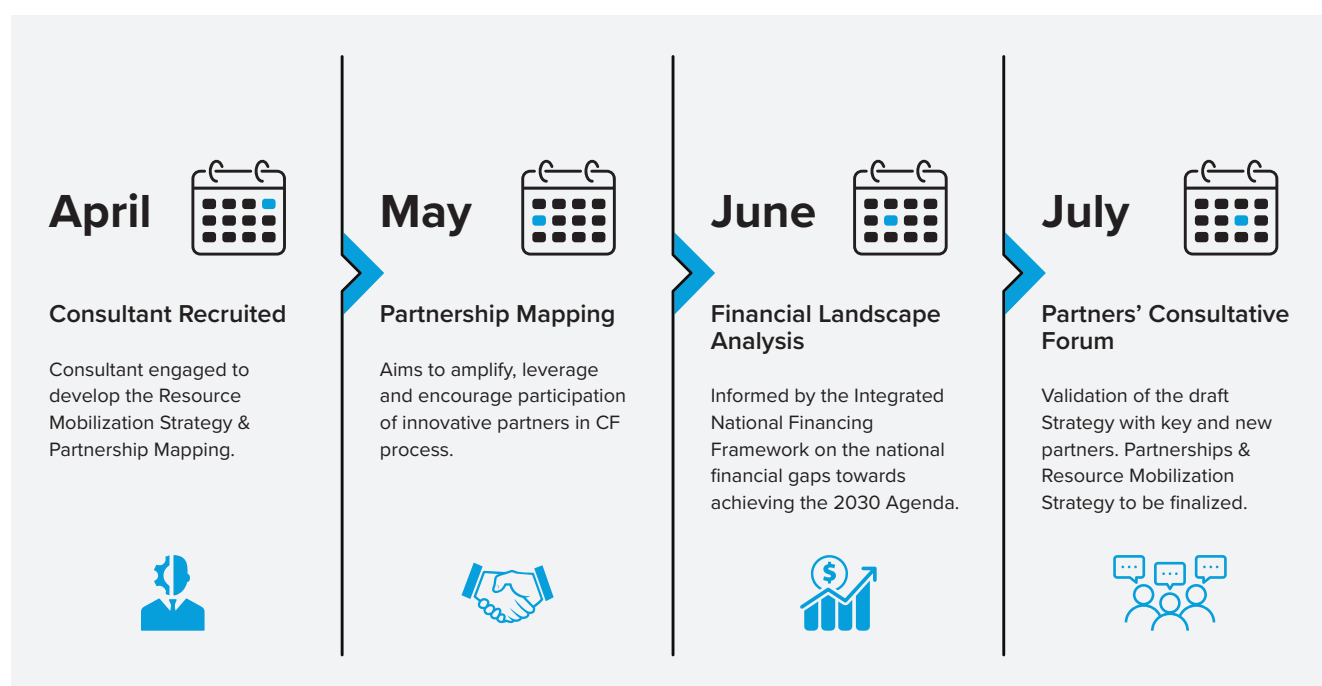


Figure 2: 2021 Expenditure per UNSDF outcome and output



Women have the right to determine if and when to have children, the number and the spacing of the children.
UNFPA

2.6.2 Resource mobilization and quality of funding



Timeline of development of Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy April-July 2022.

Through the Resident Coordinator's Office, the United Nations in Botswana has engaged a consultant to develop the Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy. Aligned to the Government's NDP 11 (and cognizant of the imminent transition to NDP 12) and with a focus on inclusive partnerships for the delivery of a broadly shared agenda to achieve sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection, the UNSDCF 2022–2026 is structured around four interrelated strategic pillars: People, Planet, Prosperity, and Peace and Partnerships.

The strategy will take into consideration the engagement of various funding partners, multi-year versus short-term funding, types of funding such as core and non-core, earmarked and unearmarked funding, and recognise funding gaps and their implication for achieving UNSDCF results. The consultancy will also identify key opportunities and potential challenges provided by resource mobilization during the UNSDCF period.



Statement of the UN Resident Coordinator, Zia Choudhury, to Botswana on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women National Official Launch of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign, 2021.

Chapter 3

United Nations key focus for 2022



The year 2021 was largely characterized by the effects of COVID-19 pandemic. Botswana witnessed a spike in COVID-19 cases and fatalities, which reduced productivity due to higher levels of sick leave or emergency leave being taken by the productive workforce.

Several planned activities were delayed including the 2021 Housing and Population Census. This resulted in low expenditure and some lost opportunities. However, one of the key successes of 2021 was the completion of the new UNSDCF 2022–2026, a collaboration between the United Nations and the Government of Botswana establishing their commitment to work together over the next five years to achieve the SDGs.

The United Nations in Botswana has a complement of 23 members, 10 of which do not have a physical presence in country. UN Habitat is the newest addition to the United Nations family, while the International Atomic Energy Agency is no longer a member of the Botswana United Nations. UN-Women is now based at regional level.

Some risks anticipated for 2022 include the expectation that COVID-19 will persist as it transforms; however, its effects will reduce as more people are vaccinated. Some movements of senior government officials are scheduled, which is expected to delay the implementation of some key initiatives. There is a concern over possible terror attacks in relation to the situation in Mozambique, and elections in neighbouring Lesotho and Angola are also anticipated to engender issues of political interest in 2022.

With these risks in mind, and with the priority identified by the UNSDCF to address inequalities in the country, the United Nations focus for 2022 onwards is to secure a more equitable Botswana. This will be achieved by greater inclusiveness at all levels of governance and implementation, and by ensuring no one is left behind. To do this, the United Nations will target vulnerable and marginalized members of society, including women, children, young people, persons with disabilities, members of the LGBTQI+ community, asylum seekers and refugees, ensuring a country where they can fulfil their potential and fully realise their human rights.

The following initiatives are key:

- Set-up and operationalise UNSDF implementation structures.
- Formulate a PSEA Action Plan.
- Disability Inclusion & Women Empowerment.
- Elevate the BOS, with the Resident Coordinator co-chairing the Operations Management Team.
- Develop a collective resource mobilization strategy for UNSDCF 2022–2026.
- Update the CCA by January 2023 Support the VNR initiative.
- Provide support to the Housing & Population census.
- Support the Government of Botswana to prepare NDP 12.

Through the UNSDCF implementation structures, which together with the prioritization process and monitoring and evaluation will involve increased inclusiveness, the United Nations in Botswana will increasingly prioritize those left furthest behind, forging new and innovative partnerships while nurturing existing ones.





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