

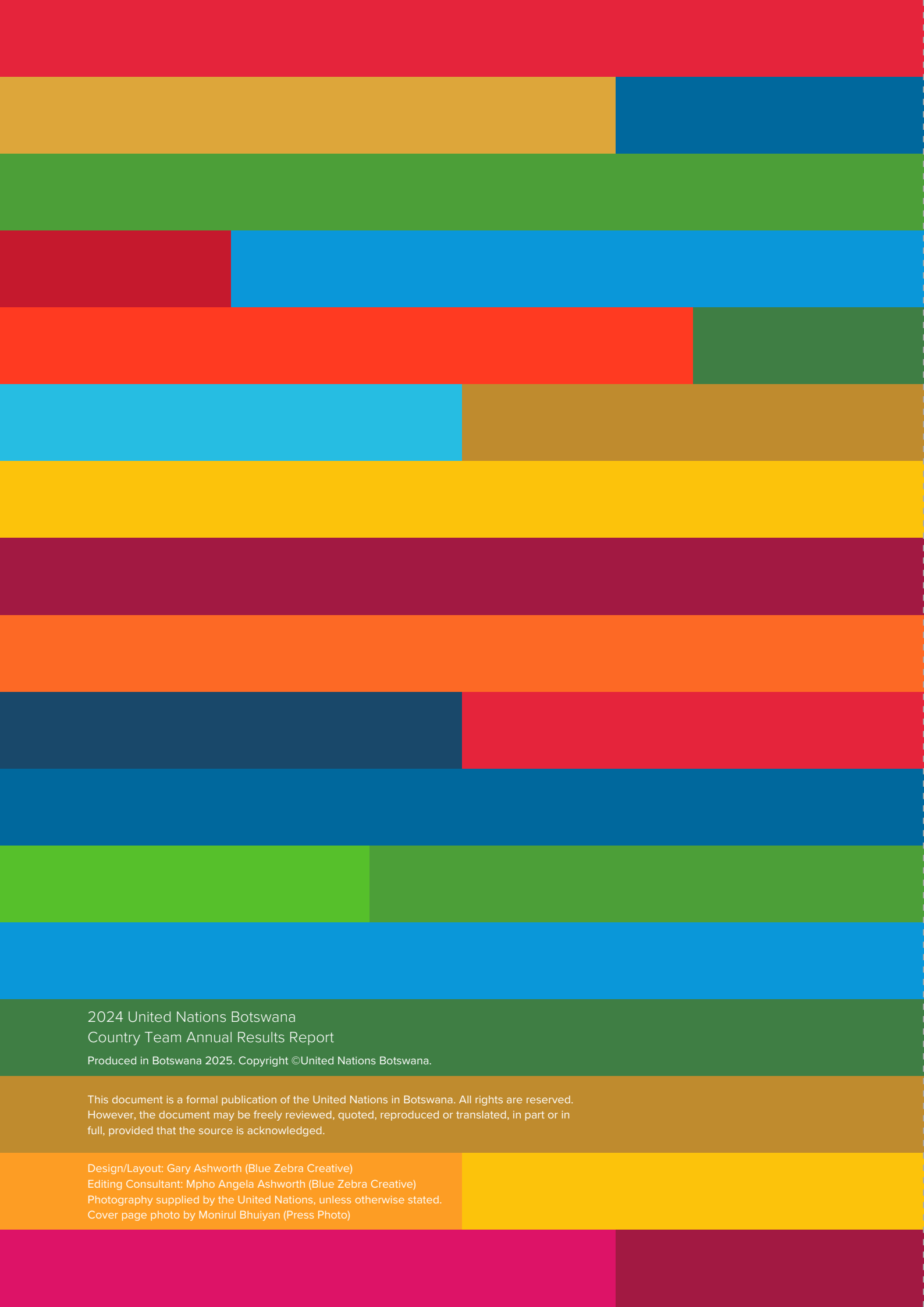
United Nations Country Team

Annual Results Report 2024



UNITED NATIONS
BOTSWANA





2024 United Nations Botswana
Country Team Annual Results Report
Produced in Botswana 2025. Copyright ©United Nations Botswana.

This document is a formal publication of the United Nations in Botswana. All rights are reserved.
However, the document may be freely reviewed, quoted, reproduced or translated, in part or in
full, provided that the source is acknowledged.

Design/Layout: Gary Ashworth (Blue Zebra Creative)
Editing Consultant: Mpho Angela Ashworth (Blue Zebra Creative)
Photography supplied by the United Nations, unless otherwise stated.
Cover page photo by Monirul Bhuiyan (Press Photo)

Table of Contents

01	Foreword by the Resident Coordinator
03	UN Entities in Botswana (2024) Key Development Partners of the UN Development System in the Country
05	Chapter 1: Key Developments in Botswana and the Region
07	Chapter 2: UN Development System Support to National Development Priorities through the Cooperation Framework
08	2.1 Overview of Cooperation Framework Results
11	2.2 Cooperation Framework Priorities, Outcomes and Outputs Outcome 1: Gender Equality Outcome 2: Access to Quality Services Outcome 3: Food Security, Natural Resources and Climate Change Outcome 4: Economic Prosperity Outcome 5: Justice, Data, and Partnerships
34	2.3 Results of the UN working more and better together The Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS (JUTA) Disability Inclusion Gender Equality and the Regional Joint GBV Program NDP 12 Development Youth Inclusion
39	2.4 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilisation Financial Overview and Resource Mobilisation for the UN Cooperation Framework
43	Chapter 3: UNCT Key Focus for Next Year

Foreword by the Resident Coordinator

Welcome to the Annual Results Report of the United Nations in Botswana. As I reach the end of my five-year term as UN Resident Coordinator, I've been reflecting on the journey we've taken together—the progress, the challenges, and the potential that still lies ahead.

The UN family in Botswana enjoys a uniquely collaborative relationship with Government, civil society, the private sector, and other development partners. Together, we've helped keep key development issues high on the national agenda—whether promoting the shift to renewable energy, building stronger systems to protect women and children from violence, or encouraging greater youth and government engagement in international affairs.

Botswana is a country that embraces partnerships and is deeply committed to development. At the same time, structural and organisational practices often slow implementation and lead to missed opportunities. Both the former and current Heads of State encouraged me to speak candidly, and I've tried to do so—with respect, and always in the hope of helping move things forward. They both recognised the need for more agile, accountable governance with greater decentralised decision-making and a sharper focus on results.



“Let us not forget the lessons of the past. Let us not give in to despair or division. Instead, let us stand firm in our belief that peace, justice, and development for all remain not only possible—but essential.”

Within the UN system too, there is no shortage of goodwill, dedication, or ideas. But we also face the familiar challenges of fragmentation and inefficiency. My role has been to coordinate the diverse UN family in Botswana—agencies of different ages, mandates, and ways of working—and to help us align, learn, and deliver more effectively as one. It's not always easy. But the UN reform agenda is precisely about this: bringing together our people, resources, and expertise to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

A results report like this one can only capture a slice of our work. In a middle-income country like Botswana, our focus is less on direct implementation and more on strengthening the systems, policies, and institutions that underpin long-term development.

That means building capacity where it matters most: in the people, processes, and institutions responsible for delivering change. Ultimately, it is the people of Botswana who will carry this work forward.

As we enter 2025, the global context is deeply troubling. Armed conflicts are intensifying. International norms, painstakingly built over decades, are under threat. States commit atrocities with impunity. International assistance is declining. Vulnerable groups are vilified. National interests are increasingly pursued in ways that ignore our shared humanity and the promise of peaceful cooperation.

The multilateral system, the SDGs, and even the UN Charter itself are being questioned and undermined. Yet, it's precisely in moments like this that we must recall why these systems were created in the first place—born from the ashes of devastating world wars, to prevent history from repeating itself.

Yes, all systems need renewal. But reform does not mean rejection. Respected across the continent and beyond for its principled diplomacy and democratic values, Botswana has a vital role to play on the international stage, just as it has done since independence.

Let us not forget the lessons of the past. Let us not give in to despair or division. Instead, let us stand firm in our belief that peace, justice, and development for all remain not only possible but also essential.

When we work together—across borders, sectors, and generations—for a better future, we honour the spirit of the UN Charter. And we ensure that Botswana continues to shine as a champion of unity, dialogue, and hope in an uncertain world.

Zia Choudhury
Zia Choudhury
Resident Coordinator, Botswana

UN Entities in Botswana (2024)

In 2024, there were twenty-three UN entities supporting Botswana, of which twenty-two were members of the UN Country Team (UNCT). Sixteen of those have a physical presence, while seven do not (IFAD, OHCHR, UNECA, UN-HABITAT, UNEP, UNIDO, and WFP). Nineteen entities have signed the Cooperation Framework (CF), and four have not.

23
UNCT Members

20
Signatories
UNCT member entities are
signatories to the Cooperation
Framework 2022-2026

16
Physically Present

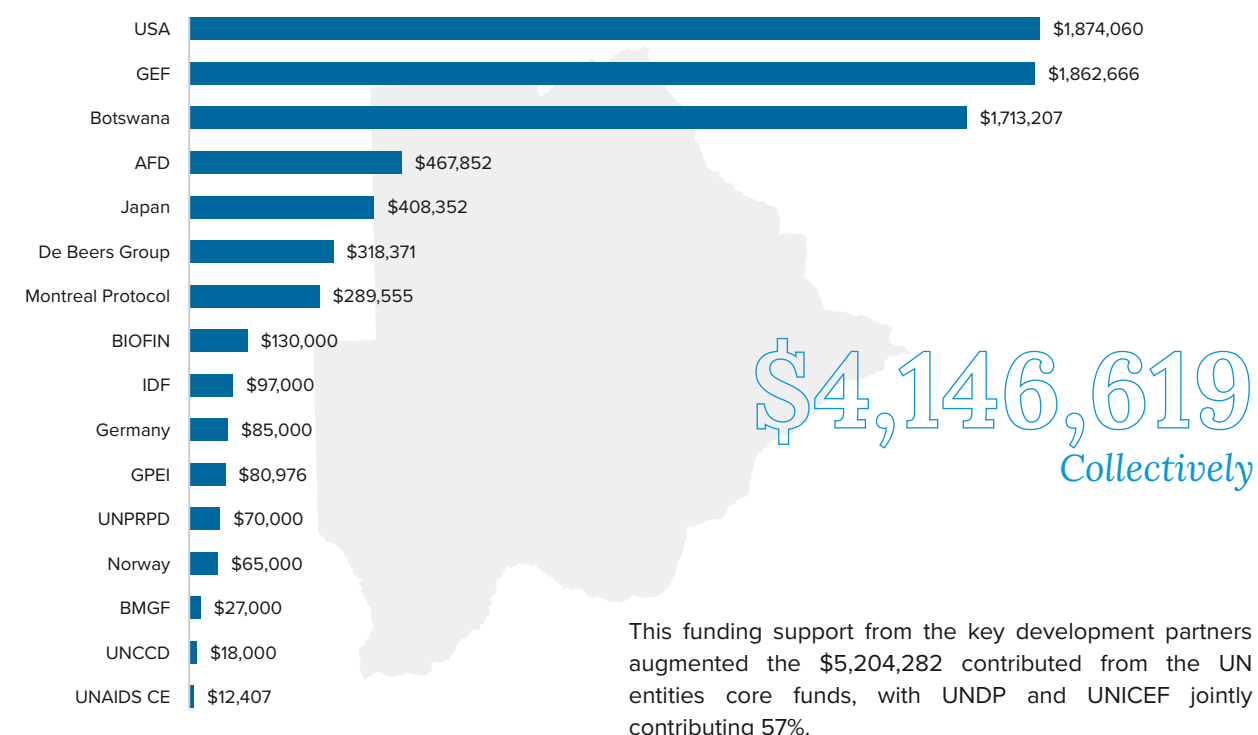


Key Development Partners of the UN Development System in the Country

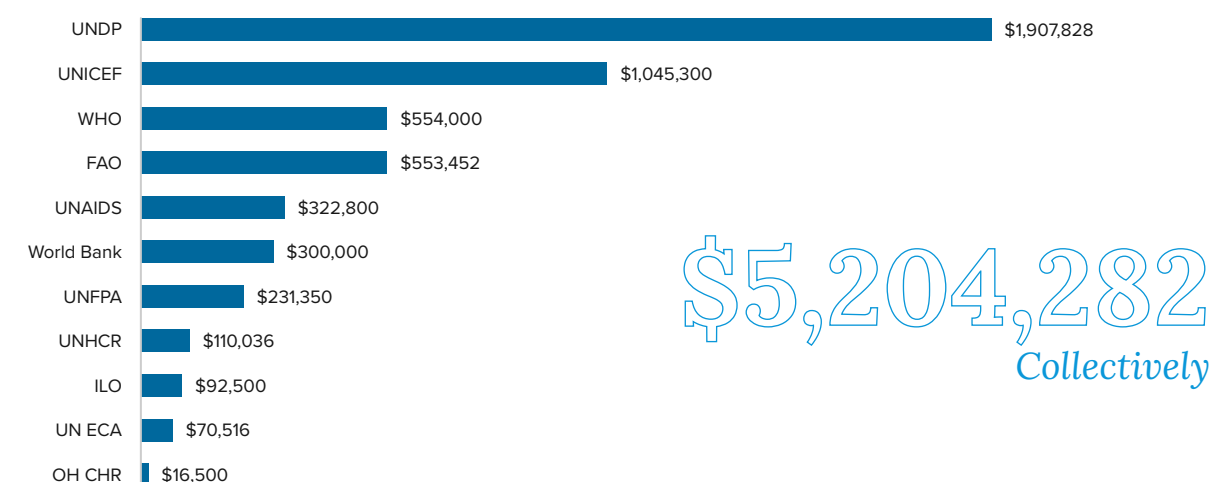
To achieve the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF) results planned for 2024, the UNCT collaborated with the Governments of Botswana, Germany, Japan, Norway, and the United States of America, which collectively contributed \$4,146,619 towards areas such as education, health, economic growth, environmental sustainability, and human rights. Other contributors, including the French Development Agency (AFD), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the International Organization on Migration Development Fund (IDF), and the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), provided a total of \$2,497,518. Additionally,

multilateral organisations such as Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), the Multilateral Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (MLF), and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) offered technical and financial assistance aimed at biodiversity protection, health, and climate resilience. New partnerships were established with the DeBeers Group and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), which provided financial support towards combating Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and HIV/AIDS.

▼ Figure 1: Partners financing the CF in 2024



▼ Figure 2: 2024 financing from UN core funds





Chapter 1

Key Developments in Botswana and the Region

On 30 October 2024, Botswana experienced a historic political shift as there was a change in Government from the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP), which had been the ruling party since independence in 1966.

The opposition coalition, Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), led by Advocate Duma Boko, secured a majority in the National Assembly.

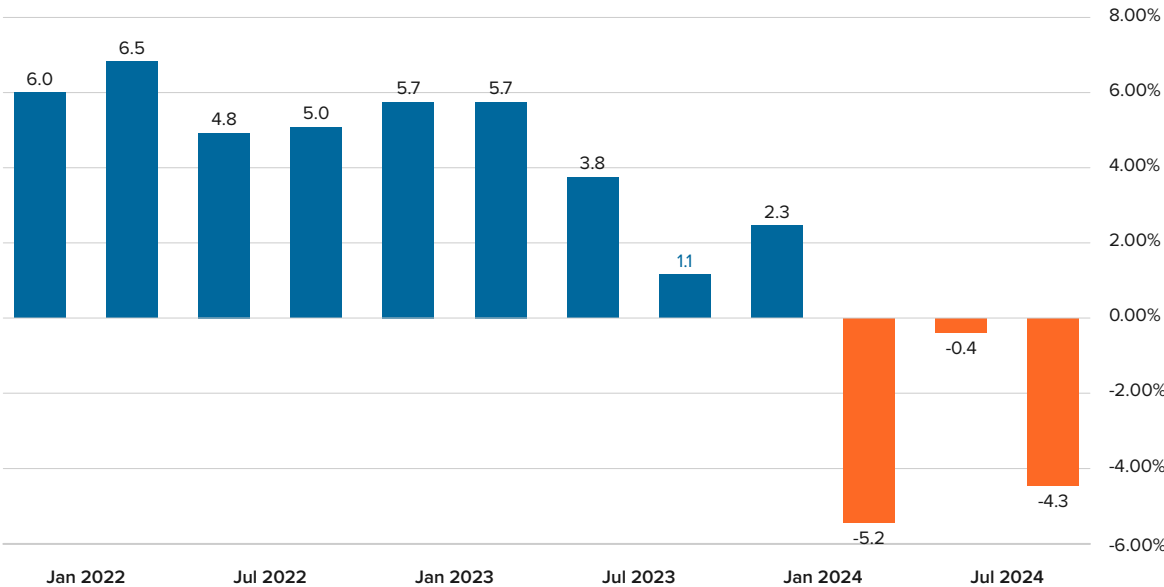
This election marked a significant realignment in Botswana's political landscape and sparked widespread discussion on the country's development. Voter turnout was high at 81.42%, reflecting strong public demand for political change. The BDP's loss was attributed to economic challenges, including a downturn in the diamond market and soaring youth unemployment near 30%. Despite the unexpected result, the power transition was peaceful, with President Mokgweetsi Masisi accepting the outcome gracefully. Botswana's Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) was praised for its transparency, ensuring a smooth process.

The Government has since presented a reform agenda focused on economic diversification, governance, social welfare, education, environmental sustainability, and democratic reforms, all aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Key objectives include reducing dependence on diamonds, creating 450,000-500,000 jobs, and expanding sectors such as tourism, agriculture, and renewable energy. Efforts to improve governance include financial audits and digital public finance management. A symbolic moment occurred during the national funeral of Pitseng Gaoberekwe, a San man who had spent all his life in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR), reinforcing the Government's commitment to reconciliation and respect for human rights and indigenous cultures.

Economically, Botswana faced a 3.1% contraction in 2024, primarily due to a sharp decline in diamond exports. As figure 3 below highlights, the economy contracted quite severely in Q1 and Q3 of 2024. However, the recently renegotiated diamond sales agreement with De Beers is expected to improve fiscal stability. Projections for 2025 suggest a 3.3% GDP growth. Policymakers are aiming to reduce dependency on diamonds through the 12th National Development Plan (NDP), emphasising long-term, inclusive growth.

Regionally, Botswana's participation in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) opens new opportunities for trade integration, particularly in auto manufacturing and pharmaceuticals, among others. The Ponta Techobanine Railway project, a \$6.5 billion infrastructure initiative involving Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique, aims to improve trade logistics and reduce dependence on South African ports. The five Southern African Customs Union (SACU) member state countries remain marked by high inequality, and Botswana's new leadership has made addressing socio-economic disparities a priority, recognising that a more equitable society is essential for sustainable development.

▼ Figure 3: 2022-2024 quarterly GDP growth rates



Chapter 2

UN Development System Support to National Development Priorities through the Cooperation Framework

The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Botswana (2022 –2026), which was produced in 2021 in close collaboration with the previous Government in alignment with its 11th National Development Plan, has a total budget of approximately US\$60 million and covers over 120 programmatic interventions, contributing to all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

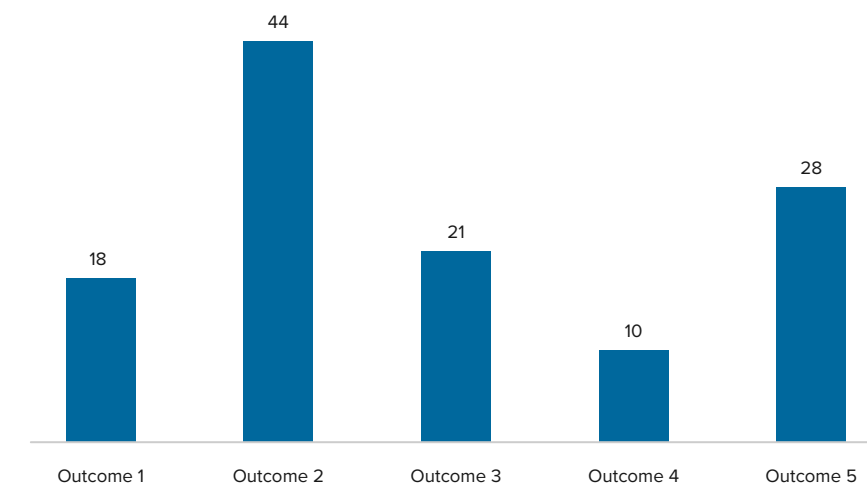
2.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

In 2024, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) implemented 121 interventions through 19 UN entities that are signatories to the Cooperation Framework (CF) (Figure 4). As shown in Figure 5, the majority of these interventions focused on improving access to services—including health, education, and social protection (Outcome 2)—and on building a just and inclusive society, while promoting accountability and transparency (Outcome 5).

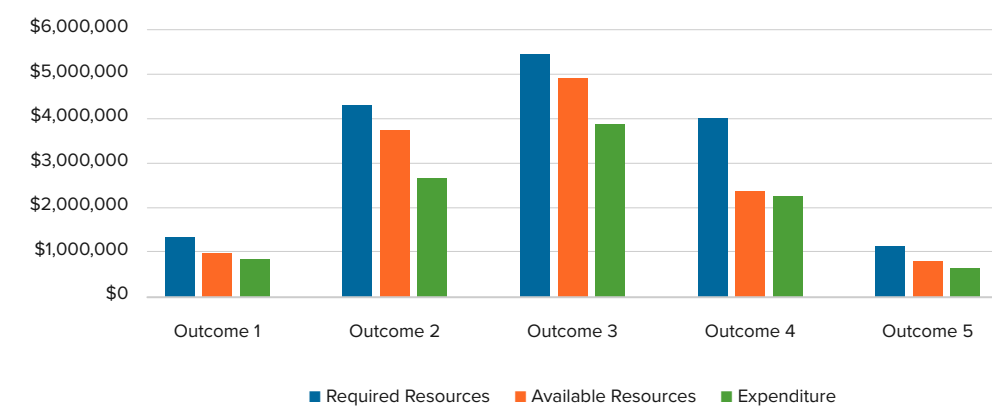
The UN system works through a number of well-defined coordination structures. These include:

- the UNCT, led by the Resident Coordinator (RC) and composed of heads of all UN entities operating in the country;
- five Results Groups, covering the five Outcome Areas and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL);
- five normative, thematic, and management groups: Joint UN Team on AIDS (JUTA), the UN Communications Group (UNCG), the Operations Management Team (OMT), the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Team, and the Inter-Agency Youth Group (YG);
- and the Joint Steering Committee (JSC)—the overarching Government–UN coordination body, which oversees implementation of the Cooperation Framework.



















▼ Figure 4: Number of interventions by outcome



















▼ Figure 5: Required, available and utilised resources by outcome



The results include improvements in achieving some SDGs in Botswana

▼ SDG	▼ Target	▼ Performance	▼ Narrative
	2.1 New or improved sectoral and/or cross-sectoral policies, strategies and investment programmes to eradicate hunger, food insecurity, and all forms of malnutrition developed with UN's support.		The draft Development of National Food and Nutrition Policy is in place and being validated.
	3.1 Number of national policies on health, including overall health or specific health areas such as nutrition policies, physical activity, sexual and reproductive health, non-communicable and communicable diseases, in accordance with human rights standards are developed and adopted, supported by the UN.		a) New costed National Immunisation Strategy (NIS) 2024-2029. b) Laboratory policy. c) Oral Health Policy. d) Botswana Prison Service Health Policy.
	4.3 Number of people directly benefiting from improved access to skills and lifelong learning programmes, including for comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), developed and implemented with UN's support.		566,282 (565,266 learners and 1016 teachers), up from 526,497 in 2023.
	5.1 Number of laws and regulations, based on international human rights norms and standards, developed with UN's support to: a) Eliminate violence against women and girls (EVAWG) including harmful practices (HP). b) Promote access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) care, information, and education.		a) Child Protection Committees Guide, b) Comprehensive Post Abortion Care (CPAC) Guidelines and Training Manual.
	5.4 Existence of national or subnational mechanism to address discriminatory gender and social norms, stereotypes, practices and power relations at the individual, social and institutional levels related to gender equality and the empowerment of women, with support of the UN.		A national level Result Group on advancing gender equality and empowerment of women, has a TOR, co-chaired by UN & Government, meets regularly, has a resourced annual plan, membership includes CSOs, Government, private sector and UN.
	5.5 Number of women-led businesses with improved performance, business transactions, and/or income generation as a result of UN's support.		326 from 13 in 2023. 204 supported by FAO on good post-harvest handling, 72 supported by UN Women through the Leadership and socio-economic empowerment programme for communal and home gardens.
	7.3 Number of people who, with UN's support: a) Gained access to clean, affordable, and sustainable energy; or b) Benefitted from services from clean, affordable, and sustainable energy.		The solar training for women in rural communities was done in Mahalapye for 50 women.
	8.2 Number of private sector entities (including micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) with improved performance, business transactions, and/or income generation as a result of UN's support.		Increased from 2 in 2023 to 215 in 2024 (65 women & girls and 150 youth).
	8.4 Number of people that benefitted from programmes to prevent and address child labour, trafficking, and forced labour strengthened by the UN.		1100 high-risk and vulnerable populations, including border communities, sex workers, truck drivers, students, cross-border business communities trained on Human Trafficking/Trafficking in Persons in 7 districts across the country.

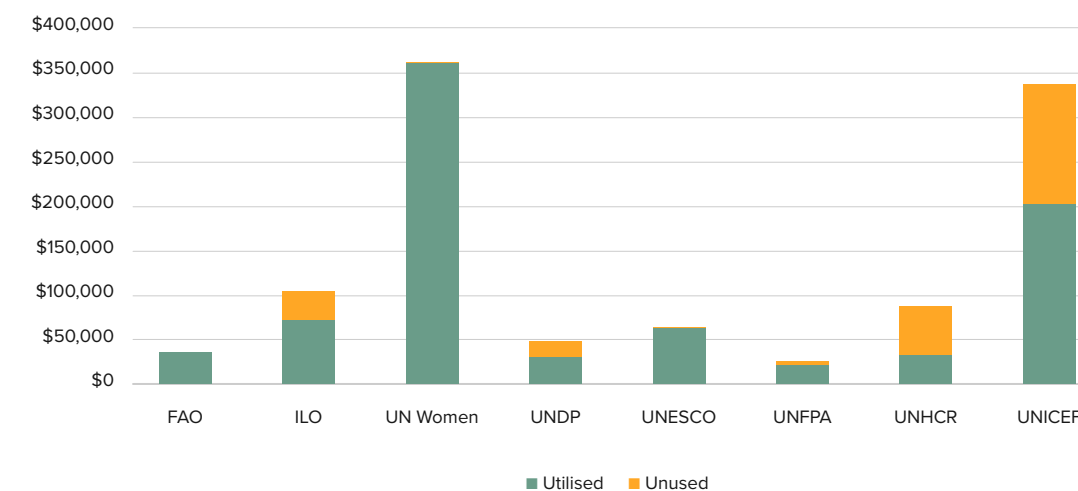
▼ SDG	▼ Target	▼ Performance	▼ Narrative
	9.3 Number of additional people with improved access to quality, reliable, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure/infrastructure-related services (including digital infrastructure), with UN's support.		Dropped from 175 (91M, 83F) in 2023 to 119 (61M, 58F) in 2024.
	10.2 Number of new or revised development or sectoral policies that integrate migration and recognize migrants as contributors to sustainable development with UN's support a.) New or revised. b.) Developmental or sectoral policy.		The National Migration Policy is in its final stages for adoption.
	12.3 Number of people directly benefitting from initiatives, with UN's support, to protect nature and promote sustainable use of resources.		Dropped from 73 (59M, 14F) in 2023 to 22 (19M, 3F) in 2024. Scouts were hired to conduct the patrols to monitor wildlife movements, anti-poaching and HWC incidences in and around Habu community.
	13.3 Existence of a national disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategy adopted with UN's support and implemented by the Government, in line with the Sendai Framework for DRR.		Strategy drafted with UN's support.
	16.1 Quality of free and universal birth registration service within civil registration and vital statistics, in accordance with international standards and best practices, supported by the UN.		The birth registration services in Botswana meet all six of the criteria in accordance with international standards.
	16.2 Extent to which UN-supported oversight, accountability, or protection mechanisms, especially on civic space, that conform to international human rights standards are in place.		Ombudsman conferred the national human rights institution in 2023. OHCHR & UNDP supporting its Oversight & Protection mechanism.
	17.3 Data collection and analysis mechanisms/initiatives providing disaggregated data to monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development, established/implemented with UN's support.		a) Initiatives - UNCT supported Statistics Botswana with analysis and dissemination of census data, including leading some thematic analysis. b) Mechanisms - UN system continues to be an active member of the Data Management Stream and is participating in development of the NDP12 M&E Framework.
	17.4 Existence of a National Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) financing strategy in the country developed with UN's support.		Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) has been finalised.

2.2. Cooperation Framework Priorities, Outcomes and Outputs



Outcome 1: Gender Equality

▼ Figure 6: 86% budget utilisation rate of \$954,360 available resources



In 2024, Botswana and its partners advanced gender equality through reforms, capacity building, and economic empowerment, laying the groundwork for more inclusive institutions and stronger protections for women and girls.

Women-led Businesses

The number of women-led businesses supported by the UN (FAO, UN Women, UNDP) soared from 13 in 2023 to 326 in 2024, mostly in areas such as post-harvest handling, leadership skills, and solar energy training.

Laws and Regulations

Two new regulations based on international human rights, norms and standards were developed with the UN's support:

- The Child Protection Committees' Guide to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls (EVAWG) including Harmful Practices (HP) and;
- the Comprehensive Post Abortion Care (CPAC) Guidelines and Training Manual to promote access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) care, information, and education.

The UN system supported initiatives towards advancing women's leadership and representation. This was meant to improve women participation in leadership positions ahead of the National Elections in October 2024.

Policy & Legal Frameworks

The International Labour Organization (ILO) partnered with trade unions to enhance the capacity of workers' organisations and promote the ratification of ILO Convention 190, which addresses violence and harassment in the workplace.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) worked on a National Action Plan for gender-sensitive recruitment practices, fostering inclusive economic growth.

Enhanced Capacities of Women

Botswana has made significant strides in increasing women's participation in politics. In 2009, Botswana became one of the first African countries to elect a female Speaker of Parliament, and in 2019, it saw an increase in the number of female Members of Parliament (MPs). However, women remain underrepresented in political positions, particularly at the highest levels of Government, including the presidency and senior government ministries. In 2024, over 300 women were trained in political campaigning to enhance their participation and representation. The training and support for political campaigning is vital for advancing women's leadership and representation, moving the country closer to SDG 5.5.

Implemented with the support of UN Women, De Beers, and the Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs, the EntreprenHER programme aims to promote economic growth and job creation through better management of microenterprises. It is one of the women-led businesses with improved performance, business transactions, and/or income generation through UN support.



Meet EntrepreNHER Beneficiary

Ms Gaone Mabalane

Through the IYB training, the EntrepreNHER programme has had a positive impact on local entrepreneurs such as Gaone Mabalane, the owner of The Little Saviour's Academy, a daycare centre in Mogoditshane. Gaone, a Chartered Accountant by profession, turned to entrepreneurship due to high unemployment in Botswana.

She mainly struggled with managing her employees, especially when it came to holding them accountable, which, in turn, resulted in a high staff turnover. However, after attending the IYB training, she gained valuable skills in employee engagement and fostering mutual respect among staff. As a result, The Little Saviour's Academy staff complement shot up from just 15 employees to 50.

However, the EntrepreNHER programme faced challenges during its implementation in 2024, attributed mainly to Botswana's general elections. Many of the trainers and the EntrepreNHER Coordinator are government employees who had to prioritise their jobs related to the elections, causing delays in activities, such as the Climate Smart Agriculture training component.

Additionally, following the elections, the change in Government led to administrative shifts in the Ministry, and subsequently, ongoing uncertainties that continue to impact the programme. While UN Women can encourage the Government to expedite processes where possible, these issues are largely political and beyond their direct control.



Photo credit: Ismel Leal



Response to GBV and VAC

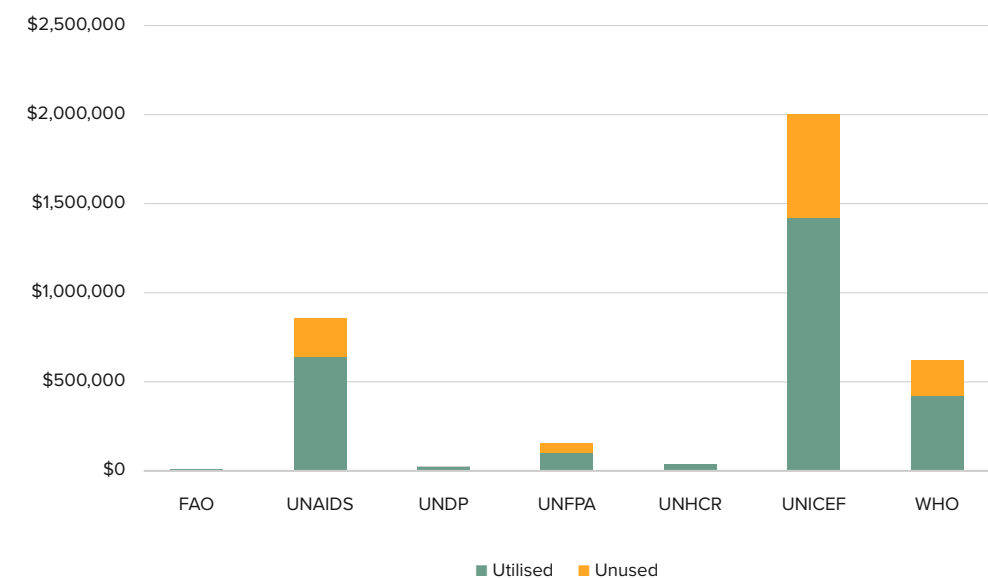
School-related Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is a significant issue in Botswana, prompting the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education, with support from UNESCO and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), to launch the "Connect with Respect" initiative. This programme aims to create a safe, inclusive learning environment by addressing various forms of violence, including bullying, physical, sexual, verbal, and psychological abuse. UNICEF also supported the expansion of the Network of Young People Living with HIV, reaching over 260 members, which empowers youth to challenge discriminatory norms and promote gender equality. Additionally, UNICEF's partnership with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development has resulted in the development of the Child Protection Committees Guide, aimed at strengthening community-based child protection systems and improving resource allocation for child safety, particularly in rural areas.

UNHCR, in collaboration with Skills Share International, has provided critical support to refugees and asylum seekers in Botswana, raising awareness on GBV prevention, and offering survivor-centred services. In 2024, this initiative reached numerous survivors, providing therapeutic support and ensuring that both males and females from affected families have access to GBV services. Together, these initiatives, "Connect with Respect", the Network of Young People Living with HIV, and the Child Protection Committees Guide—create a comprehensive approach to preventing violence, promoting gender equality, and protecting children in Botswana, contributing to the achievement of SDGs 4 and 5 and strengthening national child protection systems.



Outcome 2: Access to Quality Services

▼ Figure 7: 71% budget utilisation rate \$3,705,407 available resources



In 2024, significant strides were made in strengthening Botswana's healthcare, education, and social protection systems. Below are the highlights:

Health System Strengthening

Botswana's healthcare system has experienced notable improvements through concerted efforts led by the UNFPA and various health partners. The update of the Comprehensive Post Abortion Care (CPAC) Guidelines, now aligned with global best practices and national legal frameworks, strengthens the country's reproductive health services. Collaboration with legal experts ensured that policies complied with relevant legislation, further enhancing the quality and inclusivity of care.

Through the training of over 540 surveillance officers and the introduction of integrated support supervision across districts, immunisation coverage in high-risk areas improved significantly, reinforcing Botswana's routine vaccination programme.

The approval of the Sustainability and Transition Readiness Roadmap marks a significant step towards Botswana's goal of achieving self-sufficiency in healthcare by 2030. This further cut back on dependence on donor funding for HIV programs. Developed by UNAIDS, the Ministry of Health, and other stakeholders, the strategic framework outlines risk and mitigation strategies for financing, governance, and civil society engagement. While the roadmap represents a major milestone, its successful implementation will require

substantial investment and coordinated effort from all partners, with a focus on transitional financing and the rationalisation of donor-supported human resources.

Responsive Health Security Systems

By collaborating with the UN system and various health partners, Botswana has significantly enhanced its health security systems. The WHO's Public Health Emergency Management training of 55 health workers, coupled with Africa CDC's simulation exercises for 40 health workers, has built critical capacity to respond effectively during public health emergencies.

These initiatives focused on strengthening the country's ability to manage crises, such as pandemics by improving emergency protocols and response strategies. UNICEF further supported resilience efforts by contributing to the development of Botswana's COVID-19 integration plan and National Immunisation Strategy, ensuring long-term protection against future public health threats. Additionally, the collaboration between UNFPA, the Ministry of Health, and Ntlo Ya Dikgosi has advanced Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) by training traditional leaders to advocate for SRHR among young people and addressing gender and social norms that hinder access to vital health services. These comprehensive efforts have dramatically strengthened Botswana's health security and the capacity for crisis management, while promoting inclusivity in health and rights advocacy.



Education System Strengthened

In 2024, Botswana made notable advances in improving education. UNICEF's pilot remediation and enrichment programme reached over 100 schools, benefiting 2,200 teachers and nearly 300,000 students. The programme emphasised inclusive education, particularly for children with special educational needs through the National Learning Support Strategy. Investments in early childhood education also helped equip preschool teachers and education officers to provide high-quality foundational learning. Furthermore, digital education was expanded, with UNICEF enhancing internet access to 100 remote schools, training over 600 teachers in digital literacy, and engaging students through the Learning Passport, which boosted learning opportunities.

At Dukwi Refugee Camp, UNHCR provided all 259 eligible children with essential education support, including school fees, transport, and learning materials, reaffirming Botswana's commitment to inclusive education for displaced communities. These efforts have had a lasting impact by improving access to quality education for both local and refugee populations, fostering an inclusive, resilient education system in Botswana.

Social Protection Systems Strengthened

In 2024, Botswana's social protection systems were markedly reinforced through initiatives focused on gender equality and refugee support. UNICEF secured funding to

assess the social protection system's impact on gender disparities, with the objective of providing evidence and recommendations to address gender inequalities through reforms.

Meanwhile, the Cash-Based Initiative (CBI) at the Dukwi Refugee Camp uses mobile money for ease of distribution. The initiative, which benefits the refugees and local economy, has improved access to critical goods for refugees and enhanced their financial independence by offering cash grants for essential expenses.

Among the 911 individuals supported by the CBI initiative, 14 with specific needs received tailored assistance, while 6 refugees and asylum seekers underwent vulnerability assessments. This is critical to ensuring they are not reliant on in-kind aid but can instead use the funds for their specific needs. By directing cash assistance into the local market, the programme has a positive impact on local businesses, such as supermarkets and the informal sector in Dukwi. This stimulates economic activity and supports the community around the refugee camp, creating a mutually beneficial relationship between refugees and local businesses.

In addition, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) were provided with comprehensive child protection service, including psycho-social support, sports activities, and foster care support. These efforts contributed to a more inclusive and resilient social protection system that prioritises support for vulnerable populations such as women, children, and refugees.

Cash Assistance Empowers Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Botswana

In collaboration with the Government, UNHCR, is providing its first-ever cash-based intervention (CBI) to vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers at Dukwi Camp.

As the sun rose over the plains of eastern Botswana, refugees and asylum-seekers in the remote village of Dukwi eagerly awaited their cash assistance at the local post office. This distribution was part of the CBI programme recently launched by UNHCR in collaboration with the Government of Botswana. The initiative is designed to replace the food and non-food items system. Since launching in Botswana, the CBI programme has benefited approximately 911 refugees and asylum-seekers from 249 households.

Mkeyo*, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, expressed joy upon receiving cash assistance: “We have been waiting for this for a long time. With cash, we can buy anything we want.” Cash in hand, Mkeyo plans to invest in his bakery business. “I have already purchased additional baking trays and plan to bake more. This will allow me to offer my customers credit, knowing they will pay me back once they receive their monthly CBI transfers.”

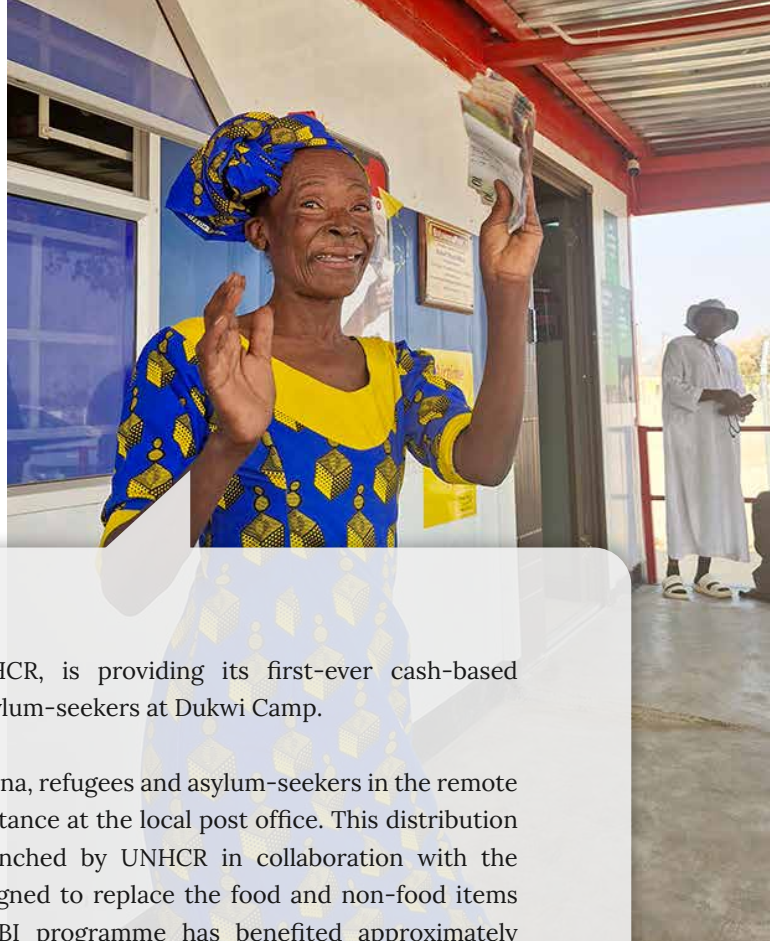
Mkeyo further noted that cash assistance has also created a market for local vegetable vendors. Somalian refugee, 18-year-old Yusuf*, shared his excitement about receiving cash assistance: “It feels great going to the post office like everyone else. Now I can buy additional items like toiletries and access my money outside the camp.”

For her part, Graca*, a 54-year-old widow and asylum-seeker from Angola, hopes to become a Botswana citizen and saves a portion of her CBI every month to start a new life outside the camp. One of her five children has already received an identity document, a small but significant step towards their new life.

During the annual engagement with refugees at Dukwi camp, Botswana’s Justice Minister at the time, Machana Ronald Samukuni, applauded the CBI initiative: “This intervention empowers refugees to determine their own needs and promotes peaceful co-existence with host communities, benefiting the local economy.”

The minister highlighted Botswana’s efforts to protect refugees, including by overhauling its Refugee Act as part of its Global Refugee Forum pledges, appointing members of the Refugee Advisory Committee in April 2024, and planning to grant more citizenship to enhance integration and social cohesion.

*Only first names have been used for protection reasons.



UNICEF supports Government to step up routine immunisation efforts

In Motokwe, a small Kweneng District village about 360km from the capital city Gaborone, a collaboration between UNICEF Botswana, USAID, Ministry of Health, and the Botswana Red Cross Society guaranteed children received vital immunisations and attended monthly welfare clinics. Faced with routine immunisation resistance by parents, health officials and partners have had to find smart ways to ensure children under five receive vital immunisations and attend all important monthly child welfare clinics.

This is where community members such as Moleti Obakeng, who runs a shebeen in the village, came in. Realising that some of the parents were boasting about not taking their children for monthly check-ups, she decided to work with the Health Care team. After all, as a mother, she knows all too well the importance of children receiving routine vaccines, as well as the impact attending the Child welfare clinics can have in a child’s life. Even while eking out a living selling alcohol, she wanted her customers’ children to also go through this rite of passage and went above and beyond to ensure they remained committed. She helps by offering supplies and notifying health teams of missed appointments, addressing challenges such as alcoholism, and access issues. The initiative aims to improve child health services at the grassroots level.

“I took the team’s contacts, and every time one parent arrived, I would call them to ensure they had access to the cards. I would also encourage mothers to take their children to the clinic if they had not. If they refused, I would call the team”.

Moleti Obakeng explained.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health efforts to mobilise communities in remote areas with low immunisation coverage to make sure they were vaccinated. The Minister of Health at the time, Dr. Edwin Dikoloti, hailed the intervention by UNICEF as a significant milestone in advancing Integrated Community Child Health Services in Botswana, particularly in Kweneng District.

For her part, UNICEF Representative, Dr Joan Matji applauded the community for its positive response to the routine immunisation programme.

“Allow me to acknowledge caregivers and community members who continue to host the community health workers in their homes for the benefit of children.”

Dr. Joan Matji

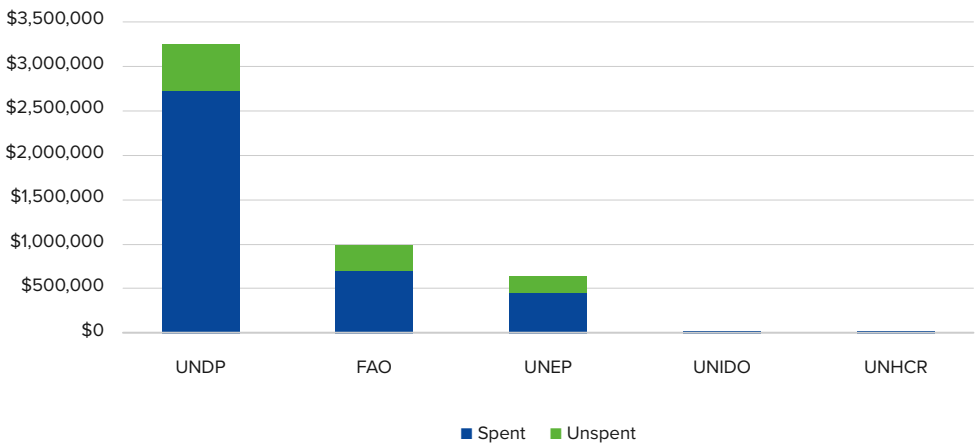
Dr Matji further said that the programme would not have succeeded without the strength of the partnerships between Government, development partners, UN, and Non-Governmental Organisations. The intervention was supported by USAID, and Botswana Red Cross led community engagement efforts.

”



Outcome 3:
Food Security, Natural Resources
and Climate Change

▼ Figure 8: 79% budget utilisation rate of \$4,877,375 available resources



In 2024, Botswana made measurable progress across food security, energy, and environmental sustainability, supported by coordinated efforts from the UN system and its partners.

Food Systems Strengthened

In 2024, significant strides were made in strengthening Botswana's food systems, resulting in enhanced agricultural productivity, market access, and food security. FAO's support improved value chains for products including pickled vegetables and tomato sauce, enabling local producers to meet high standards and access both domestic and international markets. The development and implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for sheep, goats, cereals, and pulses improved product quality, safety, and sustainability, benefiting 65 farmers and 30 extension officers. Efforts were made to reduce post-harvest losses, including the creation of a baseline report and practical guidelines, contributed to enhanced food security and better livelihoods for farmers. Additionally, the Value Chain Marketing Strategy supported livestock farmers in regaining market share through improved value propositions. These combined efforts have led to a more resilient and sustainable food system, improving food security and economic opportunities for both local farmers and displaced populations.

Renewable and Clean Energy

On the energy front, Botswana made remarkable progress with the expansion of the Biogas Technology Project. Originally piloted by UNDP and the GEF, the project was fully funded by the Government in 2024 for US\$583,000, leading to the construction of 317 biogas digesters across the country. The project also benefited from the support of partners such as the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), which contributed to its expansion and sustainability. Generating an estimated 1,426 kWh of energy daily, the initiative reduced reliance on traditional fuels while creating job opportunities for young people trained in biogas digester construction and maintenance. This production capacity contributes to clean energy, cutting down reliance on traditional fuel sources and promoting sustainable energy use at a local level. As part of the project, 128 young women and men in the regions (Mahalapye, Serowe, Kasane, Maun, Nata, Ghanzi, Boteti, Palapye and Selebi Phikwe) have been trained in the construction and maintenance of biogas digesters. This is a critical aspect of the project, as it ensures the sustainability of the technology by building local expertise and creating job opportunities within communities. By including women in these training programmes, the project not only advanced clean energy but also promoted gender equality in the renewable energy sector.



Sustainable Natural Resources

Botswana made major progress in sustainable natural resource management, with key initiatives aimed at combating land degradation, enhancing climate resilience, and promoting biodiversity conservation. The development of the Botswana Land Restoration Strategy, supported by FAO, GEF, and national ministries, is a pivotal step in restoring land health and fostering sustainable development. The establishment of a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) lab further strengthened spatial planning and resource management, while surveys in Chobe and Tutume-Mosetse districts provided valuable data on sustainable agricultural practices, such as millet cultivation and beekeeping. Additionally, a legal analysis for sustainable wildlife management was completed, ensuring that conservation efforts align with food security needs. FAO and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism's collaboration on wildlife conservation and food security promoted the legal exploitation of wildlife populations, balancing rural and urban needs. UNDP's anti-poaching efforts, including the National Anti-Poaching Strategy, enhanced inter-agency collaboration and community involvement, leading to the protection of over 600,000 hectares of Wildlife Management Areas and helping to preserve Botswana's biodiversity. These initiatives collectively contributed to strengthened climate resilience, sustainable land management, and enhanced wildlife conservation, positioning Botswana as a leader in environmental sustainability.

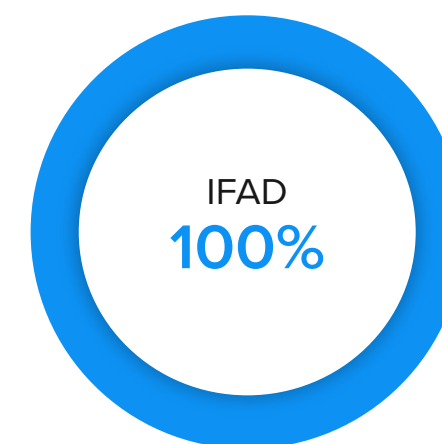
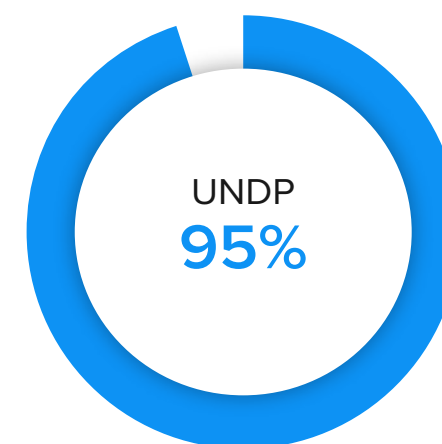
Climate Change Adaptation

Botswana markedly improved in climate change adaptation, particularly in the drought-affected Ngamiland region. With support from the Japanese Supplementary Fund, UNDP provided food assistance to 2,000 people and simultaneously invested in long-term agricultural solutions, equipping Cluster Garden Farms with net shading and mechanised farming tools such as walk-behind tractors. These innovations, managed largely by women and youth, improved agricultural efficiency and yields, even in the face of shifting climate patterns. The food assistance alleviated immediate hunger, while the investment in net shading and mechanised equipment helped mitigate the effects of heat and enhanced productivity. The project directly addressed the challenges of climate change by promoting sustainable agricultural practices and empowering local communities, particularly women and youth. These efforts highlighted the positive impact of collaborative action in adapting to climate change and improving resilience in vulnerable regions.



Outcome 4: Economic Prosperity

▼ Figure 9: budget utilisation rate of \$2,357,312 available resources



In 2024, Botswana and its partners advanced efforts to diversify the economy, strengthen sustainable infrastructure, and create new opportunities for women and small businesses through regional trade and innovation. UNDP and IFAD supported 15 initiatives valued at \$2,241,599, contributing particularly to SDG 7 and SDG 9. Some examples follow.

Support Informal and Private Sector

Support for the informal and private sectors has been critical in expanding sustainable energy solutions. Through the Biogas Technology Project, UNDP's partnership with GEF has cultivated local expertise, created job opportunities, and enhanced the resilience of local economies. Another initiative benefitted 50 women in rural Mahalapye, providing them with training in clean, affordable, and sustainable solar energy.

Resilient Growth Model

IFAD, in collaboration with UNECA, provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture (MoLA) in implementing the Small Stock Digitisation Strategy in the Kgalagadi District. With a 90% completion rate, the Lobu Smart Farm project developed an operational business plan, 3D architectural designs, and infrastructure reports. This project aims to drive digital transformation in small stock farming, supporting the adoption of smart agricultural technologies, and positioning Lobu Farm as a knowledge hub. The Lobu Smart Farm represents a key step towards digital transformation in agriculture, further bolstering resilience and sustainable growth in Botswana.

For decades, Botswana has strived to diversify its economy away from its reliance on diamond and beef revenues to reduce vulnerability to economic shocks. The adoption of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement in 2024 brought renewed hope for increased continental trade, job creation, reduction of inequality and poverty, and further diversifying the economy. UNDP and UNECA supported the Government in developing the Botswana AfCFTA National Strategy and Implementation Plan, which aims to leverage trade opportunities for economic growth. As part of this effort, 10 women-owned Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including informal businesses enrolled in the Guided Trade Initiative (GTI) under the AfCFTA UNDP Africa Initiative. Initially focused on capacity-building in export readiness and cross-border trade protocols, the initiative quickly expanded, opening exciting prospects for these businesses to access regional markets. UNDP collaborated with partners including CEDA, BURS, and BITC to help these MSMEs obtain Certificates of Origin from BURS, certifying their products as Botswana and facilitating exports. One such success story includes a Small, Medium and Micro Enterprise (SMME), now importing Shea Butter through networking opportunities created by the initiative and the Boiteko Baskets Cooperative.

BiasharaAfrika2024
Inclusive Economic
Diversification Project for
Women Artisans in Botswana

With our support, 10 women-owned MSMEs, including informal businesses successfully enrolled in the Guided Trade Initiative (GTI) under the AfCFTA UNDP Africa Initiative. What started off as capacity-building on export readiness and cross-border trade protocols quickly turned into exciting prospects for accessing markets beyond the borders of Botswana.

For Boiteko Baskets Cooperative — a group of rural-based women artisans supported through the initiative — the dream of reaching new markets across Africa once seemed distant. But that dream began to take shape with their participation at the #BiasharaAfrika2024 in Rwanda.

The Boiteko Baskets Cooperative and others showcased their products to regional buyers and attracted strong interest from partners in Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zambia, South Africa and Ghana. While they have not all yet exported products under the initiative, the pathway is now clear — relationships are developing, prospects for demand of the products exist, and these entrepreneurs are better equipped to take the next step into continental trade.

As one of the Speakers at the forum reminded us:

“We are not just opening markets; we are opening minds and building futures across Africa.”

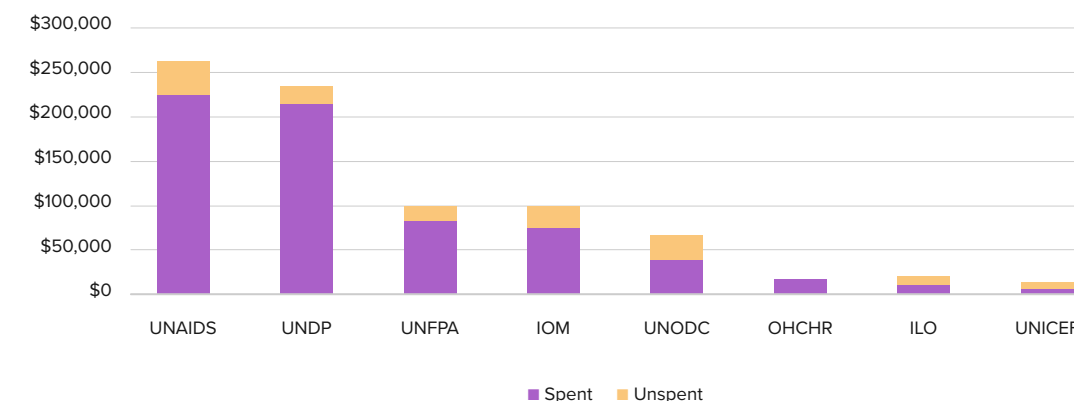
This milestone marks a turning point, and we are proud to stand alongside these businesses as they prepare to seize the opportunities ahead.





Outcome 5: Justice, Data and Partnerships

▼ Figure 10: 82% budget utilisation rate of \$791,590 available resources



In 2024, the UN system supported Botswana in strengthening its justice institutions, enhancing data-driven governance, and building strategic partnerships to promote human rights, transparency, and sustainable development.

Improved Access to Justice

The country finalised Botswana's Migration Policy, developed with UN support, which integrates migration as a driver of sustainable development. This milestone is complemented by the introduction of criminal sanctions for human trafficking, as per the Anti-Human Trafficking (Amendment) Act of 2024.

UN entities, particularly IOM, supported the development of national frameworks to combat human trafficking—including Standard Operating Procedures, a Trainer's Guide, and a Communication Strategy—while also leading targeted awareness campaigns in high-risk regions alongside the Ministry of Justice and Correctional Services.

These campaigns, held in Selebi-Phikwe, Bobonong, Francistown, Shakawe, Charles Hill, Seronga, Ghanzi, and Hukuntsi, aimed at reaching high-risk and vulnerable populations, including border communities, sex workers, truck drivers, students, and cross-border business communities to ensure that no one was left behind (LNOB) in efforts to counter trafficking in Botswana. As a result, the initiative successfully expanded outreach efforts, ensuring the critical information reached at-risk groups in strategic locations, thereby strengthening community awareness and response mechanisms. The Charleshill Primary School Headmaster, located over 700km from the capital Gaborone, acknowledged this effort as it will teach students about identification, detection, and openness to reporting.

Beyond community outreach, national institutions also received targeted support to strengthen justice and accountability systems.

Improved Government Systems

Specialised training for prosecutors improved the country's ability to trace illicit financial flows, dismantle criminal networks, and recover assets critical to the fight against corruption and money laundering. OHCHR supported the operationalisation of Botswana's Ombudsman office as a national human rights institution, guaranteeing better protection and advocacy for human rights. Additionally, the UNODC's analysis of the Whistleblowing Act and the piloting of Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) reporting system further reinforced accountability and transparency in Government.

Availability of Quality Data

The UN system played a crucial role in data-driven policy development by supporting the national statistics office, leading to the dissemination of high-quality policy papers based on the 2022 Population and Housing Census. These papers, covering gender, youth, disability, and fertility, are critical for evidence-based programming. UNAIDS also improved data quality for child health, while the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs, with UNFPA's technical leadership, developed a strategic plan for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, aimed at improving demographic data collection.



Strengthened New and Existing Partnerships

Key partnerships were forged to drive economic development. The Botswana Beef Value Chain Development Project, in collaboration with UNECA, BADEA, and the Government, aims to expand beef exports, contributing to Botswana's participation in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and boosting intra-Africa trade.

Additionally, the UN partnered with Campaign for Free Expression (CFE), Botswana Editors Forum (BEF), Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Botswana Council of NGOs (BOCONGO), Media Institute for Southern Africa (MISA) and the University of Botswana to support Botswana's 2024 general elections through the Freedom of Expression Summit, fostering dialogue to ensure electoral integrity and the protection of free expression.

2.3 Results of the UN Working More and Better Together



▼ Figure 11: Joint programmes - available resources



In 2024, the UN Country Team in Botswana deepened collaboration across key areas—gender equality, youth inclusion, disability, data, and justice—through joint programmes and inter-agency initiatives designed to drive collective impact and leave no one behind.

There are currently six joint initiatives—on Regional GBV, HIV/AIDS (JUTA), Disability Inclusion, Gender Equality, NDP 12, and Youth Inclusion—supported by seven UN entities. While they have shown promising results, they have also faced implementation challenges, which are outlined below.

▼ Figure 12: Joint initiatives - 2024 available resources



The Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS (JUTA)

The Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS (JUTA), which includes UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, and UN Women, managed to positively impact school-related GBV by piloting the “Connect with Respect” intervention, later expanding it to 10 education regions, reaching 220 teachers, and improving the safety and wellbeing of students.

UN Women’s leadership in socio-economic empowerment for adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) through the "SHE" programme also yielded impressive results. In its second year, 120 young women were trained in permaculture, with 72 successfully establishing communal and home gardens. Additionally, 421 young women participated in leadership meetings and supported over 148 GBV survivors, contributing to a larger movement advocating for young women’s needs and capabilities. This initiative, supported by local partners, has laid a strong foundation for sustainability, with plans to expand support through future partnerships with the National AIDS and Health Promotion Agency (NAHPA). Furthermore, the Joint Programme enhanced youth engagement by expanding the Network of Young People living with HIV to over 260 members, providing them with platforms to voice their concerns and influence decision-making.



Disability Inclusion

The UNCT exceeded expectations in 10 out of 14 accountability indicators, particularly in consulting persons with disabilities on national strategies and conducting a situational analysis that included their direct involvement in data collection. However, gaps remain in ensuring accessibility within UN premises and services, an area that requires a more systematic approach to address reasonable accommodation requests.

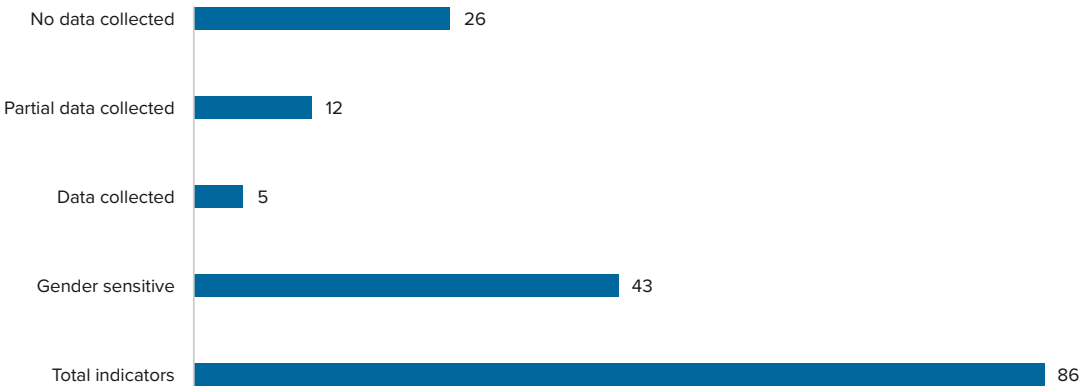
To improve access to services for persons with disabilities, a UNCT Inter-Agency Team coordinated by the RCO partnered with the Government and two representative organisations— Botswana Federation of The Disabled (BOFOD) and Botswana Council for the Disabled (BCD) —to conduct a participatory situational analysis. Funded by UNPRPD, the exercise included persons with disabilities as data collectors and produced actionable recommendations for Government, partners, and the UN.

“... it was an inclusive exercise and should not end here. It included persons with disabilities across seven districts, not just the capital city. We were excited at the collaboration and are so proud when we read about the exercise in different media platforms. I wish other partners can learn from this initiative which is a true definition of ‘Nothing for us without us!’”

Mr Wabotlhe Chimidza
Former BOFOD Chairperson

Gender Equality and the Regional Joint GBV Program

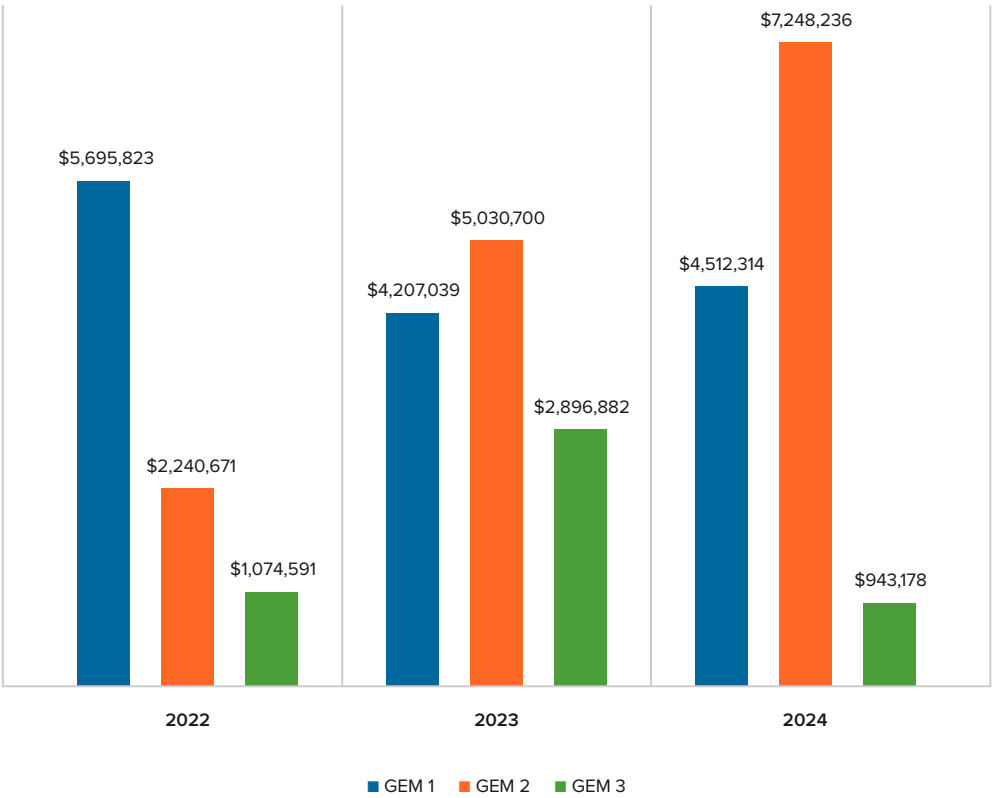
▼ Figure 13: Assessment of CF indicators for gender sensitivity



A UNCT gender analysis found that only half of the Common Framework (CF) indicators (43 of 86) are gender sensitive, and that data is inconsistently collected, highlighting the need for stronger gender mainstreaming in the next CF cycle.

Gender equality efforts saw notable investments, with 64% of the available resources directed towards promoting gender equality, resulting in various impactful interventions.

▼ Figure 14: UNCT contribution towards gender equality per year



Efforts include initiatives to support women entrepreneurs, while reducing GBV. A key achievement in gender equality was the strengthening of the capacity of child justice stakeholders, which empowered magistrates, prosecutors, and social workers in providing child-friendly justice. This led to the establishment of online courts for children in three major cities, expediting the handling of cases and enhancing the judicial system's response to children's needs.

NDP 12 Development

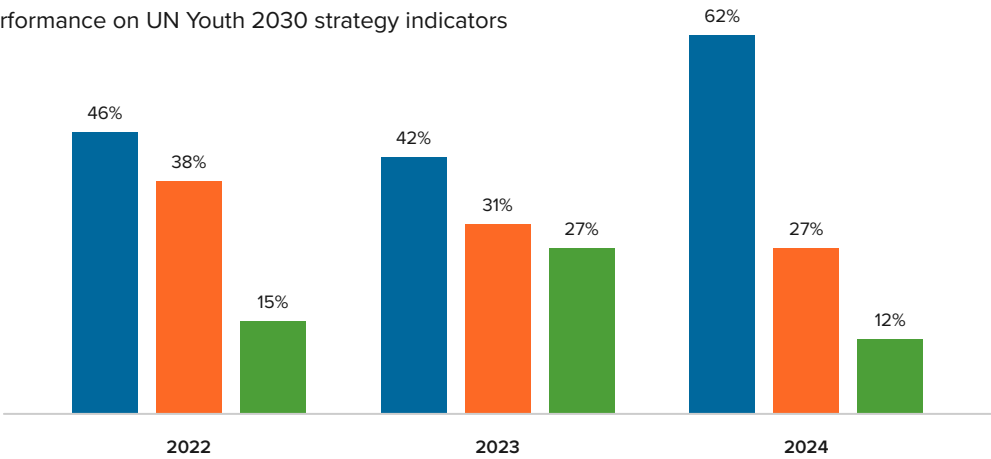
The UNCT’s collaboration in supporting the Government's 12th National Development Plan (NDP 12) also marked a significant milestone, shaping policies that prioritise persons with disabilities, children and youth issues. Although delays

in developing the new population policy affected progress, efforts continue to ensure that population dynamics are integrated into the NDP 12.

Youth Inclusion

Since the formulation of the inter-agency group on Youth 2030 by the UNCT in 2023, there has been a marked improvement in the accuracy and quality of reporting across all 26 indicators. In 2024, the UNCT saw a 20% improvement in indicators rated as “Green” (milestone met), with corresponding reductions in “Yellow” (moving forward) and “Red” (getting ready) indicators by 4% and 15%, respectively. With 58% of its planned \$404,000 budget funded, Botswana’s UNCT was rated as “Moving Forward.”

▼ Figure 15: Performance on UN Youth 2030 strategy indicators



▼ Table 1: Joint Youth Initiatives

Output	Suboutput	Agency	JP/JI	Planned \$	Available \$	Expenditure \$
1.3	National and sub-national multi-sector coordination, quality AYP/AGYW programmes implementation, monitoring and evaluation, data management and youth engagement platforms.	UNICEF	JUTA	150,000	80,000	80,000
2.1	Facilitate accountability platforms for quality youth programming and young women leadership empowerment programmes.	UNFPA	JUTA	54,000	54,000	23,076
4.3	Support the development of NDP 12, including the development of the National Human Development Report (NHDR) focusing on youth (un)employment.	UNDP	NDP 12 Support	200,000	100,000	95,324
				404,000	234,000	198,400
				-	(58%)	(85%)



While Botswana has made considerable progress in achieving the 95-95-95 HIV treatment targets among the 15-64 years old, children and adolescents continue to be left behind in the treatment cascade. According to the most recent HIV-related survey from 2022 (BAIS V), 84.5% of young people living with HIV are aware of their HIV status (compared to 95.1% for adults), 98.5% of those who know their status are on ART (compared to 98% for adults), and 92% of those on treatment are virally suppressed (compared to 97.9% for adults). Some of the root causes contributing to these inequities relate to high levels of self-stigma amongst adolescents, as well as issues related to disclosure and relationships. Moreover, adolescents transition into adult care after the age of 18, leading to reduced treatment adherence since the adult facilities do not provide youth-friendly care and support services.

“I am grateful for the teen clubs because this is my safe space where I can share stuff with. I can't share this stuff at home, so this is the space where I can share. It made me realise I am not alone, and this made my confidence grow. Don't fear my tears, I will be alright.”

Anonymous

The "Operation Triple Zero" initiative addressed the treatment gap among adolescents and children living with HIV, with 96% of those in youth clubs being virally suppressed. The initiative also improved healthcare workers' capacity in five districts, enabling more accurate data reporting and better targeting of interventions. This reflects the UNCT's commitment to addressing the evolving needs of youth and improving health outcomes through targeted, data-driven approaches.

“I nearly killed myself but thank goodness for access to youth-friendly services through the network of young people living with HIV, I got help and was able to accept myself.”

Anonymous

Quotes from adolescent youths living with HIV who attended Teen Clubs and are members of the Network of Young People Living with HIV.

These stories reflect how safe spaces, youth clubs, and peer-led networks are transforming lives—and how targeted UN support continues to close equity gaps in Botswana's HIV response.

2.4 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilisation

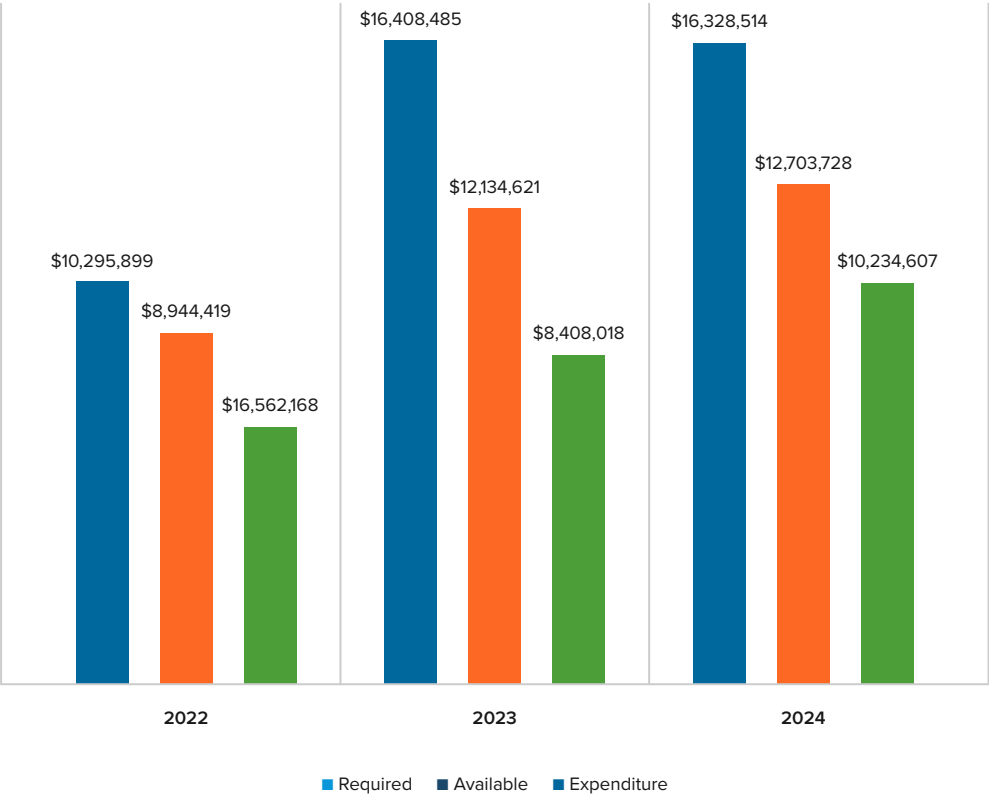
In 2024, the UN Country Team in Botswana maintained a strong delivery rate while navigating evolving government priorities and the challenges of financing for development in an upper-middle-income context.

Financial Overview

In 2024, UN Botswana achieved a delivery rate of 81%, with total expenditure reaching \$10.2 million (as of 11 March 2025). Over the past three years, the UN system in Botswana has had an average of \$11.3 million available annually for CF implementation, spending approximately \$8.4 million each year.

Approximately \$2.5 million remained unspent in 2024, primarily due to shifting Government priorities related to national elections and the transition to a new administration. As a result, some initiatives had to be delayed or postponed until 2025.

▼ Figure 16: Trends in UNCT resources (required, available vs. expenditure) USD



Source: UNINFO



Nonetheless, the delivery rate for 2024 was higher in comparison to 2022 and 2023 (Figure 15 below). In 2022 and 2023, the delivery rate was 73% and 69.2%, respectively.

Improving efficiency in spending remains a key concern, both for the UNCT and in broader financing for development discussions. In the case of Botswana, the Government procurement systems are often quite slow and require several stages of approval before any expenditures.

Delivery has lagged in several output areas—specifically 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.3, and 3.4—which collectively contributed to the overall underperformance in spending. Output 3.3 received the most funding from GEF through UNDP to support the Ministry of Environment and Tourism on landscape planning in conservation areas, combating wildlife crime and trafficking. Closer analysis is recommended to identify which agencies and government ministries are responsible for spending under these outputs, to improve accountability and support timely delivery.

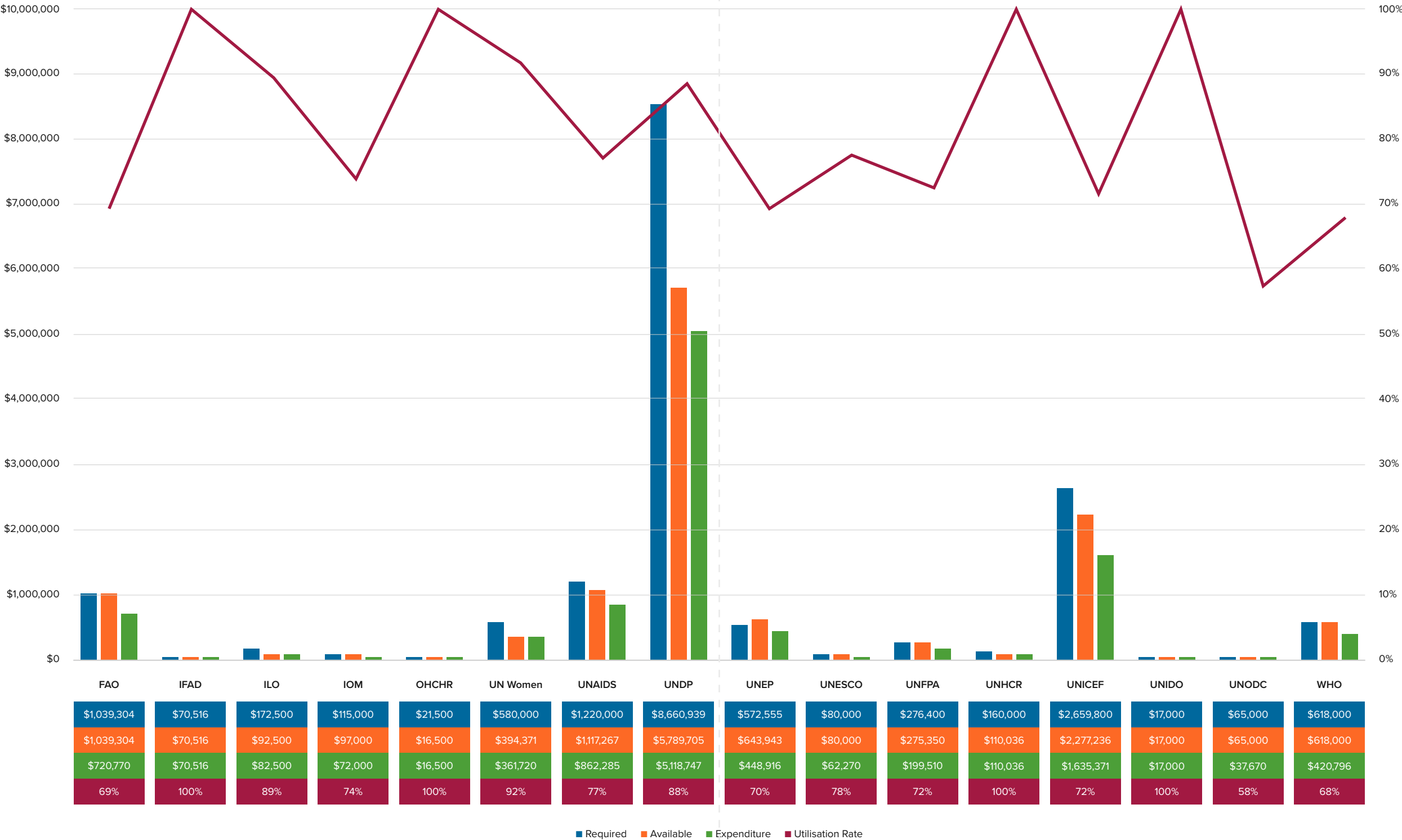
UNDP, UNICEF, UNAIDS and FAO, respectively, had the largest contribution to the financial resources in 2024 (see figure overleaf).

Resource Mobilisation for the UN Cooperation Framework

As an upper-middle income country (UMIC), Botswana is expected to finance most development efforts through domestic resource mobilisation. Botswana’s fiscal situation has been deteriorating, primarily due to the reduced demand for natural diamonds. Subsequently, Botswana has faced continuous budget deficits that have been financed both domestically as well as through international sources.

To ensure development financing is both effective and efficient, the Government and the UN system must improve how resources are allocated, disbursed, and monitored. A system-wide review of delivery mechanisms and programme evaluation is needed. Future resource mobilisation should focus on priority areas with strong absorptive capacity and measurable outcomes.

▼ Figure 17: Resources by UN Agency (required, available, and expenditure USD)



Source: UNINFO

Chapter 3

UNCT Key Focus for Next Year

As Botswana enters a new political era, the UN Country Team is adapting its support to ensure continued impact amid leadership transitions, evolving national priorities, and global development challenges.

Following the peaceful change of Government in Botswana, the first since the country's independence in 1966, UNCT is keen to support the new cabinet in finding its feet and delivering on its promise to boost Botswana's development through growth and diversification of the economy, ambitious social reforms and a powerful human rights agenda.

The RC and UNCT will offer UN orientations for newly elected officials and collaborate closely with the new Government to craft the next National Development Plan (NDP12), which is expected to be launched in October this year. The UNCT will also support the new administration to identify and implement national priorities aligned with the Pact for the Future—adopted by Member States in September 2024 to accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda.

However, the change in Government happened at a time of multilateral turbulence, and the beginning of 2025 has seen major cuts in funding to the UN development system, not least from the US, including several UN agencies operating in Botswana. In light of this, the UNCT will need to carefully assess how best to support the country with fewer resources.

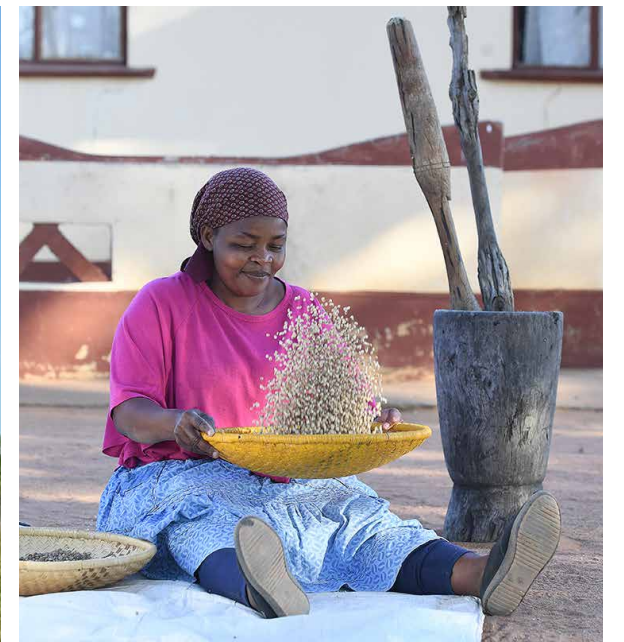
As the UN turns 80, its headquarters will review institutional architecture and mandates to improve efficiency, while the UN development system at country level will

reassess priorities to focus on interventions with truly transformative potential. Novel methods of resource mobilisation might be necessary, and the Funding Compact that was agreed by the UNSD and Members States in 2024 will be leveraged globally as well as locally to that effect.

2025 is the penultimate year of the current Cooperation Framework, a time of reflection on what has been achieved so far, and how the UNCT may want to (re)position itself to go forward. An external evaluation will take place in Q2-Q3 and in parallel, UNCT will perform a new Common Country Analysis. Insights from the two processes will lay the foundation for the formulation of a new Cooperation Framework that will be elaborated throughout 2026 and take effect from 2027. A largely new UNCT will lead these efforts, since new appointments will be made for RC as well as representatives of lead agencies UNDP, UNICEF and WHO in Q1-Q2 of 2025.

Given all the changes outlined above, such as the new Government, the challenges facing the multilateral system, the reduction of development funding, and the changes in the UN leadership on the ground, the CF evaluation and CCA exercises this year are very timely and crucial to making certain the UN's support to Botswana remains as relevant as ever.

As Botswana and the UNCT both navigate transitions, 2025 offers a crucial opportunity to reaffirm partnerships, renew priorities, and strengthen the UN's impact for years to come.



Glossary

AFD	Agence Française de Développement	MISA.....	Media Institute of Southern Africa
AGYW.....	Adolescent Girls and Young Women	MLF	Multilateral Trust Fund for the Implementation of the
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome		Montreal Protocol
ART.....	Anti-Retroviral Therapy	NAHPA	National AIDS and Health Promotion Agency
AYP.....	Adolescent and Young People	NDP12	National Development Plan 12
BADEA.....	The Arab Bank For Economic Development In Africa	NHDR.....	National Human Development Report
BAIS	Botswana AIDS Impact Survey	NIS.....	National Immunization Strategy
BCD.....	Botswana Council for the Disabled	RC.....	Resident Coordinator
BDP.....	Botswana Democratic Party	SACU	Southern Africa Customs Union
BEF.....	Botswana Editors Forum	SHE	A UN Women initiative supporting socio-economic
BIOFIN	Biodiversity Finance Initiative		empowerment, leadership, and advocacy among
BITC	Botswana Investment and Trade Centre		adolescent girls and young women (AGYW),
BMGF.....	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation		including training in sustainable agriculture and GBV
BOCONGO....	Botswana Council of Non-Governmental		response
	Organisations	SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
BOFOD.....	Botswana Federation of The Disabled	SMME	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
BURS.....	Botswana Unified Revenue Service	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
CBI.....	Cash Based Interventions	TOR	Terms of Reference
CDC.....	Centre for Disease Control	UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated Children
CEDA	Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency	UMIC.....	Upper Middle-Income Country
CFE.....	Campaign for Freedom of Expression	UNCT.....	United Nations Country Team
CSE.....	Comprehensive Sexual Education	UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat
DCEC.....	Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime		Desertification
EVAWG.....	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls	UNINFO.....	A United Nations online digital platform to improve
FES	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung		transparency
GDP.....	Gross Domestic Product	USD.....	United States Dollar
GIS.....	Geographic Information Systems	US.....	United States
GPEI	Global Polio Eradication Initiative		
GTI.....	Guided Trade Initiative		
HP.....	Harmful practices		
HWC.....	Human Wildlife Conflict		
IAT	Inter Agency Team		
IDF.....	IOM Development Fund		
INFF.....	Integrated National Financing Framework		
JI	Joint Initiative		
JP.....	Joint Programme		
JUTA	Joint United Nations Team on AIDS		



UNITED NATIONS
BOTSWANA



UN Building, Government Enclave, Cnr Khama Crescent & President's Drive
PO Box 54, Gaborone Botswana | Tel: (+267) 363 3700 / Fax: (+267) 3956093

@UN_Botswana @ZiaChoudhury UNinBotswana botswana.un.org