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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, ARUBA,
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2021

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COUNTRY ANNUAL
RESULTS REPORT

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Table of Contents

Foreword	4
United Nations Country Team And Key Development Partners	6
Key Development Partners of the UN Development System in the Country	8
Chapter 1: 2021 Key Development Trends and Emerging Issues	9
Chapter 2: United Nations Country Team Support to National Development Priorities through UN MSDF	11
2.1 Overview	12
2.2 An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Trinidad and Tobago	14
2.3 A Healthy Trinidad and Tobago	17
2.4 A Safe, Cohesive, and Just Trinidad and Tobago	20
2.5 A Sustainable and Resilient Trinidad and Tobago	27
Chapter 3: Results of the Reform and Joint Approaches by the UNCT	30
3.1 Results Achieved on SDG Data And Knowledge Management	30
3.2 Results Achieved on Partnerships and Resource Mobilization	33
3.3 Results of the UNCT Communicating and Advocating Together	34
3.4 Implementation of Business Operations Strategy 2.0	35
3.5 Implementation of the Spotlight Initiative	36
3.6 Country Results Reports in Multi-Country Office	38
Chapter 4: UNCT Key Focus for 2022	40

Foreword

In keeping with the enduring ideals of the UN Charter signed 76 years ago, the United Nations Country Team, continued to provide support to the people and Government of Trinidad and Tobago in 2021. Faced with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the myriad of associated complex socio-economic challenges, the UNCT reprioritized its actions and adjusted resources to support the Government to alleviate the effects of these challenges on the most vulnerable segments of the population.

Indeed, the UNCT in a coordinated way, with WHO/PAHO at the forefront, supported the successful response efforts to the management of the pandemic by the Government which allowed for ongoing development work and efforts towards the achievement of the SDG targets. The 2021 annual report is therefore illustrating the collective effort of the UN system in Trinidad and Tobago and showcases accountability and the good progress made on the four results areas of the inaugural UN Multi country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) (2017-21).

Given that the year also marked the end of the first regional development framework, the report also highlights the key achievements of the final year of the UN MSDF. It was especially encouraging to see the substantive and proactive participation of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in the process to develop the new generation cooperation framework, the UN Multi country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) for 2022-2026.

In line with the promise of the SDGs to “leave no one behind”, the UNCT and the government in 2021 supported the most vulnerable communities through outreach interventions that included prioritizing support for marginal communities including Venezuelan migrants and placing a strong focus on combatting discrimination against women and girls. This became more urgent as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing socio-economic challenges. The UNCT,

under PAHO/WHO’s technical lead, provided ongoing health support through the procurement and delivery of a wider range of PPEs and other health related infrastructure, including testing kits; IT support to the COVID-19 Vaccination Information System; and capacity building, implementation and roll out of Antigen based Diagnostic Tests across Trinidad and Tobago.

Beyond the support to the country’s health system, government interventions with respect to social protection and resilience were ably supported through the UNCT’s initiatives to supplement national efforts to build back better and deliver social and economic support to all of society, including the most vulnerable.

“Key support areas of UN agencies included addressing sexual and gender-based violence among refugee and asylum-seeking population, the development of a catalogue of services for economic empowerment, and increased support to the online delivery of education to children.

2021 was also a watershed moment for Trinidad and Tobago in promoting national dialogue on key areas of climate change and resiliency. Accordingly, strong collaboration with governments, academia, civil society, international financial institutions and development partners saw further dialogue and action points developed for financing a green economic transition in Trinidad and Tobago.

With respect to resource mobilization, increased support from development partners and strengthened relationships resulted in significant increases in funding resources particularly on activities directed to the most vulnerable groups—women and girls, children, and persons with disabilities. The UNCT continued to engage with CAF for actions related to agriculture and education, and secured resources from the Joint SDG fund to advance ongoing development work on Data and the SDGs through a joint project led by PAHO/WHO, UNEP and ILO.

2021 also reinforced the UNCT's strong and collaborative engagement with civil society groups across the country as evidenced by the input of CSOs in the Common Country Analysis, the socio-economic impact assessments of COVID-19 on the population, and active participation UNCT-led Forums and conferences. The CSOs invaluable input into the actions of the UNCT resulted in more targeted approaches and improved service delivery.

The UNCT, led by the RCO and ECLAC, continued to support the modernization of the local data ecosystem in 2021. The 2nd installment of the innovative Big Data Forum was held November 30-December 1 as a virtual two-day event. The event attracted over 950 unique participants including the Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Government representatives, international corporations and multinationals, local experts, and data scientists.

The Forum concluded with an agreement by the participants to enhance credibility, accessibility and reliability of alternative data, and to strengthen data partnerships and coordination among stakeholders in producing big data and statistics for sustainable development. Local private sector bodies, academia, the NSO and RCO will help design the coordination mechanism for the Center of Excellence for Big Data Analytics in 2022.

Concurrently, the UNCT also undertook phase 2 of the development of the SDG Data Repository to identify indicators for which the country currently produces data, and those that the country has the potential to produce data. The repository will be digitalized in 2022 and further data sets will be developed as the UNCT works with the National Statistical System and data stakeholders to revise national surveys to be more SDG aligned.

In conclusion, let me express my heartfelt gratitude to all the UN Agencies and our partners for the relentless and unwavering efforts to ensure delivery of programmes, goods and services amidst very challenging and unprecedented circumstances in 2021. I also wish to salute the leadership and guidance of my predecessor, Ms. Marina Walter, who steered the UNCT safely and dutifully during these challenging times. I look forward to continuing the fruitful collaboration and cooperation with all of you in 2022 under the new MSDCF 2022-26 arrangement as we work towards "building back stronger together".

Dennis Zulu

Resident Coordinator a.i.

United Nations Country Team And Key Development Partners

UN Resident Agencies



UN Non-Resident Agencies



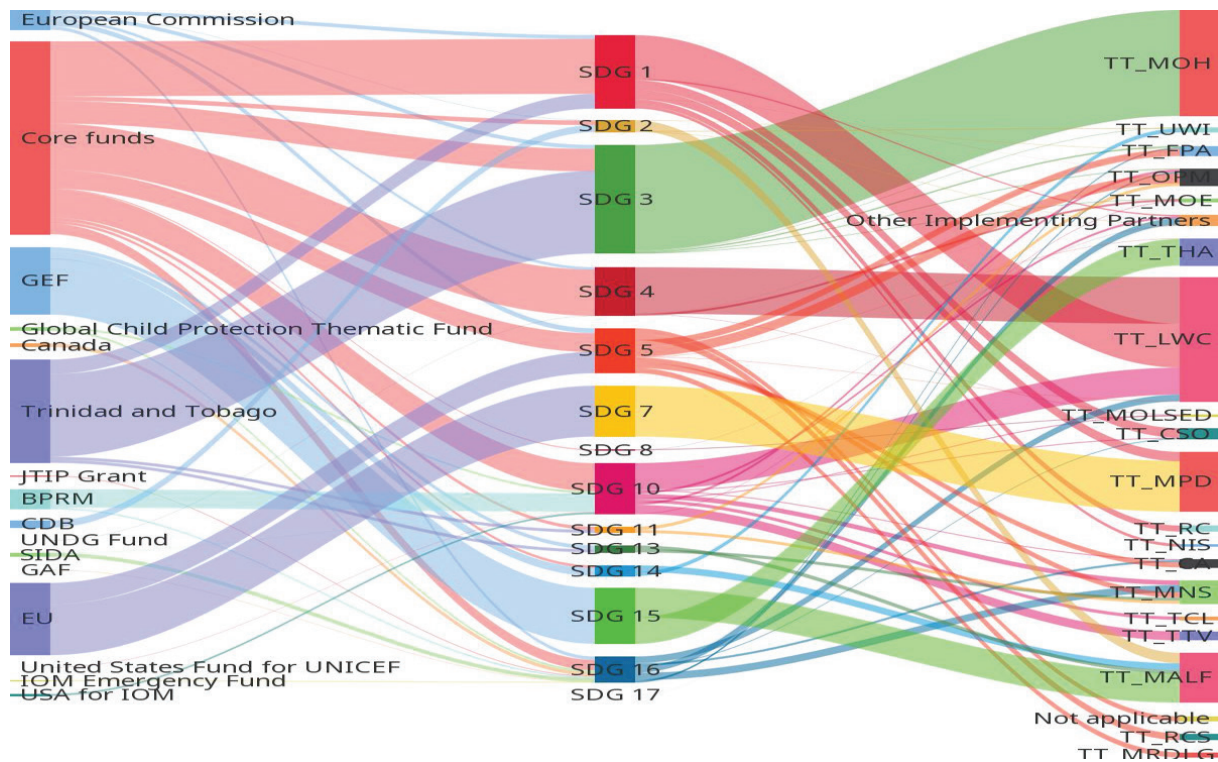
Ministries and Agencies of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago



Multilateral Partners



Key Development Partners of the UN Development system in the country



UN agencies and Implementing Partners: Linking Investments, Partners, and the SDGs
Source: UN INFO, March, 2022

The United Nations Country Team continued to provide coordinated and joint support to the Government and other partners in 2021 with the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the achievement of the SDGs.

The UNCT led active collaboration and coordination with Government and International funding partners for increased funding to support development work actions established under the Country Implementation Plan (CIP TT) 2021 and other innovative measures aimed at furthering the country's development agenda. Importantly, strengthened partnerships with multinational corporations led to increased knowledge transfer and best practices shared with representatives of government agencies, CSOs and private sector.

The close collaboration and coordination between the UNCT, Government and multilateral partners resulted in financial support for sectors including education, agriculture and social services, and support to the modernization of the local data ecosystem.

To this end, the UNCT secured the continued assistance of the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) MPTF UNPRPD joint program, the Joint SDG Fund for a two year period for modernizing Trinidad and Tobago's statistical ecosystem through enhanced SDG data development; and private sector business support for pursuing SDG targets through philanthropy using corporate social responsibility as the joint tool.

Chapter 1: 2021 Key Development Trends and Emerging Issues



Trinidad and Tobago adopted an overarching development framework for the period 2016-2030 known as the National Development Strategy (NDS) or Vision 2030. Like many other Small Island Developing States, the global COVID-19 pandemic affected notable development achievements, and challenged the results achieved previously and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Trinidad and Tobago (TT) is a high-income, small island developing country with a GDP per capita of approximately \$15,000 and an annual GDP of \$23.2 billion. It has the largest economy in the English-speaking Caribbean largely due to natural gas and petrochemical production. This sector is estimated at 40 percent of GDP and 80 percent of export earnings, was forecasted to be less in 2021 due to declining natural gas production and the coronavirus-driven economic recession.

Trinidad and Tobago operated under a State of Emergency during large parts of the year that challenged trade and commerce activities locally, regionally and with international partners. Despite this, political

and trading relationships across the Caribbean basin remained strong despite challenges in the supply chains as a result of the pandemic. Public health restrictions related to the pandemic resulted in significant risk and business uncertainty with development projects, business, and manufacturing temporarily halted. The country is predicted to experience an economic contraction estimated at 5 percent in 2021 due to anticipated reduction in government and private sector revenues. A gradual re-opening started from June 2021 as vaccines arrived in the country. This included the opening of borders, the return of commercial travel and loosened restrictions on the food and entertainment sectors.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the related socio-economic consequences further magnified inequalities of the most vulnerable, including people with disabilities, migrants, women, children, and people living in rural areas. As part of joint collaboration, the government and the UNCT implemented outreach measures including Covid-19 vaccination drives to combat vaccine hesitancy, food and non-food items support as well as cash transfers and subsistence support.

A key aspect of determining the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the population of Trinidad and Tobago included the availability of accurate and reliable socio-economic data. The identification and development of data sets related to key areas such as employment; sources of livelihoods; disposable income and expenditures; and coping strategies were identified as critical. In this regard, the Central Statistical Office with the support of the United Nations Country Team identified the requirement for a streamlined Socio-Economic Assessment Initiative to be undertaken to establish data for these priority areas to assess the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the population. The data collected benefitted government including social services ministries and agencies as well as development partners and international stakeholders in developing more targeted program interventions to address socio economic impacts of COVID-19.

The government continued to lead post pandemic recovery through support for large infrastructure projects including ferry port and harbor development, solar power projects, a waste-to-energy plant, a green-hydrogen plant, and an airport renovation. The government identified construction as a key element to assist in post-coronavirus economic recovery.

In 2021 the number of migrants without registered status continued to increase. The increasing number of Venezuelan nationals coming to Trinidad and Tobago illegally continued to impact key national SDG priorities; including social safety net programs stressed by COVID-19. However, there was increasing support from host communities for migrant integration and participation in local activities.

Trinidad and Tobago maintains political stability with strong institutions of governance. Development and the rule of law is reflected in policy and legal reforms aimed at enhancing citizen well-being and service delivery. The country continued to address public service delivery in 2021 through institutional capacity building and constructing the enabling policy and legislative environment to advance digital transformation.

The country advanced its environmental sustainability agenda in 2021 through advocacy and capacity building workshops in pursuit of a greener economy. Major discussions continued on financing a green economic transition in Trinidad and Tobago, environmental and sustainable tourism, and on ecological management of local flora and fauna.

Chapter 2: United Nations Country Team Support to National Development Priorities through UN MSDF



Priority Area 1:
An Inclusive, Equitable and
Prosperous Caribbean



Priority Area 2:
A Healthy Caribbean



Priority Area 3:
A Safe, Cohesive, and
Just Caribbean



Priority Area 4:
A Sustainable and
Resilient Caribbean



2.1 Overview

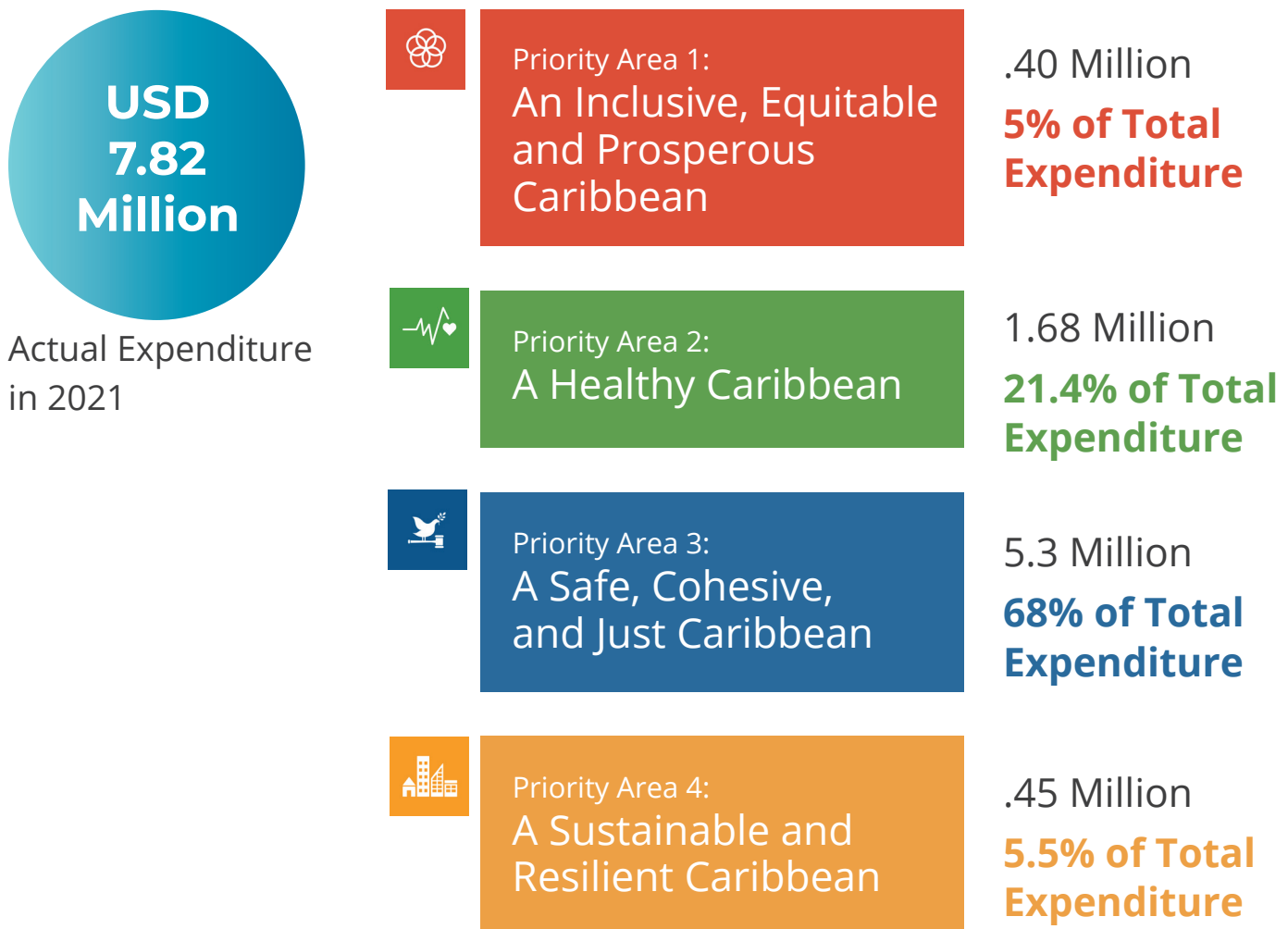
Trinidad and Tobago's National Development Strategy (NDS) focusses on five key themes which are aligned to the seventeen SDGs. The broad thematic areas of the NDS are also aligned to the four priority areas of the UN MSDF and the eight outcomes that define the intended results of the MSDF.

In 2021, UNCT support provided to Government with the MSDF/CIP TT implementation focused on socio economic recovery. The formulation of the CIP TT

2021 included actions and repurposing of resources to address the health challenges, building back stronger and regaining momentum towards the achievement of the 17 SDGs.

The annual country implementation plan had available resources of USD \$14,553,659 with actual expenditure on SDG initiatives across Trinidad and Tobago totalling USD \$7,821,877.

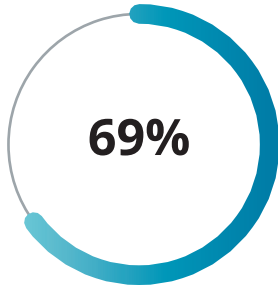
Expenditure in 2021



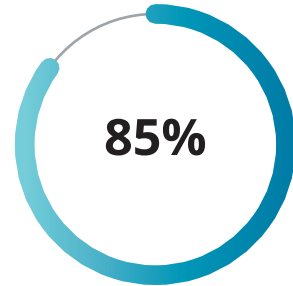
Delivery Rate by Strategic Priority



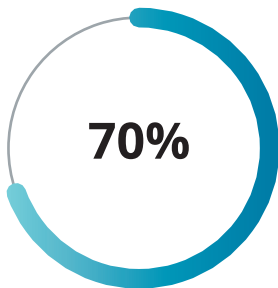
Priority Area 1:
An Inclusive, Equitable
and Prosperous
Caribbean



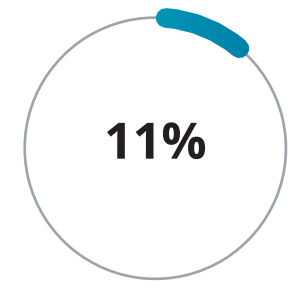
Priority Area 2:
A Healthy Caribbean



Priority Area 3:
A Safe, Cohesive,
and Just Caribbean



Priority Area 4:
A Sustainable and
Resilient Caribbean



2.2 An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Trinidad and Tobago

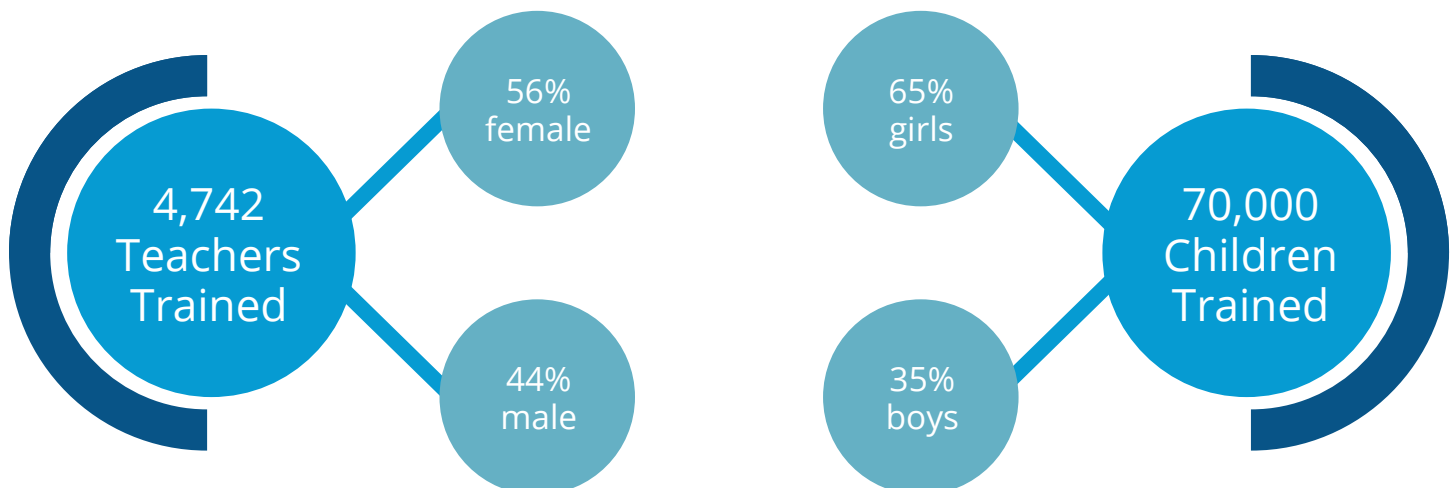


Contributing Agencies: UNICEF, ILO, FAO, UNDP

Available Funding: USD 561,810

Actual Expenditure: USD 389,271

Training and Sensitisation on Gender Based Violence Prevention



Policy, legislative and regulatory environment for social protection of all citizens strengthened



National Child Policy

- Comprehensive and strategic whole-of-government approach to child wellbeing
- Digitised in an adult and child version
- Web platform was developed to aid in monitoring the progress of the NCP's implementation



Development of a Social Registry

- Supporting the IT review of the social protection system within the Ministry of Social Development
- Phase 2 to be implemented in 2022



Institutional capacity of workers' organizations

- Trade Unions capacity building completed
- Trade union strategy on ending VAWG developed

The UNCT supported poverty reduction, increased access to education, sustainable livelihood and decent work in 2021. Special emphasis was placed on targeting vulnerable groups and persons at risk of being left behind. In this regard, agencies partnered with key Ministries and civil society organizations to implement interventions and policies aimed at mainstreaming children and education issues, and the well-being of key population groups as key actions in under the CIP TT 2021.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, UNDP and UNICEF furthered their collaborative support towards improving the social information system. Key actions included an IT assessment of social protection system within the Ministry; and strengthening the use of social protection in response to challenges arising as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Agencies also continued to provide technical support to the Government on policy development and implementation. UNICEF's continuous support to the National Child Policy of Trinidad and Tobago continued in 2021- the policy was digitized in an adult and child

version and a web platform was developed to aid in monitoring the progress of the NCP's implementation. This platform will be especially crucial in showing progress towards the full realization of children's rights and the guiding principles the policy adopts, as well as holding accountable state actors who are responsible for implementing the measures in the policy.

UNICEF also led the UNCT's response to supporting the government with the development of online support to education and the eventual re-opening of schools in Trinidad and Tobago. 4,742 (56% female; 44% male) teachers at the primary and secondary levels and approximately 70,000 (65% girls; 35% boys) children were trained and sensitized on GBV prevention via an online process managed by UNICEF contractor NotesMaster. Teachers worked with their students using the digital content in virtual classes for the students' personal development sessions.

Additionally, UNICEF provided assistance to the development of content on ICT and best practice web-based pedagogies, and the development of a freely accessible website to host the training content.

A community-based academic recovery programme was also implemented to provide intensive tiered community based academic support by master teachers residing in the communities to 1200 students (primary and secondary) from identified districts with low levels of numeracy and literacy as evidenced by the SEA (2020-2021) results.

The programme was also designed to prevent and lower school dropout rates by providing technical and academic support to students who experience learning loss due to lack of connectivity, devices and other household issues, to retain student enrollment of at risk students through a community based psycho emotional and social support structure and the development of a next-generation early-warning system, and to give students who have dropped out an avenue to re-enter the education system through Distance and Online Education. Students from Form 5 in the Districts of St. George East, North Eastern District, Caroni District and St. Patrick District were identified to participate in the programme.

ILO led the UN's support to strengthening the institutional capacity of workers' organizations - in 2021, ILO collaborated with the National Union of Domestic Employees (NUDE) and Transport and Industrial Workers Union (TIWU) to develop a strategy for trade unions to be champions in the workplace in advocating for implementation of legislation and policies on ending Violence Against Women and Girls, including domestic violence and intimate partner violence (DV/IPV), and for gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviors and women and girls' rights. ILO provided ongoing support to NUDE with National Vocational Qualification for domestic workers and capacity building for NUDE towards quality assurance and technical support systems.

With respect to strengthening the institutional capacity of employers' organizations, ILO led the administration of a business needs survey and provided draft recommendations for government support. The dissemination and presentation of findings and recommendations at tripartite discussions on COVID-19 recovery is ongoing.

In response to the constraints arising as a result of the pandemic regarding working arrangements, ILO in 2021 also provided technical support and recommendations regarding the development of a work from home policy for the Public Service of Trinidad and Tobago.

2.3 A Healthy Trinidad and Tobago



Contributing Agencies: WHO, UNDP, UNFPA, FAO

Available Funding: USD 1,983,577

Actual Expenditure: USD 1,681,651

Health mechanisms, policies and strategies strengthened



Health Care Infrastructure

- IT Hardware and software to support the COVID-19 Vaccine Information System
- Expanded COVID-19 Diagnostic laboratory capacity at 15 medical sites across Trinidad and Tobago
- Vaccine Carriers, Ventilators and Oxygen Concentrators provided to support COVID-19 national health response

Policy Development

- National Immunization Policy for Health Care Workers
- Trinidad and Tobago National Health Research Ethics Policy
- Development and implementation of the suicide prevention strategy
- National Clinical and Policy Guidelines on Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence

Education and Awareness

- Communications campaign to build citizens skills to assist survivors of COVID-19 pandemic - 2,550 posters printed and distributed, 6 CSOs supported
- Draft curricula developed to train higher education students in health care for survivors of gender-based violence
- COVID-19 communications campaign to increase awareness utilizing social media platforms to increase awareness and promoted community engagement and empowerment

Country capacity for health emergencies and disaster risk management strengthened

34

Number of persons trained to improve access and quality of radiology and radiotherapy services

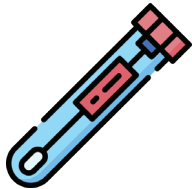
100

Persons trained as lead trainers in chronic disease self management

150

Number of persons trained in care of survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual violence

Quality health care service delivery improved



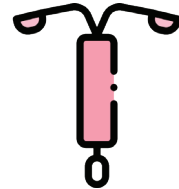
3,500 Cepheid SARS-COV-2 test kits

provided to the Ministry of Health to support the country's COVID-19 response



19 Health Centers upgraded with SALMI Information Management System

to improve monitoring balances, consumption inventory and other logistical health data



1,000 contraceptive implants provided to the Ministry of Health

to support the scaling up of the introduction of implants as part of expanding the contraceptives method mix

In keeping with the UNCT's strategic priorities in 2021, actions and resources of key agencies, led by WHO/PAHO, were focused on complementing the government's ongoing efforts to address the health challenges of COVID-19, and the effects of the pandemic. The UNCT, under PAHO/WHO's technical lead, focused

on support to strengthening health mechanisms, policies and strategies; contributing to capacity building to strengthen the country's ability to respond to health emergencies and health risks; and improving the quality of health care service delivery provided to the population.

PAHO/WHO led UNCT actions to support the national health operations and response to the COVID-19 pandemic: hardware provided to support the COVID-19 Vaccine Information System including Laptops, Wireless Network Routers, and Laser Printers; strengthened and expanded the COVID19 Diagnostic Laboratory capacity towards the implementation of Antigen-based Detection Tests at 15 sites across Trinidad and Tobago; implementation of a communications and awareness campaigns to build citizens 'skills to assist survivors of COVID-19 during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to increase awareness and promote shared responsibilities; and provided key equipment including vaccine carriers, ventilators and oxygen concentrators to support the Ministry of Health.

UNDP also supported the actions of PAHO/WHO with the Covid-19 response. 3,500 Cepheid SARS-COV-2 test kits were purchased on behalf of the Ministry of Health to assist in combatting the pandemic. UNICEF provided ongoing support with communications and awareness building through a COVID-19 communications in support of the national vaccination campaign. UNFPA continued the implementation of the SALMI Logistics Management Information System. 19 health centers and the Ministry of Health were upgraded with the SALMI system- the system allows monitoring balances, consumption, inventory and other health logistical data.

Apart from supporting efforts with the COVID-19 pandemic, the UNCT also supported other key health care areas. Areas of support and delivery included strategies and mechanisms developed to mitigate intimate partner and domestic violence; support to policy development including the National Immunization Policy, the Trinidad and Tobago National Health Research Ethics Policy, and the National Clinical and Policy Guidelines on Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence; and the development of a Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Action Plan for Trinidad and Tobago.

Through UNCT support, essential health services delivery and capacities were enhanced. Access and quality of radiology and radiotherapy services were improved through capacity building and strengthening of licensing, regulation and standards with 34 persons

trained to improve these services. With respect to the strengthening of health services to address the burden of non-communicable diseases, 100 persons were trained in chronic disease self-management with a view to expanding training across communities. One hundred and fifty (150) persons also received training to improve capacities with care of survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual violence.

UNFPA continued to lead the expanding of the contraceptives method mix in Trinidad and Tobago. In 2021, 1,000 further implants were provided to the Ministry of Health as part of the scaling up of the introduction of these contraceptives.

2.4 A Safe, Cohesive, and Just Trinidad and Tobago



Contributing Agencies: UNHCR, IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN WOMEN

Available Funding: USD 7,544,295

Actual Expenditure: USD 5,309,690

Capacities of Government and Civil Society Organisations in preventing Sexual and Gender Based Violence strengthened

Partnerships with CSOs to prevent and respond to SGBV among refugee and asylum-seeking population



6,314

Clinical services delivered

1,243

Refugees and asylum-seekers receiving free medical services related to sexual and reproductive health

769

Counselling sessions provided to refugees and asylum-seekers

97

Reported SGBV incidents for which survivors received psychosocial counselling

Engagement of Organizations in GBV awareness and development of model workplace policies



80

80 Organizations benefitted from GBV Sensitization Workshops for employers, IR/HR simulations, and a template of Gender Based Violence Policy in the Workplace

Country capacity to promote and ensure justice and systems that enables the prevention and treatment of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect increased

Technical support provided to the Judiciary



585

585 court staff including judges, magistrates and lawyers trained to improve their attitude and actions in the processing of domestic violence cases

Mechanisms for the protection of migrants and refugees strengthened

Cash-Based interventions to refugees and asylum-seekers delivered



8,275

Refugees and migrants received emergency food assistance

359

Recipients of multipurpose cash grants

Community-based actions providing protection and opportunities for self-management provided



3,500

Persons provided with training and community support

1,349

Refugees and asylum-seekers supported through case management assistance

24

Organisations supported with Core Relief Items for distribution to refugees, migrants and vulnerable host community members

Core Relief Items support provided



1,079

Solar lanterns

5,249

Mosquito nets

4,968

Blankets

Accredited online education programmes for children delivered



1,744

1,221 children of primary school age and 523 children of secondary school age registered in online learning programmes

760

Tablets provided to students including refugee and local vulnerable children

Capacities of national and community-based child protection systems to protect children and adolescents enhanced



1,600

1,600 children benefitted from remote mental health and psychosocial support services

600

600 children benefitted from programmes to mitigate risk of gender-based violence

Nutrition support for refugees, asylum seekers and migrant children strengthened



1,261

193 male and 1,068 female caregivers of children under 5 provided with nutritional counselling, early childhood stimulation activities, and social protection to support the nutritional needs of mothers and young children

Victims of trafficking supported



45

45 women who are victims of trafficking along with their dependents received direct emergency assistance through a combination of accomodation support, food assistance and/or non-food items

Direct emergency response to refugees and migrants reinforced



Food assistance provided to migrants and local host communities

1,080
Men

1,049
Boys

1,422
Women

1,022
Girls

Non-food item support provided to beneficiaries

1,067
Men

1,041
Boys

1,043
Women

1,013
Girls

Humanitarian response to migrant and refugee women strengthened



1,200

Protection kits provided to refugee and migrant women

250

Language capacities of 250 Venezuelan women improved through language courses administered

The UNCT's support to Government and population of Trinidad and Tobago continued in 2021 with increased actions and interventions to support equitable access to justice, protection, citizen security and safety. Importantly, actions prioritized national and community systems of preparedness and response to address the most vulnerable population groups, including migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

IOM and UNICEF again collaborated on an iteration of migrant tracking, assessment and monitoring using the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). The findings provides useful data sets for comparison with the 2020 migrant profiles and characteristics, and allows for key data insights on migrant education, work status, accommodation, health and emerging needs.

The UNCT's interventions focused on strengthening capacities of Government and Civil Society Organizations to enhance effective migration

management and community integration. Key actions included support to and partnerships with CSOs to prevent and respond to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) among refugee and asylum-seeking population; implementation of an accredited educational programme for refugee and asylum-seeking children; community-based activities providing protection and opportunities for self-management for refugees and asylum-seekers; capacity-building activities with Government on international principles of refugee protection; supporting the Ministry of Health in providing medical assistance to refugees, asylum-seekers and host communities; and enhancing the capacities of national and community-based child protection systems to protect children and adolescents affected by irregular migration and to recover from trauma and violence.

With respect to further support for strengthening mechanisms for the protection of migrants and

refugees, UNICEF led UNCT actions on ensuring access to high quality education services for migrant children in Trinidad and Tobago. With the participation of 131 teachers in the first cohort (120 females and 11 males), the University of the West Indies completed the Draft CLIL Supplemental Guide for the Lower Primary Schools in Trinidad and Tobago (5 – 9 years old). The resource was adopted by the Ministry of Education which resulted in migrant children improving their English language competency.

In 2021, there was an increase in the demand for emergency nutritional support. The Food Security and Livelihood Impact Survey showed conditions were deteriorating, particularly for Venezuelan migrants and refugees, who reported skipping meals or eating less than usual, compared to English-speakers.

In addition, 23% of Venezuelan migrants and refugees reported not having a food stock, compared to 11% of English-speakers. In response to the nutritional needs of pregnant women and young children, UNICEF partnered with Living Water Community to deliver an integrated counselling framework that provided 1,261 caregivers (193 males and 1,068 females) of children under 5 with nutritional counselling, early childhood stimulation activities, and social protection. Further, it provided cash support through QR-Codes that reached more than three times the originally defined target.

The UNCT, led by IOM, also continued the ongoing outreach to support victims of trafficking. For the year 2021, a total of 45 women who were victims of trafficking along with their dependents received direct emergency assistance through IOM's emergency funding mechanism, a flexible internal funding mechanism to facilitate quick access to funding in order to provide rapid assistance during emergencies. Based on their level of vulnerability, these persons received a combination of accommodation support, food assistance and/or non-food items.

UNHCR, in collaboration with implementing partner Living Water Community (LWC), provided emergency food assistance to 8,275 refugees and asylum-seekers, and multipurpose cash grants to 359 refugees and asylum-seekers. Persons receiving cash and food

assistance presented with protection risks and socio-economic vulnerabilities, including serious medical conditions, GBV survivors, persons with disabilities, unaccompanied and separated children, persons facing eviction or homeless, persons with legal and physical protection needs, and pregnant and lactating women, among others.

Case management activities carried out by implementing partners sought to address the needs of the most vulnerable refugees and migrants and set them on a pathway for achieving self-reliance. 1,349 refugees and asylum-seekers were reached through case management which provided comprehensive risk identification, assessments and support through walk-ins, referrals, home visits and community outreach activities. UNHCR also supported agricultural projects implemented by both implementing and operational partners. UNHCR further supported community health fairs implemented by the Archdiocesan Ministry for Migrants & Refugees (AMMR), and delivered Core Relief Items to 24 organizations, including 3 Government organizations and 14 local NGOs, for distribution to refugees, migrants and vulnerable host community members. In total, 1,079 solar lanterns, 5,249 mosquito nets and 4,968 blankets were distributed. Core Relief Item support will continue in 2022.

Trainings were held with Children's Authority and other local actors on setting up a best-interest determination panel as part of the alignment with international principles of refugee protection. Trainings were also held for local teachers on refugee rights, rights of a child and trauma-informed learning. Workshop on resettlement was also held with government actors.

Trainings on international protection principles were conducted with law enforcement and national security officials, including the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force, the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard, and the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service. In 2021, the LWC forged and maintained sound relationships with the Ministry of Labour, the Police Complaints Authority, the Legal Aid Advisory Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (the Community Policing Unit, the Counter Trafficking Unit, and the Gender Based Violence Unit), and the Women's

Institute for Alternative Development (WINAD). UNHCR continued to strengthen relationships with Government counterparts, including the Ministry of National Security and the Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs.

IOM also led UNCT efforts on gender transformative humanitarian response. Needs assessments were conducted with over 100 migrant and refugee women from the Venezuelan community and 1200 protection kits were distributed. In partnership with TTV Solidarity Network (TTV SOLNET) and Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), IOM completed sewing and design workshops with vulnerable migrant women in T&T. Additionally, 250 Venezuelan women benefitted from ESL courses through UWI's Centre for Language Learning. In partnership with the Rape Crisis Society, food and personal care vouchers were distributed to 300 vulnerable migrant and refugee women.

With respect to ensuring online education to migrant and local vulnerable community children, IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF supported access to smart devices by providing over 750 tablets..

In 2021, the UNCT also focused efforts on strengthening the capacities of Government and CSOs in preventing SGBV. UNHCR and implementing partners, Rape Crisis Society and Family Planning Association (FPATT), delivered psychosocial support and medical services:

of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors receive medical assistance - 18

of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors receive psychosocial counselling - 97

of clinical services delivered – 6,314

of counselling sessions provided to refugees and asylum-seekers– 769

of refugees and asylum-seekers accessing psychosocial support services - 77

of refugees and asylum-seekers receiving free medical services related to sexual and reproductive health- 1,243

UNFPA led actions on behalf of the UNCT on key areas including technical support for the implementation of the essential services package to address Gender Based Violence; updating of the Domestic Violence Registry; the provision of psychological support to survivors in Tobago; and the delivery of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) information and services to persons with disabilities.

UNFPA and ILO coordinated on the engagement of Employers in awareness activities and in the development of model workplace policies. Two online GBV Sensitization workshops for employers were conducted with more than 80 companies represented, benefiting from presentations by the Equal Opportunities Commission, FPATT, Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CADV), TTPS, Employee Assistance P and an IR/ HR simulation. All companies that participated received a template of ECA's Gender Based Violence Policy in the Workplace.

UNFPA, UNHCR, IOM and UNICEF jointly engaged on supporting actions related to gender based violence mitigation, preparedness and response in emergency settings, including the clinical management of rape. Accordingly, UNFPA procured 1,000 contraceptive implants which were donated to the Ministry of Health, and UNICEF supported virtual safe spaces for migrant children to reduce violence, neglect and exploitation.

Regarding increasing capacity to promote and ensure justice and systems that enables the prevention and treatment of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, UN Women engaged in policy recommendations, gender protocol training and curriculum update for the Judiciary, and gender-responsive tools, training and policy recommendations for the Trinidad and Tobago Police. A Service-gender-responsive curriculum was developed and in partnership with UNDP and the Police Academy initial training programme was completed with over 70 police officers.

2.5 A Sustainable and Resilient Trinidad and Tobago



Contributing Agencies: FAO, UNEP, UNDP

Available Funding: USD 4,126,318

Actual Expenditure: USD 441,265

Resilience to climate change for fisherfolk, aquaculturists and coastal communities strengthened

Climate Change Adaptation in Fisheries Sector enhanced



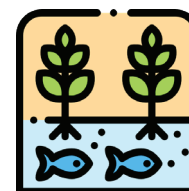
100 marine band VHF radios delivered

to qualifying, selected, radio licensed and trained fisherfolk and fisheries staff



37 fisherfolk benefited from training sessions

focusing on Safety-at-Sea for Small Scale Fishers



35 individuals realized increased capacities in Aquaponics

through business-oriented training workshops



Castara Coast Station constructed and officially delivered

to the Division of Food Security, Natural Resources, the Environment and Sustainable Development in Tobago. The construction of the Coast Station included the installation of a 30ft Tower and Antennae Section connected to Fixed Digital Selective Calling (DSC) Very High Frequency (VHF) Radio Equipment

Inclusive and sustainable solutions to achieve increased energy efficiency and access to renewable/alternative energy adopted

Solar energy architecture designed and developed



12

- Technical due diligence for each of the 12 solar panel sites completed
- Solar panel systems designed, Public awareness campaign implemented

In 2021, the UNCT partnered with government ministries and agencies to further advance inclusive and sustainable solutions to achieve increased energy efficiency and access to renewable /alternative energy; and for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals, and waste. UNDP strengthened their partnership with the Ministry of Planning and Development to support climate change and innovative energy solutions. Through the Global

Climate Change Alliance Plus for Trinidad and Tobago, eventual solar energy access and usage was further advanced through the completion of technical due diligence for each of the 12 solar panel sites identified; solar panel systems designs were also completed and a tender for equipment was issued and awarded. A public awareness campaign to improve knowledge and consciousness was also implemented.

FAO's ongoing support to the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries (MALF) to strengthen resiliency for fisherfolk, aqua culturists and coastal communities to climate change continued in 2021. 100 marine band VHF radios were delivered to the Department of Marine Resources and Fisheries (DMRF) within the Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries (DFPFF), Tobago House of Assembly (THA), and supplied to qualifying, selected, radio licensed and trained fisherfolk and fisheries staff.

Sargassum Beach Clean Up Equipment was procured for and delivered to the NGOs groups The Fishing Pond Turtle Conservation Group and Nature Seekers to be used in clean-up activities when sargassum strandings beach in areas in which they do their work.

Support was also provided to aqua culturists as audio, video and hardware equipment was procured for and delivered to AUDC to ensure sufficient capacity to run virtual trainings in aquaculture and aquaponics.

Limited coast station equipment was also delivered to the Division of Food Production, Forestry and Fisheries in Tobago to be installed, tested and commissioned at the Castara Fishing Facility. 37 fisherfolk also benefited from training sessions in Trinidad focusing on Safety-at-Sea for Small Scale Fisheries across rural fishing communities in Trinidad.

As part of FAO's ongoing outreach efforts, The University of the West Indies Caribbean ICT Research Programme (UWICIRP) was engaged to facilitate a Virtual Training of Trainers on Marine Band DSC VHF Radio for ten (10) members of staff from the Department of Marine Resources and Fisheries (DMRF) and ten (10) representatives of fisherfolk associations in Tobago to improve marine communication and safety-at-sea. FAO's efforts also realized capacity building trainings for 35 individuals from across Trinidad and Tobago through a business-oriented training workshop on Aquaponics as a Business.

FAO and the MALF also successfully constructed and officially handed over the Castara Coast Station to the Division of Food Security, Natural Resources, the Environment and Sustainable Development in Tobago

in 2021. The construction of the Coast Station involved the installation of a 30ft Tower and Antennae Section connected to Fixed Digital Selective Calling (DSC) Very High Frequency (VHF) Radio Equipment.

UNDP and the Ministry of Planning and Development also successfully launched the Energy Efficiency through the development of Low-carbon RAC Technologies in Trinidad and Tobago with development work ongoing into 2022.

Chapter 3: Results of the Reform and Joint Approaches by the UNCT

3.1 Results Achieved on SDG Data And Knowledge Management

I cannot close without extending my congratulations to the United Nations for its success in hosting the second iteration of the United Nations Trinidad and Tobago Big Data Forum.

In 2020, your organisation stated that Trinidad and Tobago is well-poised to be the home for a Centre of Excellence on Big Data Analytics. As you have heard, the Government is hard at work to make that statement a possibility. We recognize that 'Data is our new Oil'!

Acting Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago and Minister of Finance, Colm Imbert, Dec 1, 2021 at the 2nd United Nations in Trinidad and Tobago Big Data Forum

The pathway towards the modernization and strengthening of the local data ecosystem in Trinidad and Tobago is evidenced by the combined effort and focused commitment of the RCO and the United Nations Country Team, Government and local and international partners to foster innovative solutions and embrace newer technologies. Importantly, the move towards a smarter future is also helping the country to achieve SDG targets 17.18 and 17.19.

With the re-engineered RCO system offering key functionalities of data management and partnerships, the RCO established strong linkages with the NSO/ NSS that readily facilitated the assessment of the local data ecosystem, identified challenges and gaps, and developed interventions to be jointly implemented within a 3-5 year period to build a more modern,

technology driven and innovative data ecosystem. Notably, significant gaps were identified in the collection, access and effective use of alternative data, including big data, as part of official statistics for sustainable development.

Supporting the Data Ecosystem - Key Initiatives

The RCO-led UNCT support to the NSO and the wider government is grounded in the prescriptions of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data and the SG Data Strategy for Action by Everyone, Everywhere. The RCO focused on key initiatives as part of an overall data management strategy that ultimately

is intended to realize the development of an innovative, modernized data ecosystem that improves data and statistics quality, production, dissemination, usage and accessibility. Importantly, achieving the outcomes of both initiatives will foster higher quality Common Country Analysis updates and improve reporting on the achievement of the SDGs.

The Big Data Forum

Conceptualized and developed by the RCO in 2019, the Big Data Forum Initiative proposed over a 3-5 year period, created an environment that fostered research, promotes discussion, strengthens partnerships and advanced strategies for harnessing and integrating big data as part of official sustainable development statistics.

In 2021, the second edition of the Forum themed Exploring the Science of Big Data: A smarter future for Trinidad and Tobago featured 13 sessions with keynotes, panel discussions and presentations by leading government officials, international corporations and multinationals, as well as local experts and data scientists. Held over two days, the Forum again attracted a large number of individual participants (over 950).

The overwhelming response to the Forum since 2020, and public outreach to the RCO post Forum for Big Data research, opportunities and further events, underscored the need for an active space to facilitate this demand. A Big Data website, proposed as a space that advocates for local research papers to be published, for a calendar of events to be established leading up to the annual Big Data Forum, for opportunities for training and webinars to be hosted, and as an archive of blogs, discussions and Big Data news was developed by the RCO and launched in 2021. The website can be accessed at www.bigdataforumtt.com.

The 2021 Forum concluded with an agreement to enhance credibility, accessibility and reliability of alternative data, and to strengthen data partnerships and coordination among stakeholders in producing big data and statistics for sustainable development. Partnerships with international social media platforms will allow the use of anonymized data for local research

interventions, and local private sector bodies, academia, the NSO and RCO will help design and produce the coordination mechanism for the Center of Excellence for Big Data Analytics in Trinidad and Tobago.

Through two Forums, the UNCT led by the RCO created partnerships with a range of partners willing to collaborate on the big data initiatives - from Government, academia, civil society, business, youth, to leading international corporations like Meta, Google, Amazon, Global Pulse and iFLYTEK, and created a momentum to leverage the potential of big data.

In 2022, the RCO led UNCT will continue to support the Government's drive to establish the Center of Excellence for Big Data Analytics, with specific focus on developing the coordinating mechanism, building capacity of data scientists and data engineers in the country who will drive the future-smart Trinidad and Tobago, and tapping existing partnerships with UN entities and academia.

SDG Data and Analysis Repository

The requirements for SDG reporting has placed additional pressure on the country's National Statistical System (NSS) which, according to The World Bank, has recorded a declining score in the country's Statistical Capacity Indicator since 2016. The RCO undertook a detailed assessment of the current capacity of key stakeholders to produce the requisite data for compiling SDG indicators and identified 194 indicators that the country could potentially report against.

The RCO commenced the development of an SDG Data Repository in 2020 to identify critical data sets for SDG indicators so that the coverage of SDGs reported on could be expanded. Phase 1 included an assessment and availability of data-140 indicators or 56% of total SDG indicators were identified for production.

Phase 2 commenced in 2021 (and is ongoing) with the objective of identifying data producers and providers from national organizations and bodies that can produce data sets to increase the number of SDG indicators. Initial meetings with these organizations and harnessing these data sets are to be completed in 2022.

Phase 3 in 2022 consists of two interventions; the design and implementation of a digital platform to house the data repository (online digital platform featuring data visualizations and linkages to external data platforms and research), and a review and re-design of national survey instruments to ensure they are more aligned with the metadata for SDG indicators, subject to the agreement of the CSO.

The SDG Repository forms a critical part of the production of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and will be used as resource material to generate the 2022 analytic update to the CCA.

The development of the SDG Data and Analysis Repository as a digital platform will allow for collating high-quality disaggregated data available for these SDG indicators, including citizen-generated alternative data sets (big data) on SDG progress that satisfy ethical guidelines in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and Principles for International Statistics. The Data and Analysis Repository will be interoperable, and provide a means to track situational developments, generating evidence and analysis that is responsive to emerging needs and changing conditions in the country, including needed course corrections in programme implementation.

The second phase of collating administrative and alternative data is ongoing and the digital framework for the Repository will be launched in 2022.

Socio-Economic Assessment Initiative (assessing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the population)

The Central Statistical Office with the support of the RCO and ECLAC identified the requirement for a streamlined Socio-Economic Assessment Initiative to be undertaken to establish data for these priority areas to assess the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the population. The Initiative through a rapid preliminary assessment proposed to establish a general understanding of the effects of COVID-19 on the employment; sources of livelihoods; disposable income and expenditures (cost

of living); and coping strategies. The data collected measured the sample population's existing situation as it relates to the identified areas and will allow for more evidence-based and informed decisions in designing and implementing effective and targeted measures by the UNCT and Government to alleviate the negative socio-economic effects of the pandemic on citizens.

3.2 Results Achieved on Partnerships and Resource Mobilization

Recognizing Trinidad and Tobago's status as a high-income country that is ineligible for most official development assistance, and the need to mitigate this challenge, the UNCT in 2021 leveraged joint resource mobilization, not just via traditional donors, but through strategic partnerships with non-traditional funding sources.

From traditional sources, a USD 721,400 grant was awarded to PAHO/WHO, ILO, UNEP and ECLAC from the Joint SDG Fund to support modernization of the country's statistical ecosystem. PAHO/WHO and UNFPA received USD 400,000 from the UNPRPD MPTF to accelerate local implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Opportunities for financing of UN agency initiatives and co-creation of development actions were explored with group of 21 development partners, including IFIs and diplomatic missions from the Global South, which has met quarterly since 2020. This yielded a USD 1 million grant from the India- UN Development Partnership Fund to PAHO/WHO, to support Trinidad and Tobago's response to the COVID-19.

Efforts to leverage financing for the 2030 Agenda again focused on the country's private sector. The SDG Business Roundtable, established in 2020 to promote integration of the SDGs into the companies' business plans, operations, products and services, expanded from nine to 13 of the country's largest businesses. These companies collectively give more than USD 18 million per annum in philanthropy, and so training was delivered to their philanthropic managers to allow the businesses to prioritize their giving toward the SDGs. In 2021, members of the Roundtable supported the COVID-19 response (e.g., by financing vaccination centers and awareness campaigns, altering production line to manufacture hand sanitizer), provided free internet access to students accessing online education, made retail space available to youth and women entrepreneurs, and undertook media campaigns to

promote gender equality and contradict gender-based violence, among other interventions.

Partnerships forged in 2021 emphasized private sector engagement in the 2030 Agenda. They included ongoing collaborations with the UK-based Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, to deliver SDG-related training to companies' executives and accountants; the American Chamber of Commerce, to develop a toolkit to help the local private sector integrate environmental, societal and governance (ESG) concerns into their business and investing; and CSR Europe, to celebrate firms that doing the most to advance the 2030 Agenda with their philanthropy.

3.3 Results of the UNCT Communicating and Advocating Together

The exigencies of a pandemic-dominated 2021 called for innovation, deeper collaboration and a digital-first approach from the UN Communications Group (UNCG). In the middle of a national State of Emergency from April to November, the UNCG continued to convene its monthly collaboration sessions to generate a steady stream of visibility and advocacy content, which included multimedia material on national radio stations, television stations and mainstream newspaper outlets.

The UNCG generated content for “We The Peoples: Conversations with the UN” a twenty-four episode radio series featuring the work of agencies across the UNCT, which was aired on two national radio stations during primetime slots in the morning and afternoon commutes. These audio-only episodes were subsequently repurposed using video and images from the UNCG to create a Youtube podcast playlist.

On television, the RUNOs participating in the Spotlight Initiative, generated seven consecutive weeks of interviews for TV6’s Morning Edition programme as part of a partnership with the TV station to focus on all facets of gender-based violence. UNICEF, PAHO/WHO, the Spotlight Initiative Coordination Unit, UNFPA, UN Women, the RCO and the EU Delegation all made appearances for weekly interviews that increased awareness on GBV for education and outreach.

Ten opinion editorials on SDG-related areas of work were generated by the UNCG and published in the country’s leading newspaper, the Trinidad Express. This forum created a consistent space for SDG advocacy and provided the UNCT with a valuable platform to get country-specific messaging out to coincide with key events such as COP26 and the 16 Days of Activism.

A key engagement for the UNCG in 2021 was the series of SDG Masterclasses conducted in conjunction with the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago which featured renowned speakers such as Professor Jeffrey Sachs and

the ECLAC Executive Secretary, Ms. Alicia Bárcena. Over half of the country’s parliamentarians attended at least one of the four SDG Masterclasses. This series facilitated participation across the UNCT for heads of agency to interface directly with policymakers in the legislature, to share the UN’s insights on pandemic-driven changes to SDG progress, recommendations for urgent action and perspectives on the way parliamentarians can use their budgetary and oversight functions to advance Agenda 2030 at the national level.

The UNCG also created a UN in T&T newsletter which is now distributed to more than 1,600 recipients across government agencies, public sector stakeholders, the media, civil society partners and the public. This newsletter features the work of the UNCT and shines a spotlight on valued partnerships with the private sector and civil society. UNESCO and the RCO collaborated on a 24-minute video documentary to showcase the North East Tobago Man and the Biosphere Reserve. This documentary was distributed at no cost to 5 local television stations, all of which have broadcast it.

The UNCG also supported the production of ad campaigns that alerted persons on how to spot misinformation on social media. This campaign was distributed gratis to local television stations and aired during local programming.

A strategic plan has been developed for 2022 to expand the UNCG’s activities to more in-person engagements, now that the country has significantly rolled back on Covid-19 restrictions.

3.4 Implementation of Business Operations Strategy 2.0

The BOS2.0 for Port of Spain duty station was successfully approved and signed off on December 30, 2020. Ten (10) UN agencies which had participated in the BOS 2.0 exercise. They were ILO, FAO, IOM, PAHO, UN, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Recs & OaHs (UN ECLAC).

In the BOS 2.0 exercise, the Operations Management Team (OMT) identified the following services to be included in the BOS implementation: Cleaning Services, Conference and Event Management, Accommodation Services (outsourced), Banking Services and bank charges, Pest Control services, Security Services (outsourced), Help Desk (first line support services), Catering Services, Travel Services, Maintenance of CT Equipment, Procurement of PPE supplies, Storage and warehouse Management Services and Internet Connectivity.

The Total Future savings of the BOS 2.0 for 17 services identified were US\$522,621. The Top 4 services with the highest cost avoidance were: Travel Services US\$211K, Conference and Event Management - US\$104K, Banking Services and bank charges -US\$79K and Maintenance of ICT Equipment - US\$36K.

The COVID 19 pandemic provided many challenges to the OMT achieving its desired goals and targets. The OMT is in the process of entering into a Long Term Agreement (LTA) for Travel Services. The value of the Travel services was significantly reduced in 2021 as a result of restricted travel related to the Covid 19 pandemic.

The BOS 2.0 Review process is expected to be completed in March 2022. Weekly training sessions are being organized by UNDCO to help officials complete this exercise on time and OMT members will attend these meetings.

Accordingly, 8 OMT members successfully completed the BOS 2.0 Certification Online Programme and 2 officials (OMT Chair and ECLAC representative) attended the BOS 2.0 and Common Premises Training in Panama, facilitated by UNDCO in December 2021.

3.5 Implementation of the Spotlight Initiative



Spotlight Initiative
To eliminate violence against women and girls

In 2021, all Caribbean programmes received a no-cost extension of Phase I from December 31st, 2021, to June 30th 2022. Phase II, once approved, will extend implementation to December 31st 2023.

The Spotlight Initiative team accelerated implementation with emphasis on collaboration, national ownership and joint stakeholder engagement. Strategic oversight of the programme was provided through the governance structures of the National and Operational Steering Committees (with representation from the Office of the Prime Minister Gender and Child Affairs Division, United Nations Resident Coordinator, UN agencies, the Ministries of Education, Planning and Development, Health, Social Development and Family Services, National Security, Local Government, the Tobago House of Assembly, Judiciary, Trinidad and Tobago Police Service and civil society). Further, the team benefitted from advisory support provided by the Civil Society-National Reference Group.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to pose a challenge to timely implementation, exacerbated by the state of emergency imposed by the Government. Despite these limitations, the crucial interventions were implemented including: development of the National Clinical and Policy Guidelines on Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence, digitization and support for implementation of the National Child Policy; relaunching the Foundations Programme sensitizing over 900 out of school youth through Police Youth clubs; the establishment of a multi-stakeholder case management coordination committee to assess, monitor and hold state agencies accountable for the treatment of GBV cases and the

development of electronic data management systems to improve the experience of survivors accessing health care. Moreover, over 70 duty bearers in the police sector were trained using global best-practices in gender-responsive policing and victim and survivor-centered, trauma-informed policing.

Further, partnerships with police institutions including the Police Academy and Gender-Based Violence Unit, in professionalizing the police service and upholding the duty of care to those seeking support and services were strengthened.

Civil society participation was enhanced through development and implementation of a comprehensive civil society capacity building, coaching and mentorship programme. With this training, grassroots and women's organizations can improve capacity to enter implementing partner agreements thus proving a good resource for the agencies.

This initiative bolstered the provision of psychosocial services for 230 survivors amongst the most marginalized populations including asylum seekers and refugees through a bilingual hotline; championed the engagement of over 40 men and boys in leadership positions within their communities including at faith-based organizations and youth clubs to tackle gender stereotypes, create healthy relationships and navigate conflict; and supported a comprehensive child protection information management system with access to better quality data, enhancing case management processes and service provision and strengthening institutions such as the Children's Authority for management of child abuse cases.

Additionally, training to key staff at the Judiciary and Law Association was concluded in 2021 with the participation of 585 judges, judicial staff and members of the Law Association; the capacities of staff was increased to provide a more sensitive gender-responsive environment in the Family and Children's Courts for survivors.

A landmark study on social and cultural norms contributing to violence against children was also completed, and a widespread communications campaign to address same launched in collaboration with the Children's Authority.

The Spotlight programme received significant visibility through International Women's Day and 16 Days of Activism events via the dissemination of evidence-based call to action posters throughout target communities.

Given the extension, the team will accelerate to meet all targets in close collaboration with national stakeholders to ensure no beneficiary is left behind.

3.6 Country Results Reports in Multi-Country Office

Aruba

The Sustainable Development Framework has been well integrated into Aruba's policy- and plan-making processes. National policy documents and programmes are well aligned to the 2030 Agenda. The Government has set up a cross-sectoral Aruba SDG Commission to promote and coordinate approaches to addressing the SDGs.

The advent of COVID-19 in March 2020 has set back economic, social and environmental progress in the island. It is estimated that as much as 80% of the country's economic activities has been affected directly or indirectly. The lockdown and containment measures combined with the Government's package of financial and welfare support to businesses and vulnerable/at risk individuals and households have softened the socioeconomic impact of the pandemic. Government policy focus recognizes tourism to be the main engine of growth in the foreseeable future. The tourism industry has started to revive slowly with increasing tourist arrivals.

Aruba's economy remains vulnerable due to an overreliance on tourism and its low resilience to external shocks. The island's ongoing high public debt level is likely to have an impact on sustainable socio-economic growth. In the COVID-19 recovery phase, vulnerable/at risk groups are likely to be disproportionately affected because their resilience and coping ability are limited. Numerous policies, strategies, plans and roadmaps have been prepared by the Government, often with the support of external development partners including the UN.

Curaçao

Curaçao's National Development Plan 2015-2030 and the supportive Roadmap for SDG Implementation form the basis for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs. A UN Mainstreaming Acceleration and Policy Support mission in 2017 determined that 69% of the Government's policies and programmes were aligned with one or more of the SDGs.

Curaçao's economic situation coupled with limited financial resources has led to the Government's prioritizing the following SDGs: poverty reduction, economic growth, decent work and employment (youth employment), environmental sustainability (marine life protection and renewable energy) and good governance and leadership. Curaçao has made good progress in several SDGs particularly in poverty reduction and inequality, education, health, social protection, basic services provision (electricity and water) and renewable energy. These are prioritized areas which the Government has consistently invested in partnership with the private sector and civil society. The advent of COVID-19 impacted significantly on the economic development of the island.

In the COVID-19 recovery phase, vulnerable/at risk individuals and groups will be disproportionately affected because their resilience and coping ability are limited. The island remains vulnerable to external shocks; the Government's ability to implement countermeasures quickly has been largely due to the emergency assistance and liquidity support provided by the Government of the Netherlands. The two Governments have recently agreed on additional liquidity support in the form of a Country Package and Implementation Agenda that is tied to the implementation of structural reforms.

Curaçao's economy is relatively more diversified than many small island developing states. At the same time the Government clearly intends to continue promoting tourism as a major revenue-earning sector. Numerous policies, plans, studies and roadmaps have been prepared by the Government, often with the support of external development partners including the UN.

A cross-cutting issue is the lack of robust time series data to monitor SDG progress and results. This is related to the absence of a national statistics policy and statistical system for the country which coordinates and manages the different sectoral data sets. The UN will provide technical support as requested to support the modernization of the local data ecosystem.

Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten has experienced a double shock in the past three years, namely Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017 and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019 which have devastated the socio-economy and physical infrastructure of the island. Sint Maarten is committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs. Given budgetary and human resource constraints, the Government prioritized and mainstreamed the following SDGs into the National Development Vision 2020- 2030: SDG 4 Quality Education; SDG 7 Clean Energy; SDG 8 Economic Growth and Decent Work; SDG 10 Reduced Inequality; SDG 11 Sustainable Urbanization; SDG 13 Climate Change; SDG 15 Life on Land and SDG 17 Partnerships for Sustainable Development.

The country progressed on social indicators (especially those related to health and education) and on other basic services, such as access to drinking water and electricity. Vulnerable groups are likely to be disproportionately affected due to their limited coping capacities, while progress on indicators related to the quality of economic growth and employment/decent work, gender equality and women's empowerment, good governance, clean and renewable energy and environmental concerns has been limited.

Institutional mechanisms could be improved to better coordinate, monitor and report progress on the SDGs. There is a lack of statistical/time series data across most sectors and thematic areas which limits the institutional coordination, planning and monitoring of the SDGs. Data are most frequently collected and analyzed just after a Census (the last one being in 2011) and there is a gap until the next census. Except for a department of statistics, the island does not have national statistical policy and related institutional coordinating machinery.

This gap represents an area of intervention for which the UN system will offer technical support and expertise.

A significant funding gap of US\$2.3 billion exists for the full implementation of the Government's National Recovery and Resilience Plan and Roadmap. This will require substantial resource mobilization efforts from all stakeholders, including support from external developing partners and the UN system.

Chapter 4:

UNCT Key Focus for 2022

The UNCT and Government will work together in 2022 to commence implementation under the new Multi country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) 2022-27 arrangement to build back stronger together.

Immediately, under the coordination of the RCO, UN agencies commenced meetings with government counterparts in ministries and agencies, as well as private sector partners and CSOs, to establish joint actions under priority areas as part of the new Country Implementation Plan (CIP TT) for 2022. These actions will form the basis of all UNCT work in 2022.

UNCT efforts will focus on scaling up service delivery including expanding migration management and social protection preparedness, outreach to rural and vulnerable communities across Trinidad and Tobago, and innovative and powerful solutions to meet renewable energy demands and environmental protection mandates.

The UNCT will also continue efforts towards increased resource mobilization. Priority will be given to the development of an updated resource mobilization strategy that explores and develops additional SDG financing solutions.

Support to the country's health management, capacity building and procurement and supply of health equipment will continue in 2022 under the lead and guidance of WHO in support of the Ministry of Health.

The Spotlight Initiative will continue to be a significant area of focus of the UNCT in 2022. The Spotlight team will continue to address family violence in the country and to “leave no one behind” by targeting the most vulnerable and marginalized women and girls.

Actions on SDG data and data management will also be a key area of continued focus in 2022. Phase 2 of the establishment of the SDG Data Repository, including the development of the repository as a virtual and interactive platform will allow for interoperability and support key UNCT analyses including the updating of the country's CCA.

Key actions arising from the second Big Data Forum will also be advanced ahead of the third edition of the Forum in 2022. Key initiatives include developing the framework and coordinating mechanism for the establishment of a Center of Excellence for Big Data Analytics in Trinidad and Tobago; ongoing joint academia and private sector Big Data research locally; and capacity building initiatives with the National Statistical Office on Big Data and Big Data usage.

NOTES

NOTES



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