Snapshots of Success
Key Results for Sustainable Development
2022-2023

UNITED NATIONS
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
We’re On This Journey Together

Success is never achieved solo, and the United Nations has forged strategic partnerships to ensure T&T is poised to make the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) a reality by 2030. In 2022, the UN in T&T made transformative strides as it brought together our partners from Government, civil society, the private sector, the international development community and grassroots communities, to find impactful solutions and make measurable progress. With 7 years to achieve the SDGs, the UN team is accelerating our work to support the country’s aspirations for economic growth, health and well-being, education, peaceful communities, human rights, gender equality and climate action.

A Record Year For UN Investment

2022 was a year to jumpstart SDG acceleration coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our investment in T&T jumped to US $10.01M - the first time our spending hit double digits after the 2018 UN Reform for stronger coordination among UN agencies.

Our Work Aligns with T&T’s Priorities

When T&T presented its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) on SDG progress back in 2020, the Government identified 8 priority SDGs as its focus. Most of our 137 development activities overlapped with 6 of these 8 priority SDGs.

Using the SDGs as a baseline, the UN engages T&T through the Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF). Here’s how the UN’s 2022 investment was distributed across the framework’s four Priority Areas.
**Ending Gender-Based Violence**

*The Spotlight Initiative*

The Spotlight Initiative is an unprecedented effort by the UN and the European Union to end violence against women and girls worldwide. Here in T&T, a US $6.48M programme has delivered groundbreaking progress since 2020.

**How we’re improving frontline response:**

- **No protocols to standardise how healthcare workers interact with GBV survivors.**

- **No digital information system to share patient history across healthcare system.**
  - T&T develops the Americas’ first Electronic Health Information System for care of survivors.

- **No dedicated course on Gender-Responsive Policing for trainee officers.**
  - UNDP, UN Women and Police Academy developed a Gender-Responsive Policing module. 217 officers trained, with plans to train all 7,000 officers.

*“The Spotlight Initiative has succeeded as a change initiative, bringing the social problem of GBV into the open as a matter of debate, policy evolution and ongoing policy implementation. Due to Spotlight, the paradigm of response to gender-based violence is evolving in the right direction to address this wrong.”*

- Peter Cavendish
  - Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Trinidad and Tobago

*“The training provided by the Spotlight Initiative produced an entire culture change for us.”*

- Dr. Latoya Baptiste Manzano
  - Acting Registrar,
  - Sangre Grande Hospital A&E

*“The course in Gender Responsive Policing was helpful to my work in Community Policing as it takes a proactive approach and prioritises equality.”*

- Sergeant Orr
  - Community Oriented Policing Section, TTPS

UNICEF and the Heroes Foundation developed and piloted a GBV curriculum. Nearly 400 children from 31 schools were trained as advocates, and they exposed over 9,000 of their peers to anti-GBV campaigns.
This, Our Native Land

Climate action is a key priority of the UN’s work, and UNDP is leading our team’s efforts to make T&T climate resilient.

Since 1995, UNDP’s Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP) has put nearly US $5M into the hands of 150 NGOs to find sustainable solutions to environmental challenges in their communities.

From 2020-2022, community groups:

1. Trained 100 new beekeepers
2. Opened the first 2 upcycling centres in T&T
3. Created the country’s first community circular economy in Cashew Gardens, where food scraps now fertilise a community garden
4. Upcycled 10,400 kg of plastic waste into benches and building lumber
5. Installed Tobago’s first public infrastructure made of plastic – a bridge in Roxborough!

“By interacting with the bees, we better understand how they help pollinate our food crops. The Police Youth Clubs are now more driven to plant trees, practice beekeeping and use less toxic chemicals, so we can safeguard our pollinators.”

- Robelto Katteck & Melissa Phillip
St. Mary’s & Indian Walk Police Youth Clubs

“In my four months of bi-weekly operations, I have crushed almost 6,000 bottles. It was good to see many people supporting the project and caring for our environment.”

- Kegel Mc Conney
Roxborough Police Youth Club

UNDP’s landmark GCCA+ project will help T&T achieve its Nationally Determined Contribution of reducing carbon emissions by 15% by 2030. The EU-funded project will develop a National Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency policy. Twelve solar energy systems were also installed across T&T.
Going Digital

The Government has placed a premium on becoming a data-driven policymaker and expanding ICT for public services. The UN in T&T is supporting these aspirations with a series of initiatives.

E-textbooks for Online Learning
UNICEF and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) created E-learning textbooks for the Ministry of Education in Math, English and Spanish for primary and secondary school.

National Children’s Registry
The National Children’s Registry is a data monitoring tool that bolsters child protection—the first of its kind in the Eastern Caribbean. With US $80,000 from UNICEF, more than 60,000 records were uploaded by March 2023.

Telemedicine for the Public Health Sector
Under the India-UN Fund’s US $1M healthcare initiative, PAHO/WHO will create the public health sector’s first telemedicine system to serve the elderly, people with disabilities and patients in remote areas.

Joint SDG Fund
In 2022, the UN’s Joint SDG Fund invested US $721,000 to improve the availability and quality of SDG data, the collection of statistics and data collaboration.

Finding an Equal Place

The UN team, led by IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF, has supported T&T in managing migration and the needs of migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees.

In 2022, our team:

- Launched a US $950,000 project with USAID to improve the quality of care for victims of human trafficking
- Trained 1,700 Government officials and partner staff on mental health support and social protection
- Supported 5,300 people with food, hygiene supplies, accommodation and counselling
- Collected and analysed data on 1,300 Venezuelan migrants, through its Displacement Tracking Matrix, to identify trends in food access, income generation, shelter, health and education
- Delivered non-formal primary education and English readiness courses to children on the move. As of December 2022, nearly 3,500 children had received support.
UNODC, along with the Government of Canada, trained 27 law enforcement officers on money laundering in 2022.

1. UNODC, Interpol and the World Customs Organization conducted training to help T&T better detect and intercept drugs, firearms, victims of trafficking and foreign terrorist fighters.

The Final Five

2. PAHO/WHO and UNFPA are working with disability organisations, people with disabilities and Government to review key laws so that legislation can better align with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Amendments will be suggested to the Ministry of the Attorney General.

3. In 2022, UNESCO Sandwatch workshops took teachers to coastlines for beach monitoring sessions, linking climate change to the classroom.

4. FAO, the Government of Mexico and CARICOM are boosting the contribution of aquaculture to T&T's food security.

5. Let’s Work Together.

For more information on our initiatives, contact Faine Richards at the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office faine.richards@un.org.

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