About the Global Programme

Making development aid work effectively, tackling the global food crisis and fighting climate change are among the challenges that illustrate why global and local action working together are essential to advance human development and eradicate poverty.

Making this connection is what UNDP’s Global Programme (GP) is designed to do. Mobilising creative and proven development solutions through teams of experienced policy advisors and knowledge networks, the GP connects UNDP’s 135 Country Offices, six Regional Centres and three Thematic Centres. It enables the organisation to learn from experience on the ground and apply it to global policy debates, while helping our development partners to interpret, draw from and contribute to global and regional initiatives.

How does the Global Programme work?

Managed and implemented by UNDP’s Bureau for Development Policy, the GP enhances UNDP’s ability to work collectively and coherently across the world. It ensures our Country Offices, Regional Bureaus and development partners can access new and existing tools and knowledge from other parts of the world in order to work towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). With policy advisors based in New York and in each of the Regional and Thematic Centres working to develop innovative ways to fight poverty, streamline UNDP’s policy approaches across its mandated areas and facilitate two-way communication between local and global actors, the GP is the backbone of UNDP’s work.

The first GP, then called the Global Cooperation Framework, was established by UNDP’s Executive Board in 1997 in response to a need to improve UNDP’s ability to work across regions and take a global perspective on priority issues. The second and third were agreed in 2001 and 2005, and in September 2008, UNDP will be seeking approval for the fourth GP from its Executive Board.

What is the Global Programme?

1. A global advocate for development, promoting ways to reach the MDGs based on an understanding of country-level realities and international norms, standards and conventions. For example, through the GP, UNDP helped developing countries to prepare jointly for the Small Island Developing States summit in Mauritius and the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, so that their concerns and needs could be effectively incorporated into the resulting

MATTERS OF FACT

- 135 UNDP country offices worldwide, 6 Regional Centres and 3 Thematic Centres working with over 166 countries.
- 85 percent of results set out by the third Global Programme achieved for the period 2005-2008.
- 19 countries supported by the Global Programme to build new MDG-based national development strategies.
- 40 of the world’s poorest countries were helped by the Global Programme to compete and benefit from international trade.
- 35 countries received election support from UNDP’s Global Programme in 2006.
intergovernmental agreements - and translated into development action.

2. **An advisor on policy**, analyzing policy issues and identifying development solutions at the global, regional and country levels. For example, with guidance from the GP policy advisors and working through the Country Office, UNDP helped the Government of Lesotho to set and implement better sanitary policies for its peach producers, so that they could meet international trade standards and increase their exports to developed countries.

3. **A connector of people and knowledge**, facilitating south-south and inter-regional learning, sharing experiences and connecting theory to practice. For example, through the GP, UNDP took Mexico’s approach to building women’s empowerment and equality into its constitution to the global level and adapted it for a wider audience. As a result, through the GP, Nepal was able to draw on this experience as it set about rewriting its own constitution.

4. **A setter of corporate standards**, ensuring policy coherence, harmonization and quality across all levels of UNDP. For example, the GP supported the development of UNDP’s new Gender Equality Strategy to define a coherent role for UNDP at the national, regional and global level in promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment, working strategically with partners and drawing on women’s unique knowledge and experience around the world.

5. **A catalyst for investment**, identifying gaps in development finance and using innovative policy approaches to fill them in order to reach the MDGs. For example, the GP is harnessing the benefits of the carbon market for developing countries through the innovative MDG Carbon Facility, in partnership with the insurance and investment giant Fortis. The Facility will help developing countries create projects based on international standards that will cut greenhouse gas emissions and earn emission reduction credits, so generating a new flow of financing for development.

How is the Global Programme financed?

As the chart above illustrates, the GP represents 1% of UNDP’s total delivery, which translates into approximately US$29 million based on 2007 figures. This is equivalent to 5% of UNDP’s core resources. The breakdown of how the 1% is delivered by thematic areas is illustrated below.

In addition to 1% of UNDP’s total delivery, the GP generates additional resources to help UNDP deliver results more effectively, as the chart below highlights.

Breakdown of resources mobilized by thematic area through the GP in the period 2005 - 2007. The total is $23.6 billion. Including funds mobilized through the Global Environment Facility and the Montreal Protocol the total rises to $1.1 billion in the same time period.

For more information, visit: [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

or contact Niamh Collier-Smith, [niamh.collier@undp.org](mailto:niamh.collier@undp.org)

United Nations Development Programme