



UNITED NATIONS
EGYPT



2019 UN EGYPT RESULTS REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACRONYMS	3
FORWARD	5
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	6
KEY DEVELOPMENT TRENDS	7
RESULTS OF DELIVERING AS ONE	10
Outcome 1: Inclusive Economic Development	10
Outcome 2: Social Justice	15
Outcome 3: Environment Sustainability and Natural Resource Management	25
Outcome 4: Women’s Empowerment	34
Cross-Cutting: Migration and Refugees:	42
RESULTS OF COMMUNICATING AS ONE	48
RESULTS OF OPERATING AS ONE	52
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW	53
ANNEXES	54
Annex 1: Outcome level indicator results reporting	54
Annex 2: Common Budgetary Framework reporting	54

ACRONYMS

2030 Agenda	2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
BCI	Better Cotton Initiative
BDS	Business Development Services
CAPMAS	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics
CBE	Central Bank of Egypt
COTM	Children on the Move
CPC	Children Protection Committee
CPU	Child Protection Unit
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EEAA	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
Egypt's Vision 2030	Egypt's Strategy for Sustainable Development 2030
ENID	Egypt Network for Integrated Development
EOS	Egyptian Organization for Standardization & Quality
ERC	Egyptian Red Crescent
ESP	Essential Services Packages for Women and Girls Subject to Violence Joint Programme
EVAC	Ending Violence Against Children
EYE	Employment for Youth in Egypt Joint Programme
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FEI	Federation of Egyptian Industries
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FMA	Forensic Medical Authority
GBE	United Nations Greening the Blue Interagency Working Group
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFATM	Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoE	Government of Egypt
GOPP	General Organization for Physical Planning

HCFCs	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
HCW	Healthcare Waste
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMC	Industrial Modernization Centre
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISDF	Informal Settlements Development Fund
ITI	Information Technology Institute
LNOB	Leaving No One Behind
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MALR	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation
MENA	Middle East North Africa
MMWG	United Nations Interagency Working Group on Mixed Migration
MALR	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoETE	Ministry of Education and Technical Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population
MoHUUC	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities
Mol	Ministry of Interior
MoIC	Ministry of International Cooperation
MoLD	Ministry of Local Development
MoPED	Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
MoSIT	Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade
MoSS	Ministry of Social Solidarity
MWRI	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
MoTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MoYS	Ministry of Youth and Sports
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MSMEDA	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency
MWRI	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation
NAP	National AIDS Programme

NCCM	National Council for Childhood and Motherhood
NCCPIM&TIP	National Coordinating Committee for Combating and Preventing Illegal Migration and Trafficking in Persons
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NCW	National Council for Women
NFSA	National Food Safety Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSEEW	National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUCA	New Urban Communities Authority
PV	Photovoltaic
SADS 2030	Egypt's Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy 2030
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SoM	Smuggling of Migrants
SPIS	Solar-Powered Irrigation Systems
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
TIEC	Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre
TiP	Trafficking in Persons
ToT	Train of Trainers
UHI	Universal Health Insurance
UN	United Nations
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UNAFP	United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNPDF	United Nations Partnership Development Framework 2018-2022
UNTOC	United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
VAW	Violence Against Women
VCD	Value Chain Development
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WUA	Water Users' Associations

FORWARD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

KEY DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Egypt continued in 2019 to take concrete steps towards ensuring the progression of a national approach to sustainable development, as outlined in the country's National Agenda for Sustainable Development (*Egypt Vision 2030*), and a commitment to "Leaving No One Behind".

In July, Egypt received its fifth and final tranche of the IMF Extended Fund Facility (EFF), which aimed at supporting macroeconomic stability and economic growth. The EFF programme's objective was to improve the foreign exchange markets, bring down the budget deficit and government debts, and raise growth to create jobs. The Government of Egypt (GoE) has successfully implemented the first wave of macroeconomic and structural reforms that addressed a number of deep-seated issues and helped to stabilize the economy, sustain growth and lay the groundwork for more dynamic private sector participation in the economy. This was reflected in 2019 through the re-establishment of macroeconomic stability, increased growth figures, attraction of new investments and decreased formal unemployment rates. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth increased to 5.6 per cent in fiscal year 2019 (ending 30 June 2019), compared to 4.6% in the previous three years. This robust performance was sustained throughout the first half of fiscal year 2020. Unemployment decreased to 7.5 per cent in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019 (from 9.9 per cent a year earlier), which is the lowest in 20 years. Gas extractives, tourism, wholesale and retail trade, real estate and construction sectors have been the main drivers of growth.

While the macroeconomic environment has improved, social conditions remained challenging. Between 2016 and 2018, nominal wage growth fell below inflation. Official estimates reported that the share of the population living below the national poverty line in fiscal year 2018 increased to 32.5 per cent, from 27.8 in 2015, with the highest poverty rates still in rural Upper Egypt. To alleviate the adverse effects of the economic reforms on the poor and vulnerable, the GoE scaled up key social

protection mitigating measures, including through higher allocations of food smart cards and expanded targeted conditional and unconditional cash transfer programmes, including *Takaful and Karama*. As part of Egypt's largest investments in human capital development, the social protection programmes *Takaful and Karama* have covered up to 2.26 million households. In the same vein, Egypt launched the *Decent Life* initiative to develop Egypt's neediest villages – in line with the national strategy to eradicate poverty. The first phase, launched in 2019, targets villages where the percentage of the population living in poverty exceeds 75 per cent. This includes 377 villages in 11 governorates, mostly in Upper Egypt where some of Egypt's poorest live. Around three million people are expected to benefit from the initiative's first phase, which will provide these villages with potable water, rebuild roofless houses, and distribute blankets and furniture. It will also offer training to family members on how to start micro-sized projects.

Furthermore, the *100 Million Healthy Lives* campaign to screen for Hepatitis C and noncommunicable diseases which was launched in late 2018 continued throughout 2019. The campaign targeted citizens and residents aged 19 to 59 for scanning through PCR tests. Those testing positive for the disease underwent further check-ups and were provided with free medication. President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi announced in 2019 that Egypt more than 60 million citizens and residents had benefited from this campaign. The campaign was also extended to include a women health campaign which was launched in July this year. This initiative took aim at conducting health screening tests on millions of women across the country as well as raising the awareness of reproductive health, family planning, and the importance of the detection of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, blood pressure, and the level of obesity or overweight, in addition to raise awareness of breast self-examination. During the first two phases of this campaign which took place during 2019, screening tests were conducted on 2.7 million women –

according to the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP).

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) remains one of the most pressing forms of violence against girls and women (VAW) in Egypt. The results of the 2014 Egypt Demographic and Health Survey indicated that 92 per cent of married women aged 15-49 had undergone FGM, while 56 per cent of girls under 19 were expected to undergo FGM before they reached the age of 19. The legal framework has greatly improved in the last few years; nevertheless, progress in tackling the issue requires accelerated efforts to protect millions of girls that remain at-risk of cutting. In 2019, the National Council for Women (NCW) and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) joined forces to form a National Committee for the Eradication of FGM. The National Committee, which comprises representatives of all concerned Ministries in addition to civil society, and development partners, aims at concerting all efforts to end this harmful practice through policy, capacity-building and awareness-raising. The first awareness-raising campaign “Protect Her from Circumcision” was launched a month after the formation of the Committee.

The GoE had embarked on a process to update Egypt Vision 2030 in 2018 and continued the process in 2019. The strategy was developed in 2016 and reflected Egypt’s strong commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda). The current revision process aims to better integrate and align Egypt Vision 2030 with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda and the African Union's (AU) Transformative Agenda 2063 on the “The Africa We Want” (Agenda 2063), as well as incorporate the economic reform programme, while focusing on the cross-cutting themes of social, economic and environmental dimension.

On the political front, a constitutional referendum was held in April. The proposed changes included extending presidential terms to six years each while maintaining the previous maximum of two consecutive terms; empowering the president to

appoint the heads of judicial bodies, the president of the Supreme Constitutional Court, and the prosecutor-general and giving him the chairmanship of the Supreme Council for Judicial Bodies and Entities; creating a quota for women, requiring that one-fourth of all seats of the House of Representatives be reserved for women in addition to obligating the state to better represent workers, farmers, youth, Christians, individuals with disabilities, and Egyptians living abroad in the House; establishing a second chamber of parliament that has at least 180 members; creating a vice president position; and changing the State Council’s authority from being able to edit and review legislation and decrees of a legal nature to only a reviewing authority. The changes were approved by 88.83 per cent of voters who voted, with a 44 per cent turnout.

At the same time, the new Civil Society Law was approved by the House of Representatives in July. The law governs the process by which domestic and foreign nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) can achieve legal recognition and sets forth provisions on their activities, oversight and monitoring, funding, and sanctions for violations of the law. This law was drafted following a consultative process that involved representatives from civil society organization as well as bilateral and multilateral development partners – including the United Nations in Egypt.

On the regional front, Egypt took the presidency of the AU for a one-year term in February, succeeding Rwanda. At the forefront of Egypt’s chairmanship of the AU in 2019 was the AU’s Agenda 2063. In this context, Egypt sought to promote economic and regional integration and development as well as institutional and financial reform of the AU. Other priorities put forward during Egypt’s chairmanship were promoting strategies for peace and security, reinforcing cooperation between the AU and national, regional and international development partners and finally, emphasising the prosperity of the African citizens through cultural and civilizational communication. In line with these priorities, Egypt organized several conferences and forums that focused on investment, regional and international

cooperation, and peace and security – among other topics. To this end, Egypt launched the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development. The Forum, which was held on 11-12 December, provided a high-level multi-stakeholder platform for regional and international actors to take stock of current opportunities and challenges to peace, security and development in Africa; and develop context specific and action-oriented recommendations to advance the implementation of and interlinkages between the “sustainable development” and “sustaining peace” agendas in Africa. It highlighted that the nature and scope of the opportunities promising to transform the continent’s security and development landscape, and the challenges undermining these transformative developments, underscore the imperative of a “paradigm shift” from crisis management to sustainable peace and

development, by means of a “peace-development continuum”. It also emphasized that the existing normative and legal frameworks at Africa’s disposal are adequate to advance this “paradigm shift”.

At the same time, in its efforts to achieve sustainable development, Egypt took a leading role at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit that was convened during the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly in September. With more efforts needed for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, governments are requested to submit more ambitious commitments. Egypt co-chaired with the UK the coalition on adaptation and resilience to raise funds to implement the resilience and adaptation strategies that address climate change impacts.

RESULTS OF DELIVERING AS ONE

Outcome 1: Inclusive Economic Development

Outcome Statement: *“By 2022 Egypt has adopted inclusive and sustainable development pathways and remains on track to achieve agreed targets for sustainable, resilient and job rich economic development.”*

Focus: Local Economic Development, Clusters and Value Chains; MSME and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem; Employability; and Economic Policies.

In 2019, the Inclusive Economic Development Outcome Area was coordinated by UNDP, bringing together efforts of FAO, IFAD, ILO, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNIDO.

SDGs: 1 (No Poverty); 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth); 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure); 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production); 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions); 17 (Partnerships for the Goal)

Policy Development and Enhancement

In line with Egypt’s Vision 2030 and Egypt’s National Strategy for Cluster Development, the UN in Egypt has worked in 2019 towards enabling the Egyptian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (MSMEDA) to have a more facilitative approach among governmental and non-governmental actors to provide quality Business Development Services (BDS) to MSMEs, as well as enabling MSMEs in high growth sector (including tourism and agri-food) to access quality BDS to increase their competitiveness, productivity and internationalisation on the other hand. To this end, the UN supported the drafting and finalization of a BDS facilitation strategy for MSMEDA to serve as the roadmap for the agency to move gradually from providing BDS towards acting as a facilitator for this market in Egypt.

At the same time, to raise awareness about local economic development opportunities in the governorates of Qalyoubia and Menoufia, the UN conducted a study to identify and assess Business Opportunities (BOs) with proven market potential in the sectors of agro-industries, waste management,

and handicraft industries in the two governorates, based on a previous preliminary analysis. This study will pave the way for an action plan for supporting the creation and growth of innovative youth start-ups in the two governorates. The study identified 70 BOs in both governorates, while, 66 BOs fact sheets were drafted. The identified BOs will be reviewed in 2020 with the local authorities and subsequent technical assistance program for the entrepreneurs will be devised.

Additionally, the UN supported the Government of Egypt in strengthening the coordination and linkages between spatial and investment planning aiming at making planning more implementable. This was done through piloting strategic planning in the governorate of the Red Sea with strong participatory mechanisms to capture the perspectives and visions of the local community, civil society, the local government and the local private sector. A common vision for the development of the governorate was developed to spur development and strengthen the competitiveness of the governorate and to improve the coordination of local administrations and other relevant stakeholders. As a result, the ability of the

local government to prioritize investments in order to enhance the socio-economic development of the Governorate improved. Based on this experience, the UN revised the terms of reference for strategic planning giving the General Authority for Urban Planning (GOPP) the necessary tools to integrate data on investment planning into the strategic development plans developed by the GOPP. This reflects the change in mindsets of the GOPP that linking spatial planning to investment planning is a

Institutional Capacity-Building and Enhancement

Through the Egyptian Cotton Project, the UN in Egypt continued to support the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR) and the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI) in completing the access to an international framework for sustainable cotton production called *Better Cotton initiative* (BCI), which represents about 20% of the worldwide cotton production. To this end, the UN devised an intense capacity building program in Kafr el Sheikh and Damietta to support the Cotton Research Institute as well as 7 agricultural cooperatives to introduce to 1460 cotton growers (20% women) sustainable practices in cotton cultivation to reduce water and chemicals consumption, while improving productivity. In order to facilitate the roll-out of BCI in the future, the UN designed appropriate awareness tool in Arabic, such as field notebook, production calendars etc. which has been shared with the Cotton Research Institute, cotton traders and other private companies involved in contract farming during training of trainers (TOT) sessions held along the cotton season 2019.

The UN's approach in introducing BCI was also coupled with the constitution of a private sector working group, as a pull factor to the sector to secure consistent demand of Egyptian cotton and, at the same time, to serve as advisory body to institutional bodies such as Cotton Research Institute, Cotton Egypt Association, Apparel and Textile Export Council, Cotton Arbitration and Testing General Organization (CATGO), MoTI and MALR. Worth noting that 21 companies, from traders to international brands and retailers actively participated and endorsed the efforts done by the

powerful tool in ensure implementation of plans. In addition, based on the UN's recommendation, the GOPP has opted for rural district level (markaz) as the key planning level, since this better enables the integration of spatial and investment planning. In addition, the cooperation with the Ministry of Local Development (MoLD) has ensured that results were disseminated throughout the country - through trainings for local leaders.

Government of Egypt, through the UN, in improving quality and sustainability of the Egyptian cotton.

Furthermore, in line with the abovementioned actions, and building on previous successful cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MoETE) to review and upgrade curricula for agricultural technical schools, the UN also reviewed chapters taught on cotton in order to introduce the concepts of sustainability in its three dimensions - economic, social and environment. The revised chapters were piloted by the Ministry in two agricultural technical schools in Damietta in 2019, in preparation for nationwide adoption during the next academic year.

Concurrently, through the UN Value Chain Development facilitation training course, capacities of 28 national practitioners from MSMEDA, the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE), MoTI, Nile University, the Federation of Egyptian Industries (FEI) and private sector firms were enhanced on value chain development (VCD) facilitation in 2019, to act as a pool of VCD experts in future interventions applying Market System Development (MSD) approach. Within the same context, the UN conducted two Market System Analysis on the tourism and the agri-food sectors, identifying and analysing 7 value chains namely garlic, greenhouses and dairy products in Minya; and Alabaster, felouks/hantour and dairy products value chain in Gharbia and guesthouses/local restaurants in Luxor. The UN will be working with national counterparts on upgrading these sectors in 2020 to enhance their contribution to a more socially inclusive MSME market where

youth and women are significantly integrated and empowered.

The UN also supported MSMEDA in disbursing EGP 3,934,571,329 (of which 32% were female) as loans for financing MSMEs, reaching 157,073 enterprises (73,661 female and 83,412 male). Furthermore, in preparation for the handicrafts Exhibition 'Turathna' which was held under the auspices of the His Excellency President Abd El-Fattah El-Sisi, the UN supported the institutional capacity building of MSMEDA to facilitate the access to financial and non-financial services, including access to markets. Moreover, support was provided to MSMEDA to develop Tala incubator in Menoufia and identifying a number of clusters for development. Collaboration on non-financial services also results in holding 261 training workshops by MSMEDA reaching at least 7,074 beneficiaries (3,938 female and 3136 male). The UN also equipped 48 trainers from MSMEDA with the needed skills and knowledge to carry out the flagship business management-training programme Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) to youth aspiring to establish small businesses. As a result of financial and non-financial support to beneficiary MSMEs, MSMEDA created 250,173 job opportunities (93,902 for women and 156,271 for men). Furthermore, the UN also supported the Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (TIEC), training 4,605 beneficiaries and supporting 724 start-ups (of which 25% were female).

With the same aim in mind, the UN partnered with Egyptian national financial institutions to enhance their capacities to provide better non-financial services to young men and women in need and succeeded in building a national educational platform for the Egyptian partners (youth, NGOs, financial institutions and governmental bodies) on financial education.

The UN also supported the MoETE in developing entrepreneurship programmes coupled with

financial education which were implemented in 12 technical secondary schools in three governorates¹ during the reporting. 60 teachers (21 female and 39 male) received capacity-building on entrepreneurship competencies during the school year 2018-2019, bringing the total number of teachers capacitated to 101 teachers (47 female and 54 male). The capacitated teachers were able to successfully prepare and deliver lessons incorporating entrepreneurship competencies. 149 classes were delivered, benefiting 132 students (56 female and 76 male). This had a significant impact on the technical secondary schools' students which was highlighted in an entrepreneurship competition that was organized by the UN in Sohag governorate. 132 students (56 female and 76 male) participated in the competition and were able to generate and present 17 social entrepreneurship projects concepts. Furthermore, 36 teachers that were capacitated in 2017 continued during this reporting period to build the capacities of 151 additional teachers (95 female and 59 male) on entrepreneurship competencies and the subject of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, introduced by the MoETE.

Parallel to the development in the formal education setting, the joint-regional Life Skills & Citizenship Education (LSCE) Initiative has also been endorsed in the non-formal learning environment through collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS). Moreover, 11 facilitators were trained from MoYS to support the entry into the labour market for graduated and those who have been forced out of the job market to return. The trained facilitators conducted 3 Job Search Club workshops for 48 beneficiaries, among which 70% were females. The Job Search Clubs continued to prove its success as tool with more than 33% of the beneficiaries finding decent work opportunities during three months from joining the workshop.

Provision of Direct Services and Support to Beneficiaries

¹ Alexandria, Damietta and Sohag.

In line with Egypt Vision 2030 which prioritises investing in young people for their skills development and employability, as well as the African Union's *1 Million by 2021*² initiative and the global *Generation Unlimited*³ initiative, the UN in Egypt continued during the reporting to equip young women and men with the required life and business skills to become more employable and equipped for the labour market, while making sure that the inclusion of youth from diverse backgrounds and governorates, particularly the disadvantaged and marginalized, is prioritised.

To this end, the UN continued to implement the 'Meshwary' (My Journey) life skills and employability programme in partnership with the MoYS which targets adolescents and young people (13-24 years old) that are socially and economically excluded and with lack of career opportunities, especially in slum and rural areas. 19,968 young people (11,903 female and 8,065 male) from 11 governorates⁴ received foundational training on life skills and an additional 8,737 (5,135 female and 3,602 male) went through technical trainings, career guidance, and internships. With the same aim in mind, THE UN also provided business skills trainings to 235 young people (106 female, 129 male) from six governorates⁵, equipping first-time jobseekers and unemployed youth with the technical skills that are required from them to become more employable and equipped for the labour market. The UN, in partnership with the FEI, also trained 43 young people (17 female and 26 male) from remote and disadvantaged villages in Sohag on business skills and offered them job opportunities with private sector companies. The UN also supported a total of 49,565 young men and women through innovation bootcamps and hackathons.

² To drive the full realization of Africa's Agenda 2063, the *1 Million By 2021 Initiative* aims to reach millions of African youth from across the continent with opportunities and interventions in the key areas of Employment, Entrepreneurship, Education and Engagement, which will accelerate socioeconomic development on the continent.

The UN also introduced a revised curriculum for the weaving specialization in the industrial school of Borg el Arab in the governorate of Alexandria during the reporting period, which was attended by 14 students (all male). The UN had in the past also revised the curriculum on spinning. Local factories from the industrial zone of Borg El Arab, a major cluster of the textile industry, were consulted during the revision of the curriculum to ensure its alignment to labour market requirements. Furthermore, the UN facilitated a summer internship programmes for students of the three-year courses for spinning and weaving with three local factories in the area of Borg el Arab. This internship programme works on facilitating employment opportunities for the students at factories in the industrial zone of Borg El Arab.

The UN continued to promote and support pro-poor socio-economic development. A total of 18,849 people (4,172 female and 14,677 male) from rural communities across the country benefited from capacity building on economic development and improving access to markets through a total amount of EGP 851.4 million of micro-credit. The UN also facilitated the access of 5,987 beneficiaries (4,490 female and 1,497 male) to job opportunities in Upper Egypt. At the same time, the UN enhanced the ability of residents and community-based organizations in targeted communities in the governorate of Suhag to take collaborative actions in response to economic, environmental, health and food challenges through facilitating the establishment a Human Security Fund (HSF). A total of 282 community members (118 female and 164 male) benefited from variety of capacity-building activities ranging from orientation session on local economic development; community assets mapping and project development and project proposal development. The community members' capacity-building activities generated 7 concepts for

³ *Generation Unlimited* is a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to ensure all young people are in school, training or employment by 2030. It focuses on skills for learning, employment and empowerment for young people - especially girls.

⁴ Cairo, Alexandria, Gharbia, Dakahlia, Beheira, Sharqia, Kafr ElSheikh, Assiut, Aswan, Qena, and Sohag

⁵ Assiut, Qena, Sohag, Fayoum, Bani Suef and Menia

community projects that are being reviewed for potential funding opportunities and implementation.

To further promote the sustainability along the Egyptian cotton value chain, a series of trainings and technical workshop, including experts on certification schemes and technology manufacturers were held during 2019 in collaboration with the MoTI and Apparel and Textile Export Council, towards 150 local manufacturers (53 female and 97 male) to increase their knowledge on latest environmental and social compliance certification

scheme, green technologies and equipment for all processing steps. At the same time, in collaboration with MSMEDA, the UN conducted seven training courses on the basics of food safety specifically for the dairy products value chain in four governorates⁶ and for the biodegradable plastic products value chain in two governorates⁷ which were attended by a total of 120 entrepreneurs. Additionally, the UN promoted business linkages and market opportunities for the onion value chain in Sohag through a matchmaking event which benefited 100 producers and a field visit for the top 10 Egyptian exporters to the onion production.

⁶ Beheira, Daqahliya, Cairo and Alexandria

⁷ Alexandria and Cairo

Outcome 2: Social Justice

Outcome Statement: *“By 2022 interim 2030 targets are reached with respect to population and sustainable access of all people in Egypt to public services notably quality, inclusive and rights-based protection, social protection, health, nutrition and education services.”*

Focus: Education; Health and nutrition; Social protection; Youth; and People living with HIV

In 2019, the Social Justice Outcome Area was coordinated by WFP, bringing together efforts of FAO, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UN Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, WFP and WHO.

SDG: 1 (No Poverty); 2 (Zero Hunger); 3 (Good Health and Well-Being); 4 (Quality Education); 5 (Gender Equality); 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth); 10 (Reduced Inequalities); and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

Policy development and enhancement

In 2019, the UN continued its support to the Government of Egypt (GoE) in social protection. This included providing the GoE with technical advice on social protection to during the preparatory period of the pension reform. A series of actuarial studies corresponding to different scenarios of reforms of the pension system have been developed with Ministry of Social Solidary (MoSS) and Ministry of Finance (MoF), intending to guarantee the long-term sustainability of the current defined benefit system via parametric reform. Based on the UN’s technical support, the Law 148/2019 was adopted in August 2019 by the Egyptian House of Representatives reforming the national social insurance pension system and contributing to enhance the coverage, the governance and the financial sustainability of the system. Following the adoption of the law, the UN supported MoSS in drafting the Executive Regulations. In addition, the UN also supported the non-contributory social protection schemes. As part of the Egyptian Social Protection Floor Initiative chaired by MoSS, the UN has led research on the costing of the extension of non-contributory social protection schemes, to extend the number of beneficiaries of Takaful and Karama, but also maternity benefits and to increase the benefit level in relation to poverty thresholds.

At the same time, the UN continued to invest in creating a policy environment and building capacities for a sufficiently operational child protection mechanism in Egypt. The development of the Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC) National Plan of Action and a profiling study on social workers in the MoSS contributed to this overall agenda. Following Egypt’s investment in the launch of the EVAC National strategic framework last year, the UN continued to technically support the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to finalize a 2019-2030 National Plan of Action on EVAC. The plan translates different counterparts’ roles and responsibilities into actions with a monitoring system in place. This planning process was accompanied by more strategic work with relevant ministries such as MoETE in developing a more detailed action plan.

During the year, the UN contributed to the growing body of evidence, deepening the understanding of different sectors as EVAC is a multi-faceted issue. The UN supported deeper analysis of the situation of social workforce. A profiling study on social workers in child protection functions in Alexandria was completed to inform the accreditation and costing of the plan. As part of supporting quality assurance of social workforce, a costed proposal for an accreditation scheme for social work force was

developed and is currently under discussion. The proposed scheme targets alternative care social work and public service recruits allocated to social care/social protection sectors in MoSS. This will enable linkages between alternative care and social protection sectors, establish an internal cadre of qualified social workers, and enable further advocacy for human resource mobilization at the policy-level. At the same time, a core capacity-building package for the accreditation scheme has been put together which consists of core competencies, sexual and gender-based violence, alternative care, and psychosocial support.

In the justice sector, one of the biggest challenges is the lack of publicly available and reliable data on whether children in contact with the law are treated in their best interest. In 2019, a research on trends and patterns of child justice professionals in dealing with children in contact with the law, was completed. A data analyses on sampled cases of 700 children in conflict with the law in five governorates. This analysis, although not comprehensive, provides valuable insights to influence programming and policy.

Early Childhood Development (ECD) is a cross-cutting issue that calls for a cross-sectoral, whole-of-government response. This requires an effective ECD system, which is built on strong coordination and quality service delivery platforms. In a step towards achieving this goal, the NCCM, in partnership with the UN, has commissioned the development of a multi-sectoral National Early Childhood Development Strategy for Egypt. Aligned with the national vision for sustainable development and mutual prosperity, the ECD Strategy will prioritise strategies that deliver equitable and quality services across the life cycle for all young children (conception-6 years) and their families.

To support the development of the ECD strategy, the UN developed the first of its kind ECD Situation Analysis which completed and endorsed by the national ECD Task Force in 2019. Moreover, the UN engaged the GoE and other stakeholders in developing the National Early Learning and Development Standards, which will establish a

system to monitor and assess children's development, and inform health, nutrition and early learning practice and policy. A simulations-costing of ECD centres was conducted, which allowed identification of the most cost-effective models for Egypt, thereby providing a solid foundation for national scale-up. Finally, the UN contributed with resources and expertise to the Positive Parenting Formative Research initiative. The research provides the first-ever evidence on the number and content of parenting programmes active in Egypt and will help to assess their effectiveness and define future direction.

Reducing malnutrition is critical for promoting human and economic development and improving equity. To address malnutrition, national priorities have shifted to implementing wide scale nutrition interventions and strengthening the policy frameworks to support the implementation. An investment case study by the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), World Bank and the UN revealed that a total of 16 interventions, if brought to scale, could effectively reduce stunting while improving nutrition and health in Egypt, with scaling up of Infant and Young Child Feeding and micronutrient supplementation being the most cost-effective approach among these interventions. The investment case will inform the increase of national budgetary allocations for the most effective and efficient interventions to reduce stunting and other forms of malnutrition in Egypt.

Within the context of strengthening the national nutrition policy framework, the UN collaborated with the National Nutrition Institute and Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) to update the national Infant and Young Child Feeding nutrition production and marketing guidelines in alignment with the CODEX and international code of marketing of baby foods 0-3 years. Furthermore, with the aim of mainstreaming nutrition across national sectoral plans and informing cross sectoral collaboration to achieve better impact for nutrition, the UN contributed to the national prematurity roundtable discussion, which resulted in high level policy recommendation to include the 'First 1000 days' within the updated national maternal and child

health plans. Moreover, through the 10th African day for Food and Nutrition Security, in collaboration with the African Union and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, the provided policy support, which resulted in informing the update of the African food and nutrition strategy and policy.

To address Egypt's major health challenges the Government of Egypt has identified Universal Health Insurance (UHI), quality improvement, and specific disease burdens as national priorities, and embarked upon social health insurance reform. Reaching all people, including the most disadvantaged, is a key element of UHI. The UHI Law (2/2018) is considered an unprecedented attempt to regulate Egypt's healthcare sector, extending comprehensive healthcare coverage to each sector of society.

Primary Health Care (PHC) is critical for addressing each aspect of UHI. With the UN technical and financial support, the transformation of PHC is ongoing. The support is provided to critical levers of health system: governance, leadership and PHC financing; improving capacity of the PHC workforce; community engagement to design and implement PHC services. To support the initiative, the UN in coordination with the MoHP, are performing assessment of PHC. The objective is to assess the performance of PHC services, and more importantly to develop a PHC improvement plan. The assessment phase of the initiative has been completed, findings are being discussed and improvement plan is being drafted. As a result of the support to PHC, the capacity of PHC health managers at national and decentralized levels was increased through training on results-based management. In addition, the health information system was updated, which allows, the MoHP and its partners to better track key indicators on child nutrition and early childhood development.

The Mawada programme, led by MoSS aims to bolster the Egyptian family unit through preparing future married couples with the knowledge necessary to form a family. The Supreme Council of Universities decided to scale up the project to cover

all 26 universities in Egypt and a condition of graduation as of academic year 2019/2020. An institutional **mechanism for premarital education was established** under the leadership of MoSS to operationalize this programme. A multi-sectoral approach was adopted, where agreements concluded between MoSS and Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoHESR), Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior, and Ministry of Justice, in addition to the Public Service Employees department at MoSS to collaborate and coordinate to reach diverse target groups. Furthermore, curricula were developed to cover health, social and religious aspects of marriage, as well as family dispute resolution. The project piloted in 5 universities, namely Cairo, Ain Shams, Helwan, Alexandria and Port Said. A cadre of 240 university staff was built through TOT sessions. The cadre conducted classes for 20,717 (16,226 female and 4,491 male), 508 students (226 females and 282 males), and 704 public service employees (175 females and 529 male).

With the aim to ensure inclusivity, participatory and representative decision-making at the governorate level, 19 (10 females and 9 males) young people both male and female (<35 years) were selected based on set criteria, to join the regional population councils in five governorates⁸. Also, the 19 young people were integrated in the newly established decentralized population taskforces under the leadership of MoLD. They attended a four-day workshop on population issues, RBM, governance, and Agenda 2030. The pre and post-test analysis showed better understanding of the role of youth regarding the management and coordination of the population file. Five Governors' decrees⁹ with names of youth issued in 2019, to engage youth in the regional population councils.

As part of the preparatory ground work for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), the UN focused on improving access to data and information for consistent and accurate national and global reporting as well as better allocation and mobilization of funds for enhanced

⁸ Menya, Assiut, Sohag, Qena and Qalyoubeya

⁹ In Menya, Qalyoubia, Assiut and Qena

prevention and service delivery for key and vulnerable populations. As a result, a national M&E manual based on the revised National Strategic Plan (2018-2022) was developed with the National AIDS Programme (NAP) at the MoHP, outlining key prevention indicator definitions, reporting frequency and requirements for all active stakeholders in the national HIV response. The national M&E manual, endorsed by the GoE, joint teams and partner CSOs, aims at unifying reporting mechanisms to showcase on-the-ground progress in battling the HIV epidemic, challenges and yearly results. The newly produced manual focuses on streamlining counting mechanisms, avoiding duplication and ensuring standardized data collection against relevant indicators and definitions. The M&E manual will act as the basis of continued work on digitizing and unifying reporting mechanisms on the different aspects of the HIV epidemic in Egypt. As part of the MoHP and NAP strategic priorities to enhance access to health data for national and subnational programs, with over 27 revised indicators and 5 new national indicators, including indicators to measure effectiveness of the Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) program interventions, the manual is sensitive to the needs of the local environment in Egypt and reformative to the data collection process.

Institutional capacity-building and enhancement

In 2019, the UN continued to support a system level education reform program that aims at improving the quality of education in Egypt through mainstreaming the Life Skills and Citizenship Education (LSCE) Framework, endorsed by MOETE as a key corner stone in the architecture of the new Education Reform program. The UN provided technical support to build the capacity of 35 national curriculum development experts from MOETE's Center of Curriculum and Instructional Materials Development on means to integrate the life skills into the learning outcomes for Primary 2 and Primary 3. Through the UN support, grade level curriculum frameworks, grade level teacher training frameworks and grade level assessment frameworks for Primary 2 and 3 were developed. Grade 2 curriculum was rolled-out nationwide in September

To reach vulnerable groups and key affected populations and support their rights to access quality health care services without any stigma or discrimination, the UN focused on revitalizing the prevention activities among key populations namely the PWID, MSM and FSW in 3 governorates and enhance the linkage with the governmental sector to ensure the achievement of the 90-90-90 strategy and the access to free health care and ARVs. The UN is supporting the GoE in Fighting TB and Multi-Drug Resistant TB by building evidence through a survey for drug resistance as well as the induction of the 2nd line treatment as well as enhancing the case detection among general populations and other vulnerable groups as refugees, prisoners and factory workers. Through UN support, refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR are mainstreamed in the national health care system, which enables people living with HIV (PLHIV) among refugees and asylum seekers to receive their monthly lifelong ARVs directly from Fever hospitals dispensing ARVs pharmacy on equal footing to Nationals. Moreover, PMTCT was included into the HIV/AIDS national strategic plan as a result of advocacy and technical support provided by the UN to the NAP.

2019, reaching approximately 4 million children. Overall, the updated Education 2.0 curriculum reached 6 million children between Pre-primary and Primary 2 so far. Based on the national priority for people with disabilities, the UN also provided technical and financial support for Pre-primary, Primary 1-3 Curriculum adaptation for Inclusive Education as well as development of Pre-Primary, Primary 1-3 Special Education LSCE-based Curriculum Framework. The Special Education Curriculum was updated after 50 years and is a paramount achievement for the government.

The UN and MoETE worked on education learning analytics and decision support system through the Tableau Software showcasing data in an interactive manner with more than 23 different dashboards created so far and that are used by various decision-

makers within the Ministry and Geospatial Information System (GIS) integrating many types of data on education in Egypt, organizing and visualizing them in different spatial layers. Specialized training programmes were provided to concerned staff at MoETE at different levels. Both portals are uploaded on the Government's Education Management Information System.

The UN conducted five field monitoring visits at the governorate level to support mainstreaming SDG-4 at the decentralized level through field follow-up visits to monitor the implementation of action plans and developing school-based awareness activities in 5 governorates¹⁰. The field visits allowed to monitor the implementation of the action plans submitted by each governorate in a selected number of directorates and schools covering all education cycles. Providing hands-on technical assistance and support in implementing the action plans in each governorate and assessing the awareness and knowledge of SDG-4 by students, teachers, administrators, and educational activity developers. The UN also delivered the entrepreneurship training program "Know About Business" (KAB), targeting 31 university faculty members and research institutes from 10 governorates across Egypt. The objective was to train university faculty on delivering the KAB program to university students, in order to foster entrepreneurial attitudes and skills among them and create more awareness about the value and importance of entrepreneurship.

The UN jointly with MoHP revised the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) manuals, protocols and guidance for the health workforces and added new modules: a module on Care for Child Development, a module on Infant and Young Child Feeding and a module on Screening of young children on Disabilities. A couple of Training of Trainers were conducted with the start of rolling out the new IMCI. The aim was to train all health workforces in primary health sector on the revised package to ensure proper implementation. This helped to update the knowledge of health workers

on maternal and child health, nutrition and early childhood development.

To support strengthening the health system in Egypt, the UN worked closely with MoHP in developing the National Plan for Hepatitis elimination and national screening as well as monitoring of "100 million Seha" initiative that reached 63 million Egyptians. 145 medical staff from different sectors were trained on monitoring and evaluation for hepatitis elimination. Furthermore, the UN supported developing the national neglected tropical diseases (NTD) elimination plan for Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted helminths, updating national guidelines of HIV management, Infection prevention and control and supported finalizing the national dossier for Measles and rubella elimination work.

In 2019, the UN supported strengthening the capacity of fever hospital and NAP staff in 5 governorates to provide child and adolescent sensitive counselling and testing services. Capacity building was conducted for 450 health staff in 30 high HIV prevalence districts. Moreover, the capacity of physicians working in HIV clinics on HIV clinical management was strengthened.

Additionally, health staff, social workers and administrative staff at Al-Kanater prison for women gained more capacities on maintaining women's health in prison with special focus on HIV testing, prevention and counselling through a training provided by the UN in coordination with MoI and MoHP. Staff who underwent the training became familiar with HIV testing and counselling and viral hepatitis, how to deliver HIV prevention services, the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners ([The Nelson Mandela Rules](#)); and the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (The Bangkok Rules) and have become are more aware of potential stigma and discrimination against vulnerable populations and people living with HIV and what it means to/for them. Additional 50 staff from other prisons were trained on evidence-based

¹⁰ Minya, Dakahleya, Gharbeya, Monofeya and Beni Suef

HIV, HBV, HCV, STIs and TB prevention programmes in closed settings.

To improve Procurement and Supply chain Management (PSM) of anti-retroviral treatments (ARVs), the UN worked closely with NAP, with the aim to support mothers and children adherence to treatment and improve ability to meet the 90-90-90 goals. NAP and CSOs were supported to establish treatment literacy sessions, peer support, provide financial support to the most disadvantaged groups linked to adherence to treatment and addressing system gaps and structural barriers.

The continued investing in adolescents and youth in supporting their roles in contributing to positive social transformation. In cooperation between the UN, the MoYS, Etijah NGO and Y-Peer network, 43 youth camps were conducted utilizing creative edutainment peer education approach, informing and enhancing awareness and knowledge of various development topics related to health and protection, such as reproductive health (RH), combatting harmful practices and sustainability. The camps were attended by 2,779 youth (1,389 females and 1,390 males) from the 27 governorates of Egypt. There was a significant increase in the knowledge of the young participants about the related RH topics that reached at least 80 per cent compared to 30 per cent before joining the camps. This is evident especially as the youth camps managed to encourage the young participants to actively support and organize over 500 community initiatives to raise awareness further around these issues amongst their community members.

Through the UN's strategic partnership with the MoYS, the Ministry endorsed the awareness program that covers family planning and SRH to be among the main activities of the Ministry's Youth Centers. The UN also continued to institutionalize the Population Awareness Clubs (PACs), equipping an additional 30 PACs during 2019, now reaching a

total number of 80, operating in 21 governorates¹¹. The goal of the PACs is to mobilize thousands of youth in urban and rural areas to take active part in addressing developmental challenges to promote aspirational goals of Egypt's Vision 2030 and the National Population Strategy (NPS). The UN targeted 30 PACs this year to activate them with setting a mechanism and structure to organize their awareness programs. Around 300 awareness activities were implemented by the PACs in 2019 that reached around 12,000 beneficiaries from different communities in 14 governorates¹².

Through the UN's technical and financial support, case management services are being operationalized in the NCCM. Child Helpline continues to receive and respond to a relatively high number of calls. As compared to the 16,000 cases supported last year, the system has already responded to nearly the same number (15,894) as per NCCM's reports until 25 October 2019. Of the cases dealt with, 48% were male and 52% female, in which the main age category were children aged 10-12 (26%), followed by 7-9 years (19%).

To address gaps in Child Protection services, the UN has also been working with MoSS towards piloting case management services in Alexandria followed by North Sinai, Ismailia, Sharqiyah, and Assiut. In all capacity building activities across different partners, the UN has developed and is piloting a standard core package tailored to social workers and other child protection stakeholders. The UN is working with NCCM and MoSS in parallel to endorse this package nationally. As a result of the institutional capacity building to 147 social workers and psychologists in the targeted governorates on case management and psychosocial support, 460 children (255 male and 205 female) were provided with case management services in Alexandria. 61.7% of cases were identified from social care institutions. More than 226 cases received psychological support, 100 benefited from cash support, and 100 from legal

¹¹ Aswan, Luxor, Qena, Sohag, Assiut, Fayoum, Menya, Beni Suif, Qalyubia, Monfyia, New Valley, Red Sea, Dakahlyia, Suez, Damietta, Matrouh, Kafr El Shiekh, Isamalia, Behira, North Sinai, and Cairo

¹² Aswan, Luxor, Qena, Sohag, Assiut, Fayoum, Menya, Beni Suif, Qalyubia, Monfyia, New Valley, Red Sea, Dakahlyia and Suez.

services including issuing identification documents (i.e. birth certificates). In North Sinai, children whose

families are beneficiaries of MoSS' compensation benefits have also been supported by the CM teams.

Provision of direct services and support to beneficiaries

The UN complemented the National School Feeding Programme by providing nutritious in-school snacks to 2,242,876 students (1,251,409 girls and 991,467 boys) aged 6-15 in community and public schools. These in-school fortified snacks encouraged attendance and contributed to the prevention of short-term hunger through the provision of a percentage of the recommended daily intake of children's micronutrient requirements. In alignment with the national safety net *Takaful*, families of students received cash-based transfers or in-kind food assistance conditional on their children's regular school attendance, reaching 446,110 beneficiaries. Based on the attendance rates, the allocated cash is transferred to the cards of eligible families, who then redeem it at the selected local retail stores with a specific nutritious food basket. Within the school feeding programme, school attendance has increased, and the conditional transfers have resulted in an increase in the quantity, variety and nutritional value of food in beneficiary households, which means more resources and less reliance on coping strategies. The cash transfers have positive educational impacts and social aspirations for girls and boys and changes intra-household dynamics and has a preventive effect of both girls and boys.

To ensure that assisted school children are accommodated by safe, clean and well-equipped school premises, the UN rehabilitated 706 community and public schools in 2019 through the renovation of various school facilities, including interior and exterior works, as well as the introduction of technological upgrades for digital learning.

Based on LSCE, the UN continued to provide non-formal and social engagement learning opportunities for adolescents and youth aiming at young people's social engagement and active citizenship. Civic education's goal is to instil participation and engagement skills as a means to

develop young people's skills as active citizens of present as well as the future. The programme included trainings on triggering community-based activities. In 2019, together with MOYS, 10,977 young people between the ages 10-24 years (5,186 female and 5,791 male) underwent the Civic education programme in schools, youth centers and in universities nation-wide. Out of all the trained people, 68 per cent are currently conducting youth-led initiatives in their respective communities. This will eventually enable them to lead a successful transition to adulthood. The capacities of 50 university students (including 23 females) was developed on ethics-grounded climate action; youth were engaged in the implementation of the 2017 UNESCO Declaration on the Ethics of Climate Change using attractive advocacy tools. 90 adolescents (30 female and 60 male) gained positive attitudes, values and social skills through sports activities. The active and experiential learning methodologies instilled the concepts of gender equality, solidarity, and acceptance of others, in simplified and entertaining methods and helped young people practice the application teamwork, discipline, equality, and respect for others.

Moreover, through a series of activities conducted in full cooperation with MoYS, 29 young participants (19 females and 10 males) acquired adequate knowledge and skills on how to develop and grow their intangible cultural heritage initiatives, increase their social impact and influence by using technological innovation, and share their ideas among relevant audiences. The capacities of 88 young participants (26 females) were developed on the benefits of social media, social entrepreneurship, media and information literacy, e-dialogue and social media. Nine youth initiatives that use the digital space to serve the community were elaborated.

Through the UN in Egypt's support to MoSS, around 50,000 students (80% female) were reached with Mawada classes, 27,000 conscripts (all male) in Cairo

and Giza governorates plus 704 female Public Service Employees. Pre and post-tests were conducted - Gender balance within targeted groups was barely realised, as the majority of beneficiaries in universities and public service employees were females, whereas conscripts were males. A social media package (including the production of four info graphs) and feature documentary film, which introduces the Mawada programme were produced and recently launched to reach, disseminate messages and connect targeted audience.

Through the support of the UN and in coordination with MoHP and NAP, more than 50,000 women were reached with HIV prevention and testing packages in eight priority governorates. The UN through its partner Refuge Egypt has sustained in 2019, HIV prevention and treatment services in close coordination MoHP/ NAP where 1197 refugees received VCT (106 female and 219 male), 2880 male condoms were distributed through the VCT and Health awareness sessions, 193 PLHIV are on ART (9 girls, 5 boys, 106 women and 73 men), 14 women were supported with PMTCT services, 10 PLHIV were treated for Opportunistic infections OIs ; 6 female and 4 male and 2678 beneficiaries availed themselves from PHC , Reproductive health , TB and HIV awareness sessions.

Moreover, the continued providing health services in seven major prisons in Egypt housing around 27,000 prisoners, six prisons for men¹³ and one prison for women¹⁴ 5,500 male prisoners received voluntary confidential counselling and testing (VCCT) services, 2,000 male prisoners were screened for HIV, HBV, HCV and syphilis inside prisons and more than 5,300 male prisoners were screened for tuberculosis. Furthermore, 1,000 released inmates and their family members, including 250 female family members, received VCCT services at the community level and 600 men who inject drugs received clean needles and syringes.

The UN increased access to essential health services through mobilization of community health workers,

¹³ Fayoum, Wadi Al-Natroon, Borg Al-Arab, Minya, Gamasa and Al-Marg

volunteers and community-based organizations in promotion of maternal and child health and nutrition. The UN's intervention in nine targeted districts, populated by many of the poorest families, resulted in a threefold increase in the utilization of essential services, including antenatal care, post-natal care, growth monitoring and promotion, and initiation of exclusive breastfeeding (345,779 new-borns and 311,200 women benefited from the intervention).

312,529 pregnant and lactating women from five governorates¹⁵ attended sessions on adequate nutrition during pregnancy and lactation and Infant and Young Child Feeding (early initiation of breastfeeding; exclusive breastfeeding; complementary feeding; diet diversity; continued breastfeeding). 106,947 refugee women and children, as well as women and children from host communities, benefited from the UN supported maternal and child health interventions in 155 primary health centres.

In partnership with the GoE, civil society organizations, influencers, media and the private sector, the UN delivers evidence-based, strategic support for behaviour change and social change within families and communities. This included the participatory design of a Social and Behavioural Change Communication Model on parenting through a face-to-face parenting programme, a real-time information system providing parents with essential health information and a television drama modelling parenting behaviour. Moreover, the UN developed and distributed health cards for each new-born (2.5 million a year) at birth, informing parents about growth and developmental milestones and core interventions in health, nutrition and early childhood development, including measures to stimulate responsive feeding and caregiving.

As of 2019, the UN provided health services in seven major prisons in Egypt housing around 27,000

¹⁴ Al-Kanater

¹⁵ Ismailia, Sharkeya, Qaliyoubia, Gharbia and Dakhliya

prisoners, six prisons for men¹⁶ and one prison for women¹⁷.

During 2019, the UN increased the awareness of 50 prison staff on evidence-based HIV, HBV, HCV, STIs and TB prevention programmes in closed settings; 5,500 male prisoners received voluntary confidential counselling and testing (VCCT) services, 2,000 male prisoners were screened for HIV, HBV, HCV and syphilis inside prisons and more than 5,300 male prisoners were screened for tuberculosis. Furthermore, 1,000 released inmates and their family members, including 250 female family members, received VCCT services at the community level and 600 men who inject drugs received clean needles and syringes. In order to operationalize and maintain the newly introduced VCCT services in the prisons, the procured furniture, IT equipment, medical supplies, HIV, HBV, HCV, and syphilis testing kits as well as necessary consumables.

To ensure children's access to public services in the health sector, in a pilot project, the UN supported 80 Public Health Units through the Family Clubs initiative, in partnership with MoHP in 19 governorates, and eight family centres, in partnership with NGOs in Greater Cairo, Dakahlia, and Alexandria. Through these platforms, 5,047 children, including children on the move, were supported with multi-sectoral case management, and over 60,000 children were provided with psychosocial support until September 2019. Moreover, in cooperation with MoETE, the UN also worked with 214 public schools in 9 governorates to implement child safeguarding mechanisms and link between school committees and child protection committees.

In the same context, Following the guidelines on the rights of child victims and witnesses of crimes that were drafted with the Prosecution Office and MoJ, the UN in partnership with the GoE worked to ensure the protection of rights of children in conflict with the law. Nearly 39 +1100 children in contact

with the law (1000 male and 98 female) were supported through legal and social services in 2019. Out of 997 children in conflict with the law in five governorates¹⁸, 10% benefitted from diversion/non-custodial measures, providing valuable lessons on the application of restorative justice and non-custodial measures. The UN also raised the awareness of 159 children on children's legal rights in detention as stipulated in Egypt's Child Law.

To support the reintegration and rehabilitation of children in conflict with the law, the UN is currently operating in eight institutions (2 for girls and 6 for boys) in five governorates¹⁹. These eight institutions host a total of 515 children, which all have access to rehabilitation services today as a result of the UN support. As part of the humanitarian assistance programme, the UN supported 119 cases of children in detention.

Three medical clinics in the girls' institution in Cairo were refurbished and equipped with necessary medical tools and supplies benefitting 35 girls/month and existing vocational workshops were upgraded. Besides, the UN introduced edutainment activities in closed, semi-closed and open institutions. As of September 2019, 480 children (445 boys and 35 girls) in six institutions have access to such edutainment activities each month. Furthermore, the UN introduced three new literacy classes in 3 institutions (one for girls and two for boys), increasing the total number of registered literacy classes in juvenile detention centres to six in five institutions. In September 2019, the literacy curriculum developed by the UN was approved by the Adults Education Agency and was recommended to be introduced in all 40 institutions for children in conflict with the law.

As a result of the UN's ongoing efforts to advocate for proper classification of inmates and the importance of placing children in suitable rehabilitation programmes, two institutions (in Alexandria and Cairo) have adopted and started to

¹⁶ Fayoum, Wadi Al-Natroon, Borg Al-Arab, Minya, Gamasa and Al-Marg

¹⁷ Al-Kanater

¹⁸ Cairo, Giza, Assiut, Alex, Sharkeya

¹⁹ Alexandria, Bani Suef, Cairo, Giza and Kafr El Sheikh

implement a classification policy developed by the UN. The manager of the institution in Alexandria issued an administrative decree establishing a 'classification committee', which undertook a comprehensive case study of the newly admitted children and classified them to suitable vocational workshops. Also, as a result of these advocacy

efforts, the manager of the institution in Ain Shams started to welcome each child personally in a respectful and sensitive manner following the child's admission in line with the UN booklet on children's rights and duties, which had been shared with the institutions.

Outcome 3: Environment Sustainability and Natural Resource Management

Outcome Statement: *“By 2022 Egypt’s natural resources, and its urban environments, are managed in an inclusive, sustainable and productive manner to mitigate environmental hazards and reap the benefits of a greener economy and society.”*

Focus: Sustainable and inclusive urban planning; Resilience and adaptation to climate change; Water and biodiversity management; Green and circular economy; and Agriculture production and food security.

In 2019, the Environmental Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Outcome Area was coordinated by FAO, bringing together efforts of FAO, IFAD, IOM, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UN Habitat, WFP, and WHO.

SDGs: 1 (No Poverty); 2 (Zero Hunger); 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation); 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy); 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities); 13 (Climate Action); 14 (Life Below Water); and 15 (Life on Land)

Policy development and enhancement

In alignment with Egypt’s Vision 2030 and the New Urban Agenda (NUA), the UN in Egypt collaborated with key national counterparts to inform the design and implementation of relevant policies, plans and strategies. At the national level, with the UN in Egypt’s technical assistance, the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities (MoHUUC) developed the National Housing Strategy which aims at enabling affordable and adequate housing for all citizens. At the same time, the UN in Egypt collaborated with the MoUUC in the development of the 2019 National Urban Policy through the provision diagnostics and policy options. This policy will guide urban development for the upcoming decades and define the directions of governmental and non-governmental efforts towards sustainable urbanisation.

In the same vein, the UN in Egypt supported the Government of Egypt in developing nine strategic urban plans that incorporate urban planning principles that consider local economic development, social inclusion, environmental aspects, smart utilization of the local resources, and efficient land use. Furthermore, the UN in Egypt facilitated a participatory approach for the development and implementation of detailed urban development plans for urban extension areas in two cities in Qalyoubia governorate. The formal

development of urban extension areas contributes to decreasing the percentage of the population living in informal settlements. Formal neighbourhood planning ensures that cities are well connected, show an efficient street network, and are competitive.

Moreover, the UN in Egypt worked closely with the Informal Settlements Development Fund (ISDF) and GOPP to develop a more integrated and sustainable approach to urban upgrading that not only looks at informal or deteriorated areas, but also at potential investment areas and how to link both socially and financially. This approach was reflected in the revision of building law 119 where the terms “unplanned areas” and “preplanning areas” were replaced with “urban upgrading areas”.

The UN in Egypt provided technical and policy advice to the GoE to improve the irrigation system in Egypt and support the sustainable use of water resources. With a view to learning lessons from previously implemented on-farm irrigation projects, the GoE entrusted the UN in Egypt to conduct two independent technical assessments. The studies assessed the performance of improved irrigation

systems in three governorates²⁰, as well as the planning, design and implementation of irrigation efficiency activities on 55,000 feddans in the Nile Delta. The technical assessments assisted the GoE in determining how to improve the design, regulatory environment and delivery mechanism for its program to modernize on-farm irrigation over a 5 million-feddan area, which is critical to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of future similar investments for agricultural water management.

Egypt is among the top ten largest olive producing countries, and olive cultivation has played a vital role in the country's agricultural economy for millennia. However, climate change is a factor that increasingly influences olive cultivation, affecting olive yield and productivity. In this context, the UN in Egypt and Alexandria University conducted an assessment of the impact of climate change on olive production in Egypt to stimulate policy discussion on the required measures for olive value chain resilience. The study recommended that agricultural policies be designed to make efficient use of new olive cultivars that are resistant to heat and drought, as well as that technical assistance be provided to farmers to select appropriate olive varieties and adopt good agricultural practices to enhance resilience to face *climate-related challenges*.

In its efforts to support the GoE on developing policies for improved access to clean energy, the UN in Egypt conducted a feasibility assessment for the implementation of solar-powered irrigation systems (SPIS) technologies in Egypt in partnership with the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD). SPIS technologies promote sustainable agricultural production by providing farmers with access to water using through low-cost and clean energy in remote rural areas. The results of the assessment were disseminated to national stakeholders during a policy workshop and the Cairo Water Week, with the aim to facilitate dialogue and identify ways to finance and regulate SPIS use. In line with these efforts, the UN in Egypt developed a roadmap for the development and improvement of local manufacturing of solar water heaters. The

roadmap was endorsed by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and a committee led jointly by the UN in Egypt and the Industrial Modernization Centre (IMC) was established to coordinate the roadmap implementation. The committee brings together various stakeholders, representing the solar water heaters market, including manufacturers, solution and service providers, consultants as well as national bodies.

The UN in Egypt assisted the Government of Egypt, as a signatory to the Montreal Protocol, in implementing Stage II of the Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP). Approved in 2017, the HPMP Stage II is responsible for the biggest portion of HCFCs phase-out by 2025, targeting all the consuming sectors in the country, such as foam manufacturing, refrigeration, air-conditioning industry and the service sector. In 2019, the UN in Egypt participated in developing the HPMP through a continuous consultation process between various stakeholders, such as the industrial sectors, suppliers and government. At the same time, the UN in Egypt provided technical support to the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) to create awareness on future commitments on phasing out Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), and the implication to the market, industry and service sectors. This included set of workshops that were attended by a total of 880 custom officers and law enforcement officers involved in setting the national quotas, licensing systems and regulations governing the importation of ozone depleting substances. The workshops resulted in the adoption of a national work plan for the development of the Egyptian code/standard for the refrigerant industry. Moreover, as a result of the EEAA advocacy activities and the UN in Egypt overall monitoring of the process, the code and related 18 standards developed were adopted by the Egyptian body of Standards. These standards cover the following areas: gases, emissions and air pollution; electrical home appliances; safety systems and refrigeration and air conditioning.

²⁰ Assiut, Kafr el-Sheikh, Sohag

The UN in Egypt, in partnership with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), continued to support the dialogue between private companies operating in grain trade and the GoE, through facilitation and coordination of technical discussions on plant quarantine issues and grain trade efficiency. The UN in Egypt also supported the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade in assessing the feasibility of adopting e-phyto, an electronic version of the existing paper-based phytosanitary certificates. By adopting this technology, the Ministry has the potential to modernize the phytosanitary certification process and facilitate trade. The UN in Egypt also managed to support the National Food Safety Authority (NFSA) in developing the Egyptian food safety systems that successfully ended with the endorsement of the executive regulation of the Egyptian food safety law, which paved the way to more inclusive and comprehensive actions towards raising the efficiency of food safety standards. Those actions helped Egypt to overcome some Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) related to food safety standards.

In an effort to promote sound management of biodiversity resources, the UN in Egypt assisted the Ministry of Environment in producing the Sixth National Report (6NR) on Biodiversity. The report is part of Egypt's commitments as party to the global Convention on Biological Diversity. By giving a detailed account of the status of biodiversity in Egypt, the report helps decisionmakers to mainstream biodiversity into productive sectors, including tourism and education. Linked to that, and consistent with the UN in Egypt advocacy, stricter

Institutional capacity-building and enhancement

The first Biennial Update Report was launched in Egypt in 2019. The report is submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat as part of Egypt's obligations towards the convention. The report includes an assessment of GHG emissions in 2015 as well as the climate change mitigation and adaptation needs.

In 2019, Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Project has contributed to the development of two

protection of maritime protected areas was observed with reinforced collection of entrance fees and activities permit system in several protected areas as a first stage to reduce the harmful practices through limitation and control of the visitor numbers and touristic and water sports activities, while also aiming to categorize the visitors and direct them to the suitable places according to their skills and abilities. Additionally, a zoning system to protect the coral reefs from touristic activities was applied, and the process for two dedicated zones to be declared protected areas is under way. The UN in Egypt together with the Ministry of Environment completed basic Infrastructure in 9 Protected Areas transforming them in World class eco-tourist sites and therefore encouraging eco-tourism in the areas.

In an effort to conserve migratory soaring birds, the shut down on demand of windmills was applied for the first time in Egypt during the migratory season (twice a year). In addition, special training was provided to hotel employees and tour guides to raise awareness about the conservation of Migratory soaring birds into the tourism sector. Through the Italian Environmental programme, the UN implemented the Community Based Natural Resources Management initiative in two protected areas, Wadi Rayan and Wadi El Gemmal. Through such initiative, 300 men and 400 women, were trained to make use of the assets of the protected areas and the importance of preserving natural resources. Two shades were created in the most visited areas in the protected areas where women gather to sell their products to the visitors.

important strategic studies. The first study was an assessment of the Carbon Market in Egypt that identifies opportunities by private sector for voluntary GHG emission reductions. The second study is the Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS) that identifies the opportunities for GHG emission reduction for the different sectors as a part of the UNFCCC requirements. The outputs of the two documents will help decision makers to better assess the national potential for GHG emissions reductions in Egypt.

The UN in Egypt supported the capacity building and enhancement of several national counterparts on integrated water management. In this regard, the UN in Egypt strengthened cooperation between the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR) to promote efficient water use and modern irrigation systems through joint study tours and technical capacity strengthening activities. Senior managers from both ministries took part in two study tours to observe state-of-the-art irrigation management and groundwater monitoring systems at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari - CIHEAM and in Australia, with the aim to stimulate policy and regulatory changes to ensure application of innovative water management approaches and technologies at national level. Furthermore, 155 engineers (40 female and 115 male) from the two ministries were trained on water and crop data collection and analysis through the use of GIS technology and remote sensing; and design, operation and maintenance of modern irrigation systems. As a result of this training, the trained engineers were able to apply water accounting methodologies to calculate water needs and water consumption for specific crops and match water demand and supply, through the use of satellite data and meteorological and evapotranspiration stations installed by the UN in Egypt. The data produced had an extraordinary accuracy of 80% and will be used to improve the National Water Resources Plan, making the best use of each single drop of water. A water accounting team is under establishment at the MWRI and it will be operated by the trained staff, ensuring sustainability of the improved technologies and skills.

At the same time, the Soil and Water Research Institute, which was trained by Cordoba University through UN support, conducted a rapid assessment on water productivity for sugar cane and sugar beet in Minya and for rice and wheat in Kafr el Sheikh, with the aim to measure the amount of agricultural output produced per unit of water consumed. Based on the results of the water productivity and the water accounting studies, decisionmakers are able

to prioritize cultivation of crop varieties that can produce the highest net return for farmers.

To support the effective and participatory management of water resources, the UN in Egypt supported the MWRI to establish 295 Water Users' Associations (WUA). The WUAs are designed to manage the irrigation of water at the mesqa level and are responsible for the regulation of water flows through the operation and maintenance of infrastructure and resource mobilization. To this end, the UN in Egypt strengthened the technical and managerial capacity of WUAs through awareness raising and training on operating rules, frameworks and regulations, arrangement of water scheduling and maintenance and operation of the pump stations. Through the WUAs establishment and training, the intervention succeeded in transferring responsibility to farmers for irrigation management at local level.

With the aim to enhance Egypt's food safety and food trade capacities, the UN in Egypt strengthened the capacity of 98 officials (49 female and 49 male) from NFSA to improve the national control system for imported food and food safety risk assessment. The UN's support enabled NFSA to launch their inspection activities in restaurants, hotels and markets due to the establishment of a team of specialized food safety inspectors. At the same time, the UN in Egypt facilitated a NFSA working group to draft an action plan to implement a risk-based control system for imported food in Egypt.

With the same aim, the UN in Egypt trained 138 participants (32 female and 106 male) from ministries and national authorities, research institutes, and private sector in three governorates²¹ to strengthen the national CODEX infrastructure and capacity. The trainings introduced the Regional CODEX Guide for Arab Countries and identified CODEX working mechanisms and committees of priority in Egypt. The UN in Egypt support to the Egyptian Organization for Standardization & Quality (EOS) led to a national commitment to use Codex

²¹ Alexandria, Aswan and Cairo

Alimentarius²² as a reference for food safety and quality standards.

To improve the quality of drinking water and prevent freshwater pollution, the UN in Egypt strengthened the capacity of 69 staff (39 female and 30 male) from national laboratories and water monitoring units at the central and district levels. Areas of training included monitoring of drinking water stations for pollution and health impacts and international standards on laboratory quality system roles (ISO 17025).

With the aim to inform research and enable decision and policymakers to take informed decisions based on collected and analysed data, the UN in Egypt strengthened the capacities of relevant staff on data collection and analysis, survey methodologies as well as new tools and technologies. This included training 60 staff (16 female and 44 male) from the Ministry of Agriculture at the central level and in four governorates²³ to apply the most up-to-date survey methodologies, technologies and standards to conduct the Agricultural Census 2019-2020. Additionally, the UN in Egypt supported the development of Urban Observatories in Kotour, Samanoud, Santa, and Basioun in Gharbeya governorate where the capacities of 20 national staff (8 female and 12 male) were built and strengthened, particularly in the field of collecting and analysing the urban data, in accordance with the SDG indicators.

The UN in Egypt also provided capacity building to the Transport Regulatory Unit, under the New Urban Communities Authority (NUCA), to support sustainable mobility in new communities. The unit is developing tools to monitor all bus services operating across NUCA's 40 cities. The capacity of the staff is being built to enable the Unit to plan for bus services in all new cities as well as manage contracts with the private sector. The UN strengthened the capacity of 6 staff (2 men and 4

women) of the GOPP through on-the-job capacity building programmes to adopt new tools and technologies, such as a GIS enterprise platform.

The UN in Egypt supported the Ministry of Environment to protect human and environmental health by improving management and treatment of hazardous health-care waste (HCW). To this end, a baseline assessment of HCW management in Egypt was conducted, which revealed the need to strengthen the implementation of national and international standards in terms of waste segregation, waste transportation, safe disposal areas and use of efficient incinerators and sterilization units. As a follow-up, HCW management plans were prepared for five model hospitals, and 60 hospital staff (38 women and 22 men) in 10 governorates were trained on the UN international guidelines for HCW management. Furthermore, the UN in Egypt is coordinating with the MoHP to establish a certification system, so that management of medical waste in any healthcare facility would be limited only to certified staff. In cooperation with the government, five public hospitals in three governorates were selected to be converted into model healthcare facilities in terms of achieving sound and robust waste management systems.

As a way to achieve environmentally sound management of solid waste and minimize environmental health impacts, the UN in Egypt strengthened the capacity of 160 (23 women and 137 men) environmental health staff (physicians and sanitarians) in five governorates²⁴. In addition, a sustainable plan for reducing the health impacts of solid waste was developed focusing on changing behaviour, prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse. In line with that, municipal solid waste management units have been established in each governorates to monitor and follow up the implementation of the infrastructure of the new municipal solid waste management system and the operation of this system.

²² The Codex Alimentarius is a collection of internationally recognized standards, codes of practice, guidelines, and other recommendations relating to foods, food production, and food safety.

²³ Behira, Gharbeya, Ismalia and Sohag

²⁴ Alexandria, Behira, Cairo, Damietta and Fayoum

The UN in Egypt also established a waste composting plant in Edwa District of Minya governorate where organic waste is transformed into high quality fine compost, while Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) is extracted and sold to Cement Plants. With the aim to support climate change mitigation and transition to a green economy, the UN in Egypt capacitated several service providers on energy efficiency and alternative energy solutions. This included 109 engineers (48 female and 61 male) on design and implementation of the photovoltaic (PV) systems and prepared a guidebook for simple step-by-step process to establish a PV power station. Furthermore, the UN in Egypt supported preparation of the technical specifications of the first tender for roof top PV systems to be installed on government buildings and issued by the new administrative capital, as well as provided technical support on design and specifications of a roof top PV system for UN Agencies. Moreover, 232 beneficiaries (35 female and 197 male) were capacitated on resource efficiency measures and improved practices for solar-heating systems manufacturing, targeting technicians from 27 local

Provision of direct services and support to beneficiaries

In line with the Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy (SADS) 2030, the UN in Egypt provided direct services to support sustainable and efficient agriculture and enhance the role of women in rural areas and agricultural development. The UN in Egypt enhanced the productive capacity of 81,390 vulnerable smallholders (36,445 female and 44,945 male) in Upper Egypt, Fayoum and Matrouh governorate through improved agricultural practices for efficient land and water use, establishment of greenhouses and diversification of production. Women were particularly targeted to benefit from agro-processing and livestock keeping activities to contribute to their households' income. Trained farmers cleaned 8 mesqa irrigation canals (with a total length of almost 6500 meters) to improve water supply to farms; adopted techniques for improved soil fertility on 99 feddans; replaced chemical fertilizer with organic compost from

factories, the Industrial Modernization Centre and other service providers. Moreover, 15 companies have been assisted to complete feasibility studies to evaluate the adoption of resource efficiency measures and solar water heating systems in their industrial operations.

Through the partnership between the UN in Egypt, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) and the Man and Biosphere (MAB) national committee, the institutional and administrative readiness for the designation and management of two aspiring Egyptian Geopark sites; namely, Wadi El Hitan and the White desert, was improved. Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development. Furthermore, the initiative on establishing national networks of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks was launched to be materialized in 2020-2021.

agricultural waste. Beneficiaries reported increases of around 40 per cent of their household income. In addition, the UN in Egypt built 260 water-harvesting cisterns with a capacity of 100m³ each in Matrouh Governorate, which increased water availability for 260 farmers (31 female and 229 male) and their households in drylands. This resulted in saving costs related to water transportation for a total amount of EGP 650,000 per year, corresponding to EGP 2,500 per household per year. The UN in Egypt also trained 277 women farmers on pre- and post-harvest practices to reduce losses in the tomato and grape value chains in two governorates²⁵, in addition to capacitating 66 women civil engineers, extension engineers, and cooperative members on post-harvest loss reduction for the tomato value chain in three governorates²⁶.

Furthermore, to maximize the impact of agricultural extension services through digital technology the UN

²⁵ Beheira and Sharqeya

²⁶ Alexandria, Beheira and Sharqeya.

in Egypt launched an agricultural mobile application which provides information about good practices for cultivation of citrus, date palm and poultry production, nutrition and market price sharing. A series of workshops and awareness-raising sessions were organized to train farmers and extension workers and inform universities on the use and availability of the technology.

In several rural areas, the UN in Egypt provided services and equipment to modernize and rehabilitate agricultural irrigation systems and use water resources more efficiently. These included lining of mesqa canals and covering marwa channels with pipes, covering an area of approximately 25,000 feddans; drip and sub-surface irrigation systems, which were installed in land plots distributed to 34 small farmers, covering a total area of 52 feddans in Siwa, Farafra and Wadi Matrouh. In the same areas, the UN in Egypt installed water flow meters to allow smallholders to monitor water use for an efficient water management. At the same time, in partnership with the MWRI, the UN in Egypt promoted water irrigation conservation among more than 100 water associations' representatives, water engineers and NGOs during a special session on farmers' best practices in water conservation at the 2019 Cairo Water Week. The session included sharing of best practices and experiences of 6 farmers and water associations from 4 governorates and highlighted the practical positive results of shifting to modern irrigation systems in terms of water conservation as well the high economic productivity.

To promote responsible water use, culture of water conservation and sustainable management among school students (10-18 years old), the UN in Egypt, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education and other partners, built the capacity of 50 school teachers (30 females and 20 males) in 6 governorates, in addition to 30 community schools facilitators in Sohag governorate on water education and awareness. The teachers were introduced to informal water education teachers' guidelines and educational tools and are leading the implementation of the water education program at their schools serving more than 2500

school students. Moreover, social media groups were created to ensure continuous communication with the trained teachers and also to exchange applications experiences.

In contribution to the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, the UN in Egypt supported local communities to increase their resilience to climate-induced impacts on food production and water and promoted green entrepreneurship.

The UN in Egypt increased the adaptive capacity of farmer beneficiaries to climate-induced **water scarcity**. The installation of an underground system of pipes to cover marwa canals on an area of approximately 25,000 feddans led to a reduction in evapotranspiration as well as water savings. This made the irrigation system more resilient to climate change and ensured that farmers at the tail end of the irrigation system are able to have a more equitable access to water. Impact studies show an increase in water and that water has reached downstream farmers because of the UN in Egypt interventions. In terms of water efficiency, the UN in Egypt contributed to efficient use of irrigation water and reduction in duration of water conveyance from the canal to downstream farmers. In addition, impact assessment showed that the covering of the previously open marwas led to an average 0.38% to 4.3 per cent land gain, which increased production and income for beneficiary farmers and led to a more efficient use of scarce irrigated land in the country. The covering of the marwas has also had the impact of a cleaner surrounding as these open channels are otherwise used for garbage disposal.

The UN also supported 53 communities in 5 Governorates of Upper Egypt to face climate-induced impacts on their food production. Two heat-tolerant varieties of staple crops were introduced in approximately 14,000 feddans to increase crop resilience. Losses of 7 main crops in extreme weather events were reduced by 60 per cent through early warning messaging. In addition, 63 local NGOs were capacitated to adopt climate change adaptation measures.

The UN in Egypt promoted green businesses and environment entrepreneurship among migrants and hosting communities to educate and incubate undiscovered entrepreneurs. To this end, the UN raised the awareness of 36,133 migrants and Egyptians through online sessions and 165 migrants and Egyptians through face-to-face sessions in the fields of sustainability, green businesses, the zero-waste concept, and global green initiatives. Furthermore, 161 beneficiaries (46% men and 54% women) from Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Syria, Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan, and Iraq benefited from an entrepreneurship camp which focused on green business ideation and start-up. By the end of the entrepreneurship camp, 23 teams were formed, consisting of multiple nationalities.

The UN partnered with the Ministry of Environment to reduce GHG emissions by promoting public transportation and non-motorized transport. In collaboration with the NUCA, the UN introduced several innovative bus system management approaches in Egypt. A model system was established to link the new cities of Six of October and Sheikh Zayed with Cairo University Metro Station through the construction of two garages, bus terminals and 57 bus stops, as well as the procurement of an IT bus fleet management system, able to link the control room with buses, bus stops and mobile applications. The fleet of 40 buses is owned and operated by the private company Mawaslat Misr, which started operations in December 2019. As a first decisive replication of the model, NUCA has purchased 150 additional buses and contracted private sector service providers to operate them. In terms of non-motorized transport, The UN established the first bike sharing scheme in Fayoum University and the first of its kind in Egypt. In its first phase, the scheme is composed of 100 bicycles linking the university to students' residence halls, which will be launched in January 2020 and it is expected to be replicated and expanded to other Universities in Egypt.

Moreover, the UN collaborated with the IMC to promote roof-top small-scale PV systems in Egypt. Aiming to open the market and showcase applications to stimulate replication, the UN

provided technical and financial support for installation of 60 roof-top solar power pilot stations in different sectors including public, residential, hotel and commercial buildings. Pilot rooftop systems for small factories generated up to 80% of their electricity consumption. Pilot projects also included large factories which implemented a small-scale system and then decided to expand it to cover all the available roof area. The total installed generation capacity in 2019 has reached 2.2 MW and has the capacity to reduce GHG emissions by 2,039 tonnes/year. Disseminating the case studies and disclosing prices of the systems and payback period has made customers aware about price ranges and this contributed to the stabilization of the PV prices in the Egyptian market. The UN also established a list of recommended suppliers that includes 51 companies to ensure quality products.

The UN also provided support to identify and apply alternate refrigerants with lower global warming potential (GWP) for domestic air conditioning manufacturers. This included assistance to 5 local manufacturers of domestic air conditioning, representing 80 per cent of the sector, for the adoption of alternative technology through technical assistance and a grant for the procurement of equipment. In addition, the UN assisted the 8 major manufacturers of polyurethane foam by providing technical equipment and technical assistance to phase-out hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) based foam and transition to HCFC- and hydrofluorocarbon (HFC)- free foams by applying cyclo-pentane technology. The full technical assistance to the foam sector will be completed in 2020, with an expected phase-out of 462.5 metric tonnes of HCFCs (50.9 Ozone Depleting Potential), which will also achieve a direct climate benefit of up to 332,313 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent/year.

With the aim to achieve sustainable use and disposal of E-waste, the UN supported two informal e-waste collectors and recyclers to formalize their business and working now for supporting another 8 informal e-waste collectors and recyclers to merge them into the formal sector. As a result, 34 companies from the ICT sector delivered their e-waste to formal recyclers, redirecting 4,020 tons of e-waste towards

formal recycling methods and reducing environmental and health adverse impacts from hazardous components.

Outcome 4: Women's Empowerment

Outcome Statement: "By 2022, women are fully contributing to Egypt's development and all women and girl's rights set forth in the 2014 Constitution, are respected, protected and responded to with no discrimination."

Focus: Leadership; Social Empowerment; Economic Empowerment; and Adequate Protection and Response Services

In 2019, the Women's Empowerment Outcome Area was coordinated by UN Women and ILO, bringing together efforts of FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN Habitat, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women and WHO.

SDGs: 1 (No Poverty); 2 (Zero Hunger); 3 (Good Health and Well-Being); 4 (Quality Education); 5 (Gender Equality); 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth); and 10 (Reduced Inequalities)

Policy development and enhancement

In 2019, the UN in Egypt continued and expanded its collaboration with key national counterparts to inform the design and implementation of policies, mechanisms and knowledge products to further promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and to better respond to and prevent violence against women (VAW), in line with Egypt's *Vision 2030*, the *National Strategy for the Empowerment of Women 2030* (NSEW), as well as other relevant national strategies and plans.

To this end, with technical assistance from UN in Egypt, the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) developed its women's empowerment strategy with the overall objective of providing strategic direction for the Ministry's programmatic interventions and initiatives, as these relate to women specifically, and to overall family empowerment. The Strategy targets the Ministry's main beneficiaries, which are poor women and girls, especially those residing in rural areas and in slums, as well as the disabled and the elderly. In the same vein, the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) launched the *Dawwie* national girls' empowerment initiative. *Dawwie*, which means loud voice with an impact in Arabic, is a transformative initiative that brings together a growing community of people and institutions to support girls to fulfil their full potential, thus changing the way society views and

talks about girls. The initiative was largely informed by a policy brief on girls' empowerment that was developed by the UN in Egypt.

In line with NSEW's call for a greater role for women in the governance of companies and entities, the UN in Egypt conducted a study on the role of women in Egyptian trade unions following their regularization under the new Trade Union Law. The findings and recommendations of this study were presented during planning workshops held with trade unions and resulted in the adoption of action plans by three trade unions on promoting women within their structures, as well as empowering women members to advocate for their rights at their workplaces, to ensure that women enjoy better working conditions and receive equal treatment to men.

Additionally, the UN in Egypt continued to provide comprehensive policy advice to enhance protection and service-delivery for women and girls subjected to all forms of violence through the national *Essential Services Packages (ESP) for Women and Girls Subject to Violence* joint programme. In alignment with the social empowerment and protection pillars of the NSEW, the joint programme aims to provide greater access to a coordinated set of essential and quality multisectoral services for all women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence. In 2019, the adaptation of the

coordination module resulted in the production of the first national referral pathway for women and girls subjected to violence. The referral pathway was designed through national consultations, facilitated by the UN, with 11 key government officials and stakeholders²⁷ and officially endorsed by the National Council for Women (NCW) in November 2019. The UN in Egypt also supported the adaptation of several ESP global modules – including those on health, justice and policing, and social services – in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Interior, and Ministry of Social Solidarity, respectively. As a result, nine technical procedural guidebooks, Training-of-Trainers manuals and protocols were adapted and endorsed by national partners.

Moreover, the UN in Egypt supported the National Committee for the Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), which is led by the NCW and

Institutional capacity-building and enhancement

The UN in Egypt supported institutional capacity-building and enhancement for various government counterparts, private sector and civil society partners on gender equality and women's empowerment. More than 5,300 employees, social workers, facilitators, medical service-providers and criminal justice practitioners (50 per cent women) were trained on topics ranging from strategic planning, gender mainstreaming in policies and programmes, and digital literacy, to addressing cases of gender-based violence (GBV) in accordance with international and national guidelines and FGM medicalization.

To further support the effective implementation of the NSEE, the UN in Egypt supported the NCW in rolling-out the first comprehensive capacity-building programme to develop the ability of Council staff to plan, monitor, report and evaluate the progress made in the delivery of the strategy. In total, 153 staff members (122 female and 32 male) of the NCW

NCCM, with technical and financial resources. This included providing support on drafting the terms of reference for the Committee and supporting the launch event of the Committee on the sidelines of the global annual consultation to commemorate the National Anti-FGM day.

At the same time, the UN in Egypt supported the development of an FGM Policy for Action brief with NCCM, which further gave impetus to the issue and advocated for the development of a Costed National Action Plan for the Eradication of FGM to ensure clear roles and responsibilities as well as scalability and sustainability of interventions. The UN in Egypt also supported NCCM in strategically positioning the issue of FGM within the Dawwie initiative and addressed the lack of relevant credible data through projections of FGM trends based on the 2015 Health Issues Survey to guide policymaking and programming.

were trained on strategic planning, results-based management, communication and negotiation, proposal writing and policy analysis. Through this programme, the NCW established a cadre of qualified staff who can provide technical backstopping in strategic planning, policy analysis, proposal writing, communication and negotiation, and reporting and documentation for the Women Complaint's Offices of NCW, as well as a cadre of qualified trainers on topics essential to the implementation of the NSEE. The NCW also trained local branches of the Complaints' Offices affiliated with the Council on the knowledge and skills needed to effectively carry out their mandates.

UN in Egypt also supported the NCW in its implementation of the Women's Citizenship Initiative, through technical guidance on the national identification cards issuance process and documentation. This initiative enables rural and marginalized Egyptian women's access to services and strengthens their voice and agency. Through

²⁷ NCW, Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Health and Population, National Forensic Authority, Public Prosecution

Office, Ministry of Interior, CAPMAS, Mansoura University, Ministry of Justice, UN Women, UNDP, WHO, UNODC, UNFPA

this nationally owned programme, 105,841 national identification cards were issued for women in all 27 governorates during the reporting period. Beneficiaries indicated that this enabled them to apply for government social protection schemes, like *Takaful and Karama*, start income-generating projects, register their children in school, access health services and apply for the disabilities fund, among other benefits.

The NSEW outlines the importance of women's leadership and women's engagement in the workforce. With that in mind, the UN in Egypt partnered with the Ministry of Planning in delivering the first round of the *Women Executive Leadership Programme*, which is part of Egypt's continued efforts to place women at the heart of development, and part-and-parcel of realizing Egypt's *Vision 2030*. In 2019, 90 women who were nominated from different ministries and governmental agencies took part in this pioneering initiative, which invested in their capacities by providing the skills, knowledge and models needed for leading the process of transformation and change in the development of government administration. The UN in Egypt also supported the Ministry in capacity-building initiatives on gender mainstreaming in human resources policies. The UN developed a comprehensive Gender Training Manual which was then used to train and certify 55 employees (26 female and 29 male) of the human resources staff at the Ministry and the National Management Institute, familiarizing them with national and international commitments in relation to gender equality in the workplace, the means to assess gender equality in human resources policies and operations, and the importance of combating all forms of harassment at the workplace. Along the same lines, the capacity building of 23 participants (5 female and 18 male) from 21 private sector was strengthened through the Human Resource and Gender Academy established within the Federation of Egyptian Industries. The training focused on

developing an integrated, comprehensive approach to reviewing their human resources (HR) policies and ensuring that they not only comply with Egyptian laws but are gender-inclusive and enhance women's access to the workforce by removing barriers and/or discriminatory procedures in recruitment and selection processes. As a result, 11 gender-responsive HR policies were developed by 11 companies. These policies are currently being reviewed to ensure compliance.

Moreover, the UN in Egypt institutional capacity-strengthening support to the Egyptian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (MSMEDA) during past years to mainstream gender equality and women's empowerment principles in the Agency's policies and programmes contributed to MSMEDA receiving the Gender Equality Seal Award²⁸ in 2019. MSMEDA was the first entity in Egypt and the Arab region to receive this seal. Additionally, to further promote enterprise development among women in poverty who want to start or are already engaged in small-scale business, 24 participants (22 female and 2 male) from the NCW were trained to deliver the *Gender and Entrepreneurship for Rural Women (GET Ahead)* training package and resource kit. The trainers will be rolling-out the training package to women beneficiaries in six governorates²⁹ in the upcoming period. The capacities of 200 participants (60 female and 140 male) from government and civil society were also strengthened on lending management methodologies playing a key role in supporting financial services for rural women to start their own income-generation projects.

Under the *Dawwie Initiative*, 107 master trainers (67 female and 40 male)³⁰ were trained on digital literacy from the Ministry of Youth and Sports, as well as over 104 facilitators (65 female and, 39 male) within the Ministry of Education and Technical Education, NCCM, NCW and Y-PEER.³¹ The trainers

²⁸ The Gender Equality Seal Award is an international recognition for the role of institutions in including gender equality standards and equal opportunities at all levels within its framework.

²⁹ Assiut, Aswan, Giza, Qalioubeya, Menofeya and Sohag.

³⁰ Disaggregation not available and is calculated as a proxy of the female-male ratio as per the other capacity-building trainings.

³¹ Y-PEER is a youth peer education network of organizations and institutions that aims to promote healthy lifestyles and to empower young people at different levels through a peer-to-

and facilitators were then able to impart the digital literacy training to 4,526 youth (2,865 female and 1,661 male) in four governorates and facilitate the engagement of 6,000 girls, boys, parents and community members in six villages in two governorates since April 2019, through *Dawwie* Circles and Road Shows. These engagement events brought together families to support girls and listen to their stories on topics such as body integrity (specifically FGM), marriage (to address the issue of child marriage), health and well-being (with a focus on adolescent health and puberty), skills and aspirations. Meanwhile, the UN in Egypt also supported MoSS in training 585 female rural leaders (*raedat refiyat*) and 200 beneficiaries of the *Takaful and Karama* programme (160 female, 40 male) from 11 governorates on the *Wa'ay* awareness-raising and advocacy programme, which aims to change social behaviour among *Takaful and Karama* beneficiaries. Advocacy messages on safe motherhood, child health, combatting illiteracy, child marriage, FGM, citizenship and community participation, early detection, substance abuse, economic empowerment, family planning and community health and environment will be rolled out by the trained female rural leaders and beneficiaries to their local communities in the upcoming period.

Strengthening national institutional capacities in Egypt is a vital component for responding to the issue of violence against women and girls. Thus, the UN in Egypt continued to provide institutional capacity-building and to strengthen support to national partners under the Essential Services Packages for Women and Girls Subject to Violence joint programme. A total of 683 criminal justice practitioners, including public prosecutors and judges from 13 governorates,³² participated in training on international and national guidelines to address violence against women (VAW) cases. This included building their capacities on how to effectively implement the national legal framework

peer approach. It is a network of organizations and institutions working in the field of sexual and reproductive health.

and relevant provisions in the Egyptian Penal Code relating to VAW and how to overcome practical challenges while dealing with VAW cases. The UN in Egypt also continued to support the Forensic Medical Authority (FMA) – a key sector in the national VAW referral pathway. Three FMA specialized clinics for women victims of violence in Alexandria, Cairo and Mansoura continued to receive equipment and materials according to their needs. Moreover, the clinic in Cairo was upgraded with a proper waiting room providing a friendly environment for women who are waiting to be examined. Additionally, 56 forensic doctors (44 female and 12 male) benefited from specialized training to enhance their capacities on addressing GBV cases. As a result, new services for survivors are now available, such as preventive medicine, emergency contraception, psychological support and extended service hours, with the deployment of emergency doctors. This has, in turn, decreased the time lapse between assault and examination of victims seeking medical attention, hence reducing the risk of losing evidence. The Prosecutor General's Office has also since reported receiving more conclusive evidence and technical opinions from the FMA on assault and rape cases. Furthermore, 85 medical service-providers (60 female and 25 male) in civil society entities from three governorates³³ were trained to enhance their capacity to deliver PHC for VAW survivors.

In the same context, complimenting the work done under the Essential Services Packages joint programme, the UN in Egypt also supported the establishment of the first medical response units for GBV in three pilot university hospitals in Mansoura, Assiut and Ain Shams Universities to provide specialized medical care, psychological primary services, referrals, documentation and reporting. The UN in Egypt also supported the NCW in partnership with the National Centre for Judicial Studies, to raise the capacity of 444 newly appointed judges (all male) on combatting GBV – including

³² Alexandria, Cairo, Behaira, Beni Suef, Fayoum, Gharbia, Giza, Ismailia, Kafr Elshiekh, Matrouh, Menofeya, Menya, Qalioubeya and Sohag.

³³ Alexandria, Assiut and Cairo.

FGM and its economic and psychological implications, as well as the legislative frameworks and religious, social and medical implications of FGM. At the same time, the Women's Complaint Offices of the NCW, which offer free legal services to women survivors of violence, were also supported. 52 lawyers (40 female and 12 male) volunteering with the Offices in Egypt's 27 governorates increased their knowledge of how to classify and document complaints of VAW cases, as well as the legal procedures for Personal Status and inheritance cases. As a result, the lawyers were able to more effectively and efficiently provide free-of-charge legal advice and aid to 12,839 women survivors of violence and discriminatory practices and provide 14,331 essential services. Forty per cent of these women were able to file complaints with the support of the Office's lawyers, while 35 per cent received legal advice.

Additionally, the UN in Egypt continued its efforts to strengthen the capacities of the staff of four MoSS shelters in Greater Cairo, Alexandria, Mansoura and Minya, on case management, coordination with other service-providers, social empowerment and project management, to better offer survivor-centered social and protection services to women survivors and their children. During 2019, 196 women and 159 children were hosted at the supported MoSS shelters, while 2,880 women received a variety of consultation services. This increase in numbers compared to 2018 (children hosted 118 and women receiving services was 2,041) is a reflection of service improvement, not just in terms of institutional and human capacities of staff, but the wider range of outreach and awareness-raising on shelters' roles and services. It is also a result of the physical renovations to the facilities and infrastructure in both Alexandria and 6th of October shelters, both completed in 2019, marking the upgrade of four out of the eight shelters in Egypt. The redesigned shelters consider the needs, experiences, activities and responsibilities of women users, following a survivor-centered approach to their redesign.

³⁴ Alexandria, Cairo, Daqahlya and Sharqeya.

³⁵ Aswan, Assiut, Qena and Sohag.

Furthermore, the UN in Egypt contributed to strengthening the institutional capacity of the Child Protection mechanism in Egypt through various activities that targeted 2,686 service-providers (1,483 female and 1,203 male). This included 245 participants (128 female and 117 male) from the Education, Health and Youth sectors who attended training-of-trainers on FGM, and who in turn cascaded the training on to another 1,571 trainers (943 female and 628 male). Additionally, 140 law enforcement officials (18 female and 122 male) participated in discussion forums with a focus on child victims of crimes, including harmful practices in four governorates,³⁴ 413 doctors (241 female and 172 male) were oriented on FGM medicalization in four governorates,³⁵ 268 child protection committees members (122 female and 146 male) received trainings and briefings on FGM, and 26 social workers were capacitated to be certified trainers on addressing GBV, implementing the first round to 49 participants (31 female and 18 male). As a result, around 38,862 women and girls who visited 985 public health units in four governorates³⁶ were able to benefit from group counselling and awareness sessions on FGM prevention, protection and response services.

Additionally, building on the successful collaboration with the NCW in previous years, five additional anti-sexual harassment units in public universities were launched in 2019, bringing the total to 21 units in 21 public universities. Technical and financial support was provided to upscale and maintain the units, especially through the first operational manual for the establishment of anti-sexual harassment units in academic institutions' Supreme Universities Council. The manual offers procedures, good practices and processes to establish and replicate the model to launch the units in other educational institutions. Overall, the units provide a reporting system to investigate and address cases of sexual harassment on-campus as well as providing the student community with awareness-raising camps, activities and sessions on different forms of violence against women, reaching 165 university students (103

³⁶ *ibid.*

female and 62 male) using interactive learning techniques to help them understand VAW through

sports and theatre, with a particular focus on the role of young men in combating all forms of VAW.

Provision of direct services and support to beneficiaries

The UN in Egypt continued to provide direct support to women and girls in 2019 across different areas. Women now have increased access to employment, social services and safe spaces, while awareness-raising activities contributed to empowering women and girls and increasing understanding of gender inequalities among women, men, girls and boys.

To increase women's access to employment and decent work, the UN in Egypt built the capacity of more than 58,000 women on entrepreneurship, as well as basic business skills and financial literacy, of which 17,633 had facilitated access to micro-loans and started their own income-generating activities in 16 governorates.³⁷ Additionally, 11,000 women received literacy classes and vocational during the reporting period. This increased women's capabilities and incomes, while also reducing social inequities and exclusion. A recent assessment showed that the UN in Egypt's support enabled some of the women to increase their incomes by 30 to 50 per cent, which helped secure food and ensured that their children remained in schools, thereby also reducing the risk of early marriage and child labour. Moreover, the newly acquired skills and the micro-loans also contributed to the regularity of income for the women, while increasing their knowledge, self-esteem, perception of self-worth and confidence. Additionally, through MSMEDA, the UN in Egypt provided financial services in the form of loans to 73,661 women entrepreneurs, while 3,938 women benefited from non-financial services. At the same time, six supply-chain partnerships between Procter and Gamble (P&G) and women-owned businesses were facilitated by the UN in Egypt in two governorates³⁸, which led to a 20 to 30 per cent increase in revenue for the women-owned businesses.

In alignment with the NSEW, the UN in Egypt continued to raise public awareness around issues of GBV, including VAW, and promote positive social norms towards gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. More than 2.5 million people were reached during 2019 through awareness-raising campaigns organized by the UN in Egypt, in partnership with various ministries, institutions and civil society, during the reporting period at both national and community levels. In addition, with the support of the UN in Egypt, key national campaigns and messages reached 4.7 million views on social media.

The UN in Egypt implemented a national large-scale door-knocking campaign to raise community awareness on FGM, reaching 2,429,317³⁹ people (46 per cent women) in 835 villages across 26 governorates through public mobilization and collective efforts of all national stakeholders. In addition to the above-mentioned door-knocking campaigns, 17,250 community members (13,603 women, 1,140 men, and 2,507 children) were reached through medical convoys organized in partnership with the MoHP, MoSS and local CSOs. In addition, 10,557 (8,159 women, 1,579 men, and 819 children) attended awareness-raising activities under the FGM National Committee, including community seminars in local culture houses in partnership with local CSOs, and 1,368 people who attended capacity-building workshops. The social media campaign also had a reach of 2,192,399 total views on NCCM's page and 726,000 on the NCW's social media platforms.

Parallel to the door-knocking campaign, the UN in Egypt also held a series of awareness-raising campaigns on FGM and child marriage throughout

³⁷ Assiut, Aswan, Behaira, Beni Suef, Daqahleya, Fayoum, Gharbia, Giza, Kafr Elshiekh, Luxor, Matrouh, Menya, Qalioubeya, Sharqeya and Sohag.

³⁸ Beni Suef and Menya.

³⁹ The actual reach is 3,470,453. However, as it was estimated that there is a 30 per cent margin of duplication, the reach is now 2,429,317.

the reporting period, reaching 22,564 people, including 1,860 girls and 1,860 boys, through more than 30 community mobilization and sensitization activities in four governorates.⁴⁰ These activities included FGM public declarations in a total of 158 villages, which are community gatherings where community leaders, religious leaders and people from the community voice their position against FGM. In addition, the UN in Egypt supported the National Committee for the Eradication of FGM to develop a national radio campaign entitled “*Protect Her from FGM*”. The radio spots were broadcast 1,230 times on 18 radio stations covering Upper and Lower Egypt.

The UN in Egypt also carried out community-level activities in five governorates⁴¹ with the aim of raising awareness on stigma around gender roles, forms of violence against women and girls and its negative impact on the whole family. More than 12,016 beneficiaries were reached and actively engaged through a range of awareness-raising activities. In addition, many of the engaged youth, 200 young women and men, continued to implement community activities in their neighbourhoods to spread their newfound knowledge and further raise awareness in their communities. These volunteer-led engagement activities included health awareness sessions, sports days, self-defence classes, children’s carnivals, puppet-making, storytelling, art therapy and interactive theatre.

Driven by the realization that changing mindsets and behaviours around gender equality and women’s empowerment requires extensive awareness-raising targeting both men and women, the UN in Egypt continued to focus on engaging men and boys through the “*Because I am a Man*” campaign, shedding light on positive male role models. Based on the findings and recommendations of the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES), the UN focused during 2019 on positive fatherhood by organizing two family and fatherhood

camps with the participation of around 40 families and a total of 268 participants.

In addition, the formal endorsement of the *Dawwie* initiative by the Ministry of Education and Technical Education facilitated the roll-out of the *Dawwie* package in schools, organically reaching over 20,413 students (14,302 girls, 6,111 boys) and 2,600 parents in 2,037 schools in 20 governorates. On the digital realm, the Initiative’s Facebook page⁴² reach was 1,811,645 with an 8 per cent average engagement.

Furthermore, the UN in Egypt built the capacity of young women and men to develop Arabic digital content that addresses the online gender imbalance. Some 327 young people (226 female and 101 male) benefited from this opportunity and as a result were able to translate and publish over 100 online biographies of Arab women and provide female perspectives to online articles on topics ranging from people with disabilities to disaster risk reduction. In addition to acquiring digital skills, participants also benefited from leadership development opportunities through mentorship by leading women in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Finally, a key component to protect women and girls from violence in public spaces is gender-responsive urban planning coupled with awareness-raising activities on sexual harassment. This is highlighted in the NSEW, which lists the promotion of women’s safe mobility through innovative approaches as a priority. To this effect, the UN in Egypt in partnership with the NCW and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) launched the first national awareness-raising campaign in public transport, entitled “Do not let any station stop you!” addressing multiple forms of gender-based violence and discrimination. The campaign – which was launched in four main underground metro stations where key messages placed emphasis on sexual harassment, early marriage and reproductive rights and women’s

⁴⁰ Assiut, Aswan, Qena and Sohag.

⁴¹ Alexandria, Beni Suef, Cairo, Giza and Menya.

⁴² @dawwieinitiative

economic participation – was estimated to have been seen by 50 million.

Furthermore, in cooperation with NCW and MoSS, the UN in Egypt has been contributing to safe cities for women and girls in three governorates⁴³ through several gender-responsive urban planning interventions and awareness-raising activities – offering a safe platform for women and their children and contributing to increasing women and girls’ accessibility to public spaces. During the reporting period, the Zenin marketplace in Boulaq El Dakroul became the country’s first marketplace to be redesigned using an approach that creates a safe inclusive space for thousands of women customers and vendors (65 per cent women). The women-driven infrastructure renovations, completed in June, expanded the deteriorating 1990s-era market by 750m² and another 800m² of well-lit tree-lined sidewalks were added, transforming unsafe and unused areas into safe, functional spaces for thousands of residents and market users alike. At least 118 vendors, including 87 women, now have

clean stalls with proper ventilation, waste disposal sites, electricity and running water. The elimination of a dangerous back alley coupled with 24-hour natural and electric lighting have increased safety and significantly reduced the risk of theft and violence against all vendors and customers. The market is now also more accessible for women, children and people with disabilities, with accessible bathrooms and ramps for strollers and wheelchairs. A playground was also installed to help balance women’s need to work and care for children/grandchildren. The infrastructural development was coupled with a soft component, with women vendors’ financial literacy training and connections with wholesalers allowing them to buy products at discounted prices. Women market vendors are also able to see the benefits of collective action to achieve common interests, through their participation in a gender-balanced market management committee with a dedicated room to improve communication between vendors and authorities, as well as to ensure proper administration.

⁴³ Alexandria, Cairo and Damietta.

Cross-Cutting: Migration and Refugees:

The 2018-2022 UNPDF has migration and refugees' issues as a cross-cutting theme that is addressed in all four outcome areas. With registered refugees reaching approximately 250,000 persons and 6.3 million refugees and migrants estimated to be living in Egypt, the UN in Egypt continues to be actively

involved in the coordination and provision of humanitarian and protection assistance to vulnerable refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants. Therefore, this section illustrates the increased investment and capacity that the UN in Egypt is devoting to support the efforts of the Government of Egypt (GoE) in addressing the needs of vulnerable migrants and refugee population in Egypt.

Policy Development and Enhancement

The UN in Egypt, in cooperation with the GoE continued to advance in the policy development framework related to mixed migration during the reporting period. These advancements focus on two key pillars; development of mechanisms in the field of Trafficking in Persons (TiP), Smuggling of Migrants (SoM) and Child Protection; and strengthening data management and analysis on mixed migration to support policymaking.

The UN in Egypt advocated for the drafting of the annex to the National Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on case management to target migrants, refugees, and victims of trafficking and developed the Child Victim identification indicators for Children on the Move (COTM). The SOPs were drafted through a consultative process among the primary stakeholders working with COTM including Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, the Prosecution Office, Central Intelligence, Military Intelligence, etc. The annex is pending final stages of approval to be adopted on a national level.

The UN continued to engage with the GoE to strengthen the dialogue on asylum; advocating for the need to develop a national framework for refugees. In September 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced officially that the GoE is in the process of drafting a national refugee law. This development marks an important step forward to address the legal gap in the protection regime for refugees and asylum seekers and those in a refugee like situation.

Within the framework of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and to support Egypt in addressing the transnational organized crimes of Trafficking in Persons (TiP), Smuggling of Migrants (SoM), the UN, in cooperation with National Coordinating Committee for combating and preventing illegal Migration and Trafficking in Persons (NCCPIM&TiP), organized a regional forum for "Knowledge Exchange and Cooperation among National Coordinating Bodies to combat Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling along the Central and Western Mediterranean Migration Routes". The Forum, which gathered 18 African countries to exchange knowledge and expertise between the respective coordinating bodies and relevant actors, sought to help the participants in establishing a platform for the national coordinating bodies and institutional mechanisms for the fight against TiP and SoM phenomena. A set of recommendations was drafted and adopted by the participating countries to further tackle TiP and SoM issues in the future.

The UN also continued to partner with NCCPIM&TiP in enhancing the knowledge and capacity of various national stakeholders and actors in preventing and countering trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants while providing the due protection to victims of trafficking and smuggled migrants in line with the international and national legal frameworks. In 2019, numerous trainings were regularly organized for law enforcement, judiciary, social workers and Ministry of Manpower officials as well as for NGOs and media representatives.

Moreover, the UN supported the GoE's initiative to open a shelter devoted to victims of trafficking and to establish hotlines devoted to various categories of trafficking victims. This action has been initiated in 2019 and still ongoing, in particular by cooperating directly with NCCPIM&TiP, Ministry of Social Solidarity, NCCM, NCW, NCHR and Egyptian Red Crescent. In parallel, the UN technical know-how has been shared with the GoE when it comes to the referral mechanism for the provision of assistance and protection to victims of trafficking. Finally and with the scope to strengthen the cross-border dialogue and cooperation in tackling migration-related crimes while securing protection and assistance to migrants, in 2019 the UN in collaboration with Egyptian stakeholders has organized a first regional consultation on Search and Rescue at Sea and Desert among participants from various countries and a regional symposium of prosecutors; both initiatives are planned to continue afterwards with similar initiatives at the regional level as well at country level.

The UN in Egypt continued to collaborate with the GoE on establishing and strengthening the evidence-base that supports policymaking and mixed migration management. To this end, the UN continued its collaboration with the GoE on migration data collection and data analysis. In particular, collaboration with CAPMAS, the national institute for statistics, has been enhanced through close and continuous technical cooperation which led to the publication of the first booklet on migration. Additionally, the UN actively supported the GoE through technical and operational capacity in the preparation for the coming second edition of the International Forum on Migration Statistics, which will be carried out in Cairo in early 2020 and expected to assemble more than 700 global experts on statistics and migration. The commitment of Egypt in hosting this Forum reflects its involvement on improving migration data management both nationally and internationally. The UN also continued to support the GoE through the implementation of various workshops and capacity building sessions to government officials to enhance its knowledge and implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) that was

adopted in December 2018; the core commitments of the GCM are phrased around the importance to strengthen government's institutional capacity for data collection and analysis as a support to the formulation of migration related policies. In 2020 the GoE will be reporting for the first time in the framework of the MENA National Review of the implementation of the GCM, the above mentioned support to government officials is intended to provide the necessary tools and accompaniment for this process to run smoothly and portray the ever-growing efforts the GoE in putting in place in regards to its commitments to the GCM. Based on the formal request from MoSEEA, the UN established a Unit of qualified expert staff to oversee expatriate engagement and migration governance issues in support of the newly developed Egyptian Expatriate Engagement Strategy and Action Plan. Moreover, the UN developed the National Policy on Migration Governance, which aims to capture the main areas of focus in migration governance in Egypt, while drawing on approaches highlighted in the GCM.

At the same time, with the aim to provide reliable data that can inform policies, strategies and programming, THE UN, in collaboration with partners, contributed to improving the knowledge and understanding of the mixed migration profile in Egypt through identifying different concerned groups present in the country. Similarly, the UN continued to collect and verify data of all registered refugees and asylum-seekers. The collected data includes socio-economic data and is disaggregated based on age, gender and diversity (nationality, ethnicity, specific needs, among others) and kept in a central data- base. Vulnerability assessments were conducted on a regular basis during the reporting period to assess the protection and socio-economic needs of the most vulnerable refugees. With the same aim, the UN also conducted two major studies. The first study mapped existing stakeholders, available services, enabling environment, and cooperation mechanisms in place to address the situation and the needs of migrants and refugees in Egypt, while the second focused on the perspectives and behaviours of children and young people on the move currently living in Egypt.

Institutional Capacity-Building and Enhancement

In 2019, the UN contributed to the institutional capacity building and strengthening knowledge to more than 1,400 officials from the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health and Population in key areas such as counter smuggling and counter trafficking, border and security management, international refugee law and protection principles, first aid and health care practices.

As part of its collaboration with the GoE on mixed migration, the UN provided trainings and capacity building to more than 1,000 government officials from the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, among others, on key aspects of mixed migration management such as general migration governance, counter smuggling and counter trafficking, border and security management, first aid and health care practices, as well as on international refugee laws and protection principles.

In the same vein, the UN supported the GoE in implementing the National Strategy to Prevent and Combat TiP (2016 – 2021) and the National Strategy to Prevent and Combat SoM (2016 – 2026). The UN conducted capacity strengthening interventions that focused on supporting criminal justice authorities in Egypt, especially law enforcement officials, border control and customs officers, prosecutors, judges and other judicial practitioners to effectively prevent, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate cases of migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons, in accordance with Egypt's anti-human trafficking law of 2010 and law 82 for 2016 on migrant smuggling. The UN also strengthened the capacities of officials who are assigned in major governorates falling along land and sea borders such as Alexandria, Aswan, and Sharm El Sheikh as they encounter SoM cases. To further sustain the strengthened capacities, The UN also supported the development of internal

regulations on the identification, investigation and referral of human trafficking and migrant smuggling cases to justice authorities and assistance service providers.

At the same time, the UN supported NCCM in developing the child protection system in Egypt. This included the establishment of Child Protection Units (CPUs), under the umbrella of Children Protection Committees (CPCs), with dedicated, technical social workers providing case management services to children at-risk and survivors of violence, including migrants and refugees. To this end, with the technical assistance of the UN, a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework for CPCs was developed, outlining a clear reporting structure and standardized tools to track the progress of case management functions at governorate and district levels. This was coupled with capacity building trainings, conducted for CPC coordinators on documentation, monitoring, and evaluation to track the progress of CPC functions.

The UN also strengthened the capacity of Public Hospital Units (PHU) to cope with the increasing number of children and parents seeking health care and psychosocial support. With the support of the UN in Egypt, 80 PHUs in 19 governorates have the required capacities to deliver services that include positive parenting, recreational programs, life skills training for adolescents, case management, specialized services to children with disabilities and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) survivors, and others. These services are available for Egyptian, migrant and refugee children and their families, regardless of nationality or legal status.

The UN continued to advocate with the Ministry of Education for the mainstreaming of refugees and asylum-seekers of all nationalities into Egyptian public schools on an equal level to nationals.⁴⁴ To this end, the UN worked closely with the Ministry and assisted public education institutions through

⁴⁴ Currently, students from Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen can access public education on an equal level to

nationals. Other nationalities rely on community schools, private schools or home schooling.

provision of equipment and capacity-building of teachers and social workers.

Provision of Direct Services and Support to Beneficiaries

More than 300,000 migrants, refugees, asylum seekers as well as members of host communities received services and support in 2019 provided by the UN in Egypt. Particularly, vulnerable beneficiaries such as children and women received tailored assistance and support. Services span from care and psychological support, cash assistance, to education support and vocational training and livelihood assistance. The main nationalities of beneficiaries included Syrian, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Sudanese and South Sudanese.

During the reporting period, the UN was approached by more than 6,900 migrants who were seeking assistance, of whom 5,800 were able to register and receive services (women accounted for 61% and children for 57% of the total assisted migrants). Assistance provided included health care, cash assistance, education and legal support, among others. In addition, the UN provided assistance through Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration to countries of origin for a total of 905 migrants who were assisted in returning to their home country, 51% of whom were women and 35% children. Ethiopia was the main country of return (43%) followed by Sudan (20%). The UN in Egypt continued to advocate on behalf of stranded persons who are caught in mixed movement and seek asylum in detention or at the border points. 250,000 refugees and asylum-seekers are registered with UNHCR and documented to allow them to obtain legal status in Egypt and facilitate access to protection and assistance services. The UN provided cash to the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers, comprising approximately 25% of the total population who cannot survive without humanitarian assistance.

At the same time, more than 60,000 children, adolescents, and young adults who are migrants,

refugees, and children from the host community were provided with psychosocial support; 8,315 parents with positive parenting sessions; and 5,047 migrant, refugee, and host community children with multi-sectoral case management through a partnership with the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) that uses the Primary Health Units (PHUs) as access points for child protection services. Furthermore, the UN in Egypt, through its partners, extended assistance and alternative care to approximately 4,500 unaccompanied and separated children, while 119 cases of children in detention from Sudan, Syria, Eritrea, and Ethiopia were supported with non-food items and psychosocial care as well as referral to all programs and to positive parenting to all children and families.

103,000 refugees and displaced populations (49% women) received unconditional food assistance in six governorates. In addition, together with health partners and other stakeholders, conditional food transfers were provided to support the specific nutritional needs of 10,000 Syrian and Egyptian Pregnant and Lactating Women to improve food consumption, dietary diversity and nutritional status of these women and their infants. Assistance is conditional upon attendance at monthly prenatal or pediatric check-ups. The UN also raised awareness and provided specialized training on nutrition and maternal health to approximately 4,000 Syrian and Egyptian mothers of children in public schools in 4 governorates⁴⁵.

The UN also supported the operations of 11 Women and Girls Safe Spaces in 7 governorates⁴⁶ that offer a comprehensive package of Gender Based Violence (GBV) response and protection services for women and girls subjected to or at risk of GBV among Syrian refugees and their host community. The Safe Spaces, of which over half are hosted by Youth Centres affiliated to the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS),

⁴⁵ Alexandria, Cairo, Damietta, Alexandria and Qalyubia

⁴⁶ Alexandria, Aswan, Cairo, Damietta, Giza, Qalyubia and Sharqia.

offered a comprehensive package that includes GBV case management and designing response strategy for each of the cases which includes medical services, legal aid, psychosocial support, and emergency shelter/housing. Additionally, the Safe Spaces also offered referral services to humanitarian partners who offer medical response to GBV. In total, 2,222 women and men⁴⁷ accessed specialized GBV services through the Safe Spaces.

Under the umbrella of the national campaign titled '100 Million SIHA programme' tackling early detection and management of Hepatitis C led by the Ministry of Health and Population, THE UN and UNCHR supported more than 5,371 migrants providing screenings for early detection of the virus. In addition, THE UN provided health assessments and pre-departure medical screenings for 1,023 refugees, and pre-embarkation checks to 4,300 refugees. Equally important, THE UN provided 11,364 vaccinations to refugee of all age groups against six different disease, such as Hepatitis B, measles and polio.

Furthermore, progress was made by the UN in Egypt in providing access to quality learning opportunities (formal and non-formal) to refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt. More than 45,000 refugee and asylum-seeker students benefited from education grants during the academic year 2019/2020 to support their enrolment and retention in schools. The grants contributed to school fees, transportation, uniforms and school supplies. This included 1,505 Kinder Garden (KG) students (776 Syrians, 668 Africans and 61 from other nationalities), 188 unaccompanied and separated children (162 males and 26 females) from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan and Somalia who were enrolled in an Accelerated Learning Programme to receive an accredited high school diploma, in addition to 21,869 children (11,599 male and 10,270 female) from all educational levels who benefitted from education supplies. The UN also supported 470 refugees and asylum-seekers with scholarships, from the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee

Initiative (DAFI), to enrol in or continue their university studies.

The UN in Egypt, and partners, also supported the improvement of the physical learning environment of 31 schools and worked on improving learning outcomes through teacher training programmes for 2,308 teachers and education personnel (881 male and 1,427 female) from KGs and schools hosting refugee children in Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta. Furthermore, life skills education was provided for refugee and host community children in Egypt through life skills camps, workshops and LEGO play activities. A total of 35,849 (17,302 male and 18,547 female) refugee and host community children in KGs, public schools and community schools in Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta benefited from opportunities to develop their creative and critical thinking, self-awareness, problem-solving and communication skills. Bringing together refugee and host community children for these activities played a key role in enhancing social cohesion.

The UN also reached 5,000 vulnerable refugees and host communities' members in three governorates with the highest concentration of refugees through a food assistance for training (FFT) activities which included vocational training for youth and adult Syrians and vulnerable Egyptians and training for income-generating activities. The UN in Egypt also focused on supporting women in pursuing sustainable and sufficient livelihoods, while also reducing social inequities and exclusion. More than 7,000 refugee women were reached through the provision of different vocational and entrepreneurship training by the UN, including training activities on enterprise and gender, amigurumi, care giving and administration training. Among the women reached, 4,600 had facilitated access to micro-loans and started their own income generation activities in Upper Egypt and Matrouh, while 40 were placed in decent jobs earning a decent income to sustain their families and 25 are in the process of being placed in jobs. Additionally, a career guidance component was included on the

⁴⁷ Only 2% of the beneficiaries were men.

vocational training to introduce these women to the realities of a working woman in Egypt. Moreover, realizing that women and girls' financial inclusion and livelihood opportunities contribute to reducing their vulnerabilities and risks of being subjected to GBV, the Women and Girls Safe Spaces offered 4,735 girls and women economic empowerment opportunities that included vocational trainings, marketing, and linking to exhibitions.

The UN finalized the refurbishment of the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Housh Eissa in the Beheira

Governorate. The VTC will serve to provide the required infrastructure for accessible vocational training services to Egyptian youth. Beneficiaries of the VTC will be provided with technical and soft skill trainings to enhance their employability; then, they will be matched with decent job opportunities in local markets. In addition, through its 'green business and environment entrepreneurship programme', the UN delivered online training sessions on sustainability, green businesses, zero-waste concept, SDs and global green initiatives to 36,133 migrants and Egyptians.

RESULTS OF COMMUNICATION AS ONE

In 2019, the UN in Egypt stepped up its efforts to raise awareness on and inspire action to achieve 2030 Agenda, while increasing the visibility and awareness of the work of the UN in Egypt.

Commemoration of International Days

During 2019, the UN in Egypt commemorated a selected number of international days and campaigns that mark important aspects of human life and history. On each of these days, the UN and its partners promoted the objective of the day, through awareness and action. These days and campaigns included the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (16 Days of Activism) and International Volunteer Day.

The *16 Days of Activism* is an international campaign, linked to the UN Secretary General's UNiTE campaign, which starts on 25 November (International Day to End Violence Against Women) until 10 December (International Human Rights Day). The 16 Days of Activism campaign provides an opportunity to bring together the whole community to work to end violence against women, promoting a change in mindset and culture where violence is no longer accepted. To mark the launch of the 16 Days in 2019, the UN in Egypt organized a press conference on 25 November. The press conference provided an opportunity for various media channels to learn more from the UN Resident Coordinator and UN Women's Head of Office a.i. about the causes and consequences of violence against women and the initiatives that are undertaken by the UN in Egypt in support of national efforts to address violence against women. Throughout the 16 Days, the UN in Egypt held a wide range of events across Egypt's governorates where activities ranged from community awareness events, family camps, art competitions, and high-level events. In Alexandria, the UN in Egypt, in partnership with the National Council for Women and Bibliotheca Alexandrina, commemorated the 16 Days through

an organized stand denouncing violence against women on the steps of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina under the title "Together for Her". Following the stand, the premises of Bibliotheca Alexandrina were lit up in orange following "Orange the World" initiative, symbolizing a world free from violence against women and girls.

With special focus on SDG 10 and the pursuit of equality and social inclusion, the UN in Egypt commemorated the *International Volunteer Day* 2019 in partnership with Ministry of Social Solidarity, the Egyptian Red Crescent, the Arab Council for Corporate Social Responsibility and Future University through a volunteering convoy to a village in Fayoum. The convoy held awareness sessions, and interactive games on different topics were delivered, including on drug abuse, gender equality, volunteerism, entrepreneurship, hygiene and family planning. Additionally, almost 600 beneficiaries benefited from the medical and dental check-up that the convoy provided. The UN in Egypt also held an event to honour the efforts of volunteers who have been actively building inclusive future through acts of volunteerism, including three volunteering initiatives by people with disabilities to support their peers. The event also witnessed the launch of the national volunteering manual developed by MOSS, UNV, and Plan International Egypt.

Furthermore, the UN in Egypt launched a social media campaign for community and youth engagement initiated and highlighted by the joint team's collaboration with, and selection of Nicola Mouawad as the 2020 World AIDS campaign champion. A short video and a series of destigmatizing messages were released on the UN in Egypt social media platforms, ensuring high coverage and large following of the campaign messages. This was accompanied with a regular online campaign to spread awareness which has reached over 10,000 young people throughout its duration between October and December 2019. Furthermore, an infographic video showcasing the

UN Joint Team efforts and achievements to date related to HIV/AIDS has been released around World AIDS Day celebration event. The UN also carried out the annual “World AIDS Day 2019 National Advocacy Campaign” which in 2019 focused on “Communities Make the Difference”. Through promoting testing while addressing issues of stigma and discrimination in the community and shedding light on the free and existing governmental services including the Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centers (VCCT) supported by the National AIDS Program, the campaign included a high-level media advocacy event under the auspices of MoHP convening key stakeholders to commemorate World AIDS Day 2019., university Campaigns to raise awareness among youth groups in 21 different universities about HIV/AIDS, launching a Social media campaign for youth engagement initiated in October and convening a Religious Leaders Event.

Hackathons and Digital Challenges

Information and communications technology (ICT) can play a game changing role in achieving sustainable development. Recognizing this, the UN in Egypt held several *hackathons and digital challenges* to inspire and mobilize innovative digital solutions for Egypt’s most pressing social and economic priorities during 2019. These activities addressed five SDGs, namely Goal 2: Zero Hunger, Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being, Goal 4: Quality Education, Goal 5: Gender Equality, and Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.

The UN in Egypt partnered with the Ministry of Social Solidarity, RiseUp and PepsiCo, in organizing *Egypt 2030 Hackathon* to offer innovative digital solutions for two of Egypt’s development priorities – gender equality and zero hunger. Around 1,000 young women and men applied, 100 of whom were shortlisted, and divided into 21 teams of three to five members each. The UN in Egypt supported the competing teams through mentorship and technical

⁴⁸ Health 2.0 Egypt is a healthcare tech hub for professionals in the health, startup and programming industry; some of Egypt’s best and brightest medical and tech innovators and problem solvers. Health 2.0 Egypt is the local chapter of Health 2.0 Conference based in San Francisco.

support and the winning team, *Techie Squad*, won EGP 500,000 and was promised a bundle of adequate technical support by PepsiCo to help them scale up and bring their idea to life. *Technie Squad* pitched an idea for establishing a platform that connects, mentors, and empowers women in the sports sector.

Moreover, the UN in Egypt held a *Decoding Health Challenge* in partnership with Health 2.0⁴⁸, Falak Startups⁴⁹ and Etisalat to leverage big data towards non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Ten health start-ups took part in an intensive boot-camp over the course of six weeks where they were introduced to big data applications in healthcare through a combination of case-studies and hands-on applications. These teams were supported to develop their ideas into potential solutions through an interactive match-making exercise with data scientists and mentors. Three finalists’ teams were selected to pitch their solutions in a final demo round. The Judging Panel selected *Mazbot*, the first Arabic personal assistant (conversational agent) for people with diabetes to empower them to self-manage their medical condition and lifestyle, as the winner of the Decoding Health Challenge and a prize of USD 5,000, whereas *Dileny*, a platform focused on the breast cancer disease, and *Helpee*, a mobile application for people with disability, came in second and third place winning USD 3,000 and USD 2,000 respectively.

Engagement through films and documentaries

2019 also witnessed the release of several *UN in Egypt supported films* that shed light on issues that are relevant to the 2030 Agenda and Egypt’s sustainable development with aim of raising awareness as well as inspiring public debate.

The UN in Egypt, in collaboration with DHL and the International Emerging Film Talent Association

⁴⁹ Falak Startups is an accelerator program designed to support and empower entrepreneurs in Egypt’s thriving startup ecosystem.

(IEFTA), partnered with Adventurer and Entrepreneur Omar Samra and Triathlete Omar Nour (known as Team O2) to raise awareness of the global refugee crises through the documentary film *“Beyond the Raging Sea”*. The film featured the gripping account of Team O2 experience while participating in the Atlantic Challenge - an annual ocean-rowing race. In an ironic twist, Team O2’s boat was capsized, and they ended up facing the same dangers, terrors and decisions of those who cross seas seeking better options. In this film, the director, Marco Orsini, introduces to the audience extraordinary people in exceptional circumstances, navigating existential threats and gruelling ordeals, fighting for survival and what comes after. After the first screening of the film in 2018 at Cannes Film Festival, the film made its first World Premiere at El Gouna Film Festival in 2019, by a screening at Cairo International Film Festival. At El Gouna Film Festival, a panel discussion titled "Change in narrative: how can film play a part in refugee crises?" brought together Arab filmmakers and speakers from UNHCR to discuss the cinema industry’s role in the world's refugee crises. The Festival also included a fourth edition of *Refugee Voices in Film*, which presented the stories of individual refugees around the globe. In the films selected, refugees spoke about loss and desperation, but also of resilience and hope. *Beyond the Raging Sea* is expected to launch in movie theatres in Egypt and the region in 2020.

At the same time, the UN in Egypt collaborated with the National Council for Women, Axeer⁵⁰ and development partners in the production of the film that highlights the various societal issues facing women, especially in rural areas. *“Between Two Seas”*, which was written by Mariam Naoum and directed by Anas Tolba, takes place in a poor village on the outskirts of Cairo and tells the story of three young women who are forced to undergo harmful cultural practices such as FGM and early marriage, as well as discriminatory practices, such as denial of education. *Between Two Seas* received critical acclaim, winning six international awards – two at

the Aswan Women’s International Film Festival in February, two at the Brooklyn Film Festival in June 2019 in addition to two awards at Festival International du Cinéma de la Diversité Taza. The film was also selected for the opening of the Karama Human Rights Film Festival in Beirut and ran the festival circuit and private screenings between February and July 2019 before premiering in Egyptian theatres in October.

Following the successful closing ceremony of the *Global Migration Film Festival* (GMFF) in 2018, which was brought to Cairo as a global recognition of Egypt’s expertise and love for the third art, the UN in Egypt optimised its outreach to bring the 2019 GMFF to different locations throughout Egypt. From 28 November to 18 December 2019, fourteen movies that capture the promise and challenges of migration, and the unique contributions that migrants make to their new communities were screened in sixteen venues located in eight different governorates. The Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) supported in the outreach by hosting screenings in eight governorates reaching over 400 people. In total, more than 2,000 attendees enjoyed the screenings of the selected movies during the 2019 festival. Additionally, IOM Goodwill Ambassador, Asser Yassin, participated in the jury of the 2019 GMFF, further prompting Egypt’s involvement in the festival.

Furthermore, the UN in Egypt organized a *48-hour Film Festival*, offering 25 young women and men in Egypt an opportunity to engage and learn about writing, shooting and editing a short film. In 48 hours, participants were divided into five groups and oriented with the three transformative results: zero preventable maternal mortality, zero gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls and zero unmet need for family planning. They also attended workshops on scriptwriting, direction, sound design, photography and editing using professional equipment to equip them with the required skills, eventually producing five short films,

⁵⁰ Axeer is a creative production house based in Cairo with a focus on developing and producing viral audiovisual content that highlights social causes.

one of which received an award at the closing ceremony. The winning film was also screened at El Gouna Film Festival.

Media Engagement

Media plays a particularly critical role in supporting public dialogue, enhancing knowledge of ways to support sustainable development, and holding Governments accountable. Thus, greater media engagement around the 2030 Agenda and Egypt's Vision 2030 was set as a priority focus during the reporting period. This engagement led to the signing of the *Global SDG Media Compact* by six leading media organizations in Egypt⁵¹. The Compact, which was launched by the UN Secretary-General in September 2018, seeks to inspire media and entertainment companies around the world to leverage their resources and creative talent to advance the SDGs. With this signature, the six Egyptian media organization join more than 80 members from Africa, Asia, the Americas, Australia, Europe and the Middle East in their commitment to disseminating facts, human stories and solutions to scale-up engagement on the SDGs. At the same time, the UN in Egypt launched the *Media for SDG (Media4SDGs)* initiative which aims at empowering media professionals to become active actors for sustainable development by enhancing the quality of coverage on the 2030 Agenda and inspiring action to achieve the SDGs. During 2019, twelve workshops

were held, with the participation of over 180 journalists (80 female and 100 male) from over 13 media organizations and over 40 experts from the UN, Government, private sector and academia.

SDG Action Campaign

The *SDG Action Campaign* is a global initiative that aims to create awareness about the 2030 Agenda, empower and inspire people across the world to achieve the SDGs. As part of the SDG Action Campaign, the UN in Egypt has been engagement with youth through the establishment of the SDG Advocacy Programme which aims to raise awareness of and engagement with the SDGs amongst youth. Furthermore, the programme aims to mobilize citizen-based action for supporting the achievement of the SDGs. During the reporting period, the SDG Advocacy programme engaged with approximately 5,000 young women and men through SDG information and awareness raising sessions that were held at the Greek Campus, the German University of Cairo and the Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST) in Alexandria. Moreover, the programme gave several young women and men the opportunity to represent youth voices at several events such as the Alexandria Dialogue at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the Arab Sustainable Development Week and the Global Entrepreneurship week.

⁵¹ Al-Masry Al-Youm, Al-Shorouk, Egypt Today, Sada El-Balad, TeN TV and Welad El-Balad

RESULTS OF OPERATING AS ONE

The UN in Egypt strengthened and expanded its efforts to enhance the operational efficiency of UN interventions in Egypt.

Interagency working groups that were established in 2018 on human resources, general administration and logistics, procurement, information and communications technology (ICT) and finance continued to act as platforms for exchange amongst UN professionals to discuss and disseminate best practices and to implement harmonized operations in order to capitalize on economies of scale. This included the development of new long-term agreements for event-related activities, translation and visibility services by the Procurement working group – which has already been utilized by several UN agencies, funds and programmes (UNAFP) in the country; the collection of tax information from all UNAFP by the Finance working group in order to work towards a One UN tax agreement with the Government of Egypt; and the harmonization of compensation fees (i.e. daily subsistence allowance and transportation fees) offered to UN partners by the General Administration working group.

The UN in Egypt has also initiated the process for drafting a *UN Business Operations Strategy* that will act as a guiding framework for the UN's joint efforts towards gaining efficiency in the upcoming years. The strategy, which is expected to be finalized by the second quarter of 2020, will identify priorities areas of harmonization with highest cost avoidance and thus reinforce the effectiveness of all UN operations in Egypt.

Moreover, 2019 witnessed the establishment of a new interagency working group, *Greening the Blue Egypt (GBE)*, which aims at mainstreaming environmental sustainability and reduce the environmental impact of the operations of more than 2,000 UN staff and their respective offices in Egypt. As a result of the GBE working group efforts, the UN in Egypt made a commitment towards banning single-use plastic in all UN offices in the country. This commitment was announced publicly during a Nile clean-up initiative that included over 150 UN staff and their family members as well as several beneficiaries of UN in Egypt projects, hence extending awareness to the families and the wider society.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Outcome level indicator results reporting

Annex 2: Common Budgetary Framework reporting