

UNDP inputs to SG's report 2022 on implementation of the VPoA (status: March 2022)

On trade integration:

UNDP continues to provide technical and institutional support to LLDCs under the Enhanced Integrated Framework for LDCs. In **Bhutan**, UNDP is working alongside the Government and partners to formulate Aid for Trade project proposals to mobilise resources for the implementation of key priorities identified in the DTIS update action matrix. In **South Sudan**, UNDP in close cooperation with the national government and other stakeholders launched a consultative process for the formulation of the DTIS update. Partners agreed on a focus on economic diversification, inclusive growth and resilience. Collaboration continues on institutional strengthening, including on regional integration, and strengthening the legislative framework, among others. In **Lesotho**, UNDP's institutional support has contributed to enhancing capacity on trade negotiations and participation in the AfCFTA, as well as training and outreach activities among greenhouse farmers to strengthen their ability to access markets, among others. In addition to these countries, a new programme have started in **Central African Republic** to undertake trade-related analytical work to inform policy making.

On enhancing South-South cooperation:

Together with UNOSSC, UNDP compiled good practices, developed and published the report [Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Scaling up Made-in-Africa Solutions](#) at the UN Day for South-South Cooperation. The report serves to promote the leading role of African countries as sharing south-south countries by codifying nearly 40 UNDP-supported African South-South development solutions and innovative African solutions with South-South potential, including from LLDC, covering key SDG-related issues. These solutions are also featured on UNOSSC's [South-South Galaxy platform](#) for wider promotion of African good practices with the global South. The launch event attracted 260 registered participants from 68 countries globally.

On resource mobilization:

UNDP is providing technical support to 11 LLDCs in Africa in implementing Integrated Financing Frameworks (INFFs).

UNDP is supporting the countries in conducting Development Finance Assessment (DFA) with the aim to analyze the public and private financing landscape, financing policies, institutional structures and produce an INFF Roadmap with recommendations towards an integrated financing strategy. So far, **Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, South Sudan**, and **Uganda** completed their DFAs. **Burundi, Burkina Faso**, and **Zambia** are in the drafting process, while **Mali** has initiated the DFA consultants' recruitment procedure. Building on the DFAs, **Uganda** is already developing their integrated financing strategies, while **Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda** and **South-Sudan** are initiating the process. Technical support is also provided for the establishment of INFF Oversight Committees in **Botswana, Rwanda, Malawi, Burundi, Lesotho**, and **Mali** to drive the related reforms and ensure the government ownership in the implementation of INFFs.

Together with GIZ, UNDP initiated the feasibility study for establishing an Integrated Financing Dashboard in **Rwanda** with an international consultant in place, aiming to consolidate and monitor data from existing tracking systems on key financial flows (public, private, international and domestic), from mobilization to spending, in order to improve transparency, synergy and coordination for decision making on financing policies and measures.

Advancing SDG Budgeting in **Botswana, South Sudan and Uganda**, including mainstreaming gender equality into the budgeting process and promoting fiscal decentralisation. SDG Investor Mapping has been completed in **Rwanda and**

Uganda, ongoing in **Eswatini** and **Malawi**, and is to be initiated in **Botswana, Lesotho, and Zambia** to identify and promote investment opportunity areas for attracting domestic and international private sector investment. The plan is to ensure the investment intelligence out of the investors mapping will be integrated within the upcoming integrated financing strategies. **Uganda and Malawi** have initiated the process of conducting a Digital Finance Ecosystem Assessment (DFEA). Collaborating with IOM in **Lesotho** on promoting diaspora engagement and mobilizing remittances for domestic investment.

Supporting ongoing Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) programmes within the INFF agenda to enhance tax audit capacity for domestic revenue mobilization and drafting Country Engagement Plans for the upcoming SDG aligned Regional Tax Project in **Botswana, Burundi, Eswatini, Rwanda, Mali, Uganda, and Zambia**. An SDG Taxation Framework seminar was conducted with the **Eswatini** government in 2021 and discussions with the RNA were undertaken in the context of the development of the MTRF in Rwanda. In Botswana a general evidence research paper on fiscal decentralization was undertaken.

Facilitated knowledge and technical exchanges involving LLDC countries:

- Promoted INFF South-South peer exchanges through targeted webinars on INFF governance, DFA, thematic bonds, remittances, SDG budgeting and investor mapping involving **Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda** and **Zambia** sharing their experience to all RBA countries.
- Co-organized with UNDESA, UNITAR, UNECA the regional joint training on INFF in August 2021. The event provided comprehensive training on the detailed methodologies of the 4 INFF Building Blocks: (1) assessment and diagnostics; (2) financing Strategy; (3) monitoring and review; and (4) governance and coordination for African countries, **including these selected LLDCs**. In particular, government panellists from **Uganda and Malawi** were invited to share their experiences and approaches in implementing INFFs in their own countries.
- Developed [communication materials](#) to promote good practices in terms on INFF and gender mainstreaming in **Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda** and **Zambia**.