

FAST FACTS

Asia-Pacific Regional Centre



OUR APPROACH

The [Asia-Pacific Regional Centre \(APRC\)](#) of the United Nations Development Programme provides policy expertise and advisory services in the areas of Poverty Reductions and MDGs achievement, Democratic Governance, Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Environment and Sustainable Development, HIV/AIDS and Health and in the cross-cutting areas of Gender, Capacity Development and Knowledge Management. The Centre acts as a hub of development knowledge, an advocate for equitable human development and inclusive growth, a promoter of South-South cooperation, a facilitator of regional dialogues on sensitive and emerging development issues, a pioneer of innovative sustainable solutions and a broker of efficient development aid. The APRC provides internationally grounded quality policy advice and technical support that costs less than market prices and is available on short notice. Our in-depth familiarity with the region and detailed knowledge of donor requirements allow us to spot emerging issues, to draw on experiences and lessons learned through face-to-face networking and communities of practices and to elaborate transformative solutions to regional development problems.

WHAT WE DO

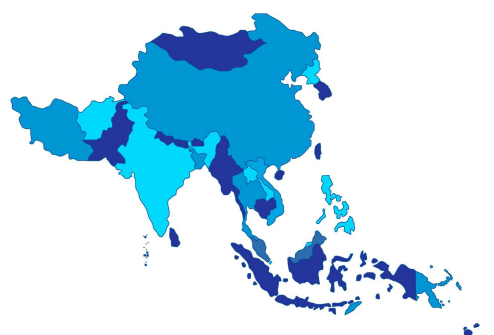
WE SUPPORT the [24 UNDP Country Offices](#) across the region through tailored policy advisory services, project backstopping, programming, operations and knowledge management support. We rapidly deploy joint teams in response to emergencies in the region prone to natural disasters and humanitarian crisis. Priority for direct support is given to Least Developed Countries, Small Islands States and Landlocked Developing nations as well as to conflict and post-conflict nations.

MATTERS OF FACT

- Regional Service Center established in 2005;
- APRC operates from two locations: Bangkok and Suva;
- 24 UNDP Country offices covering 37 countries in Asia and the Pacific benefit the APRC services;
- US\$ 100 mln.-total value of the Regional programme (2008-2013) managed by APRC;
- 14 ongoing regional and sub-regional projects, jointly implemented with 20 co-financing partners;
- 7 in-house Practice Teams of policy advisors and development experts;
- 20 regional knowledge networks and thematic community of practices bringing together UNDP experts and development partners from national governments, civil society groups, UN agencies.

WE DEVELOP and MANAGE REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL PROJECTS in response to current and emerging development challenges that cannot be easily dealt with at national level: migration, human trafficking, HIV/AIDS, violence against women, climate change, disaster risk preparedness. Through policy dialogue and advocacy we assist development partners across the region to address jointly trans-national issues and to foster regional cooperation.

WE CONTRIBUTE to the ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL TEAM and lead its Regional Peer Support Group in the provision of guidance and oversight for a coherent work of the UN Country Teams across Asia and the Pacific.



IMPACT

- Assisted in the immediate response to sudden crisis including droughts, earthquakes, cyclone, floods and landslides in more than 15 Asia-Pacific countries;
- Responded to climate change by contributing to the reduction of 962 mln tones of carbon dioxide emissions and protecting nearly 3 mln hectares of forests; initiated a new regional dialogue on climate change financing and efficient aid;
- Promoted human rights based approach to access to justice (HRBA2J), which inspired a movement across Asia and Pacific with country initiatives in Indonesia, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Lao PDR, Timor Leste and Viet Nam and establishment of a Regional HRBA2J advocacy and partnership platform initiated by the APRC;
- Assisted in the building of an end-to-end early warning systems in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Thailand and India;
- Transformed the Pacific financial sector by providing mobile money services to 228 000 islanders through inclusive finance approach to the least banked region in the world;
- [Partnered](#) with UN agencies and national and regional stakeholders to change social norms and engage men to stop gender based violence through social media and creative advocacy campaigns;
- Established a [Capacity Development for Development Effectiveness facility](#) with the World Bank, the Asia Development Bank and the Government of Japan, to facilitate collaboration between governments and donors for mutual accountability of official development aid. The [aideffectiveness.org](#) portal has gone global and provides resources to reforming the governance of the development aid;
- Published and launched the flagship [Asia-Pacific Regional Human Development Report](#) which is a powerful advocacy tool, presenting in-depth analysis and calling attention to priority regional issues and policy options on anticorruption, gender, trade, poverty and migration.

MANAGEMENT

The Asia-Pacific Regional Centre is led by the Deputy Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific. The Centre is guided by an APRC Management Board and a Pacific Centre Management Committee and benefits the guidance and oversight of an Asia-Pacific Advisory Panel, and of regional project steering committees and advisory boards.

PARTNERSHIPS

Across the region and beyond we forge broad range and types of partnerships to leverage the effects of our activities and to deliver sustainable results. From 2008 to 2010 we worked with 40 funding and cost-sharing partners, including bilateral (government and development cooperation agencies), multilateral (international organizations and the EU), UN specialized agencies, funds and programmes, International Financial Institutions (the World Bank and the Asia Development Bank), private companies and non-governmental organizations. We continue to strengthen our cooperation and partnership with regional and sub-regional intergovernmental organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the South Asian Association for Regional cooperation (SAARC), the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).

THE WAY FORWARD

The APRC sees its future of a strong knowledge-based expert organization and a leading development partner in a rapidly changing regional economic and political environment. The striking progress of the Asia-Pacific region in achieving development results is widely recognized. East Asia and the Pacific had by far the strongest overall human development Index performance of any region in the world. China, Nepal, Indonesia, Laos are among top human development index performers since 1970. Yet 'multidimensional' poverty, gender gaps, rising inequality, vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters, insufficient social protection policies, democratic deficits in governance and institutions are identified as some of the region's big challenges. With an increasing number of Middle Income Countries graduating from UNDP programmes the regional development cooperation landscape is changing as well. The Asia-Pacific Regional Centre is embarking on testing and articulating new development cooperation models, including new modalities for South-South cooperation in order to strengthen its role, partnerships and contribution to human development in Asia and the Pacific.

For more information visit:

URL: <http://asia-pacific.undp.org>

URL: <http://www.undppc.org.fj>

UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre

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