

In every area, the Regional Centre offers support in the form of

Policy Research & Analysis

Producing country and regional reports, policy briefs, applied policy research papers and codification exercises of lessons learnt.

Programme Development & Technical Backstopping

Strengthening country office capacity with regard to design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of UNDP programmes in a host country.

Strategic Policy Advice & Advocacy

Promoting UNDP priorities with partners and seeking to provide them with timely and up-to-date advice on development challenges, building on comparative experience and knowledge inside and outside of UNDP.

Capacity Development & Training

Supporting institutional development and dedicated training for country office staff, host Governments and partners. The Regional Centre helps countries to draw up strategies to address capacity constraints that inhibit realization of the Millennium Development Goals. The Regional Centre is committed to the idea that all external interventions should build sustainable capacities based on local values.

Knowledge Services

Acting as a regional hub distilling knowledge and experience into usable products and tools and collecting and disseminating it. The Regional Centre also provides expert referrals and facilitates transfers of expertise between Country Offices.



Country Offices Supported by Regional Centre in Bangkok

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- China
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Fiji*
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Lao PDR
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Republic of Korea
- Samoa**
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Vietnam

* covers Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

** covers Samoa, Niue, Cook Islands, Tokelau

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UNDP Regional Centre Bangkok



Serving Asia and the Pacific

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The United Nations Development Programme is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build better lives.

The UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok supports 25 Country Offices and their national partners in Asia-Pacific by sharing knowledge, building capacity and forging partnerships in four specialized areas - Democratic Governance, Energy & Environment, Crisis Prevention & Recovery, and Management and other Support Services. A number of supporting topics are central to the assistance provided including capacity development, aid management, ICT for development, public-private partnerships, communications and promoting exchanges between UNDP programme countries, otherwise known as South-South cooperation.

The Regional Centre complements the UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo (Poverty Reduction, Gender, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Globalisation Issues) as well as UNDP's Pacific Sub-Regional Centre in Fiji, which focuses on the needs of Small Island Developing States. Together, these Centres cover 37 countries in Asia-Pacific.



Democratic Governance

Poor and disadvantaged groups are still excluded from the benefits of development. The Regional Centre in Bangkok supports democratic governance reform at the national and regional level, aiming to enhance people's choices and increase their access to political, economic, social and cultural opportunities. The Regional Centre supports the UNDP priority on minority groups and indigenous peoples. It advocates a rights-based approach to development, stressing principles of accountability, transparency, participation, non-discrimination, equality and the rule of law at all levels of society.

As signatories of the Millennium Declaration of 2000, countries are encouraged to commit themselves to democracy and rule of law, as well as respecting human rights, including the right to development. Regional UNDP activities place special emphasis on human development and its links to self-governance. Priority is also placed on programmes that respond positively to governance challenges within and between states.

Services

- Supporting policies for democratic governance
- Fostering parliamentary development
- Strengthening electoral systems and processes
- Promoting justice and human rights
- Enhancing E-governance and access to information
- Promoting decentralisation, local governance and urban/rural development
- Supporting public administration and anti-corruption reform



Energy and Environment

The Regional Centre aims to accelerate the adoption of good energy practices. It helps to ensure that the energy needs of poor people are better known and promotes an understanding of the poverty-energy-gender relationship. It advocates for energy considerations to be factored into development policies. It supports the study of energy use patterns in small businesses, and engages the financial sector in new energy opportunities.

For the environment to contribute fully to poverty reduction and the realisation of the Millennium Development Goals, it is necessary to build on the needs and capabilities of the poor. The Regional Centre will help countries to engage all stakeholders in environmental concerns and examine the root causes of environmental degradation. Vulnerable groups will be provided with tools to improve their lives. To ensure that sustainability is better than a slogan, environmental considerations should be part of the mandates of national institutions and incorporated into policies and legislation.

Services

- Supporting strategies for sustainable development
- Enhancing effective water governance
- Providing access to sustainable energy services
- Cultivating sustainable land management practices to combat desertification and land degradation
- Fostering conservation and biodiversity
- Promoting national/sectoral policy and planning to control emissions of ozone-depleting substances and organic pollutants



Crisis Prevention and Recovery

Natural disasters or conflict can erase decades of economic and social development, further entrenching poverty and inequality throughout Asia-Pacific. How nations prepare for, deal with, and learn from natural disasters and conflict have great bearing on sustainable development and the quality of life throughout Asia-Pacific. The Regional Centre assisted in the response to the Tsunami disaster at the end of 2004, and is helping countries to strengthen their disaster preparedness.

The Regional Centre addresses conflict prevention, natural disaster reduction, and post-crisis recovery to bridge the gap between emergency relief and long-term development. An appreciation of linkages between vulnerability to disaster and poverty will be fostered by the Regional Centre and Country Offices. Lessons learned from past natural disasters and conflict can be used as today's tools to mitigate fallout from future upheavals.

Services are also offered in mine action including land surveys, clearance programmes, mine risk education and survivor assistance. The aim is to create conditions for the resumption of normal economic activity, reconstruction and development.

Services

- Encouraging conflict prevention and peace building
- Fostering recovery initiatives
- Supporting small arms reduction, disarmament and demobilization
- Mine action
- Supporting natural disaster reduction
- Cultivating special initiatives for countries in transition



Management services and other areas of regional support

Management Advisory and Support Services

The Regional Centre helps UNDP Country Offices become even more effective partners with support and advice on

- project management
- human resources
- procurement issues
- resource mobilization and financial management
- organizational development
- developing partnerships.

Aid Coordination and Management

The Regional Centre provides advice on the processing of aid information, organization of donor meetings and development of capacity in financial management and budget support mechanisms.

ICT for Development

The Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme (APDIP), through the Regional Centre, undertakes e-readiness studies, supports e-governance and access to information and promotes national and regional ICT policy dialogue and development through the UNDP Country Offices.

Communications

To relay the impact of UNDP's programmes to partners, public and the media, the Regional Centre provides advisory support for effective communications and advocacy, including coverage of related news events, launching of relevant publications, advice on national media strategies, advance press work for UNDP officials visiting a region, and communications training.

Championing the Millennium Declaration

The overriding goal of Regional Centres is to support the realisation of the Millennium Development Goals. These goals commit the international community to an expanded vision of development, one that vigorously promotes **human development** as the key to sustaining progress in all countries, while recognizing the importance of creating a global partnership for development. The Millennium Declaration commits the world's countries to realize these goals by 2015.