



INDEPENDENT COUNTRY PROGRAMME EVALUATION

ECUADOR

EVALUATION PERIOD: 2019-2021

COUNTRY PROFILE

Population

17.7 million people (2021)



GDP

\$98.8 billion (2020)



Women in the National Assembly

39.0% of seats 2020



0.759 (2020)

HDI value



4.6% (2021)

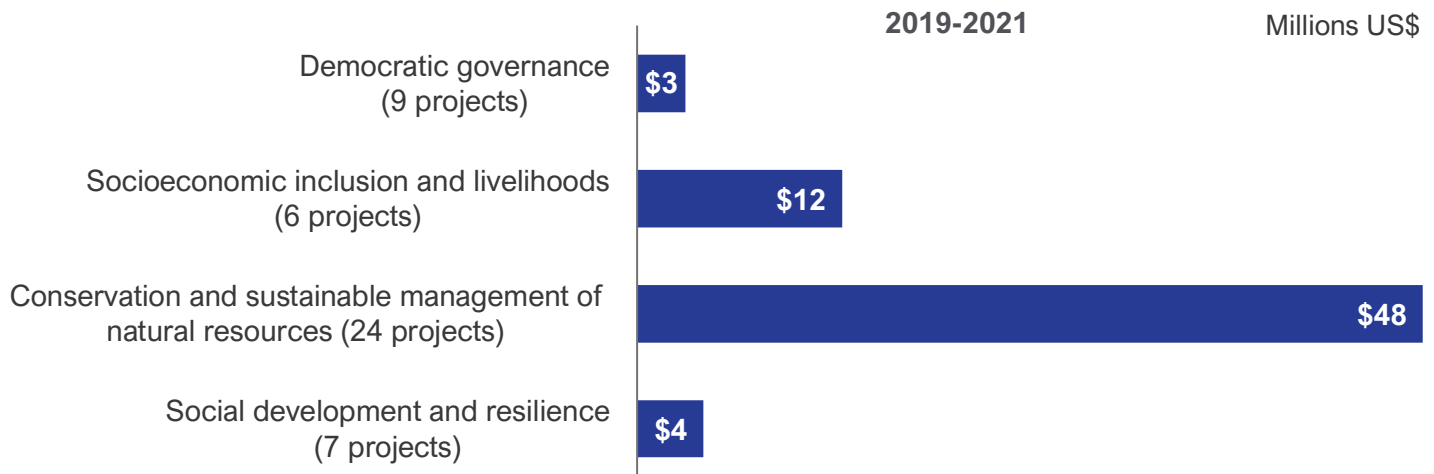
Unemployment



11.5 million ha natural forest (2020)

Biodiversity

PROGRAMME OUTCOME AREAS



Total budget: 107 M

■ Expenditure

CONCLUSIONS

1. UNDP effectively expanded its activities to respond to emerging priorities and emergencies faced by the country.
2. The organizational structure and size of the office are under strain due to current priorities and operational needs.
3. UNDP's programme in Ecuador stands out for the scale of support it provides to the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment.
4. UNDP's governance work provided key support to strengthening democratic systems in Ecuador.
5. UNDP played an effective role in responding to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
6. UNDP has successfully mainstreamed gender across its portfolio of work, to promote gender equality, women's economic empowerment and the reduction of gender-based violence.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNDP

1. UNDP should continue its work to support poverty reduction and combat the socio-economic consequences of COVID-19.

3. UNDP should continue to expand conservation and climate change interventions, and reinforce linkages between the environment, sustainable development, resilience and poverty reduction.

5. UNDP's gender initiatives should focus on policy-level interventions to address the structural barriers and root causes of gender inequality, and contribute meaningfully to positive changes in women's rights, and cultural norms and values.



2. UNDP should adapt its office structure to avoid bottlenecks and delays, and take care of staff health and motivation.

4. UNDP should build on the lessons of the pandemic to consolidate its effectiveness, especially in the areas of governance and inclusive development.

ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE

By generating evaluative evidence, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) supports UNDP to achieve greater accountability and facilitates improved learning from experience. The IEO enhances UNDP's development effectiveness through its programmatic and thematic evaluations and contributes to organizational transparency.

ABOUT ICPEs

The IEO of UNDP conducts Independent Country Programme Evaluations (ICPEs) to assess UNDP's performance at the country level. These evaluations support the formulation of a new UNDP country programme strategy in facilitating and leveraging national efforts to advance inclusive and sustainable development.