COVID - 19 - The Building Forward Agenda in Guinea-Bissau

**Unsustainability, disrupted**

Global human development, the combined measure of the world’s education, health and income, which translates into the world’s living standards, is on course to decline for the first time since the measurements began in 1990. Many crises over the past 30 years have hit human development but, overall, progress was made year-on-year. COVID-19, with its impact on health, education, and income, threatens to reverse this trend.

The pandemic has laid bare the full extent of human vulnerability for the first time in a generation. But it has also changed the rules. This crisis has the potential to lift the financial, policy and political constraints that once kept the Sustainable Development Goals off track. Things may get worse before they get better, but all options for the future are back in play.

Guinea-Bissau has consistently ranked in the bottom ten of the human development index (HDI). In 2019, it went from position 177 to 178 in a pool of 189 countries. This ranking shows an even more worrying situation with IHDI's analysis of inequality, which reduces human development achievements through inequality in the distribution of health, education, and income within countries, and provides a more complete and multidimensional view of inequality (Gini's coefficient is 50.7). Income inequality in Guinea-Bissau is one of the highest in Africa. Especially in rural areas, the majority of Bissau-Guineans have no access to basic services including health, sustainable energy, clean water, sanitation and hygiene and, in summary, do not have adequate living standards. Lack of social safety nets during the health pandemic aggravates the situation of the most vulnerable.

Two in every three Bissau-Guinean citizens suffer from multidimensional poverty, more than half of these in a severe way. At least 68.4% of Bissau-Guineans live on less than US$1.90 a day (World Bank, 2010)[[1]](#footnote-2).

According to a household survey carried out by UNDP in all regions of the country, apart from the Bijagós Islands, between June and July 2020, 72% of households declared a decline in income, temporarily and even permanently loss of employment. About 72% of small businesses’ operations closed or decreased temporarily, and 12% closed permanently. The markets or stores for food or staple products were also affected, with prices increasing by around one third, decreasing the quantity of supply (15%) or stopping working (8.6%).

Since the beginning of the pandemic, about 61% declared the need to change their eating habits due to the lack of access to food, the high price or the lack of financial means in general. For this reason, some have chosen to consume cheaper food, reduce the amount or frequency of meals, or wait to sell the seeds for the next agricultural campaign.

The crisis risks aggravating gender equality. In the health sector, female health workers are more exposed to COVID-19 than men. In Guinea-Bissau, 59% of the overall health workforce is female. While 72% of nurses, midwives and community health workers are female, men fulfill 82% of administrative health work. Due to their higher representation in contact care duty, women face heightened risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Besides the many challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has imposed on every society around the globe, it has brought the opportunity and the urgency to understand and put to practice a digital transformation pathway also in the development sector. As shown in the sections below, the digital aspect crosscuts the 5 pillars of this COVID 2.0 guided intervention.

**Faster towards better: accelerating recovery for a more inclusive and sustainable Guinea-Bissau**

Within the broader UN COVID-19 response framework, **UNDP has been supporting Guinea-Bissau since the onset of this crisis to prepare, respond and recover in the face of COVID-19**. Drawing on its experience with other outbreaks such as HIV and Malaria, UNDP is supporting the WHO-led health response, including the procurement and supply of essential health products, strengthening crisis management and response, COVID waste management, digitization of health data, and addressing critical social and economic impacts.

The economic shocks triggered are already disrupting Bissau-Guinean economy, jobs and livelihoods. The 2020 cashew-nut campaign contributed to increased food insecurity. Within two years, since its peak in 2017, the farmgate price of raw cashew has dropped almost 60% to XOF 351/kg (US$ 0.58/kg) in 2019. Consequently, food insecurity rose from 20% of the population in rural areas in October 2017 to 34% around 368,000 people) in September 2019. In 2019, the export volume was fortunately high, above 2017 and 2018 levels. In 2020, however, despite a good production outlook, Guinea-Bissau looked at its lowest trade volume in years. Despite the announcement of a reference price of XOF 375/kg (US$ 0.62/kg), producers were selling at prices down to XOF 200/kg (US$ 0.33/kg), as a coping measure to address immediate food security needs.

COVID-19 compromised the 2020 cashew campaign. The shutdown of the two main export markets for cashews from Guinea-Bissau, India and Vietnam, put the cashew campaign under acute stress as demand for the nuts fell sharply. Like other international commodities, the price for raw cashew nuts dropped significantly. Despite some indication of a recovery, market uncertainty continues to be very high. The 2021 cashew campaign, even though not so much affected by COVID-19, continues to be affected by internal economic issues, including private sector strikes due to what has been considered unfair taxation.

Under normal conditions, remittance inflows help alleviate negative income shocks, but forecasts say otherwise. Reaching 9.4% of GDP in 2019, remittances have become ever more important for household income during the past decade. A study conducted by UNDP and IOM indicates that remittances operate counter-cyclically, increasing in times of greatest need for families, either in times of strong political instability or in years of low yields from the cashew harvest. However, migrant workers in diaspora communities are especially vulnerable to the loss of employment and wages during times of crises. The forecast points at a decrease of remittances to Sub-Saharan Africa by around 23%, impacting especially the vulnerable rural population.

A drop in revenue reduces the government’s ability to support the most vulnerable. Tax revenue in Guinea-Bissau is generally low – it has never reached 10% of GDP. In 2019, current government expenditure surpassed total revenue by 20%, leaving little space for fiscal maneuvers and causing delays in public salary payments and a fiscal deficit of 4.1%. In 2020, shop closures, a low performance of the cashew campaign, and less demand for imports are set to substantially further decrease government revenues, at a time when increased government spending for recovery is highly needed.

**The implications are vast.** COVID-19 threatens livelihoods with the risk of food insecurity being extremely high. The impact is being felt, too, in education, with many children in primary education now effectively out-of-school, and as schools close and health systems are stretched, women and girls are under pressure to take on more unpaid care work. The impact of COVID-19 has tilted the scales of gender inequality further in Guinea-Bissau, by highlighting the weakness of systems in place that fail to take into account the imbalance of the informal sector that is largely dominated by women and young girls. The gender effects of the pandemic have just shown how much there is a need to re-design and propose solutions that focus on women and young girls, while also educating society on gender issues and inequalities.

**UNDP’s offer of support to Guinea-Bissau at this time of crisis and uncertainty is evolving with the pandemic and reflects our technical leadership role in the UN’s socio-economic framework.** Though the gravity of the impact of COVID-19 on human development is still emerging, decision-makers have a once-in-a-generation job to do: to take choices that save lives today *and* tip society forward towards a tomorrow that is fair and just, as envisaged by the Sustainable Development Goals.

The social and economic role of the UN development system, therefore, is to create choices that can drive societal change. The shape of those tipping points -- whether they create access to universal healthcare or basic income, close the digital divide to protect education, offer solutions for countries burdened by debt and sudden stops in trade, commodity prices, tourism and remittances, pushback against misdirected financial subsidies and the climate crisis, or seek to end the social norms that perpetuate gender inequality – depends on national context and demand. Our driving principle is clear: getting back to the world of 2019 is not ambition; it is defeat. ‘Normal’ is not the objective. We must build forward better.

**An integrated response**

As the world grapples with the economic crisis, there is **urgency to connect health and humanitarian needs to social, economic and environmental wellbeing.**

Against this backdrop, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and the UNDP Administrator launched the *United Nations’ Framework for the Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19* to protect needs and rights, with a focus on the most vulnerable over five pillars:

1. Health first
2. Protecting people
3. Economic response and recovery
4. Macroeconomic response and multilateral collaboration
5. Social cohesion and community resilience

The Framework puts into practice the recent report of the Secretary-General *Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity*, providing a blueprint for the UN’s urgent socio-economic support to countries and societies in the face of COVID-19. **UNDP was designated the role of technical lead in this response**, working at the country level under the convening power of the Resident Coordinator and collaborating closely with the other members of the UN Country Team (UNCT).

**To these ends, UNDP is leveraging not only its mandate, but its experience, integrator role and capacity to innovate across all five pillars of the response.** As the technical lead on the socio-economic response, UNDP will draw on our Human Development Capital, including the 2020 *Human Development Report* with its timely focus on human action shaping the planet. It deals not only with the inequalities exacerbated by COVID-19 but also with climate change and biodiversity, for example. It is, therefore, important to foster collaboration across sectors and across UNDP units, in order to develop and implement a sound COVID 2.0 Offer.

**The offer**

The evolution of UNDP’s programme and policy offer on COVID-19 responds to the evolving nature of the pandemic and the corresponding response architecture of the United Nations.

The initial phase of UNDP’s emergency response to the COVID-19 crisis culminated with the launch of the COVID Global Policy and Programme Offer in mid-March 2020, built around three critical needs -- to help Guinea-Bissau to **Prepare, Respond and Recover** – and focused on three immediate priorities: **health systems support, multi-sectoral crisis management and socio-economic impact assessment and response**. To guarantee that these priorities are addressed and interconnect, UNDP Guinea-Bissau understands the importance of capacity-building in the various areas we seek to contribute to, hence it will be dealt with as a cross-cutting theme for all sections of this offer. This proposal will also bring UNDP’s newly adapted programmatic principle of “Digital by Default”, meaning that our work around this COVID 2.0 offer will focus on bringing new dynamics and technologies related to digital transformation.

An important innovative aspect related to this Offer is the involvement of the Accelerator Lab in the areas here highlighted. The Guinea-Bissau Accelerator Lab team has embarked on a journey to deliver its objectives despite the pandemic, albeit incorporating all the necessary measures and raising awareness where and when necessary. The COVID-19 2.0 Offer will benefit from the Accelerator Lab’s methodology in the exploring, experimenting, testing, and retesting of ways to respond and recover across the 5 pillars of the offer. With the Lab’s ability to run short cycles between two weeks to three months, testing out hypothesis before implementation of projects, will allow room for adapting and adjusting through design thinking and system mapping techniques.

In complementarity to the immediate priority areas, UNDP will strive to build forward better in Guinea-Bissau by addressing challenges related to social protection while working together with national and local stakeholders.

UNDP will develop this Offer 2.0 by collaborating and actively engaging with local and national stakeholders and partners. The interventions will be guided by behavioural science, nudge theory, collective learning processes as well as a human centered design.

***Creating a collaborative ecosystem for a long-lasting positive change***

The offer and its 5 pillars have been elaborated through a co-creation process in order to promote more inclusive processes, which fully consider the needs of all, including those at risk of exclusion or marginalization, and better solutions that address short term needs for long term impact.

In its implementation, the UNDP intends to adopt a series of methodologies that aim to tap into the latest approaches in innovation for development. By placing the people that we are trying to serve and all relevant actors at the center of the design, innovation and implementation process, we will be able through iterative, measurable and results driven processes support transformative processes. A **human centered design** will allow us to develop solutions that consider the multidimensional challenges people face and the interconnectedness of issues.

**Collective learning processes** will allow users to carry out joint analyses and through collective intelligence develop solutions that are tailored to local needs, while also developing innovation systems and policies that can shape future policy designs.

While trying to understand the biases that determine human behavior, UNDP will look at designing small investment high impact interventions to target these biases to influence the problematic behavior. Considering **behavioral science** and **nudge theory**, we will aim at changing people's behavior to bring about social change. Through the positive reinforcement and indirect suggestions, we will aim to develop interventions that influence the behavior and decision-making of groups or individuals to move towards transformative processes of positive change.

Communication is an important component of the behavior change process that is intended for improved response and recovery in the context of COVID-19.

To influence behavior, informing is not enough. Communication for change needs to be part of a comprehensive strategy to 1) understand the perceptions that inhibit the desired behavior change at the individual and community level, 2) craft messages tailored to each individual and context and disseminate them through appropriate channels; and 3) assess the impact.

Working with partners, UNDP will develop advocacy campaigns and mobilize the Bissau-Guineans towards an accelerated, but sustained recovery.

1. **Health First**

The health sector of Guinea-Bissau is severely underfunded, understaffed, and consequently the health outcomes are not good, even if compared to the neighboring countries. According to the findings of the WHO Global Health Security Index, the country has the second most fragile health system in the world after Somalia. Guinea-Bissau has one of the highest infections rates (HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis) in the ECOWAS region, and one of the highest out of pocket payments indices in sub-Saharan Africa. The present COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the structural vulnerability of the health system, and the recurring Ebola out-breaks in neighboring Guinea Conakry are constantly a source of concern.

**1.1 Universal Healthcare in Guinea-Bissau**

The pandemic has put great strain in the Bissau-Guinean already fragile health system. Global Fund, European Union and World Bank support, in partnership with UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, EMI and IMVF helped people living with HIV, TB, Malaria, pregnant women and children under 5 years old to access free health services, diagnostics, medication and products.

***What is UNDP going to do?***

Working with partners, the new UNDP Health Cluster will aim to develop policies and strategies and identify resources from non-traditional sources for the expansion of free medical services to ensure universal healthcare, especially to the most vulnerable.

***Why?***

* National Public Health Institute (INASA) reports
* WHO analysis of healthcare status
* International rankings of healthcare quality in compared perspective, in which Guinea-Bissau has the second worst healthcare system in the world.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

Prior to COVID-19, Guinea Bissau had the highest levels of out-of-pocket payments by the population in sub-Saharan Africa. Inequalities were exacerbated during COVID-19 crisis as vulnerable population did not have access to free healthcare outside of HIV, TB, malaria. Free maternal child health services were ceased with the conclusion of the EU PIMI2 program.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the government decided to waive the public health care fees from COVID-19 patients. This is a demonstration of acknowledgment of the importance of universal quality healthcare, and how it is directly linked to poverty and inequalities reduction.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the short term?***

* Support establishment of a legal framework to sustain universal healthcare provision;
* Create dialogue spaces for civil society participation and decision making, including health workers;
* Strengthening the national capacity in order to be more efficient and accessible to deliver quality services;
* Support setting of financial responsibilities among government and donors, including fiscal space exit strategies;
* Support creation of accountability mechanisms for hiring public civil servants, transparency in contracts with providers and budget management;
* Help develop a national universal healthcare strategy and plan including identification of resources from non-traditional sources (i.e. taxes on alcohol and tobacco).

***Why UNDP?***

UNDP is a major healthcare actor in Guinea Bissau. Since 2004 UNDP was the Principal Recipient of Global Fund grants to fight against Malaria, tuberculosis and HIV, and has consistently received A1 & A2 ratings. In 2015, UNDP worked with the Ministry of Health, WHO and UNICEF to ensure that all patients receive free malaria services, and in 2016 to ensure that malaria community health became operational.

Additionally, UNDP partners with academia and national institutions to build capacity, provide evidence and measure the impact of its interventions in Guinea-Bissau.

UNDP has a recognized broad network of stakeholders, at local, national and international levels. During the COVID-19 crisis, UNDP was one of the main institutions conducting procurement of medical supplies to the country for the World Bank and the Global Fund.

**1.2. e-Health and vaccine rollout digitalization**

Alleviate primary healthcare problems among rural communities through provision of technology-based health and medical services.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

UNDP intends to support strengthening of the national healthcare system by measuring health outcomes by offering technology-based health information systems for the entire population, in all the 150 health facilities by 2030. UNDP will continue to support the adoption of digitalized procedures related to COVID-19 and to vaccine rollout in the country.

***Why?***

* The healthcare system is very weak and lacks capacity to cover the whole population in terms of primary healthcare services
* HIV prevalence is high i.e. 1.8%. Only 20% of infected pregnant women receive antiretroviral coverage to prevent transmission to newborns. (WHO, 2010)
* Malaria kills; almost 5% of children under 5 years-old reported an infection. (WHO, 2010)

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* COVID-19 has revealed the weakness of the country's healthcare system. The response to the pandemic has mainly remained dependent on foreign aid while access to primary healthcare became extremely limited due to preventive measures including a nationwide lockdown.
* There are no health facilities in remote and far-flung areas of the country and populations depend on traditional healing and quacks for addressing health concerns.
* Telemedicine and telehealth services don’t exist in the country.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the short term?***

* In partnership with the COVID High Commission and the private sector (Innovalab), develop a COVID vaccine digitized system to track vaccination of the population and monitor the stocks of vaccines.
* Support establishment of a telemedicine center (infrastructure, equipment, staff)
* Trainingof medical practitioners on using technology for providing medical advice
* Awareness raising among remote communities about telemedicine services
* Monitoring, review and quality assurance of telehealth services
* With local partners, Implement Smart Facilities as a mechanism with the potential to transform not just health systems but local economies as well.

***Why UNDP?***

* UNDP is already implementing its flagship program on health for addressing malaria, tuberculosis and HIV issues.
* UNDP has been supporting the National Public Health Institute (INASA) with the operationalization of the University of Oslo developed DHIS2 (District Health Information System), for the collection and reporting of routine health data. When COVID struck, UNDP worked with INASA to include COVID into DHIS2.
* With Global Fund and World Bank REDISSE II funding, UNDP supported INASA to develop Real Time Monitoring of malaria data in 2018 and other health data in 2019, via 300 tablets. Since 2020, 100 tablets have been allocated to track COVID cases nation-wide.
* UNDP worked with the COVID High Commission and the private sector (Innovalab) to develop an app for secure, confidential and fraud proof COVID testing. Based upon this we plan to expand it’'s operationality to include COVID vaccination. UNDP has provided medical supplies, PPEs, waste management equipment for Guinea-Bissau’s response to COVID-19 pandemic.
* UNDP can build upon its existing programming to introduce telemedicine and telehealth services in the country that will minimize the burden on the national healthcare system; it will enhance access to health services for the rural and remote population.
1. **Protecting People**

The low productivity of the Bissau-Guinean economy and its heavy reliance on development aid prevent the State from being adequately present in all the territory and providing quality services to its citizens, both in urban and rural areas. Its lack of capacity to promote the private sector and add value to its natural resources, at the same time that it maintains a public administration force that is inefficient and poorly paid, have engendered all kinds of evils in the administration: corruption, mediocre performance, instability, high staff mobility. At the end, services are not properly rendered to citizens.

**2.1 Bridging the gap between the government and the citizens it serves**

Bringing the government closer to its citizens through open, accountable and transparent institutions.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

We intend to improve how citizens perceive the transparency and accountability of the government and this should be reflected in an improvement of Guinea-Bissau in the Mo Ibrahim Governance index as well as in the annual Transparency International rating. We want to support various governmental institutions in obtaining the capacity to collect and treat data they need to make informed decisions, at the same time making available to its citizens at least 50% of the data and information they produce for an effective public engagement and oversight. In line with the SDGs’ target, this should be achieved by 2030 at the latest.

***Why?***

* Citizens perceive the government is distant and unable to meet their needs. This has resulted in an overall lack of trust towards institutions and the break of social contract.
* In 2017, Guinea-Bissau was ranked 171 amongst 180 countries assessed on the Corruption Perception Index by the Transparency International. In 2019, the country scored only 18 points out of 100 on the 2019 Perceptions Corruption Index.
* National institutions have no access to adequate data to enable them to make informed decisions.
* Citizens have no access to key documents and data, such as the government’s programme or budget, nor have a clear information on the government’s spending for the COVID-19 response.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Civil Society Organizations have been extremely active in the COVID-19 response and have demonstrated on multiple instances their intention to play their role of watchdog and hold institutions accountable.
* Civil Society Organizations are trying to build a common agenda (*espaço de concertação*) to join forces to tackle issues jointly defined. These include corruption and lack of transparency and accountability of institutional stakeholders.
* Government representatives have repeatedly announced their intention to tackle corruption.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* Support innovative ideas to increase accountability mechanisms through CSOs and citizens’ oversight
* Create a platform for the government to share data and information and support open government strategies and initiatives, based on the principles of transparency and integrity
* Support a dialogue and feedback loop between institutions and citizens for citizens' engagement and deliberation
* Strengthen local governance mechanisms and support a long-term decentralization process
* Foster dialogue on corruption and transform social behaviors
* Build core government functions by strengthening institutional capacities to implement and monitor recovery plans and projects
* Tap into ITC tools and digital transformation to make institutions more responsive and accountable, and able to provide timely response to citizens’ needs.

***Why UNDP?***

* Corruption undermines human development. As the leading agency working for a sustainable human development, UNDP has a longstanding expertise in tackling corruption and in building responsive and accountable institutions at all levels of government in all regions of the world.
* The organization has a wide network of experts that can contribute to tackling the issue from a variety of perspectives and exploring new entry points.
* UNDP has recently developed a digital transformation strategy as a guiding framework to explore new technologies and modalities to improve institutions’ responsiveness while tapping into digitization and digital transformation.
* The organization has built strong partnerships with other leading and emerging actors in the topic, such us other UN Agencies (e.g. UNODC), Transparency International, Accountability Lab, Open Government Partnership, research centers as well as other important bilateral and multilateral institutions from all over the world.
* Recent study developed by UNDP Guinea-Bissau and UNU on e-governance and digital transformation will serve as a sound basis to fostering the development and implementation of digital public services.

**2.2 Support a nascent Social Protection system in Guinea-Bissau**

Social protection, including cash transfers, universal health coverage and access to other basic services, will be central to uprooting the inequalities that permeated societies before COVID-19, and that are starkly visible today. The drive for gender equality is leading a wave of change that must be supported to address the discrimination and bias that emanate from entrenched social norms, including around redistribution of unpaid care work, leadership, and the digital sphere.

1. Create sustainable livelihoods, resilient to shocks and vulnerability;
2. Development of social protection policies and strategies & business model for social protection.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

At least 5 national social protection policies and strategies are in place, 60% of vulnerable population is covered; by 2025

***Why?***

* UNDP, at the corporate level, is recommending COs to support national initiatives related to establishment and improvement of social protection schemes
* There is a 2019 National Social Protection Diagnosis report from UNICEF that could constitute the basis for UNDP work
* INSS should know who the formal workers are to transfer their pension scheme.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* The civil COVID-19 crisis demonstrated how social protection mechanisms are the best way to rapidly respond to emergencies and to avoid huge shocks among vulnerable population.
* Guinea-Bissau is one of the few countries in the world where almost no type of social protection scheme can be identified.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the short term?***

* Support creation of multi-sectoral approaches mechanisms, round tables and integrate relevant actors for each specific intervention;
* Support drafting of national strategies, coordinate and integrate different stakeholders;
* Support creation of regulatory frameworks, select data-collection/registry and delivery mechanisms;
* Budget definition (short-term partner/donor, long-term exit strategy) and create accountability mechanisms;
* Implement pilot programmes and measure impact.

***Why UNDP?***

* UNDP has included social protection in its mandate.
* Social protection is recognized as an important tool to create resilience to shocks and vulnerabilities, particularly in disaster and crises context. Also, targeting and delivering state-led public policies enhance governance, promoting peace and increasing social cohesion, while tackling poverty and creating livelihoods.
* All those areas are deeply connected to UNDP’s mandate and fully justifies the institutional involvement in the social protection sector, especially when thinking on UNDP’s integrator role among UN agencies

**2.3 e-Education**

e-education and technology-based distance learning are becoming increasingly privileged mechanisms for Increased literacy and employable skills. Although the topic of Education falls outside UNDP’s mandate, there is a growing need to collaborate and work together with other UN agencies in the country. Here, UNDP has the technical knowledge and skills to add value to the education sector through digital and technological means.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

Provide professional and higher education for a larger segment of the population through introduction of e-education and technology-based distance learning programmes by 2030.

***Why?***

* Adult literacy rate is very low, i.e. 46% only (World Bank, 2014).
* Female literacy rate is half of their male counterparts, i.e. 31% for women in comparison to 62% for men (World Bank, 2014)
* Access to education is limited particularly in remote and rural areas.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Education opportunities are limited in the country.
* There is a space for intervention focused on professional and higher education.
* No mechanism for e-education or distance learning programs exist in the country.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* Formulation of Guinea-Bissau's national policy for distance learning and e-education
* Development of e-learning infrastructure
* e-education programs, including digital curriculum
* Promote e-learning opportunities among communities, especially rural populations and youth
* curriculum developers and teachers

***Why UNDP?***

* Education and economy are interconnected. With e-education, UNDP will contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (1, 4, 5, 8).
* Technical knowledge on digital and innovative interventions
* Overall illiteracy in the country will be reduced
1. **Economic Response and Recovery**

This is the moment to conciliate people with planet, designing nature-based solutions as part of a new social safety net for the world, encouraging sustainable public-private partnerships such as in ecotourism and green transport systems, transforming agriculture from a carbon contributor to a carbon sink, and ensuring integrated thinking and action with the health sector to tackle the adverse consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On climate change and energy systems, new IRENA research sets out that the value of decarbonizing the global economy by 2050 would be eight times the cost, taking health and education benefits into account. Cumulative global GDP would grow by USD 98 trillion above business-as-usual between now and 2050 and renewable energy jobs would quadruple to 42 million.

Today, therefore, as authorities determine how to invest taxpayers’ money, they have a choice to: stimulate fossil fuel industries and other remnants of the way things were—short-term band-aids that will reinforce the collision course with nature—or invest in an inclusive green economy.

**3.1. Circular economy that fosters green jobs**

Promote creation of green jobs through circular economy, including improvement of waste management.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Support evidence-based circular economy strategy with focus on one or two potential sectors/regions to operationalize the strategy;
* Promote circular economy strategy as a tool for green job creation and better quality of life of citizens;
* Establish an enabling environment for waste management including recycling process.

***Why?***

* Waste management is an important issue in GNB and has an impact on health and on environment;
* Recycling is hardly existent and if it does, it relies on manual work;
* Waste management is an opportunity for potential revenue generation for local communities, private sector and central and local Government (as no tax on the waste exists).

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* The COVID 19 has hit the Guinea-Bissau economy very hard and threatened the livelihoods of many Bissau Guineans.
* This challenge constitutes an opportunity at the same time as people that lost their jobs can get a chance to have a new one.
* Besides, people might be willing to accept jobs they have not envisaged to take prior to the pandemic and unleash their creativity in job creation.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the short term?***

* Encourage the ban of plastics through legal means and the use of biodegradable substitutes to plastics
* Manage the existing waste through efficient collection, sorting, recycling and reuse practices.
* Resort to artificial intelligence and high tech combined with community participation
* In the short term, this can address job losses due to COVID 19 pandemic.

***Why UNDP?***

* The crosscut aspect of this proposed project is best answered by UNDP which is the sole UN agency with a mandate that falls under many SDGs at the same time.
* UNDP has the resources and the expertise to conduct the project.
* This project directly falls under UNDP CPD outcome “*economic growth is inclusive and sustainable, promoting poverty reduction, decent work, food security and the structural transformation of the economy*”.

**3.2 Contribute to a resilient and inclusive economic growth**

UNDP will focus on supporting the establishment of blue economy driven by resilient and inclusive green growth. UNDP will also build on ongoing initiatives that focus on entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial culture in Guinea-Bissau, drawing attention to youth and women.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Support the development of a national blue economy strategy
* Support the development of value chains using cluster development approach in blue/green economy priority sectors (e.g. fishery, agriculture, maritime transport and ecotourism)
* Support national and sectoral development policies and plans.
* Direct support to MSME guided by a SME needs-gap analysis that identifies the short-term and long-term needs. The support may include capacity development and digital platforms will be focused on integrated services and solutions.
* Strengthen UNDP institutional capacity on data collection and ensure evidence-based research, to inform policy and programming.
* Set up (2) evidence labs to identify data gaps/needs and develop a capacity transfer plan to build national capacity
* Leverage ideas, capacities and networks with the Accelerator Lab in the Guinea-Bissau country office and the regional UNDP Accelerator Lab in Dakar, Senegal.
* Launch and develop an Impact Hub in Guinea-Bissau, the purpose being to support a system for entrepreneurs.
* Support the creation of an enabling environment to private sector that attracts domestic and foreign investments through supporting a wide business and financial regulatory, policy and procedural frameworks and improve doing business indicators.
* Establish a collective national private sector dialogue platform which will serve as a space to exchange views on private sector development, identify bottlenecks and opportunities for MSMEs
* Support the creation of an entrepreneurship and innovation Ecosystem and linking it with subregional, regional and global networks,
* Set up a mentoring network that connects MSMEs in GB to established businesses to provide business solutions.
* Direct support to enhance entrepreneurship activities and support start-ups, particularly for women and youth, including capacity and skills development as well as an “UNDP Guinea-Bissau Innovation Challenge Fund” to be implemented to spur entrepreneurship
* Support the development of a comprehensive Financial Inclusion Strategy in partnership with UNCDF and other stakeholders to enhance access to, microfinance, micro-insurance schemes, financial literacy, mobile banking and other innovative digital solutions

***Why?***

* The Bissau-Guinean population is young and there is a great potential to build a resilient and inclusive economy through the lens of the SIDS characteristics of the country.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Since 2020, UNDP has been involved in supporting initiatives around entrepreneurship and innovation (e.g. Hack4SDGs and PALOP Innovation Journey) as well as the development of the RFF project and a consequent Blue Economy Strategy.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* UNDP intends to continue to support national partners and work alongside a nascent Bissau-Guinean private sector in identifying opportunities and sustainable economic initiatives that can benefit the country, while building on the knowledge provided by the study on MSMEs.

***Why UNDP?***

* Due to UNDP’s role in the socioeconomic response to COVID-19 and the organization’s expertise in resilient and economic growth initiatives, the organization is prepared to contribute to the recovery scenario post-pandemic.
1. **Macroeconomic response and multilateral collaboration**

The macroeconomic context of Guinea-Bissau is characterized by low levels of economic growth in recent years, with the country experiencing extremes between negative GDP growth of minus 1.7% in 2012 to a GDP growth of 4.6% in 2019[[2]](#footnote-3), amounting to around 1.35 billion US dollars[[3]](#footnote-4). The economic growth in Guinea-Bissau is highly erratic, fragile, narrow based and poorly diversified, with high dependency on agriculture, fisheries, and forestry, providing up to 47 percent of the GDP, with cashew nut as the main crop. The economic shock induced by COVID-19 is likely to reverse the economic growth rate, as the pandemic has affected exports (especially cashew nuts) and imports, with serious implications on poverty and food security in the country. Therefore, addressing macroeconomic implications is imperative to provide fiscal space for rebuilding forward better and stabilizing economic growth.

* 1. **Develop a governance framework of natural resources and ecosystems**

Facilitate sustainable utilization of natural resources and ecosystems on land and in the sea.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Promote environmental knowledge that also include livelihood activities, to bring social and economic benefits nationally as well as locally
* Support capacity building of public administrations at central and local levels to coordinate and implement participatory planning processes for sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystems
* Support civil society capacity building the contribute to the decision making on resources management
* Support the creation of a mechanism of resources management including the participation of the local and affected population
* Develop a legal framework to ensure that local people benefit from the employment and supply opportunities of resources operators, or strengthen their skills and experiences gained through their contacts with the operator firms
* Contribute to enable the country to utilize its SIDS characteristics

***Why?***

* Guinea Bissau has a unique opportunity to build a blue economy utilizing its SIDS characteristics and embark on a sustainable green path for development
* Several offshore oil and gas exploration are being realized and it is likely that the country will extract natural resources. It is important to ensure that this is done in a sustainable manner, underpinning sustainable economy growth and human development.
* However, the country has not embarked on a strategic reflection on the costs of/opportunities for and risks of pursuing a green path to development and exploring its SIDS potential.
* There is no legal framework to sustain a transparent comprehensive and sustainable resource management mechanism
* Recurrent political and institutional crises have hampered a coherent approach to realizing the untapped economic, social and environmental potentials.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Several programs, including the RFF 2.0 emphasize the value of sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystems to bring inclusive growth.
* COVID-19 has again showcased the risks associated with lack of diversification and the need to maximize domestic value-added, generate employment and drive a more diversified economic growth.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* Support the drafting/update national strategies, coordinate and integrate different stakeholders.
* Fund capacity building initiatives under programs such as the RFF 2.0 and others.
* Fund a study on the “costs of not going green”, hence strengthen evidence-based and hopefully the attention to the topic.

***Why UNDP?***

UNDP is one of the main international actors with a track record in facilitating sustainable development initiatives in Guinea Bissau. The topic links can build on completed efforts and will have synergies with activities that are ongoing or in the pipeline.

**4.2 Foster adoption of renewable energy**

UNDP’s support to the Government should focus on investing in clean energy, mainly solar energy, both in urban and in rural areas. This support should be coupled with investing on the introduction of digital transformation-technologies in the renewable energy sector.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* De-risk investment in energy access, through building up an enabling political, institutional and administrative environment (for RE and energy efficiency): e.g Establish a clear Rural Electrification Policy which encourages low cost, integrated planning for all options; analyze fossil fuel subsidies that serve as an impediment to development of safe, clean energy access alternatives
* Promote investment and sustainable business models in both solar mini-grids and low-carbon bioenergy technologies.
* Improve the livelihoods of marginalized communities living in isolated areas.

***Why?***

* The national electrification rate is estimated at 11.5%, with high disparities between urban and rural areas. The lack of access to energy in provincial and rural areas hinders the country's economic development, social stability and environmental sustainability
* 75% of the population is living in rural areas, while rural electrification is almost non-existent in Guinea-Bissau
* Lack of national policies, laws, programs and/or action plans targeting off-grid market development;
* The 75% of the population living in rural areas depend directly on natural resources to live. Wood is the dominant fuel, which is a threat for deforestation
* The country faces the interrelated challenges of access to energy, energy security and climate change

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* The country has a potential of renewable energy sources: biomass, hydroelectricity, solar and wind;
* The government plans to create regulations allowing private operators to become involved in rural electrification
* The technological supply chain for renewable energies in Guinea-Bissau is at a very nascent stage and there is room for improvement to strengthen private sector capacities and enhance green jobs in that field;

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* UNDP plans to make a contribution to this challenge, by investing in mini-grids and low-carbon bioenergy technologies.
* This contribution is closely related to not only fostering a sustainable development in the country, but also investing on the introduction of digital transformation-technologies in the renewable energy sector.
* UNDP will continue to seek partnerships with relevant institutions, national stakeholders and private sector actors to jointly design and develop initiatives that tap on the country’s natural potential towards the adoption of renewable energy.

***Why UNDP?***

* UNDP Nature, Climate and Energy offer, including strong technical support from global roster;
* UNDP is a knowledge broker and advocate for capacity building and as a partnership facilitator for SS-T cooperation.
* Existing of Accountability Mechanism, including UNDP Social and Environmental Standards

**4.3 Sustainable economic ecosystems: a way forward for Guinea-Bissau**

Sustainable economic growth through creation of thriving economic ecosystems. Related to this topic of sustainable economic ecosystem, UNDP has centered its Rapid Financing Facility project around Blue Economy. This aspect is of extreme relevance as Guinea-Bissau is classified as a Small Island Development State (SIDS). Through this project UNDP seeks to not only instill in the country a look to the country’s blue economy potential, but also to use it as a starting point for a sustainable and resilient socio-economic development.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Capacity-building of youth and local producers (focusing on women), for instance, in matters related to business management and sustainability.
* 50% of youth and women in Guinea-Bissau regions are trained in business management and sustainable economy practices. by 2030.
* Center sustainable development debates in the country around the SIDS potentialities of Guinea-Bissau.
* Seek entry points within UNDP’s Coastal and Natural Resources Valorisation Projects to further foster a sustainable economic development, while tapping on the country’s SIDS potential.

***Why?***

* The economy in Guinea-Bissau relies mainly on raw cashew export and cashew production, with almost no added value.
* Most people work in the informal sector, especially women, who carry both the house workload and the daily work.
* There is a need for economic diversification and capacity-building of the population, especially women and youth.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* The socioeconomic impact report of the COVID-19 indicated that there is a need and the possibility to accelerate economic diversification.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* Provide business management training to youth and women in the 8 regions of Guinea-Bissau
* Establish business accelerators and co-working spaces in the regions of Guinea-Bissau
* Provide technical advice to the government in the designing and establishment of policies that advocate for environmental sustainability
* Foster the development and institution of local and biodegradable technologies, especially when it comes to sanitation facilities
* Focus on capacity-building initiatives on biodegradable and green technologies of local communities and public officials

***Why UNDP?***

* UNDP is focused on the socioeconomic response related to the COVID-19 and it could be a way for UNDP to provide technical assistance to Guinea-Bissau in the related areas.
* UNDP has also developed in the past a project focused on local economic development that has set certain basis to build upon.
* Besides these aspects, by discussing sustainable economic ecosystems, UNDP is building on its expertise and potential on sustainable and economic development through the integration of environmental sustainability, innovation, entrepreneurship and economic growth.

**4.4 Digital Transformation**

The COVID-19 crisis has seen UNDP taking an unprecedent role in digital transformation, getting directly involved in the development and implementation of digital solutions for the organization itself and its partners. Actually, the emergence of the COVID-19 has shown the importance of new technologies and the ways it can bring us together in times of social distancing and general lockdowns.

Aligned with UNDP’s own Digital Strategy, UNDP Guinea-Bissau Country Office intends to improve not only its own work internally, through the usage of digital technologies, but also to enhance UNDP’s work with national partners and other relevant stakeholders. The importance of digital technologies and of further including them as a cross-section theme in our programmes serve the benefit of accelerating sustainable development and of overcoming core developmental challenges.

**4.4.1 Digital Transformation Capacity-Building**

As UNDP tries to introduce a new way of working and the adoption of technologies and dynamics related to Digital Transformation, there is a need to support the building of capacities related to new technologies and to digital transformation in the country. Digital Transformation goes beyond aspects of digitization and digitalization, as it seeks to introduce a new way of working and operating. Therefore, activities that focus on the training of both UNDP staff and local partners in related matters are of utmost importance, so as not to leave anyone behind and build forward better.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Widen access to capacity-building sessions and exercises focusing on digital transformation and the potential usage of new technologies in UNDP’s internal work and in the government’s work.

***Why?***

* COVID-19 has exacerbated the importance of the digital aspect across every aspect of our lives
* Opportunity to strengthen knowledge and capacities around digital transformation both within UNDP and within national partners
* Guarantee that Guinea-Bissau does not suffer from a continuous digital divide.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Due to COVID-19 and prolonged political crisis, professional and educational opportunities in the country are limited
* The digital aspect has been a part of the country’s daily life for the past year
* Studies and initiatives focusing on digital transformation are being developed and implemented in the country

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* Implement the Digital Readiness Assessment in Guinea-Bissau
* Establishment of the Digital National Dashboard, following the Digital Readiness Assessment
* Continue supporting national partners’ business continuity plan (BCP) efforts through: introduction of software packages and provision of computer hardware
* Engage universities and academic institutions in development of a digital curriculum
* Capacity building of government departments, local communities, with a particular focus on youth and women, as well as of UNDP staff.

***Why UNDP?***

* Education and economy are interconnected. With e-education, UNDP will contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (1, 4, 5, 8).
* E-Training on digital transformation and new technologies will help young men and women learn employable skills that will result in increased employment, increased income and reduced poverty.
* Put to practice and localize UNDP’s Digital Strategy in Guinea-Bissau
* In Guinea-Bissau, UNDP, through its Governance Unit, has been supporting e-governance studies and initiatives and has maintained and built upon contacts with relevant national stakeholders on digital public services

**4.4.2 Development of electronic based service provision**

COVID-19 has shed a light in challenges faced by several areas affecting our societal life. Perhaps one the main areas greatly affected by the pandemic was public service provision. It is imperative that governments, development partners and international agencies work together to guarantee continuous public service provision even during crisis time. A solution for this would be the digitalization of such services.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* UNDP is going to support the creation of online platforms for major public services allowing for example to request personal identification documents (passports, birth/death/criminal registry) online.
* Although digital-related activities are not traditionally in UNDP’s field of action and expertise, it is important to support national stakeholders in understanding new technologies and how they can benefit public service-delivery.

***Why?***

* Digitalization of public services was inexistent before COVID-19 and, as consequence, with the pandemic the country faced public services disruption because of lockdown and social distancing.
* Also, the lack of civil registry information makes it difficult for public service provision to thrive in the country.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Despite the difficulties faced by the country – which are many – the COVID-19 scenario provides the opportunity to develop from scratch systems and methodologies of work that help improve public service delivery, especially digitally.
* At this time, digital provision of services is fundamental, so that countries can continue to operate even during crisis times.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* UNDP intends to support the creation of means to leverage public policy across different sectors (justice, governance, social protection, child development, etc.) as well as the creation job opportunities and improvement of the digital ecosystem in the country.

***Why UNDP?***

* UNDP has a clear digital strategy and intends to develop and harness digital-related activities to achieve the SDGs.
* UNDP’s digital strategy intends to develop new “business models through innovative financing, partnership and delivery”.
* The digital service provision intends to bring efficiency to public service provision.

**4.5 Financial inclusion and fostering a fintech ecosystem** **through digital revolution**

The environment of financial institutions in Guinea-Bissau is underdeveloped. There are only 5 commercial banks providing limited conventional services that are costly, lack inclusiveness and fail to address market demand. The financial system is not aligned with the national economic development priorities. The World Bank’s Doing Business Index ranks Guinea-Bissau 174 out of 190 countries. It is estimated that only 2.7 percent of businesses in Guinea-Bissau have access to bank credit and financial services, as opposed to 20.7 percent of businesses in Sub-Saharan Africa as a whole[[4]](#footnote-5). Credit is often only granted to the country’s largest firms that operate on cashew farming and excludes most small businesses, and are short-term, thereby limiting opportunities for investment. The bank’s margins are high due to limited market size, high transactions costs and institutional instability. Furthermore, the microfinance sector is setback by regulatory and supervisory weaknesses, despite mechanisms introduced by the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO)[[5]](#footnote-6). Enhancing financial inclusion therefore will facilitate privates sector recovery from the impact of COVID-19 and will result in significant increase in opportunities for livelihood generation.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Support the creation of an enabling environment and encourage a startup ecosystem for improved access to finance, ease of doing business and financial inclusion for at least 50% population by 2030.

***Why?***

* Political volatility has been undermining institutions including the banking sector. The country has witnessed 4 coups d’états and 17 coup attempts since independence.
* The banking sector is limited to five private banks only, with major shares owned by foreign investors. Rural population has limited access to financial services.
* Only around 6 percent of adult Bissau-Guineans had deposits with a commercial bank in 2013, compared to around 13 percent in the UEMOA, and about 30 percent in fast growing African countries.
* Overhead costs in domestic Bissau-Guinean banks are higher than the continental average: latest available data shows that in 2011, banks’ overhead costs to total assets stood at 5.2% in sub-Saharan African versus 7.7% in Guinea-Bissau.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Due to COVID-19 lockdown and subsequent impact on the country’s economy, small and medium enterprises need access to finance to revive and sustain their businesses.
* Digital and contactless financial mechanisms have become more important for a post-COVID situation (i.e. new normal).
* Digital finance can boost the GDP through increased aggregate expenditures and access to innovative financial products and services for individuals and business.
* Digital finance can help increase the number of people with access to financial services in the country
* Digital finance can increase the overall volume of financial transactions that can help the government in generating increased tax revenue.
* Access to finance through innovative and convenient means will help reduce the informal economy.
* Digital finance will boost the e-commerce environment in the country resulting in increased trade and employment opportunities.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* Support development of a national framework digital finance and e-commerce
* Encourage investors and promote investment friendly policies
* Establish startup incubators and engage venture capital funds
* Foster the engagement of the diaspora for the development of fintech solutions and more
* Introduce new fintech startups such as e-wallets, Internet and mobile banking, e-commerce, payment gateways etc.
* Create awareness about use and benefits of the digital financial mechanisms
* Ensure financial inclusion through community mobilization

***Why UNDP?***

* Financial inclusion is essential for achievement of UNDP Guinea-Bissau’s CPD priority II and Output 2.2:
	+ CPD Priority II: “*Economic growth is inclusive and sustainable, promoting poverty reduction, decent work, food security, and the structural transformation of the economy”*
	+ CPD Output 2.2: “*Vulnerable populations – particularly young people and women –benefit from emerging economic opportunities and have access to inclusive financing and markets”*
* It will contribute to achievement of the SDGs (1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 16, 17)
1. **Social Cohesion and community resilience**

This area of work is more important than ever as authorities come under pressure to navigate crisis and uncertainty, deliver services, including through digital means, and enable access to information. Institutions are required to function in transparent, accountable and effective ways, ensure business continuity despite a context of limited infrastructures, weak capacities and continuous political uncertainty. The government and civil society will need to work together to ensure social cohesion, and promote an inclusive and peaceful society where women, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ and other people at risk of being marginalized can participate on an equal foot. The upholding of the rule of law and the promotion and protection of human rights, especially in a fragile context like Guinea-Bissau, where justice and security concerns are acute, remain corollary to ensure civil liberties at a time of limitations and a shrinking civic space.

UNDP will support government and civil society partners in enhancing systems that build social capital, deliver inclusive services, and open civic space to lay the foundations for the future – a new social contract fully reflective of people’s trust in institutions and closes the gap between people and the state.

**5.1 Strengthening the social capital and transforming power relations**

Strengthen social capital and transform the system of power relations through the identification and empowerment of change agents and the encouragement of behavioral change.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Extend the participation and involvement of stakeholders in social and political life,
* Shape the habits, norms, systems for voice and inclusion by 2030
* Develop and implement a digital tool, based on the SDG in Action and My World Campaign, to increase engagement between citizens and government

***Why?***

* The elite controls institutions and a large part of the population is excluded from the political, social and economic spheres
* Harmful and discriminatory habits, norms and social behaviors have a negative impact in all areas of societal life
* The COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated even further the divide between authorities and citizens, and it has highlighted even more the need for a systemic change to address longstanding and new development challenges

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Some civil society organizations are increasingly playing an active role and expressing their intention to support structural changes
* Political and non-political actors are voicing their concerns for the exclusion and discrimination against a part of the population
* Political and non-political actors are expressing concerns for corruption and other harmful practices that could impede a socioeconomic recovery post COVID-19

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the short term?***

* Encourage the behavioral change and relationships transformation through a variety of forms of encouragement and support
* Convene, catalyze and facilitate the sharing of ideas and agendas through multiple agents of change
* Coach (to develop leadership skills) and inspire
* Broker by connecting people and organizations
* Support the making of enabling rules and frameworks
* Support an independent Bissau-Guinean media
* Enhance the civic space

***Why UNDP?***

* At UNDP, we believe that the poor and excluded people are the primary agents of change. Poverty and injustice can be eradicated only when they are able to take charge of their lives and act to claim their rights.
* UNDP can help coalitions and networks of partners to come together to challenge systemic discrimination, exclusion and harmful practices.
* UNDP is the only UN mandated organization working on governance and has more than 50 years of experience in supporting good and democratic governance, encouraging new and emerging actors of change.

**5.2 Build a New Social Contract Based on the Rule of Law in Guinea-Bissau**

We intend to build a new social contract based on the Rule of Law (RoL); Support the rule of law sector reform by strengthening national capacities (including CSO) to effectively protect human rights and combat impunity. The approach would take place on three fronts: development of internal capacities to provide better services to the population; support the development of sectoral strategies and legal framework to better combat impunity; promotion of dialogue and engagement of civil society to create resilient RoL institutions in crisis situations.

***What UNDP is going to do?***

* Continue to work on its Rule of Law initiatives to reduce impunity and monitor Human Rights violations.
* In line with the SDGs’ target, this should be achieved by 2030 at the latest.

***Why?***

* The rule of law is not effective, justice and security institutions are perceived as being ineffective and biased to serve the interests of the mighty, access to justice remains a challenge, there is lack of transparency.
* The feeling of impunity is high among the population and there is a mistrust on the rule of law institutions.
* In addition, with the state of emergency, there are more revindications for human rights respect and greater attention to the issue, which can mobilize institutions and resources. It is urgent to initiate actions to address these issues and restore the rule of law.
* The security situation remained stable, but uncertain, especially given the visible role of the military in the political crisis.
* In the wake of the COVID-19 health emergency, there were reports of instances of excessive use of force by security forces to enforce lockdown measures, such as restrictions on movement and public gatherings.

***Why is Guinea-Bissau ready?***

* Guinea-Bissau has witnessed a long period of consecutives crises, which considerably hampered the functioning of the institutions particularly the rule of law.
* The outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed to curtail its spread, namely the State of Emergency, have added to the fragile socioeconomic conditions.
* There were reports of human rights violations by the security forces, arbitrary acts of detention, intimidation and threats for political reasons, including journalists.
* However, following the December 2019 presidential elections, and despite the contestations of the results, there was a change with a new President and the new appointed Government.
* Both have reiterated their willingness to combat corruption and drug trafficking.
* One of the learned lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic is that the social relations will no longer be the same and the populations have shown their ability to change and adapt to new context.
* This is a key moment to support the emergence of a new social contract based on the rule of law.

***How do we plan to make a significant contribution to this challenge in the near term?***

* Development of a new legal framework that is more sensitive to human right protection and gender equality;
* Increase the presence of the rule of law institution in all the territory, particularly in the rural areas;
* Strengthen the national capacity in order to be more efficient and accessible to deliver quality services;
* Support the engagement of the community to contribute to a more effective rule of law institutions;
* Combat corruption and increase the transparency of the rule of law institutions;
* Support the fight against drug trafficking and transnational organized crime;
* Enhance the confidence between the population and the RoL institutions (more security, more justice and effective human rights protection).

***Why UNDP?***

* One of the main UNDP´s mandates is to support the governance and rule of law.
* UNDP has a large experience in accompanying the state in building strong institutions capable of managing development processes, while expanding people's opportunity to participate in decision-making, including women, youth and marginalized groups.
* UNDP’s support for national and local institutions helps to build efficient and accountable public administrations, fight corruption, promote fair and accessible justice systems and ensure public services reach those who need them the most.
* UNDP contributes to strengthening a wide range of democratic institutions, including governments, parliaments, judicial institutions, and local authorities.
* UNDP is supporting the Government in its efforts to strengthen rule of law, by judicial reform in the fight against corruption, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime.
* With the withdrawal of the UNIOGBIS, UNDP has become the main partner in supporting the rule of law and has an opportunity to strengthen its position as a key player to mobilize the other donors and partners.
* For UNDP, rule of law and democracy are pillars of public policies focused on reducing poverty and inequality by promoting an environment based on democratic governance, law, justice, and peace.
1. **Partnerships and Resource Mobilization**

The pandemic has also been a catalyst to the development of new areas of work and new and out-of-the-box partnerships and cooperative relations. As UNDP understands not only the challenges but also the opportunities brought out by the COVID-19 in Guinea-Bissau, there has been an active work in trying to identify partners with whom we can co-design and build developmental solutions that to address the underlying challenges and tap the real potential of Guinea-Bissau through innovative and digital-first initiatives for the benefit of the country and its population. UNDP will foster new and innovative partnerships based on the following principles.

* Strengthening existing partnerships and engaging new development actors in the country
* Partnerships with all stakeholders including the government, other UN agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies, IFIs, foundations, national and international NGOs, media, academia, private sector, and civil society
* Constant investment in long-term partnerships locally and globally
* Focus on innovation and excellence while promoting the local entrepreneurial ecosystem
* Replicating the international best practices and proven models of COVID-19 management and response
* Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals
* Promotion of regional cooperation among West African and Lusophone countries
* Modernizing the systems and policies in the country to accelerate the developmental process

The total funds required to support the implementation of the UNDP 2.0 Offer is estimated at USD 112.6 million. As at mid-July 2021, government has committed USD X million of its own resources while partners have committed USD 62.05 million to support the implementation of the different pillars /areas of the Offer.

The following matrix highlights the funding requirement, resources mobilized and gap for the implementation of the COVID UNDP 2.0 Offer.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Priority/stream** | **Total Budget** **(USD)** | **Resources Mobilized (USD)** | **Funding Gap** **(USD)** |
| 1. Health First | 38,875,552 | 37,120,552 | 1,755,000 |
| 2. Protecting People | 15,930,000 | 2,000,000 | 13,930,000 |
| 3. Economic Response and Recovery | 21,800,000 | 13,780,000 | 8,020,000 |
| 4. Macroeconomic response and multilateral collaboration | 11,000,000 | 5,150,000 | 5,850,000 |
| 5. Social Cohesion and community resilience | 25,000,000 | 4,000,000 | 21,000,000 |
| TOTAL | **112,605,552** | **62,050,552** | **50,555,000** |

Source: UNDP

The amounts given in the matrix reflect the overall budget planned for each priority along with the amount of resources mobilized as of October 2021, and prevailing gap. UNDP CO has planned an overall budget of USD 112.6 million for implementation of the COVID Offer 2.0. As of October 2021, the office has been able to mobilize resources worth USD 62.05 million whereas existing gap in funding stands at USD 50.56 million.

**Multilateral and bilateral support**

Partners have repurposed existing programmes and developed new programmes to support government’s response to the impact of the COVID-19. UNDP CO has also adapted the ongoing programmes to meet the COVID-19 conditions. The country office is following up with a number of multilateral and bilateral partners to mobilize resources for implementation of the COVID-19 Offer 2.0. These partners include the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank, European Union, Islamic Development Bank (IDB), BADEA, Peacebuilding Fund, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and bilateral partners such as Japan, Canada and UK. UNDP is also identifying new and non-traditional partners to expand its network of partnerships and capacities in order to enhance the support offered to the people of Guinea-Bissau.

**Aid Environment - Bilateral and Multilateral partners** (section developed in the framework of the COVID response – data/analysis and format can be adapted based on the request of the CO)



In 2020, official development assistance (ODA) increased by 3.5% in real terms compared to 2019, as calculated by the new grant-equivalent measure, the highest increase ever recorded. Underpinned by an increase in COVID-19 related activities and bilateral loans, net bilateral ODA to Africa also increased 4.1% in real terms (to $39 billion)[[6]](#footnote-7).

Initial and partial estimates from an OECD survey suggest that Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members mobilized $12 billion for COVID-19 support to developing countries. While these figures are positive and demonstrate the resilience of the ODA during the crisis, the true value of funding commitments towards development co-operation for COVID-19 is difficult to determine.

  

Figure 2 Figure 3

Bilateral donors in 2020 maintained commitments to health at the expense of other sectors such as humanitarian assistance and governance and security; while IFIs increased commitments across the board with a significant focus on governance and security, social protection and education.

ODA levels therefore remained steady across individual bilateral donors in 2019 (see figure 2 and 3) – but the economic effects of the pandemic reported falls in aid from key OECD DAC members of over 40%.

**Funding Outlook for the coming years**

OECD governments are projecting a drop in national income and an increase in public spending within their own borders. Sustaining or increasing ODA in this context sends a strong signal of global solidarity and several DAC members indicated at last November’s 2020 DAC High-Level Meeting that they would protect or even increase their ODA budgets in 2021. However, the overall total DAC ODA volumes look likely to fall in 2021 following the UK’s announcement of a combined £10.1 billion ($12.2 billion) cut in its 2020/2021 budgets.

The UN therefore must balance two competing demands in 2021: responding to the impacts of COVID-19 and ensuring that resources continue to be invested in longer term development priorities. Budget reallocations by development agencies released billions to respond to new needs linked to COVID-19 but at the expense of other areas of development and humanitarian assistance.

The opportunity therefore presents itself for UNDP to be a thought leader on the COVID-19 Development response in Guinea Bissau and connecting the 2.0 Offer to the current trends on ODA.

Leveraging existing and upcoming strategic partnerships with key development actors would allow to steer development investments where these are most needed while ensuring complementarity and coherence across the response for the COVID-19 pandemic for a sustainable impact.

This is crucial considering that the bulk of development funding in Guinea-Bissau flows through multilateral, UN based pooled funds and bilateral aid programmes. Key partners in this respect would be the World Bank and the African Development Bank as well as the top donors to Bissau: the European Union, Portugal, Japan, the Global Fund and other UN based pooled funds

Several bilateral and multilateral donors (EU, World Bank, African Development Bank, Japan) have supported immediate health activities under the COVID-19 Response in Bissau by financing the UN System and/or through other implementing partners. A significant increase in Official Development Assistance (ODA) to address the breadth of recovery needs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic is expected considering the global trends and the patterns of key donors in Bissau, EU institutions (25.4%) and Japan (1.2%). Other key donors in the country such as Portugal and Spain, however, have cut their overall ODA to -10.6% and -1.8% respectively.

While it is difficult to analyze the pattern of each partner without a proper mapping exercise in the framework of the socio-economic response, the concretion of the SERP (coordinated by the RCO) and the formalization of the 2.0 Offer will allow the CO to carry out this consultation process in the search of pledged and solid commitments.

On another note, slow and insufficient response to the COVID-19 crisis by traditional donors represents an opportunity for emerging powers such as BRICS to play a bigger role in the international development assistance framework. BRICS countries, especially China and Russia, have already shown a readiness to provide leadership on global issues and provide beneficial and well-timed international development aid. They have already taken some bilateral measures aimed at support of other developing countries[[7]](#footnote-8).

However, a certain degree of repurposing of programmatic funding has been agreed with UN partners in social and economic sectors. This will also require additional efforts to mobilize or reallocate greater resources for the productive sectors including economic sectors which are key for long term recovery and have usually received relative low priority in the ODA.



Figure 1 and 2 from the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) illustrates the commitment of the main OECD DAC members in these sectors in Africa and Guinea-Bissau particularly.

**Foundations**

Foundation funders around the world support a wide variety of issues and geographical locations. Most large foundations are based in the United States, with a handful located in other countries including Europe or Middle East.

Of the top 10 foundations giving to the COVID response ana socioeconomic response, 9 are based in the US. (see:https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/OECD-DAC-survey-on-foundations-immediate-response-to-COVID19.pdf).

The US foundations (and, by extension, their counterparts in other countries) display the following characteristics:

- In general, they do not give high levels of funding over long periods of time – with the exception of The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, most foundations do not give $1 million+ grants, and tend to give for no more than 3 years at a time. Grants tend to hover in the $100,000 - $500,000 range per year at most, with many foundations regularly giving grants at a much smaller level.

- Foundation grants take anywhere from 12 months to 3 years to secure from the time of first contact

- Securing foundation grants often relies on developing strong relationships with key foundation staff and/or Board members.

- Many foundations are increasingly focused on Monitoring and Evaluation, and the impact of their investments

- Foundations are becoming increasingly interested in understanding and being able to demonstrate the impact of their grants, both for the benefit of their Boards and for improvement of the sector at large.

- Most foundations prefer to give restricted support to individual projects rather than general support for overall programs or organizations

- General support, if available at all, is usually reserved for long-standing grantees that have developed a strong track record in working with the foundation.

- Foundations are often operated by Boards that are reluctant to, or incapable of, moving quickly or responding to emerging trends.

- Most foundations take several years, and a multitude of internal studies, before changing giving patterns or preferences. While it is possible to influence the direction of their giving over time (especially in the case of family-run foundations, which often operate on the whims of a few family members), it often will take years before they will make a wholesale change in grantmaking preferences or focus areas, and they will do so with caution.

The survey developed by OECD on the philanthropic response to COVID[[8]](#footnote-9) indicated that, by end-April 2020, the foundations had already committed approximately USD 1 billion as an immediate response to the COVID-19 crisis toward developing countries. The link provides a comprehensive list of foundations, areas of support in the framework of the COVID response and geographic areas.

**Corporations/Private Sector**

As mentioned above, while ODA is on the decline with most established donors, and foundation giving is only showing moderate growth, corporate giving is showing a larger increase, particular on “innovative offers”.

Corporate donors, who give both directly and through corporate foundations, tend to support issues and organizations that operate in areas in which the company has a physical presence (a challenge in Bissau), and which are aligned with their mission and focus areas. Corporations tend to also select nonprofit partners that have a demonstrated track record of efficiency and effective results.

Corporate investment in international development tends to favor the area of economic growth and trade and therefore the UNDP 2.0 Offer could be a good opportunity if framed properly.

While corporate giving is continuing to expand, securing funding from these donors can often be challenging. As with foundations, developing relationships with corporate donors, (sometimes at local level, which remains a challenge in Bissau) is almost always a pre-requisite for receiving support, and can be time-consuming, often taking up to three years to realize funding from time of first contact. In addition, as with foundations, many corporate donors prefer to be directly involved in program design and require regular updates in implementation and monitoring.

Additionally, corporate donors are often quite prescriptive in their giving. As with bilateral and multilateral donors, corporations often have quite specific theories of change to which potential grantees must adhere to secure funding. Giving programs can be hyper-focused on one or two specific areas of intervention, and sometimes require inclusion of corporate staff as volunteers and/or contributors in the work. All of this can require a large investment of staff time and resources on the part of any potential grantee.

However, once a positive relationship is established with corporate staff, and areas of mutual interest are identified, corporations can often provide long-term (5 years+) support for an organization, with this support becoming increasingly flexible over time as the donor comes to trust the work of the organization and see results from its investments.

In addition to traditional corporate donors, there is a class of corporate and individual donors known as impact investors which are well-placed to help UNDP 2.0 Offer. Impact investors, often wealthy individuals or giving circles, seek to make socially impactful and responsible investments in “big ideas” to catalyze significant change in a particular sector while realizing financial gain. Impact investors, while sometimes difficult to identify, and often faced with high competition for their resources, would be a good match for the digitalization work stream (Digital by Default) due to their propensity to invest in innovative approaches to big problems. In addition, as impact investors generally make large, multi-million-dollar investments, they could have the capacity to make transformative gifts to UNDP, and would likely be willing to invest in the more risky or hard-to-fund aspects of the program’s work.

It is sometimes difficult to identify impact investors, as many of them prefer to keep a low profile or remain anonymous. In addition, there is quite a high level of competition for their attention. Impact investors require a skilled approach by someone who knows the impact investing world and “speaks their language”, and would require some relationship-building at the outset. However, these investors are generally quite quick to make funding decisions and, if they show an interest in the program, could make gifts virtually overnight.

In this regard, as previously highlighted, a collective national private sector dialogue platform will be a great opportunity not just to serve as a space to exchange views on public and private sector development but also to identify partners and shared opportunities in the different streams of work of the socio-economic framework.

**UNDP 2.0 Partnership building efforts. A coherent approach in the framework of the transition context and the COVID response**

UNDP 2.0 reflect a comprehensive and a coordinated approach by the UNDP CO working with international financial institutions (IFIs), bilateral donors, UN based pooled funds, private sector and civil society actors to provide a joint response framework aligned with government plans and priorities in the socio-economic response; not only with the inequalities exacerbated by COVID-19 but also with climate change, gender empowerment or biodiversity.

The recommendations captured in this section aim to provide a holistic approach to partnership-building aligned with the “UN Framework for the immediate social-economic response to COVID-19” and the Resource Mobilisation Strategy developed for the transition context and peacebuilding priorities.

The recommendations also include approaches in support of UNDP anchored on the 2030 Sustainable Development, existing recovery and resilience programming and framed on the “Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond”.

It is important that, following the aforementioned guidelines and frameworks, the UNDP arrives at a successful approach to partnership building and undertakes a coherent campaign in the development and implementation of the COVID 2.0 Offer.

With this in mind, and guided by the information gathered from different good practices and lessons learnt, it is proposed that UNDP clusters considers implementing the following recommendations[[9]](#footnote-10):

**Existing vs prospective partners:** The recommended strategy for resource mobilization for the UNDP 2.0 Offer is to initially focus on raising funds from existing contacts and high-priority prospects to, over time, increase revenue, allowing for additional investment in staff capacity to develop strong donor relationships and grants management.

**Expand current staffing** – UNDP should immediately add new staff/consultant positions dedicated to donor management aliened top the work streams. Without this staff capacity, a strong resource mobilization strategy cannot be undertaken, and it is highly unlikely that the 2.0 offer will meet its long-term fundraising targets.

**Continue to develop donor-focused materials** – While current boilerplate offer and report documents exist, many donors will require customized documents. UNDP should develop these as needed, with the aim of expanding its library of donor-focused materials over time on each of the different workstreams detailed in the aforementioned sections. In addition, certain donor classes, such as corporations and impact investors, require materials that contain language similar to that used within their industry.

In addition to the above, UNDP should develop and regularly update a simplified budget highlighting 2.0 priorities and gaps and a funding timeline that identifies how these priorities and gaps will be addressed and by which anticipated revenue sources. A sample draft of the funding timeline is attached but will need to be updated as funding is secured and partner relationships are developed.

By following this roadmap, and the RM Strategy and Action Plan developed for the CO in May 2021, the UNDP 2.0 Offer will be able to realize ever-increasing revenue streams, and will be able to achieve its goals and objectives.

1. Action Plan for implementation of Offer 2.0

Even though many the activities planned in Offer 2.0 pillars already have funding and are underway, it is also true that UNDP needs to mobilize resources for new activities. This way, many activities are expected to be implemented concomitantly with the new 2022-2026 CPD, to start in January 2022. For the five-year CPD, UNDP has planned a budget of over USD 150 M and it is evident that many activities planned in the CPD will also be part of the Offer 2.0.

In Table 3, we propose a general plan of action for implementation of the Offer 2.0.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities**  | **Timing** | **Resource Requirements** | **Responsible CO Unit/Person** | **Status** |
| **Partnership and Resources Mobilization** |
| Identification of relevant existing and new partners and funding streams | One month | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads | Pending |
| Strategic positioning for partnerships and resource mobilization based on existing capacities, and programme characteristics | Two months | Staff time Consultant costs for capacity building based on TNA | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads | Pending  |
| Networking and coordination with partners through bilateral virtual and presential meetings, social gatherings, emails, events, and information sharing | Two months | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads | Pending  |
| Draft and submission of concept notes and proposals to interested partners | Three months | Staff time Consultant cost may be required for writing specialized proposals | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads | Pending  |
| Negotiation and agreements | Three months | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads | Pending  |
| Kick off meetings for new grants / projects | After signing of each partnership agreement | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads | Pending  |
| Support in reporting and donor compliance | Throughout project implementation | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads + PMSU/Sirajo | Pending  |
| Lessons learnt workshops | At the end of each project / grant | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Gulfam +Clusters/Cluster heads | Pending |
| **Communication** |
| Produce one-two pagers for external audience | October | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Charlotte | Not started |
| Produce intro video | November | Ricci's consultancy | Comms & Partnership/ Charlotte/Gulfam/Ricci | Ongoing |
| Organize a Djumbai session to present it to staff | November | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/Charlotte | Not started |
| Organize a launch event for external audience, including media | November | Staff time, rental of space+comms materials+coffee break | Comms & Partnership/Charlotte | Not started |
| Develop social media campaign | November | Staff time | Comms & Partnership/ Rohey | Not started |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| **Monitoring and evaluation** |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| **Health First****1. Impact of COVID on Health-seeking behavior baseline study** |  March 2022 |  Consutancy |  Health and Social Protection Cluster | Not Started |
|  **Protecting People**1. Needs Assessment of the LGBT Communities in GNB |  March 2022 |  Consultancy |  Governance Cluster |  Not Started |
| **Economic Response and Recovery-** **1.** Assessment of COVID-19 impact on SME business and identify needs for recovery |   August 2021 |   Consultancy |   Communications & Partnerships |  Ongoing |
| **Macroeconomic response and multilateral collaboration****1. COVID19 Socio-economic impact Analysis for Guinea-Bissau.*** + - 1.
 |  Dec 2020 |  UN Guinea-Bissau |  UNDP |  Completed |
| Social Cohesion and community resilience1. Rapid evaluation of the of the socio-economic impact of COVID19: gaps and responses

  |  August 2020     August 2020  | Consultancy    Consultancy  | Comms and Partnerships   Comms & Partnerships  |  Completed      Completed  |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |
|  Baseline Setting Study to assess the impact of COVID19 on gender and inequalities |  Q2 2022 |  Consultancy |  DRR/P |  Not Started |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| **Digital Transformation** |   |   |   |   |
| Organize a discussion on COVID-19 and Digital Transformation during the Digital Transformation week | October/November | Staff time | Digital Transformation Focal Point | Not started |
| Produce a 5-page guideline highlighting the opportunities of digital solutions to dealing with COVID-19 aftermath | November | Staff time | Digital Transformation Focal Point | Not started |
| Organize a meeting with DIAL to explore partnership opportunities in terms of digital solutions for the SDGs | October/November | Staff time | Digital Transformation Focal Points/Partnerships Specialist | Not started |
| Engage with the BMW Foundation to draft an initiative focused on Responsible Leaders & Digital Skills | December-onwards | Staff time | Digital Transformation Focal Point/Head of Solutions Mapping | Started (next meeting on October 12th |

1. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.DDAY?locations=GW> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [[1]](https://euc-word-edit.officeapps.live.com/we/wordeditorframe.aspx?ui=en%2DUS&rs=en%2DUS&actnavid=eyJjIjo4NTEzMzc2NDJ9&wopisrc=https%3A%2F%2Fundp-my.sharepoint.com%2Fpersonal%2Fmaria_j_torres_undp_org%2F_vti_bin%2Fwopi.ashx%2Ffiles%2F39c5ebc7f2fe4bcc8d98d6b849449d1d&wdlor=c01E5F26B%2dF0AE%2d4B44%2dB5DB%2dDF58BF69AB0E&wdenableroaming=1&mscc=1&wdodb=1&hid=C95FDE9F-F0A2-3000-272C-426B6457F6D2&wdorigin=Other&jsapi=1&jsapiver=v1&newsession=1&corrid=e6696505-1caa-b947-f216-29d55608b32d&usid=e6696505-1caa-b947-f216-29d55608b32d&sftc=1&mtf=1&sfp=1&instantedit=1&wopicomplete=1&wdredirectionreason=Unified_SingleFlush&preseededsessionkey=f5529e18-70a4-4f93-6a15-6d4eaaf931e2&preseededwacsessionid=e6696505-1caa-b947-f216-29d55608b32d&rct=Medium&ctp=LeastProtected#_ftnref1) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?locations=GW> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. [[2]](https://euc-word-edit.officeapps.live.com/we/wordeditorframe.aspx?ui=en%2DUS&rs=en%2DUS&actnavid=eyJjIjo4NTEzMzc2NDJ9&wopisrc=https%3A%2F%2Fundp-my.sharepoint.com%2Fpersonal%2Fmaria_j_torres_undp_org%2F_vti_bin%2Fwopi.ashx%2Ffiles%2F39c5ebc7f2fe4bcc8d98d6b849449d1d&wdlor=c01E5F26B%2dF0AE%2d4B44%2dB5DB%2dDF58BF69AB0E&wdenableroaming=1&mscc=1&wdodb=1&hid=C95FDE9F-F0A2-3000-272C-426B6457F6D2&wdorigin=Other&jsapi=1&jsapiver=v1&newsession=1&corrid=e6696505-1caa-b947-f216-29d55608b32d&usid=e6696505-1caa-b947-f216-29d55608b32d&sftc=1&mtf=1&sfp=1&instantedit=1&wopicomplete=1&wdredirectionreason=Unified_SingleFlush&preseededsessionkey=f5529e18-70a4-4f93-6a15-6d4eaaf931e2&preseededwacsessionid=e6696505-1caa-b947-f216-29d55608b32d&rct=Medium&ctp=LeastProtected#_ftnref2)<https://databank.worldbank.org/views/reports/reportwidget.aspx?Report_Name=CountryProfile&Id=b450fd57&tbar=y&dd=y&inf=n&zm=n&country=GNB> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. <https://www.borgenmagazine.com/credit-access-in-guinea-bissau/> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. <http://www.unesco.org/education/edurights/media/docs/93b0c189718eeb2e921036d4045f5fe0d2a1def0.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Data update to the 2021 Financing for Sustainable Development Report, following the 13 April release of 2020 ODA data [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. Aligned to the UNCT RM strategy - Context based analysis [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/OECD-DAC-survey-on-foundations-immediate-response-to-COVID19.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. TBD [↑](#footnote-ref-10)