



UNITED NATIONS

JAMAICA, BAHAMAS, BERMUDA
TURKS AND CAICOS & CAYMAN ISLANDS



Annual Results Report 2024



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Augmented Reality

Annual Results Report 2024

In the 2024 report, we spotlight select murals from Bermuda, The Bahamas, and Jamaica—each a bold expression of the islands' warmth, unity, and resilient spirit. These works serve not only as windows into the cultural soul of the region but also as dynamic platforms for messages of justice, climate action, and sustainable progress. Like the free, artistic sweep of a paintbrush, each mural captures fleeting moments of passion and possibility—a reminder that in the Caribbean, art is both activism and a celebration of life.

Dynamic brushstrokes weave throughout these pages, reflecting the region's energy and creativity—an unrestrained celebration of community and resilience. Discover more about these powerful works and the brilliant artists behind them by scanning the QR code.

Unless otherwise stated, all photographs were captured by agencies, funds, and programmes of the UN Communications Group in Jamaica and The Bahamas.

Front cover photo: Tre Packard, Pangeaseed

Front cover mural: "We Dance Between Land and Sea" (2022) by Taj Francis, is part of a project in The Bahamas that tackles the decline of mangrove environments—vital habitats and natural shoreline protectors—by artfully blending mangrove imagery with the festive spirit of Jonkanoo Festival costumes.

Back cover mural: "Children" (2019) by Deon Simone and Jeana Lindo.



Scan here for more
information on the murals
used in this report

[Click Here](#)





Photo: Lennox Coke’s “Homage to Visual Icons” is a vibrant tribute to Jamaican cultural heritage, capturing the dynamic spirit of traditional dance through bold, rhythmic imagery. The mural celebrates the enduring legacy of folk art and the soulful expressions of movement that define Jamaica.

Table of Contents

Foreword	1
Key Development Partners	3
Chapter 1: Key Developments In The Country Context	5
2.1 Overview of the Cooperation Framework Results	15
2.2 Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs	17
Priority 1: An Inclusive, Equitable, and Prosperous Caribbean	17
Priority 2: A Healthy Caribbean	23
Priority 3: A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean	29
Priority 4: A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean	35
2.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda	39
2.4 Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency	41
2.5 Evaluation & Lessons Learned	43
2.6 Financial Overview	49
3. UNCT key focus for the next year (2025)	49
Annex I: Acronyms	55
Annex II: Key Partners	56
Annex III: 2024 Accomplishments at a Glance	58



Foreword

Dennis Zulu

United Nations Resident Coordinator
Jamaica, Bahamas, Bermuda, Turks and Caicos &
Cayman Islands

Dear Readers,

As we present the United Nations Jamaica MCO Annual Results Report for 2024, I am filled with a sense of pride and profound purpose. This report reflects the collective dedication and unwavering commitment of the entire UN Country Team (UNCT) to supporting true sustainable development, leaving no one behind.

This year, the islands covered by our multi-country office, like many Small Island Developing States (SIDS), faced a complex array of challenges, from the ever-present threat of climate-induced disasters to the persistent inequalities that hinder inclusive progress. In the face of these challenges, the UNCT has responded with agility, innovation, and a strengthened spirit of partnership.

One of our most significant successes this year was the rapid and effective mobilization of our emergency response strategy in the wake of Hurricane Beryl. This event served as a powerful testament to our “Delivering as One” modality, demonstrating our ability to swiftly channel resources and coordinate efforts to support the Government and affected communities. The leadership and coordination provided by the Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO) were instrumental in ensuring a cohesive and impactful response, highlighting the critical importance of preparedness and robust partnerships in disaster risk reduction and resilience (DRRR).

The signature Partnership Forum in Jamaica and The Bahamas further solidified our commitment to collaborative action and resource mobilization.

At the heart of our work lies a deep commitment to human rights and the principle of leaving no one behind (LNOB). We have prioritized meaningful youth engagement through the inaugural Youth Advisory Group (YAG), ensuring that young people’s voices are heard and their contributions valued. The opening of a regional human rights office has played a pivotal role in positioning the UN for improved support to member states in strengthening national human rights mechanisms and priorities. Furthermore, we have expanded our partnerships around disability inclusion through enhanced partnerships with civil society and government, a significant step towards playing our part in building a more inclusive and equitable society.

Our support to the people and governments we serve has been multifaceted and strategic. Our engagement in Jamaica’s SDG midterm review process marked a significant milestone, with the UN actively shaping the national development agenda.

Building on the momentum of the SDG Midterm Review, we continued to support Jamaica’s progress towards the 2030 Agenda. Within this vein, we are providing strategic and technical support to The Bahamas on the completion of its Voluntary National Review (VNR) of SDG progress.

In 2024, we accepted the SG’s common agenda to look ahead. This motivated the UNCT to actively lead in consultations on the Summit of the Future, contributed to a ‘Future of Work’ study, and facilitated

youth consultations on the Declaration on Future Generations. Our digital transformation SDG Fund Joint Programme is driving innovation and ensuring that Jamaica is well-positioned to leverage digital technologies for sustainable development.

The Build Back Equal joint programme in Bermuda and The Bahamas, and its focus on planning for sustainability beyond the programme’s lifespan, exemplifies our commitment to long-term impact.

In The Bahamas, the signing of a Declaration of Intent (DOI) with the University of The Bahamas strengthened our collaboration with the academic institution; underscoring the importance of knowledge sharing and capacity building.

As we look beyond the 4th SIDS Conference in Antigua, we are committed to amplifying the voices of SIDS and advocating for their unique needs and vulnerabilities. Yes, we have made significant strides, but we recognize that much work remains. We must continue to work together, leveraging our collective expertise and resources, to build a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable region.

On behalf of the UN Country Team, I extend my sincere gratitude to all our partners, governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, and our UN colleagues for their unwavering commitment and collaboration. Together, we are making a tangible difference in the lives of the people where we serve.



Photo: Support to the emergency response and efforts after Hurricane Beryl was a critical part of the UN’s partnership with Jamaica. Affected families received cash transfers, as well as care and dignity packages

Key Development Partners

The UN Country Team

The UNCT structure aligns with the needs of Jamaica and The Bahamas, as agreed with both governments to implement the MSDCF. The team includes agencies, funds and programmes that are resident and non resident.

Present in Jamaica



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



IOM
THE UNITED NATIONS
MIGRATION AGENCY



UNAIDS



UNDP



UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD



UNFPA



unicef
for every child



UN
environment
programme



unesco
United Nations
Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization



UN
WOMEN



WFP



PAHO
Pan American
Health Organization
World Health Organization
Regional Office for the Americas

Present in The Bahamas



PAHO
Pan American
Health Organization
World Health Organization
Regional Office for the Americas



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



IOM
THE UNITED NATIONS
MIGRATION AGENCY

Non-Resident



International
Trade
Centre



ILO



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



UNOPS



UNLIREC



OCHA
United Nations Office
for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs



UN
VOLUNTEERS



Implementing Partners

The achievements outlined in this Annual Results Report reflect the dedication and collective efforts of our valued implementing partners across government ministries, agencies, and community-based organizations. Their unchanging commitment, expertise, and collaborative spirit have been instrumental in advancing shared objectives and creating meaningful, sustainable change. The UN remains deeply appreciative of these partnerships, recognizing that each organization's contribution is essential to the transformative progress documented in this report.



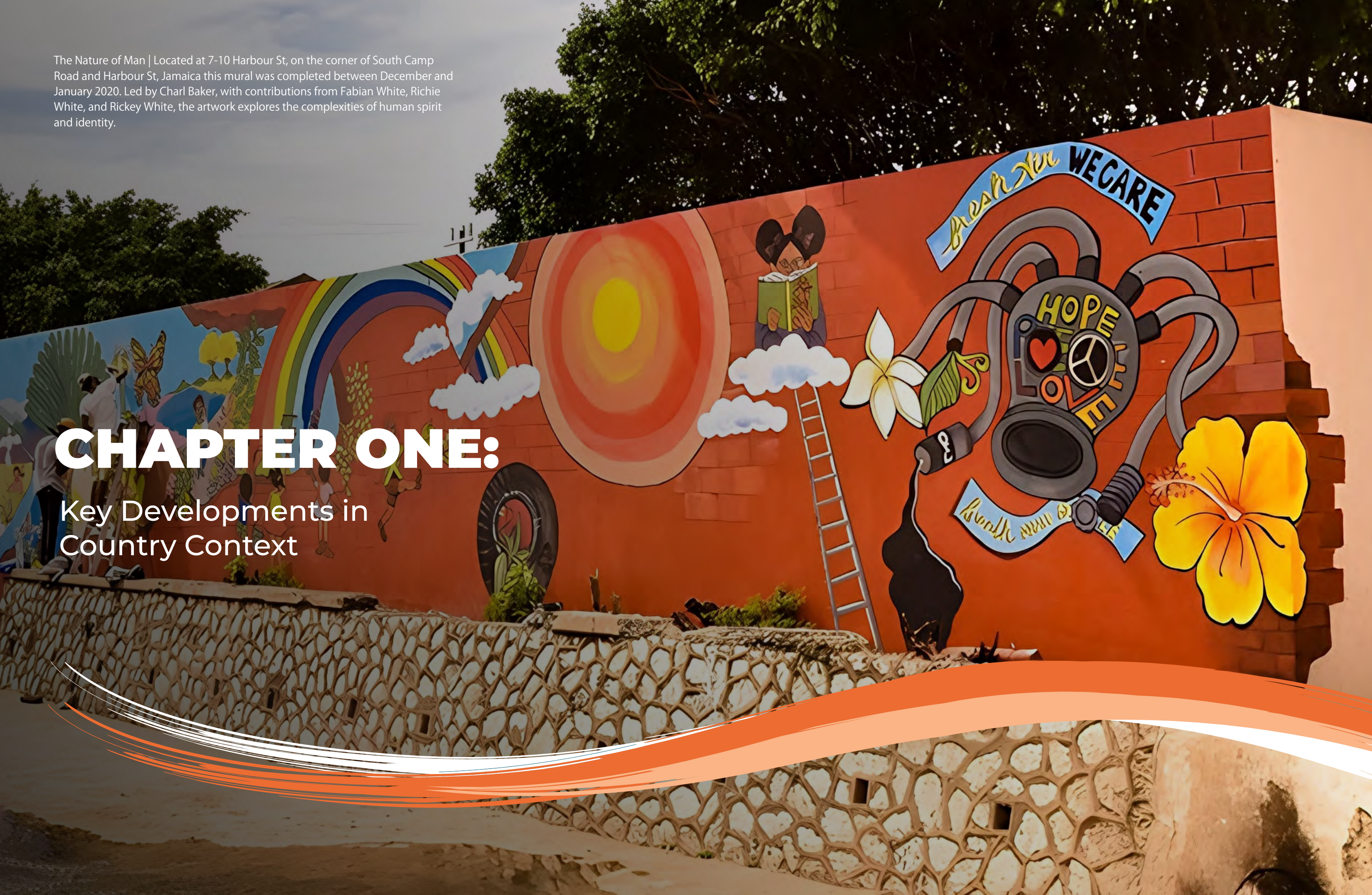
Partner Type	Percentage
Government Ministries	50%
Community-based organizations	19%
Media, Private Sector & Other Organizations	8%
Government Agencies & Other Institutions	19%
Municipal & Regional Authorities	3%

A comprehensive list of implementing partners and contributing partners can be found in the annex of this report.

The Nature of Man | Located at 7-10 Harbour St, on the corner of South Camp Road and Harbour St, Jamaica this mural was completed between December and January 2020. Led by Charl Baker, with contributions from Fabian White, Richie White, and Rickey White, the artwork explores the complexities of human spirit and identity.

CHAPTER ONE:

Key Developments in
Country Context



CHAPTER 1.1

The Bahamas



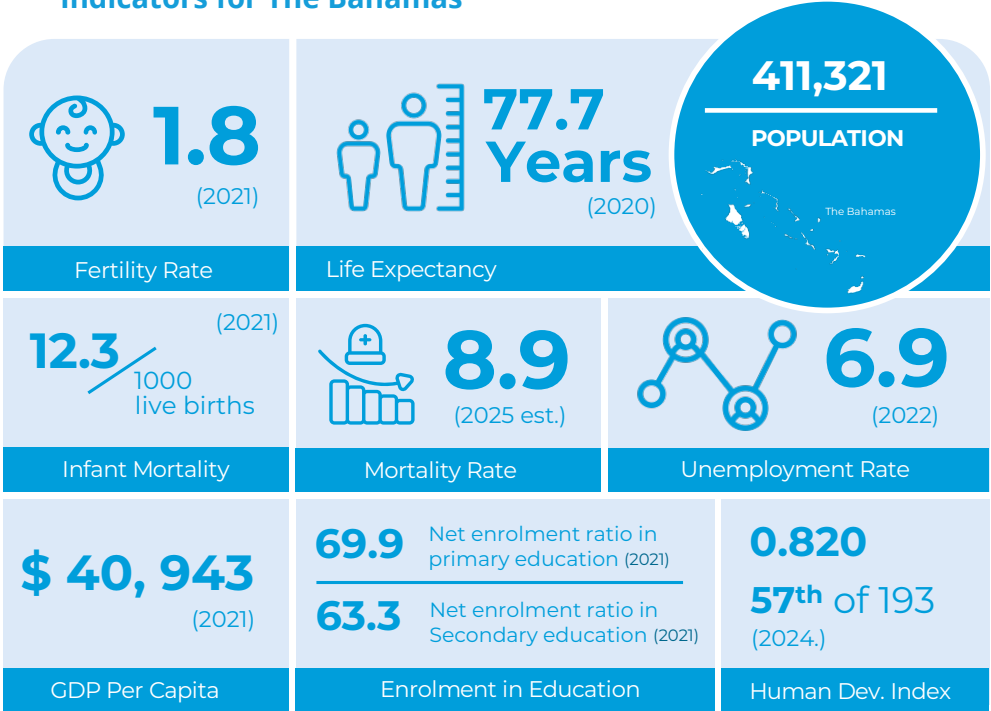
Economic Progress, Relief for Families

In 2024, The Bahamas witnessed significant economic recovery, highlighted by the lowest unemployment rate (8.7%) in sixteen years. This encouraging news reflects the lives of thousands of Bahamians who found renewed stability and opportunities. The government’s fiscal reforms have also paid off, narrowing the deficit from 3.8% to 1.3% of GDP, and reducing public debt—translating directly into greater resources for community development. Recognizing ongoing pressures from rising living costs, the government took decisive action, announcing a 50% reduction in VAT on essential food items in April 2025, easing financial strain for countless families.

Courage in Climate Advocacy

As climate threats intensify, The Bahamas boldly stepped onto the global stage, submitting a plea to the International Court of Justice to hold nations accountable for climate-related damage. Amid escalating concerns like sea-level rise, severe storms, and the degradation of coral reefs, the government passionately advocated for greater international responsibility. Additionally, The Bahamas secured over \$120 million through a groundbreaking debt swap supported by

Key Demographic and Socioeconomic Indicators for The Bahamas



“Enhanced collaboration with the UN continues to provide significant benefits to countries like The Bahamas, strengthening economic empowerment, disaster resilience, and human rights initiatives. As countries work toward achieving the SDGs, sustained engagement and strategic partnerships remain essential to driving lasting progress.”

Ria C. Butler
Entrepreneur & Advocate

The Bahamas SDG Dashboard | 2024



Dashboards: ● SDG achieved ● Challenges remain ● Significant challenges remain ● Major challenges remain ● Information unavailable
Trends: ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ↗ Moderately improving → Stagnating ↓ Decreasing ● Trend information unavailable

Standard Chartered bank and the private sector, funding essential ocean and mangrove conservation—ensuring that future generations inherit a healthier planet.

Urgent Social Challenges

Despite economic and environmental strides, significant social issues persist. The first-ever national survey on gender-based violence uncovered a distressing reality: one in four women experienced violence, yet only 19% reported incidents to authorities. Equally alarming was the stark 87% increase in child abuse cases in just one year, signaling a profound need for immediate action and strengthened protective systems.

Human rights advocates also expressed concern about the lack of progress in the parliamentary human rights committee established in 2023. With delayed appointments and stalled operations, activists warn that failure to address these challenges urgently may have severe long-term consequences. This critical situation underscores the necessity for strong partnerships, inviting increased support from the UN Country Team and development partners to bolster national responses effectively.

Strengthening Human Rights and Governance

Amid these challenges, The Bahamas celebrated the establishment of the OHCHR Regional Office for CARICOM in October 2024. This new presence promises dedicated regional and national support, significantly boosting efforts to protect human rights and reinforce governance structures. Concurrently, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) re-established operations, quickly becoming instrumental in assisting immigration and emergency officials, and providing vital training to media personnel—strengthening national capacities to handle migration challenges and crises more effectively.

In a year marked by both triumphs and trials, The Bahamas stands committed, resiliently building towards a safer, more equitable, and sustainable future for all its people.



Video

**UN Joint SDG Fund
Building Back Equal
Programme for Innovative
Financing in The Bahamas**



Scan here to play



Photo: Rising sea levels, intensified storms, and coastal erosion exacerbate the vulnerabilities of small island developing states like Bermuda.

Captured by Marg Johnson

CHAPTER 1.2

Bermuda



In 2024, Bermuda experienced a promising economic recovery, yet families continue to face difficulties as employment rates remain below pre-pandemic levels. Rising costs deepened the challenge, especially for households dealing with soaring fuel prices (up 6.4%) and food expenses (up 4.6%) compared to mid-2023. Recognizing this, the government announced significant tax concessions and corporate income tax reforms planned for 2025, projecting an \$84 million surplus intended to alleviate the financial pressures faced by Bermudian families.

With growing concerns over crime, especially gun and knife violence, Bermuda launched the innovative Violence Reduction Strategy (VRS). Instead of aiming for immediate eradication, the strategy targets sustained reductions in violent behaviors, offering safer communities and brighter futures, particularly for youth.

In a historic moment, Bermuda became the first British Overseas Territory to adopt the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This landmark step reaffirms the nation's commitment to inclusivity, ensuring greater rights and protections for citizens with disabilities, thereby enhancing their participation in society.

Climate impacts hit home when Category 1 Hurricane Ernesto struck Bermuda's shores. Prompting urgent action, the country finalized the comprehensive report "Bermuda and Climate Change," outlining clear solutions to protect communities and infrastructure from the intensifying threats of sea-level rise and severe storms, ensuring resilience for generations to come.

Key Demographic and Socioeconomic Indicators for Bermuda

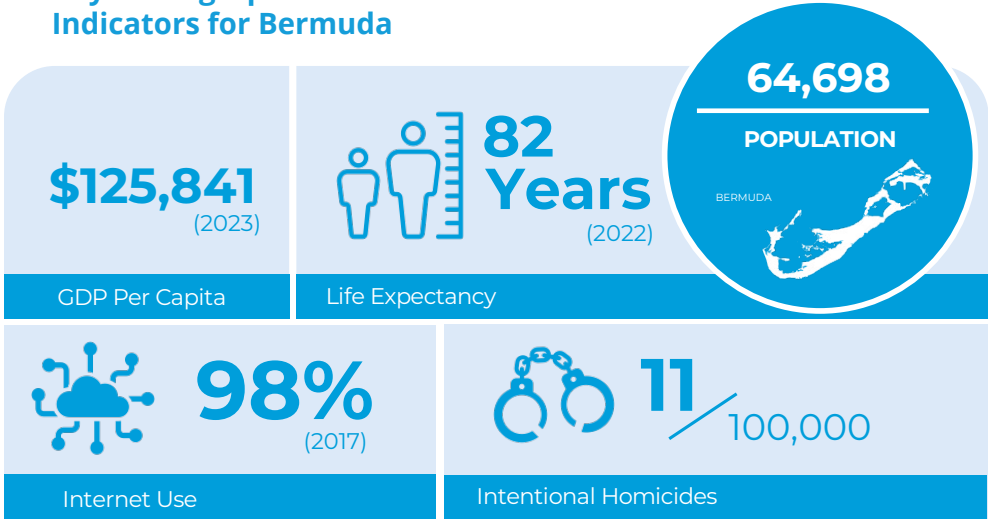


Photo: "Blessed to be in Bermuda" by André Trenier, featuring a poem by Andra Simons and the portrait of Denise Bowens-Tucker.

Commissioned as part of the City of Hamilton's VIVID: Public Art Programme, this mural is a vibrant tribute to Bermudian identity and culture. Photograph by Meredith Andrews

Jamaica



People First: Lives Behind the Numbers

In 2024, Jamaica, home to 2.8 million resilient individuals, continued to face significant challenges despite notable achievements. Although life expectancy climbed slightly to 70.6 years—higher for women (72.7 years) than men (68.5 years)—poverty still impacts nearly one-fifth of Jamaicans, highlighting urgent needs for inclusive growth. Despite an average income of \$6,200 per capita, over 16% live below the national poverty line, underscoring inequalities deepened by the pandemic.

Employment: Progress and Promise

Unemployment rates have notably improved, reaching historic lows at 3.6%, with youth unemployment falling significantly. Young Jamaicans, however, still grapple with uncertainty, with unemployment among young women (11.8%) higher than their male counterparts (9.1%). These improvements reflect the aspirations of youth seeking stability, opportunities, and empowerment in their homeland.

Key Demographic and Socioeconomic Indicators for Jamaica

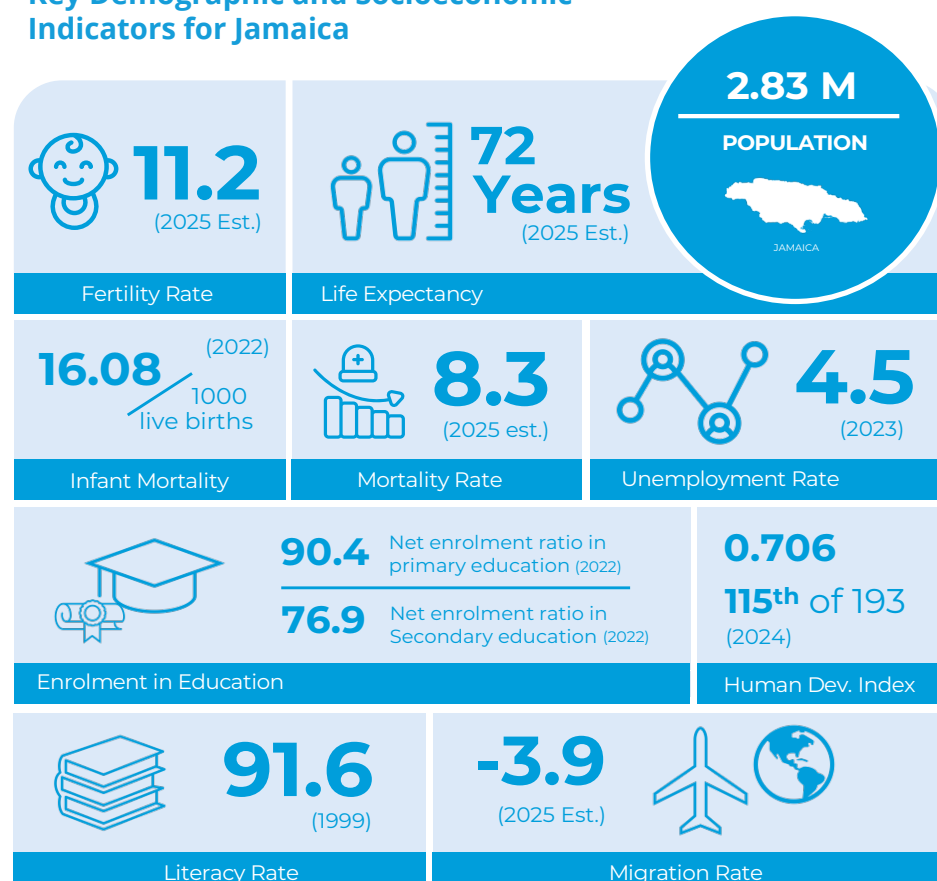


Photo: UN investments in local, environmentally responsible agriculture strengthened communities, enhancing food security, and fostering economic stability aligned with the SDGs.

Confronting Crime, Preserving Futures

In 2024, Jamaica saw a significant reduction in major crimes, including a 19% drop in murders and a 15% decrease in major crimes overall, though crime remains a top concern for many Jamaicans. Despite the declining statistics, 48% of Jamaicans still consider crime and violence the biggest problem facing the country, and 47% say the high level of crime bothers them most.

Sustainable Development: A Mixed Picture

Jamaica ranked 77th out of 166 countries on the 2024 Sustainable Development Report. Significant struggles remain, particularly concerning hunger (SDG 2), water and sanitation (SDG 6), inequality (SDG 10), and peace and justice (SDG 16). While SDG 17 (partnerships) remains strong, critical goals such as health, education, and environmental protection urgently need renewed attention to achieve Jamaica's 2030 targets.

Economic Resilience Tested by Nature

Jamaica faced economic headwinds in 2024, marked by two consecutive quarters of GDP contraction, partly driven by the devastating impact of Category 4 Hurricane Beryl in July. Despite this setback, the government's disciplined monetary policy—reducing interest rates from 7% to 6%—and maintaining a

near-balanced budget has improved price stability and fiscal discipline. Such measures have positively impacted everyday lives, stabilizing household costs and strengthening consumer confidence.

Public debt has also decreased notably to a projected 69% of GDP, reinforcing Jamaica's commitment to achieving sustainable debt levels by 2028. Success in this area promises greater financial stability, improved international credibility, and the means to tackle long-standing development issues, offering real hope for a brighter future.

Towards Universal Healthcare

Health remains an essential priority as Jamaica confronts significant public health challenges, including non-communicable diseases. The Ministry of Health and Wellness reaffirmed its determination to achieve universal health coverage, aiming to ensure every Jamaican receives the care they deserve.

As Jamaica navigates through economic turbulence, social challenges, and the climate crisis, its people demonstrate extraordinary resilience. Continued partnership, innovation, and dedicated support from the international community remain vital to achieving a prosperous, equitable, and sustainable future for all Jamaicans.

Jamaica SDG Dashboard | 2024



Healing Thoughts | Work done on Barry Street in December 2019 as part of a collaborative expression of hope and resilience by Akin Osagboro.

CHAPTER TWO:

UN Development System Support
To MSDCF Priorities Through
the Cooperation Framework



MSDCF
Caribbean

The UN MSDCF seeks to advance the SDGs through impactful regional collaboration, driving resilient recovery from COVID-19 and other shocks, creating thriving communities where people actively choose to live, and sustainably unlocking opportunities for every citizen to realize their fullest potential.

CHAPTER 2.1

Overview of the Cooperation Framework Results

Imagine a Caribbean region where communities flourish, families prosper, and all citizens confidently contribute to the future of their homelands. This bold vision, grounded in the SDGs, drives the UN’s Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF) 2022 to 2026. The MSDCF’s four strategic pillars are:

- 1. Shared Prosperity and Economic Resilience
- 2. Equality, Well Being and Leaving No one Behind
- 3. Resilience to Climate Change and Sustainable Natural Resource Management
- 4. Peace, Safety, Justice, and Rule of Law

► Strategic Priorities, Human Impact

The MSDCF focuses intentionally on four strategic areas: economic resilience; equality and well-being; climate resilience and sustainable resources; and peace, safety, justice, and the rule of law. Each priority translates directly into tangible improvements—creating livelihoods, empowering vulnerable communities, safeguarding natural resources, and ensuring fair societies.

► Local Action, Regional Strength

Guided by the principle of leaving no one behind, UN teams actively engage governments and partners through tailored Country Implementation Plans (CIP). These collaborative efforts ensure local voices shape sustainable development. Simultaneously, regional solutions promote cooperation, enabling shared successes and stronger resilience.

► Measuring Progress, Changing Lives

In 2024, the MSDCF strengthened its Results Framework, rigorously updating outcome indicators across all 22 countries. UN agencies coordinated to gather essential data, ensuring accurate measurement of progress. These enhanced indicators empower governments and communities, making every decision count towards building a sustainable, prosperous, and inclusive Caribbean for all.



Strategic Priorities & Outcomes



Priority 1: Economic Resilience and Shared Prosperity

Outcome 1 - Productive and competitive business ecosystems:

More productive and competitive business ecosystem designed to improve people’s standards of living.

Outcome 2 - Macro Economy:

The Caribbean has fully transitioned to a more diversified and sustainable economy that supports inclusive and resilient economic growth.



Priority 2: Equality, Well-being & Leaving No One Behind

Outcome 3 - Data & Laws:

National governments and regional institutions use relevant data to design and adopt laws and policies to eliminate discrimination, address structural inequalities and ensure the advancement of those left furthest behind.

Outcome 4 - Equitable access to quality, universal, and shock-responsive services:

People in the Caribbean equitably access and utilize universal, quality and shock-responsive, social protection, education, health, and care services.



Priority 3: Resilience to Climate Change/ Shocks & Sustainable Natural Resource Mgt.

Outcome 5 - Disaster Risk Management:

Caribbean people and communities have enhanced adaptive capacity for inclusive, gender-responsive disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Outcome 6 - Natural Resource Management:

Natural resources and ecosystems are managed more sustainably to enhance community and people resilience as well as shared prosperity.



Priority 4: Peace, Safety, Justice and the Rule of Law

Outcome 7 - Laws, Policies & Systems for Peace, Security, Justice:

Regional and national laws, policies, systems, and institutions improve access to justice and promote peace, social cohesion, and security.

Outcome 8 - Community Engagement for Peace, Security, Justice:

People in the Caribbean and communities have an improved standard of living, in safe, fair, inclusive, and equitable societies.

Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes & outputs



Priority 1:

An Inclusive, Equitable, & Prosperous Caribbean

Outcome 1:

Productive & competitive business ecosystems



Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:



Inclusive, competitive, & resilient business ecosystems

► Cultivating Sustainable Futures in Jamaica

Through the FAO's Improving Phytosanitary, Food Safety and Market Access Opportunities along the Hot Pepper Value Chain project, Jamaican farmers now see brighter futures. Capacity-building sessions equipped them with essential skills in seed production, quality control, and innovative agricultural processing, boosting productivity and market access. Advanced training in plant breeding further introduced resilient crop varieties, safeguarding livelihoods against climate shocks and market shifts.

► Bridging the Digital Divide

Meanwhile, FAO's Digital Services Platform transformed rural farming communities. Smallholders accessed real-time agricultural advisories, enabling informed, data-driven decisions that strengthened production and income stability, lifting entire families toward sustainable prosperity.

► Advocating for Jamaican Worker Rights

Simultaneously, Jamaican trade union leaders joined regional counterparts in critical ILO training on International Labor Standards. Equipped with new advocacy skills, these leaders emerged empowered, committed to protecting workers' rights and ensuring fair conditions, fostering lasting dignity in Jamaica's workforce.



Photo: The UN promoted sustainable agricultural practices, encouraging technologies that minimize environmental impact and reduce waste, thereby building resilient food systems and prosperous rural economies.

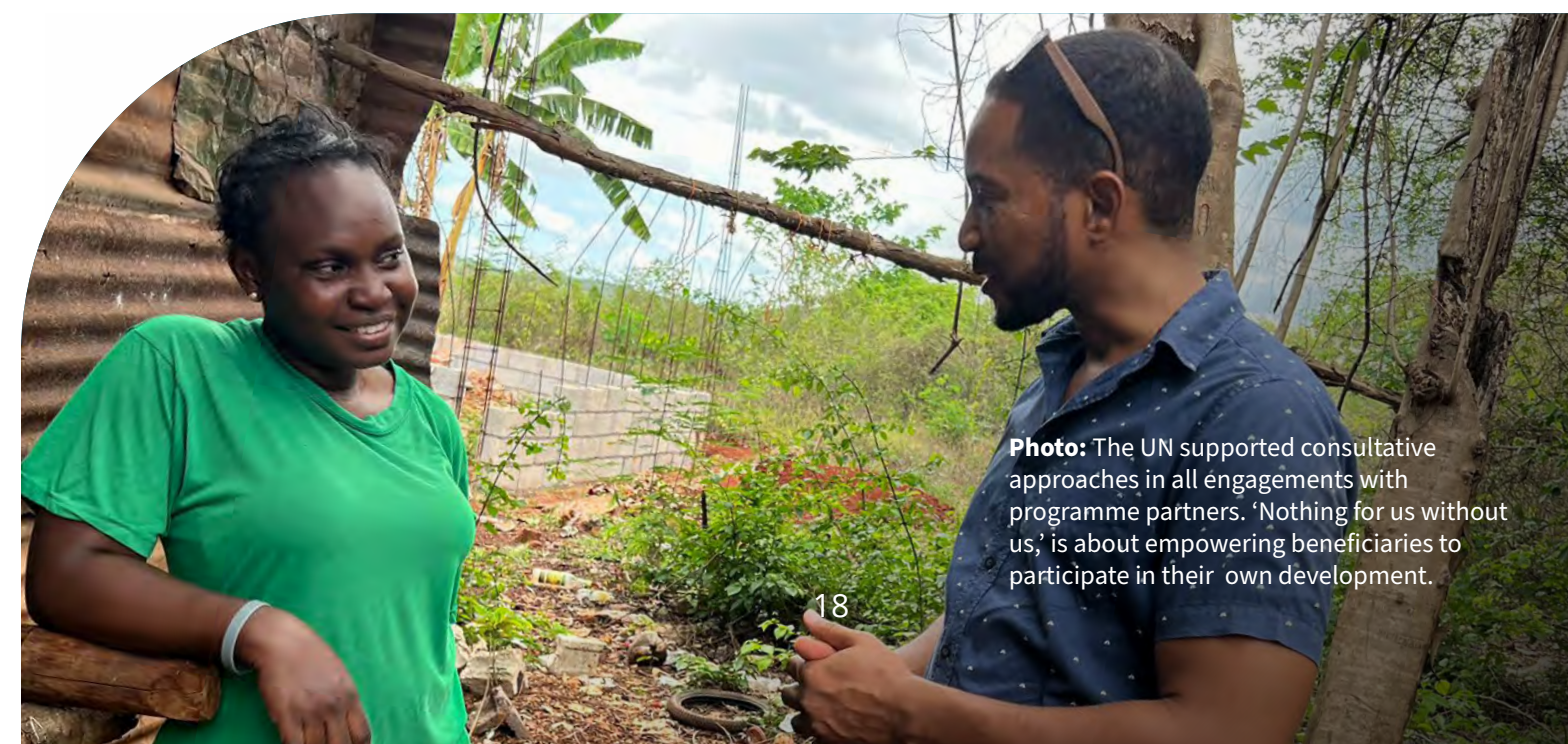


Photo: The UN supported consultative approaches in all engagements with programme partners. 'Nothing for us without us,' is about empowering beneficiaries to participate in their own development.



Photo: The UN in The Bahamas facilitated collaboration with diverse partners to advance opportunities that strengthen the financial empowerment and leadership of women and youth



Priority 1:

An
Inclusive,
Equitable, &
Prosperous
Caribbean

Advancing Decent Work and Inclusion

► Skills for the Future: Bahamas National Apprenticeship Programme

In 2024, The Bahamas took a decisive step toward aligning its workforce with emerging labor market demands. The launch of the National Apprenticeship Programme (NAP), supported by landmark legislation tabled in Parliament, marked a turning point for technical and vocational education. Young Bahamians now have clearer, sustainable pathways to employment through apprenticeships, directly fueling national growth and transforming their career prospects.

► Unlocking Markets: Strengthening Caribbean Exporters

With UN support, companies from Jamaica and The Bahamas gained vital support to navigate the complexities of exporting to the United Kingdom. Specialized training in export marketing, compliance with UK GDPR, and data privacy frameworks equipped these enterprises to confidently enter and compete in the UK market. This strategic boost has empowered businesses, increasing their international presence and unlocking new economic opportunities for their communities.

► Towards Equity: Jamaica's Just Transition

Jamaica's commitment to climate action found meaningful expression in the UNDP's groundbreaking Gender Position Paper on the Just Transition. Highlighting gender-responsive strategies, the report provided a clear road-map for inclusive workforce changes linked to climate initiatives. By focusing on equity, Jamaica ensured that climate actions protect livelihoods and advance gender equality, positioning communities to thrive in a sustainable future.

► Green Jobs, Bright Futures: Jamaica's Economic Transition

A comprehensive Green Job Assessment model revealed how Jamaica's climate policies can positively impact the economy. This pioneering analysis demonstrated the tangible benefits of climate-friendly initiatives, offering evidence-based strategies to ensure that Jamaica's shift toward sustainability creates equitable employment opportunities and sustainable growth for all citizens.

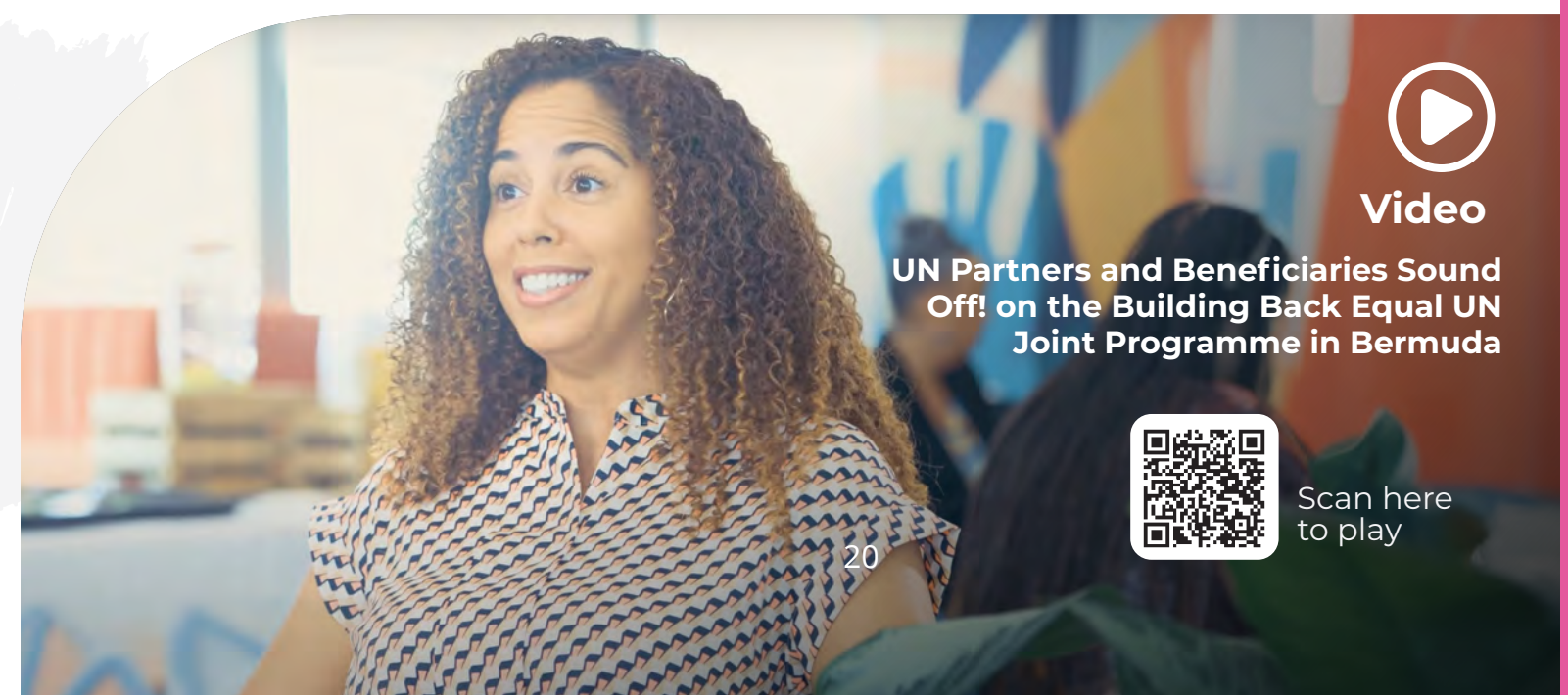
► Empowering Entrepreneurs: Innovative Financing in The Bahamas

The Bahamas saw transformative changes through the UN's Joint SDG Fund "Building Back Equal Through Innovative Gender Equitable Finance" programme. By directly supporting women-owned enterprises and marginalized entrepreneurs, including youth and persons with disabilities, the initiative dismantled longstanding financial barriers. Through grants and loans, women entrepreneurs in agriculture, tourism, wellness, and the creative industries expanded their businesses, improved market competitiveness, and created lasting economic impact.

Remarkably, an initial investment of \$68,267 leveraged over \$1 million in additional financing—a powerful testament to the programme's impact. Moreover, this initiative reshaped institutional decision-making, prompting financial institutions to actively fund marginalized entrepreneurs for the first time. Overcoming systemic barriers, the programme set new standards for inclusive finance, empowering historically underserved groups to participate fully in economic life.

Inclusive Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development in Bermuda & The Bahamas

- In Bermuda and The Bahamas, access to markets was improved through strengthened investment readiness of female entrepreneurs. Further, by bolstering efforts to foster a culture of entrepreneurship, especially among marginalized populations, access to resources and avenues for upward mobility were strengthened contributing to more inclusive societies and thus positively reducing inequality (SDG 10) and supporting the SDG 1 objective of poverty eradication.



Outcome 2: Macro-Economy



Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:



Priority 1:

An
Inclusive,
Equitable, &
Prosperous
Caribbean

Jamaica's Progress Towards Creating Inclusive Pathways

► Climate Justice for All

In 2024, Jamaica embarked on a transformative journey through the “Just Transition” initiative, embedding social justice into its climate policies. Supported by the ILO, this project ensures climate actions protect workers and communities, building resilience through expanded social protection and inclusive dialogue.

► Connecting the Diaspora

The launch of the IOM-supported JaDiaspora Engage Platform has brought Jamaicans worldwide closer to home. This dynamic platform encourages active diaspora participation, fostering collaboration, resource mobilization, and meaningful contributions to Jamaica's development, enhancing community bonds and national pride.

► Sweet Success: Caribbean Cocoa Thrives

Caribbean cocoa producers flourished with the support of ITC in 2024, connecting 19 companies to global markets. This initiative empowered businesses, enabling them to showcase their products internationally, boost revenues, and sustainably expand operations—transforming livelihoods across the region.



FEATURE STORY

Future Proofing Jamaica's Path to Sustainable Prosperity

Jamaica's journey toward the SDGs has been persistently shaped by its gradual economic growth. The nation's commitment to rigorous fiscal discipline—particularly its goal of significantly reducing debt by 2028—has limited resources available for transformative investments.

Innovative Pathways to Transformation

Recognizing this challenge, the UN RCO, in partnership with UWI, sought innovative approaches to economic transformation. By examining data-driven strategies, the collaboration provided insights on how strategic investments in Jamaica's productive sectors could accelerate progress toward the SDGs. The research showed that increasing the sophistication and diversity of Jamaican products could quickly boost economic value and resilience, directly informing national planning. Working closely together, the UN and UWI teams helped the government embed these insights into national frameworks—signaling a shift toward holistic, evidence-based policymaking that benefits everyday Jamaicans.

Addressing Barriers to Climate Finance

Access to affordable development finance—especially for climate adaptation and resilience—remains a critical barrier for Jamaica and other SIDS. As climate vulnerability increases, securing concessional finance has become an urgent priority. In 2024, the RCO and UWI analyzed climate finance mechanisms and uncovered inconsistencies between eligibility criteria and actual allocations. Many vulnerable countries, including Jamaica, were disadvantaged in accessing adaptation

funds, which were often diverted to disaster recovery. This highlighted the urgent need for dedicated loss-and-damage funding. Using this evidence, Jamaica's government engaged international partners to push for equitable support and reforms in global financial systems.

Preparing for Technological Disruption

Recognizing the transformative impact of rapid technological change and digitalization—especially after COVID-19—the UN in Jamaica engaged government stakeholders to strengthen preparedness for the future of work. In collaboration with the ILO, the UN RCO led global policy guidance on the employment implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Targeted horizon-scanning helped Jamaica's government, businesses, and workers anticipate emerging industry trends and respond strategically to shifting workforce demands.

Driving Sustainable Prosperity

Ultimately, through strategic partnerships, rigorous analysis, and evidence-based advocacy, the UN Country Team in Jamaica continues to drive sustainable prosperity. Efforts in economic transformation, climate financing equity, and workforce preparedness converge into a unified vision: a resilient, thriving Jamaica, prepared for the future and positioned to leave no one behind.



Key Resources

Scan here for a list
of related articles



Priority 2:

A Healthy Caribbean

Outcome 3:

Data & Laws



Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:



Empowering Communities through Data in Jamaica

► Protecting Our Children, Building Our Future

In Jamaica, UNICEF's groundbreaking work provided essential insights into children's lives through the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS and MICS+). With over 150 updated child-related indicators, critical information on nutrition, mental health, and disability helped to inform better policies, directly benefiting thousands of vulnerable children and families.

► Understanding Poverty through Digital Inclusion

With UNDP's support, Jamaica advanced its ability to measure poverty beyond income by incorporating digital access metrics. Policymakers now have tools to tackle digital gaps, enabling inclusive growth and ensuring disadvantaged communities aren't left behind in our increasingly digital world.

► Ending Violence Against Children

Jamaica's 2023 Violence Against Children Survey, developed with UNICEF's expertise, mobilized more than 60 government and civil society leaders, including youth, who formulated powerful recommendations for action. A user-friendly summary report ensured broad community awareness and commitment to protecting children nationwide.

► Migration Planning Enhances Community Resilience In Clarendon

IOM supported local authorities to integrate migration dynamics into development plans. This data-driven approach strengthened governance, improved gender responsiveness, and better addressed urban-rural migration, significantly enhancing community resilience and local development.

► Fostering Innovation and Sustainable Growth

UNESCO's GO-SPIN initiative empowered Jamaica to comprehensively map its research and innovation landscape, driving evidence-based policies for sustainable development and reinforcing Jamaica's position as a hub for scientific innovation and economic opportunity.

Building Financial Stability and Social Inclusion in The Bahamas

► Strengthening Fiscal Resilience

With UNDP's assistance, The Bahamas significantly improved its capacity to manage public debt, boosting fiscal resilience. Enhanced guidelines for financial markets empowered the Central Bank to maintain economic stability, providing citizens and businesses with greater security.

► Sharing Data for Healthier Communities

Actively contributing to PAHO's regional assessments, The Bahamas provided vital health data that tracked progress towards health-related SDGs. Crucially, reporting child mortality figures helped ensure targeted interventions, honouring the SDG promise of leaving no child behind.

► Advancing Gender Equality in Nationality Rights

Thanks to UNHCR's guidance, The Bahamas made historic legislative strides in gender equality. The Passport Amendment Act granted nationality rights to children of Bahamian men, irrespective of their marital status, transforming lives by providing these children with a secure sense of identity and belonging.



Outcome 4:

Equitable access to quality, universal, and shock-responsive services

Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:



Transforming Health and Social Protection in Jamaica

► Strengthening Health and Protecting Vulnerable Communities

In 2024, Jamaica's social and health systems reached critical milestones, directly improving thousands of lives. At St. Ann's Bay, UNICEF helped establish Jamaica's first public oxygen plant. This new facility became a lifeline for newborns, emergency patients, and those suffering from chronic respiratory conditions in the northeastern region.

Meanwhile, UNICEF's comprehensive water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assessment across 349 healthcare facilities and 70 shelters pinpointed gaps that put communities at risk during emergencies. Training 77 public health inspectors to use advanced assessment tools, UNICEF strengthened local capacity to ensure safe and resilient health infrastructure. Hospitals like May Pen saw critical upgrades, safeguarding maternal and neonatal health against climate-related disruptions.

► Digital Solutions Enhancing Social Assistance

The WFP-MLSS Cash-Based Transfers (CBT) Pilot Project revolutionized how vulnerable Jamaicans receive support. Through digital payments, aid reached marginalized groups faster and more effectively, especially during emergencies. This innovative approach helped nearly 18,000 previously unsupported individuals quickly access critical assistance, underscoring the importance of digital financial inclusion.

► Building a Resilient Health Workforce

PAHO worked closely with Jamaica's Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW), reinforcing healthcare capacity by training health workers and addressing staff migration challenges. Additionally, PAHO's assessment of emergency care services provided essential insights to enhance Jamaica's readiness for life-threatening health crises, ensuring that quality care remains accessible to all, even under extreme pressure.

► Tackling Non-Communicable Diseases and Obesity

Jamaica, supported by PAHO/WHO, tackled youth obesity through school-based initiatives that encourage healthy lifestyles. Enhanced data collection on students' nutrition habits informed

targeted programs, addressing critical issues like diet, physical inactivity, and food accessibility. These measures promise healthier futures for Jamaica's youth.

► Celebrating Public Health Milestones

In a historic achievement, Jamaica received WHO certification for eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV and congenital syphilis. This success story highlights Jamaica's commitment to maternal and child health.

At Santa Cruz Health Centre, the UN's UK-supported "Smart Interventions" upgraded healthcare delivery through safer, environmentally sustainable facilities, protecting communities against public health threats and natural disasters.

► Road Safety Saving Lives

Jamaica significantly reduced road traffic fatalities by 14% in 2024, achieving its lowest rate in seven years. Stronger enforcement, updated laws, and proactive community engagement made roads safer, safeguarding countless families from preventable loss.



Priority 2:
A Healthy Caribbean



Video

Watch 'Let's Talk Goals' with UN Resident Coordinator Dennis Zulu; a national video campaign partnership of the PIOJ



Scan here to play

Outcome 4:**Equitable access to quality, universal, and shock-responsive social services in the Caribbean**

► **Addressing Food Insecurity in Jamaica**

Despite progress, Jamaica still grapples with food insecurity. WFP's Food Security and Livelihoods survey identified that three million Jamaicans face significant food challenges—78% more than pre-pandemic levels. Targeted interventions now help the most vulnerable groups, including low-income households and persons with disabilities, ensuring no one goes hungry.

► **Climate-Smart Jamaican Health Policies**

Acknowledging Jamaica's climate vulnerability, the government finalized the Health National Adaptation Plans (HNAPs), integrating health into resilience strategies to protect against climate-induced crises like extreme weather and disease outbreaks.

Transforming Health and Social Protection in The Bahamas

► **Gender Equality and Ending GBV**

In 2024, The Bahamas made substantial strides against gender-based violence (GBV). With high-level support, a comprehensive Green Paper and a draft national policy were developed, empowering communities to prevent violence through widespread sensitization efforts, safeguarding countless women and families.



**Jamaica Eliminated
Mother-to-Child
Transmission of
HIV & Syphilis**



**14% Decrease in Road
Traffic Deaths in 2024
The lowest in 7 years**



**Smart Interventions
at Santa Cruz Health
Centre enhanced safety,
sustainability, and
efficiency.**



► **Advancing Healthcare Quality and Resilience in The Bahamas**

The Bahamas enhanced healthcare delivery, particularly through the National AIDS Programme. A critical HIV drug resistance surveillance study informed improved treatment protocols, offering renewed hope for adults and children living with HIV by enhancing clinical outcomes and resilience of health services. Further bolstering healthcare, PAHO collaborated to introduce the Logistics Support System (LSS), strengthening inventory management in healthcare facilities. This initiative ensures essential medicines and equipment reliably reach patients, significantly improving care quality nationwide.

► **Infection Control and Disease Surveillance in The Bahamas**

National healthcare workers benefited from extensive Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) training, reinforcing safety standards across healthcare settings. Over 100 participants from various sectors engaged in workshops, dramatically boosting preparedness against health threats.

Additionally, The Bahamas elevated its disease surveillance capabilities, enhancing early detection and response systems for respiratory viruses and other emerging health threats. With advanced genomic sequencing technology, health officials can rapidly identify and combat viral outbreaks, protecting communities with precise, effective interventions.

Through strategic partnerships, innovative solutions, and dedicated efforts, Jamaica and The Bahamas are transforming their health and social systems, creating resilient communities ready to face future challenges.



Priority 2:
A Healthy
Caribbean



Priority 3:

A
Sustainable
and Resilient
Caribbean

Outcome 5:

Disaster Risk Management



Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:



Building Resilience, Recovering Livelihoods

► Swift Support, Lasting Impact

When Hurricane Beryl struck, thousands of families faced severe hardship. With UN support, the Government of Jamaica (GoJ) swiftly responded, turning crisis into opportunity. The Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) rapidly enhanced its capacity to deliver timely cash assistance, providing immediate relief while strengthening future emergency response efforts.

6K

6,000 individuals
had their houses
rehabilitated



70 Jamaican youth actively
contributed to discussions
around NDCs



3,000 students benefited
from solar panels,
water harvesting, and
hydroponics

► Restoring Homes, Restoring Hope

In partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), over 1,500 households received vital construction materials and repair kits, benefiting more than 6,000 people in Clarendon and St. Elizabeth. Communities like Rocky Point, Bucknor, and Buena Vista saw critical shelters rebuilt, providing nearly 1,300 people with safe havens during emergencies and transforming anxiety into assurance.

► Protecting Hearts and Minds

Recognizing the psychological toll of disasters, UN Women provided psychosocial support, addressing trauma, anxiety, and stress. Relief supplies reached three civil society organizations and two children's homes, creating safe spaces free from gender-based violence (GBV). Over 200 'Share the Care' packages were distributed, bringing comfort and dignity to survivors.

UNFPA expanded this protective network, training 123 first responders to better address GBV in emergencies. This ensures survivors receive informed, sensitive care when they need it most, strengthening community-based safety nets.

► Logistics for Life

The World Food Programme (WFP) strengthened Jamaica's disaster logistics by expanding the CDEMA Logistics System (CLS), which streamlined inventory management and relief distribution during Hurricane Beryl. WFP also supported

ODPEM in drafting the National Logistics and Relief Plan (NLRP) to enhance coordinated crisis response.

► Empowering Professionals through Digital Innovation

WFP launched an Emergency Logistics eLearning course tailored for the Caribbean, providing accessible, standardized training for disaster management professionals. A Supply Chain Maturity Model was also introduced to identify logistical gaps, ensuring strategic, data-driven investments that strengthen Jamaica's resilience.

► Youth Leading the Way: Climate Policy in Action

UNICEF and Jamaica's Climate Change Division empowered youth to shape national climate commitments. Around 70 young Jamaicans contributed to NDC discussions and influenced Jamaica's representation at the 4th SIDS Conference, ensuring their voices were heard globally.

► Greener Schools, Brighter Futures

UNICEF and Jamaica's Ministry of Education integrated climate and disaster risk strategies into the Safe School Policy. Around 3,000 students from five schools benefited from environmental projects like solar panels, water-harvesting, and hydroponic gardens, now part of agricultural science curricula. These initiatives teach sustainability while ensuring clean water and nutritious food, making schools hubs of resilience.

Outcome 6:

Natural Resource Management



Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Priority 3:

A Sustainable
and Resilient
Caribbean

Green Pathways: Jamaica's Journey to Sustainable Development

► Jobs for a Greener Future

In 2024, Jamaica advanced workforce readiness for the green economy. The Green Job Assessment enables the Jamaican Government to evaluate climate action's impact on employment, growth, and gender equality, identifying sectors for green jobs and mapping essential skills to guide Jamaicans toward sustainable careers.

► Leading by Example: The Net Zero Innovation

The University of the West Indies (UWI) retrofitted its Net Zero Building at the Centre for Advanced Research in Renewable Energy, enhancing its ability to track greenhouse gas emissions. Showcasing solutions in renewable energy, efficiency, and eco-friendly design, UWI reduces environmental impact while strengthening resilience to extreme weather.

► Empowering Sustainable Finance

Through collaboration with Jamaica Social Stock Exchange and UNDP's Sustainable Finance Hub, 45 professionals, over half of them women, gained crucial skills to embed environmental, social, and governance principles into their operations. This groundbreaking initiative prepares Jamaica to issue green and sustainability-linked bonds, fostering responsible investment and promoting long-term economic resilience.

► Pioneering the Hydrogen Economy

UNEP launched a pivotal National Green Hydrogen Potential study, setting the stage for a robust hydrogen economy. By facilitating policy research and stakeholder dialogues, this initiative positions Jamaica as a leader in renewable energy innovation, promising cleaner industries and sustainable growth.

► Protecting Our Planet: Phasing Out Harmful Substances

Jamaica strengthened its institutional mechanisms to systematically phase out ozone-depleting substances, including potent greenhouse gases like HCFCs and CFCs. This critical step underscores Jamaica's commitment to combatting climate change and safeguarding both environmental and public health.

► Climate-Resilient Infrastructure

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Mining now has enhanced capabilities to promote disaster-resilient building practices. A detailed diagnostic of the mining sector identified climate-friendly construction materials and assessed their resilience and market potential. This ensures future buildings withstand environmental threats, protecting families and livelihoods across Jamaica.

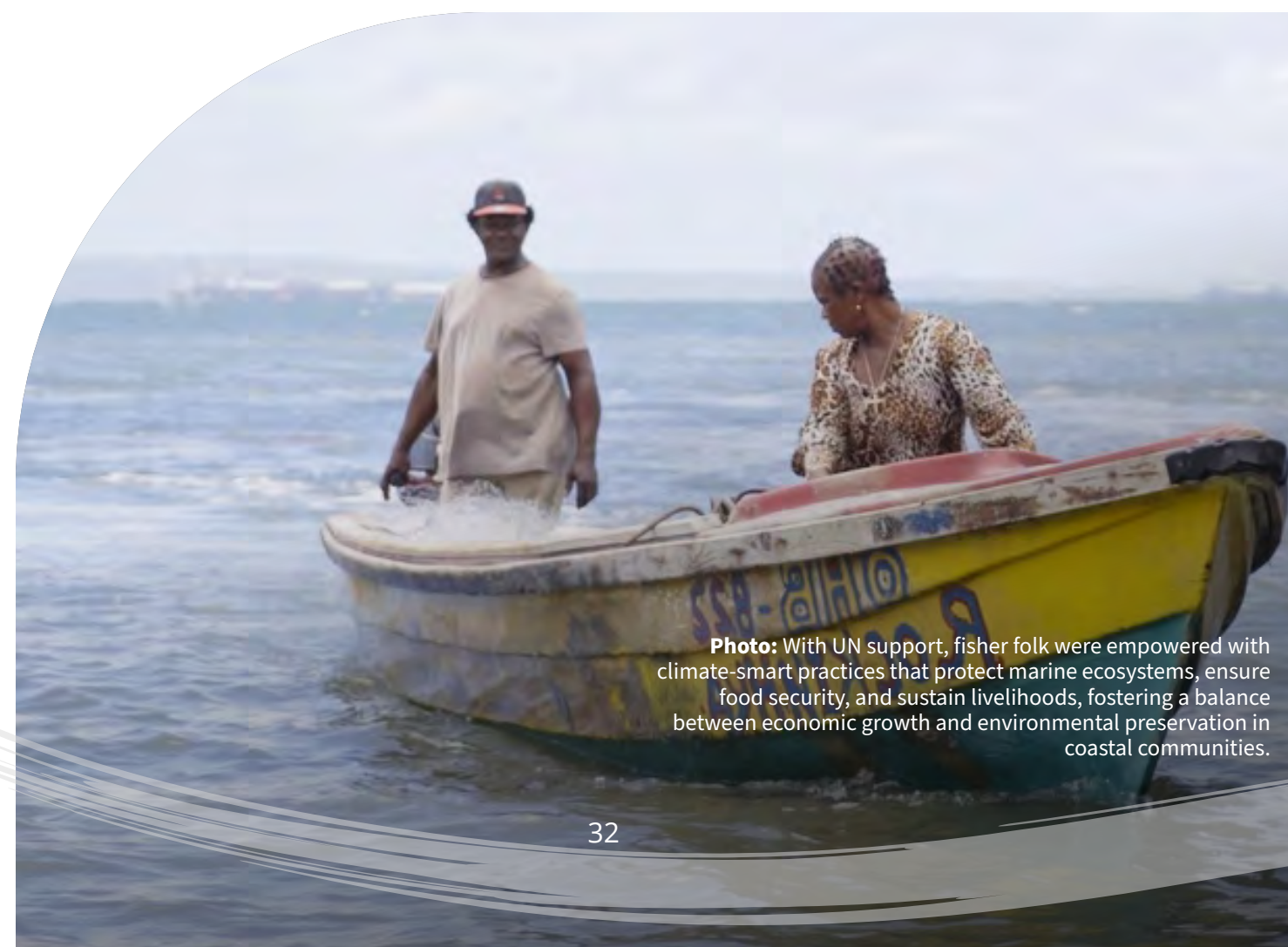


Photo: With UN support, fisher folk were empowered with climate-smart practices that protect marine ecosystems, ensure food security, and sustain livelihoods, fostering a balance between economic growth and environmental preservation in coastal communities.



FEATURE STORY

Delivering as One for Resilience and Recovery: The UN Country Team Leveraged its Diverse Expertise for Communities affected by Hurricane Beryl

When Hurricane Beryl struck Jamaica on July 3, 2024, its 160 mph winds shattered homes, upended lives, and plunged thousands of families into uncertainty overnight. Communities across multiple parishes woke up to a grim reality—devastated homes, disrupted livelihoods, and an urgent need for humanitarian support.

Anticipating the storm's severe impact, the United Nations in Jamaica swiftly collaborated with government as well as local and international partners to activate a comprehensive response plan. This plan emphasized emergency shelter, food security, protection for vulnerable groups, and immediate humanitarian relief to ensure no one was left behind. Some \$2.5 million in CERF funds were mobilized.

Rebuilding Homes, Restoring Hope

Hundreds of families lost safe shelter to the storm. In response, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) immediately prioritized home and shelter rehabilitation. Emergency shelters in Bucknor, Buena Vista, and Rocky Point were repaired, providing refuge and a sense of stability to displaced residents. Nearly 1,000 house repair kits reached desperate families, allowing over 300 homes to be rebuilt. Two hundred additional homes remain under repair, restoring security and dignity to even more families.

Amid logistical and security challenges, community

engagement became essential. Over 6,000 residents participated in sensitization sessions on safer construction and future storm preparedness, empowering them to protect their homes and families from future disasters.

Securing Food and Livelihoods

The hurricane disrupted food supplies, leaving many low-income households vulnerable to hunger and economic hardship. The World Food Programme (WFP) rapidly launched cash-based assistance programmes, enabling families to purchase food while injecting funds into the national economy. From September to October, more than 3,000 households received \$685,197 (JMD 93.35 million), with redemption rates reaching 93 percent. Expanded assistance from October to January saw this increase to 98 percent redemption, distributing an additional \$767,293 (JMD 119.53 million).

Beyond immediate aid, WFP partnered closely with Jamaica's Ministry of Labour and Social Security, refining response strategies to ensure inclusivity, efficiency, and accessibility in future emergencies.

Protecting Children and Families

Children bore deep emotional and physical impacts from Hurricane Beryl. UNICEF stepped forward with essential health, nutrition, sanitation, and psychosocial interventions.

Over 200,000 micro nutrient sachets and 33,000 nutrition assessment tapes safeguarded children's health. Psychosocial support reached 15,000 children and their families through trained teachers and caregivers, easing emotional trauma. Additionally, hygiene kits and clean water provisions benefited 30,000 individuals, protecting health and dignity.

UNICEF, together with UNDP, prioritized education recovery. Emergency learning spaces opened swiftly, allowing children to regain normalcy amid crisis. Teachers received crucial training in psychological first aid and emergency preparedness, restoring not just classrooms but hope.

Protecting the Vulnerable

Protection measures, led by UNFPA and UNICEF, addressed heightened risks faced by women, girls, and persons with disabilities. Over 3,000 women received dignity kits, while safe spaces provided vital psychosocial and legal assistance to survivors of gender-based violence. Specialized interventions ensured equitable relief access, including distributing assistive devices to persons with disabilities, reaffirming their right to safety and independence.

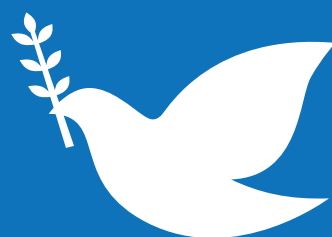
A Coordinated Response

Central to these efforts, the UN Resident Coordinator's Office coordinated inter-agency collaboration, enabling efficient use of resources and rapid action. Regular coordination meetings and data-driven targeting ensured assistance reached those most in need.

As communities began healing, OCHA initiated an After-Action Review to capture lessons learned, laying foundations for stronger disaster preparedness. The United Nations in Jamaica remains committed to the country's recovery and resilience, standing with communities not just in the wake of this disaster, but prepared for those ahead.



Photo: Persons like Michael Ceaser from Four Paths in Clarendon, Jamaica suffered immense water damage when roofs were lifted during Hurricane Beryl. The UN-Beryl response was not only about rebuilding homes but rebuilding lives.



Priority 4:

A Cohesive,
Safe and Just
Caribbean

Outcome 7:

Laws, Policies & Systems for Peace, Security, Justice



Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:



Empowering Communities, Strengthening Justice: Advancing Human Rights in Jamaica

► Digital Transformation in Justice

In 2024, Jamaica's justice system took significant strides toward digital transformation. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) launched the Justice Services Statistical System, revolutionizing its ability to monitor and improve justice access in real-time. With immediate data at their fingertips, officials can now swiftly identify underserved communities, ensuring justice reaches the most vulnerable quickly and efficiently.

► Inclusive Justice for Persons with Disabilities

Justice became more accessible for Jamaica's deaf community as 150 justice workers (83% women) received training in sign language, accompanied by the groundbreaking Jamaica Sign Language Compendium of Legal Terms toolkit. This initiative has profoundly empowered the deaf population, ensuring they can actively engage with justice processes, protecting their rights and dignity.

► Advancing Social Justice for Vulnerable Groups

Jamaica further deepened its commitment to social justice through the landmark Social Justice Conference. Justice service providers gained critical insights into equitable, gender-responsive approaches, empowering them to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups effectively.

► Empowering Justice Workers

The Justice Training Institute (JTI) conducted an assessment to identify and address learning needs in the justice sector, ensuring targeted training that strengthens effective, compassionate justice services.

Protecting Human Rights in The Bahamas

► A Compassionate Approach to Asylum

The Bahamas advanced human rights protections through collaboration with UNHCR, leading to the draft Asylum Bill. This legislation establishes a strong asylum framework, safeguarding refugees and aligning national policies with international standards, reaffirming the country's commitment to human dignity.

► Combatting Sexual Harassment

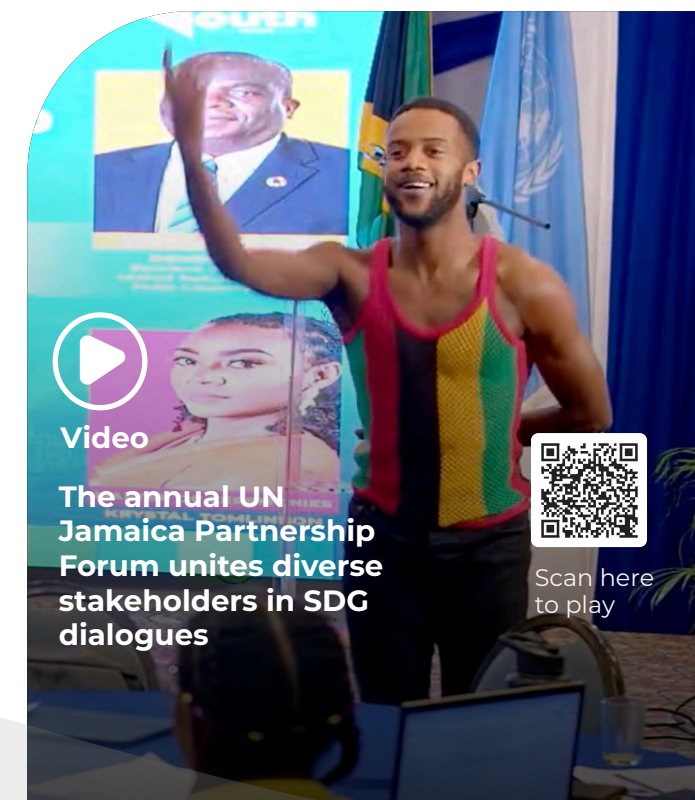
The Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment, and Sport (MCGES) enhanced its efforts to combat sexual harassment through comprehensive training programmes. With improved resources, public and private institutions across Jamaica are now better equipped to implement tailored anti-harassment policies, creating safer workplaces and communities.

► Safeguarding Schools and Communities

To protect students and educators, the Jamaican government established a robust protocol for preventing, managing, and responding to firearms incidents in schools. Additionally, the National Small Arms Control Strategy strengthened the Ministry of National Security's capabilities, safeguarding communities by effectively regulating firearm possession and distribution.

► Integrating Migration for Community Resilience

Jamaica integrated migration considerations into local development strategies, particularly in Clarendon Parish. Officials received key data and guidelines to manage migration effectively, fostering inclusivity and resilience.



Video

The annual UN
Jamaica Partnership
Forum unites diverse
stakeholders in SDG
dialogues



Scan here
to play

Outcome 8:

Community Engagement for Peace, Security, Justice



Key Related SDGs:



Contributing Agencies:



Advancing Safety, Inclusion, and Empowerment in Jamaica

► Combatting Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

In 2024, Jamaica strengthened efforts against gender-based violence. Over 15 NGOs, led by Jamaicans for Justice, united in a workshop to drive policy reforms on the Domestic Violence Act. Community voices shaped legislative recommendations embraced by Parliament. Mass and social media campaigns raised national awareness, while town halls and local dialogues connected survivors' stories with lawmakers. The "Let's Talk Justice" radio series reached thousands, sparking vital conversations on child rights, sexual violence, and justice across 11 communities.

► Education and Awareness: Preparing Youth

To promote informed decision-making among Jamaica's youth, the Ministry of Education partnered with UNAIDS, finalizing a comprehensive Sexuality Education Training Manual. Educators are now better equipped to guide students on critical issues, empowering young people to build healthier futures.



Protecting & Empowering Women

The UN Jamaica's continued dedication to Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) remained robust. Comprehensive training and awareness campaigns equipped UN staff with the necessary knowledge to uphold these standards, reinforcing a zero-tolerance culture. Leadership-led communications ensured transparency and trust, encouraging a safer and respectful environment across all UN engagements.



Advancing Disability Inclusion

Jamaica's UN team made groundbreaking progress on disability inclusion through the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). The new two-year Disability Inclusion Workplan outlines clear actions to integrate disability considerations in every UN initiative. Collaborations with Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) ensure meaningful participation, employment opportunities, and accessibility. The Resident Coordinator's public endorsement reinforced this commitment, paving the way for inclusive physical and digital spaces by 2025.



Championing Vulnerable Populations

The UN intensified its support for Jamaica's most vulnerable communities, emphasizing technical assistance, capacity building, and policy engagement. The groundbreaking Transgender Health & Wellness Strategy facilitated critical outreach programmes, sensitizing healthcare workers, policymakers, and the public. The transformative "Beyond Labels" initiative effectively reduced HIV-related stigma in workplaces, notably within the Jamaica Manufacturers and Exporters Association (JMEA), setting an inspiring example for inclusive practices.

Municipalities received UN support to integrate anti-stigma initiatives into urban health strategies, ensuring dignity and equity became cornerstones of community well-being. These collective actions created safer, fairer, and more inclusive environments, promising sustainable progress for all Jamaicans.



Youth at the Forefront

The establishment of the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) marked a transformative step for Jamaican youth engagement. YAG empowers young leaders to actively influence sustainable development, aligning closely with the global Youth2030 strategy. Youth voices now directly shape UN programmes, ensuring these initiatives genuinely address Jamaica's youth needs and aspirations.

Leaving No One Behind



Priority 4:

A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean

Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda



Photo: In 2024, the UN used its convening power to bring together IDPs, private sector and other partners to dialogue and mobilize technical and financial resources to accelerate SDG progress in a myriad of areas. Through multistakeholder partnerships, the UN continues to drive collective action for a more sustainable and inclusive future.

Changing Lives Together: Joint Programmes Transforming the Caribbean in 2024

The Joint Programmes implemented in Jamaica, The Bahamas, and Bermuda in 2024 reflect a commitment to advancing the SDGs through strategic partnerships, innovative financing, and systemic transformation. Focused on key areas such as digital transformation in education, gender equality, financial inclusion, citizen safety and security, as well as social protection, these initiatives address structural barriers, enhance institutional capacity, and create inclusive, resilient systems.

Modernizing Jamaica's Social Protection: A Lifeline in Crisis

For thousands of Jamaicans, 2024 brought relief through innovative social protection initiatives funded by the Joint SDG Fund. Partnering with UNICEF, WFP, and UN Women, the Jamaican government upgraded its disaster response, protecting vulnerable families, particularly women, youth, and persons with disabilities (PwDs), from economic shocks.

Emergency responders, like the 41 social service officers trained to swiftly assess post-disaster needs through digitized tools, now provide timely relief to communities in crisis. The Gender Aware Beneficiary Assessment spotlighted gaps in assistance, prompting vital enhancements to Jamaica's social safety nets, directly benefiting marginalized groups.

Nearly 18,000 vulnerable individuals received emergency cash transfers for the first time. Innovations in digital payments and interactive dashboards improved aid delivery, ensuring transparency and efficiency.

Legislative reforms promoted inclusivity by updating outdated laws, while over 300,000 female-led households gained better access to economic support, helping them overcome financial challenges.

Strategic partnerships secured additional funding, strengthening links between health systems and social protection, reinforcing Jamaica's commitment to SDGs 1, 5, and 10.

Building Back Equal: Empowering Women and Youth in The Bahamas and Bermuda

In The Bahamas and Bermuda, gender equality and economic empowerment progressed through the Building Back Equal programme, providing women and youth entrepreneurs with unprecedented financial support.

Fifty-four beneficiaries accessed \$1.5 million in concessional loans, fueling business growth, while the Bahamas Development Bank's financing created new opportunities, driving economic optimism.

Capacity-building efforts equipped 1,300 entrepreneurs with essential skills through mentorships, accelerators, and training. Networks like Bermuda's Mary Prince Leadership Network and The Bahamas Artist Registry connected them with mentors, fostering long-term success.

Youth played a key role, with 18 young researchers in The Bahamas conducting studies on gender and entrepreneurship, shaping policies to remove barriers for women-led MSMEs.

This initiative attracted broader investments, including \$30 million mobilized by the Bahamas Development Bank to boost economic growth. New marketplaces in Nassau will soon provide affordable spaces for 250 women- and youth-led businesses, breaking financial barriers and expanding opportunities.

Saving Lives: Combatting Gun Violence in Jamaica

Jamaica's struggle against gun violence found new hope through the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT) programme. Addressing firearm misuse through creative youth engagement, SALIENT's Music and Art for Change initiative gave students powerful platforms to reject violence.

Hundreds of students participated in nationwide competitions, expressing their visions for peace through creativity. Their passionate voices reached educators, police, and community leaders during impactful award ceremonies, fueling a national dialogue on peace. These artistic campaigns are reshaping societal attitudes, empowering Jamaica's youth to lead transformative change against gun-related crime.

Digital Transformation: Preparing Jamaica's Future Leaders

Jamaica advanced digital education with a \$3.78 million programme funded by the Joint SDG Fund, modernizing learning and expanding equitable access.

Digital platforms like OpenEMIS now guide resource allocation, ensuring quality education for every child. Teachers benefit from data-driven insights that enhance effectiveness and job satisfaction.

Partnerships with the EU, World Bank, and IADB strengthen digital skills, expand infrastructure, and improve attendance, nutrition, and inclusive policies—advancing SDGs 2 and 4.

Through collaboration and innovation, Jamaica is equipping students and educators for a rapidly evolving world, ensuring lasting educational equity and resilience.

Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency in Jamaica and The Bahamas

► Partnerships meet Innovative Finance equals Inclusive Growth

In The Bahamas, the Joint SDG Fund's groundbreaking programme, "Building Back Equal," made substantial progress in financial inclusion. For one Bahamian mother and aspiring small-business owner previously shut out of traditional finance, the initiative meant finally accessing loans and resources to launch her dream business. By targeting women, youth, and persons with disabilities, this programme removed barriers, providing pathways to economic independence and fostering equitable development.

► Powering Partnerships, Empowering Youth

In 2024, nearly 200 leaders from government, business, youth organizations, and NGOs convened at the UN Jamaica Partnership Forum under the theme "Powering Private Sector Partnerships for Jamaica's Youth and the SDGs." The event fostered new collaborations, enabling businesses and young leaders, including youth entrepreneur Tishauna Mullings, to develop innovative solutions for youth employment and economic growth. The strong response reaffirmed the Forum's role as a catalyst for national development.

► Youth Voices Leading the Way

In 2024, Jamaica's youth took center stage with the launch of the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) under the UN's Youth Engagement Action Plan. Young activists gained a platform to influence UN programming on climate action, education, and social justice. This empowerment solidified their role as architects of sustainable change, working alongside the UN.

Jamaica's progress in youth engagement built on 2023 efforts, earning recognition in the Youth 2030 Progress Report as one of the two most improved UNCTs globally.

► Strengthened Collaboration in The Bahamas

UN reform initiatives strengthened partnerships in The Bahamas, marked by the launch of the first Joint Steering National Committee (JSNC) in March. This enhanced collaboration between the UN Country Team, government, and local partners. With tailored support from UN DESA, the government advanced digital transformation and public-sector innovation, paving the way for a digitally empowered future.

► Rapid Emergency Response, Lasting Impact

When Hurricane Beryl struck Jamaica's southern coast in July 2024, the UN mobilized \$2.5 million from the CERF, aiding over 123,000 people. Families received urgent support—including shelter, food, clean water, and essentials. Students from Mitchell Town Primary, Infant School, and Galilee Basic School found relief, dignity, and hope amid devastation.

► Driving Change Through Quality Data and Analysis

Recognizing the need for robust data in policymaking, the UN enhanced analytical capacities in Jamaica and The Bahamas. Support included assisting The Bahamas with its Voluntary National Review (VNR) and contributing to Jamaica's SDG Mid-Term Review. Participation in the DATA for SIDS initiative further strengthened local statistical capacities, enabling data-driven decision-making.

► Operational Excellence for Sustainable Impact

Operational improvements in 2024, including streamlined procurement and a revitalized Greening Committee, enhanced UN efficiency. A dedicated Staff Counsellor was also recruited to support personnel and their families, reinforcing the UN's commitment to wellbeing and resilience.



FEATURE
STORY

More than Ramps: UN Jamaica's Journey to Disability Inclusion

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Jamaica advanced disability inclusion by developing a groundbreaking Disability Inclusion Work Plan aligned with the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). This roadmap outlines practical steps to ensure persons with disabilities are meaningfully included, respected, and empowered across all UN operations in Jamaica.

Advancing Disability Inclusion in Jamaica

In 2024, the UN reinforced its commitment to an inclusive workforce by addressing barriers faced by persons with disabilities. The UNCT issued a public non-discrimination statement explicitly welcoming applications from persons with disabilities, ensuring real opportunities for employment, career growth, and leadership within the UN system. The Resident Coordinator publicly reaffirmed this commitment, emphasizing disability inclusion as both a goal and a core principle.

Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Change

The UNCT further strengthened partnerships with key national institutions, notably the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities (JCPD), with a new agreement set for 2025. These collaborations will expand inclusive practices across Jamaica, shape national policy, and drive sustainable change.

Expanding Accessibility and Participation

UN agencies have integrated accessibility into infrastructure and programming, boosting participation in training, dialogue, and decision-making. Expanded access to UN-supported services—health, education, employment, and disaster preparedness—has promoted dignity, autonomy, and resilience.

By centering disability inclusion, the UN demonstrates ethical leadership and accountability, affirming that meaningful inclusion strengthens communities and ensures every Jamaican is part of the path to sustainable development.



On behalf of the Board and Management of the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities, I warmly welcome this collaboration with UNCT Jamaica to advance both the UNCT Disability Inclusion Work Plan and the JCPD Strategic Plan. Together, we aim to build capacity, strengthen inclusive policies, and raise awareness to ensure the rights and contributions of persons with disabilities are recognized and valued across Jamaica. We look forward to working together toward a more inclusive society that leaves no one behind.

Dr. Christine Hendricks
Executive Director, JCPD

Evaluation & Lessons Learned

Evaluation plays a crucial role in ensuring accountability, measuring impact, and guiding future strategic directions.

► Bridging Data Gaps for a Stronger Region

In 2024, critical efforts were undertaken to strengthen the Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDCF). A comprehensive review highlighted significant data gaps across several countries and territories, emphasizing the urgent need for reliable data. By aligning indicators with regional frameworks, clearer pathways between targets and outcomes emerged. In 2025, an independent evaluation will deepen this understanding, guiding the creation of a responsive, impactful regional cooperation framework beyond 2026.

► Real Lives, Real Challenges

UN agencies are actively evaluating their programmes to better shape future strategies. In 2024, UNFPA conducted a midterm review of its 2022–2026 programme, revealing meaningful progress—like improved access to sexual and reproductive healthcare through strengthened policies, skilled providers, and strategic partnerships. Yet the review also unveiled ongoing struggles faced by adolescents in rural communities, hindered by restrictive legal frameworks and limited professional healthcare resources.

► Lessons for Lasting Change

The personal stories behind these challenges underline a critical lesson: impactful change demands tailored solutions that meet local realities. These valuable insights from UNFPA’s assessment will significantly inform broader MSDCF evaluations, ensuring future interventions are inclusive and empowering. Ultimately, evaluations aren’t just about data—they’re about transforming lives and guiding policies that leave no one behind.



Photo: The UN and academic partners collaborated to deepen understanding of gender-based violence, using data-driven insights to address challenges and amplify women’s voices. This partnership strengthens evidence-based responses, ensuring policies and interventions are informed, effective, and inclusive.



Next-Gen Impact: UN Forum Empowers Bahamian Youth Voices

The 3rd Annual United Nations Partnership Forum in The Bahamas engaged nearly 100 youth, connecting them with government leaders and key stakeholders in vibrant discussions on sustainable development, volunteerism, and advocacy. Organized by the UN Resident Coordinator’s satellite office in collaboration with the Organization for Responsible Governance (ORG), the Division of Youth, and the Bahamas Development Bank (BDB), the 2024 Forum amplified youth voices and offered tangible pathways for their participation.

Interactive Opportunities and Connections

Attendees eagerly explored interactive booths hosted by diverse sector representatives, uncovering resources and opportunities crucial for their personal and professional growth. Conversations sparked connections and inspired future collaborations, establishing a strong foundation for ongoing engagement.

Continued Dialogue and Youth Advocacy

Building on this momentum, the University of The Bahamas hosted a dynamic follow-up dialogue on UN Day 2024, engaging forum participants in discussions on youth and academia’s role in a more inclusive Bahamas. Attendees shared bold ideas, called for greater youth influence in decision-making, and deepened their understanding of UN career pathways.

Turning Insights into Action

Recognizing the need for actionable outcomes, follow-up consultations were swiftly held with ORG and BDB to shape 2025 initiatives, guided by key findings from a pre-forum youth survey led by the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office. Both ORG and the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Culture eagerly accessed the data, integrating youth-driven insights into ongoing programmes. These efforts highlight the transformative power of youth-inclusive policymaking.

Securing an Equitable Future

By embedding youth perspectives in government and stakeholder agendas, the Youth Partnership Forum has amplified young voices and advanced inclusive, sustainable development in The Bahamas. This collaboration affirms a clear message: empowering youth today secures a resilient, equitable tomorrow.

“In partnership with the UN, the Ministry of Youth, and the Bahamas Development Bank, ORG designed a Forum exploring youth involvement in sustainable development. ORG remains committed to equipping Bahamians with tools for effective youth advocacy.”

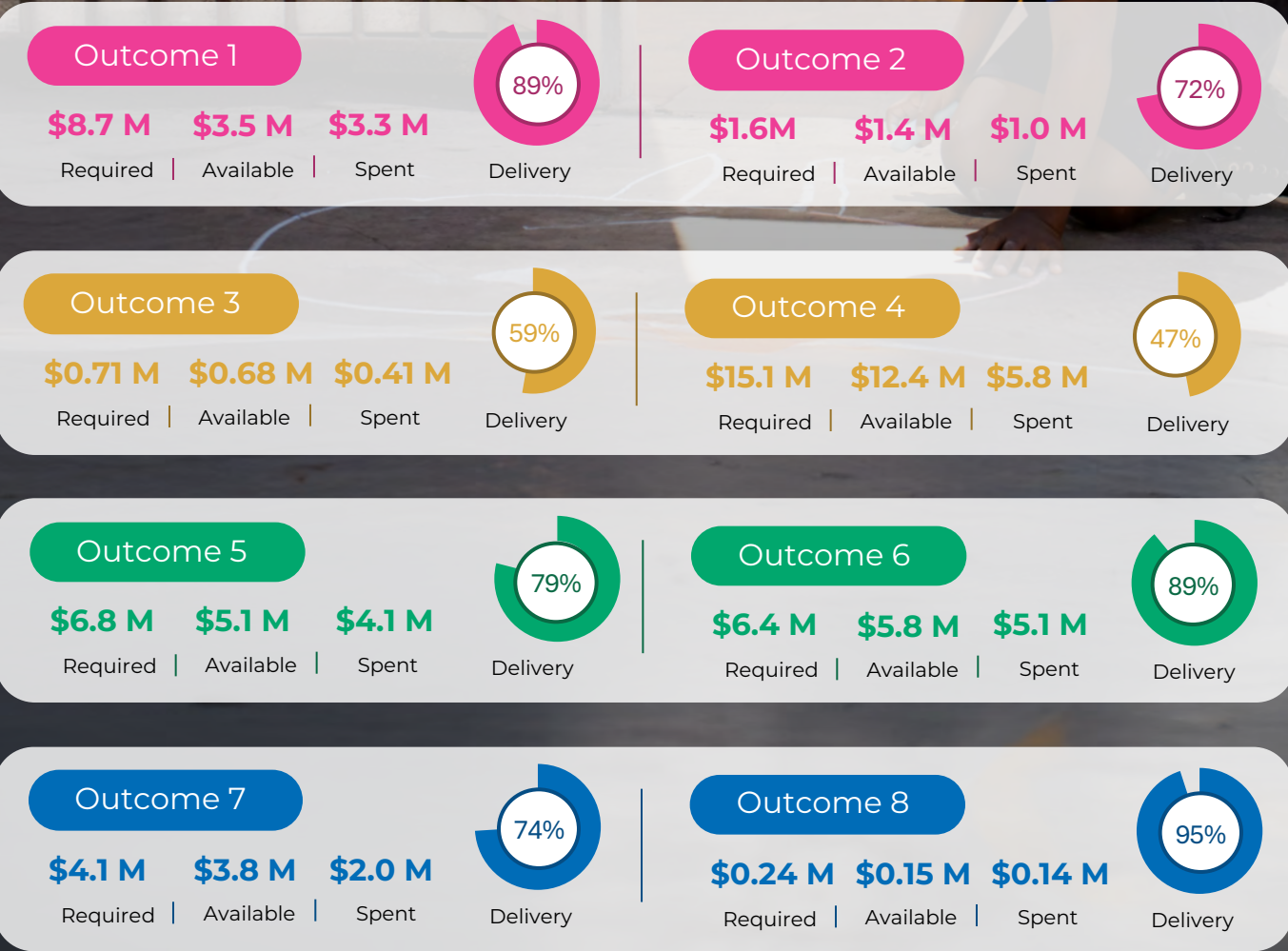
Steffon Evans
Deputy Executive Director, ORG

Financial Overview

In 2024, the financial resources available for the Jamaica MCO were \$33 million. Total expenditure was \$22.9 million. The MCO had 75% of the resources required to complete its annual joint workplan. Overall, the MCO had the highest delivery under Pillar 1 (88%) while Pillar 2 had the greatest amounts of available funds, but the lowest delivery (48%). The Bahamas had approximately \$8.6 million available resources and annual expenditure was \$7.4 million. Jamaica had approximately \$24 million in available resources, with \$15.4 million annual expenditure.

2024 MCO Budget

Expenditure by MSDCF Outcomes



Distribution of UN-Supported Initiatives by SDGs



Expenditure by Priority Area

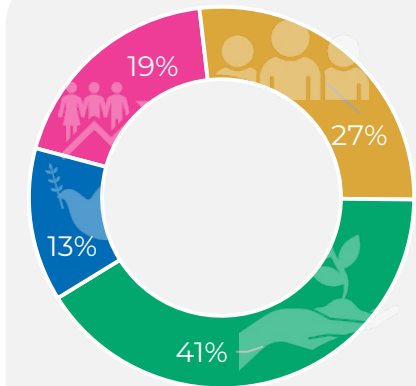
The MCO delivery rate was 69%, and the rates were uneven across Pillars. Delivery across Pillars ranged from 48% to 88%.

Pillar 1
88% Delivery

Pillar 2
48% Delivery

Pillar 3
84% Delivery

Pillar 4
75% Delivery



\$ 22,935,683

Total Expenditure

\$ 43,907,264

Total Required

\$ 33,058,250

Total Available

Economic resilience and Shared prosperity

Required \$ 10.3 M

Available \$ 4.9 M

Spent \$ 4.3 M

Equality, Well-Being and Leaving No One Behind

Required \$ 15.8 M

Available \$ 13.0 M

Spent \$ 6.2 M

Resilience to climate change and sustainable natural resource management

Required \$ 13.3 M

Available \$ 11.0 M

Spent \$ 9.2 M

Peace, Safety, Justice, and the Rule of Law

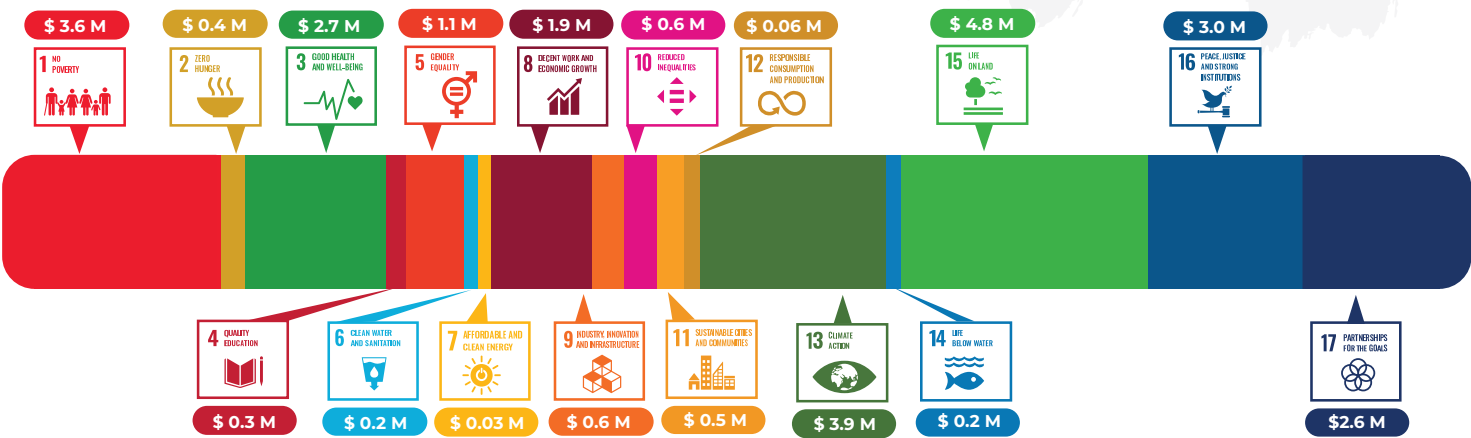
Required \$ 4.3 M

Available \$ 3.9 M

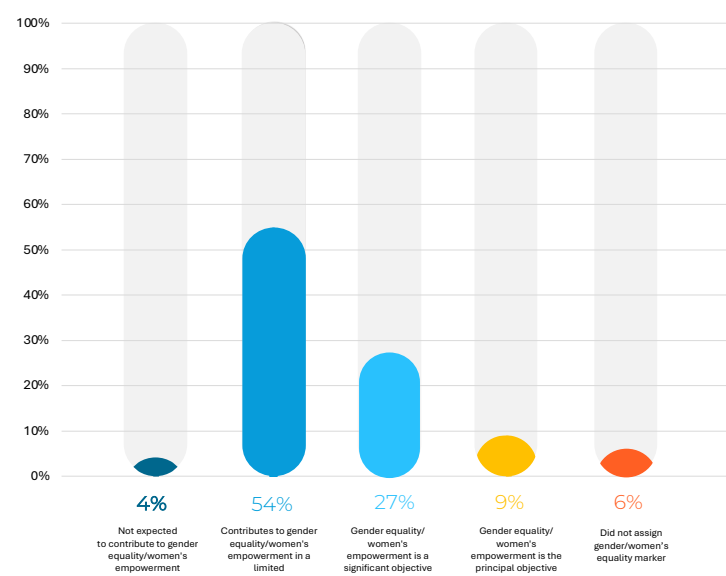
Spent \$ 2.9 M

Resources executed by Sustainable Development Goal

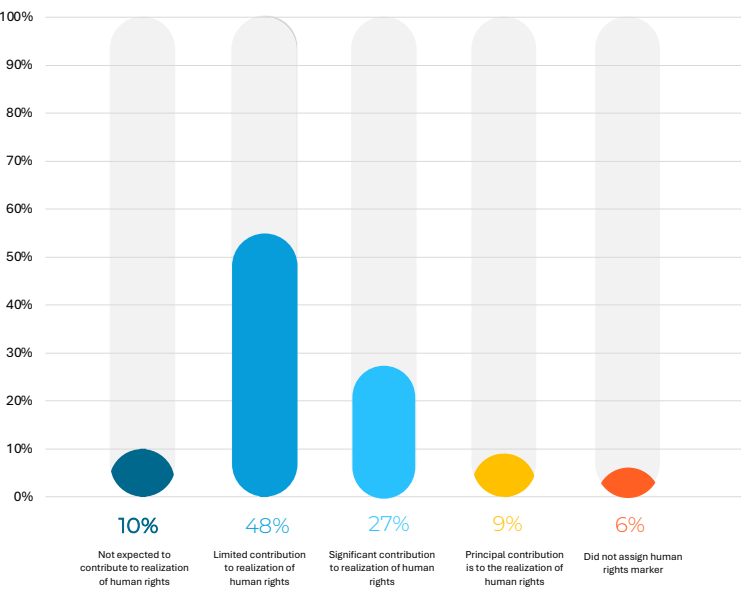
The SDGs with the highest investment in 2024 were SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 15 Life on Land, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth). The SDGs with the lowest investments in 2024 were SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).



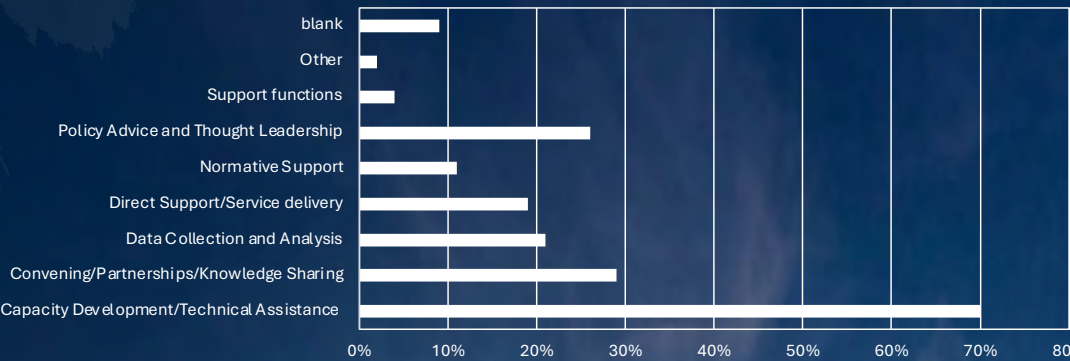
Project Distribution by Gender Equality Marker



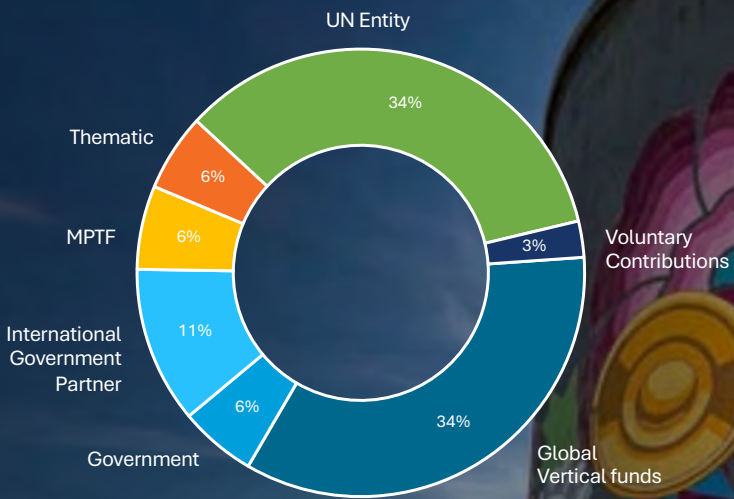
Project Distribution by Human Rights Marker



Types of UN assistance provided in 2024



Expenditure by Donor Type



Development vs Humanitarian Assistance expenditure

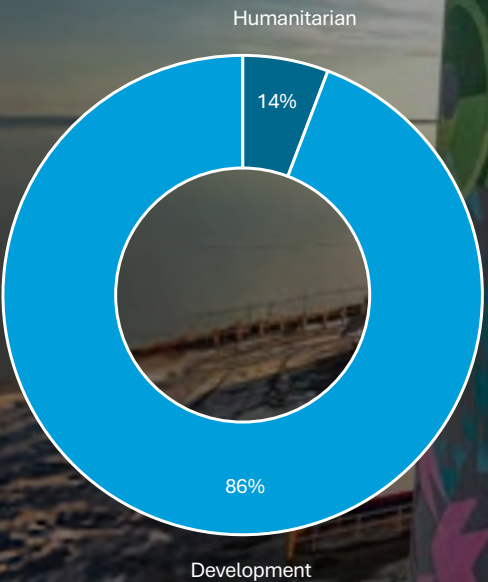


Photo: "Re-Ignited for Unity" mural by Irving Cano Gomez, Freddy Ramirez Herrera (Mexico) & Fabian Harrison, Anthony Smith, Yanque Yap (Jamaica), commissioned by The Honourable Olivia Grange, and unveiled by The Most Honourable Dr. Andrew Holness, Prime Minister of Jamaica, on August 24, 2022 (JA60 Legacy Project).

Untitled | At 41 Fleet Street, an abandoned warehouse in Jamaica, community creativity transformed the space in 10 days. Muralist Taj Francis painted a vibrant piece inspired by local children—a young boy and girl planting a tree that unfolds into an open book, symbolizing unity and the nurturing of positive values.

Photo by Randy Richards

CHAPTER THREE:

UNCT Key Focus For The Next Year



The MCO's Vision for an Inclusive and Resilient 2025

A Future Built on Inclusion and Equality

In 2025, the Jamaica Multi-Country Office (MCO) is set to intensify its commitment to equality and inclusion, placing vulnerable communities at the heart of development. Partnering closely with the EU, the UN Country Team (UNCT) will amplify youth engagement through its Youth Advisory Group, ensuring young voices actively shape national planning. A strengthened collaboration with the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities will also ensure that people living with disabilities not only participate but lead in crafting solutions, empowering them with new skills and opportunities.

Mobilizing Partnerships for Lasting Change

Recognizing that collaboration is key to sustainable development, the UNCT will deepen relationships with Jamaica's private sector, notably through initiatives with organizations such as the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica (PSOJ) and Jamaica Manufacturers and Exporters Association (JMEA). A targeted Partnership Acceleration Workshop will empower young entrepreneurs, equipping them with essential skills and networks to transform their businesses and communities. Internally, strengthened links with UNDESA will enhance Jamaica's global engagement, boosting innovation through strategic partnerships.

UN and EU Empower Jamaica's Youth Leaders

The Jamaica MCO is leveraging the potential of young leaders to drive sustainable change through a pioneering partnership with the European Union. A new Joint Youth Advisory Group (YAG) will be launched to actively integrate youth voices into critical UN and EU programming, to empower young people through specialized training, and to build vibrant connections among youth networks. Through the YAG, Jamaican youth will shape the future of multilateralism, building UN and EU's capacity to better serve and empower this critical group to actualize their potential and that of their peers.

"The UN gives our generation a voice and a chance to shape the future we want—where countries unite to protect our planet, fight climate change, and build communities that thrive in peace. As youth, we stay engaged because multilateralism isn't just about today; it's about ensuring youth and future generations inherit a healthier, fairer, and more sustainable world."

Nowell Lewin Jr.,
Youth Advocate



Photo: Award-winning artist Bonito 'Don Dada' Thompson engaged with UN-supported work at Artisan House - a Jamaica-based, social enterprise, which supports and trains artisans.

Securing Sustainable Funding for the Most Vulnerable

Financial stability remains crucial to safeguarding vulnerable communities, including migrants, stateless persons, and survivors of gender-based violence. To tackle shifting funding patterns, the UNCT will revise its resource mobilization strategy, exploring innovative financing options and engaging non-traditional donors. Utilizing data-driven Strategic Foresight approaches, the UN will anticipate and manage financial risks proactively, ensuring essential programmes remain resilient, impactful, and focused on the most vulnerable populations.

Strengthening Disaster Response: Lessons from Hurricane Beryl

The aftermath of Hurricane Beryl in 2024 underscored the importance of preparedness. Drawing from these vital experiences, the UNCT will collaborate closely with Jamaica's government and emergency stakeholders, updating disaster response guidelines and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for Jamaica and the Bahamas. These revisions will ensure swift, efficient, and coordinated responses, reducing human suffering in future emergencies.

Data-Driven Decisions for Sustainable Development

Accurate data is fundamental for informed policymaking.

In 2025, the UNCT will help Jamaica complete its critical Midterm Review of SDG progress and update the national SDG Roadmap. The DATAS project will further enhance local statistical institutions, providing the government with robust tools to track and accelerate development gains. Additionally, support for Jamaica's upcoming Universal Periodic Review (UPR) underscores the UN's commitment to promoting transparency and accountability.

Forward-Thinking Strategies, Stronger Nations

Strategic assessments and foresight exercises involving national stakeholders and civil society will guide the development of the next Caribbean Regional Cooperation Framework and Common Country Analysis. In the Bahamas, the UN will support completion of its Voluntary National Review (VNR), strengthening its presence in global forums, including the High-Level Political Forum and the International Conference on Financing for Development.

Operational Efficiency and Sustainability

Finally, the Operations Management Team (OMT) will pursue increased efficiency and sustainability. Through renewable energy initiatives, recycling programmes, commonservice agreements, and improved accessibility, the UNCT will set the example of sustainable and inclusive practices—ensuring its operations reflect the resilience, equality, and partnership it seeks for the region.



FEATURE STORY

The UN in Jamaica and The Bahamas Leveraging Volunteers to Power Sustainable Development

United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) are integral to the success of UN agencies in Jamaica and The Bahamas, passionately driving peace, sustainable development, and social change. Both national and international UNVs embody a powerful blend of cultures and experiences, enriching Jamaica's development with unique insights and fresh ideas aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Global Perspectives, Local Impact

International volunteers bring global perspectives that amplify local impact. For many, serving in Jamaica is a transformative and life-changing experience, both professionally and personally, rooted in deep community connection. The Governments of Ireland and the Republic of Korea have been key partners, funding youth-focused roles that advance human rights and support Small Island Developing States (SIDS), underscoring the global solidarity behind volunteerism.

National Champions on the Frontlines

National volunteers are equally critical. In 2024, they served with purpose within the Offices of the Resident Coordinator in Jamaica, UN Women, UNICEF, UN Security, UN Environment, and UNDP, significantly shaping the development landscape of these countries. These volunteers served on the frontlines—championing gender equality, empowering youth, safeguarding the environment, and advocating for peace and justice. Their roles embodied a dedication that moved beyond

mere assistance; they inspire lasting shifts in public attitudes, sparking the genuine behavioural change needed to realize the SDGs.

Transforming Mindsets, Motivating Action

Achieving the SDGs demands more than policy—it requires transforming mindsets and motivating individuals to adopt sustainable practices. UN Volunteers are catalysts in this crucial process. Through passionate advocacy and grassroots outreach, they encourage communities to embrace sustainable habits, promote human rights, and actively participate in local development. Their enthusiasm inspires others, reinforcing positive behaviours and collective responsibility.

Profound Changes, Lasting Impacts

Through volunteerism, the UN witnessed profound changes in individual lives and communities. For the government, UN Volunteers offer critical support in reaching underserved populations and advancing national priorities, reflecting the shared vision of an inclusive, sustainable future.

Ultimately, volunteerism demonstrates the extraordinary power of everyday people to drive meaningful progress. The dedication of UN Volunteers exemplifies humanity at its best—united in purpose, committed in action, and unwavering in hope for a better tomorrow.

“

As a deaf person working with UNDP on climate change and greening, gender equity, inclusion, and operational efficiency, I am helping to create a more accessible and equitable future for current and successive generations. My work ensures that people with disabilities are recognized as invaluable contributors to beneficial and impactful policies, programmes, and general office operations that advance the holistic welfare of all qualified personnel.

Cristophe Phillips
National UNV, Jamaica
Operations and Programme Assistant

“

Through strategic partnerships and inter-agency collaboration, I played a key role in the Hurricane Beryl response, ensuring the efficient mobilization of resources and effective humanitarian assistance. These efforts directly contribute to SDG 11 and 13 by building a stronger, more coordinated emergency response framework for Jamaica.

Kemesha Swaby
National UNV, Jamaica
Emergency Response Preparedness & Partnerships Office Assistant

“

A central part of my work is the provision of normative support to institutions by reviewing and strengthening legislative and policy frameworks. This ensures that national policies align with international human rights and gender equality standards, as well as the 2030 Agenda's core principle of 'Leave No One Behind'. By supporting these processes, I help ensure that commitments to gender equality translate into tangible legislative and policy changes that benefit all women and girls throughout the Caribbean. I am contributing directly to the UN Country Team's progress on SDG 5: Gender Equality.

Jessica Gill
International Volunteer, Ireland
Gender Equality and Governance Assistant

“

Since joining the Resident Coordinator's Office, I have prioritized disability inclusion by working with key stakeholders to build awareness and encourage the adoption of inclusive approaches in line with the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS).

I plan to continue this work while also creating opportunities for capacity building in other areas, [such as] gender mainstreaming, the human rights-based approach, and strengthening advocacy and community engagement. These initiatives directly contribute to the MSDCF's priority area of equality, well-being, and leaving no one behind.

Timothy Dooli
International UNV, South Korea
Human Rights Associate,
Resident Coordinator's Office

“

As a climate change, energy and environment associate, my work directly contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by supporting countries in developing climate-related projects that promote sustainability and resilience. Drawing from my previous experience, I have been able to quickly understand the country's climate change context, allowing for more targeted and effective interventions.

Hyeongyeong Kim
International UNV, South Korea
Climate Change, Energy and Environment Associate

UNVOICES

“

I am proud to have leverage digital media and creative strategies to develop compelling content, manage online engagement, and amplify key messages that drive awareness and action. By utilizing innovative communication tools, I help ensure that the UN's initiatives are effectively conveyed to diverse audiences. I am merging creativity with purpose—helping to inform, inspire, and drive change on a global scale.

Ruth Lawrence
National UNV, Jamaica
Digital Media Communications
and Partnership Assistant

Timothy
Cristophe
Kemesha
Jessica
Ruth
Hyeongyeong



Annex I: Acronymns

ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
BGA	Bureau of Gender Affairs
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CBT	Cash-Based Transfers
CAS	Caribbean Academy of Sciences
CDC	Centres for Disease Control
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbons
CIP	Country Implementation Plan
CLS	CDEMA Logistics System
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbons
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DR	Drug Resistance
DRRR	Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience
DWCP	Decent Work Country Programme
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FSL	Food Security and Livelihoods
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GBVie	GBV in Emergencies
GDP	Gross Development Product
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GoB	Government of the Bahamas
GoJ	Government of Jamaica
HCFC	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
HNAP	Health National Adaptation Plan
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGME	Interagency group for child mortality
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
ILO	International Labour Organization
ILS	International Labour Standards
IPC	Infection Prevention and Control
ISA	International Seabed Authority
ITC	International Trade Centre
JCF	Jamaica Constabulary Force
JCO	Jamaica Crime Observatory
JDF	Jamaica Defence Force
JEF	Jamaica Employers' Federation
JAMPRO	Jamaica Promotions Corporation
JACRA	Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority

JCW	Jamaica Community for HIV+ Women
JFJ	Jamaicans for Justice
JMEA	Jamaica Manufacturers and Exporters Association
JCPD	Jamaica Council for Persons with Disability
JTC	Jamaica Teaching Council
JYAN	Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MCGES	Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports
MICS	Multiple Indicators Cluster Surveys
MLSS	Ministry of Labour and Social Security
MOHW	Ministry of Health and Wellness
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MSDCF	Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NEPA	National Environment and Planning Agency
NAP	National Apprenticeship Programme
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODS	Ozone-Depleting Substances
ODPEM	Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management
OPD	Organizations of Persons with Disabilities
PIOJ	Planning Institute of Jamaica
PSOJ	Private Sector Organization of Jamaica
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
RADA	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
SRC	Scientific Research Council
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SG	Secretary-General
STATIN	Statistical Institute of Jamaica
TVET	Technical and vocational education and training
UBRAF	Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDIS	United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Annex I: Acronymns

UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNLIREC	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNV	United Nations Volunteers

UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VNR	Voluntary National Review
VRS	Violence Reduction Strategy
VAC	Violence against Children Survey
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHIV	Women Living with HIV
YEAP	Youth Engagement Action Plan
YAG	Youth Advisory Group
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

Annex II: Key Partners

Jamaica

Government Ministries

- Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth & Information
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport
- Ministry of Labour and Social Security
- Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport
- Ministry of Legal and Constitutional Affairs
- Ministry of Health and Wellness
- Ministry of National Security
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining
- Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate
- Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Local Government and Community Development
- Ministry of Finance and the Public Service
- Ministry of Industry, Investment And Commerce
- Ministry of Tourism

Government Agencies and other Institutions

- Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)
- Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN)
- Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA)
- Jamaica Customs Agency
- Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency

Media, Private Sector, and Other Organizations

- Private Sector Organization of Jamaica (PSOJ)
- Jamaica Money Remittance Association
- ICW Caribbean
- RJR Gleaner Group
- Network of Caribbean Youth Directors
- NCB Foundation
- Jamaica Information Service (JIS)
- Public Broadcasting Corporation of Jamaica (PBCJ)

- Management (ODPEM)
- Kingston & St. Andrew Municipal Corporation (KSAMC)
- St. James Municipal Corporation
- Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO)
- Jamaica Employers Federation (JEF)
- HEART/NSTA Trust
- Jamaica Productivity Centre
- Jamaica Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority
- UWI Caribbean Academy of the Sciences (CAS)
- Bureau of Standards
- Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
- Scientific Research Council (SRC)
- Bureau of Gender Affairs (BGA)
- Agro-Invest Corporation
- Jamaica Business Development Corporation
- National Insurance Scheme (NIS)
- UNESCO National Commission
- Early Childhood Commission (ECC)
- Jamaica Teaching Council (JTC)
- National Fisheries Authority
- National Parenting Support Commission
- National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)
- Office of the Children's Advocate
- Child Protection and Family Services Agency (CPFSA)
- Governor-General's Programme for Excellence
- Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF)
- Jamaica Defence Force (JDF)
- Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency

Civil Society Partners

- United Nations Association of Jamaica (UNAJ)
- Jamaica Network of Seropositives (JN+)
- Early Childhood Commission
- Equality for All Foundation Jamaica Ltd.
- Food for the Poor
- Jamaica Household Workers union
- Junior Achievement Jamaica
- Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities
- Jamaica Civil Society Forum on HIV/AIDS
- Jamaica Community of Positive Women
- Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network (JYAN)
- Transwave

Annex II: Key Partners (Cont'd)

The Bahamas

Government Ministries & Agencies

- Ministry of Labour and Public Service
- Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources
- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- Ministry of Immigration and National Insurance
- Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Health and Wellness
- Ministry of Social Services, Information and Broadcasting
- University of the Bahamas
- Department of Gender and Family Affairs
- National Tripartite Council

Statutory Bodies

- Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
- Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation
- National Congress of Trade Unions of the Bahamas

Bermuda

Government Ministries & Agencies

- Government of Bermuda
- Ministry of Youth, Social Development and Seniors
- Bermuda Economic Development Corporation (BEDC)
- The Founder Institute

Contributing Partners

Bilateral

- Government of Canada
- Government of Jamaica
- Government of Japan
- Government of the Netherlands
- Government of Norway
- Government of the United Kingdom
- United Kingdom Department for International Development
- Global Affairs Canada
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Thematic funds

- UNICEF Global Thematic Humanitarian Fund
- UNICEF Education Thematic Fund
- UNICEF WASH Thematic Trust Fund
- GLOBAL THEMATIC - CHILD PROTECTION
- WHO Thematic Funds
- The US Government Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
- USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
- United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
- United Nations Peace-building Support Office

Regional

- Caribbean Community Secretariat
- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

- The Commonwealth of the Bahamas Trade Union Congress
- Bahamas National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD)
- The Bahamas Development Bank
- Public Hospitals Authority
- Disaster Risk Management Authority
- Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas
- Bahamas UNESCO National Commission
- National Health Insurance Authority
- The Bahamas SDG Unit

Civil Society Partners

- Organization for Responsible Governance (ORG)

Other

- The Commonwealth Secretariat

Multilateral

- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- US Agency for International Development (USAID)
- European Union
- United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund
- Unified Budget, Results, and Accountability Framework (UBRAF)
- Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Joint SDG Fund
- Green Climate Fund
- Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol
- International Fund for Agricultural Development
- IOM Development Fund

Other

- Spanish Committee for UNICEF
- UNICEF Private Sector Fundraising
- United States Fund for UNICEF
- United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF
- UN Agencies' Core Funds

Annex III: 2024 Accomplishments at a Glance

Digital Platforms

- Digital Services Platform (designed to disseminate information in the food and agriculture and related sectors and scale up agricultural services) (FAO)
- JaDiaspora Engage Platform (an engagement/knowledge exchange platform for the Jamaican diaspora community) (IOM)
- Logistics Support System (health inventory management and monitoring system) (PAHO)
- CDEMA Logistics System (WFP)
- Supply Chain Maturity model (systematically evaluate and improve logistics performance) (WFP)
- Justice Services Statistical System (UNDP)
- Digitization of vaccination records (UNICEF)
- eLearning course in Emergency Logistics for disaster management (WFP)
- Education Management & Information System (EMIS) behaviour change management strategy (UNICEF)
- Accessible Digital Textbook (ADT) series (UNICEF)

Policy/Plans/Strategies

- National Apprenticeship Bill (Bahamas) (ILO)
- Operational Rules and Guidelines for repurchase transactions (Bahamas) (UNDP)
- Draft Nationality Bill (Bahamas) (UNHCR)
- Health National Adaptation Plans (Bahamas) (PAHO)
- Draft Asylum Bill (Bahamas) (UNHCR)
- Draft National Policy the Prevention and Management of GBV (Bahamas) (UN WOMEN)
- National Small Arms Control Strategy (UNDP)
- Safe Schools Policy (UNICEF)
- Draft Protocol to Prevent, Manage, and Respond to Firearm-Related Incidents in Schools (UNLIREC)
- Jamaica Sign Language Compendium of Legal Terms toolkit (UNDP)
- Draft Jamaica's National Logistics and Relief Plan (WFP)
- Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and Implementation Plan for the National Population and Sustainable Development Policy (UNFPA)
- Marrakesh Treaty signing (international copyright treaty that aims to make accessible formats of books easier to produce and share for people with visual impairments or other print disabilities) (UNICEF)

Data

- Multiple Indicators Cluster Surveys (MICS 6, MICS+) (UNICEF)
- Multidimensional Poverty Index (integration of digital metrics) (allows policymakers to assess digital literacy, access, and affordability, identify digital deficits contributing to poverty, and develop effective governance strategies that promote equitable digital access) (UNDP)

Research/Studies/Reports

- Violence against Children Survey 2023 and Data to Action Framework (UNICEF)
- GO-SPIN (maps/analyses Jamaica's research and innovation ecosystem) (UNESCO)
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene assessment (UNICEF)
- Food Security and Livelihoods survey- Jamaica (WFP)
- Green Job Assessment model (econometric analysis of Jamaica's socio-economic outcomes, evaluating the impact of the country's climate change mitigation policies) (ILO)
- Jamaica Just Transition: Embedding Climate Justice in Regional Policy Frameworks (ILO)
- National Green Hydrogen Potential study (UNEP)
- Gender Position Paper on Jamaica's Just Transition (gender-responsive recommendations for executing a Just Transition in Jamaica, in line with national priorities and climate commitments) (UNDP)
- Green Paper on Violence prevention (Bahamas) (PAHO)
- Gender Assessment of the Jamaica Social Protection System in Jamaica (UN Women)
- Draft Sexuality Education Training Manual (UNAIDS)
- Learning Needs Assessment of the Justice Sector (UNDP)
- Gender Assessment of the HIV Response (UNAIDS/UN Women)
- Assessment emergency and critical care services (PAHO)
- Gender Position Paper on Jamaica's Just Transition (UNDP)
- Submission of Quadrennial Periodic Report under the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (UNESCO)
- Development Potential of the Minerals Sector and Mining Industry in Jamaica diagnostic (UNDP)
- Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment (VAA) of Port Royal (UNDP)
- Empowered Futures Parenting Curriculum (UNICEF)

Other

- Official certification of the elimination of mother-to-child transmission (EMTCT) of HIV and congenital syphilis (PAHO)
- Retrofit to UWIs Net Zero Building (NZB) at the Centre for Advanced Research in Renewable Energy (UNDP)



Annual Results Report 2024



UNITED NATIONS

JAMAICA, BAHAMAS, BERMUDA
TURKS AND CAICOS & CAYMAN ISLANDS



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