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UZBEKISTAN



ANNUAL  
**REPORT**  
2020

UN MULTI-PARTNER  
HUMAN SECURITY  
TRUST FUND FOR THE  
**ARAL SEA REGION**  
**IN UZBEKISTAN**

**UN MULTI-PARTNER HUMAN SECURITY TRUST FUND  
FOR THE ARAL SEA REGION IN UZBEKISTAN**



## FUND INFORMATION

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### MPHSTF

UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan

### Operational period

November 12, 2018 – December 31, 2023

### Funding

For 2020: USD 9,095,379

### Goals

To address environmental, economic, health, food, and social insecurities in the most vulnerable areas of the Aral Sea region by providing innovative solutions to address environmental issues, improving the access of affected rural populations to basic services, and contributing to poverty reduction.

### Expected Outcomes

- 1: The stress on local communities due to the deteriorating environmental situation is reduced.
- 2: Employment and income generation opportunities for local communities are increased .
- 3: Local community access to affordable and healthy food and clean drinking water is secured.
- 4: The overall health of the local population is improved, and healthy lifestyle promoted.
- 5: The living conditions of local populations are improved, with particular focus on vulnerable groups such as women, children, and youth.

### Reporting period

January - December 2020

### Participating UN Organisations

UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNODC, FAO, WHO

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## PARTICIPATING UN ORGANISATIONS

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Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)



United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC)



United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)



World Health Organization (WHO)

## CONTRIBUTORS

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Government of Finland



European Union



Government of Norway



Government of the Republic of Korea



Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan

## PARALLEL CONTRIBUTORS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MPHSTF

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Government of Japan

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>AC</b>	Advisory Committee on Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea Region	<b>RCO</b>	Resident Coordinator Office
<b>CFP</b>	Call for Proposals	<b>RoK</b>	Republic of Karakalpakstan
<b>CDPs</b>	Community development plans	<b>RMP</b>	Resource Mobilisation and Partnership Strategy
<b>CPAP</b>	Continuous Positive Airway Pressure	<b>SC</b>	Steering Committee of the UN MPHSTF
<b>EIB</b>	European Investment Bank	<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>EmOC</b>	Emergency Obstetric Care	<b>SIC ICWC</b>	Scientific-Information Center of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission of Central Asia
<b>EU</b>	European Union	<b>SMEs</b>	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organisation	<b>ToR</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>HMIS</b>	Health Management Information System	<b>TRP</b>	Technical Review Panel
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology	<b>TS</b>	Technical Secretariat of the MPHSTF
<b>IICAS</b>	International Innovation Center for the Aral Sea Basin	<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
<b>JP</b>	Joint Programme	<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>MCH</b>	Maternal and Child Health	<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>MIFT</b>	Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade	<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>MOH</b>	Ministry of Health	<b>UNODC</b>	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
<b>MPHSTF</b>	UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan	<b>VCC</b>	Village council of citizens
<b>NGOs</b>	Non-Governmental Organisations	<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
<b>NMCR</b>	Near-miss Case Review	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation
<b>PUNOs</b>	Participating UN Organisations		



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2020,, the UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan (MPHSTF), a multi-partnership financial and development instrument of the Government of Uzbekistan, the United Nations, international donors and the financial community, consolidated and expanded its work towards a people-centred response to addressing the consequences of one of the world's biggest man-made environmental disasters.

The MPHSTF recorded a number of successes in 2020. In particular, this report presents key achievements of the Fund, significant milestones for 2020, and some of the key achievements of the two joint programmes that were approved within the First Call for proposals (CFP) announced in early 2019.

The first joint programme (JP), implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) continued to "Address urgent human securities in the Aral Sea region by promoting sustainable rural development" in support of MPHSTF Outcome 3. This resulted in improved access to clean drinking water, increased income generation and employment opportunities, and support for climate change adaptation measures through the findings of scientific expeditions to the drained bed of the Aral Sea.

The second Joint Programme, implemented by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), focuses on "Improving the quality of perinatal care service to the most vulnerable mothers and newborns." This contributed to the Fund's Outcome 4 and resulted in improved access to perinatal services through improved infrastructure and trainings of medical personnel.

In 2020, the Governments of Uzbekistan, Finland, Republic of Korea, and the

EU contributed USD 9.1 million to the Trust Fund, underscoring a high level of international commitment to mitigate the negative consequences of the Aral Sea disaster. Just as importantly, the MPHSTF represents a good model of international partnership, in which the Government of Uzbekistan, the UN, and the international community have pooled their respective resources and expertise to jointly deliver on the Trust Fund's strategic objectives. This model of multilateralism is a critical step forward in the face of this environmental crisis.

Within the Second Call for Proposals, the MPHSTF Steering Committee approved an additional three Joint Programmes for funding to the amount of USD 6 million, addressing such priority areas as Youth, Innovation, and Health Security.

Another achievement is the official launch of the Advisory Committee on Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan, which aims to support coherent, sustainable development in the region and implement the concept of the Aral Sea being a Zone of Environmental Innovations and Technologies.

The year 2020 was marked by the COVID-19 pandemic which had far reaching health, and socio-economic consequences. As the pandemic grew, mitigation measures, including movement restrictions, became widespread and impacted on the performance of development interventions all over the world, including within the MPHSTF. Nevertheless, COVID-19 also created some opportunities, including boosting the development of online and digital instruments to tackle the negative consequences of the Aral Sea crisis.

Going forward, the MPHSTF will focus on encouraging others to join this effort, so that the goal of ensuring the human security of the population affected by the global Aral Sea disaster can be achieved together.

## I. ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FUND

Donors continued to actively support the MPHSTF in 2020, which included additional contributions of USD 9.1 million from the Governments of Uzbekistan, Finland, the Republic of Korea, and the European Union.

On November 2020, the Steering Committee approved three joint programmes amounting to USD 6 million within the Second Call for Proposals, addressing such priority areas as **Youth, Innovation, and Health Security**.

Despite the global COVID-19 pandemic and certain restrictions imposed in the country from March 2020, the first two MPHSTF joint programmes made significant progress towards Outcomes 3 and 4, including:



the provision of clean drinking water to **3,491 rural people** in 5 communities in Takhtakupir district;



the selection of **6** business projects for co-financing. Of these, **2** were supported (Soap production and Improvement of Dentistry services) and 8 people employed. The remaining **4** business projects are at the stage of receiving deliveries of equipment. All **6** projects provided opportunities for **35** rural people to be employed, benefiting at least **5,537** people;



on the dry seabed, **2** scientific expeditions were conducted, more than 30 plant species were identified from 1,500 different points, and these were recommended for planting on the dried seabed;



improved technical and financial capacity of the Takhtakupir forestry department, which helped plant saxaul on over 3,000 hectares of land on the dried bed and created a nursery on 49 hectares of land for growing seedlings from drought-resistant plants and 58 hectares of pasture areas;



THE SEA IS GONE,  
PEOPLE ARE NOT

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FUND



the renovation of **3** perinatal centres in Kungrad and Beruniy districts and Nukus city. As a result, more than **8,900** mothers and **9,000** newborns directly benefited from upgraded infrastructure and improved quality of care. This led to a 40 per cent decrease in the antenatal mortality rate at the Nukus city Perinatal Center, and a nearly 30 per cent and 17 per cent decrease in early neonatal deaths at the Beruniy and Kungrad Perinatal Centers, respectively



a total of **5** medical facilities (the Regional Perinatal Center, the Karakalpak Medical Institute, and the Beruniy, Kungrad and Nukus City perinatal centers) were equipped with sets of web-conferencing equipment for face-to-face training, online learning, and coordination meetings.

On December 1, 2020, the UN, in cooperation with the Government, jointly hosted the Inaugural Meeting of the Advisory Committee to support sustainable development in the Aral Sea Region. More than 120 representatives from foreign missions to Uzbekistan, international financing institutions, UN agencies, international non-government organisations (NGOs), the private sector, and civil society organisations participated in the meeting. The creation of this Advisory Committee will enable constructive dialogue between all stakeholders on various aspects of development of the Aral Sea region.

## KEY MILESTONES IN 2020

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○ FEBRUARY  
2020

### LAUNCH OF THE SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The MPHSTF launched its Second Call for Proposals covering priority areas such as Youth, Innovation, and Health, receiving three project proposals.

○ MARCH  
2020

### LAUNCH OF THE GREEN ARAL SEA INITIATIVE

On March 11, the UNDP in Uzbekistan launched the Green Aral Sea crowdfunding campaign, which will help mitigate the negative consequences of the Aral Sea disaster. Through this campaign, UNDP seeks to contribute to improving the lives of people in local communities by planting a 100-hectare forest of 100,000 saxaul saplings on the dry seabed.

○ JULY  
2020

### THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Fourth meeting of the Steering Committee was held online on 14 July, 2020. During the meeting, members made a series of recommendations on the programme proposals of the three Participating UN Organisations (PUNOs). A unanimous decision was also made to approve the agenda and date of the first meeting of the Advisory Committee.

○ SEPTEMBER  
2020

### INITIATIVE TO ADOPT A SPECIAL UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION

The President of Uzbekistan, H.E. Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, speaking at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2020, came up with an initiative to adopt a special UN General Assembly resolution declaring the Aral Sea region a Zone of Environmental Innovations and Technologies, and declare the day of adopting this document as the International Day for the Protection and Restoration of Ecological Systems.



○ OCTOBER  
2020

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARAL SEA REGION

A new Senate Committee of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the development of the Aral Sea Region was established to improve the livelihoods, stabilise the environment, and strengthen systemic parliamentary control over the progress of reforms in these areas.

○ NOVEMBER  
2020

## PRESIDENTIAL RESOLUTION ON MEASURES FOR THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF KARAKALPAKSTAN

On November 11, 2020, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted the **Resolution** "On measures for the comprehensive socio-economic development of the Republic of Karakalpakstan in 2020-2023." The programme aims to increase investment in the region and provide new enterprises with tax benefits. Cognizant of the growth potential of 17 districts and cities, 2,803 projects, worth 21.2 trillion Uzbek soums were developed and are due to be implemented from 2020 to 2023.

## APPROVAL FUNDING FOR THREE NEW JOINT PROGRAMMES

Within the Second Call for Proposals, the MPHSTF Steering Committee approved the funding of **three Joint Programmes**, amounting to more than **USD 6 million**, and addressing such priority areas as **Youth, Innovation, and Health Security**.

○ DECEMBER  
2020

## INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Inaugural Meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea Region was held on 1 December. More than 120 representatives from foreign missions to Uzbekistan, international financing institutions, UN agencies, international NGOs, the private sector, and civil society organisations participated in the meeting.

## AMBASSADORS' VISIT TO THE REPUBLIC OF KARAKALPAKSTAN

From 21-25 December, 2020 a delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and diplomatic missions headed by the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassadors of the Republic of Uzbekistan visited Nukus. The main purpose of the visit was to consider and discuss investment projects to mobilise additional resources.



## MPHSTF Programmatic Framework

The MPHSTF aims to contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



- Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.4, 3.8, 3.C)
- Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all (targets 8.2, 8.4, 8.5)
- Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable (targets 11.2, 11.5, 11.A)

### OUTCOME 1

The stress on local communities due to the deteriorating environmental situation is reduced

- Local management practices and knowledge of ecosystem services are improved.
- New technologies in the area of water purification, agroforestry, afforestation, and soil stabilisation are piloted.
- Water, air, and soil pollution are monitored and addressed through local regulatory practices.

### OUTCOME 2

The employment and income generation opportunities for local communities are increased

- New income opportunities in sectors adjusted to local conditions (e.g., agriculture, ethno-tourism, infrastructure and housing construction, and the service industry) are created.
- The skills and knowledge of local communities to participate in new industries as entrepreneurs, as well as adaptability to new work conditions for employability are improved.
- Investments in local infrastructure serving local communities (e.g., energy, access roads, service industry, and banking) are increased.

### OUTCOME 3

Local community access to affordable and healthy food and clean drinking water is secured

- Local infrastructure investments for access and distribution of clean water are increased.
- Local production, processing, storage, and sale of diverse, affordable, and high-quality food are increased.
- The quality of nutrition is increased through standardisation, regulation, monitoring, information, and education.

### OUTCOME 4

The overall health of the local population is improved and healthy lifestyle is promoted

- Investments in local health services and pharmacies (e.g., facilities and equipment) are increased.
- Access to rural health clinics and to medication, primarily in remote areas, is improved.
- The quality of health care is improved through increased professional education.
- Healthy lifestyles and practices, drug and alcohol use prevention, as well as mental health are promoted, including sanitation, vaccination, waste disposal, and local medicinal plants.

### OUTCOME 5

The living conditions of local populations are improved, with particular focus on vulnerable groups such as women, children, and youth

- Adequate housing appropriate for the local living conditions is provided.
- Social and community services, including pre-school education and leisure opportunities, and life skill education for children and youth are improved.
- The local governance system for addressing the human security needs of the population is improved.





## OUTCOME 3

Local community access to affordable and healthy food and clean drinking water secured

### UNDP and UNESCO Joint Programme “Addressing the urgent human insecurities in the Aral Sea region through the promotion of sustainable rural development”

The JP’s **goal** is to address environmental, social, and economic insecurities in the most vulnerable communities of the Aral Sea region through comprehensive solutions to cope with environmental issues, promote access to basic services, improve living standards, and develop sustainable tourism.

The JP aims to address environmental, social, and economic insecurities in the most vulnerable communities of the Aral Sea region through **specific objectives**:

#### Objective 1

Improving community resilience by ensuring access to clean drinking water;

Objective 1 has a direct contribution to

#### MPHSTF Outcome 3

securing local community access to affordable and healthy food and clean drinking water

#### Objective 2

Enhancing the social well-being of the rural population (including women and youth) by expanding income generation opportunities and promoting the inclusive sustainable growth of tourism in Karakalpakstan;

Objective 2 contributes to

#### MPHSTF Outcome 2

increasing employment and income generation opportunities for local communities

#### Objective 3

Promoting climate change adaptation actions through evidence-based afforestation initiatives.

Objective 3 addresses to

#### MPHSTF Outcome 1

reducing stress on local communities due to the deteriorating environmental situation



Under **Objective 1, five infrastructure projects on water purification and supply of drinking water were implemented in the Takhtakupir district, RoK, for 3,491 beneficiaries in five rural communities.**

The project provided access to clean drinking water and improved relevant infrastructure. Particularly, facilities have been renovated and water purification equipment installed. The water purification and distribution station at the Tazakonis community is now fully functional. The Beltau Community Centre in the Mulk community has access to safe drinking water due to the installation of water pipeline networks. In addition to the three planned water infrastructure projects, two water projects were implemented in the Janadarya and Marjankol communities.

Access to clean drinking water became more important during the COVID-19 pandemic as people needed to improve hygiene and ensure preventive measures against the virus. The improved infrastructure enhanced the health and well-being of the local population in the Takhtakupir district of Karakalpakstan.



*Photo 1. Clean drinking water provided in Tazakonis community*



*Photo 2,3. Water purification and distribution station in Tazakonis in 2019*



*Photo 4. Same station in 2020*

In addition to infrastructure support, the JP developed a training module and brochures for the population on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in Russian and Karakalpak. Electronic versions of the brochures were disseminated to the heads of the Tazakonis, Beltau, Mulk, Marjankol, and Janadarya communities for further distribution among rural populations.

It has been estimated that 150 people from five rural communities improved their knowledge on necessary WASH measures through the online training organised. The project enhanced the knowledge and skills of rural inhabitants of target communities on prioritising needs and the formulation of community development plans during trainings.

Under **Objective 2, six small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) were established and supported.** The establishment of these SMEs created employment opportunities for rural youth and women and increased their income. The UNDP supplied businesses with production facilities and equipment. These SMEs focused on fodder production, milk processing,



**Photo 5.** Private enterprise "UMIT-MEDICA" Takhtakupir district.

Moreover, the JP assisted business owners and enhanced rural entrepreneurs' knowledge and skills in management, value chains, strategy formulation, and taxation. Overall, 25 people (52 per cent women and youth) improved their skills through training on value chains within the livestock sector, and on the fundamentals of business planning and entrepreneurship development. Another 25 women and girls were trained on the basics of entrepreneurship and business development. In the Takhtakupir district, 20 owners of SMEs passed a training on strategy formulation, value-chain analysis, and taxation, while relevant business strategies were

straw mat/board production, soap production, halva-kozinaki production, and dentistry services. They made products for local and regional markets, which enhanced food security and strengthened economic security for the target communities. These businesses include three led by rural youth and women.



**Photo 6.** Family enterprise "Hurliman-Aru Takhta," Takhtakupir district

developed for five SMEs. A total of 70 people enhanced the skills essential for developing businesses.

Over 30 people benefited directly from new jobs and over 5,000 people have access to the goods produced and services provided within these initiatives.

**UNESCO conducted two trainings on the development of heritage-based sustainable tourism and the development of the hospitality industry** in Karakalpakstan. Overall, 62 tourism, nature and culture professionals, and local communities, including women and youth, have been trained.

Two pieces of research / assessments of the development of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and the hospitality industry in Karakalpakstan, have been carried out. These include the elaboration of new tourism destinations and products and the formulation of a set of recommendations in the respective fields.

Under **Objective 3**, the JP initiated **two expeditions to the dry seabed of the Aral Sea** to analyse the current situation, resulting in a set of practical recommendations presented in the form of a book (and a book summary). The JP also provided technical support to local forestry institutions to assist them in their efforts to mitigate the negative environmental consequences of the crisis.



*Photo 7. Soil surveys conducted during the expeditions*



*Photo 8. Three of the 74 species identified during expedition vegetation surveys of the Aral Sea seabed*



*Figure 1. Areas covered by the two expeditions*

The Scientific-Information Center of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia (SIC ICWC) and the International Innovation Center for the Aral Sea Basin (IICAS) monitored the dry bottom of the Aral Sea. The first complex expedition to the dry seabed of the Aral Sea region took place from September 20 to October 20, 2019, and a second expedition was conducted in May–June 2020. The expeditions covered the southern part of the dried seabed, particularly the regions of Muynak and Adzhibay Bay (see Figure 1).

The participants of the expedition travelled 5,350 km, collected 56 soil samples (Photo 7) and described 2,142 points on various surface classes. Figure 1 contains visual maps that present the expedition routes.



During the expeditions, more than 74 species of higher plants were identified (Photo 8) from over 2,060 different survey points of the dry bottom of the Aral Sea. These plants comprised 51 genera and 21 families, and represented the majority of vegetation cover.



*Photo 9. Mobile wagon houses for shift teams*

The key findings and recommendations of the two expeditions were provided in the book and a summarised version. A roundtable discussion was organised to present the book on 'Monitoring of the dried seabed of the Aral Sea.' Over 100 afforestation specialists of the State Forestry Committee and its 16 branches improved their knowledge on innovative methods of afforestation through trainings organised in cooperation with IICAS.

Trained afforestation specialists are expected to disseminate knowledge on innovative methods of afforestation with local farmers, *dehkans*, and pasture cooperative specialists. The project developed methodological guidelines on: 1) Taking inventory of forested areas using GIS technology; 2) The development and introduction of a system of measures to protect the seeds of trees and shrubs against pests and diseases; 3) Development of measures to promote the natural renewal of forestry crops in Tugai forests; and 4) Development and implementation of innovative methods of afforestation in drought-prone

areas (in Russian and Karakalpak languages).

Based on the assessment results, the JP identified demand for 17 types of essential machinery and equipment. By the end of 2020, some of this machinery and equipment had been delivered to the Takhtakupir Forestry Department, namely radio telephones for field communications, a truck for transporting seeds and seedlings, an excavator-bulldozer, mobile homes with diesel generators, heaters, air conditioning systems, and tents, field ovens, tarpaulins, and welding units on wheels.

These measures helped to plant saxaul in over 3,000 hectares of land on the drained bottom of the Aral Sea (against 100–150 hectares before the intervention), and created a nursery on 49 hectares of land for growing seedlings from drought-resistant plants (against 2–3 hectares prior to the intervention). Additionally, 58 hectares of pasture lands were developed and 142 hectares are expected to be developed.



## OUTCOME 4

The overall health of the local population improved and healthy lifestyle promoted

### UNICEF and UNFPA Joint Programme “Improvement of Quality of Perinatal Care Service to Most Vulnerable Mothers and Newborns”

This Outcome captures the PUNOs’ activities to improve the quality of perinatal care service to the most vulnerable mothers and newborns.

The Government of Uzbekistan and the UN in Uzbekistan have prioritised the reduction of maternal and newborn deaths and stillbirths in line with global efforts, as embodied by Sustainable Development Goal 3. By 2030, the stated goal is to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births. The aim is also to end preventable deaths of newborns and children under five years of age, seeking to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births, and under-five mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.

The main goal of the JP is to ensure the population’s access to perinatal services by improving infrastructure, providing essential equipment to medical facilities and increase the quality of mother and newborn health care services.

The objective of the JP is to support the Ministry of Health (MoH) of the Republic of Karakalpakstan to:

Ensure access of the population to perinatal services by improving infrastructure and providing essential equipment for level II perinatal referral facilities



Increase the quality of maternal and newborn health care services and increase the awareness of families to make informed choices about health and nutrition



The JP supports **MPHSTF Outcome 4** that the overall health of the local population is improved, and healthy lifestyle is promoted using the percentage of reduction in infant and maternal mortality rates as Outcome level indicators.



During the reporting period, UNICEF and UNFPA significantly contributed to the Government's efforts to improve the quality of perinatal services at secondary and primary levels in the Republic of Karakalpakstan by improving infrastructure, upgrading equipment, and building the capacity of medical professionals in three district perinatal centres (in Kungrad and Beruniy districts, and Nukus City). All three serve as inter-district perinatal centres and admit women from neighbouring districts.

The following are the key milestones achieved by the JP.

**Renovations of the Kungrad and Beruniy perinatal centres and of the Nukus City Perinatal Center were completed**, which included installing a power generator, automatic voltage regulators, and new electrical wiring to ensure smooth operations. Renovation work also included installing seven air conditioners, a water tank, water pumps and filters, and four boilers to ensure a reliable supply of cold and hot water, which the facilities lacked. Renovations were completed

in the summer of 2020, significantly improving the perinatal centres' infrastructure and allowing the centres to install and use a large set of modern equipment covering all significant aspects of care for mothers and newborns.

**UNICEF and UNFPA have completed procurement from certified suppliers of the listed and specified equipment that was agreed to with the Ministry of Health.** This ensured the purchase of high-quality equipment with sufficient warranty periods. A total of 15 pieces of equipment have been delivered to the targeted perinatal facilities, while 27 other pieces of equipment are at different stages of procurement and are set to be delivered and installed by the end of April 2021.

**The project team has renovated a training room at the Regional Perinatal Center in Nukus, provided furniture for training rooms at the Regional Perinatal Center and the Karakalpak Medical Institute, and equipped the Regional Perinatal Center, the Karakalpak Medical Institute, and the Beruniy, Kungrad, and Nukus City**



*Photo 10. Neonatal ward at the Kungrad Perinatal Center*



*Photo 11. Training room at the Kungrad Perinatal center*

**perinatal centres** with sets of web-conferencing equipment and personal computers for face-to-face trainings, online learning, and coordination meetings.

**More than 530 medical professionals (350 planned for the reporting period) have improved their knowledge** in basic emergency obstetric care, newborn care, supportive supervision, and resuscitation. In particular:

- ◆ 150 neonatologists have improved their knowledge and skills in evidence-based modern newborn practices developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- ◆ 40 healthcare providers have gained new knowledge on Perinatal Audit.
- ◆ 175 midwives and obstetrician-gynaecologists have improved their knowledge and skills in delivering high-quality Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC).
- ◆ 30 health professionals strengthened their knowledge and skills in EmOC and resuscitation.

**A total of 70 healthcare providers and health managers from target facilities were engaged in five-day experience exchanges and learning visits** to leading national and subnational perinatal facilities in the country (in Tashkent and Fergana) to learn up to date and evidence-based maternal and newborn survival practices in the field.

**A total of 38 specialists improved their knowledge on how to conduct supportive supervision.** These national experts developed guidelines

on supportive supervision with the assistance of UNFPA and UNICEF.

**Four teams composed of leading neonatologists have been allocated to each target facility, which they have visited and monitored online.**

During each visit, teams scored each facility's performance based on checklists, to determine if feedback and corrective actions have been implemented. Support supervision focused on maternal health services, newborn care services, human resources, laboratory services, information availability, education and communication materials, and infrastructure. There were noticeable improvements in the supportive supervision style and adherence to clinical standards and guidelines. Relevant qualitative and quantitative indicators will be measured during the end-line assessment.

**Three teams, consisting of three specialists, went to the Republic of Karakalpakstan to conduct supportive supervision visits to eight perinatal centres.** Over six days of work at these centres, they ran on-the-job training for local specialists from the three perinatal centres and later conducted supportive supervision at the remaining centres together with local specialists.

A perinatal death audit is the process of assessing factors related to perinatal death. It helps to reduce perinatal mortality by identifying preventable factors related to perinatal deaths.

A total of 40 healthcare workers were trained on how to conduct perinatal

death audits and rectify situations based on findings on a regular basis. Regular perinatal audits can identify factors and lapses related to perinatal deaths and assist with the implementation of appropriate interventions to reduce avoidable perinatal deaths. A total of 50 per cent (20 out of 40 cases) of all deaths on average were audited in the target facilities during the reporting period: 34.2 percent were macerated stillbirths, 31.7 percent were fresh stillbirths, and 34.2 percent were early neonatal deaths. Avoidable factors included poor neonatal resuscitation skills, incorrect use of partographs, and delay in performing caesarean sections. Activities implemented included three skills sessions of neonatal resuscitation, the introduction of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) for babies with respiratory distress, and updates on the use of partographs.

**The conduct of a Near-miss Case Review (NMCR) was introduced at four perinatal facilities in the Republic of Karakalpakstan and at the Nukus Medical Institute.** In total, 60 healthcare specialists improved their skills in this area. It was reported that on average, 20 percent (59 out of 300 cases) of all near-miss cases that occurred during the reporting period in the target facilities were reviewed. The analysis concluded that haemorrhage and hypertensive disorders were the leading causes of maternal near misses. Under the guidance of national experts, local staff defined appropriate actions to be taken to prevent future occurrences and serious complications.



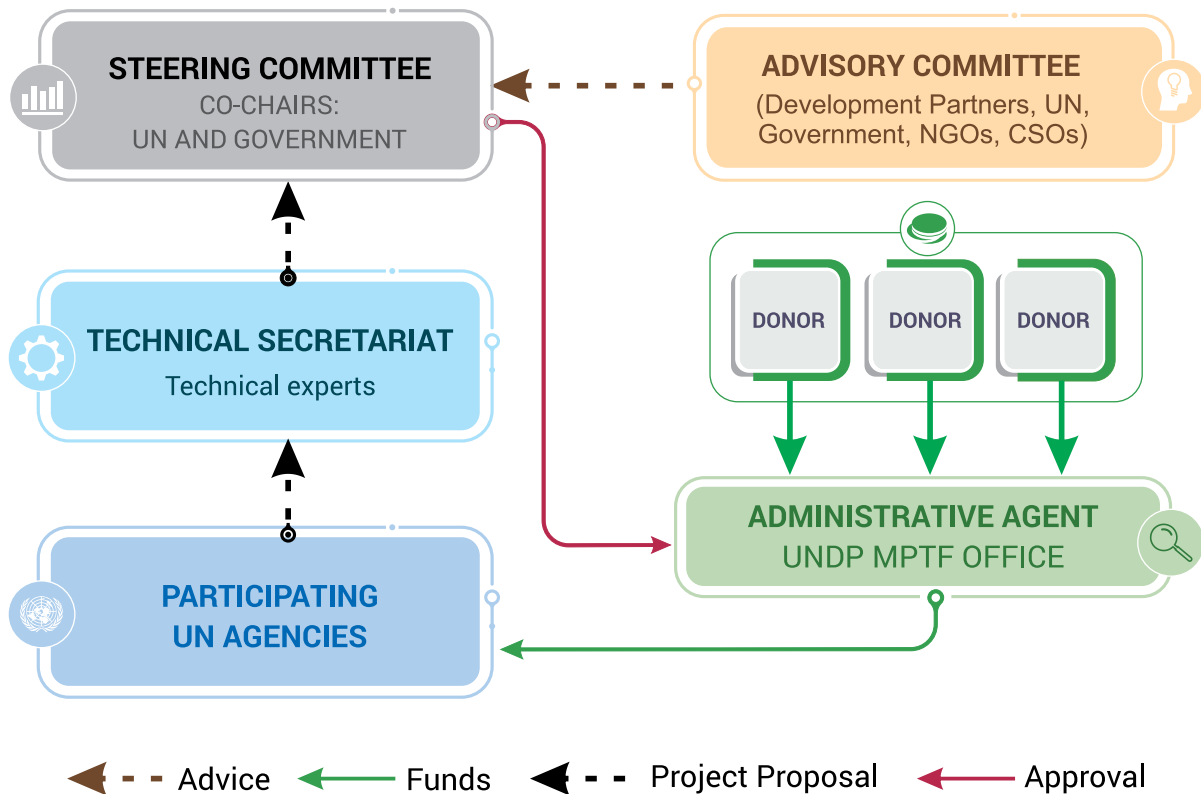
*Photo 12. Quality improvement trainings, Tashkent*

An international consultant was recruited to provide expert advice on quality improvement plans. **The international expert organised a series of online trainings for healthcare managers and providers,** to help each target facility develop and implement a quality improvement plan in 2020.

Trainings on quality improvement of perinatal health services were conducted in Tashkent and Nukus in March 2020 for more than 40 healthcare workers. Under the guidance of an international consultant, two national medical clinics (the Tashkent Medical Academy and the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynecology), the three target facilities (Kungrad, Beruniy, and Nukus City), and the Regional Perinatal Center in Nukus, developed and implemented their own quality improvement plans.

**In Karakalpakstan, two facilities reached the target of covering 100 per cent of postpartum women with standard obstetric monitoring in the early post-partum period** to prevent near-miss and maternal death cases. In addition, two facilities increased the early initiation of breastfeeding within one hour among babies born by caesarean section not admitted to the ICU, from 10 % to 60–70 %.

## MPHSTF GOVERNANCE ARCHITECTURE



### **STEERING COMMITTEE**

Responsible for the approval of Funds, decides the distribution of the funds among the implementation agencies.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Serves as an information-sharing forum once the number of donors and Participating UN Organisations becomes so large that their inclusion in the steering committee would no longer be feasible.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT**

Facilitates contributions and deposits to the fund and transfers these funds among the PUNOs as per the decision of the Trust Fund's Steering Committee.

### **TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

Responsible for programme coordination, technical support of the Steering Committee, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of projects within the framework of a unified strategy.

### **PARTICIPATING UN ORGANISATIONS**

UN agencies engaged in the implementation of the MPHSTF projects.



## II. FUND OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

### OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE, ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

#### STEERING COMMITTEE

As per the decision of the MPHSTF Steering Committee on December 16, 2019, in February 19, 2020 the MPHSTF announced a Second Call for Proposals covering such priority areas as Youth, Innovation, and Health Security with a proposal submission deadline of April 19, 2020.

The PUNOs approached the SC with a request to extend the Second Call for Proposals deadline due to the delay in their operations caused by COVID-19. Circumstances related to the pandemic, such as movement restrictions, hampered the PUNOs in ensuring adequate consultations in the Aral Sea region. The UN Agencies' staff also had to juggle emergency COVID-response work. Given this context, the SC decided to extend the Second Call for Proposals deadline for

three weeks (from April 19 to May 11, 2020). In total, three proposals were received from PUNOs amounting to a total of USD 12.45 million.

In July 2020, the SC, represented by Government representatives (including Karakalpak authority), donors (EU Delegation, the Embassies of Finland and Republic of Korea, local NGOs, and the UN agencies, in its Fourth meeting conditionally approved the joint World Health Organisation (WHO) and MOH proposal on a health system and health facility assessment. At the same time, the Steering Committee recommended that UNICEF, United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UNFPA and UNDP, UNFPA, and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Joint Programme proposals should be revised to focus on programmatic, sustainability, and financial aspects to ensure high-quality proposals.



*Photo 13. The Steering Committee meeting, July 14, 2020*

At the same meeting, a unanimous decision was made to approve the agenda and date of the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea region. The establishment of the Advisory Committee as a single platform will enable constructive dialogue between the Government, civil society and development partners on various aspects of the development of the Aral Sea region.

In November 2020, in line with the Steering Committee decision, the PUNOs revised their proposals based on the comments and recommendations of the SC and re-submitted them for online approval. After reviewing the revised proposals, the SC made a decision on online approval of the three joint proposals with the total amount USD 6 million.

## “Unleashing young people’s and vulnerable citizens’ creativity and innovation by strengthening their adaptive capacity to address the economic and food insecurities in the exposed communities of the Aral Sea region”

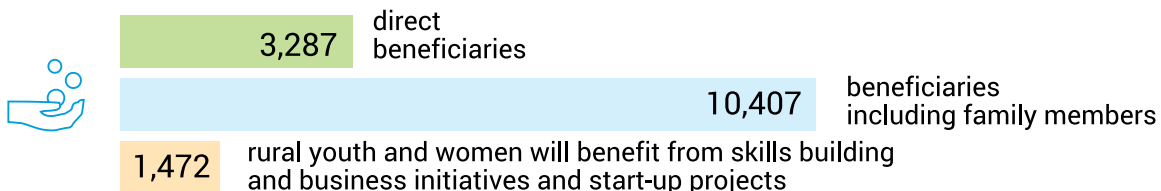


Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

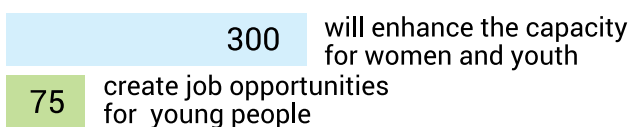


The UNDP, UNFPA, and FAO Joint project on “Unleashing young people’s and vulnerable citizens’ creativity and innovation by strengthening their adaptive capacity to address the economic and food insecurities in the exposed communities of the Aral Sea region” will benefit 3,287 direct beneficiaries (including family members, a total of 10,407). A total of 1,472 direct beneficiaries who comprise rural youth and women will benefit from skills building and business initiatives and start-up projects. Moreover, the programme will enhance the capacity of 300 women and youth to apply new agricultural practices and create job opportunities for 75 young people through the establishment of agricultural cooperatives and nine demonstration plots. Finally, 120 students and 300 young people will improve their information and communications technology (ICT) capacity through digitisation initiatives, platforms, and social infrastructure projects.

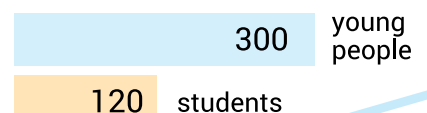
### Programme’s financial benefits



### Programme’s employment benefits



### Programme’s ICT benefits

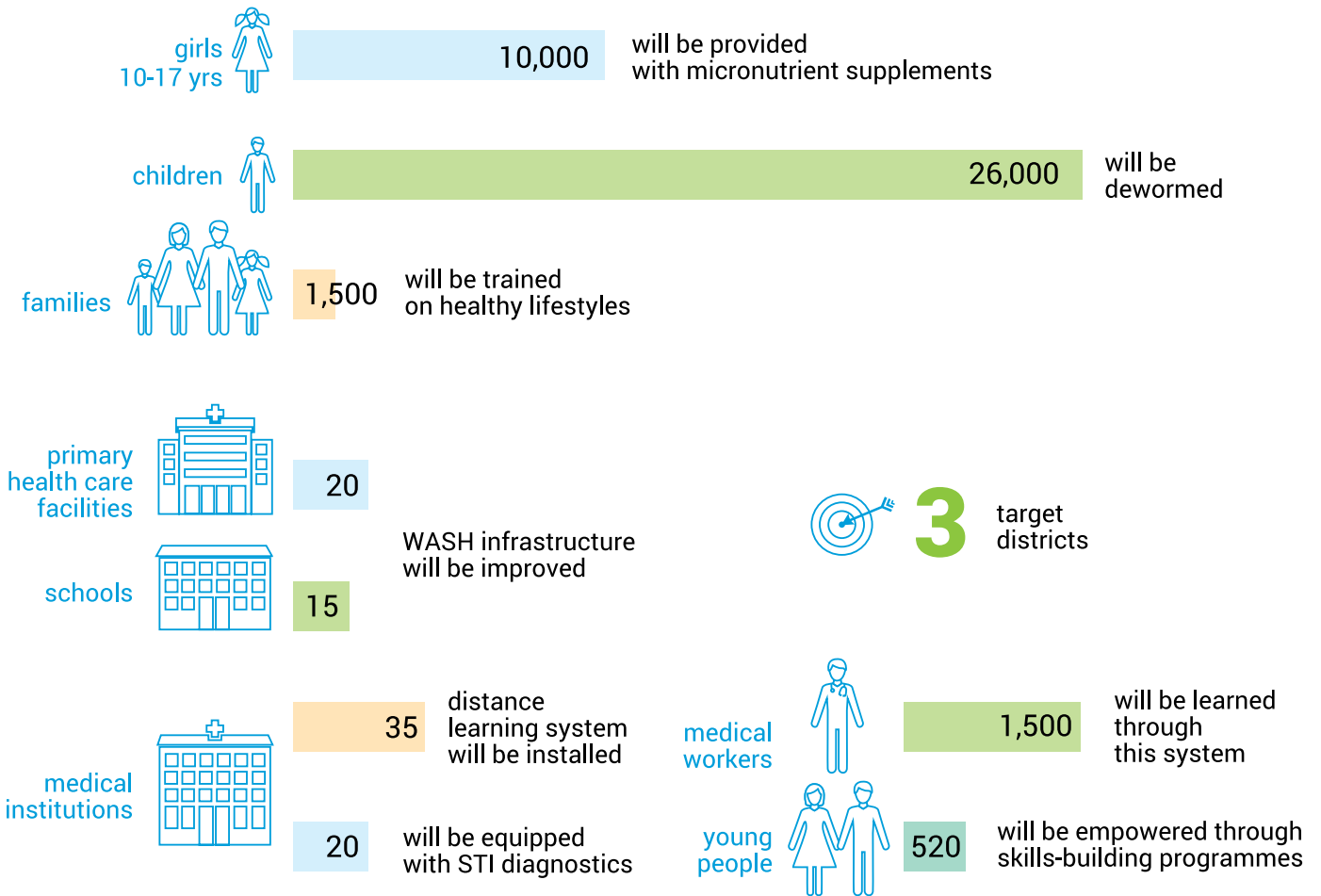




# “Investing in a resilient future of Karakalpakstan by harnessing the talents of youth and improving water, sanitation, hygiene, and nutrition during and after COVID-19”



The JP on “Investing in the resilient future of Karakalpakstan by harnessing the talents of youth and improving water, sanitation, hygiene, and nutrition during and after COVID-19” will be carried out jointly by UNICEF, UNODC, and UNFPA. Ten thousand girls aged 10-17 years will be provided with micronutrient supplements for the prevention of anaemia; 26,000 children will be dewormed; and 1,500 families will be trained on healthy lifestyles. WASH infrastructure in 15 selected schools and 20 primary health care facilities in three target districts (Muynak, Bozatau, and Kungrad) will be improved. A distance learning system will be installed in 35 medical institutions; 1,300 medical workers will be trained through this system; and 20 medical institutions will be equipped with STI diagnostics. Furthermore, 520 young people will be empowered through skills-building programmes.



## “Towards universal health coverage and security in Karakalpakstan (UHC+S)”



The WHO project “Towards universal health coverage and security in Karakalpakstan (UHC+S)” will identify priorities for future investment in the health sector based on a mapping of population needs and means and sector capacities, and will develop an evidence-based model of service delivery, as well as a financing model.



### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On December 1, 2020, the United Nations in Uzbekistan, in cooperation with the Government of Uzbekistan, jointly hosted the Inaugural Meeting of the Advisory Committee in support of sustainable development in the Aral Sea Region. More than 120 representatives from foreign missions to Uzbekistan, international financing institutions, UN agencies, international NGOs, the private sector, and civil

society organisations participated in the meeting.

The Advisory Committee for the Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea region aims to support a coherent sustainable development approach for the region towards accelerating sustainable development and implementing the concept of the Aral Sea being a zone of ecological innovation and green technologies.

### • KEY EXPECTED RESULTS: •



A unified platform for dialogue, information sharing, discussing, developing, and implementing joint initiatives to mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster.



A well-coordinated system for financing the implementation of the Unified Strategy for the restoration of the environmental situation and socio-economic development of the Aral Sea region.



Enhanced mobilization and coherence of financial and technical assistance resources for agreed, sustainable results.



A more integrated and unified strategic approach to the environmental restoration and socio-economic development of the Aral Sea region, in line with the principle of Leaving No One Behind and the Agenda 2030. This would also represent a shift away from individual projects.

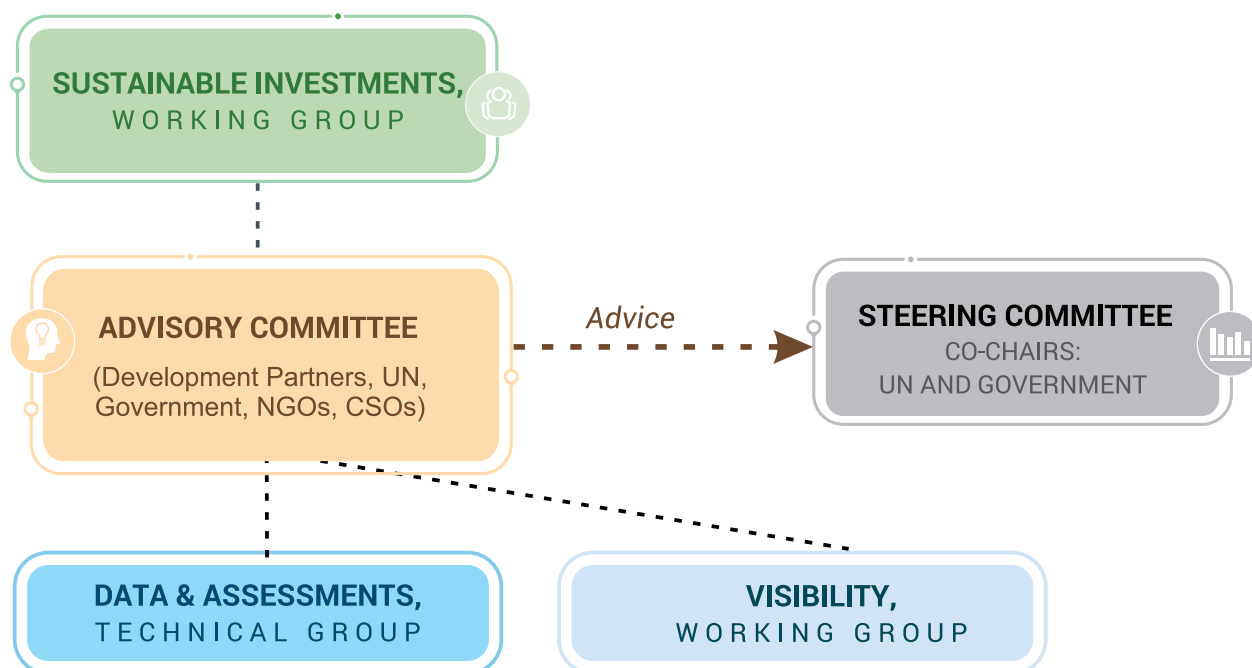


A platform to discuss and support the implementation of the Concept: “Aral Sea region – zone of ecological innovations and technologies” and accelerate results under this initiative.

During the meeting, representatives of international organisations and diplomatic missions, such as the European Delegation to Uzbekistan, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Israel, the United Kingdom, and Kuwait, expressed their willingness to support joint interventions on sustainable development in the Aral Sea region.

The donors present in the meeting expressed full support of the Advisory Committee and informed other participants about their past, ongoing, and future initiatives in the region.

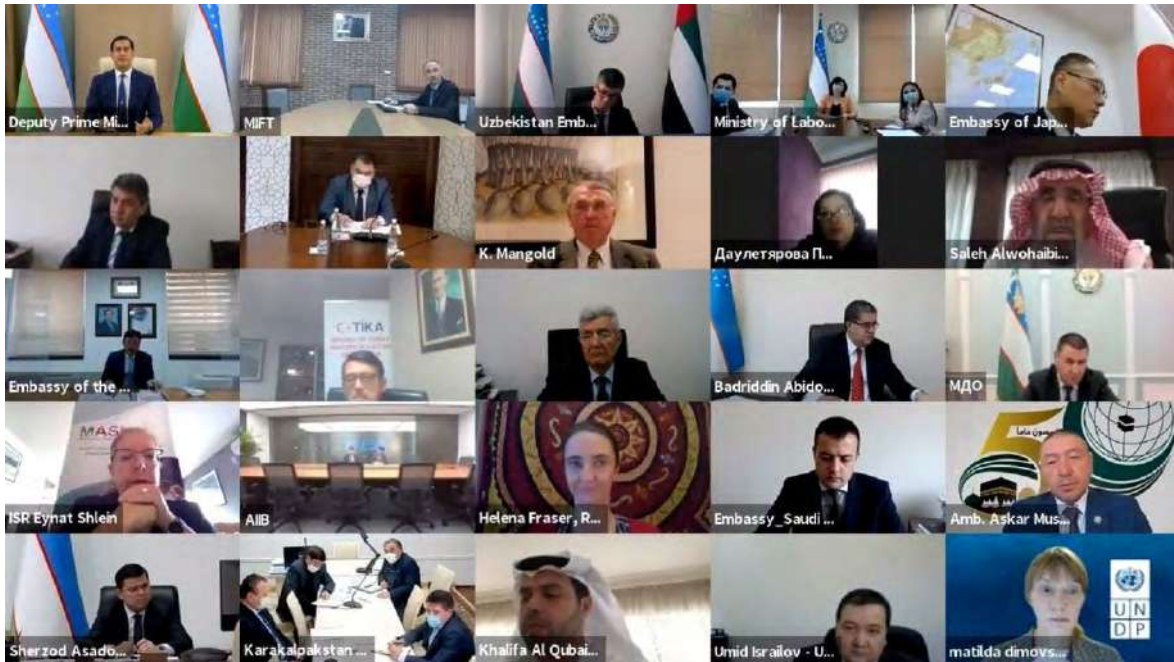
Participants of the Advisory Committee agreed to establish two working groups and a technical-level working group, composed of the members of the Advisory Committee.



**The Working Group on Sustainable Investments** guides and oversees the system's innovation approach for sustainable development of the Aral Sea Region building on Uzbekistan's Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Strategies, as well as other relevant national and regional development priorities.

**The Working Group on Visibility of the Aral Sea Region** raises the awareness of the international community about the situation in the Aral Sea Region and communicates the results of the systems approach and joint initiatives.

**The Technical Group on Data and Assessments** provides evidence and rationale for portfolio analysis and sustainable investments.



*Photo 14. The Inaugural Meeting of the Advisory Committee, December 1, 2020*



## TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

The Technical Secretariat supports the entire programming cycle of the MPHSTF with a work plan and budget reviewed annually by the Steering Committee.

In 2020, the Secretariat facilitated the MPHSTF's Steering and Advisory Committee meetings. The Secretariat also strengthened collaboration and communication between the Government of Uzbekistan, PUNOs, and contributing donors.

Following the decision of the Steering Committee on its third meeting held in February 2020, the Fund announced the Second CFP covering priority areas such as Youth, Innovation, and Health Security.

The Technical Secretariat developed the Call for Proposals Guidelines to ensure the development of the proposals by PUNOs in line with the

MPHSTF requirements and the Second Call's priorities.

To assist PUNOs and partners to prepare joint project proposals, several virtual meetings (briefing sessions and consultations) were organised at the technical level. The briefing sessions mainly focused on the CFP and its priority areas while consultations were provided on the criteria for funding projects and specific items for project evaluation.

The Secretariat also provided feedback on draft proposals received from the PUNOs and advised on incomplete applications received before the submission deadline.

PUNOs developed and submitted three proposals amounting to USD 12.45 million. The Technical Review Panel (TRP), consisting of independent representatives of UN agencies, research institutes, as well as the Jokargi Kenes (the legislative body)

of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, was created to ensure a qualitative assessment and support the impartial selection of project proposals.

The results of the review process were summarised and submitted to the Steering Committee to facilitate its decision on the approval of the proposals for funding. The Steering Committee made a decision on approval of the three revised proposals.

Furthermore, the Technical Secretariat developed the MPHSTF **Monitoring and Evaluation Guide** to support the PUNOs involved in implementing MPHSTF-funded projects and programmes to obtain the timely, qualitative, and quantitative information required for effective monitoring and evaluation.

The guide helps PUNOs to develop a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system that supports the management process by providing management and decision-makers with reliable and sound reporting. It also helps with knowledge acquisition and knowledge sharing by making sense of existing experiences and lessons learned and ensures a high level of accountability and compliance.

In March 2020, the Team conducted a field visit to Karakalpakstan to monitor the progress of the implementation of the projects approved by the MPHSTF Steering Committee within the First Call for Proposals.

During the mission, the MPHSTF Technical Secretariat conducted visits to the project sites, held meetings with local authorities and project partners to discuss the outcomes and impacts of the ongoing Joint Programme. The challenges faced during implementation, the main findings, conclusions, and recommendations were also discussed with project staff. Through feedback from monitoring findings, PUNOs were able to take key recommendations into account, which enabled them to demonstrate an improvement in the quality of their programme implementation.

At the end of 2020, the Technical Secretariat, jointly with the Government of Uzbekistan, UN Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) in Uzbekistan and the PUNOs, initiated the development of the MPHSTF **Resource Mobilisation and Partnership (RMP) Strategy** with the overall goal of effectively securing the resources, financial and non-financial, to achieve significant results within the MPHSTF Programmatic Framework.

The core element of the RMP Strategy is a donor mapping and engagement plan.

The RMP Strategy will be informed by the MPHSTF **Communication, Branding and Marketing Strategy** to be developed in 2021.



## RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The international donor community continued to actively support the MPHSTF in 2020. The governments of Uzbekistan, Finland, the Republic of Korea, and the European Union generously contributed a total of **USD 9.1 million** to the Trust Fund. A portion of these funds (amounting to **USD 6 million**) was utilised to fund the three Joint Programmes selected as a result of the Second CFP in March 2020 within the MPHSTF.

At the same time, some donors supported the MPHSTF within parallel initiatives that do not directly contribute to the Trust Fund.

Significant measures were taken by the Government of Uzbekistan, UN RCO in Uzbekistan and other stakeholders to mobilise **additional financial and technical resources** from the international donor community to the MPHSTF and parallel initiatives.

Due to restrictions on movement caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of scheduled events were postponed until a later date or held via online meeting platforms.

In 2020, negotiations were held with potential donor countries, including the **Gulf states** (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar).

In October 2020, the Government of Uzbekistan, jointly with the UN RCO in Uzbekistan, prepared and sent **joint appeal letters to more than 60 heads** of donor countries, international financial institutions, private companies, and

foundations with an appeal to contribute to the MPHSTF.

Regular presentations were held by Uzbek diplomatic missions abroad on the challenges of the Aral Sea and measures taken by the Government of Uzbekistan with international development partners including within the MPHSTF. The diplomats called on the international donor community to support efforts in the region in general and the MPHSTF in particular.

From December 21–26, 2020, the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors of Uzbekistan to 40 countries of the world, heads of diplomatic missions, and permanent representatives of Uzbekistan to international organisations, visited Karakalpakstan to get acquainted with the development initiatives implemented in the region by national and international partners including within the MPHSTF. The purpose of the visit was to inform the representatives of the diplomatic corps of Uzbekistan abroad about the latest initiatives in the region to support activities on raising international communities' awareness about the Aral Sea disaster as well as mobilising donor resources for the region and the MPHSTF.

In December, the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Belgium organised a video conference with the participation of the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Minister of Health, representatives of the European Investment Bank (EIB), WHO,

Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade (MIFT), and other stakeholders to discuss financing of the construction of a **Multi-Disciplinary Hospital in Muynak**. The EIB confirmed interest in participating in the project. It was also agreed to establish an informal working group on this issue.

In December 2020, the MIFT, jointly with the UN RCO in Uzbekistan, organised an Inaugural Meeting of the **Advisory Committee for Sustainable Development of the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan**, which

was established according to the decision of the MPHSTF Steering Committee on December 16, 2019. The Advisory Committee is seen as a unified platform to enable constructive dialogue between the Government and development partners to support better coordination of sustainable development efforts in the Aral Sea Region, with the aim of accelerating results on the ground. The Advisory Committee will also provide guidance on enhanced partnership and resource mobilisation for the MPHSTF and related projects.

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## CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED, AND OPPORTUNITIES

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In March 2020, the first case of COVID-19<sup>1</sup> was registered in Uzbekistan. After this, the country underwent a strict lockdown followed by a number of restrictions, such as transportation limitations at certain hours.

Accordingly, planned activities were switched from offline to online mode. These included meetings of the Steering Committee and Advisory Committee. The Technical Secretariat cancelled resource mobilisation activities that involved travel and face-to-face meetings with a range of donors and development partners. Field visits were postponed to a later date. All capacity building activities and roundtable discussions with partners were conducted online.

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted global supply chains from production to distribution of products and services. Hence, the two Joint Programmes experienced delays in the procurement and delivery of equipment to the direct beneficiaries.

Due to this unprecedented scenario, the PUNO's project teams had to adapt to a fast-changing environment, thereby taking mitigation actions forward.

In the case of the **UNICEF / UNFPA JP**, shipping lead times increased tremendously due to the prioritisation of more urgent needs. This added risk was considered as well as proposed mitigation action(s) to address similar future scenarios.

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<sup>1</sup> Agency for Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare under the Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan

Furthermore, the cost of some activities changed significantly due to changed procurement modalities and increased transport costs.

Online training modalities were coupled with face-to-face training only when hands-on practical skills were essential. The rest of the trainings were redesigned for an online mode.

Since capacity-building activities were switched to distance learning mode, a need for additional procurement of web-conferencing equipment for trainees (medical staff of the project's perinatal centres) arose.

Finally, the UNICEF/UNFPA JP requested a four-month no-cost extension up to April 2021.

**UNDP / UNESCO JP** operations were affected by the lockdown, which caused delays to the implementation of project activities.

In spring and summer 2020, all field visits were cancelled and all on-ground activities changed to online modes of operation. There were delays with the identification of project sites due to limited communication with potential beneficiaries and partners, especially at the beginning of the pandemic.

Unfortunately, the majority of project staff, as well as project partners, were affected by COVID-19 and some were hospitalised. One staff member passed away.

Delays also occurred in vendor selection and contracting, in the procurement of equipment, and items from abroad (China and Turkey)

were delayed at customs control checkpoints.

Additionally, the price of some of the equipment and items increased due to transaction and transportation costs. Three contracts were extended or amended until the end of February 2021, due to the delay of services.

Some trainings were switched to online mode and several capacity-building and awareness-raising activities on sustainable tourism development were postponed to 2021.

This JP requested a six-month no-cost extension until August 31, 2021. The Steering Committee made a decision to approve the extension.

Notwithstanding the challenges, however, both UNDP and UNICEF-led JP teams duly addressed these challenges by ensuring better internal and external coordination throughout the projects' life cycles.

Some opportunities for consideration are not limited to the following:

- Moving beyond 'single point' project interventions to look at processes and paradigms through a UN programming lens;
- Seeking 'innovation for development' portfolios with more emphasis on a forward looking holistic approach;
- Investing in more strategic and focused collaboration, especially with local and national partners; and
- Ensuring and sustaining a focus on the MPHSTF 5 Insecurities and leaving 'No one behind'.

## III. FUND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

### 2020 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the Aral Sea Region Fund using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2020. Financial information for this Fund

is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/ARL00>.

#### 1 SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2020, **five** contributors deposited USD **12,213,145** in contributions and USD **96,394** was earned in interest.

The cumulative source of funds was USD **12,309,539** (see respectively, Tables 2 and 3). Of this amount, USD **8,871,098** has been net funded to six Participating Organisations, of which

USD **1,775,877** has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1 per cent on deposits and amounts to USD **66,476**. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the Aral Sea Region Fund as of 31 December 2020.

**Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)**

	Annual 2019	Annual 2020	Cumulative
<b>Sources of Funds</b>			
Contributions from donors	3,117,765	9,095,379	9,095,379
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	34,975	61,419	61,419
Interest Income received from Participating Organisations	-	-	-
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
<b>Total: Sources of Funds</b>	<b>3,152,741</b>	<b>9,156,798</b>	<b>9,156,798</b>
<b>Use of Funds</b>			
Transfers to Participating Organisations	3,083,566	5,598,784	5,598,784
Refunds received from Participating Organisations	-	-	-
<b>Net Funded Amount</b>	<b>3,083,566</b>	<b>5,598,784</b>	<b>5,598,784</b>
Administrative Agent Fees	31,178	35,299	66,476
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat etc.)	-	188,748	188,748
Bank Charges	28	134	162
Other Expenditures	-	55,655	55,655
<b>Total: Uses of Funds</b>	<b>3,114,771</b>	<b>5,878,620</b>	<b>8,993,391</b>



Table 1. (contunue)

	Annual 2019	Annual 2020	Cumulative
<b>Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent</b>	<b>37,969</b>	<b>3,278,178</b>	<b>3,316,148</b>
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	0	37,969	-
<b>Closing Fund balance (31 December)</b>	<b>37,969</b>	<b>3,316,148</b>	<b>3,316,148</b>
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)	3,083,566	5,787,532	8,871,098
Participating Organisations' Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)	77,523	1,698,354	1,775,877
<b>Balance of Funds with Participating Organisations</b>			<b>7,095,221</b>

## 2 PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2020.

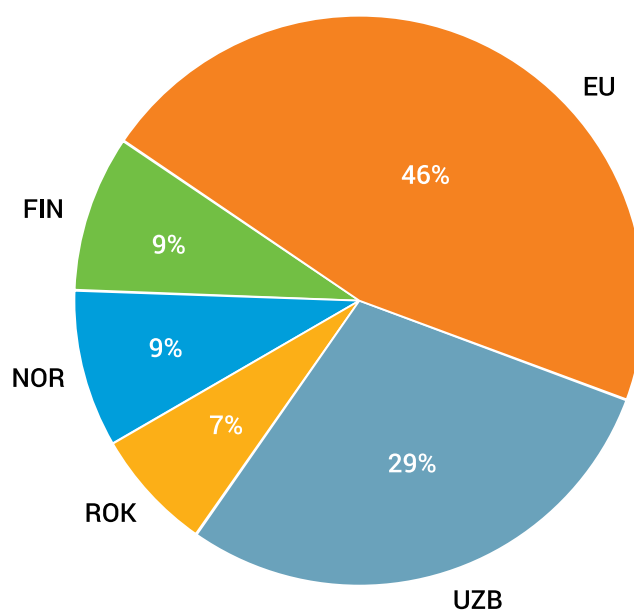
The **Aral Sea Region Fund** is currently being financed by **five** contributors, as listed in the table below.

The table below includes commitments made up to 31 December 2020 through signed Standard Administrative Agreements, and deposits made through 2020. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond 2020.

**Table 2. Contributors' Commitments and Deposits, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)**

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020 Deposits	Total Deposits
EUROPEAN UNION	5,565,510	-	5,565,510	5,565,510
FINLAND	1,123,367	-	1,123,367	1,123,367
NORWAY	1,117,765	1,117,765	-	1,117,765
REPUBLIC of KOREA	906,502	-	906,502	906,502
UZBEKISTAN	3,500,000	2,000,000	1,500,000	3,500,000
Other Income	-	-	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>12,213,145</b>	<b>3,117,765</b>	<b>9,095,379</b>	<b>12,213,145</b>

Figure 2. Deposits by contributor, cumulative as of 31 December 2020



### 3 INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organisations (Agency earned interest)

where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA.

As of 31 December **2020**, Fund earned interest amounts to USD **96,394**.

Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2020  
(in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Cumulative
<b>Administrative Agent</b>			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	34,975	61,419	96,394
<b>Total: Fund Earned Interest</b>	<b>34,975</b>	<b>61,419</b>	<b>96,394</b>
<b>Participating Organisation</b>			
<b>Total: Agency earned interest</b>			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>34,975</b>	<b>61,419</b>	<b>96,394</b>

## 4 TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organisations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2020, the AA has transferred USD **8,682,350** to **six** Participating Organisations (see list below).

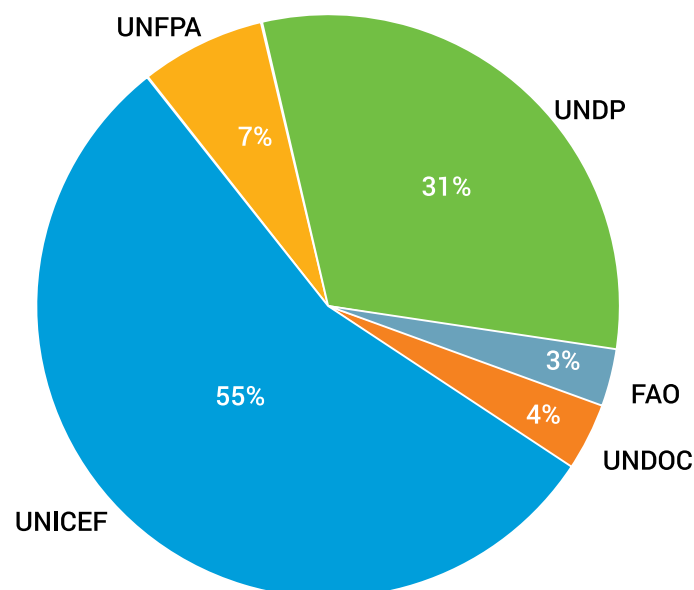
### 4.1 TRANSFER BY PARTICIPATING Organisation

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organisations.

**Table 4.1. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organisation, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)**

Participating Organisation	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019			Current Year Jan-Dec-2020			TOTAL		
	Transfers	Re-funds	Net Funded	Transfers	Re-funds	Net Funded	Transfers	Re-funds	Net Funded
FAO				180,000		180,000	180,000		180,000
UNDP	1,312,414		1,312,414	1,740,000		1,740,000	3,052,414		3,052,414
UNESCO	151,487		151,487				151,487		151,487
UNFPA	639,322		639,322	380,250		380,250	1,019,572		1,019,572
UNICEF	980,344		980,344	3,098,027		3,098,027	4,078,371		4,078,371
UNODC				200,507		200,507	200,507		200,507
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,083,566</b>		<b>3,083,566</b>	<b>5,598,784</b>		<b>5,598,784</b>	<b>8,682,350</b>		<b>8,682,350</b>

**Figure 3. Transfers amount by Participating Organisation for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2020**



## 5 EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported for the year **2020** were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organisations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organisation, and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The **2020** expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/ARL00>.

### 5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING Organisation

In **2020**, USD **5,598,784** was net funded to Participating Organisations, and USD **1,668,017** was reported in expenditure.

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is USD **8,682,350** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organisations amount to USD **1,745,539**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **20** percent.

**Table 5.1. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organisation, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)**

Participating Organisations	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate, %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Cumulative	
FAO	180,000	180,000				0
UNDP	3,052,414	3,052,414	46,006	946,853	992,859	32.53
UNESCO	151,487	151,487		59,811	59,811	39.48
UNFPA	1,019,572	1,019,572	2,150	66,693	68,842	6.75
UNICEF	4,078,371	4,078,371	29,367	594,660	624,027	15.30
UNODC	200,507	200,507				0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8,682,350</b>	<b>8,682,350</b>	<b>77,523</b>	<b>1,668,017</b>	<b>1,745,539</b>	<b>20.10</b>



## 5.2. EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PROJECT

Table 5.2 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organisation.

**Table 5.2. Expenditure by Project within Sector, as of 31 December 2020**  
(in US Dollars)

Sector / Project No. and Project Title		Participating Organisations	Project Status	Total Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Total Expenditure	Delivery Rate, %
<b>2. Employment &amp; Income Gen</b>							
00125229	JP - Youth in Vulnerable Citizens	FAO	On Going	180,000	180,000		
		UNDP		1,740,000	1,740,000		
		UNFPA		180,000	180,000		
<b>2. Employment &amp; Income Gen: Total</b>				<b>2,100,000</b>	<b>2,100,000</b>		
<b>3. Food &amp; Water</b>							
00117259	Aral Sea MPTF - Human Insecurity	UNDP	On Going	1,312,414	1,312,414	992,859	75.65
		UNESCO		151,487	151,487	59,811	39.48
<b>3. Food &amp; Water: Total</b>				<b>1,463,900</b>	<b>1,463,900</b>	<b>1,052,670</b>	<b>71.91</b>
<b>4 Health</b>							
00117258	Aral Sea MPTF- Perinatal care	UNFPA	On Going	639,322	639,322	68,842	10.77
		UNICEF		980,344	980,344	624,027	63.65
00125228	JP - Investing Karakalpakstan	UNFPA	On Going	200,250	200,250		0
		UNICEF		3,098,027	3,098,027		0
		UNODC		200,507	200,507		0
<b>4. Health: Total</b>				<b>5,118,450</b>	<b>5,118,450</b>	<b>692,869</b>	<b>13.54</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>				<b>8,682,350</b>	<b>8,682,350</b>	<b>1,745,539</b>	<b>20.10</b>

### 5.3. EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organisation and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures.

Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure are reported in the new eight categories. See table below.

#### 2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

**Table 5.3. Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2020**  
(in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			% of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	TOTAL	
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	5	135,449	135,454	8.34
Supplies, Communication, Materials	1,451	559,522	560,973	34.53
Equipment, Vehicles, Furniture, Depreciation	-	242,362	242,362	14.92
Contractual Services	27,482	411,352	438,834	27.02
Travel	14,509	33,801	48,311	2.97
Transfers and Grants	26,355	85,884	112,239	6.91
General Operating	2,649	83,545	86,194	5.31
<b>Programme Costs Total</b>	<b>72,451</b>	<b>1,551,915</b>	<b>1,624,366</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Indirect Support Costs Total	5,072	116,102	121,173	7.46
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>77,523</b>	<b>1,668,017</b>	<b>1,745,539</b>	

## 6 COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organisations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2020, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration

of the Fund. In the reporting period USD **35,299** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December **2020**, USD **66,476** has been charged in AA-fees.

- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organisations:** Participating Organisations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period USD **116,102** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organisations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to USD **121,173** as of 31 December **2020**.

## 7 ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating

Organisations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organisations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

## 8 DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organisation to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as Fund level reviews and evaluations. These

allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In the reporting period, direct costs charged to the fund amounted to USD **188,748**. Cumulatively, as of 31 December **2020**, **USD 188,748** has been charged as Direct Costs

**Table 8. Direct Costs**

Participating Organisation	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery Rate
UNDP	188,748	30,337	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>188,748</b>	<b>30,337</b>	<b>16%</b>



## ANNEX 1. HUMAN INTEREST STORIES

### CLEAN DRINKING WATER IMPROVES THE LIVES OF TAKHTAKUPIR'S FIVE COMMUNITIES

***"Now the food is tastier, and we drink tea with pleasure. After all, it is known that not a day goes by in the east without a cup of tea, especially in cold weather. And when the water is clean, you don't have to worry about your health anymore,"*** says Maria from the Taza Konys community. She invites us to have a cup of hot tea with milk, a famous tradition in Karakalpakstan.

The Taza Konys community of the Beltau Rural Citizens' Assembly is located in the North of Karakalpakstan – Takhtakupir. Here, people know firsthand the importance of every drop of water. After all, the disappearance of the Aral Sea led to a whole range of social, economic, and environmental problems, which negatively reflected on the well-being and health of the inhabitants of the entire region. The COVID-19 outbreak also made significant changes to daily life, underlining the importance of consistent access to clean water for good health.

**Maria Konysbaeva**, 43, is a housewife. Together with her husband **Kurban Kasimov**, they are raising three children. Olzhas is a student of the 10th grade, Albina is in the 9th, and the youngest, Elzhas, has finished the 3rd grade. Together they run the

household, help the children with their studies, and dream of giving them access to good education. Recently, they received access to drinking water.

***"Usually, we went to the well every day to fetch water. The filter cleaning the water got broken several years ago, so we had to use what we received from the pot. It became harder during the coronavirus quarantine period. Now every house has its water supply,"*** says Kurban.

Kurban and Maria are activists in their community. Kurban worked all his life as an operator at the water plant and understands all aspects of the current situation well. In November 2019, within the framework of the first project funded by the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Human Security for the Aral Sea region, "Addressing the urgent human insecurities in the Aral Sea region through promoting sustainable rural development," the UNDP initiated a series of community mobilisation workshops in the Takhtakupir district. During the meeting, residents raised the issue of access to drinking water. In the community, the water distribution system has been out of order for several years. In agreement with the Water Supply Management authorities, the District Water Supply



**Photo 15.** Beneficiary of the Tazakonis community enjoys clean drinking water.

Department, the Khokimiyat of the Takhtakupir district and members of the community initiative group, it was decided to reconstruct the existing systems and establish water supply in all houses.

In December 2020, a commissioning ceremony for the water supply network took place. Aside from the work on the reconstruction of water supply systems in five communities in the Takhtakupir district, the JP installed equipment for water purification with the capacity to filter up to 8 cubic metres per hour for the Marzhankol VCC and up to 10 cubic meters/h for the Zhanadarya VCC. This initiative provided clean drinking water to

***"I am glad that now I can devote more time to my children, their studies, and other activities. I don't worry about health either. Due to the outbreak of the coronavirus, we need to wash our hands often. My children have also been taught to do this. But in cold weather, it was difficult to fetch water. So, now the water comes by itself. We're extremely delighted! We also have meters installed at our houses. It became easier to keep track of the water consumed. For us, every drop is priceless," said Maria.***

about 3,500 residents of remote communities.

With the support of UNDP personnel, a series of trainings were held to raise awareness among the local population on sanitation and hygiene issues to prevent waterborne diseases, as well as the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

It is clear that access to water for the population, as well as adherence to sanitation and hygiene practices, are critical to maintaining sustainable rural development.

## GULNARA'S LIFE

Gulnara was born on December 2, 2020 after only 30 weeks of gestation. She weighed just 1,000 grams. After two months in an incubator at the Neonatal Intensive Care ward of the Nukus City Perinatal Center, she now weighs 2.450 kilograms.



**Photo 16.** Newborn baby girl Gulnara after two months in the incubator, Nukus perinatal center.

Gulnara's mother was admitted with a history of miscarriage. She suffered from multiple health conditions, including jaundice, arterial hypertension, and intoxication, which led to premature labour. The head of the department, Dr. Kahramon Kabulov, who performed an emergency caesarean section to assist with Gulnara's birth, explained that Gulnara would have had slim chances for survival just a few years before. Due to up-to-date, evidence-based, and advanced newborn care resuscitation protocols developed by the American Academy of Paediatrics and recommended by WHO and UNICEF, and the latest equipment and upgraded infrastructure, maternity staff can now save preterm babies like Gulnara.



**Photo 17.** Gulnara's mother at Nukus perinatal center.

**"We fight every day to help babies survive, even the ones weighing 1,000 grams,"** said Dr. Jeyran Sherieva, the neonatologist doctor trained during the recent 'Helping Babies Breathe' training held by UNICEF, who oversaw Gulnara's care. **"Before, babies weighing less than 1.1 kilograms had minimal chances to survive. We thought they were too small to have a chance at survival. We didn't have the equipment, skills, or knowledge we needed,"** concluded Dr. Sherieva.

Within the framework of UNICEF and UNFPA work, the JP assisted three perinatal facilities in Karakalpakstan (in Nukus City, Kungrad, and Beruniy) to enhance the capacity of neonatologists, obstetricians, and resuscitation specialists to strengthen staff capacities through comprehensive training and support. UNICEF and UNFPA also equipped the perinatal centre's new Neonatal

Intensive Care Unit with the latest medical equipment (ventilators, oxygenators, laryngoscopes, and others) and training equipment. Today many more premature babies that come through the perinatal centre have a real chance of survival.

*"The new equipment and technologies help more children survive and prevent complications through their proper application," – said Dr. Kabulov. "Leading national experts have helped us utilise the new equipment and practices to the greatest level. I am so happy with our accomplishments."*

At the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, little Gulnara is getting better every day. She can now see light and hear sounds, and uses her own strength to drink her mother's breast milk. Once she reaches 2.5 kilograms, she will be released to go home. Her parents have been trained on how to best care for her and are looking forward to her arrival at home. They say everything is ready for her, and that she will know nothing but love. It is expected that once the target perinatal centres receive the status of second level referral facilities in 2021, they will extend their specialised service to mothers and newborns from neighbouring districts as well.



## ANNEX 2. MPHSTF RESULTS FRAMEWORK

**SDG 3** – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.4, 3.8, 3.C)

**SDG 8** – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (targets 8.2, 8.4, 8.5)

**SDG 11** – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.2, 11.5, 11.A)

<b>OUTCOME 1: The stress on local communities due to the deteriorating environmental situation is reduced</b>		<b>Baseline</b> (for Karakalpakstan, value and reference year)	<b>Means of Verification (MOV)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved in 2020 (cumulative)</b>
# of hectares of arable land increased, thousand ha		509.6 (2018)	State committee on land resources, geodesy, cartography and cadastre data	Once a year	514.597
% of public satisfaction of environmental policy		16.4 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>MOV</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
1 Local management practices and knowledge of ecosystem services are improved	% of communities with access to ecosystem services	0	Operational research	Operational research should be conducted	0

**NB.** It is important to note that for 2020, the MPHSTF programmes focused on Outcomes 3 and 4. However, through direct or indirect cooperation with other organisations, there is some progress towards other targets. The latter is an example of coherence that MPHSTF seeks to promote.

Outputs		Output Indicators	Baseline	MOV	Frequency	Results Achieved
2	New technologies in the area of water purification, agroforestry, afforestation, and soil stabilisation are piloted	# of pilot projects that test out new technologies adjusted to local conditions	0	Project reports	Once a year	0
		Area of desert lands covered by forest stands, thousand ha	1,082 (2018)	State committee on forestry data	Once a year	1,127
		# of households with improved quality of irrigation water	3,366 (2018)	Projects reports	Once a year	To be updated in the next reporting period
		Area of restored tugai forests, thousand ha	20.3 (2018)	State committee on forestry data	Once a year	20.33
3	The quality of water, air and soil pollution is monitored and addressed through local regulatory practices	# of newly established or improved environmental quality checks	0 (2018)	Uzhydromet data	Once a year	0
		# of base stations monitoring the climate in the Aral Sea region	16 (2018)	Uzhydromet data	Once a year	16
		% of water/air quality monitoring laboratories regularly reporting through the automated surveillance system	0 (2018)	Uzhydromet data	Once a year	0

<b>OUTCOME 2: The employment and income generation opportunities for local communities are increased</b>			<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Means of Verification (MOV)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
% of the population that is economically active			69.5 (2018)	State statistics	Once a year	68.5
# of new business initiatives started			18 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	28
<b>Outputs</b>		<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>MOV</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
<b>4</b>	New income opportunities in sectors adjusted to local conditions (e.g., agriculture, ethno-tourism, infrastructure and housing construction, service industry) are created	# of small and medium-sized companies created with the support of the MPHSTF	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	10
		# of jobs created in target communities per year	78 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	178
<b>5</b>	Skills and knowledge of local communities to participate in new industries and to become entrepreneurs, as well as, adaptability to new work conditions for employability are improved	% of people surveyed that are satisfied with their skills levels	61.8 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
		# of people trained and retrained in the specialised centres to improve and develop their entrepreneurial skills/knowledge	0 (2018)	Training records	Once a year	477
<b>6</b>	Investments in local infrastructure serving local communities (e.g. energy, access roads, service industry, banking) are increased	amount of investments in local infrastructure with the support of the MPHSTF, mln. USD	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	0
		% of people surveyed that are satisfied with trade services	51.2 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
		% of people surveyed that are satisfied with the services of banking and financial institutions	54.5 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period

<b>OUTCOME 3: Local community access to affordable and healthy food and clean drinking water secured</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Means of Verification (MOV)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
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% of the drinking water supply of houses (apartments)	48.2 (2017)	State statistic	Once a year	56.5
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% reduction in malnourishment of the local population: - percentage of children under 5 years age who are wasted due to malnutrition	0.23 (2018)	State statistic	Once a year	0.19
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% of household budget spent on food	60 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
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Outputs		Output Indicators	Baseline	MOV	Frequency	Results Achieved
7	Local infrastructure investments for access and distribution of clean water are increased	amount of investments in water access and distribution infrastructure with the support of the MPHSTF, mln. USD	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	0,3
		% of people surveyed that are satisfied with access to drinking water	33.8 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period



8	Local production, processing, storage and sale of diverse, affordable and high-quality food is increased	% increase in the local production of food with the support of the MPHSTF	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	0
		# of created of networks of fruits and vegetables fridge-storage	10 (2018)	Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan data, Project reports	Once a year	12
9	The quality of nutrition is increased through standardization, regulation, monitoring, information, and education	# of newly established or improved food quality checks with support of the MPHSTF	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	0
		# of new crop varieties, adapted and resistant to harsh climatic conditions with the support of the MPHSTF	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	0
		# of newly established or improved biological laboratories with support of the MPHSTF for protection of plants and the prevention of diseases arising from environmental influences	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	0

<b>OUTCOME 4: The overall health of the local population is improved, and healthy lifestyle promoted</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Means of Verification (MOV)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
% reduction in infant and maternal mortality:	16.6	State statistic	Once a year	10.3
- infant mortality rate (up to 1 year, per 1000 live-born)	28.7			30.4
- maternal mortality (per 100,000 live births)	(2018)			
% of the population satisfied with health services	53 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period

<b>Outputs</b>		<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>MOV</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
<b>10</b>	Investments in local health services and pharmacies (e.g. facilities and equipment) are increased	amount of investments in local health infrastructure with the support of the MPHSTF, mln. USD	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	1.065
		% of people surveyed that are satisfied with the availability of affordable medicines	32.8 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
		% of medical institutions equipped with equipment	78 (2017)	State statistic	Once a year	82
<b>11</b>	Access to rural health clinics and to medication primarily in remote areas is improved	# of new health clinics and pharmacies with the support of the MPHSTF	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	0
		# of functional rural health clinics strengthened with the support of the MPHSTF	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	3

		doctors/nurses/health care professionals/hospital beds per 10 000 people:				
		- provision with doctors	23.1	State statistic	Once a year	23.6
		- provision with the nursing staff	94.8			93.0
		- provision with in-patient beds	39.4			35.5
			(2017)			
<b>12</b>	The quality of health care is improved through increased professional education	# of health care professionals educated and retrained through distance learning	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	300
<b>13</b>	Healthy lifestyles and practices, drug and alcohol use prevention, as well as, mental health are promoted, including sanitation, vaccination, waste disposal, and local medicinal plants	% of populations responding positively to new healthy lifestyles in survey	0 (2018)	Assessments by independent evaluators	Once a two year	0
		availability of teacher's manual on healthy lifestyle in Karakalpak language	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once per project	0
		# of teachers trained on healthy lifestyles	188 (2018)	Training records	Once a year	0
		# activities conducted on the promotion of healthy lifestyles	0 (2018)	Project reports	Once a year	2136

<b>OUTCOME 5: The living conditions of local populations are improved, with particular focus on vulnerable groups such as women, children and youth</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Means of Verification (MOV)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
% of the population with increased access to social and community services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drinking water</li> <li>- Natural (liquefied) gas</li> </ul>	33.8 48.6 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
% of populations responding positively to living (housing) conditions	65.2 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period

<b>Outputs</b>		<b>Output Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>MOV</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Results Achieved</b>
<b>14</b>	Adequate housing appropriate for the local living conditions is provided	adopted standards for the design and construction of residential buildings and social facilities, taking into account the actual ecological and geographic conditions of the Aral Sea region	0	Project reports	Once per project	0
		# of social infrastructure facilities constructed in accordance with the new standard projects that meet local conditions	0	Project reports	Once a year	0

15	Social and community services, including pre-school education and	# of new and improved pre-schools with the support of the MPHSTF	0	Project reports	Once a year	0
	leisure opportunities, and life skill education for children and youth are improved	% of enrolment of children by pre-school educational institutions	32.7 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
		% of people surveyed that are satisfied with the quality of school education	64.5 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period
		# of community members and school children covered through youth-led peer to peer education programme with the support of the MPHSTF	0	Training records	Once a year	0
16	The local governance system for addressing the human security needs of the population is improved	% of populations (disaggregated by sex) responding positively to their involvement in the local governance system	0	Independent assessment	Once per project	0
		# of representatives of local authorities participating in special training courses on human security, local development planning, etc.	48 (2018)	Training records	Once a year	200
		% of people surveyed that are satisfied with local public service delivery and ensuring social stability	68 (2017)	Socio-economic survey report	At the end of the project (2023)	To be updated in the next reporting period





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