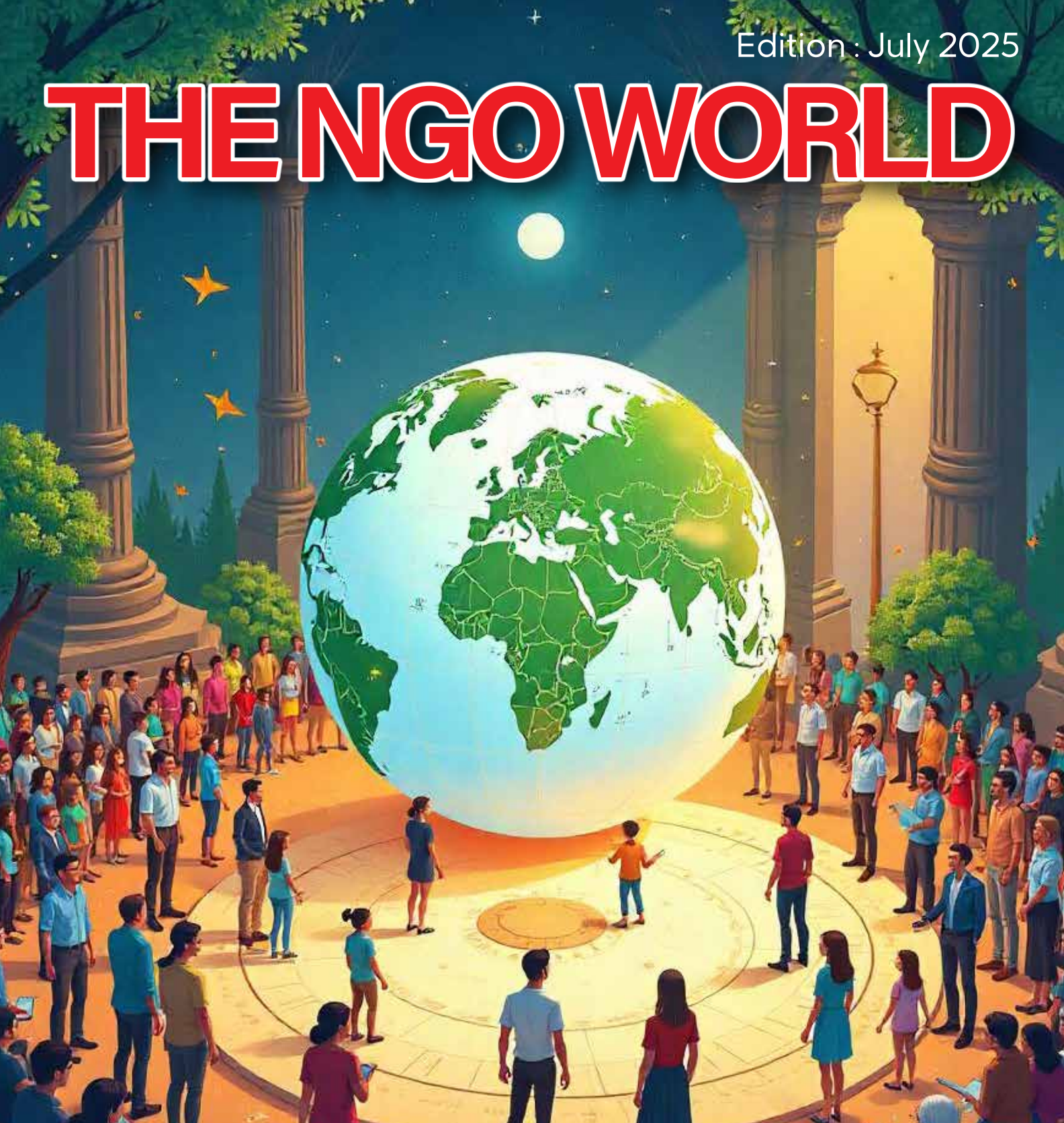


THE NGO WORLD



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"A Society's Test: The Way We Treat Orphans"

Orphans—those tender souls deprived of parental care—are among the most vulnerable members of any society. Their status often places them at a disadvantage not only emotionally but socially and economically.

Without a guiding hand or protective voice, many of these children face severe hardships that can shape their lives in painful ways. The miseries that orphans endure are manifold. From emotional trauma and abandonment to food insecurity and lack of education, their world is often clouded with uncertainty and fear. Many are subjected to child labor, abuse, or exploitation. Some fall into cycles of poverty, crime, or neglect. Without timely intervention, their potential withers away before it can ever be realized.

This is where the role of society becomes paramount. A truly compassionate society is measured by how it treats its weakest members. We must see these children not as a burden, but as a shared responsibility. Neighbors, educators, faith leaders, philanthropists, and policymakers must unite to create protective environments, inclusive opportunities, and pathways to dignity for orphans. It is not merely charity—it is a moral obligation.

Islam, in particular, places tremendous emphasis on the care of orphans. The Qur'an repeatedly commands believers to deal justly and kindly with them. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, "The one who cares for an orphan and myself will be together in Paradise like this," and he raised his index and middle fingers to show closeness. This divine instruction makes it clear: caring for orphans is a sacred duty.

At The NGO World, this duty takes tangible form through initiatives like the Deliver Smiles Program. We provide educational support, healthcare, mentorship, and emotional well-being services to orphaned children. Through small scholarships, school supplies, and personal attention, we aim not only to fulfill their needs but to restore their dreams. Our programs are designed to remind them that they are not alone, that someone cares, and that their future can still be bright.

But the road ahead is long. It requires more hands, more hearts, and more support. Let us join in this noble cause—be it through donations, volunteering, or advocacy. Every effort matters. Every child matters.

Let us rise to become guardians of hope for the orphans among us.

Zafar Iqbal

The NGO World

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In accordance with our mission to provide a platform for showcasing exceptional work on humanitarian issues and development, "The NGO World" magazine collects material from various sources, including social media pages of NGOs, development projects, UN agencies, and other related pages. We aim to bring attention to the remarkable efforts and initiatives undertaken by these organizations to create positive change in communities around the world. It is important to note that the content presented in our articles is based on publicly available information and may have been sourced from these organizations' official social media platforms or websites. We always strive to ensure accuracy and integrity in our reporting. To maintain transparency and give credit to the original sources, we include the relevant source links at the end of every article. "The NGO World" does not claim ownership of the content provided by these organizations and acknowledges their valuable contributions to the field of humanitarian work and development.

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We Just Lost \$54 Billion. Now What?

How humanitarian organizations can use cost evidence to survive global aid's "Great Depression" and scale what works to save more lives.



Jeannie Annan



Sarah Case



Justin Labelle

Worldwide, two million children [die each year](#) from acute malnutrition, which equates to one death every 15 seconds. To fight this, global aid workers deploy a fortified peanut paste known as [ready-to-use therapeutic food](#) (RUTF). It works for 9

out of 10 children and, at around \$90 per child, it's highly affordable—exactly the kind of simple, cost-effective solution that aid groups should be implementing.

But at the [International Rescue Committee](#) (IRC) malnutrition centers in Nigeria, supplies of RUTF are

running out. In February 2025, the US Federal Government terminated funding for distribution through IRC's centers, much of which came through the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Although the US Department of State later granted a waiver and support has restarted, the funding's

future is uncertain, with discussions ongoing between NGOs, the State Department, and policy makers. Lives hang in the balance.

The IRC isn't alone. Cuts to nutrition spending [could cost the lives](#) of an additional 200,000 children this year, while wider cuts to global health funding could affect [an estimated 25 million people worldwide](#) over the next 15 years. Since January 2025, the US government has cut between [\\$54 and \\$70 billion](#) in overall aid and announced an [83 percent cut](#) to foreign aid. Meanwhile, the UK Government announced a reduction of aid from 0.5 to 0.3 percent of gross national income. Similar pressures exist in Germany, France, and Sweden. The impacts are far-reaching. In Colombia, the UN Refugee Agency [halted](#) basic supplies distributions, such as blankets, to conflict-affected communities. In Sudan, the NGO Mercy Corps [cut off](#) access to safe drinking water.

It's fair to say that humanitarianism's "Great Depression" moment has come. The sudden, almost overnight loss of US Government funding has exacerbated a reality where [the majority of humanitarian needs](#) were already unfunded. Something has to give.

The (Louder) Case for Cost Evidence

Six months ago, [a few of us at the IRC wrote](#) about how to make the most of limited resources by informing decisions with cost evidence. We argued that tracking data to determine where to spend more and save more across the humanitarian and nonprofit landscape was urgent and essential—a way to maximize the social impact of every dollar.

This is a part two we never thought we'd have to write. The once dusty, watercooler topic of foreign aid efficiency is now a political hot potato, and governments, NGOs, and donors are scrambling to claw their way back from [what one donor called](#) the "foreign assistance cliff." The world is grappling with how to rapidly and fundamentally

adjust to this new normal, and continue to help the [300 million](#) people who need aid. Some organizations may find it impossible; the humanitarian sector will certainly lose valuable programs, research, and expertise. For other organizations, it will take years to recalibrate.

We hope the US government returns to being a global leader in funding humanitarian aid soon. But change is here, and governments, donors, and NGOs can take three concrete actions now to reach the greatest possible number of people in need.

Choose Radical Prioritization

First, the humanitarian sector has a moral imperative to quickly and radically fund and implement the most cost-effective programs. It doesn't matter who the funder is, which organization "owns" the solution, or whether multiple institutions are working in the same region to address the same problem. Thanks to innovation and evidence, aid organizations know more about what works best and how much it costs than ever before.

Alongside more than a dozen global and local partners across East Africa, the IRC knows it can deliver life-saving vaccines at [\\$4 per dose](#). In collaboration with Ministries of Health in [Kenya](#), [South Sudan](#), and [Mali](#), it can treat 20 percent more malnourished children by [simplifying its approach](#). Thanks to specialized organizations such as Marie Stopes Sierra Leone, it's possible to provide not only contraceptive services in humanitarian settings, but also a [year of protection for as low as \\$6](#) using strategies such as remote assessments of hard-to-reach health clinics.

In a [recent essay](#), Rachel Glennerster, former chief economist at the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, and Siddhartha Haria, senior policy lead at the University of Chicago's Market Shaping Accelerator, go even further. They argue that the humanitarian sector needs

to prioritize both the interventions that work and the countries where organizations deliver them, reserving grants for the poorest countries.

It's hard to overstate the value of prioritizing solutions at this time. Indeed, the IRC estimates that shifting spending to highly cost-effective programs could be equivalent to increasing humanitarian funding by \$1 to \$4 billion—in the same ballpark as the International Humanitarian Assistance cuts [the White House is proposing](#) for 2026.

Scale Don't Slice

Many global aid funders are currently making short-term, piecemeal grants. The Center for Global Development [found](#) that the median development grant across low-income countries is less than \$100,000 and [that around 85 percent](#) of US government and European Union grants last less than one year. Across all UN agencies, bilateral donors provide the same percentage of funding—85 percent—but [earmark it for specific](#) thematic priorities or even project-level inputs. This cripples agencies' ability to make strategic decisions about where and how to allocate resources to produce the best possible outcomes.

It might seem intuitive to scale down grants and projects and right-size programs for reduced budgets. But economies of scale matter, and bigger and longer grants [can deliver more impact per dollar](#) spent. For example, the IRC estimates that for every additional 1,000 children it reaches with education services like remote preschool or accelerated learning programs, costs drop \$0.50 per child. This is because fixed costs, such as software development for edtech programs, are spread among more children. In other words, implementing one 100,000-person project instead of 100 projects reaching 1,000 children could result in savings that would pay for an additional 60,000 children to access services.

Collaboration between complementary partners can also unlock scale opportunities. In Kampala and Nairobi, IRC coordinates [Re:BUiLD](#), a five-year, 30 million Euro (\$33.4 million) livelihoods program funded by the IKEA Foundation. The program—a collaboration [between 17 partners](#), including refugee-led civil society organizations, city governments, and researchers—[supports 20,000 refugees](#) and their host community members with economic programs, including job training and small grants.

Collaborative projects like these have enabled IRC to learn how it can best support urban refugees. For example, it now understands that obtaining ID cards is a first-order challenge refugees face in formally banking themselves, that financial institutions need more explicit policy direction to recognize refugees as potential clients, and that the ensuing business capital is essential to jumpstarting entrepreneurship.

Bigger, longer grants that encourage (or even insist on) collaborations for scale can help keep urgent humanitarian solutions alive, even if it changes how groups implement them.

Unlock Operational Efficiencies

Like rigorous evidence, optimized supply chains are essential to driving savings across the humanitarian sector. In 2024, the IRC made a concerted effort to save \$15 million through the renegotiation of global contracts in core-spend categories like information technology. In the face of USAID's stop work orders, the IRC created time-bound surge teams comprised of national, regional, and global experts to renegotiate contracts across all categories and then prioritize, execute, and monitor the changes. This concentrated push across a global portfolio yielded surprising results. The IRC saved \$8 million—\$6.25 million more than it expected.

As an organization, the IRC can achieve even more through operational

efficiencies. But a challenge for the wider humanitarian sector is achieving economies of scale. For instance, it's possible to efficiently and cost-effectively procure 1,000 truckloads of food aid to supply a country for two years. But procuring one truckload of food aid for a two-month project is a logistical nightmare. The sector's project-level approach to sector-level operations needs to change.

As the humanitarian sector considers this challenge, it needs to undertake more collective action to enable these operational efficiencies of scale. This includes aligning compliance standards to ease reporting, pooling funds to give

Source: <https://ssir.org/articles/entry/ngos-funding-cuts-cost-evidence>



grantees procurement bargaining power, implementing projects at consortium level, integrating data sharing and analytics, and dedicating expert operational resources to continually streamline aid work.

The three actions outlined above won't make up for the \$54 billion or more lost in aid. Unless governments, funders, and NGOs make a decisive and immediate shift in how they deliver humanitarian support, millions more people stand to suffer, and decades of progress may start to reverse. The sector needs to focus on maximizing the impact of every dollar—and it already knows how.

NGO Moves to Tackle Moral Decadence, Health Challenge

A non-governmental organisation (NGO), Makarios Initiative for Health and Humanitarian Development, has initiated a move to combat moral decadence and health challenges among schoolchildren in Lagos State.

As part of move to actualise this idea, Makarios gathered about 1,000 Lagos school children to mark International Day of the African Child (IDAC). The event took place at Redeemed Christian Church of God, RCCG, Main Auditorium, Dominion Sanctuary, Ikeja.

With the theme, 'Planning and Budgeting for Children's Rights: Progress since 2010 with a book launch, Kika's Examination by Laretta Patrick-Nwachi, the children are taught and motivated on the right attitude to greatness.

The essence of the book is to celebrate a child who resisted all temptations against exam mal-practice.

In a bid to motivate the teeming school children, the keynote speaker at the event was the Founder and President of Coscharis Group, Cosmas Maduka.

The Convener of the event who is the Founder of the NGO, Pastor (Dr) Patrick Nwachi said: "Children are not just for the future, they are the today. What we do to them today will make them tomorrow."

"What we are celebrating today is the International Day of the African Child (IDAC). The day is actually every 16th of June but because of logistics problem and to ensure that all schools participate, we are celebrating on June 19."

"We have about 1,000 schoolchildren



from Ikeja, Okota and many other schools in Lagos, many schools wanted to participate but we had to limit it because of crowd control."

Earlier in his welcome address, the Founder said, "If the traditional birth attendants are trained, we are going to achieve a reduction in maternal mortality."

While advocating government support, he added: "If government can collaborate with us, we can reduce maternal deaths."

"What we are doing is divinely inspired. The lives of these children whom we are using as a point of contact to other children in Lagos, will not be the same," he assured.

The co-founder, Pastor Laretta Patrick-Nwachi, the author of the book, said children are carefully in the heart of God, God is mindful of every child.

She disclosed the inspiration to hold

the IDAC event came to her on this year's Children's Day.

She said: "What we experienced in our own generation is no longer the case. Children stay longer in schools and yet we have the decadence."

She maintained that the NGO is to foster a reversal of the decadence among children.

"What we are doing is to put a conversation forward. No more exam mal-practice, let our children be taught appropriately; let our teachers be well paid," she stressed.

Source: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/2025/06/25/ngo-moves-to-tackle-moral-decadence-health-challenge/>

EU EXTERNAL PARTNERS

European Parliament committee probes human rights in EU-Southern Neighbourhood deals — EU approves €4 billion aid to Egypt — Sudanese refugees fleeing Egypt — Italian NGOs demand end to Italy-Libya co-operation — EU allocates €202 million to Palestine — UNRWA chief warns of funding crisis — Council of Europe body reports rise in hate crimes in Türkiye — NGO criticises Tunisian authorities over silence on migrant deaths

- The European Parliament (EP) Subcommittee on Human Rights has organised a public hearing on the human rights implications of the EU's memoranda of understanding (MoU) with its partners in the Southern Neighbourhood.
- The EP has approved €4 billion in macro-financial assistance for Egypt.
- A new investigative report has highlighted the growing number of Sudanese refugees who are leaving Egypt and following dangerous migration routes through Libya and across the Mediterranean to Europe.
- A group of NGOs has launched a campaign demanding the revocation of the Italy-Libya MoU.
- The European Commission has allocated €202 million to the United Nations Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) and the Palestinian Authority.
- UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini has warned that the agency is in the midst of a severe cash flow crisis.
- The Council of Europe's human rights monitoring body has raised serious concerns about a sharp rise in hate crimes in Türkiye.
- An NGO has criticised authorities in Tunisia for their ongoing silence regarding the rising number of deaths of people on the move along the country's eastern coastline.

The European Parliament (EP) Subcommittee on Human Rights has organised a public hearing on the human rights implications of the EU's memoranda of understanding (MoU) with its partners in the Southern Neighbourhood. Participants in the 25 June [hearing](#), which had a particular focus on the EU's financial support to Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania and Tunisia, discussed practical steps to strengthen the human rights safeguards in the various agreements, including improving accountability, creating transparent monitoring systems and considering the suspension or redirecting of EU funding if there is credible evidence of human rights violations.

The EP has approved €4 billion in macro-financial assistance for Egypt. The latest financing decision comes after a short-term loan of up to €1 billion was disbursed at the end of 2024. According to an EP [press release](#) on 18 June, the release of the latest funds is dependent on Egypt's satisfactory implementation of an International Monetary Fund programme, as well as other policy measures to be outlined in an MoU between the EU and the Egyptian authorities. In response, Dutch Green MEP Tineke Strik has called on the European Commission (EC) to specify the concrete actions that Egypt has taken to advance democratic processes, uphold the rule of law and protect human rights. Referring to Article 2(1) and Article 8(1) of the decision, Strik

posted on social media: "It is both a legal and moral obligation for the Commission to ensure that this funding goes hand in hand with true human rights improvements, and doesn't become a carte blanche to Sisi".

A new investigative report has highlighted the growing number of Sudanese refugees who are leaving Egypt and following dangerous migration routes through Libya and across the Mediterranean to Europe. According to the report by the [Reuters](#) press agency, the trend is largely driven by Egypt's crackdown on people who have fled the ongoing civil war in Sudan. It quotes data published by Libyan migration authorities, which show that, as of January 2025, between 20,000 and

25,000 Sudanese people had entered Libya via Egypt since the start of the conflict in April 2023. The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has also reported a 134% increase in the number of Sudanese arrivals in Europe during the first five months of 2025 compared to the equivalent period in the previous year. Elsewhere, the first [AIDA country report on Egypt](#), which was written by the NGO Refugees Platform in Egypt and published by ECRE, has highlighted the increasing hardships faced by refugees in Egypt, including strict residency requirements, frequent deportations and limited access to work and essential services.

A group of NGOs has launched a campaign demanding the revocation of the Italy-Libya MoU. At a press conference in the Italian Parliament on 20 June, the NGOs, which include Refugees in Libya, Amnesty International Italy, and SOS MEDITERRANEE, [stated](#) that the agreement has resulted in thousands of deaths, violent pushbacks and widespread human rights abuses against people on the move. They have also urged the Italian government to cancel the MoU before its scheduled renewal in November. “We demand that the Italian and EU governments immediately terminate the Memorandum and all co-operation with Libya,” said the head of Refugees in Libya, David Yambio, adding: “Whatever good intentions may have been behind this agreement, it has failed in human ity”.

On 23 June, the EC allocated €202 million to the United Nations Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) and the Palestinian Authority. The [funding](#) is part of the €1.6 billion Comprehensive and Multiannual Programme for Palestine’s Recovery and Resilience which will cover the period 2025-2027. The announcement came on the same day as the EU Foreign Affairs Council [discussed](#) the review of Israel’s compliance with the EU-Israel

Association Agreement.

A day after the EC announcement, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini warned that the agency was in the midst of a severe cash flow crisis. He [told](#) journalists in Berlin that UNRWA was facing a US\$200 million deficit and that he may soon be forced to make an “unprecedented decision” that could significantly impact the agency’s humanitarian, health and educational services across the Palestinian territories and in neighbouring countries (i.e. Jordan, Lebanon and Syria).

The Council of Europe’s human rights monitoring body has [raised](#) serious concerns about a sharp rise in hate crimes in Türkiye. In its sixth [monitoring report](#), the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) noted that hate speech is now “widespread” in Turkish media and political discourse, often targeting minority groups including Kurds, non-Muslims, refugees and the LGBTQI+ community. A number of civil society organisations have [informed](#) ECRI that efforts to combat hate speech are not only ignored but are often met with hostility from the government. Although ECRI has noted some positive developments such as increased training for law enforcement on hate crimes, it has found that they have not yet been translated into tangible changes in practice. The organisation makes two priority recommendations to the Turkish authorities: develop a comprehensive national anti-hate strategy through a dedicated working group, and enhance collaboration with and resource support for municipalities managing large refugee populations.

An NGO has criticised authorities in Tunisia for their ongoing silence regarding the rising number of deaths of people on the move along the country’s eastern coastline. A spokesperson for the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights (FTDES) has [described](#)

the situation as a “true humanitarian emergency” after dozens of bodies – mainly of people who had tried to cross the Mediterranean by irregular means – were discovered on shores near Sfax and Mahdia. Romdhane Ben Amor also accused the authorities of maintaining a “conspiracy of silence,” due to their failure to publicly account for the deaths or to provide clear information on the number of victims. He had specific criticisms for the Tunisian coast guard whose practices, including physical assaults dangerous manoeuvres and ineffective rescue operations, he blamed for increasing the risks faced by people trying to cross the Mediterranean.

NGO scales down zero dose, facilitates vaccination of 11,384 children in Kano

A Non-Governmental Organization TACConnect has concluded a two-year vaccination uptake intervention to facilitate immunization of 11,384 children from a zero-dose burden community.

TACConnect, in collaboration with the State Primary Healthcare Board and critical stakeholders, also entrenched integrated health care services to over 5,000 caregivers, essentially in the areas of reproductive, maternal, child health and nutrition value system in the selected local government areas of Kano state.

Available records indicated that Kano has 15 local government areas with the burden of children who have never received the routine rotavirus and pentavalent vaccines as well as first and second immunizations for Measles.

The selected LGAs are Bebeji, Wudil, Danbatta, Kiru, Dawakin-Tofa, Minjibir, Rano, Kumbtso, Nassarawa, Garun-Mallam, Tudun-Wada, Ungogo, Tsanyawa, Dawakin-Kudu and Doguwa.

Addressing stakeholders at an event, TACConnect Technical Adviser, Mr. Layi Jaiyeola explained that the intervention had successfully contributed to reducing zero dose by 30 per cent in 10 selected LGAs.

The event tagged “Accelerating Vaccination Uptake in Children Under Two Years in Selected Zero Dose LGAs, Mr Jaiyeola noted that with an integrated approach, the project was able to address



traditional and religious challenges contributing to the rejection of vaccines in the communities.

He urged the state government to ensure the sustainability of the project to accelerate the vaccination uptake which relieved Kano of zero dose burden.

“We worked with Kano state primary healthcare board and communities in 15 centres on addressing the barriers to uptake immunization, essentially to reach children who have never received any dose of vaccine.

“We have reached 11,384 children, over 50 per cent female children. We also used the concept of integration of services to meet the needs of the caregivers, and the parents’ needs around nutrition, maternal care and reproductive health, with key information and care they need to improve their health.

“Through the integration services, when the mother brings a child, we use the opportunity to render additional services to the mother. By the time we finished the program in April, we were able to reach over 5,900 mothers with key information on maternal care and able to refer over 2,000 to health facilities for nutrition services”. Jaiyeola emphasised.

Speaking on behalf of the state Primary healthcare board, the director Administration and General Services, Malam Jazuli Ja’afar applauded the intervention of TACConnect towards reducing zero-dose vaccination in Kano.

He assured government readiness to sustain partnerships with the NGOs to improve the healthcare management system, especially on the uptake of immunization and maternal and childcare development.

Source: <https://ecre.org/eu-external-partners-european-parliament-committee-probes-human-rights-in-eu-southern-neighborhood-deals-%E2%80%95-eu-approves-e4-billion-aid-to-egypt-%E2%80%95-sudanese-refugees-fleeing-egypt/>

Source: https://guardian.ng/features/health/ngo-scales-down-zero-dose-facilitates-vaccination-of-11384-children-in-kano/#google_vignette

ADB Announces \$350 Million for Pakistan to Boost the Role of Women in the Economy

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



MANILA, PHILIPPINES (25 June 2025) — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a loan of \$350 million to support access to finance for women in Pakistan.

The funding will support the second phase of the [Women-Inclusive Finance Sector Development Program](#), which includes a \$300 million policy-based loan and a \$50 million financial intermediation loan designed to fund credit facilities and guarantees that support women's entrepreneurship through improving their access to finance.

“The program is ambitious with a goal to reach out to over 2 million women in Pakistan to help them fulfill their potential, through a combination of access to finance, inclusive legal and policy reforms, and expanding capacity for entrepreneurship,” said ADB Director Sani Ismail.

The program is aligned with the Government of Pakistan's Country Partnership Strategy 2021–2025 to boost the representation of women in the economy.

Women remain underrepresented in Pakistan's economy, which has the second-lowest ranking among 146 economies in the Global Gender Gap Index in 2024. A key requirement to include women in the economic development of the country is to reduce the ever-expanding gap in access to finance which currently stands at 37% in 2024.

ADB is a leading multilateral development bank supporting inclusive, resilient, and sustainable growth across Asia and the Pacific. Working with its members and partners to solve complex challenges together, ADB harnesses innovative financial tools and strategic partnerships to transform lives, build quality infrastructure, and safeguard our planet. Founded in 1966, ADB is owned by 69 members—50 from the region.

Source: <https://www.adb.org/news/adb-announces-350-million-pakistan-boost-role-women-economy>

Survey Reveals Poor Awareness of Maharashtra's Free Education Scheme for Girls

EDUCATOIN

Pune, 23rd June 2025: Despite the Maharashtra government's initiative to provide free higher education for girls, a recent survey conducted by the NGO Student Helping Hands has revealed that the scheme's implementation is plagued by poor awareness and coordination between government bodies and educational institutions.

The survey, which included 200 female students from across various colleges in the state, found that 62.5% of the respondents did not know about the scheme, while some received incomplete or unclear information. Only 46% reported receiving any form of official communication from government sources.

More than 60% of students said their college administration did not provide any guidance on the procedure to avail the 100% fee waiver. Though 79.5% of them had attempted to apply through the government's online portal, many faced technical issues and procedural delays, leaving their applications stuck and benefits undelivered.

"There is a clear lack of coordination between educational institutions and government departments," said Amol Ambekar, founder of Student Helping Hands. "For effective implementation, eligible students must receive the benefit immediately during the



admission process, and the state must make it mandatory for colleges to explain the scheme clearly to every female applicant."

The survey has also sparked concern among parents, especially as admission season begins following the Class 10 and 12 results. Many parents remain in the dark due to poor publicity and lack of proactive communication from college administrations.

Key Demands from Student Helping Hands:

- Extend the scheme's benefits to private and deemed universities
- Include postgraduate courses under the scheme
- Simplify the application process
- Ensure immediate benefit at the time

of admission

- Remove course restrictions and offer the scheme for all academic programs

Expert Recommendations:

Education experts have urged the Higher and Technical Education Department to take the lead in running widespread awareness campaigns to ensure that the scheme reaches its intended beneficiaries.

With thousands of eligible students still uninformed or entangled in procedural hurdles, the survey underscores the urgent need for systemic reform and better outreach to truly empower girls through education in Maharashtra.

Source: <https://www.punekarnews.in/survey-reveals-poor-awareness-of-maharashtras-free-education-scheme-for-girls/>

NGO promotes inclusive education for kids with disabilities

Sine qua non Foundation, a non-governmental organisation (NGO) delivering public services and education programmes, has launched an initiative to foster inclusive learning environment in Lagos State.

Calling on individuals, organisations, and philanthropists to support the cause, the foundation said the initiative will transform traditional learning spaces to meet the needs of children with disabilities.

In a statement, Convener, Emmanuel Oyedepo, noted gaps in public education infrastructure that exclude children with physical, sensory, and intellectual disabilities from accessing quality education.

"This project is not just about improving facilities; it's about creating a society where every child, regardless of ability, can learn, grow, and thrive," Oyedepo said.

He said the programme will focus on three key areas. "We are looking at renovation and adaptation of school infrastructure to make it accessible to children with physical disabilities, provision of assistive technologies and specialised learning materials for children with sensory and intellectual disabilities and, training for educators and caregivers to promote inclusive teaching practice and disability awareness," Oyedepo said.

The foundation appealed for financial contributions, in-kind donations, such as assistive devices and educational



materials, and volunteer involvement to deliver on the its objectives.

"We believe community collaboration is essential to make inclusive education a reality. Whether through funding, expertise, or time, everyone has a role to play in shaping a more inclusive future for our children," the convener added.

Donations and inquiries can be directed through the foundation's communication channels: website: www.sinequanonfoundation.org, phone: 07079883433 or email: contactus@sinequanonfoundation.org.

The statement reiterated the foundation's commitment to ensuring that every child in Lagos access a supportive and inclusive educational experience.

"With your help, we can build a tomorrow where no child is left behind," he said.

Last November, it marked UN's International Day of Care and Support for the elderly in Iwaya, a neighbourhood in Yaba, with food supplies to the aged and vulnerable.

Source: https://thenationonlineng.net/ngo-promotes-inclusive-education-for-kids-with-disabilities/#google_vignette



\$1 towards a girl's education = \$3 for the global economy: That's how development works

Helping those with less isn't charity – it's a shared investment in a better future. Yet global development financing is under strain. An upcoming UN conference in Sevilla, Spain, aims to change that by mobilizing large-scale investment for a more just and sustainable world.

Every dollar invested in girls' education yields an average return of \$2.80 – translating into billions in additional GDP. Similarly, each dollar spent on water and sanitation saves \$4.30 in healthcare costs.

Simple math, not miracles

These aren't miracles – they're measurable outcomes. Maths doesn't recognize gender or infrastructure; it simply reflects the truth in numbers. And those numbers make a compelling case: helping countries with the least resources benefits everyone, including those with the most.

Even a single dollar, strategically invested, can make a profound difference.

For example, allocating just \$1 per person annually to combat non-

communicable diseases could prevent nearly seven million deaths by 2030. Likewise, every dollar spent on disaster risk reduction can save up to \$15 in recovery costs.

Yet despite such compelling evidence, development aid is often misunderstood – seen by some as mere charity, and by others as a vehicle for profiteering.

Equity, not charity

The latest UN Development Programme [report on Afghan women entrepreneurs](#) challenges the skeptics.

It highlights that these women are not seeking charity – they're asking for a fair chance to succeed. Earning their own income gives them a measure of independence, which in turn strengthens the communities they live in.

Against all odds, they are generating

income, creating jobs, and building fuller, more enriching lives.

Expanding access to public and private financing, guaranteeing loans, offering preferential terms in international markets, and reinforcing support networks can fuel business growth and foster a more prosperous future – whether in [Afghanistan](#) or [Ecuador](#), or anywhere in between.

FFD4 faces strong headwinds

These examples – from education and health to entrepreneurship and disaster resilience – paint a clear, data-driven narrative: smart investments in development pay dividends for everyone.

That message should be front and center at the upcoming [Fourth UN Conference on Financing for](#)

[Development](#) which will be held in the Spanish city of Sevilla, from 30 June to 3 July. But the summit, known by its clunky acronym FFD4, faces stiff headwinds.

Even as countries negotiating at UN Headquarters in New York agreed a week ago on a sweeping outcome document – set to be adopted at the close of the conference and intended to guide the future of global development aid – some nations are pulling back.

Notably, the United States has announced it will not send a delegation to Sevilla at all.

And even though there are some notable exceptions, including Spain, which has increased its development financing budget allocations by 12 per cent, the uncertain landscape ahead has led UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to lament that “global collaboration is being actively questioned.”

This questioning is reflected in the \$4 trillion annual deficit in development financing, as well as the abandonment of earlier commitments and delivery of aid by donors at what the Secretary-General has called “a historic speed and scale.”

Moreover, the [Sustainable Development Goals](#), signed by all world leaders just 10 years ago, are a long way off track.

What is at stake in Sevilla?

Success in Sevilla “will require other countries to [fill the global leadership](#)

[vacuum](#) and demonstrate credible commitment to multilateral cooperation, which is essential for our survival,” states Jayati Ghosh, professor of economics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Meaningful steps forward must include deep reforms of the international financial system. As it stands, it fails to meet the needs of developing countries while steadfastly protecting the interests of wealthier nations.

Consider this: developing countries face interest rates at least twice as high as those paid by developed nations. And today, the average rates charged by private creditors to these countries have reached their highest levels in 15 years.

What aid gives, debt takes away

Developing countries spent a record \$1.4 trillion on external debt service in 2023, the highest in 20 years.

Meanwhile, in 2024, more than 1.1 billion people live in developing countries where external debt servicing accounts for more than 20 per cent of government revenue, and nearly 2.2 billion live in developing countries where the percentage is higher than 10 per cent.

Interest payment on this debt hinders development by preventing investment

in health infrastructure and education services, to cite just two examples.

Debt restructuring is therefore essential, because much of the hope for development is lost in the give and take of aid and debt.

Promoting investment in what works

Eradicating hunger, advancing gender equality, protecting the environment, confronting climate change, and saving our oceans are not radical ideas.

Despite claims from some highly ideological viewpoints that the Sustainable Development Goals represent an extremist agenda, they are, in fact, a shared baseline – an urgent set of priorities that humanity demands and that the leaders of 193 countries committed to in 2015.

Despite the noise made by those who oppose development aid and multilateralism, they are a minority, says Spain's Secretary of State for International Cooperation.

Ana Granados Galindo sees Sevilla as “a beacon of global solidarity.”

Meanwhile, as the world gears up for FFD4, mathematics, statistics, and Afghan women continue to work their common sense ‘development magic’.

Source: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/06/1164856>

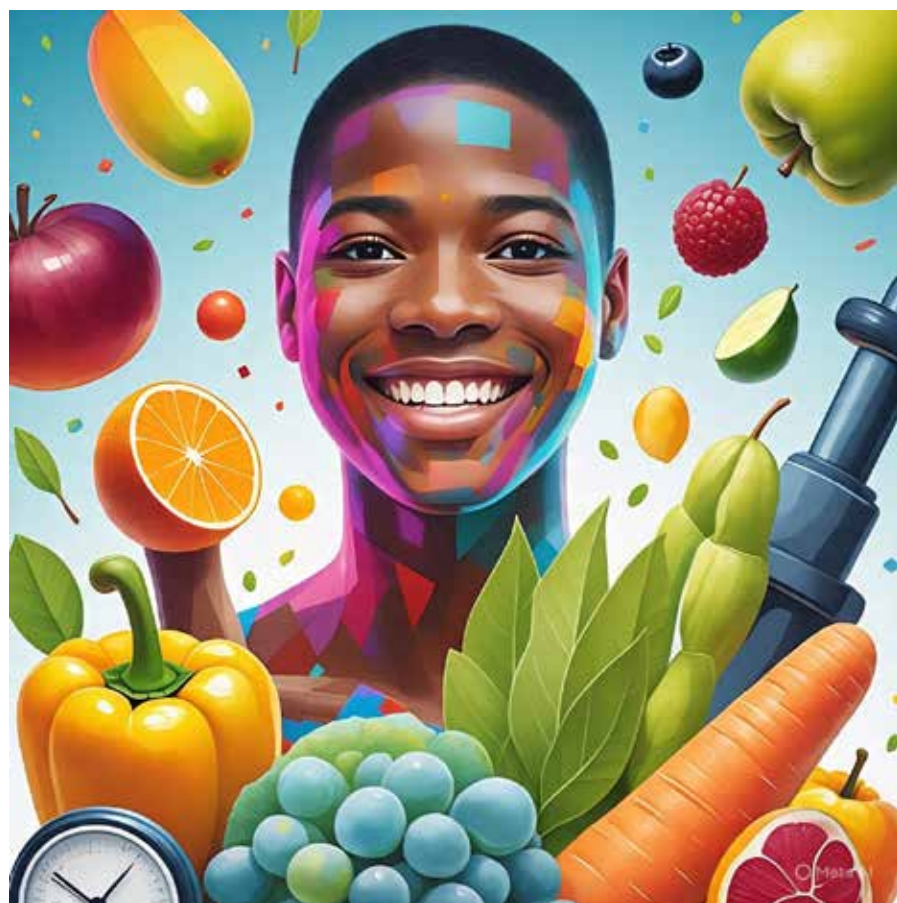
Expanding access to sexual and reproductive health services in Ethiopia

Addis Ababa – To address gaps in sexual and reproductive healthcare access, widened by the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing humanitarian crises, Ethiopia is reinforcing its health system, making these vital services more accessible for women and adolescents in remote and crisis-affected areas.

A key part of this effort is promoting self-care, by giving people the knowledge and tools to manage their own sexual and reproductive health through safe, simple and affordable practices for family planning, HIV prevention, cervical cancer prevention, nutrition, and maternal, adolescent and youth health. Practical examples range from access to contraceptives, pregnancy tests, and HIV self-test kits, all supported by educational guidance. This also includes self-management of medical abortion in line with national legislation, which permits the procedure under certain conditions.

With support from World Health Organization (WHO), health authorities have developed the National Self-Care Intervention Guideline, focusing on interventions for women, adolescent and child health.

They have also integrated self-care and expanded sexual and reproductive health services into key national policy guidelines, including those related to family planning, safe abortion care,



teenage pregnancy reduction, and sexual and reproductive health responses in humanitarian settings.

Across the country, health workers are being trained to teach people how to promote these self-care tools. This started with a workshop for 38 public health officials from the Ministry of Health, Regional Health Bureaus and other institutions in June 2024. The initiative was then expanded to the sub-national level, equipping 67 health

providers and managers with skills, in October 2024.

"The recommendations and action plan we developed will help us integrate self-care into our existing health services effectively," said Daniel Nadew, Maternal Child Health desk team lead from Addis Ababa City Health Bureau.

Following the scaling up self-care training, at Kolfe Health Centre in Addis Ababa, one of the pilot facilities,

the introduction of self-care services contributed to a significant increase in access to services. In 2024, as part of the family planning service delivery, more than 800 women received over-the-counter combined oral contraceptives, compared with 280 in 2022.

Additionally, 84 women were trained to self-administer a safe and effective injectable contraceptive, known as DMPA, and more than 1000 adolescents were provided condoms after training on correct use.

Moreover, 50 women received self-management of medical abortion services, which included comprehensive training on how and when to use the medication, the correct dose, side effects, possible complications, and guidance on when to get medical help.

"The self-care training has significantly improved my knowledge and skills in providing comprehensive family planning and abortion care. The practical sessions were particularly helpful, and I feel more confident in my ability to support women in my community," said Fatima Belay*, a health worker from Addis Ababa.

Belay* also highlighted the benefits of self-administered injectable contraceptives: "I appreciate the ease and convenience of the self-administering contraceptive, which I am able to use at home, at my usual workplace, or wherever I am."

Amid the humanitarian crises in the northern region of Amhara, WHO and the Ethiopian Public Health Institute trained 30 healthcare providers from 13 health facilities in conflict-affected districts on self-care intervention guidelines.

Following the training, nine facilities provided onsite selfcare orientation for their staff which resulted in over 100 women and adolescents being educated on selfcare for family planning, antenatal

care, pregnancy danger signs, nutrition, and safe abortion.

Gish Abay Health Centre empowered 120 adolescents with skills for correct condom use and provided safe abortion care for 35 adolescent girls. Tilili Health Centre broadened the scope of self-care to include HIV self-testing, breast self-examination, pregnancy self-testing, and condom and emergency contraceptive use.

"These interventions significantly benefited the community and contributed to the efforts towards reducing preventable maternal and perinatal deaths. It will enable us to reach every

Source: <https://www.afro.who.int/news/expanding-access-sexual-and-reproductive-health-services-ethiopia>

mother, newborn, child, and adolescent in our community who are critically in need of health services," said Nadew.

"Ethiopia's commitment for self-care integration is empowering individuals, especially women and adolescents, with the knowledge and tools for proactive health management, offering considerable community convenience and cost savings," said Dr Owen Kaluwa, WHO Representative in Ethiopia. "WHO is proud to support this effort, which significantly improves health outcomes by expanding access to critical sexual and reproductive health services, particularly crucial in conflict-affected areas."



The Costa Rican Red Cross, alongside partners, mobilized quickly to deliver urgent humanitarian aid and hygiene supplies to communities in northern Costa Rica hit hard by recent torrential rains.



German NGO Welthungerhilfe hands over nutrition and health facilities to Torit

German NGO Welthungerhilfe (WHH) has officially handed over five nutrition and WASH facilities to the Torit County authorities in a significant step towards improving child and maternal health in Eastern Equatoria State.

The facilities are part of broader efforts to tackle acute malnutrition and improve access to nutrition services for vulnerable populations in South Sudan.

WHH Country Director Ania Okinczyc commended the successful transition of the facilities to local authorities, highlighting the significance of empowering communities and reinforcing health systems.

“The handover of these five nutrition and WASH facilities to the local

authorities in Torit County is more than an investment in infrastructure—it is an investment in lives, dignity, and community resilience. We believe that lasting change begins at the community level. That is why these facilities have been designed and equipped to be fully functional and sustainable within the local health system,” said Okinczyc.

The handover, Okinczyc went on, is more than just a ceremonial event; it marks the transfer of fully functional facilities into the hands of the local health authorities and communities.

The facilities are strategically located across three payams of Imurok, Kudo and Lowoi to ensure community-level access.

An estimate of over 20,000 people are expected to directly benefit from the upgraded and constructed facilities. They are now equipped to deliver treatment for severe and moderate acute malnutrition, nutrition education, and follow-up services for children under five and pregnant and lactating women.

Each constructed or rehabilitated facility is equipped with medical equipment including beddings and drip stands for the Stabilization Center (SC), which is a specialized unit where children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) are admitted. In addition, there is a nutrition store at Kudo PHCC and Waiting area in Lofiri PHCU plus basic WASH facilities (washroom blocks with latrines). Child-

friendly space items have also been provided to support the protection and development of children in safe, structured environments.

A project participant and a Nutrition In-charge at the Torit State Hospital, Rehema Roman Doka better known as Mama Rehema applauded WHH, saying the support will address WASH and nutrition gaps.

“My thanks go to WHH for what they have done for us. We did not have enough beds. Most were old, broken or damaged yet we receive six to seven children brought in by their mothers. With the weather here, we needed enough blankets and sheets which were provided and helped us cover our gap, and for that, we are thankful.”

Torit County acting medical director Oboy Joseph Odong decried congestion in PHCCs and nutrition facilities across the county.

He urged the government and health partners to cooperate in extending services to the grassroots, saying most health facilities there lacked support

“What they did is a legacy and I wish you all to have that same level of cooperation because you have created for us a very big extension in all our health facilities,” he said.

Eastern Equatoria State Director for Primary Health Care Centers Dr Amin Gordiano applauded WHH and advised partners supporting with health facilities to continue to engage with the local authorities to ensure accountability throughout the project phases.



NAFDAC, ministry of health partner NGO to curb foodborne diseases

In a bid to safeguard consumer health and halt the rising spate of foodborne illnesses, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) has counseled food vendors within the food supply chain to abide by the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s five keys of food safety.

Speaking at a forum to commemorate the World Food Safety Day and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Day (MSME) organised by OSOA Food, a non-governmental organisation passionate about maintenance of food hygiene and safety at Bakare Dawodu Bello Market Ifako, Gbagada, Lagos, NAFDAC's representative, Mr. Aina Olugbenga, urged strict compliance with food safety keys.

Aina enumerated the five food safety keys to include: Keep clean hygiene, separate raw and cooked food, cook thoroughly, keep food at safe temperature, use safe water and other raw materials.

He urged food vendors to comply maximally with the keys to ensure a safer food for all.

OSOA Food CEO, Mr. Solomon Oyeniran, earlier in his welcome speech, said: “The economic burden of foodborne diseases exceeds \$110 billion annually in low and medium income countries due to lost productivity and health care expenses, caused by harmful chemical compounds and pathogens, which in one way or the other, are transferred into the food and consumed.

“Food can be contaminated with an array of hazards: bacteria, chemicals, fungi

or parasites which can cause 200 different diseases. These illnesses impact health, livelihoods, education and economies. However, they can be prevented when we are informed and take action.”

Oyeniran hinted that the body has signed an MOU with the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to take the safer food message round the 774 local governments of Nigeria. He said the body has written to the Lagos State Ministry of Health in this respect and was still awaiting its response.

“This NGO considers this as a step in the right direction given the population of the state and having been the nerve centre of the nation's economic hub,” he added.

The event, which enjoyed the massive collaboration of the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Lagos State Ministry of Environment and Water Resources, Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture and Food Systems, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency, Lagos State Safety Commission, Lagos State Waste Management Agency, targeted a reorientation of food vendors on ensuring safe practices in their daily dealings.

A delegation from the Lagos State Ministry of Health, led by Mrs. Kayode Tomilayo, harped on the importance of safe food consumption, while urging food vendors to take food hygiene more seriously.

Source: https://guardian.ng/news/nafdac-ministry-of-health-partner-ngo-to-curb-foodborne-diseases/#google_vignette

Source: <https://www.radiotamazuj.org/en/news/article/german-ngo-welthungerhilfe-hands-over-nutrition-and-health-facilities-to-torit>

NGO calls for support for sickle cell warriors

A non-governmental organisation, Nirvana Initiative, has called for broader commitment to advocacy, education, and direct support for the sickle cell community in Nigeria and across Africa.

Founder of the group, Ms Modupeola Babawale, said the initiative is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals living with sickle cell disorder.

Speaking at an event held to commemorate the 2025 World Sickle Cell Day, themed “Stronger Together”, in Agege, Lagos, Babawale said the event was organised to fete sickle cell warriors and caregivers for a day of support, healing, and connection.

Speaking on the theme, she said “Stronger Together” was more than a theme, as it was a growing movement to reduce stigma, increase awareness, and ensure that no warrior was left behind.

This event marks the first of its kind by Nirvana Initiative since its founding in 2015 and signals a new direction for the organisation.

“This is only the beginning. We want to take this model to more communities, especially underserved ones, where warriors are often forgotten. Everyone warrior deserves to be seen. Everyone warrior deserves support.”

“The initiative is building a community that centers not only on genotype awareness and advocacy, but also on the emotional, social, and everyday realities of individuals living with the condition.”

“In a heartfelt session that opened the floor to shared experiences, warriors and caregivers spoke candidly about the physical and emotional toll of living with sickle cell.”



“Conversations touched on self-esteem challenges, stigma, and the emotional isolation many warriors face. For many, the event marked the first time they felt seen, heard, and surrounded by others who understood their journey.”

“We wanted to create more than just a medical outreach, our goal is to build safe spaces for warriors to receive care and connect with others who truly get it.”

The founder said they talk a lot about genotype awareness in Nigeria—and while that was important, they also need to focus on the people living with sickle cell.

She said they cannot continue to be overlooked because living with sickle cell wasn’t just about managing pain and survival, but it was about living, reclaiming joy, confidence, and community.

Babawale admitted that a portion of the outreach was proudly supported by Kredi Bank, who generously donated routine medications to help ensure warriors had access to consistent care.

The founder noted that the event also featured lifestyle discussions, mental health counselling, and open mic sessions—affirming the message that

healthcare was not complete without emotional care.

She said attendees received free routine medications, care packages, and access to medical consultations—but beyond the healthcare support, what truly resonated was the sense of community, visibility, and belonging that filled the space.

The Outreach Coordinator and Certified Nursing Assistant, Mr Stephen Oladipupo, said the event also aimed to challenge stereotypes about sickle cell patients.

Oladipupo explained that the programme allowed beneficiaries to gather, share experiences, and realise they are not alone in their health journeys.

One of the beneficiaries, a 50-year-old warrior, Mrs Mosunmola Bamigbola, urged fellow warriors to prioritise self-care and not believe myths about dying young.

“It’s untrue that sickle cell warriors must die young. With proper care, we can live long, fulfilling lives,” she said.

Bamigbola said she stays healthy by drinking plenty of water, avoiding cold, and eating fruits and vegetables regularly to manage her condition.

Mental health support services for South Australia’s drought-affected communities

The Malinauskas State Government is today outlining the details of its \$2.5 million comprehensive mental health support strategy for South Australian communities impacted by the drought.

The Mental Health Support Program forms part of the State Government’s \$73 million drought assistance package, which was first announced in November last year and expanded in April.

More than \$1.2 million will be invested in expanding trusted NGO mental health service providers across regional SA including Centacare (with KWY), Uniting SA, Mind and Skylight, enabling these skilled and trusted local services to deliver more support to individuals and groups. These programs will involve mental health support workers on the ground who will work directly with affected community members.

Referral pathways are also being broadly expanded to ensure these services can be accessed through a range of new and locally established referrers, including Rural Financial Counsellors (via Rural Business Support), Family and Business Support Mentors and local GPs, plus self-referral from 1 July.

At least eight Men’s Tables will be formed over the next year – men’s mental health, suicide prevention and community-building initiatives that bring together groups of local men so they can build genuine connections over dinner – at a cost of \$200,000, starting with the South East and expanding to

at least one in every drought-affected region.

Increased mental wellbeing resources and the promotion of effective mental health tools for farmers and primary producers are also being rolled out. An \$80,000 investment is being made in tools such as ifarmwell, an online platform developed by farmers for farmers which teaches skills to better cope with stress.

More than \$600,000 is being invested into other wellbeing, resilience and mental health initiatives, including the provision of access to training, support, information and resources for the broader community as well as Aboriginal and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities.

Targeted support such as counselling and suicide prevention will also be established to help each community’s most vulnerable people.

A targeted social media campaign for drought-affected residents has proven successful, reaching more than 276,000 people in four weeks. Posts have attracted engagement from many men,

particularly within the 25–64-year-old age range.

That campaign has been extended for a further four weeks, featuring new images that promote phone, online and walk-in mental health support options available right now for those who need them.

The Drought Mental Health Support Program will ensure that even those facing the worst of circumstances will feel connected, supported and informed – if, and, or when they are ready to take that important next step towards getting the help they need.

Those needing mental health support or advice can call the Medicare Mental Health Line between 8.30am and 5pm on weekdays at 1800 595 212.

Support is also available 24 hours a day, every day of the year through Lifeline (131 114) or, for urgent matters, by calling the Emergency Triage Liaison Service on 131 465.

Further information and resources can also be found at the SA Health website’s [Drought Mental Health Support page](#).

For broader drought related matters, the PIRSA Recovery Hotline is available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, at 1800 931 314.

PIRSA is also providing [drought response updates](#) on its website.

Source: <https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/media-releases/news-items/mental-health-support-services-for-south-australias-drought-affected-communities>

ADUJAK GENRE DIY TAHUN 2025



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Youth key to building golden generation, official says

Sleman (ANTARA) - Today's youth will have a vital role in shaping Indonesia's Golden Generation 2045, head of the Yogyakarta Office of the Ministry of Population and Family Development (Kemendukbangga/BKKBN), Iqbal Apriansyah, said.

He made the statement in Yogyakarta on Monday while highlighting the importance of youth who will become key drivers of national development upon entering their productive years.

According to Iqbal, investing in youth development is a strategic move for the country's future.

One effort to develop the youth is the "Generation with a Plan" (GenRe) program and the selection of GenRe Ambassadors.

The GenRe program, developed by the BKKBN, aims to prepare the youth

for family life by focusing on marriage maturity, education planning, career development, and reproductive health.

Iqbal added that the presence of GenRe Ambassadors has strengthened program outreach, thanks to a peer-to-peer communication model that is designed by, with, and for youth, making it more effective and youth-friendly.

The 2025 DIY GenRe Ambassador selection took place on Sunday (June 22) at the RRI Yogyakarta Auditorium.

Based on a jury's evaluation, Shufia Aghnia and Agung Putra Darmara were selected as the 2025 GenRe Ambassadors for the Yogyakarta region.

Over the next year, they will serve as role models for youth development and will be assessed at the national level under the tagline: "One year of service, a lifetime of inspiration."

This year's GenRe Ambassador selection adopted the theme "Rukti Setya Garba Rukmi," which calls on youth to optimize local potential by spreading meaningful impact.

Mustikaningtyas, head of the KSPK team at BKKBN DIY, said that the GenRe DIY Ambassador Appreciation and Creativity Showcase (ADUJAK) is held annually to recognize Yogyakarta youth serving as role models and spokespersons for the GenRe program and its core values.

The values are avoiding early marriage, premarital sex, and drug abuse (known as the GenRe Triad).

She added that the event also aims to motivate and guide youth through five key life transitions— pursuing education, building a career, establishing a happy and prosperous family, adopting a healthy lifestyle, and engaging in social interaction with the community.

Source: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/361297/youth-key-to-building-golden-generation-official-says>



Uzbekistan and Japan Strengthen Youth Entrepreneurship Cooperation

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 24 June, a business forum was held with the support of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Youth Affairs Agency of Uzbekistan, aimed at enhancing cooperation between the Youth Chambers of Uzbekistan and Japan and expanding youth participation in entrepreneurship.

As part of the forum, a delegation of Japanese entrepreneurs led by

Shigeaki Tagawa, President of Japan Eastern Trading Co. Ltd., met with representatives of Uzbekistan's business community.

Japan Eastern Trading Co. Ltd. actively promotes full digitalization and the development of a green economy. The company places special emphasis on environmental and social initiatives and considers the transmission of sustainable values to the younger generation one of its core missions.

The discussions resulted in preliminary agreements on cooperation between the Japanese delegation and several Uzbek enterprises. Notably, memorandums were reached with Dilfuza Dizayn LLC in the textile sector and Functional Food LLC in the production of silk-based goods.

Source: <https://www.uzdaily.uz/en/uzbekistan-and-japan-strengthen-youth-entrepreneurship-cooperation/>

Young entrepreneurs can borrow N\$200k from the State

Youth entrepreneurs can now access government loans through the newly approved National Youth Fund (NYF). The loans range from N\$60,000 to N\$200,000.

Cabinet last week endorsed the fund's operational framework and allocated an initial N\$257 million.

The ministry of information and communication technology said the NYF will use structured lending channels, including

market linkage systems, targeted lending, public grants, and policy-based options.

The fund will follow a project-based entrepreneurship model, supporting businesses to grow beyond the start-up phase.

“The Cabinet approved the common guidelines for the operationalisation of the National Youth Fund, including a fund philosophy and lending structure to ensure viable projects

receive support,” said MICT minister Emma Theofelus.

In April, finance minister Ericah Shafudah confirmed the government's plan to create a youth development fund under the Swapo Party's 2024 Manifesto Implementation Plan. She admitted that previous efforts did not deliver results.

“The SME schemes the government has put in place are many, but you don't see their impact. Is it the theory of it that was not correct, or what is it?” she asked during a public engagement.

The NYF will consolidate current youth support schemes under bodies such as the National Youth Council, the National Youth Service, the Equipment Aid Scheme, and credit guarantee initiatives through local banks. These existing programmes have struggled to reduce the youth unemployment rate, which now stands at 44.5%.

Theofelus confirmed the fund will receive annual government subventions beyond the initial N\$257 million but did not give specific dates for disbursement or implementation. It is also not yet clear which agency will manage the fund.

The NYF forms part of a broader plan to create over 52 000 jobs in five years. The government has set aside N\$10 billion for youth-focused programmes under its N\$85.7 billion implementation plan to cut unemployment and create 250 000 jobs.

Each year, the NYF is expected to receive N\$500 million, fund apprenticeships for 10 000 youth, and support graduate internships in the public and private sectors. Interns will receive annual stipends of N\$30 000.

Source: <https://www.observer24.com.na/young-entrepreneurs-can-borrow-n200k-from-the-state/>

MITI Supports Young Entrepreneurs Through DEFA, ASEAN SME Academy



KUALA LUMPUR, June 28 (Bernama) -- The Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) is actively creating more space for young entrepreneurs to thrive, in line with Malaysia's role as ASEAN chair, said Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz.

He said that through initiatives such as the ASEAN SME Academy and the Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA), the ministry is breaking down barriers so that these entrepreneurs can start, scale, and connect their ventures beyond borders.

“DEFA, the world's first regional digital economy treaty, is projected to grow ASEAN's digital economy to over US\$2 trillion by 2030 and generate millions of jobs. These are not just statistics; they are doorways to your future,” he said in his closing keynote address at the Nusantara Youth Forum 2025 held in Putrajaya today.

Tengku Zafrul said that as Malaysia opens doors for young entrepreneurs

and innovators, it is important to mention how Malaysia's own long-term strategies align with these regional ambitions.

“Through the New Industrial Master Plan 2030 (NIMP 2030), Malaysia is transforming our industrial landscape by focusing on high value-added sectors, advanced manufacturing, and future-oriented skills.

“NIMP's core mission is to create quality jobs and ensure our industries — especially in electrical and electronics (and) green tech — remain globally competitive, resilient, and sustainable,” he said.

According to the minister, national frameworks such as NIMP are not just about Malaysia's progress.

“They also complement ASEAN initiatives like DEFA and the ASEAN SME Academy, creating a seamless ecosystem that supports youth, from upskilling and financing to market access, so you can truly take your ideas from the region to the world,” he said.

Source: <https://www.bernama.com/en/region/news.php/news.php?id=2439232>

Tengku Zafrul also gave recognition to arts and culture, saying that too often, the creative sector is wrongly treated as secondary to the “main economy.”

“The truth is, culture and creativity are economic engines, identity builders and bridges between nations,” he said, adding that ASEAN's creative industries, from music to film, are gaining global attention.

The MITI Minister said he cannot overstate the importance of entrepreneurship in driving both economic progress and social transformation.

“Today, the most exciting businesses in Malaysia, and indeed throughout ASEAN, are being founded, led, and grown by youths.

“Whether you are developing tech solutions, running sustainable farms, designing innovative products, or launching platforms for social impact, you show the world what is possible when ambition is united with purpose,” he added.



Connections that count: How young entrepreneurs are transforming communities

Three young entrepreneurs prove that meaningful relationships are the foundation of sustainable business growth

As Youth Month 2025 concludes, All4Youth SSA's theme "Connections That Count" has proven more relevant than ever. With youth unemployment in South Africa on the rise, the challenge isn't simply about creating more jobs - it's about ensuring young people can connect with the opportunities that already exist. The All4Hustlers Competition exemplifies this approach. While it celebrates entrepreneurship, its real value lies in creating access to resources, networks, and mentorship that participants can leverage.

The stories of three All4Hustlers Competition finalists perfectly embody how relationships, community ties, access to opportunities and innovation

can be drivers of small and medium size enterprise sustainability and growth in South Africa. Sinethemba Masinga, Lindokuhle Mabaso, and Minenhle Simelane demonstrate that in today's interconnected business landscape, success isn't just about what you know - it's about who you connect with and how you leverage those relationships to create meaningful impact.

The power of intergenerational connections

Minenhle Simelane's journey with [Umlazi Arts and Recycling](#) showcases the profound impact of intergenerational knowledge transfer. At 23, this uMlazi-

based entrepreneur has built a thriving business that transforms plastic waste into beautiful, functional mats - a skill passed down from his late maternal grandmother, Ntombizodwa Simelane, when he was just five years old.

"My grandmother taught me how to do these mats when she was telling me stories as a child," Minenhle reflects. This connection to his heritage became the foundation for a business that has received over 1,000 orders from customers across South Africa, from the Free State to Gauteng.

But Minenhle's success extends beyond family connections. His strategic use of social media platforms, particularly Facebook, demonstrates

how young entrepreneurs are leveraging digital connections to scale their businesses. A single post showcasing his work received over 2,000 shares, transforming local craft into national demand.

The business lesson: Traditional knowledge combined with modern connectivity creates powerful market opportunities. Young entrepreneurs who honor their heritage while embracing digital platforms often find themselves at the intersection of authenticity and scalability.

Community-centric connections

[Sinethemba Masinga \(@ufarm_julia\)](#) represents the power of community-rooted entrepreneurship. Operating from her family's 1.5-hectare farm in Ndwedwe, KwaZulu-Natal, the 25-year-old agricultural entrepreneur has built Sinethembiso Produce into a successful enterprise that employs four workers and supplies fresh produce across the region.

Sinethemba's approach to business demonstrates how authentic community connections can drive both viral marketing and sustainable growth. Her celebration of successful eggplant cultivation through a dance video - viewed over 30,000 times - wasn't just content creation; it was community storytelling that resonated with thousands of South Africans who saw farming through new eyes.

"I make farming seem exciting, and it is exciting. I live for agriculture," she explains. Her ability to connect urban audiences with rural realities has positioned her as an agricultural influencer while building a profitable business that creates local employment.

When water shortages threatened their chilli crops in 2024, Sinethemba's solution - collecting and repurposing 2L bottles from the community - demonstrated how strong local connections enable innovative problem-solving. This collaborative approach

to challenges reflects a business model built on mutual support rather than extraction.

The business lesson: Entrepreneurs who genuinely invest in their communities often find that communities invest back through loyalty, collaboration, and organic marketing support.

Technology-tradition bridge building

[Lindokuhle Mabaso \(@cruizboisa\)](#) exemplifies how young entrepreneurs are creating connections between traditional industries and modern technology. As the founder of an agricultural solutions company, Mabaso is building bridges between smallholder farmers and advanced agricultural technologies, making innovation accessible to communities that have historically been excluded from technological advancement.

Cruizboisa's model focuses on practical implementation and affordability, ensuring that technological solutions can be adopted regardless of farmers' economic circumstances. This approach recognises that sustainable business growth in South Africa requires inclusive innovation - solutions that work for everyone, not just those with abundant resources.

The business lesson: Successful young entrepreneurs often succeed by connecting existing communities with emerging technologies, rather than trying to replace traditional practices entirely.

The All4Youth ecosystem effect

The All4Hustlers Competition itself represents a powerful connection ecosystem. By identifying and supporting promising young entrepreneurs, the program creates networks that extend far beyond individual businesses. All4Hustlers gain access resources like a business cash prize, mentorship, market connections,

and peer networks that amplify their individual efforts.

This ecosystem approach reflects a broader trend required for youth entrepreneurship: success increasingly depends on participation in supportive networks rather than purely individual effort.

Building connections that count: Key strategies for young entrepreneurs

1. Honor your roots while embracing innovation

All three finalists demonstrate how respecting traditional knowledge while adopting modern tools creates authentic competitive advantages. Whether it's Minenhle's grandmother's mat-making techniques or Sinethemba's family farming heritage, successful young entrepreneurs often build on existing community assets.

2. Use digital platforms for community building, not just marketing

Sinethemba's viral farming videos and Minenhle's Facebook success show how social media can build genuine communities around businesses. The most successful young entrepreneurs use digital platforms to create conversations, not just broadcast messages.

3. Solve problems collaboratively

From Sinethemba's community-sourced water conservation solution to Lindokuhle's inclusive agricultural technology approach, these entrepreneurs succeed by involving their communities in problem-solving rather than imposing external solutions.

4. Create value chains that include others

Each winner has built businesses that create opportunities for others - whether through employment,

skills transfer, or market access. This approach builds sustainable competitive advantages while contributing to community development.

The future of connected entrepreneurship

As South Africa's youth unemployment crisis persists, these three young entrepreneurs demonstrate that meaningful connections - to heritage, community, technology, and each other - can create pathways to both individual success and collective progress.

Their stories suggest that the future of South African entrepreneurship lies not in isolated innovation but in connected creativity. Young entrepreneurs who understand how to build and leverage meaningful relationships - with customers, communities, mentors, and each other - are positioned to create businesses that are both profitable and purposeful.

The All4Hustlers finalists prove that in 2025, the most valuable business asset isn't capital or technology - it's the ability to create and maintain connections that count. For young entrepreneurs across South Africa, All4Youth SSA's message during this Youth Month is - your network isn't just your net worth; it's your path to creating sustainable value for yourself and your community.

As we celebrate Youth Month 2025, All4Youth SSA's theme "Connections That Count" resonates powerfully through the stories of Sinthemba, Lindokuhle, and Minenhle. They remind us that entrepreneurial success is fundamentally about connection - to purpose, to people, and to the possibility of building businesses that make a difference. Their victories in the All4Hustlers competition are not just individual achievements; they're proof that when young entrepreneurs focus on connections that count, they create value that lasts.

About All4Youth SSA

All4Youth SSA is part of the Global Alliance for Youth, a business-driven movement that has transformed over 30 million young lives worldwide since 2019. The Global Alliance, comprising 20+ international companies, has supported over 10 million young people with development opportunities and is committed to helping youth build essential employability skills including Digital, Soft Skills, STEM, Career Advice and Entrepreneurship.

In South Africa, All4Youth SSA is proudly supported by leading corporate partners including Puma South Africa,

Nestlé ESAR, ABB, Adcorp Group, Publicis Groupe Africa, and Microsoft. Together, these partners are committed to creating meaningful pathways for South African youth to develop the skills needed to thrive in the modern economy.

The All4Hustlers competition, part of the broader All4Youth initiative, continues to identify and support young entrepreneurs who are building businesses with community impact. Through strategic partnerships and innovative programs, All4Youth SSA is helping bridge the gap between education and employment while fostering entrepreneurial excellence across the continent.

Source: <https://www.bizcommunity.com/article/connections-that-count-how-young-entrepreneurs-are-transforming-communities-148216a#>



Deliver Smiles: Where There Is Loss, Let There Be Love

Bringing hope, dignity, and joy to the lives of orphaned children—because love heals what loss leaves behind.



Zafar Iqbal

Deliver Smiles is a compassionate initiative by The NGO World that aims to bring care, dignity, and opportunity to orphaned children.

Recognizing the emotional and material struggles these children face, the program is designed to support their education, emotional well-being, and basic needs. Through small scholarships, educational kits, school bags, and seasonal gifts, Deliver Smiles offers more than material aid—it delivers hope.

The initiative places special emphasis on ensuring that these children feel seen, valued, and loved, helping restore their sense of belonging in society.

Rooted in Islamic values and social responsibility, Deliver Smiles views orphan care not just as charity but as a moral and spiritual obligation. Volunteers and donors engage actively to create moments of joy, like birthday celebrations and Eid gifts, ensuring the children feel part of the community.

The initiative has touched hundreds of lives, especially in underserved areas, making a meaningful impact by enabling children to continue their education and grow with confidence.



"Deliver Smiles is more than a project—it is a personal mission for me. Orphans are the most vulnerable, yet the most deserving of our compassion. This initiative gives us the chance to restore their hope, dignity, and dreams. Every smile we bring to their faces is a reminder of our shared humanity.

Deliver Smiles is a piece of my soul—it connects me deeply with the silent struggles and innocent hopes of orphaned children. This initiative is our way of telling them: you are not forgotten, you are not alone. Their smiles are our reward, and their dreams are our responsibility. This is not aid—it is a promise of compassion."

Bring Hope to Orphaned Children: Thousands of orphaned children are waiting for someone to care. Deliver Smiles is your chance to change a life—by supporting education, emotional care, and dignity for those who need it most. Your generosity can turn their sorrow into strength and their silence into smiles. Join us in this mission of compassion. Together, let's ensure no child feels forgotten.

One smile can change everything—help us deliver it.

UN Financing for Development Conference 2025: Compromiso de Sevilla falls short on international solidarity



The long-awaited Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) will take place in Sevilla, Spain, 30 June to 3 July, to set the global agenda for development finance.

The [outcome document](#), or ‘Compromiso de Sevilla’, endorsed on 17 June by governments marks a significant moment in the global discourse on development finance. As the world confronts interconnected crises, the need for a robust and inclusive financial framework has never been more pressing.

The Compromiso presents some steps forward, but it also reveals critical shortcomings that must be addressed to put democracy and social justice at the heart of the international financial architecture.

Strengths of the Compromiso de Sevilla:

- **Welcome focus on decent work:** The commitment to invest in productive sectors, decent job creation, formalisation and skills development are a positive step. To maximize impact, this ambition will need to be matched with clear implementation strategies and a strong push for the formalization of

the informal economy, particularly of undeclared and misclassified workers in enterprises.

- **Financing for social protection:** The document includes a measurable target for developing countries to increase social protection coverage by two percentage points per year, a commitment [advocated by the International Labour Organization](#) and supported by experts like UN Special Rapporteur [Olivier De Schutter](#). This target aims to address the significant gaps in social protection coverage, with nearly half of the world’s population currently lacking any form of coverage. Additionally, the document highlights the need for predictable, adequate, and uninterrupted funding for social protection during shocks and crises, recognizing the importance of international financing mechanisms to support low-income countries in closing their social protection financing gaps.
- **Advancing fair taxation:** There is a commitment to promote tax progressiveness within the framework of gender-just tax

systems, improve international tax transparency, and ensure fair taxation of corporations and the ultra-wealthy. Crucially, it supports efforts to strengthen international tax cooperation, including through engagement in the process towards a UN Framework Convention on Tax—an important step toward curtailing tax avoidance and building a more inclusive and equitable global tax system.

Despite these positive aspects, several critical issues are inadequately addressed or absent.

Areas of concern of the Compromiso de Sevilla:

- **Weak debt architecture reform:** With [3.3 billion people living in countries that spend more on debt interest payments than on healthcare or education](#), one of the most glaring shortcomings is the lack of a robust mechanism for debt restructuring. Due to the systematic blocking from Global North countries, the document proposes

an intergovernmental process to promote voluntary principles on sovereign borrowing and lending, but stops short of endorsing the need for a permanent multilateral debt resolution mechanism. This omission leaves developing countries vulnerable to unsustainable debt burdens without a clear path to relief.

- **Limited commitment to Official Development Assistance (ODA):** While the document reaffirms the importance of ODA, it lacks concrete and time-bound commitments to increase aid levels or to ensure that aid is used effectively. In the context of dramatic aid cuts, this vagueness is alarming.
- **Better criteria to make private finance work for development:** Private capital was supposed to move SDGs financing ‘from billions to trillions’. The bad news is, as the World Bank’s Chief Economist recently [admitted](#), that it “all turned out to be a fantasy”. Still, the Compromiso de Sevilla calls for more private capital mobilisation and blended finance in development, with vague references to the monitoring and accountability mechanisms to align private finance with the SDGs.

Source: <https://www.ituc-csi.org/UN-Financing-for-Development-Conference-2025>

Urgent pending issues

To transform the Compromiso de Sevilla into a truly transformative framework for development finance, the following actions are essential:

- **Establish a UN-led debt mechanism:** This should include clear principles for debt relief and to ensure that countries facing unsustainable debt burdens can access fair and transparent processes.
- **Increase and ensure effective ODA:** Commit to specific targets for increasing ODA and establish mechanisms to ensure that aid is used effectively, with a focus on transparency and accountability.
- **Keep private finance accountable:** Governments’ development policies cannot depend on corporate interests. When private companies manage public funds (for example development cooperation funds), they must promote decent job creation and be in line with ILO standards, due diligence and responsible business conduct. That is why we need a binding UN treaty on multinationals and human rights.

Conclusion

ITUC Secretary General Luc Triangle said: “This document falls short because there is a lack of international solidarity, specifically in the reform of the international financial system that is far too small. Debt relief was and is the key for many countries to finally be able to invest in healthcare and education. Until this is fundamentally reformed, progress towards social justice will be unforgivably blocked.”

“The ITUC’s call is clear: finance must serve people and planet – not profit and power.”

“Workers around the world demand democratic and transparent institutions capable of delivering the New Social Contract. It is time to turn principles into practice, and pledges into policies. The [2nd World Summit for Social Development](#) will be our next opportunity to show ambition and put social justice at the heart of sustainable development.”

Investing for a better future

How the Western Balkans is leading the way



Qing Zhang

How do we effectively channel investment towards the most needed areas for sustainable development? It's increasingly clear that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires not only the work of governments, but also ample investment from the private sector. UNDP is supporting national governments and their investment agencies on leveraging private finance for development. In the Western Balkans, SDG Investor Maps, one of UNDP's innovative tools, is showing us a powerful path.

Mapping the path to SDG Investment

Imagine having a clear guide that pinpoints the nexus of market potential and government priorities

for development. That's precisely the idea behind the SDG Investor Map and in North Macedonia, it's framed also in alignment with its National Development Strategy (NDS). As Igor Janushev, Secretary General of the Republic of North Macedonia, stated, "We are dedicated to creating a map that guides and channels business needs with government priorities."

This isn't a top-down process executed in isolation. Since the outset a wide range of stakeholders have been consulted through Investment Advisory Board meetings, including the General Secretariat, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, the Agency for Foreign Investments and Export Promotion, the Directorate for Technological Industrial Development Zones, regional development centres,

and all Chambers of Commerce. This broad involvement reflects a growing consensus on ensuring inclusive access to investment opportunities that are not only aligned with national priorities but also specifically designed to drive sustainable and long-term development. Once developed, the Investment Opportunity Areas in North Macedonia will be promoted through outreach to potential international investors.

North Macedonia isn't alone in this endeavour of developing such market intelligence in the Western Balkans. UNDP Serbia completed a year-long exercise in 2023 to identify economically viable investment opportunities. The results are already tangible. Guided by the map, renewable energy in Serbia successfully attracted a significant international investment

of US\$2.32 billion with the signing of a memorandum of understanding. This success spurs follow-up actions from UNDP and the government, such as developing investment pipelines, evaluating potential SDG investment projects, and facilitating investment through outreach to investors.

Stemming from Serbia's recent experience, the process unfolding in North Macedonia and beyond is also benefiting from the regional exchanges of knowledge and practical insights. Guided by the SDG Investor Map and UNDP's Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF), the Western Balkans is ensuring investments align with national priorities. This mirrors progress across Europe and Central Asia, where 13 countries are using INFFs to harmonize public and private finance for the SDGs.

Untapped potential across the Western Balkans

UNDP's SDG Investor

Maps initiative aims to navigate a global movement towards sustainable investment, with 717 Investment Opportunity Areas already identified in over 40 countries and territories worldwide. In Albania and Kosovo*, similar mapping exercises were also completed.

These sectors have been specifically identified as both policy priorities and critical development needs. In the Balkans, the SDG Investor Maps have also taken into account their EU accession agenda and respective national contexts. The results highlight key sectors for development and marketability, such as agriculture, sustainable tourism, renewable energy and waste management.

The region has showcased significant and untapped potential for impact investment. Its strategic location, increasingly favourable business environment, and competitive and skilled workforce make it an attractive and promising market for domestic and foreign investors. UNDP's technical support to the Western Balkans, using tools like the SDG Investor Map, is a powerful example of how the region is actively

channeling investment towards sustainable development and contributing to the global effort to achieve the SDGs.

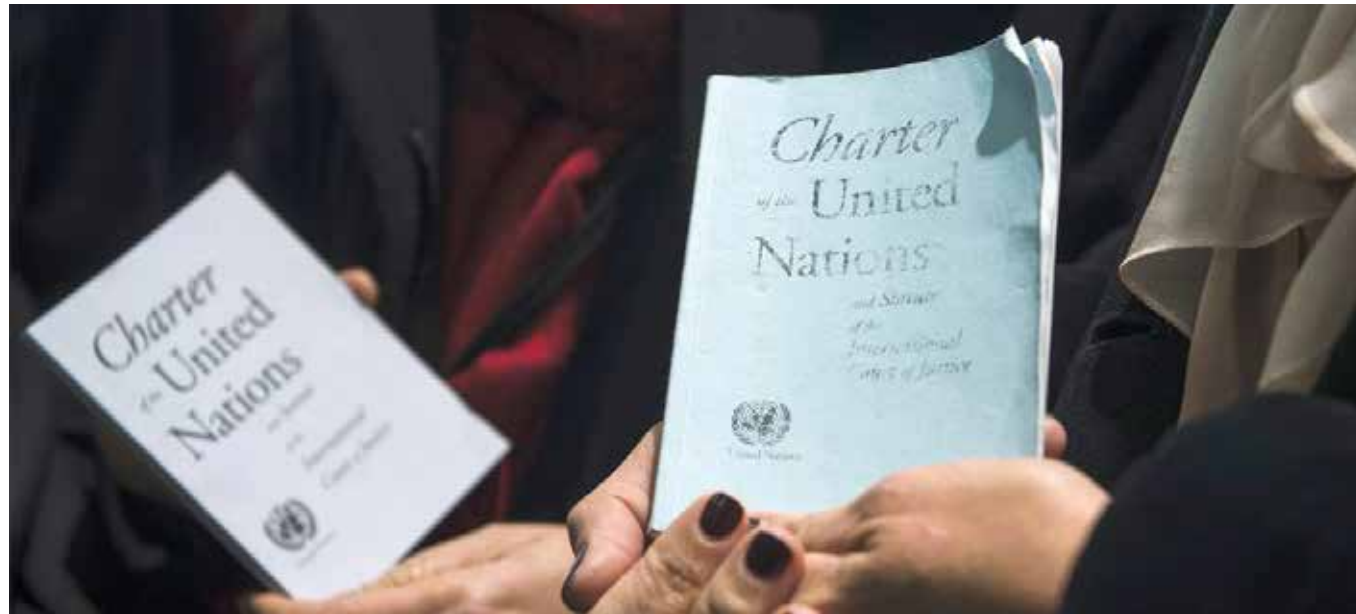
Connecting regional action to global goals

The push to mobilize private capital for development has been a long-term and ongoing effort of the UN, jointly with its partners. A decade ago, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda emphasized the critical need for private international capital flows, particularly foreign direct investment, to complement national development efforts and help bridge significant financing gaps for sustainable development. The SDG Investor Maps are a direct response to that global call.

The 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) is scheduled from 30th June to 3rd July in Seville, Spain. It will gather national leaders, private sector representatives and international financial institutions. This once-in-a-decade event is an opportunity to close the gap between global capital and sustainable development needs, building a financial system that serves people and planet. UNDP, leveraging its unique expertise, extensive country network and multi-stakeholder partnerships, is working to expand its private financing programmes specifically aimed at achieving the SDGs.

*All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

Source: <https://www.undp.org/blog/investing-better-future>



UN80 Initiative: What it is – and why it matters to the world

In a world grappling with growing crises, deepening inequalities, and eroding trust in global institutions, the United Nations has launched an ambitious effort to strengthen how it serves people everywhere. The UN80 Initiative, unveiled in March by Secretary-General António Guterres, is a system-wide push to streamline operations, sharpen impact, and reaffirm the UN’s relevance for a rapidly changing world.

“This is a good time to take a look at ourselves and see how fit for purpose we are in a set of circumstances which, let’s be honest, are quite challenging for multilateralism and for the UN,” says Guy Ryder, Under-Secretary-General for Policy and chair of the UN80 Task Force.

Known as the UN80 Initiative, this process seeks not only to improve efficiency, but also to reassert the value of multilateralism at a time when trust is low and needs are high. It aims to reinforce the UN’s capacity to respond to today’s global challenges –

ranging from conflict, displacement, and inequality to climate shocks and rapid technological change – while also responding to external pressures such as shrinking budgets and growing political divisions in the multilateral space.

“We will come out of this with a stronger, fit-for-purpose UN, ready for the challenges the future will undoubtedly bring us,” explains Mr. Ryder.

Three tracks of reform

At the heart of UN80 are three major workstreams. The first is focused

on improving internal efficiency and effectiveness, cutting red tape, and optimizing the UN’s global footprint by relocating some functions to lower-cost duty stations. Mr. Ryder notes that burdensome administrative procedures and duplications are being targeted.

“We want to see what we can do better. We want to look at those areas where we think we can improve efficiencies and strip out unnecessary bureaucratic processes,” he outlines.

The second workstream is a mandate implementation review, which involves examining nearly 4,000 mandate

documents underpinning the UN Secretariat’s work. A mandate refers to a task or responsibility assigned to the organisation by the Member States, usually through resolutions adopted by UN organs such as the General Assembly or the [Security Council](#).

These mandates guide what the UN does – from peacekeeping operations and humanitarian aid to human rights and environmental action. Over the decades, at least 40,000 mandates have accumulated, sometimes overlapping or becoming outdated, which is why reviewing them is a key part of the UN80 initiative .

“Let’s take a look at them,” Mr. Ryder says. “Let’s see where there may be duplication, where we can prioritise and de-prioritise, and find redundancies.”

But reviewing this mountain of mandates is not new. “We’ve tried this exercise before. We had a look at these bulky mandates back in 2006. It didn’t work very well.” Mr. Ryder reflects.

This time, however, the process is favoured by one key factor. “This time, we’ve got the data and analytical capacities. We’re applying artificial intelligence techniques to provide much more and better organised information to Member States – a more compelling case that could drive, I think, a productive process.”

He emphasises that the responsibility for deciding what to retain, revise, or discontinue rests squarely with the Member States.

“These mandates belong to Member



States. They created them, and only they can evaluate them. We can look at the evidence, we can put that to Member States, but eventually they are the decision-makers on mandates and on very much else that the UN80 initiative brings.”

The third stream explores whether structural changes and programme realignment are needed across the UN System. “Eventually, we might want to look at the architecture of the United Nations system, which has become quite elaborate and complicated,” Mr. Ryder adds. Proposals are also likely to emerge from the mandate implementation review.

A task force and a system-wide lens

To tackle reform across such a

complex system, the Secretary-General established seven thematic clusters under the UN80 Task Force; each coordinated by senior UN leaders from across the system. These cover peace and security, humanitarian action, development (Secretariat and UN system), human rights, training and research, and specialised agencies.

“It’s important to say that at a moment when the system is under pressure, the system is responding as a system,” the UN80 Taskforce chair notes. “This is not just New York, not just the Secretariat. It is system-wide.”

Each cluster is expected to produce proposals to improve coordination, reduce fragmentation, and realign functions where needed. Several clusters have already submitted initial ideas. A broader set of proposals will follow in July.

Reform, not retrenchment

Attention around the UN80 Initiative has largely focused on proposed budget cuts and staff reductions, raising concerns that it is mainly a cost-saving exercise. Mr. Ryder underscores that this view misses the bigger picture.

“Yes, we do face financial challenges. No need to avert our eyes from that. But





this is not a cost-cutting, downsizing exercise. We want to make the UN stronger," he says.

Still, the financial pressures across the system are undeniable. A revised programme budget for 2026, due in September, is expected to include significant reductions in funding and posts for Secretariat entities — a consequence of persistent cash flow constraints linked to delayed and incomplete contributions from Member States.

"The UN80 Initiative wants to improve the impact and effect of multilateralism and the UN," Mr. Ryder explained. "Now, that does not mean - we wish it were otherwise - that we do not have to take a look at our budget and our resources in different parts of the system."

"Organisations have faced some wrenching decisions, and this is happening every day. That's the reality of our circumstances," he adds.

Mr. Ryder contends that financial sustainability and mission impact are not mutually exclusive – but must be pursued in tandem. "We have to reconcile the two objectives of making ourselves financially sustainable in the difficult circumstances we find ourselves in, but also be attentive, as always, to the impact that we have in delivering on our responsibilities under the Charter," he said.

Why UN80 matters to people everywhere

Rather than mere bureaucratic reform, UN80 is ultimately about people, those who rely on the UN's support during crisis, conflict, or development challenges.

"If the UN is able to transform itself, to make improvements, sometimes through difficult decisions, that can mean those life-saving interventions reach the people we serve more effectively," Ryder says.

The UN remains the essential, one-of-a-kind meeting ground to advance peace, sustainable development and human rights for all.

"This is the United Nations taking seriously its responsibilities to the people we serve", Mr. Ryder says.

Right now, the UN assists over 130 million displaced people, provides food to more than 120 million, supplies vaccines to nearly half the world's children, and supports peacekeeping, human rights, elections, and climate action across the globe. The UN's development work has helped build peaceful, stable societies.

What happens next

The UN80 Task Force will present its proposals to the Secretary-General, who has already indicated the first areas where outcomes are expected. A working group on efficiencies in the UN Secretariat, led by Under-Secretary-General Catherine Pollard, is expected to deliver initial proposals by the end of June. A report on the mandate implementation review will follow at the end of July.

This work under the first two workstreams will help inform broader thinking around structural changes and programme realignment across the UN system. Proposals under the third workstream will be put forward to Member States in the coming months and into next year.

Although the work is just beginning, Mr. Ryder believes the UN has the right tools – and a clear sense of ambition and urgency.

"We're progressing well. There's a lot of homework being done now," he said. "As the weeks go by, this will be shifting more and more to the Member States' space, and that's when we'll see results."

Eventually, Member States will need to decide how to act on the findings. "They're going to have to decide what they want to do. Will they wish to set up an intergovernmental process? The Secretary-General has mentioned this as a possibility already."

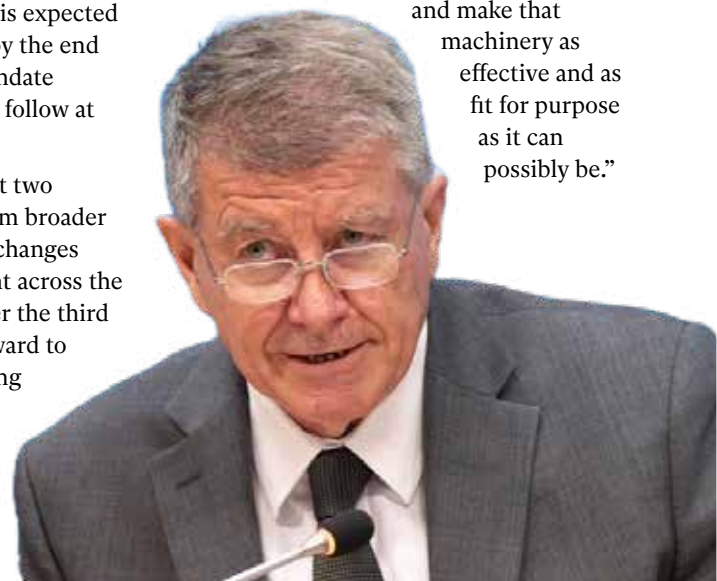
Defining success

So, what does success look like?

"A UN system which is able to deliver more effectively, to strengthen and consolidate trust in multilateral action," Mr. Ryder says. "A system which can convey to public opinion and political decision-makers that this is an organisation worth investing in. That this should be your preferred option when it comes to meeting the challenges of the future."

For the UN80 Task Force chair, it comes down to credibility, capability, and public trust – and ensuring the UN remains not just relevant, but essential.

"We should all care about this," he says. "If we take the view that multilateralism is the best instrument we have for meeting global challenges, then we need to make sure we renovate, refresh, and make that machinery as effective and as fit for purpose as it can possibly be."



UN Deputy Relief Chief warns Security Council funding cuts hindering humanitarian response in Afghanistan

Briefing to the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan by Joyce Msuya, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, on behalf of Tom Fletcher, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

As prepared for delivery Thank you, Madame President. I will build upon the words of my colleague, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for [Afghanistan](#), Roza Otunbayeva, on the humanitarian situation.

The people of Afghanistan face persistent and acute humanitarian needs compounded by decades of conflict,

entrenched poverty, an ever-harsher climate, severe restrictions on the rights of women and girls, and a highly constrained funding environment.

Half of the population needs humanitarian assistance, with hunger, protracted displacement, and limited access to essential services.

While words often fall short, the numbers speak with clarity.

Source: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/06/1164836>

One in every five Afghans is hungry. 3.5 million children are acutely malnourished. An estimated 3.7 million children are out of school, including 2.2 million girls over the age of 11 banned from education due to restrictions imposed by the de facto authorities. The maternal mortality rate is over 2.5 times the global average. Over 600,000 Afghans have returned this year from Iran and Pakistan, including many women, even as resources and services are struggling to cope.

Parts of the country stand on the cusp of drought once again – the fourth time in just five years. Kabul risks becoming the first city in modern times to run out of water, as water levels within its aquifers have dropped by up to 30 meters in the past decade due to urbanization and climate change. Almost half of the city’s boreholes have dried out.

The UN and partners are doing their best to stave off the worst impacts of climate shocks, including with a \$16.6 million allocation in April by the Emergency Relief Coordinator, from the Central Emergency Response Fund.

Funding cuts continue to hinder the humanitarian response. 420 health facilities have been forced shut due to lack of funding, depriving more than 3 million Afghans of life-saving health services. Almost 300 nutrition sites have closed, depriving 80,000 acutely malnourished children, pregnant women and new mothers of essential treatment. The impacts of cuts were the harsh reality for the women and healthcare workers that the Emergency Relief Coordinator met in Kabul, Kandahar and Kunduz during his visit in April.

Madame President, since the Taliban took power almost four years ago in August, Afghan women and girls have borne the worst impacts of the crisis.

The UN and its partners have consistently advocated for the

participation of Afghan women in the humanitarian response. As we heard from SRSO Otunbayeva, their ability to work freely, without harassment, intimidation or the threat of violence, is urgent. We renew our call for them to be allowed to work safely and without restriction.

Despite challenges, and at great risk, our Afghan female colleagues continue to deliver aid, going where others cannot, listening to communities who would otherwise not be heard, and standing by those who might otherwise be forgotten. In support of local partnerships, the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund recently launched a \$2.4 million allocation dedicated entirely to national actors, including 18 women-led organizations.

Madame President, this is OCHA’s seventh briefing to the Council since the adoption of the ‘humanitarian exception’ in Security Council Resolution 2615. As we have previously shared with the Council, Resolution 2615 is vital to life-saving humanitarian action in Afghanistan.

Since 15 August 2021, \$7.8 billion in humanitarian funding has allowed us to help the most vulnerable people in Afghanistan. This funding has saved countless lives, reducing the number of those experiencing food insecurity, providing essential health services, and supporting people affected by displacement, earthquakes, droughts and floods.

These achievements have been possible because the humanitarian exception covers expenditures which are necessary to deliver humanitarian assistance. This includes:

- Rent on state-owned premises and warehouses;
- Withholding tax on national/international NGO staff income, rent and suppliers;
- Visas and work permits for national/international NGO staff;
- Fees for imports;

- Utilities such as water and electricity; and
- Licenses for NGO registration, communications equipment and municipal charges.

The nature and modality of payments made under the exception have remained unchanged over the past four years. They are the same payments and modalities carried out before August 2021, under the former administration of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

These expenses are essential, planned and budgeted operational costs – critical to carrying out humanitarian assistance across Afghanistan. They are in line with payments we have to make to authorities in every country where humanitarian assistance is implemented.

Madame President, in an environment as complex as Afghanistan, risks may manifest themselves through attempts to interfere with aid distribution or pressures to amend beneficiary lists. Risks apply to both in-kind and cash programming.

Humanitarians make every effort to ensure that aid reaches the people who need it. Steps are taken to prevent diversion, including in the assessment, planning, distribution and monitoring phases, applying standards in line with best practices. In-kind and cash assistance is allocated based on rigorous needs and vulnerability assessments and governed by clearly defined criteria, with distributions safeguarded by vetted beneficiary lists, ID checks and biometric authentication, and reinforced by in-person monitoring. This past year, we strengthened our risk management procedures.

A Risk Mitigation Matrix is regularly reviewed, and a risk register is updated to identify and address potential aid diversion channels.

Monthly post-distribution monitoring exercises assess indicators to detect irregularities in cash assistance, including aid diversion. To minimize risks even further, some humanitarian partners have also digitized the payment process from source to beneficiary.

OCHA has delivered training on risks of aid diversion in cash and voucher assistance, reaching staff across more than 50 organizations.

Financial service providers engaged by humanitarian partners for aid distribution also undergo rigorous due diligence.

Measures include a detailed vetting for all suppliers and partners, with annual rescreening, and contractual clauses to ensure compliance, including termination clauses when sanction breaches are identified.

If aid diversion ever does occur, we take action by ceasing distributions; engaging with entities at central and regional level; establishing compliance criteria for resumption of aid; and ensuring that donors are informed.

Madame President, the high levels of needs in Afghanistan outpace the funding available to support people.

We are halfway through the year, and the humanitarian response plan is under 21 per cent funded, with a gap of \$1.9 billion. Due to cuts, we have hyper-prioritized the response to focus on the most critical needs of 12.5 million people in the most severely affected districts, down from an initial target of 16.8 million people.

We had to de-prioritize lower-severity areas – not because needs have disappeared, but because resources are not enough. Our response has continued, but our ability to reach those in need has diminished.

Cuts have had a particular impact on support to women. Organizations are finding it more difficult to bear mahram costs, where women need to be escorted by men when traveling, and other costs related to ‘sharia compliant’ employment of women. Reduced movements result in reduced reach, such as basic health services to women.

To mitigate the impact of reduced resources, humanitarian partners in Afghanistan are implementing an ambitious reform of the coordination architecture. In line with the “Humanitarian Reset,” it will further enhance efficiencies, accountability and impact.

For the people of Afghanistan, Madame President, allow me to conclude with three asks:

First, continue to strengthen the implementation of the ‘humanitarian

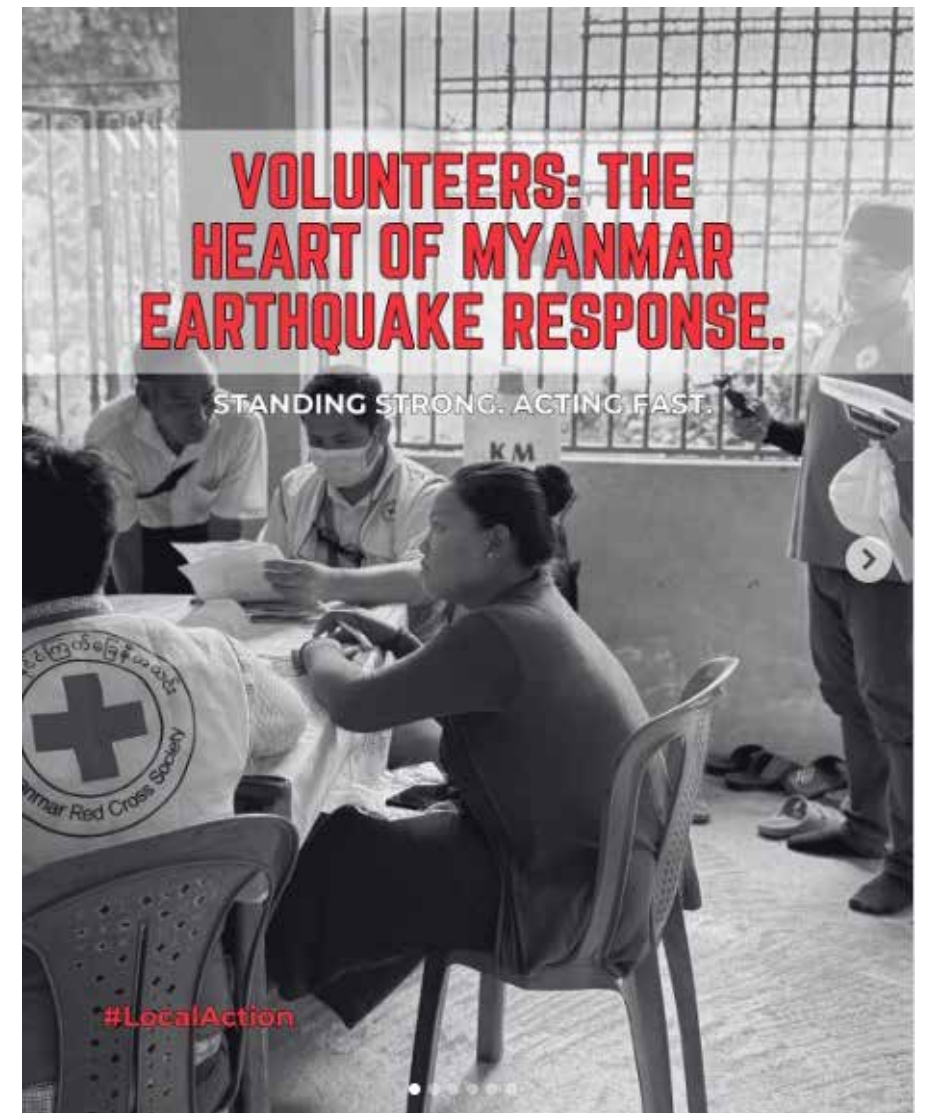
exception’ in Security Council Resolution 2615.

Second, support the resilience of Afghan communities by increasing investments in agriculture, health systems and other vital services. The humanitarian response alone will never fully address the scale of what is required.

And third, fund our humanitarian work.

Madame, President, the needs of the Afghan people must not be forgotten. Thank you.

Source: <https://www.unocha.org/news/un-deputy-relief-chief-warns-security-council-funding-cuts-hindering-humanitarian-response>





Disabled people frustrated by driving lessons wait

Disabled people are facing long waits for driving lessons due to a lack of instructors with suitable cars.

According to the Association of Disability Driving Instructors (ADDI), less than 1% of the 39,500 driving instructors in the UK have specially adapted vehicles which can be used by those with additional needs.

The organisation added that only 20 of those instructors were available to disabled learners across the entire South West.

John Rogers, chief executive of the ADDI, called the situation "frustrating", adding it was "vitally important" to resolve it.

One of those affected is Chelsea Moon, 24, who has atypical osteogenesis imperfecta – a bone condition that stunts growth.

At just over 4ft tall, her additional needs mean she has waited a year for lessons.

"In a normal car I can't see out the windscreen very well, and I need specially adapted steering and braking.

"But I really want my independence, instead of relying on public transport."

Her instructor Emma Hallett bemoaned the UK-wide lack of those, like her, who have specialist training.

"It can be very rewarding, whether you're giving lessons to new learners or existing licence holders who've been taken off the road by an accident or medical incident," she said.

Having qualified as a disability driving instructor in 2015, Ms Hallett said the shortage had "always been an issue".

However, as a part-time employee at Cornwall Mobility in Exeter - an organisation helping disabled people tackle mobility challenges - she said that "measures are under way to address it".

Ms Hallett added that the organisation has been given a grant

by the Motability Foundation to set up a driving school with two adapted vehicles, which local driving instructors would be trained to use and take wherever needed.

She said the pilot project is due for completion in 2027 before being rolled out across their other centres in Truro and Plymouth.

Mr Rogers said while interested in training, many instructors were either already "too busy" or put off by the cost of adapting their cars - a process which can cost "thousands, even with the discounted manufacturers prices available".

In a statement, the Driver and Vehicle Standard Agency (DVSA) said it was "working hard to provide a level playing field for learner drivers with disabilities".

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c23gk2yg848o>



Some people with disabilities in the Greater Manchester have told how they fear the government's proposed reforms to the welfare system could leave them isolated and even worsen their conditions.

Labour have said the changes will help more people back into work and [save £5bn by 2030](#).

They include [making it harder](#) for disabled people with less severe conditions to claim Personal Independence Payments (PIP) and cuts to the sickness-related element of Universal Credit.

Stef Benstead, from Manchester, is chronically ill and believes the plans could make people with disabilities "far more ill" and is calling on MPs to vote against the reforms.

The government said people with more severe health conditions will be protected and will not be reassessed, and could even receive increased income.

Ms Benstead, 35, has hypermobility Ehlers-Danlos syndrome which affects connective tissue which provides support in skin, tendons, ligaments, blood vessels, internal organs and bones.

The condition leaves her constantly fatigued and needing to use a mobility scooter.

She feels there is no prospect of her working currently but worries the new proposed welfare assessments would find that she can.

"I'm always exhausted, I often find it really difficult to think and I'm in pain all the time," she said.

"If I do too much I get all sorts of other illness symptoms."

She said she also worries any cuts to her benefits would mean she cannot afford to pay for her assistant who helps her with cooking, washing and cleaning.

Ms Benstead said: "By taking money away from us and by telling us we have to go to the job centre and by giving us no certainty over what we are going to be allowed to do with our lives is going to make us far more ill.

"That will be far more costly in the long run."

'We don't know'

Kevin and Alison Greenan, from Middleton, who are both blind, are also concerned about the changes.

They use their PIP money to pay for taxis as they cannot use public transport.

"We don't know exactly what they are trying to do," 70-year-old Mr Greenan said.

"We know they want to reduce it, whether they want to completely take it off us, or will it be only given to certain people for certain things?"

Mrs Greenan, 59, said: "We're not given information about it. They said they're going to reduce it, but to what?"

The government has said a new scheme as part of the reforms will give disabled people the right to try employment without the risk of losing their benefits.

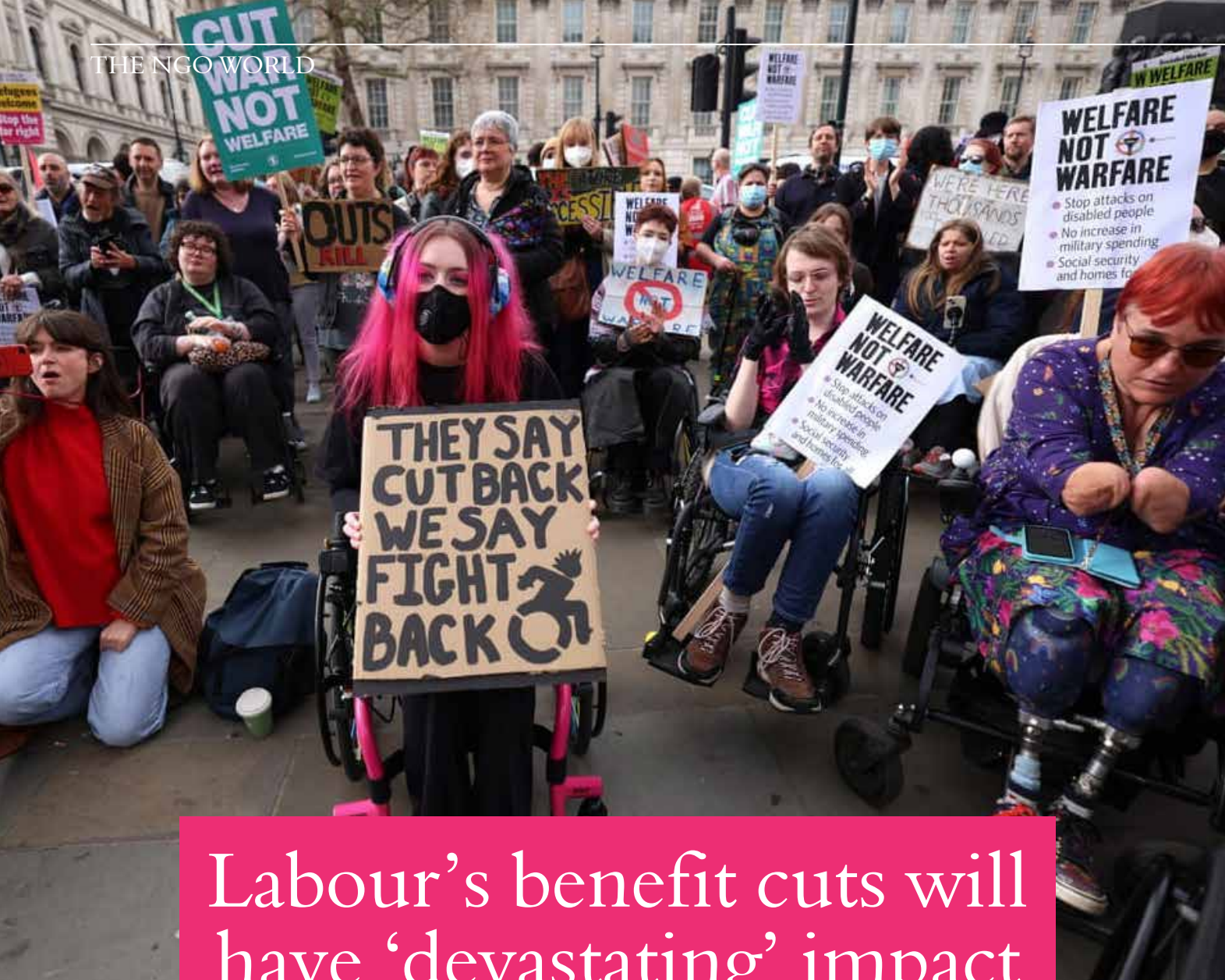
However, the plans have been widely criticised.

Labour MP Vicky Foxcroft has [resigned as a government whip](#) over the reforms and dozens of Labour MPs have expressed concerns ahead of a vote on the proposals in Parliament next month.

Kirth Entwistle, MP for Bolton North East, told [BBC Radio Manchester](#) she fully supports the stance the government is taking around people who want to get back to work and who want to work.

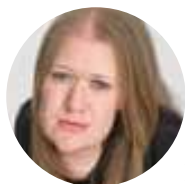
But she added: "I do feel we should absolutely be helping and supporting those people who definitely need it and who do need it the most."

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly1734gxnjo>



Labour's benefit cuts will have 'devastating' impact on disabled women, say charities

Organisations say planned four-point rule will not properly take into account menstruation and other hygiene needs



Frances Ryan

Downing Street's disability cuts will have a "devastating" impact on women's health and dignity and could breach equality law, the government has been warned.

Charities and disabled people's organisations including Scope, Spinal Injuries Association, Inclusion London, ME Association and WinVisible told the Guardian that tightening eligibility for personal independence payments (Pip) would

mean disabled women being discriminated against, due to their higher personal care needs compared with men.

Under the new rules, to be voted on by MPs next week, a claimant must receive four points in a single daily living category to qualify for the payment.

Washing below the waist will score just two – half the number given to needing assistance between the shoulders and waist. It means the new four-point rule won't take into account menstruation or some women's extra toilet requirements, such as incontinence from pregnancy, unless they have additional needs.

"The proposed changes to the Pip assessment criteria ignore fundamental aspects of women's health and dignity," said Dharshana Sridhar, campaigns manager at the Spinal Injuries Association.

The decision to award fewer points for assistance with personal care below the waist overlooked the realities of menstruation, incontinence and intimate hygiene; needs that were especially complex and often more acute for women with spinal cord injuries, Sridhar said.

"By failing to recognise the distinct and disproportionate impact of these changes on disabled women, the proposals risk breaching the Equality Act 2010, both in terms of sex and disability discrimination, and the Public Sector Equality Duty. A benefits system that systematically disregards menstruation, personal care, and continence management for disabled women cannot credibly claim to meet its legal obligations to promote equality and eliminate discrimination."

Hat Porter, a spokesperson for the menstrual justice charity Irise, said: "Already Pip applicants with conditions like endometriosis and fibroids face a much lower than average application success rate, with claimants' debilitating symptoms being dismissed as "just a period".

"Tightening the eligibility criteria would make it even harder to access financial support. For those who use Pip to cover the costs of carers or social care fees, having this lifeline stripped away could leave them without the support they need to manage tasks like changing period products. That would have a devastating impact on their dignity as well as health."

More than 100 Labour MPs [have signed a Commons amendment to halt the cuts in their tracks](#), enough to threaten Keir Starmer's majority. One hundred and eight MPs' signatures appear on an amendment declining to give the welfare reform bill a second reading when it returns to the Commons on 1 July. The rebellion, the prime minister's largest yet, would be enough to defeat the government's plans if opposition MPs joined the Labour rebels.

There are wider concerns that women will be more likely to miss out on Pip under the new rules, after the government's own [impact assessment](#) showed more women than men

currently score fewer than four points on descriptors while getting a daily living award.

The ME Association said that Pip's existing "majority of the time" rule – which says a claimant must be unable to do an activity more than half the time to qualify – would compound the discrimination against women.

"Menstrual symptoms, by definition, occur intermittently and may not affect a woman for over 50% of the time – meaning they are often excluded from consideration, regardless of how severely disabling they are when present," said Ella Smith, the charity's welfare rights consultant.

"In practice, this could lead to many women losing eligibility under the proposed four-point rule, not because their support needs are minor, but because those needs are dispersed across multiple activities or occur cyclically. With Pip being positioned to replace the work capability assessment as the sole gateway to assessing work capability, it is imperative that the new system takes account of intermittent yet profoundly disabling experiences such as menstruation."

Jessica Leigh, campaigns manager at Scope, said the charity had heard from hundreds of disabled people who relied on benefits to afford sanitary products, incontinence pads, and needing to do more laundry. "Disabled people are extremely concerned their personal hygiene and health will be among the many devastating costs of these cuts," she said.

The Pip changes come amid strained NHS community and social care, which several disabled people's organisations told the Guardian had already led to basic hygiene being treated as a luxury for some disabled women.

Tumu Johnson, a spokesperson for Sisters of Frida, a disabled women's group, says: "Disabled women have been told [by local councils] to wear incontinence pads instead of being provided support to use the toilet. They have also been told to use the hormonal pill to stop their periods instead of support to manage their menstruation the way they choose. We've heard from many disabled women who are scared that the Pip changes mean they could now lose vital personal care, on top of their other needs."

A Department for Work and Pensions spokesperson said: "The vast majority of people who are currently getting Pip will continue to receive it. We're creating a sustainable welfare system that genuinely supports sick and disabled people while always protecting those who need it most.

"At the heart of this is our review of the Pip assessment to ensure it is fit for the future. We will work with disabled people and a range of experts on this as we deliver our plan for change."

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/jun/24/labours-benefit-cuts-may-discriminate-against-disabled-women-say-charities#img-1>

Work with disabled people to design transformative digital assistive tools and tackle accessibility barriers, says Royal Society report

Tech companies, researchers and governments should do more to remove barriers and engage disabled people in the design of digital assistive tools and services, to maximise the transformative benefits they can bring, a Royal Society report has said.

[The Disability technology report](#), from the UK's national academy of sciences, identifies digital assistive technologies (digital AT), from screen readers to smartphone navigation apps, as critical tools for the 1.3bn disabled people worldwide to live fulfilled, independent lives.

Its findings have been developed by a committee of international researchers and technology experts, many of whom have lived experience of disability, and draws on focus groups, surveys and research with disabled people and leading technology figures.

The report emphasises disabled people should be included at the earliest stages of policy and technology design and that more should be done to make digital AT accessible through training, funding and infrastructure.

Dr Hamied Haroon, Research Fellow in Quantitative Biomedical MR Imaging, University of Manchester and

a member of the Royal Society Diversity and Inclusion Committee's Disabled Scientists Subgroup, said:

"We shouldn't be developing assistive technologies or policies without disabled people being front and centre of the process.

"How do you capture the day-to-day challenges faced by disabled people, or ensure you're offering solutions that actually work, unless you talk to disabled people?"

More than half of disabled digital AT users surveyed for the report said they could not live the way they do without such technology, however there are significant barriers to access.

Disabled people in the UK are almost twice as likely as non-disabled people to be unemployed, and the report highlights the average disabled household faces over £1,000 a month in extra costs.

This makes the high price of many assistive technologies needed for work or daily life prohibitive and the report



calls for measures to address digital exclusion through training, funding and regulation.

It also recommends governments recognise smartphones as an assistive technology – in the same way as wheelchairs and hearing aids – and factor this into the provision of essential services like health, education, and internet access.

"These assistive technologies are fundamental to the workplace and our daily tasks – but they can be prohibitively expensive or unusable in some settings," said Dr Haroon.

"We need to look at removing these barriers, whether that's costs, additional training, or infrastructure improvements

– like addressing patchy mobile data services that can cut off disabled people in rural and deprived areas."

The report also proposes a rethink in the way disability data is recorded by statistics bodies. This should include more data on the daily challenges many people experience with their sight, mobility, and memory, rather than solely focusing on self-reported disability identity.

This would support policy makers, scientists and technology companies to ensure public services, research and digital tools are genuinely responsive to disabled people's needs. This will only become more important as data-driven and AI technologies continue to advance rapidly.

Source: <https://royalsociety.org/news/2025/06/disability-technology/>

Sir Bernard Silverman FRS, Emeritus Professor of Statistics, University of Oxford and Chair of the report's Steering Committee, said:

"This report explores the central part that digital technologies and their underpinning data can play in supporting disabled people to live full, productive lives. As a statistician, I would particularly stress that the data we record, and how we categorise it, affects everything and everyone.

"Data on the functional challenges experienced by disabled people would help researchers and providers to ensure that digital products and services, especially in the AI age, are genuinely responsive to their needs."

20 Smart Strategies to Find Funding Partners Online

In today's competitive funding landscape, NGOs and nonprofits can no longer rely solely on one-time grants or individual donations. Strategic funding partnerships offer more than just financial support — they bring long-term collaboration, shared goals, and mutual growth. These partnerships often lead to greater credibility, expanded networks, co-designed projects, and access to new geographic or thematic areas.

By aligning with funders who share your mission, you position your organization to achieve sustained impact, tap into new resources, and build resilience. Strategic partnerships are not just about money — they're about mission alignment, influence, and joint value creation in a rapidly changing development [environment](#)

This guide is designed for changemakers across the nonprofit and [development](#) sector who are looking to build stronger, smarter, and more sustainable funding relationships. Whether you are a program manager at a grassroots NGO, a founder of a new nonprofit, a [fundraising](#) officer at a large organization, or an independent development consultant, this guide will help you navigate the digital landscape to find the right funding partners online.

1. Using Advanced Google Search for Partnership Leads

Advanced Google search techniques can help NGOs uncover funding opportunities that typical searches may miss. Using operators like site: (to target donor websites), intitle: (to find pages with relevant titles), or filetype:pdf (to locate downloadable

proposal guidelines or donor strategies), NGOs can refine results and save time. Combining keywords such as “partnership opportunity + NGO” or “[call for proposals](#) + Africa” helps find funding leads and announcements that are buried deep online. These methods empower NGOs to search more strategically and gain a competitive edge in discovering potential partners.

2. Exploring NGO-Specific Funding Directories

NGO-specific directories are curated platforms that list grant opportunities, donor contacts, and proposal resources tailored to the nonprofit sector. Examples include [fundsforNGOs](#), GrantStation, and Devex, which allow users to filter opportunities by region, sector, or deadline. Many directories offer premium features such as access to thousands of grant listings, proposal templates, and training resources. These platforms save time by centralizing critical information and can help both small and large NGOs identify suitable funding sources. Regular use of these directories ensures that organizations stay updated with current and relevant opportunities.

3. Leveraging Charity and Foundation Databases

Charity and foundation databases provide in-depth information about philanthropic funders, including giving history, focus areas, and contact details. Platforms like Foundation Directory Online, Candid, and Philanthropy [News Digest](#) allow NGOs to identify potential

donors whose missions align with theirs. These databases often include tools to analyze trends and donor behavior, enabling organizations to tailor outreach more effectively. By reviewing funders' past grants and geographic focus, NGOs can prioritize high-potential leads and improve proposal targeting—saving time and increasing the chance of success in partnership building.

4. Monitoring Grant Portals and Online Funding Boards

Development agencies and institutional donors often publish active funding opportunities on their official websites or partner portals. Portals such as Grants.gov, UNGM, and the EU Funding & Tenders Portal provide comprehensive listings with deadlines, eligibility criteria, and application instructions. These platforms are updated regularly, and NGOs that monitor them closely can be among the first to respond to time-sensitive opportunities. Using these portals ensures access to authentic, credible sources of funding and helps NGOs plan strategically for upcoming calls for proposals or partnership frameworks.

5. Using LinkedIn to Identify and Connect with Donor Representatives

LinkedIn is a professional networking platform that allows NGOs to find and connect with donor representatives, such as grant officers, program managers, or CSR leads. By using filters like job title, organization name, or sector, NGOs can identify

key decision-makers. Engaging with their posts or sending personalized connection requests builds relationships over time.

LinkedIn is also valuable for monitoring updates from donor agencies, showcasing organizational achievements, and participating in development-related conversations—making it an effective space for visibility and partnership cultivation.

6. Following Donor Agencies and Foundations on Twitter/X

Twitter (now X) is widely used by donor agencies, foundations, and CSR programs to share real-time updates, including grant announcements, project success stories, and partnership news. NGOs can follow these accounts to stay informed and respond quickly to new opportunities. Hashtags like #grantopportunity, #donorfunding, or #CFP can also help discover trending calls for proposals. Liking, retweeting, or engaging in conversations enhances visibility and can lead to meaningful interactions with donor representatives, especially in advocacy-focused or time-sensitive sectors.

7. Exploring Facebook Groups for NGO Collaboration Calls

Facebook hosts numerous active groups focused on NGO partnerships,

grant alerts, and collaboration opportunities. NGOs can join region- or theme-specific groups such as “NGO Grants & Funding” or “Development Partnerships in Africa” to find calls for collaboration, requests for joint proposals, and donor updates. These groups often include members from across the globe, allowing smaller NGOs to access larger networks and promote their work. Regular engagement—through posts, responses, and knowledge sharing—can lead to connections, referrals, and grassroots-level funding leads.

8. Using YouTube



Channels for Donor Announcements and Webinars

Many donors use YouTube to broadcast funding briefings, project impact videos, and informational webinars. NGOs can subscribe to these channels to access donor strategies,

application walkthroughs, and recorded Q&A sessions. This content often includes insights not available in written documents and can help organizations tailor proposals more effectively.

Watching these videos also helps NGOs understand how to communicate impact and align with donor language. YouTube thus becomes a valuable [research](#) tool for proposal preparation and donor engagement.

9. Using Donor Mapping Platforms and Partnership Dashboards

Donor mapping tools visually display who is funding what, where, and with whom. These platforms, often maintained by UN agencies, INGOs, or sector networks, allow NGOs to identify active donors in specific regions or sectors. Dashboards may include project timelines, funding amounts, and implementing partner information. By analyzing these patterns, NGOs can uncover gaps, avoid duplicating efforts, and identify potential collaborators or co-funding opportunities. Using these tools ensures smarter targeting and a more

strategic approach to partnership development.

10. Searching Open Data Portals of Development Agencies

Open data portals offer detailed insights into donor-funded activities,

financial flows, and project outcomes. Development agencies like the World Bank, OECD, and UNDP publish project data to promote transparency. NGOs can use these portals to identify which donors are active in their area, what types of projects are being funded, and who the implementing partners are. This information is invaluable for aligning proposals, understanding donor behavior, and identifying partnership trends based on actual funding records.

11. Setting Google Alerts for New Donor Opportunities

Google Alerts is a free tool that notifies users via email whenever selected keywords appear in new online content. NGOs can create alerts using terms like “NGO grant,” “call for proposals + health,” or “partnership opportunity + Africa” to receive timely updates. These alerts help organizations discover new opportunities without daily manual searching. They’re especially useful for tracking smaller or niche funders, new initiatives, or fast-moving trends in the funding space. Alerts can be customized by frequency, region, and language.

12. Using ChatGPT or AI Tools to Find Partnership Leads

AI tools like ChatGPT can support NGOs in donor research, [proposal writing](#), and partnership outreach. They can help generate lists of relevant donors, summarize guidelines, brainstorm outreach messages, or simulate Q&A scenarios. NGOs can input criteria like region, focus area, or donor type and receive tailored suggestions. These tools also assist in drafting personalized emails and aligning language with donor expectations. By automating repetitive tasks, AI enhances research efficiency and allows NGOs to focus on building relationships and program design.

13. Joining Virtual Forums, Communities, and Networks (e.g., Devex, Bond)

Online communities like Devex, Bond, and Interaction serve as central hubs for NGOs, donors, consultants, and development professionals to exchange insights and opportunities. By joining these platforms, NGOs gain access to curated funding calls, requests for partnerships, and relevant policy updates. These communities often feature discussion threads, partner directories, and thematic groups where members can share collaboration ideas or co-develop project concepts. Participation enhances visibility within donor ecosystems, especially when NGOs contribute value through posts, event participation, or thought [leadership](#). These networks also facilitate peer learning and help NGOs stay aligned with global development trends, priorities, and funding shifts.

14. Participating in Webinars and Online Grant Info Sessions

Webinars hosted by donors and funding agencies are valuable touchpoints for understanding a grant’s objectives, eligibility criteria, and submission process. Attending these online sessions enables NGOs to hear directly from funding decision-makers and gain insights that aren’t always captured in written guidelines. Many webinars include Q&A segments, allowing participants to clarify doubts and get strategic guidance. NGOs can also learn from the experiences of past grantees or listen in on donor expectations for project impact and reporting. Moreover, these sessions offer soft networking opportunities, especially in breakout discussions or chat forums, making them useful for both learning and outreach.

15. Signing Up for Donor Newsletters and Email Alerts

Donor agencies, philanthropic foundations, and CSR departments regularly issue newsletters and email alerts to announce new funding opportunities, policy shifts, event invites, or partnerships. Subscribing ensures that NGOs receive updates directly, often before opportunities are widely publicized. These emails may also include exclusive insights such as success stories, current funding priorities, or invitations to consultations and forums. Many newsletters allow subscribers to select themes or regions of interest, making the updates more relevant. For NGOs, maintaining a shared inbox for alerts and integrating review into weekly planning can improve responsiveness and increase the likelihood of timely, tailored applications.

16. Subscribing to NGO Sector News Aggregators

NGO sector aggregators like ReliefWeb, DevelopmentAid, and Philanthropy News Digest consolidate funding announcements, global development news, and donor updates from various sources. These platforms help NGOs stay informed without having to monitor dozens of individual websites. Subscriptions can be customized by topic, region, or donor type. Many aggregators also offer insight articles, event listings, or donor interviews that provide valuable context for funding decisions. Subscribing to aggregators saves time and provides a broader understanding of sector trends, donor behaviors, and emerging opportunities—making them essential tools for well-informed grant-seeking and partnership planning.

17. Tracking Calls for Proposals (CFPs) on Development Agency Websites

Most bilateral and multilateral donors publish calls for proposals directly on their websites. Tracking these CFPs ensures NGOs don’t miss key opportunities that may not be promoted widely elsewhere. Agencies like UNDP, the EU Commission, and GIZ frequently post funding windows, thematic priorities, and submission deadlines on their official platforms. Some also offer pre-bid conferences or technical guidance notes. By routinely visiting these CFP sections or subscribing to their alerts, NGOs can plan their submissions proactively. Maintaining a tracking sheet with deadlines and requirements helps streamline the application process and improves chances of timely, competitive submissions.

18. Reviewing Past Funded Projects for Partnership Clues

Analyzing previously funded projects helps NGOs understand donor behavior, preferred partners, and thematic interests. Public databases, donor annual reports, and open aid platforms often reveal details like grant size, duration, region, and project outcomes. By reviewing this information, NGOs can identify donors who have funded similar work and tailor their outreach accordingly. It also helps in understanding what types of language, impact metrics, and framing resonate with funders. Studying past grantees may reveal potential consortium partners or peer organizations, opening doors for collaborative proposals. It’s a strategic way to align your proposals with proven donor interests.

19. Searching Academic and Think Tank Collaborations

Partnerships with universities and think tanks can strengthen an NGO’s credibility, especially for evidence-based programs or advocacy work. Academic institutions contribute technical expertise, research tools, and evaluation capacity, while think tanks add policy relevance and influence. Donors often favor projects that combine grassroots implementation with rigorous research. NGOs can initiate collaboration by proposing joint studies, offering community access for fieldwork, or co-hosting policy events. Think tank and university websites often list ongoing projects and partners, offering clear entry points. Such partnerships not only increase funding potential but also enhance project design, visibility, and long-term policy impact.

Source: <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/articles-listicles/20-smart-strategies-to-find-funding-partners-online/>

20. Using Online CSR Disclosures to Identify Corporate Partners

Corporations frequently publish annual CSR or sustainability reports detailing their philanthropic initiatives, community investments, and nonprofit partners. These reports—often available on company websites—reveal funding priorities, geographic focus areas, and preferred sectors (e.g., education, health, environment). NGOs can review these disclosures to identify alignment and approach companies with tailored partnership proposals. Some companies run CSR programs through foundations or grant portals, offering additional partnership entry points. In countries with mandatory CSR laws, like [India](#), such disclosures can lead to tangible funding opportunities. Well-aligned proposals that offer measurable impact and brand value are more likely to secure support.



More people than ever before are fleeing their homes.

But **over half** never cross a border >

Rescue.org



USAID Funding Cuts: DRPC Awards N85m Grant To 17 Local NGOs

The Development Research and Projects Centre (dRPC), with support from the Ford Foundation, has awarded N85 million to 17 Nigerian indigenous non-profit organisations under its NGO Support Initiative (NSI).

The NSI is designed to cushion the impact of recent funding cuts by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Speaking during the award launch on Monday in Abuja, the Executive Director of dRPC, Dr Judith-Ann Walker, said the grant aims to support NGOs that have lost financial backing from USAID and other international donors over the past year.

Each beneficiary will receive N5 million to implement community-focused projects over a three-month period.

"I congratulate you on being selected for this first cohort of a vital intervention. I urge you to implement your projects with transparency and accountability," Dr Walker said.

She praised the awardees' proposals as excellent and underscored the grant's importance in sustaining civil society organisations during a period of global funding decline.

"The NSI grant is a lifeline that will help local NGOs maintain operations, strengthen capacity, and continue addressing critical social issues," she added.

In his presentation, the director of programmes at dRPC, Dr Stanley Ukpai, revealed that the U.S. government had

recently terminated 83 per cent of USAID programmes globally, cancelling over 5,200 contracts, disrupting essential health services like HIV, TB, and malaria treatments, and causing the loss of more than 1,000 jobs in Nigeria alone.

"This intervention is dRPC's response to fill the gaps left by these cuts, especially in sectors such as health, education, and economic development," Ukpai said.

General Shina Ogunbiyi, a master trainer and mentor under the programme, applauded dRPC and the Gates Foundation for earlier investments through the PACFaH@Scale project, which helped build the capacity of NGOs now serving as mentors.

He called on the current grantees to ensure transparency and accountability, noting that their performance could influence the selection of a second funding cohort set to launch in September.

One of the recipients, the executive director of Visionary Women in Agricultural Development in Africa, Mrs Okafor Nkechi, expressed gratitude on behalf of the awardees.

"We thank the dRPC and the Ford Foundation for this timely intervention. It will enable us to continue improving the lives of women in Anambra State, even as global donor support declines," she said.

Highlights of the ceremony included the handing over of cheques for N5 million to each of the 17 recipients who won the grant.

NGO calls for national policy for widows

AS the world observes International Widows Day on June 23, Widows Support TT is renewing its call for a national policy to be put in place to support widows and their families.

In a statement sent to Newsday on June 22, the group said the 2025 theme was Orphans in need: Shining a spotlight on the often-overlooked children left behind after the loss of a parent.

The group said it recognised the struggles and resilience of widows, who faced social, economic and emotional challenges.

"Many of these children face emotional trauma, interrupted education and financial insecurity – all of which are compounded by the lack of targeted support for widowed families."

Widow Support TT founder Soraya Nanan said widows were among the "most vulnerable groups in our society..."

"Yet their needs remain invisible in national policy and social safety nets.

"Too many widows are left without financial support, legal protection or access to housing. Many face eviction, legal battles and social isolation while trying to raise children alone."

She said it was not simply a "women's issue" but a national one.

The group is now urging the government to establish a national widows registry "to identify and



support affected households, implement housing and income relief measures for widowed families, provide counselling and trauma support for grieving children and ensure widows are protected from property dispossession and inheritance injustice."

She also called for greater public education to reduce stigma and isolation.

Founded in 2011, she said the NGO "has been a voice for widows, widowers and orphaned children in TT."

It offers legal aid, peer counselling, food support and housing advocacy for affected families.

"In commemoration of this day, the group is hosting a series of outreach events including a courtesy visit to the Ministry of People, Social Development and Family Services, hosting online meetings which include legal aid clinics, and grief counselling distribution of care packages to widows and orphaned children in need."

The statement added, "We stand in solidarity with widows across the nation and the world (and remain) committed to the belief that no widow should grieve alone and no orphan should be left behind."

Source: <https://newsday.co.tt/2025/06/23/ngo-calls-for-national-policy-for-widows/>

Source: https://leadership.ng/usaaid-funding-cuts-drpc-awards-n85m-grant-to-17-local-ngos/#google_vignette

No “Nice-to-Have”: European Support to Critical Civil Society and Free Media

HUMAN RIGHTS

Jasmin Lorch argues that European support to human rights NGOs, critical civil society and free media is not merely a “nice-to-have”. Instead, it directly serves European interests due to the important information function that these civil society actors perform.

USAID funding cuts have dealt a heavy blow to human rights defenders, critical Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and independent media outlets around the globe. While the damage is hard to quantify exactly, it is clearly huge. For instance, the Centre for Human Rights and Democracy at People in Need estimates that the human rights and media organizations it supports have seen their [budgets shrink by 40 to 100% because of the cuts](#). Based on a USAID fact sheet, meanwhile taken offline, [Reporters without Borders \(RSF\) informed](#) that the dismantling of USAID had affected support to 6,200 journalists, 707 non-state media outlets and 279 civil society organizations (CSOs) working to support free media. The impacts on local civil society are especially pronounced in closed authoritarian contexts where CSOs are both restricted

and donor-dependent. In Cambodia, ADHOC, one of the few remaining local human rights organizations, [lost 74 percent of its budget and had to close 16 out of its 22 provincial offices](#).

As critical CSOs and independent media outlets struggle to find alternative sources of funding, they face another threat to their survival: Major European donors, including Sweden, have cut down on foreign funding as well, citing their own national needs, including the necessity to invest more in defence. Germany, the biggest bilateral donor since the dismantling of USAID, [has recently pledged](#) to better integrate its foreign, defence, and development policy and to more closely align development cooperation with its security and economic interests. Accordingly, there is a significant risk that European donors will (further) cut down on funding for critical CSOs and free media as well.

However, European donors should consider that continuing to support human rights defenders, critical NGOs and independent media outlets is in their own interest.

Notably, these civil society actors serve an important information function. By furnishing insights into human rights abuses, governance deficits and patterns of corruption, they provide

European (as well as other) governments with a better understanding of political developments, power relations and regime dynamics in their partner countries, thereby enhancing the predictability of security and economic partnerships. Authoritarian governments, in particular, restrict the free flow of information, while, concurrently, engaging in propaganda and, at times, strategic disinformation. Consequently, European foreign, economic and security policy towards these governments routinely suffers from severe information deficits, including the existence of numerous “unknown unknowns”. To compensate for this weakness, country assessments and expert opinions used by foreign, development, and defence ministries in Europe to devise policy approaches towards non-democratic partner countries often include information provided by independent media outlets, human rights or anti-corruption NGOs. Similarly, European embassies in authoritarian countries frequently draw on the reports and documentations accomplished by local human rights NGOs.

In some cases, the information provided by critical NGOs, human rights defenders and independent media outlets – both local and transnational – is highly economically and security relevant, for instance when it serves to unearth patterns of transnational crime. The Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP), an investigative journalist network, which also has a media development branch and was heavily affected by the USAID funding cuts, for instance, contributed to the [Panama Papers that disclosed](#) the secretive use of offshore tax havens. A recent report named [Policies and Patterns. State-Abetted Transnational Crime in Cambodia as a Global Security Threat](#) draws on interviews with journalists and civil society representatives. While expressing disappointment with the ineffectiveness of large parts of the aid community and big counter-trafficking NGOs in

addressing the problem, it emphasizes that

“the ‘local civil society’ community — grassroots volunteer response networks, human rights watchdogs, and independent media — have been and remain the lynchpin of an embattled response. These heavily repressed and poorly funded groups have been and remain the primary source of available evidence on the lead perpetrators, their networks, and their modes of operation” (quote on p.3).

Similarly, CSOs, independent media outlets and individual activists who disclose human rights abuses can serve an important early warning function, potentially facilitating the prevention of violent conflict. The [Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights \(OHCHR\)](#) emphasizes that “human rights violations, particularly when widespread and systematic, can serve as indicators of an increased risk of conflict, violence or instability”. Accordingly, it emphasizes the potential of United Nations (UN) human rights mechanisms to contribute to crisis prevention. [Human rights NGOs and other CSOs provide important inputs into the Universal Periodic Review \(UPR\)](#) of the UN Human Rights Council and other UN human rights mechanisms. Similarly, the reports of human rights NGOs and independent media outlets, at times, also inform the crisis and early warning assessments used by European governments when devising their foreign, economic and security policies.

Last but not least, establishing partnerships with human rights defenders and critical NGOs also allows European countries to expand their

social and political alliances in their partner countries, a diversification that can be highly useful in times of political uncertainty and change. For instance, events such as the Arab Spring show that even seemingly stable authoritarian regimes often do not last forever. When they fall, European governments obligated or willing to engage with the respective countries have to look for alternative interlocutors. Diversifying alliances, including with civil society, can hence constitute an important investment into the future. Following the ouster of Sheikh Hasina, for instance, an interim government assumed power in Bangladesh. Led by microcredit banker Muhammad Yunus, it also includes other civil society figures and NGO leaders.

Support to human rights NGOs, other critical CSOs and free media constitutes an important contribution to democracy and pluralism. However, it also benefits European economic and security interests by enhancing the knowledge base on which European governments can draw when constructing their international alliances. European governments already use the information provided by these civil society actors in various ways, so they should continue providing diplomatic support, solidarity, and resources to them. Moreover, partnerships with human rights, media, and other civil society representatives provide European governments with an important possibility to diversify their international partnerships.

Against this backdrop, European support to these civil society actors is not a “nice-to-have” that can easily be dispensed with when funding gets more scarce. It is an important element in ensuring the predictability and reliability of European foreign relations.

Source: <https://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/blog/25/06/2025/no-nice-have-european-support-critical-civil-society-and-free-media>



None of 17 UN SDGs on Track to Be Achieved By 2030, Report Finds

2025 marks 10 years since the adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 17 goals and 169 targets to ensure human well-being, economic prosperity and environmental protection simultaneously.



Martina Iginì

A decade after world nations agreed on a set of goals to guide global sustainable development, progress remains “alarmingly off track”, according to a new report.

Compiled by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and now in its tenth edition, the report found that none of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

is on track to be achieved by 2030, and only 17% of targets are on course.

Adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015, the SDGs comprise 17 goals and 169 targets providing a footprint for a global partnership between developed and developing countries to achieve economic prosperity, environmental protections and to safeguard the well-being of people around the world.

Globally, SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) are particularly off track, showing no or very limited progress since 2015.

The report, which tracks and ranks the performance of all UN member states on the SDGs, found that global averages mask stark disparities across regions and countries. Despite all but three member countries – Haiti, Myanmar, and the US – having presented national action plans for advancing sustainable development this year, conflicts, structural vulnerabilities as well as limited financing and investments are hindering progress, particularly in emerging and developing economies.

In some cases, progress has been reversed, including on obesity, press freedom, sustainable nitrogen management, extinction rates, and corruption. Meanwhile, access to basic services and infrastructure like mobile broadband, electricity, and internet have improved in many countries, and the report also observed “notable progress” in lowering under-5 mortality rates and neonatal mortality.

European countries are leading in SDG progress. 19 of the top 20 countries are European this year, with Finland, Sweden and Denmark topping the ranking, while East and South Asian countries, including Nepal, Cambodia, the Philippines, Bangladesh and

Mongolia, have demonstrated the fastest progress since the goals’ adoption, according to the report.

Barbados topped an index tracking commitment to UN multilateralism, followed by Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. The US ranked last.

Under President Donald Trump, the US in recent months [withdrew from the Paris Agreement](#) and the World Health

Organization, and [formerly indicated its opposition](#) to the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. In March, US representative to the United Nations Edward Heartney said during a UN General Assembly plenary meeting on Tuesday that the 2030 Agenda “advance[s] a program of soft global governance that is inconsistent with US sovereignty and adverse to the rights and interests of Americans.”

How can I contribute to a more sustainable planet?

- **Vote for climate action:** Exercise your democratic rights by supporting candidates and policies that prioritize climate change mitigation and environmental protection. Stay informed with [Earth.Org’s election coverage](#).
- **Reduce your carbon footprint:** Make conscious choices to [reduce your carbon footprint](#). Opt for renewable energy sources, conserve energy at home, use public transportation or carpool, and embrace sustainable practices like recycling and composting.
- **Support environmental organizations:** Join forces with organizations like [Earth.Org](#) and [its NGO partners](#), dedicated to educating the public on environmental issues and solutions, supporting conservation efforts, holding those responsible accountable, and advocating for effective environmental solutions. Your support can amplify their efforts and drive positive change.
- **Embrace sustainable habits:** Make [sustainable choices](#) in your everyday life. Reduce single-use plastics, choose eco-friendly products, prioritize a plant-based diet and reduce meat consumption, and opt for sustainable fashion and transportation. Small changes can have a big impact.
- **Be vocal, engage and educate others:** [Spread awareness](#) about the climate crisis and the importance of environmental stewardship. Engage in conversations, share information, and inspire others to take action. Together, we can create a global movement for a sustainable future.
- **Stand with climate activists:** Show your support for [activists on the frontlines of climate action](#). Attend peaceful protests, rallies, and marches, or join online campaigns to raise awareness and demand policy changes. By amplifying their voices, you contribute to building a stronger movement for [climate justice](#) and a [sustainable future](#).

For more actionable steps, visit our [‘What Can I do?’](#) page.

Source: <https://earth.org/none-of-17-un-sdgs-on-track-to-be-achieved-by-2030-report-finds/>



Not Just Numbers: Reclaiming SDGs People Powered Goals

The SDGs aren't a list of goals. They carry the hopes, dreams, rights and expectations of people everywhere." - UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

Since their adoption, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have provided a global framework for tackling poverty, inequality and environmental degradation. But behind the statistics, dashboards and reports lie human stories of communities striving for dignity, resilience and opportunity. As the UN's High-Level Political Forum in 2025 reviews progress on key areas such as health, gender equality, decent work and ocean conservation, it is a timely reminder that sustainable development is ultimately about people. To truly leave no one behind, implementation must go beyond policy targets to reflect the lived realities, priorities and aspirations of individuals and communities on the ground.

What is missing?

To break down silos between

different themes of development work, adopting a people-centered approach can be a crucial yet underutilized tool in communicating the significance of the Goals and translating their significance to real life situations. A missing link in advancing these solutions lies in bringing visibility to the people who are already driving the Goals forward in practice, recognizing them as both custodians and catalysts of progress.

To address this challenge, ESCAP, Global Shapers Bangkok and Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation developed the SDGs Story Exchange as part of the [12th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development](#). This space was created to foster empathy-building and awareness of the SDGs through firsthand experiences of people from diverse walks of life.

The stories included that of Kritima Jemma Samitpol, former clinic supervisor of the [Tangerine Clinic](#) at the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI)—Thailand's first transgender-led, gender-affirming sexual

health clinic. In the absence of legal gender recognition, transgender people faced exclusion from health policies, services, and data systems, resulting in stigma and inadequate care. Tangerine Clinic emerged to address these gaps – offering inclusive, equitable healthcare and serving as a model for impactful community-led services. Kritima highlighted the vital importance of stigma-free healthcare and reminded us that addressing health issues—especially those related to HIV—requires genuine collaboration between affected communities and governments. Efforts from only one side cannot address the issue effectively; sustainable, inclusive solutions must be built together to achieve health and well-being for all.

Another story is that of Amornthep "Sanju" Sachamuneewongse, a mental health advocate and founder of [Sati App](#), a platform dedicated to training and facilitating peer support networks and leveraging data to drive policy changes for early intervention in mental health. Drawing from his personal experiences

with major depressive disorder, psychosis and suicide, Sanju founded Sati to destigmatize mental health and promote empathetic listening through peer support networks.

In the same vein, a Singapore Idol finalist and seasoned performer, Mathilda D'Silva, is living proof that anyone, regardless of profession, can become a driving force for environmental change. Today, she serves as the CEO of the [Ocean Purpose Project](#), a social enterprise dedicated to ocean conservation and pioneering solutions that turn ocean plastics into hydrogen fuel. Mathilda collaborates with low-income communities, Indigenous groups such as the Orang Laut, and scientists to champion inclusive and innovative sustainability efforts. Her journey into conservation wasn't born in a lab, but from a deeply personal encounter with ocean pollution in 2015 that impacted her health. As the granddaughter of a fisherman, Mathilda grew up with a deep respect for the ocean yet had no formal background in environmental science. Her story underscores a powerful truth: meaningful change often begins with lived experience and anyone, even those far outside the traditional activist mold, can spark transformative action.

Stories like these at the SDGs Story Exchange serve as reminders that the SDGs are not only topics of high-level United Nations agendas but are closely tied to the ways in which everyday people experience life. These stories and sharing opportunities enable us to situate the SDGs in the real world and reinforce the need for developing contextualized, bottom-up solutions to ensure that no one is left behind in the pursuit of sustainable development.

Source: <https://www.unescap.org/blog/not-just-numbers-reclaiming-sdgs-people-powered-goals>



US NGO ready to resume tuberculosis aid to North Korea regardless of tensions

Eugene Bell Foundation says US-DPRK relations do not have to be an obstacle, years after suspending work due to pandemic

One of the primary international organizations working to treat tuberculosis (TB) in North Korea says it is ready to resume medical aid projects regardless of the state of U.S.-DPRK or inter-Korean relations, years after it was forced to suspend its work due to pandemic restrictions.

But Stephen Linton, chairman of the Eugene Bell Foundation, stressed that private funding is essential to ensure that TB support is free from political entanglement.

Read more at: <https://www.nknews.org/2025/06/us-ngo-ready-to-resume-tuberculosis-aid-to-north-korea-regardless-of-tensions/>

In Belarus, UNDP Supports Collaborative Efforts to Achieve SDGs

Through green and inclusive economic development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, inclusive digital transformation, and the promotion of equality and inclusion, UNDP is helping Belarus turn the promises of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into tangible progress.

This July, the country will present its third Voluntary National Review on the SDGs, a document that tracks progress, aligns policies with global benchmarks, and pinpoints areas that need more attention.

In 2024, Belarus ranked 30th out of 166 countries in the Sustainable Development Report, scoring 78.6 out of 100 points.

Since the establishment of the National Council for Sustainable Development in 2017, UNDP has served as an integration platform, working alongside national and local partners to translate the global 2030 Agenda into tangible results across four pillars: green and inclusive economic development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, inclusive digital transformation, and equality and inclusion for all. The success of this collaboration is rooted in

partnership, strategic planning, and the implementation of practical solutions.

Green and Inclusive Economic Development

In Belarus, 68,000 people benefited from job creation initiatives through UNDP-supported programmes, while 20,000 sharpened entrepreneurial skills – nearly 56% of them women. 300 small and medium-sized enterprises received financial support, and 150 entrepreneurs gained access to microfinance services.

However, balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability is a tightrope walk. A fundamental change is needed to shift away from traditional models toward a circular economy, where resources are reused, and waste is minimized. To make this step, UNDP has worked with the Ministry of Environment to develop the National Strategy

for the Circular Economy through 2035 and the National Plan for Green Economy Development.

In its recent partnership with the Ministry, UNDP is helping develop a financing mechanism for nature reserves, ensuring that

environmental protection receives substantial funding, so nature remains secure in the face of growing economic pressures.

Additionally, UNDP has helped integrate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards into business practices — an essential step toward more sustainable growth that is both economically robust and environmentally and socially responsible.

Recognizing that the workforce must evolve alongside the economy, UNDP has also collaborated with the Ministry of Education to adapt vocational education to changing labor market demands, identifying the skills needed for the jobs of tomorrow.

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

The climate crisis is reshaping economies and ecosystems worldwide. With UNDP support,

Belarus has taken steps to address this challenge. Efforts included drafting the Long-term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategy until 2050 and a National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation.

Belarus has also increased its commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from 35% to 38% under its latest nationally determined contribution (NDC 3.0).

Biodiversity conservation has been expanded across 756,000 hectares, of which over 100,000 hectares are newly designated protected areas.

However, policy alone isn't enough; future generations must be prepared. That's why UNDP has supported climate education programs for children and youth, embedding sustainability into learning from preschool onward. Over 1,000 teachers and schoolchildren have completed a course in climate change based on the Climate Box toolkit.

Inclusive Digital Future

Seventy-two digital solutions are created for local economic development, smart urban planning, and ecotourism. With UNDP's support, 8,000 women participated in an initiative to expand access to education and employment in STEM fields.

UNDP partnered with the Ministry of Informatization to assess the country's readiness for artificial intelligence and digital transformation, laying the groundwork for smart policy and decision-making. Over 200 national experts have enhanced their knowledge in artificial intelligence regulation.

A Digital Partnership Map was developed to identify collaboration opportunities within regional organizations, such as the EAEU, SCO, and BRICS, on standardization, digital literacy, and IT services trade. UNDP has also backed the "Smart Cities of Belarus" national initiative, evaluating



GLOBAL: Countries must act fast to save the Sustainable Development Goals

how technology can improve urban life while ensuring no one is left behind.

Social Inclusion

Sustainable development is about people. UNDP has supported Belarus in implementing its national action plans for gender equality and in advancing the rights of people with disabilities.

The country’s healthcare system has been strengthened through the provision of 3,350 units of modern medical equipment to regional and district hospitals. For example, a regional hospital in Mogilev now has advanced scanning machines that can detect health issues before they become life-threatening.

Equally crucial, UNDP has supported efforts to reduce stigma and discrimination against vulnerable groups affected by HIV and TB, ensuring that progress benefits everyone.

Financing the Future

Achieving the SDGs requires more than goodwill — it needs smart financing. UNDP has assisted Belarus in assessing its development financing needs through the Development Finance Assessment (DFA), and in exploring innovative funding mechanisms such as public-private partnerships, tax policy optimization, and non-traditional financial instruments. The next step will be implementing Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF) to align resources with national priorities.

A Marathon, Not a Sprint

The SDGs aren’t a checklist — they are a long-term journey. UNDP as Belarus’ steadfast partner underscores the importance of engagement, collaboration, and strategic planning

for achieving the SDGs. By combining policy expertise, financial innovation, and grassroots action, the country is making notable progress toward the Global Goals, proving that success is possible when global frameworks meet local know-how.

Source: <https://www.undp.org/belarus/news/belarus-undp-supports-collaborative-efforts-achieve-sdgs>

With countries in danger of failing to meet their Sustainable Development Goals targets – and their human rights obligations – leaders attending the [Financing for Development Conference](#) must act fast to avert climate catastrophe and guarantee the human rights of billions of people currently being denied socio-economic justice, said Amnesty International.

The 4th International Conference for Financing for Development will take place from 30 June to 3 July in Seville, Spain. It provides a unique opportunity to reform development financing at all levels and address financing challenges preventing the urgently needed investment push to achieve the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) by 2030. The SDGs were put in place 10 years ago to guarantee peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and in the future.

“Years of underinvestment by all states mean the majority of the Sustainable Development Goals are way off track from their 2030 target. This conference must confront the immediate crisis linked to the cutting of international assistance by major donors whilst committing to structural

Source: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/06/global-countries-must-act-fast-to-save-the-sustainable-development-goals/>

reforms that could provide sustainable sources of financing for the longer term – from advancing international tax cooperation and addressing the debt crisis, to reforming international financial institutions and promoting more inclusive systems of financing and development,” said Riva Jalipa, Amnesty International’s Financing for Rights Lead Adviser.

A series of robust measures must be put in place if the Sustainable Development Goals are to become a reality.

Riva Jalipa, Amnesty International’s Financing for Rights Lead Adviser

invest adequately in a just and equitable transition. Adopting these measures will go a long way to rescuing the SDGs and ensure social, economic and climate justice for millions across the world.”

Amnesty International will also be co-hosting a Virtual Side Event at the Financing for Development Conference, Seville: Reparative Justice in Financing for Development. The session will focus on development financing and reparative justice as a means through which a human rights-based economy which redresses both existing and historical injustices can not only be conceptualized but also practically actioned. [Register to attend via Zoom.](#)

Background

The [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) were put in place 10 years ago to guarantee peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and in the future. The 17 goals aimed to address global challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice – to ensure no one was left behind. However, years of underinvestment by all states mean [over 80% of the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)’ targets are off track](#) due to underinvestment by all states.



Bold new initiative aims to strengthen and improve the UN, senior officials tell Member States

Member States heard on Tuesday how the UN is progressing with a new plan to ensure the world body remains effective, cost-efficient and responsive to the billions of people it serves.

The informal meeting on the UN80 Initiative also provided a chance for ambassadors to share their views on the reform agenda, [launched by Secretary-General António Guterres](#) in March.

UN80 is centred around three workstreams focused on efficiencies and improvements, a mandate implementation review, and structural changes and programme realignments across the entire UN system.

Improving the UN

It also aims to reinforce the UN's capacity to respond to global challenges such as conflict, displacement, and the climate crisis, while also managing

external pressures effectively, such as shrinking budgets and growing political divisions.

"I think the UN80 Initiative is often characterised, but I think mischaracterised, simply as an exercise in downsizing in economy," said Guy Ryder, Under-Secretary-General for Policy and chair of the Task Force overseeing the plan.

"But the Secretary-General has been rather clear in saying that whilst we have to respond to the resource situation, the overall intention of the Initiative is to strengthen and improve the workings of the UN system."

Learn why UN80 matters to the world in our explainer [here](#).

Widespread impact

Mr. Ryder alongside UN Controller Chandramouli Ramanathan (who prepares and oversees the budget and manages the Organization's funds) presented updates on two workstreams during the morning session of the day-long meeting.

He set the scene with a slideshow outlining the background for UN80 and the circumstances confronting the UN today.

Over the years, the UN has adopted some 40,000 mandates delivered by "a fairly numerous and complex constellation of entities," more than 140.

In 2023, the global body delivered

some \$69 billion in support and services worldwide, with "the lion's share", \$31 billion or around 45 per cent, going to humanitarian action.

This was followed by development, \$21 billion (30 per cent), peace and security, \$9 billion (13 per cent), and human rights, \$1 billion, or less than one per cent.

"We believe that the global population, in one manner or another... is connected to the global agenda of the United Nations," he said. Additionally, some 440 million lives are directly impacted by its development work, and 140 million people in crisis situations receive support.

Reduction in resources

Mr. Ryder said the \$69 billion mark two years ago represented "a peak" and it is estimated that the UN has some \$50 billion in resources available today amid "a situation of significant uncertainty."

This 30 per cent reduction means "we're down to 380 million people who we're able to reach directly in development work, and we're down to 110 million as a reduction in emergency situations of our humanitarian spending."

In light of this context, "maybe we can streamline the manner in which we implement the mandates that you hand down; maybe we can optimize the structures which form this archipelago of entities," he suggested.

"The success of the UN80 Initiative depends on us being able to increase the impact that our work in the UN system has on the people who we are here to serve."

Proposals to enhance efficiency

Mr. Ramanathan briefed delegates on workstream one. He said a working group was established to develop concrete proposals to enhance efficiency, reduce duplication, standardize services, and relocate functions to existing lower-cost duty stations where appropriate.

The "exhaustive list" of proposals could include measures such as consolidating existing human resources, finance and procurement services into unified support hubs. The process would start in New York and Geneva as they host the largest number of Secretariat entities and staff.

Another proposal involves having payroll operations centralized in three global processing centres, compared to 10 locations today.

The working group is finalising the proposals to be submitted to the Secretary-General and "if approved, they will be incorporated into the revised estimates for the 2026 proposed programme budget for the consideration of the General Assembly by 1 September," said Mr. Ramanathan.

"Separately from the UN80 Initiative, we are reviewing the programme budget proposals for 2026 with a view to achieving between 15 and 20 per cent reductions for 2026, including a 20 per cent reduction in work force, post reduction, but with a focus on preserving capacity at entry levels and reducing senior posts where feasible," he added.

A 'universe of mandates'

Mr. Ryder returned to present workstream two, where the first step involved mapping out "the universe of mandates" that the UN implements, with initial focus on Secretariat departments and offices, peacekeeping operations, political missions, regional commissions and other bodies.

[The Pact for the Future](#) and [the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) were among the most frequently cited mandates.

The overall "landscape" of mandates means that the Secretariat services some 400 intergovernmental organs and roughly 27,000 meetings each year and processes some 2,300 pages of documentation on average every day, amounting to around \$360 million annually.

A mandate resource registry has been produced, and a report should be available by the end of July which will inform the way forward.

Concern over proposed budget cuts

During the session, several representatives expressed their views on UN80, such as Iraqi Ambassador Dr. Abbas Kadhom Obaid, who spoke on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

He voiced concern over the proposed 15 to 20 per cent budget reductions, and the 20 per cent staff reduction, requesting more insight into how these figures were determined.

"This is important since we know that the departments, divisions, in the Organization's funds, programmes and agencies vary greatly," he said.

"We must also protect the geographical and gender balance in the context of any downsizing. As the Group has reiterated several times, the matters of transparency, accountability and inclusivity are paramount during this process."

Fit for the future

The meeting took place just days before the 80th anniversary of the signing of the [UN Charter](#) on 26 June 1945, as [General Assembly President Philémon Yang](#) noted in his opening remarks.

He said it was a time to "reflect on the last 80 years and all that this Organization has achieved, and also a time to look to the future," so the UN can remain fit for purpose - and ready for the next 80 years.

Source: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/06/1164896>



World No-Tobacco Day 2025: WHO joined Health Ministry, VISA NGO and University of Mauritius to unmask tobacco deadly products over a three-week long celebration

In a compelling show of unity and determination, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the NGO VISA, and the University of Mauritius came together for a vibrant, three-week-long campaign to commemorate World No-Tobacco Day 2025.

The celebrations reached a wide cross-section of Mauritian society — from medical, nursing, and university students to vocational trainees, educators, and prisons officers — all united under one message: Say NO to tobacco, and YES to health.

Through workshops, interactive sessions, and awareness activities, participants learned about the dangers of tobacco use, the latest Mauritius Public Health (Restrictions on Tobacco Products) Regulations 2022, and the cunning strategies the tobacco industry uses to hook a new generation — especially young people — through flavoured, attractive, and tech-driven products.

"Don't be fooled. Resist. Say 'No' to tobacco and nicotine addiction and 'Yes' to your health," urged Dr. Anne Ancia, WHO Representative in Mauritius, during the campaign's launch at the University of Mauritius in Réduit.

A proud highlight of the event was the celebration of Mauritius receiving the WHO Director-General's Special Recognition Award for its pioneering tobacco control policies. The award was presented to Health Minister Hon. Anil Kumar Bachoo at the 78th World Health Assembly in Geneva this May.

"Mauritius is showing the world that bold tobacco control is not just possible — it's happening," Dr. Ancia declared. "But now is not the time for complacency. We must ensure the new tobacco law is widely known, properly enforced, and effectively save lives — especially those of our younger generations."

At the campaign launch, Hon. Bachoo reaffirmed the government's

unwavering commitment to defeating the tobacco epidemic. Reflecting on his meeting with WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros in Geneva, he expressed pride in Mauritius's recognition on the global stage and emphasized the urgency of continued action.

At the University, students were exposed to the many deceptive tactics used by tobacco companies — including the use of thousands of flavors to mask harsh tastes and high-tech product designs aimed at glamorizing smoking. The message was clear: Addiction is not stylish — it's a trap.

On 09 June 2025, WHO and NGO VISA expanded their reach by sensitizing responsible officers from the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD). These officers will now guide vocational students in launching small-scale anti-tobacco projects — from posters and short videos to songs and slam poetry —

Service (MPS). During the training, 80 staff of the MPS including Prisons Officers, Prisons Nursing Officer, Senior Prisons Health and Safety Officers were empowered to enforce the new tobacco law and to watch out for the industry's evolving insidious strategies to lure people into smoking.

"I have tried to quit smoking few years back, but I started again. This training has motivated me to go the tobacco cessation clinic for support. I will check in on Monday when I will be off duty", said Abdul Ali Ramjaun, Prisons Officer.

Same reflection for Fabrice Pegrin, Prisons Officer who understood better why he must contemplate quitting. As for the Prison Nursing Officer, Mrs Aubeeluck: 'I feel more empowered to help smokers and direct them to the smoking cessation clinic.'

WHO and partners also commended



all funded by VISA. These creative campaigns aim to reach more than 2,500 vocational students across 22 training centers, a high-risk group often targeted by the tobacco industry.

The celebration culminated with two impactful training sessions held on 12 and 19 June at the Mauritius Prisons

prison authorities for enforcing a strict smoke-free policy in all Mauritian prisons since 2019 and promised the prison tobacco cessation clinic will be included in the evaluation of the national tobacco cessation facilities scheduled for August 2025.

Source: <https://www.afro.who.int/countries/mauritius/news/world-no-tobacco-day-2025-who-joined-health-ministry-visa-ngo-and-university-mauritius-unmask>



NGOs mark World Refugee Day by flagging Poland's asylum freeze and shifting mood toward Ukrainians

Human-rights groups used World Refugee Day on Friday to condemn Poland's four-month suspension of asylum claims at its Belarus border and to sound the alarm over waning public support for the nearly one million Ukrainians now living in the country under EU temporary-protection rules.

Fundacja Ocalenie, a Warsaw-based charity that has supported refugees for 25 years, said the June 20 commemoration had “a bittersweet taste” as Europe erects “higher walls, xenophobic propaganda and fear” instead of solidarity.

Ocalenie's board member Kalina Czarnóg urged Europeans to replace

fear with “solidarity, care and smart support for those starting anew in Poland”.

Meanwhile, human rights NGO Amnesty International Poland wrote on X that “Poland is routinely breaking the rights of people on the move”.

“We call for the immediate repeal of rules suspending asylum and for

every applicant to have safe access to an individual procedure. That is a human right,” the organization said.

Poland currently hosts just 3,131 recognized refugees and 17,046 beneficiaries of subsidiary protection, official data show.

[Under a law activated on 27 March](#), border guards may refuse to register

protection claims for 60 days in areas deemed subject to “instrumentalized migration” by Belarus and Russia. Parliament extended the measure for two more months in May.

In February, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) warned that the proposed rules violated both international and European asylum law.

After the statute was adopted, it was branded by Amnesty International “a flagrant violation of international law”, saying it codifies unlawful returns and has taken the case to UN and EU bodies.

The Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights called the suspension unconstitutional, noting neither EU nor Geneva conventions allow a blanket asylum ban.

Warsaw says the curb is vital to stop Minsk and Moscow funneling migrants through the forested 400-km frontier to destabilize the EU. Prime Minister Donald Tusk argues Poland must “combat the inflow” rather than undermine rights.

Ukraine influx reshapes Poland

Three years after Russia's invasion, 4.2 million Ukrainians enjoy temporary protection across the EU; Germany hosts 1.2 million and Poland the second-largest share.

Polish data show 993,000 Ukrainians – mostly women and children – hold national identification PESEL numbers under the special war-assistance law, while another 462,000 have work-related residence permits and 92,000 permanent or long-term EU cards.

In total, 1.55 million Ukrainians now have valid stay documents, making up 78 percent of all foreigners in Poland.

Warsaw says it spends 4.2 percent of GDP on support for Ukrainian refugees, but public sympathy is cooling: a March 2025 CBOS poll found only 50 percent of Poles back continued admission of Ukrainians, down from 81 percent two

years ago.

Worsening public opinion

Ukraine has become a flashpoint in Poland's presidential race. Far-right libertarian Sławomir Mentzen won 14.5 percent on an openly anti-Ukrainian platform that favors an “agreement” with Vladimir Putin, while president-elect Karol Nawrocki opposes EU and NATO membership for Kyiv and wants to curb refugee aid, though he supports continued military help.

Centrist Rafał Trzaskowski – the most pro-Ukraine contender – also pledged to scale back social benefits, a shift analysts say reflects hardening voter attitudes.

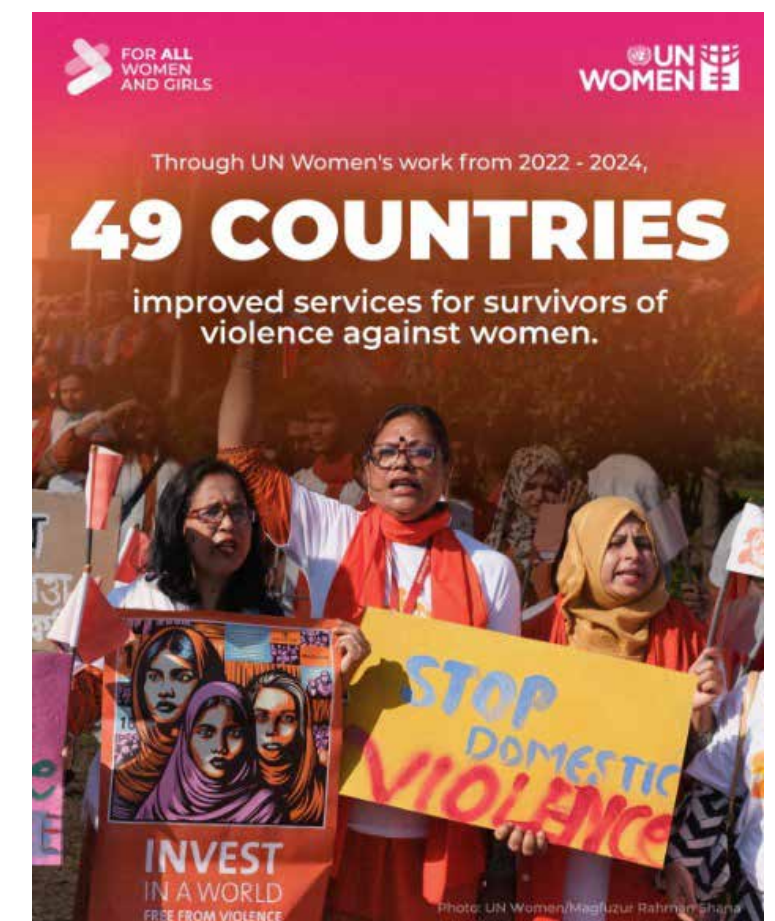
Meanwhile, Polish police are investigating another far-right candidate,

Grzegorz Braun (6.3 percent), for tearing down a Ukrainian flag at a campaign rally in April.

Applications for international protection in Poland jumped 79 percent to 17,000 in 2024 and reached 7,471 in the first five months of 2025, dominated by Ukrainians (4,551) and Belarusians (1,283). While the statutory decision deadline is six months, asylum-seekers can receive shelter, food, health care and language classes during the process.

Globally, forced displacement hit a record 122.1 million by April 2025, up two million in a year, the UN refugee agency said this month. Sudan, with 14.3 million uprooted people, overtook Syria as the worst-affected country, followed by Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Source: <https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7789/Artykul/3540741.ngos-mark-world-refugee-day-by-flagging-poland%E2%80%99s-asylum-freeze-and-shifting-mood-toward-ukrainians>



Your Story, Our Platform: The NGO World Welcomes Your Contributions

Unleash Your Impact: The NGO World Awaits Your Input

At “The NGO World” magazine, we believe in the power of collective knowledge and shared experiences. We invite our valued readers to become contributors and actively participate in shaping the content of our magazine. Your insights, stories, and perspectives are essential in fostering a sense of community and driving positive change.

If you have a compelling story related to humanitarian work, development initiatives, or social impact that aligns with the diverse sections we cover, we encourage you to share it with us. Whether it’s a firsthand account of your involvement in an NGO project, an innovative solution you’ve come across, or an issue you’re passionate about, we want to hear from you.

By actively engaging with “The NGO World,” you play a crucial role in expanding our community’s knowledge and fostering a deeper understanding of the challenges and solutions within the humanitarian and development sectors.

Together, we can amplify the voices of those working toward positive change and inspire others to make a difference. We look forward to receiving your contributions and continuing our shared mission of creating a better world.

Please send your content submissions via email:

editor@thengoworld.com

ensuring that your submission aligns with one of the sections provided below.

Sections of Magazine:

Here’s an expanded list of potential sections for the magazine “The NGO World” to cover a wide range of topics related to humanitarian work, development, and social impact:

Featured NGO Spotlight: Highlighting the work of a specific NGO, sharing their success stories, challenges, and impact.

Global Development News: Covering the latest developments in international development, policy changes, and global issues.

Local Initiatives: Showcasing grassroots projects and initiatives making a difference in local communities

NGO Innovations: Exploring innovative approaches and technologies used by NGOs to address pressing issues.

Humanitarian Crises: In-depth coverage of ongoing humanitarian crises and the response efforts.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Articles focusing on progress and challenges related to achieving the UN’s SDGs.

Women Empowerment: Stories of women-led initiatives and efforts to empower women and girls

Youth Engagement: Highlighting the role of youth in driving social change and their involvement in NGOs.

Environment and Conservation: Covering environmental issues, conservation efforts, and climate change initiatives.

Education for All: Articles on educational programs, access to quality education, and innovative teaching methods.

Health and Well-being: Discussing healthcare initiatives, disease prevention, and public health campaigns.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Examining the CSR efforts of businesses and their impact on communities.

Refugee and Migration Issues: Coverage of refugee crises, resettlement programs, and the experiences of displaced people.

Tech for Good: Exploring how technology is used for humanitarian purposes, from apps to drones.

NGO Profiles: Brief profiles of various NGOs, their missions, and achievements.

Volunteer Stories: Personal accounts from volunteers who have contributed to NGOs and their experiences.

Funding and Grants: Updates on available funding opportunities for NGOs and how to apply.

Policy and Advocacy: Discussions on policy changes affecting NGOs and their advocacy efforts.

Impact Assessment: Articles on measuring and evaluating the impact of NGO projects and programs.

Partnerships and Collaborations: Exploring successful partnerships between NGOs, governments, and businesses.

Disaster Response and Preparedness: Coverage of disaster relief efforts, preparedness strategies, and recovery stories.

Microfinance and Economic Empowerment: Exploring initiatives that empower communities economically.

Indigenous Rights and Cultural Preservation: Articles on efforts to protect and preserve indigenous cultures and traditions.

Human Rights and Social Justice: Discussions on human rights issues, social justice movements, and advocacy work.

Arts and Culture for Change: Showcasing how art and culture are used as tools for social change and awareness.

Inspirational Interviews: Exclusive interviews with prominent figures in the humanitarian and development sectors, sharing their insights, experiences, and visions for positive change.

Philanthropy and Impactful Giving: Exploring the impact of philanthropic efforts, featuring interviews with philanthropists and discussions on effective giving strategies.

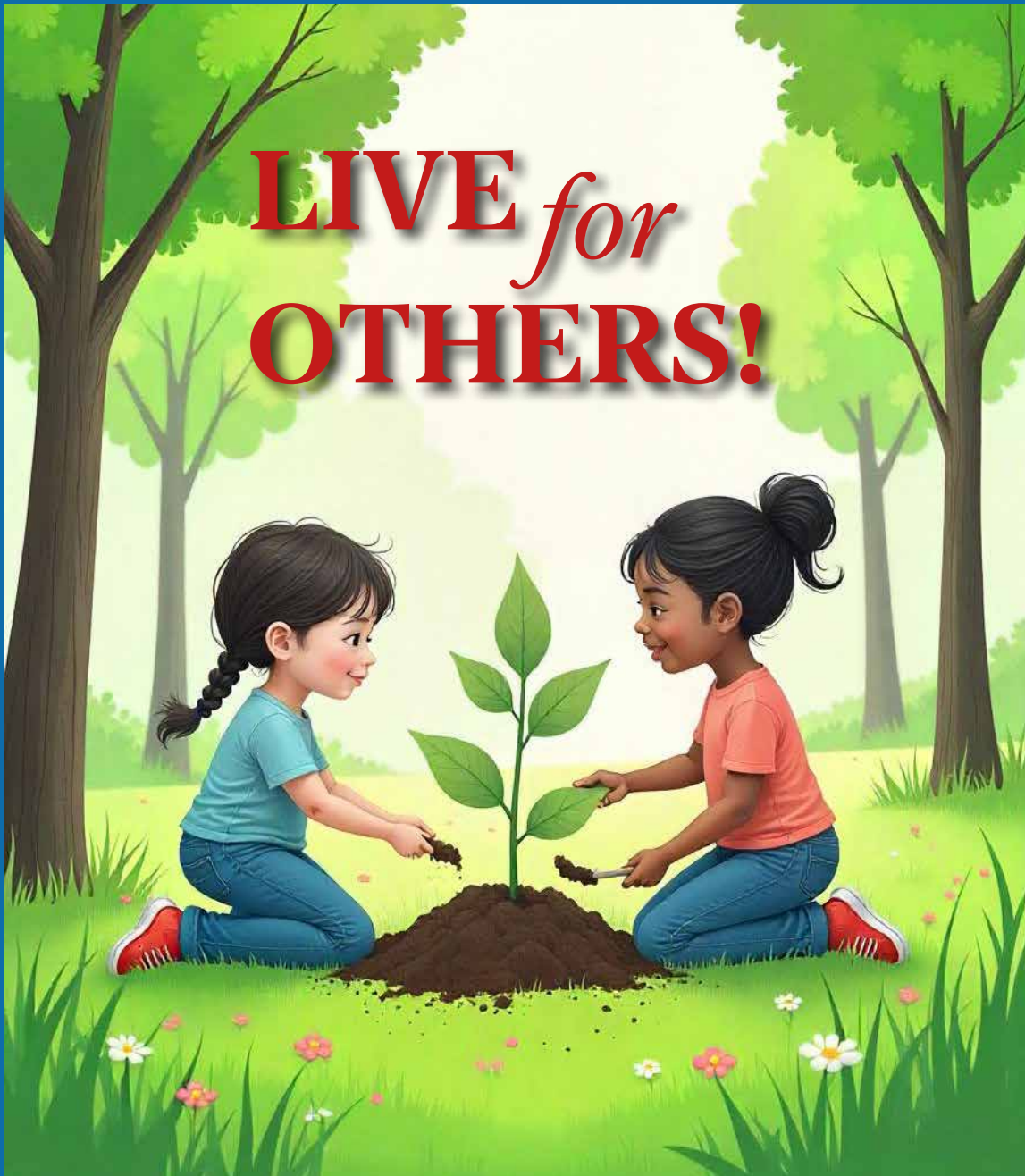
NGO Leadership and Management: Articles on leadership skills, management practices, and organizational development within the NGO sector, providing insights for NGO professionals and leaders

These sections offer a comprehensive view of the multifaceted work being done in the realm of humanitarianism, development, and social impact.

Submit your stories for upcoming edition & for queries, suggestion, feedback

editor@thengoworld.com

LIVE *for* OTHERS!



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