

United Nations-Azerbaijan Partnership Framework

2016-2020

PROGRESS REPORT 2017



Photo for the Cover

Children and adolescents participate in the Third National Children`s Forum as part of global World Children`s Day initiative on 20 November, 2017

UNICEF/Novruzzadeh/2017

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| FOREWORD | 4 |
| DEVELOPMENT TRENDS IN AZERBAIJAN | 5 |
| GENERAL OVERVIEW | 9 |
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | 12 |
| 1. KEY RESULTS | 14 |
| SUPPORT TO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IN THE ADVANCING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS..... | 14 |
| STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 1 - PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNDERPINNED BY INCREASED DIVERSIFICATION AND DECENT WORK | 15 |
| STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 2 - STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC AND SOCIAL SERVICES..... | 18 |
| STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 3 - IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE TO HAZARDS AND DISASTERS..... | 26 |
| 2. LESSON LEARNED..... | 28 |
| 3. WAY FORWARD | 28 |
| ANNEX A: LIST OF PARTNERS | 30 |
| APPENDIX A: PROGRESS AGAINST 2017 JOINT WORK PLANS | 31 |
| APPENDIX B: FINANCIAL OVERVIEW..... | 31 |

FOREWORD



I am pleased to share with you the United Nations Country Team Annual Progress Report. The present Report is a review of the second year of implementation of the United Nations-Azerbaijan Partnership Framework 2016-2020

and highlights the results of our joint efforts with the Government and other national actors, including, civil society organizations, academia and the private sector.

Our close collaboration with our partners has contributed to boosting employment opportunities and skills development for non-oil sectors, empowering women, youth and vulnerable communities, strengthening national capacities to design better policies and broaden the range of services and support mechanisms for citizens.

In addition, supporting Azerbaijan's compliance with international standards in the area of human rights, advancing gender equality, strengthening the public health systems, promoting modern and sustainable agriculture, as well as protection of the environment and reducing risk to natural disasters were at the center of our joint work in 2017.

Moreover, the year 2017 witnessed two important milestones in our partnership with Azerbaijan: the 25th anniversary of Azerbaijan's accession to the UN and the establishment of the UN's formal presence in the country. These anniversaries which were marked by the publication and launching of a commemorative book provided an opportunity to look back at all that has been achieved to date as a result of our close collaboration partnership with the Government and people of Azerbaijan. It was also an occasion to recognize our extensive advocacy to promote the UN values, standards, and principles in Azerbaijan. During 2016-2017, the Government of Azerbaijan

drafted a number of forward-looking development policy documents—particularly the sectoral Strategic Road Maps, the National Employment Strategy 2017-2030, and the 2017 Voluntary National Review of progress in the implementation of 2030 Agenda.

These documents and directions in “Azerbaijan – 2020: The Vision of the Future” Development Concept” further highlights the Government's priorities for economic diversification, the accelerated creation of decent jobs, and continuing improvements in access to quality education, healthcare, social and public services and clean air and water. The UN Country Team in Azerbaijan is proud to have contributed to the development of these strategies and policies through the provision of expert advice and other resources. The UN Country Team will continue to support Azerbaijan's ambition of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

I hope this report presented to the public will help the readers to gain a deeper insight into our joint work, results and impacts.

I would like to thank the Government of Azerbaijan and all our other development partners for working with us to achieve these joint results for the benefit of the people of Azerbaijan. My gratitude also goes to all our UN staff and experts for their commitment and hard work in order to make a difference in the lives of Azerbaijani people across the country.

Ghulam Isaczai
United Nations Resident Coordinator

DEVELOPMENT TRENDS IN AZERBAIJAN

Promoting Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Development Underpinned by Increased Diversification and Decent Work

The national economy of Azerbaijan has stabilized in 2017 as a result of active macroeconomic policies and stronger oil prices¹. Though the share of oil revenue in the GDP declined by 6.5 percent due to a decrease in both Azerbaijani oil export and oil output, the non-hydrocarbon economy expanded by 2.5 percent due to reviving service and agriculture sectors^{2,3,4}. For the first time since 2009, the share of national non-oil sector revenues (52.6 percent) exceeded oil revenues (47.4 per cent)⁵. However, a positive development in the oil sector was the extension of the offshore Azeri-Chirag-Gunashli oil field contract until 2050.

The Government has also accelerated structural reforms including the simplification of customs clearance and licensing procedures for entrepreneurial activities⁶. A Credit Guarantee Fund was established with the aim to simplify access for

entrepreneurs to the credit. In order to benefit from regional connectivity initiatives and boost transit and trade, Azerbaijan launched the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway line in early November 2017. In the Global Competitiveness Report, Azerbaijan jumped 27 places since 2006 reaching the 35th rank in 2017 among 137 countries⁷.

Strengthening Institutional Capacities and Effective Public and Social Services

Azerbaijan in the Global Competitiveness Report, 2017-2018

Azerbaijan

35th /137

The Global Competitiveness Index 2017-2018 edition

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

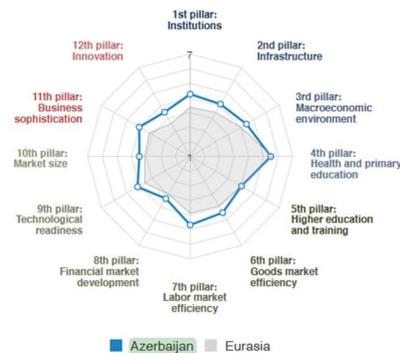
Key indicators, 2016

Source: International Monetary Fund; World Economic Outlook Database (April 2017)

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|-----------------------|---------|
| Population millions | 9.5 | GDP per capita US\$ | 3,956.4 |
| GDP US\$ billions | 37.6 | GDP (PPP) % world GDP | 0.14 |

Performance overview

| Index Component | Rank/137 | Score (1-7) | Trend | Distance from best | Edition | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 |
|---|-----------|-------------|-------|--------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Global Competitiveness Index | 35 | 4.7 | | | Rank | 46 / 144 | 39 / 148 | 38 / 144 | 40 / 140 | 37 / 138 | 35 / 137 |
| Subindex A: Basic requirements | 47 | 4.9 | | | Score | 4.4 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| 1st pillar: Institutions | 33 | 4.6 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2nd pillar: Infrastructure | 51 | 4.5 | | | | | | | | | |
| 3rd pillar: Macroeconomic environment | 65 | 4.8 | | | | | | | | | |
| 4th pillar: Health and primary education | 74 | 5.7 | | | | | | | | | |
| Subindex B: Efficiency enhancers | 46 | 4.4 | | | | | | | | | |
| 5th pillar: Higher education and training | 68 | 4.5 | | | | | | | | | |
| 6th pillar: Goods market efficiency | 31 | 4.8 | | | | | | | | | |
| 7th pillar: Labor market efficiency | 17 | 5.0 | | | | | | | | | |
| 8th pillar: Financial market development | 79 | 3.8 | | | | | | | | | |
| 9th pillar: Technological readiness | 56 | 4.6 | | | | | | | | | |
| 10th pillar: Market size | 63 | 4.0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Subindex C: Innovation and sophistication factors | 33 | 4.2 | | | | | | | | | |
| 11th pillar: Business sophistication | 40 | 4.4 | | | | | | | | | |
| 12th pillar: Innovation | 33 | 4.0 | | | | | | | | | |



¹ International Monetary Fund, "IMF Staff Completes 2017 Article IV Mission to the Republic of Azerbaijan", 15 December, 2017

² Ibid

³ Center for Economic and Social Development (CESD), "Azerbaijan Economy in the first nine months of 2017, Brief Overview", 30 October 2017

⁴ Ministry of Economy, "Socio-economic development of the Republic of Azerbaijan for January-September of 2017", 01 May 2018

⁵ Ministry of Finance, "Presentation on the draft state and consolidated budgets of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2018", October 2017

⁶ The World Bank in Azerbaijan, "Country Snapshot", April 2017

⁷ World Economic Forum, "The Global Competitiveness Report 2017-2018", Geneva, 2017

Public service delivery through the ASAN Service centres⁸ has been very successful in Azerbaijan. The first ASAN Service center which was established in 2012 currently provide citizens with more than 250 services by 10 state bodies and private companies through 12 centers throughout the country. The number of appeals to the centers reached 19 million in 2017 and the level of satisfaction of citizens is 80-100 percent.⁹ In addition, the coverage of ASAN Service system was expanded in different fields through "ASAN Visa", "ASAN Qatar", "ASAN Communal", "ASAN Pay" mobile application, "ASAN Volunteers" and "ASAN Radio", which is the first and only radio channel dedicated to public services.

Currently, 446 public services are offered online¹⁰ and the Open Government Data Portal (<https://data.e-gov.az/>) increased the number of data pieces from 25 in 2016 to over 650 in 2017¹¹.

The Government of Azerbaijan continues to make considerable efforts to improve the overall living conditions of the vulnerable groups and assumes full responsibility for the protection of, and assistance to, the IDPs and refugees. In 2017, the "Programme on Social Protection and Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons and Children with Disabilities" has been approved by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population. A total of 34671 people with disabilities, including children have received rehabilitation services and 94917 people were provided with vocational training. In addition to this, the Government took several other measures in 2017, including the creation of a new unemployment insurance fund, implementation of pension reform, and shifted from passive to active labor market programs¹².

Azerbaijan's national legislation contains a multitude of legal provisions, aimed at normalizing the status of internally displaced persons (IDPs), not only as citizens with equal rights but also in providing certain

affirmative actions aimed at alleviating their grievances from the loss of their property and homeland. Only in 2017, 935 IDP families have been resettled from damaged houses to new apartments.

In terms of overall human rights, Azerbaijan has acceded to or ratified 172 international treaties, protocols and other instruments, including most of the core United Nations human rights treaties. In addition, it has adopted the second National Human Rights Action Plan and implemented a number of relevant judicial and legal reforms.

Improving Environmental Management and Resilience to Hazards and Disasters

Under the environmental provisions set out in the country's Constitution, laws and secondary legal normative acts regulating the environmental protection, the use of natural resources, human health, waste management and other such issues have been adopted¹³.

Azerbaijan is part of all major UN conventions in the sphere of environmental protection, including three of the most important on Climate Change, on Biodiversity and on Land Degradation. Azerbaijan ratified the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1995 and in December 2015 has joined the Paris Convention. While Azerbaijan is not a major greenhouse gas (GHG) contributor, its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution to global climate change mitigation presented at the Paris Climate Change conference in December 2015 calls for a 35 percent reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 (relative to 1990 levels). Significant reductions in the energy and carbon intensity of the national economy are needed in order to realize this commitment—particularly if decarbonization is to be combined with a return to a more robust economic growth trajectory, and in light of Azerbaijan's continuing population growth. Today, the "National Strategy for the Protection and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2017-2020" is being implemented in the country.

⁸ The Service provides venues for state agencies to render their services in a uniformed and coordinated manner, reduces extra expenses and loss of time for many citizens, upgrades the level of professionalism, ensures a larger use of electronic services and increase transparency and strengthens the fight against corruption.

⁹ "ASAN Service centers issue about 5,000 licenses for doing business" *Azernews* (Azerbaijan), 20 December 2017.

Available at <https://www.azernews.az/business/124304.html>.

¹⁰ <https://www.e-gov.az/az/news/read/631>

¹¹ <https://www.e-gov.az/en/news/read/607>

¹² International Monetary Fund, "IMF Staff Completes"

¹³ Minamata Initial Assessment Report

Progress has been made in protecting its biodiversity resources through doubling the size of protected areas as a proportion to the total area of the country, from 5 percent in 2000 to 10.3 percent in 2014 and has undertaken massive reforestation measures. Due to forestation and forest regeneration measures implemented in the mentioned period, the forested area exceeded 1 million hectares, thus, increasing to 11.8 percent from 11.4 percent of the country's territory. Currently, 9 national parks, 11 state wildlife preserves, and 24 state nature reserves are operating in specially protected natural areas covering 893,000 hectares of land.

The introduction of new technologies and modernization works have been expanded to enhance the control over hydro-meteorological phenomena caused by climate changes, and the number of modern automated meteorological stations has increased to 68. This means full (100%) automation of hydrometeorology across the country and the level of validity of meteorological forecasts reached 94-97 percent.

In Baku, a third-generation automatic plant complex has been set up to conduct continuous monitoring of atmospheric air pollution, and numerous automated devices for measuring radiation, noise, vibration, dust, and gases have been used for this network. A fully automated early radiological warning monitoring system for the radiation background in the transboundary areas was installed and the information received is transmitted to the relevant state agencies every half hour.

Development Opportunities

The country's raising Human Development Index (HDI) propelled Azerbaijan to the High Human Development category, together with such countries as Turkey and Kazakhstan. However, when this value takes into account inequality, the country's ranking drops by 13.2 percent. While the country has taken a series of important steps to address women's vulnerabilities, evidence-based data reveal that women are still at major risk of facing individual, institutional and

structural discrimination, both in the public and private sectors¹⁴.

Labour markets in Azerbaijan are characterized by such structural challenges as supply-demand mismatches, underemployment, high youth unemployment, high levels of vulnerable and informal work, and regional labor market disparities¹⁵. Data from State Statistics Committee indicates that nearly half (48 percent) of Azerbaijan's population in 2016 was under 30 years of age; people aged 15-29 alone made up more than a quarter (26 percent) of this. The 9.6 percent youth unemployment rate (for 15-29-year-olds) reported for 2015 was nearly double the national average (5.0 percent). These rates for women—5.9% nationally, and 11.6% for young women, respectively—were likewise above national averages. Because of Azerbaijan's "youth bulge", young people constitute the majority of the unemployed in many parts of the country.

There is scope for increasing overall quality of social services, particularly education and health care. For example, inclusive education for children with disabilities reaches only a handful of children, while according to United Nations data, secondary school dropout rates among boys and girls have been reported at 2.4 percent and 1.1 percent respectively.

There remain challenges in the health sector, notably in relation to infant and young child health, with government data indicating the infant mortality rate is at 32.4 per 1,000 live births, while the under-5 mortality rate is 39.6. Low-birth-weight babies comprise 10.2 percent of all births.

Women face specific challenges in relation to iron-deficiency anemia and support for reproductive health care. Although there exists a network of primary health care facilities in the country, modern scales for early detection and prevention of child disabilities have not been used in the past and continued efforts are required to move away from a medicalized approach to disability.

Moreover, Azerbaijan, like many European countries, is experiencing emerging health issues arising from non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Continued investment is required in technical capacities and structures in both

¹⁴ UNAPF 2016-2020, p. 19

¹⁵ Ben Slay, "Mainstreaming, Acceleration, and Policy Support for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals", Mission Report, Azerbaijan, 2017

government and non-governmental bodies to ensure full compliance with the international standards on human rights to which the country has acceded.

The country is highly vulnerable to climate change, particularly in terms of scarce freshwater resources and its coastal Caspian Sea location. Around 43 percent of its territory is affected by land erosion, and 20 percent by salinization¹⁶. Land degradation still remains one of the acutest environmental problems in Azerbaijan. Over-grazing, intensive rather than extensive

agriculture results in severe consequences for the pastures and forests of the country.

Lack of accurate data for development as well as constraints in disaggregation and analysis remains a challenge in many sectors. Special attention is required to ensure the embedding of a quality assurance system and strengthened civil service capacity at mid-level, to bolster overall monitoring and evaluation capacities and, to foster more equity-focused long-term national visions and evidence-based strategies for Azerbaijan.

¹⁶ MAPS report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The United Nations-Azerbaijan Partnership Framework (UNAPF) 2016-2020, was signed by Mr. Shahin Mustafayev, Minister of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan¹⁷, and Mr. Ghulam M. Isaczai, UN Resident Coordinator, on 12 July 2016. Developed in close cooperation between the Government of Azerbaijan and the United Nations system with the participation of representatives of the private sector, civil society, and academia, the UNAPF aims at supporting the national development agenda through a coherent, coordinated and joint approach to serve human development, peace and the well-being of all people in Azerbaijan.

The UNAPF provides a strategic platform for bringing the mandates, technical expertise, and resources of the UN Agencies in Azerbaijan to ensure an increased impact on national development. This framework is aligned with the national aspirations and priorities of Azerbaijan, articulated in the **“Azerbaijan – 2020: The Vision of the Future” Development Concept**, as well as with the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, and its accompanying Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). **Human rights and gender equality** are the fundamental principles, which are guiding the implementation of the UNAPF and the joint support of UN agencies to the Government in achieving its national development priorities and meeting its international commitments.

The UN Country Team (UNCT) provides a collective and integrated response to the national priorities of the Government in three UNAPF’s Strategic Priority Areas and five Outcome areas. In 2017, **twelve UN agencies** have partnered with more than **37 governmental and non-governmental agencies**¹⁸ to achieve the targets set for 2017 covering **47 outputs** worth of **16,480,777 US dollars**.

In January 2017, the first joint high-level **UNAPF Steering Committee meeting** comprised of senior Government officials and UN Heads of Agencies took place. The role of the Steering Committee is to provide strategic guidance to the working groups and monitor and review the implementation and achievement of the UNAPF strategic outcomes. Furthermore, **three**

UNAPF Results Groups for each UNAPF strategic area, co-chaired by Government ministries and UN agencies, were established. These UNAPF Result Groups held first consultations in May 2017, jointly with four National Working Groups on SDGs. These consultations resulted in the development of three annual **Joint Work Plans** per strategic priority area, which encapsulated outputs, specific actions, and resources, required to achieve broad UNAPF strategic outcomes for 2017.

In 2017, a joint inter-agency and inter-governmental **Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group** was re-established, to assist the UNAPF Steering Committee and three Result Groups in monitoring, evaluation of and reporting of UNAPF implementation. In addition, the capacity of the Resident Coordinator’s Office has been considerably strengthened to further empower the UNCT to work together towards joint goals by making joint decisions on programming, administration and resource management. In March 2018, the UNCT, in consultation with the Government and other

The cover of the commemorative book devoted to the 25th anniversary



¹⁷ Hereafter referred to as “Azerbaijan”.

¹⁸ The list is provided in the Annex A



A stamp dedicated to 25th anniversary of UN-Azerbaijan partnership

stakeholders, conducted a **Joint Annual Review** to assess the progress of the UNAPF implementation. The Review aimed to identify achievements for 2017, reflect on the lessons learned and define priorities for 2018. Three separate meetings, per the strategic area, were held. The Review focused on assessing the results at the output level, contributions at the outcome level, and improvement of the draft work plans for 2018. The findings and recommendations, generated by the Review, were presented to the UNAPF Steering Committee for validation and endorsement.

To mark the **25th anniversary** of Azerbaijan's accession to the UN (2 March 1992) and the **establishment of UN's formal presence in the country** (November 1992), the UN produced a **commemorative book** in English and Azerbaijani languages featuring

Overview of the UNAPF Strategic Priority Areas-2017

| STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS | OUTCOME AREAS | NUMBER OF OUTPUTS | EXPENDITURE 2017 (UNITED STATE DOLLARS) | CO-CHAIR AGENCIES |
|---|--|-------------------|---|--|
| PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNDERPINNED BY INCREASED DIVERSIFICATION AND DECENT WORK | Outcome 1: By 2020, the Azerbaijan economy is more diversified and generates enhanced sustainable growth and decent work, particularly for youth, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups | 11 | 3 573 216 | UNDP, Ministry of Economy |
| | Outcome 2.1: By 2020, Azerbaijan has enhanced institutional capacities for transparent, evidence-based and gender-responsive policy formulation and implementation | 9 | 4 224 936 | UNICEF, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population |
| STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC AND SOCIAL SERVICES | Outcome 2.2: By 2020, Azerbaijan has made progress in line with international human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review and other treaty obligations, and has strengthened capacities for implementation, monitoring and reporting aligned with international standards | 7 | 8 793 19 | |
| | Outcome 2.3: By 2020, quality public and social services are accessible to all and help achieve more socially inclusive and equitable development results | 5 | 3 421 410 | |
| IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE TO HAZARDS AND DISASTERS | Outcome 3.1: By 2020, sustainable development policies and legislation are in place, better implemented and coordinated in compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, recognize social and health linkages, and address issues of environment and natural resource management, energy efficiency and renewable energy, climate change and resilience to hazards and disasters | 15 | 4 381 896 | UNDP, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources |
| TOTAL | | 47 | 16 480 777 | |

forewords from the UN Resident Coordinator and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The book contains more than 100 photos and a number of quotes from UN and Azerbaijani officials, reflecting on different aspects of UN-Azerbaijan partnership in the past 25 years. It also features UN's role in providing humanitarian assistance for refugees and internally displaced persons during the 1990s, as well as Azerbaijan's involvement in both regional and global UN affairs, and the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UNCT officially presented this commemorative book during the "**UN Week**", which took place from 23 to 27 October 2017.

In December 2017, as part of the celebrations to mark the UN Human Rights Day, a year-long campaign was launched to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This campaign aims to promote understanding of how the Universal Declaration empowers all and to encourage reflection on the ways every citizen can stand up for human rights. The launch event was organized jointly by the UN and the Institute of Law and Human Rights of Azerbaijan's National Academy of Science and brought together over 50 representatives of state agencies, parliament, international organizations, civil society, academia and mass media.

To streamline the communication activities in the country, the **UN Communications Group** has been reinvigorated and the National Information Officer was appointed. Significant achievements included strengthening of the UN's presence in local social media channels and redevelopment of the **UN in Azerbaijan website** (<https://unazerbaijan.org>). The new website has been completely redesigned in line with the global UN branding and includes both English and Azerbaijani versions. The **joint communications strategy** was developed and endorsed by the UNCT in early 2018. Other communication activities included lectures and information sessions, delivered by UNCT members for students of the local universities and high schools in Baku and in the regions, dissemination of SDG related publications, and interviews, given by the Resident Coordinator and heads of UN agencies to local TV stations, information agencies and online portals.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present report summarises the results (at the output level) of the activities of various UN agencies in Azerbaijan towards the implementation of the UNAPF during 2017. It also presents the key achievements, lessons learned and challenges in the process.

The UN supported the Government to boost **employment opportunities, skills development and education of the workforce for non-oil sectors**, paying a particular attention to the economic empowerment of women and vulnerable communities. Targeted capacity building activities, helped to equip young and unemployed people, including women, with basic professional, business development, and organizational skills as a direct result of which many were able to set up their own businesses or get a job.

In the area of **migration and refugees**, UN promoted labor migration and its inclusion in broader national development policy objectives. The Government also committed to improving asylum decision making, and integration procedures for refugees and stateless persons in accordance with the best international experience and best practices.

In the area of **agriculture**, the UN helped to enhance food security through strengthening institutional and technical capacities, drafting of the seed and the plant protection legislation and the development of national programmes for land consolidation and for antimicrobial resistance. The technical support was also provided to plant diagnostics, pest and quarantine diseases prevention and imported and exported plant and plant products control procedures. Moreover, assistance was provided to the Government in the development of a National Strategy on the adoption and promotion of organic agriculture as well as the design of a certification system.

Working hand in hand with the Government to improve the enforcement of international standards in the area of **human rights**, the UN joint support was instrumental in strengthening national capacities to collect and process data, as well as to use it to design adequate

policies. Several data collection activities generated quality data on the situation of the vulnerable population.

The efforts to achieve **gender equality** through a twin-track approach were intensified. The Participatory Gender Audit was held to assess the extent of gender mainstreaming across the UNCT in line with the UN strategy for advancing gender equality in the policies to ensure design and development of more gender-responsive programmes and projects. A series of important initiatives were undertaken to generate further evidence as regards the prevalence rates of gender-based violence (GBV) in the country, barriers for the economic advancement of the women in private sector, factors impeding effective implementation of gender transformative programming, costs, and benefits of modern family planning methods, etc. On par with this, a series of advocacy events were held to improve policy making for addressing GBV and gender-biased sex selection.

The UN agencies supported several projects aimed at strengthening the national **health** system in Azerbaijan. These included monitoring of immunization systems, implementation of a nationwide STEP¹⁹ survey on the risk factors associated with non-communicable diseases, upgrading national legislation in the area of flour fortification, implementation of mandatory health insurance pilot projects and the national maternal and child health programme, as well as drafting of the national reproductive health strategy.

In the area of **social services**, the Child Centered and Equity Focused Social Services Strategy was developed in corporation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Education and local NGOs (non-government organizations) which broadens the range of services and support mechanisms of welfare assistance for vulnerable and at-risk families. The National Strategy on Juvenile Justice was drafted with the support of the World Bank and submitted to the Ministry of Justice. The UN also contributed to the development of a comprehensive system for Early Detection and Prevention of Childhood disabilities by offering training of trainers on the Monitoring of Child Development (MCD) for primary health care level pediatricians. Finally, a number of activities were

¹⁹ The STEPS Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factor Survey is a survey methodology to help countries begin to develop

their own surveillance system to monitor and fight against noncommunicable diseases. For additional information, see <http://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/steps/en/>

implemented to stimulate an active participation of youth in decision-making and resilience building.

Important efforts have been invested in rendering **education** more inclusive for all children and to better target pre-school age children. Continued advocacy for inclusive education resulted in the approval of the State Programme for Development of Inclusive Education 2018-2024.

In the area of **environment** protection, the UN agencies provided technical expertise to support the Government to better monitor, analyze and report on greenhouse gas emissions, carbon flows, and carbon storage potential, as well as for reporting under major multilateral environmental agreements. In addition, public debates on the renewable energy future of Azerbaijan were facilitated in collaboration with the State Agency for Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources. A dialogue involving policy and decision-makers, energy companies, NGOs, academia and private sector representatives, to stimulate discussions about the renewable energy sector in the country was initiated for the first time.

At the **regional level**, the UNCT facilitated the sharing of Azerbaijan's experience in implementation of the pension reforms with a high-level staff of the Extra-Budgetary Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance of Uzbekistan. Also, together with the colleagues from UNCT Georgia, a qualitative study on the situation of street children from both countries was carried out.

1. KEY RESULTS

Support to national Government in the advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Support to the Government in advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has largely focused on providing technical and policy advice as well as capacity building for the functioning of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development (NCCSD). Established in 2016, the NCCSD has 4 working groups on SDGs Economic, Social and Environmental pillars complemented by an M&E Group.

The UN system, led by UNDP, provided capacity building support and policy advice to NCCSD and the State Statistical Committee for the SDG nationalization process. The UN system assisted the NCCSD to prepare its first report on Voluntary National Review (VNR) which was presented at the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in New York in July 2017. Represented at the highest level by the Chairperson of the NCCSD, Deputy Prime Minister Ali Ahmedov, Azerbaijan was among 43 countries to report about its plans and progress towards achieving the SDGs.

The UNCT also assisted the Government with the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) exercise to formulate policy options for SDGs. Under the leadership of UNDP, and involvement of the UNCT a team of experts carried out a MAPS mission to Azerbaijan in May-June 2017. The exercise built upon the Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA), conducted in Azerbaijan in November-December 2016 by the NCCSD with the UNCT support. After extensive consultations with the Government, civil society, and the private sector, the mission produced a draft MAPS report outlining concrete policy options and recommendations, which was reviewed at the MAPS follow up a workshop in Baku in February 2018.

In addition, the UN agencies enhanced the capacity of the NCCSD secretariat staff during its first year of operation and assisted with the organization of multi-stakeholder policy consultations on SDGs with civil society, academia, women groups and the parliament throughout the year. The conceptual framework and



format of a National Informational Portal on SDG indicators, including gender-disaggregated indicators, have also been developed by the Government with UN support, which will be launched in late 2018.

To raise public awareness and engage with civil society, business, and media groups, the UNCT and NCCSD also developed and launched a Joint SDGs Campaign Strategy for 2017 and 2018. In 2017, the foundation work for a series of advocacy and awareness activities was laid, which includes an agreement to broadcast weekly bulletin on SDGs with ASAN Radio (public radio station), as well as the identification of partners to translate into local language and design promotional materials and to place stands and posters in public places.

Finally, a conference on “Health and gender: responsibilities of EU member states’ and Eastern Partners’ Parliaments, and the role of the European Parliament in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 5” was organized by UNFPA on 30 September 2017 at the Parliament of the Republic of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly, Committee on Social Affairs, the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, and the United Nations Office in Azerbaijan. The conference included sessions which specifically looked at the role of parliaments in implementing the SDGs with examples from Eastern Partnership participating countries amongst others.

Strategic Priority Area 1 - Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development underpinned by increased diversification and decent work

Vision 2020 goals: Towards a highly competitive economy; balanced development of regions; development of human capital; ensuring transition to an information society

Outcome 1: By 2020, the Azerbaijan economy is more diversified and generates enhanced sustainable growth and decent work, particularly for youth, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups

To achieve this goal, the UNCT Azerbaijan supported the Government's vision of achieving a smooth transition to inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth that is both pro-poor and employment-driven. The assistance was provided through the establishment of innovative partnership approaches that facilitate human capital development - a necessary pre-requisite for a diversified, competitive and knowledge-based economy. The UNCT also played a significant role in ensuring that the most vulnerable workforce members, including women, youth, people with disabilities, refugees, migrants, and IDPs, are not left behind when it comes to education, skill building, access to resources and access to financial mechanisms.



2 Education and Innovation Centres (Syslab) built capacity of **132** young people in finding jobs



5 Women Resource Centers served **909** women with skill development services

43 businesses by women



98 jobs (56 % women)

Skills development and employment opportunities for non-oil sectors

To support the Government's efforts in stimulating investments in the hi-tech sector and to extend the use and reach of digital public services, UNDP provided expert advice to 160 civil servants (75 percent from districts) regarding the planning and managing of digital public services, effective investment conditions and special venture investment rules for the hi-tech sector and a knowledge-based and innovative economy.

The UN agencies helped to develop up-to-date training materials in the form of tutorials, manuals, and interactive multimedia applications to facilitate advanced knowledge and skills development in the non-oil sector. For example, over a thousand students of Azerbaijan Tourism and Management University (ATMU) gained the competitive advantage on the job market because they have been trained by the most up-to-date tourism and management manuals published by Pearson, and they have the mastery of an Interactive Multimedia Application featuring virtual excursions for tour guides. The support was also provided for ATMU on the way UNWTO TedQual accreditation, an international quality standard for tourism education.

The other capacity building activities have reached the regions of Azerbaijan through the Education and Innovation Centres in Masalli and Ganja cities. During the reporting period, 132 unemployed young people (including 55% women) in these regions received trainings on CV development, presentation, job searching, communications, computer and accounting skills out of which 78 graduates (59%) already found jobs.

Women's economic empowerment

Technical expertise and financial support were provided by UNDP to four Women Resource Centres (WRC in Masalli, Bilasuvar, Sabirabad, Neftchala) to further support women's economic empowerment in the regions of Azerbaijan. WRCs offer different trainings and learning opportunities for rural women. The number of WRCs reached five in 2017 with the opening of a new center in Salyan. Four of these centers have successfully registered as NGOs which enables community grassroots support for women's empowerment. As a result of the activities of WRCs, 909 women obtained capacity building support for



For many years, the lack of modern sewing tools was a major impediment for Gulshan Efendi, a local tailor in the south of Azerbaijan, to expanding her business sufficiently. With support from the EU and UNDP, Gulshan now leads her brand-new curtains and bedding production business in Sabirabad.

Photo: UNDP Azerbaijan



Sayyara Sadigova, one of five women in Neftchala who gained the business skills and received assistance to start up their own business ventures with the support of Coca-cola and UNDP in Azerbaijan

Photo: UNDP Azerbaijan

business development, organizational and basic professional skills out of which 43 women have successfully set up their businesses in Neftchala, Salyan, Bilasuvar, Sabirabad and Masalli regions of Azerbaijan. In addition, a toolkit on monitoring of the fulfillment of obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Convention was developed and trainings were offered on the topic.

Modern, sustainable agriculture

To increase the productivity and income of small farmers, FAO built the capacity of the Apiculture Centre

and Beekeepers Association for the promotion of beekeeping and dissemination of up-to-date knowledge and techniques. The application of new techniques and knowledge in bee farm management already helped 46 beekeepers to increase their income by 5%.

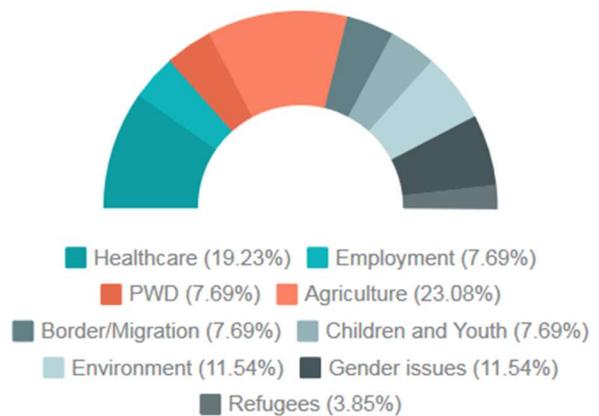
The service quality of breeding systems and artificial insemination was improved through raising awareness on the benefits of livestock artificial insemination, capacity building of the 37 local inseminators, and publishing a training guide for practitioners.

In addition, 57 seed specialists and technicians received specialized training on testing registration and protection of plant varieties and 50 seed specialists were trained on internationally accepted seed testing and procedures and rules to improve seed quality and increase the production of certified seeds.

Improved regulatory frameworks and programming

To extend the outreach of employment services, the Government was supported by ILO to develop a draft National Employment Strategy (NES) and the National Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Strategy is now fully in line with ILO Conventions No.155 and No.187. Besides, the capacity of Public Employment Service was strengthened to provide quality services to young people and 240 of its staff members are now fully equipped with skills to prepare and implement Active Labour Market Programs (ALMP).

Policies drafted/improved



Regarding food security, UN agencies assisted the Government to strengthen its institutional and technical capacities in seed quality control and certification. FAO closely assisted the Ministry of Agriculture to finalise the Seed Law and Plant Variety Protection Law and the Regulation on Seed Quality Control and Certification and the Regulation on Testing.

The National Strategy on the Adoption and Promotion of Organic Agriculture has been designed in cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and 18 inspectors were trained, and a number of Government officials learned international best practice on the adoption and promotion of organic agriculture.

In 2017, UN continued its support to the Government for the development of a National Strategy for Land Consolidation (LC). The Land Ownership Map, the Community Development Plan based on a survey of some 600 landowners, were developed as part of these efforts.

WHO assisted the Government to develop a draft of the first National antimicrobial resistance (AMR) action plan which is expected to be approved in 2018. In February 2017, a joint working group was created following the multi-sectoral workshop.

Supporting vulnerable communities

In 2017, the UN continued supporting those at risk of being left behind. Twelve civil society organizations received support to launch initiatives aimed at advancing social inclusion, equality and socio-economic rights of vulnerable groups at the community, district and national level. As a result of these initiatives, 710 prisoners benefited from the physiological and legal aid, more than 150 inmates obtained new knowledge on the basics of business establishment and management, and 90 inmates now have new skills to generate income in and outside of the prison. In addition, a Family Care Centre for Juveniles established at the Mental Health Centre of the Ministry of Health helped to address needs of 153 children at risk and provided support for their families. Also, in the framework of these NGO initiatives, 260 social workers, lawyers, schoolteachers, health personnel were trained on better service delivery to the people with disabilities.

UN activities also targeted the improvement of the asylum decision-making procedures and development of a unified integration strategy of refugees and stateless persons. A roadmap was developed by UNHCR



About **2000** people from vulnerable groups received **legal aid**



About **4000** disadvantaged children and youth benefited from social service projects



About **3000** IDPs with vision and hearing problems received medical aids

226 refugees accessed health care services, social programs and have right to work



About **1000** children of 3-4 years of age were enrolled into the community-based early learning program in **50** under-served communities in **11** regions



296 refugees accessed primary and secondary education and specialized training programs

40 children with disabilities accessed education



74 businesses were set up by IDPs and refugees

201 refugee and asylum-seeker's households benefited from financial assistance



388 people from low-income families now know about state social programs and policies

and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) to raise awareness of the State Migration Service (SMS) staff and Inter-Ministerial Working group members on best EU practices on the socio-economic and cultural integration of refugees and support to asylum seekers. As a result of negotiations, SMS committed to provide Tax ID and facilitate an access to the labor market for Government recognized refugees. Issues related to labor migration governance and mainstreaming of labor migration into broader development policy objectives has also drawn attention through discussions led by IOM with the government and civil society.

UNDP continued its support to Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action (ANAMA) to clear 93 square kilometers of contaminated land to ensure safe living conditions for the vulnerable population and its capacity was built to undergo necessary certification steps on the way to be recognized as an International Mine Action Centre. In addition, 74 people (22 women) from conflict (Nagorno-Karabakh) affected population received grants from IOM to set up their businesses that benefitted more than 300 IDPs and refugees.

Strategic Priority Area 2 - Strengthening institutional capacities and effective public and social services

Vision 2020 goals: Improvement of legislation and strengthening of institutional potential; development of human capital and provision of an effective social security system; balanced development of regions; development of civil society; ensuring transition to an information society; protection and effective management of cultural heritage

Outcome 2.1: By 2020, Azerbaijan has enhanced institutional capacities for transparent, evidence-based and gender-responsive policy formulation and implementation

Strengthening national capacities in collecting, analyzing and adapting data and knowledge in support of better policies and services has been an integral focus of many UN agencies' work in Azerbaijan throughout 2017. The establishment of a National Coordination Council on Sustainable Development within the Government has also placed an increased focus on the importance of credible data and knowledge in the social development sector to better

measure progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

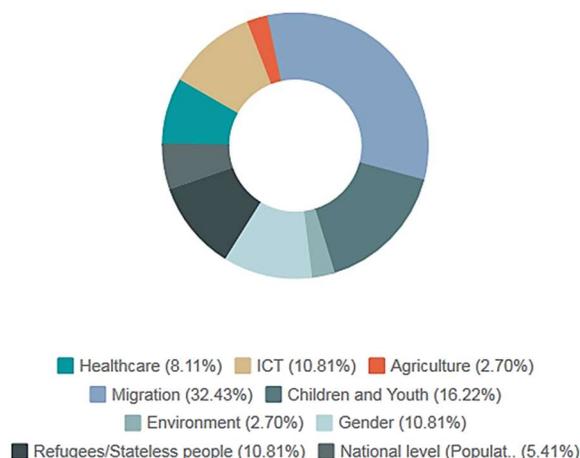
Improving evidence-based decision making

A regional qualitative study on street children was conducted in partnership with the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs and UNICEF Georgia. The second round of a Child Deprivation Study and a comprehensive comparative analysis of two surveys were carried out by UNICEF in close corporation with State Statistical Committee and a globally recognized Child Functionality Measurement was adapted to the local context and is due to be implemented in early 2018. Noticeable progress was achieved with the population of the National Centralized Child Databank and automatic synchronization of the data held by relevant stakeholders.

Citizens and the media in Azerbaijan now have biannual access to updated data on the government's performance on implementation of the National Economic Road Maps as a result of UNDP's methodological support to the Centre for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication.

To provide an adequate tool for internal accountability and performance monitoring and improve institutional response capacity to Gender-Based Violence (GBV), UNFPA assisted the Government with the development of the national inter-agency online database on GBV incidents. The database not only routinely collects data

Initiatives to improve evidence base



on GBV incidents throughout the country, but also facilitates evidence-based decision-making on the subject matter.

In 2017, UNHCR has changed its Cash-Based Intervention modality as a result of which a detailed statistical reporting on economic and social situations of refugees has been made available. In addition, the post-distribution monitoring mechanism was introduced to measure the impact of Cash-Based Intervention among refugee and asylum-seeker households, who are benefitting from financial assistance.

The Age Gender Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) Participatory Assessment was carried out by UNHCR in a recently reclaimed community of Jojug Marjanli to assess gaps and ensure broader participation of all age groups for targeted assistance and protection. This experience should be instrumental to consistently apply the same approach to the IDPs in Azerbaijan.

An important work was also carried out to develop the capacity of the Government to identify and address gaps in national legislation and practice, pertaining the statelessness persons, through the adapted capacity building and in-depth expert assessment. The capacity of State Migration Service and other national authorities was built with regards to the refugee status determination, in particular on the issues of access to the territory, prevention of refoulement and enhancement of the application of the international legal instrument and the national asylum law.

To better target the dynamics of gender relations in Azerbaijan, one of the most overlooked issues in terms of developing policies and programmes on sexual and reproductive human rights, an analysis of the data collected in the framework of the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) was finalized with the support of UNFPA which will be launched in 2018. Besides, solid population projections by economic regions of Azerbaijan until 2050 were produced to help ensure proper planning, formulation, and implementation of population-oriented social and economic policies and programs in the country. In order to contribute into Government’s overarching objective to better monitor and report on national SDG agenda, 15 new gender-disaggregated indicators were developed and integrated into the national population database. The 3rd version of the Gender Statistics Index featuring 310 gender-related indicators was created and placed on the State Statistical Committee website.

The Government was also supported with the generation of more evidence on gender-based violence (GBV) through a nationally representative survey on GBV prevalence rates and women’s coping strategies.

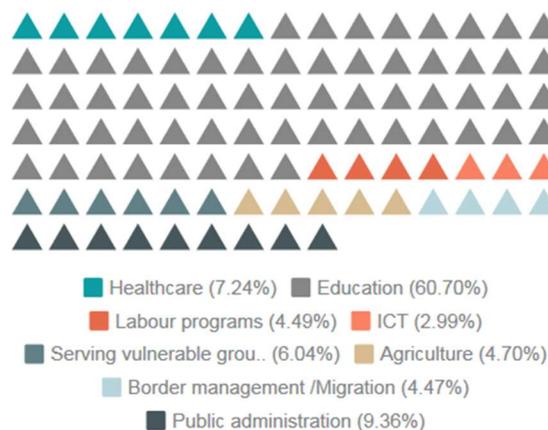
The staff of the Analytical & Statistics Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture, State Statistics Committee received trainings on monitoring, evaluation, and modeling in agriculture, presenting the most commonly used models (CAPRI, PSE, AGMEMOD). FAO supported the Government to successfully launch the CountrySTAT (<http://azerbaijan.countrystat.org>) – a comprehensive web-based information system on food and agriculture that provides easy access to quality statistical data to aid researchers, policymakers, development organizations, and the private sector.

Strengthening capacities of public institutions

To boost institutional capacities for implementation of the integrated border management policies, UNDP supported the development of the integrated border management strategy, promotion of a coordination mechanism between border agencies of Georgia and Azerbaijan and an Agreement on Border Delegates. Around 170 staff of border authorities and customs specialists benefited from trainings on border protection issues as well as on sanitary, phytosanitary, veterinary and food safety controls. Moreover, relevant agencies were supported to increase border surveillance and document examination/processing.

To ensure the protection of trafficked persons as well as persons involved in migration, IOM provided

Institutional capacity building



technical support to the State Migration Service in the development of a multi-annual migration management strategy, which will be finalized in 2018. It is expected that recommendations of the 12 assessment reports on migration, border management and labor migration, currently analyzed by the Migration Management Working Group, will be translated into concrete policy actions. The Government was also supported in conducting six national consultations on Global Compact on Migration and enhancing its capacities in the area of migration and border management. An impact assessment of migration on the economic development of Azerbaijan was also carried out and the Government is considering establishing a roadmap to address the report's recommendations. Significant progress was achieved in implementing innovative migration management e-services, including electronic documentation, electronic payments, a unified biometric and citizenship database.

Three tools were developed to assist Azerbaijani Consular Officials in assisting nationals during migration crisis and training was provided on their application. Besides, two online courses were developed for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Azerbaijan on the improvement of assistance to nationals affected by crises abroad and for the SMS and other institutions regarding the improvement of assistance to foreigners, affected by the crisis in Azerbaijan.

A School Activity Kit on prevention of human trafficking and safe migration was published which was followed up by raising awareness campaigns covering 500 students from Gusar, Guba, and Xachmaz on combating human trafficking.

A Training Centre established at the Academy of Public Administration based on European standards with the UNDP support, delivers training sessions in an array of topics, including strategic management, decision-making, leadership skills, monitoring and evaluation, and SDGs to 500 civil servants.

South-South cooperation

In the framework of the South-South corporation, a study visit of experts from the Extra-Budgetary Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance of Uzbekistan was facilitated by UNDP to learn the Azerbaijani experience in the pension system, reforms and application of modern econometric modeling tools in forecasting the revenues and expenditures of the Fund's resources.



On-site focus group discussion on human rights with a national Civil Society Organization working with people with disabilities

Photo: OHCHR Azerbaijan Office

The trip had a special focus on the coverage and quality of provision of pensions, services and mechanisms of payments and coordination.

[Outcome 2.2: By 2020, Azerbaijan has made progress in line with international human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review and other treaty obligations, and has strengthened capacities for implementation, monitoring and reporting aligned with international standards](#)

Participatory monitoring of the situation of vulnerable communities

Substantial progress was achieved with the development of the national electronic case-management and referral system and capacity building of non-State institutions to analyze primary and secondary data to monitor child rights situation in the country. A Management Information System with Development Assessment Tool (SIB-R) component was established for the first time for the Children and Family Support Centres of the State Committee for Families, Women and Children's Affairs with UNICEF support. This system helps to receive real-time progress reports on each child registered in the Centres, manage and track cases of children as well as generate reports on their status. Currently tested, the system is expected to be rolled out in all 11 Centres in the country. Technical support was also provided to the National Preventive Group (NPG) for development of a Management Information System to improve data collection, analysis and management of the monitoring visits, hotline calls and complaints of the children. Monitoring of detention centers and child care



Bicycle march organized by UNFPA during 16 days of Activism Against Gender based violence. November 25th, 2017

Photo: UNFPA Azerbaijan

institutions continued together with the NPG under the Office of the Ombudsperson. Independent national monitoring mechanisms to monitor the situation of refugees, IDPs and stateless persons was developed with the support of UNHCR. At the same time, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources has started the work on the establishment of the Forest Resource Information Management System with FAO technical assistance.

Advancing gender equality and reproductive rights

The UN system assisted the Government with the development of the National Action Plan on Gender Equality, analysis of national GBV legislation, revision and finalization of the National Action Plan on GBV prevention and response and drafting of the guidelines for interagency coordination and monitoring mechanism on GBV prevention and response. A

successful “16 Days of activism against gender-based violence” campaign was organized in partnership with several UN agencies and the State Committee for Families, Women and Children’s Affairs. The campaign had a big outreach with sixteen video messages from the heads of UN agencies, ministers, donor community disseminated via social media, billboards with famous 16 male celebrities placed in Baku and in the regions, a bicycle tour calling for action on GVB, public talks, and a joint visit to a women’s shelter. 6,000 leaflets on different forms of GBV and available GVB protection mechanisms were distributed to the visitors of 11 ASAN centres (one-stop public service agency) across the country.

The issue of gender-based sex selection was addressed by generating data for evidence-based advocacy for improvement of the legal and policy framework, building the national institutional capacities on GVB



Dads learn how to style their daughters hair. Photo was taken from "Fathers and Daughters" festival aimed to prevent son preference and promote active fatherhood.

Photo: UNFPA Azerbaijan

prevention and protection, and raising awareness on short-term and long-term consequences of gender-based sex selection. In addition, a national advocacy campaign against the cultural preference of sons over daughters was launched with the engagement of faith-based groups, local community leaders, youth/young adults, celebrities and media representatives.

12 awareness-raising campaigns were carried out to advocate for family planning services which aimed at improving the institutional framework for the newly adopted protocols for family planning services and operationalize family planning concept in Azerbaijan.

In the absence of pre-existing national comprehensive sexuality education curriculum, aligned with international standards, the Ministry of Education and Public Health and Reforms Centre was supported by UNFPA to align the CSE (Comprehensive Sexuality Education) plan with secondary schools' curricula. The subject "Healthy Life Style" was suggested for the new curriculum as a non-mandatory course for 6-9 grades and the Minimum Initial Service Package²⁰ program covered half of all territory of Azerbaijan.

The capacity of Family Support Centres functioning under the State Committee for Family, Women and

²⁰ UNFPA "What is the Minimum Initial Service Package?", April 2015, see <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/what-minimum-initial-service-package>

Children's Affairs were built for better identification of GBV victims, screening, and assistance, monitoring and follow-up.

The development of the new national Reproductive Health Strategy was supported, including national consultations and multisector workshops, leading to a final draft of the new strategy being presented to the Government for review by the end of the year.

Development of national human rights protection mechanisms

Promoting and increasing the use of national human rights protection systems and services amongst national actors, in line with international human rights standards, and specifically for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, has been a key area of work of UN in Azerbaijan. Expanding access to justice for members of vulnerable groups is essential for the realization of both human rights of vulnerable groups and obligations, undertaken under international human rights mechanisms. 121 applicants, including 60 women and 61 men from vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, low-income families, IDPs and refugees, pensioners and unemployed), benefited from free legal services offered by the Resource Centre, established in 2017 by OHCHR. The center also raises awareness of people, especially, vulnerable groups about their rights and the ways to redress human rights violations effectively. In co-operation with the regional branches of the National Human Rights Institution (Ombudsperson) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, on-site free legal services were also provided to vulnerable groups residing in Guba, Ganja, and Jalilabad regions and in surrounding districts. This action helped to lift significant barriers, faced by vulnerable groups, in realizing their social security, labor, property, and housing, as well as consumer rights.

30 national Civil Society Organisation (CSO) representatives and lawyers participated in focus-group discussions aimed at raising awareness on UN human rights instruments and mechanisms. A particular focus was placed on UN Treaties such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The focus-

group discussions provided the participants with practical information and guidance necessary for their engagement in national submissions on the progress made in the implementation of the Treaties ratified by Azerbaijan.

The capacity of the Justice Academy was enhanced to deliver trainings on human trafficking to the officials of the judiciary system, and development of a curriculum of the International Migration Law Program.

In 2017, 980 children in ten districts benefited from free legal aid services program. A Legal Aid Centre was established in Baku to deliver free legal advice to the vulnerable population helped 171 people to increase their knowledge on social rights, complaint procedures and protection mechanisms.

The draft of the National Strategy on Juvenile Justice was finalized and has been submitted to the Ministry of Justice. The work of the Baku Court of Grave Crimes was observed and recommendations were provided for the improvement of the services and procedures regarding juveniles.

The free legal advice was provided to refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs and stateless persons to ensure their access to asylum procedures and to their social and economic rights, as well as to raise their awareness about their rights and entitlements. The establishment of free legal aid mechanisms within the asylum authority of the Government was also promoted.

Outcome 2.3 By 2020, quality public and social services are accessible to all and help achieve more socially inclusive and equitable development results

In 2017, UN agencies worked together, to help to deliver equitable and accessible protection, education, health, and nutrition services to those in need, including mothers and new-borns, children, young people and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable including victims of trafficking.

In particular, support was provided to the national immunization system and capacity building activities for the front-line medical workers on vaccine safety and contra-indications and on institutionalizing best vaccine management practices. The UN support was provided for the implementation of the national



Children play “Boccia” during the Third Children’s Paralympic game event held in Sumgayit

Photo: UNICEF/Solhi/2017

Noncommunicable Diseases (NCD) strategy and action plan. Following the adoption of the New Tobacco Control Law in 2016, several joint training and awareness activities conducted with National Public Health Centre.

To improve the quality of life for persons with vision and hearing problems, 2,297 IDPs in selected urban and rural communities were provided with optometrist (eyesight check-up) services 2,736 glasses and 35 hearing aids were donated.

Technical and expert support was provided for the implementation of national maternal and child health program. Introduction of Near Miss Case Analysis for prevention of maternal deaths started through countrywide workshop and training activities. In addition, technical support was provided to the Government to pilot a mandatory health insurance scheme in two regions of Azerbaijan.

While overall primary school enrolment rates remain high in Azerbaijan, efforts were made to make education more inclusive. An Inclusive Education model has been tested in four schools in Baku by the Ministry of Education with UNICEF support, allowing 40 children with disabilities to receive education during the academic year. A Study on Knowledge, Attitude, and Behaviours towards Children with Disabilities was conducted to support the development of a communication strategy for reducing stigma and



Children from National Children's Paralympic Team introduce various sport fields during UNICEF's 1 June National Children's Protection Day event held together with National Paralympic Committee to promote "Sport for All"

Photo: UNICEF/Holder/2017

discrimination and the establishment of a supportive environment for inclusive education.

A continuous professional development of preschool and primary school teachers was supported with six in-service training modules and assessment tools developed to be incorporated into formal in-service teacher training systems. Professional standards and in-service training modules for school management were updated to address the key needs and competencies of school principals, including management, organization, leadership, communication, assessment, teacher performance evaluation, and data analysis.

A study on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) was carried out in 167 schools which helped to assess the current situation on WASH indicators. The Ministry of Health was supported to develop a Nutrition Action Plan. As part of efforts to tackle high levels of iron-

deficiency anemia amongst women, the Ministry of Health was supported to prepare a draft Law on Flour Fortification which is now under review and will be submitted to Parliament for discussion in 2018. The development of a communication strategy on promoting exclusive breastfeeding was supported and large-scale communication activities organized together with the Ministry of Health during the National Breastfeeding Week reached about 550,000 people.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection was assisted by UN system to prepare draft Guidelines on Social Work with Children and Families in Child Protection Systems and draft Guidelines on Social Work with Children and Families in Justice Systems. It is considered essential to strengthen the linkages between the social work sector and the justice sector, including across Ministries, in order to ensure that vulnerabilities amongst children in conflict with the

law, or at risk of becoming in conflict with the law, could be addressed.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Education, local NGO partners were supported to develop a draft Child Centered and Equity Focused Social Services Strategy that expands current social welfare assistance to a broader range of services and support mechanisms for vulnerable and at-risk families.

In the area of the health, the development of a training package on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) for primary health care workers (mainly pediatricians) was supported which was incorporated in the curricula of the Azerbaijan State Advanced Training Institute for Doctors. 177 practicing pediatricians (13%) benefitted from trainings on IYCF. Working on the development of a comprehensive system for Early Detection and Prevention of Childhood disabilities, the training of trainers on the Monitoring of Child Development (MCD) for primary health care level pediatricians were conducted which covered a total of 210 pediatricians.

A two-year strategic development plan to improve social service development for disadvantaged children and youth was developed for 4 municipalities in Shirvan and Goychay districts under UNDP assistance. As a result, 3692 people from low-income families benefitted from social service projects implemented in these districts.

UNCT ensured that the issues of people with disabilities, the role of women in decision-making processes, non-discrimination and equality was systematically addressed in national TV programmes in 2017.

School readiness programme for 5-year-old children continued to expand reaching a coverage rate of 65% in 2017, supported by in-service teacher training for 3,244 primary school teachers. The

Ministry of Education was supported by UNICEF in designing and piloting of a new community-based early learning program for 3-4-year-old children and a family education program in 50 under-served communities in 11 regions of the country. About 1,000 children of 3-4 years of age were enrolled in the community-based early learning program.

With one-third of the population falling into the category of youth, UN efforts also focused on investment in this particular demographic. An aligned

programme was established on the bases of the existing network of Government-managed Youth Houses to support young people with vital skills development opportunities. The pilot programme offers an integrated package of basic and specialized youth-friendly services. The pilot is implemented in two districts (Mingachevir and Binagadi) and is expected to expand to other areas in 2018.

Azerbaijani Youth Advocate Programme was revitalized to promote participation of adolescents and young people in decision making and resilience building in three districts affected by the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. This programme empowered 60 young boys and girls develop joint community-based projects with local district authorities.

The efforts continued to ensure access of refugee children to education facilities through supporting enrolment, monitoring the attendance and progress (e.g. 13 refugee children accommodated at pre-school facilities in 2017). Advocacy in support of health rights of refugees, especially in relation to access to secondary health services continued. 67 Government recognized refugees and 159 refugees possessing temporary resident permit received access to state secondary health care services, to social programs and have the right to work. While efforts continue to secure broader Government fulfillment of these rights, UNHCR programmes ensured that 80% of its own-managed caseload could benefit from secondary health care services.

Several courses aimed at the development and integration of refugees and asylum-seekers are offered at the Centre UNHCR Refugee Women and Youth Centre in accordance with the needs of the beneficiaries.

Strategic Priority Area 3 - Improving environment management and resilience to hazards and disasters

Vision 2020 goals: Environmental protection and ecological issues; improvement of legislation and strengthening of institutional potential; development of human capital

Outcome 3.1: By 2020, sustainable development policies and legislation are in place, better implemented and coordinated in compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, recognize social and health linkages, and address issues of environment and natural resource management, energy efficiency and renewable energy, climate change and resilience to hazards and disasters

Monitoring, analysis, and reporting on greenhouse gases emissions and policy adjustment

The Government was supported by UNDP to prepare the 2nd Biennial Update Report and 4th National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including the inventory of greenhouse gas emissions for 9 sectors. This covers the development of scenarios for policies and measures on mitigation of climate change and establishing a domestic measurement, reporting and verification system, a policy framework and a feasibility study. In addition, support was provided for the identification of national capacity to use IPCC 2006 guidelines, data collection for greenhouse gas emissions for the year 2013 under the Second Biennial Update report, for the updating of the report on



Efficient remodeling of 5 buildings showed 46% energy savings and 130 tons/year of CO₂ emissions reduction

policies and measures to mitigate climate change, as well as for the establishment of local Measurement, Reporting and Verification system.

UNECE assisted the Government to improve the national capacity for data collection and

monitoring of progress on energy-related sustainable development goals as well as understanding on the development of national action plans for sustainable energy based on the best international practices.



Pilot trainings for 'eco-driving' had demonstrated 8-14% reduction in fuel consumption

In particular, recommendations for the draft law and of national guidelines on the practical application of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) were developed. Besides, support has been provided for the capacity building of national experts to develop Informative Inventory Report and to improve accuracy and completeness of air emission inventories in accordance with the requirements of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution.

In parallel, "New Opportunities for Developing Renewable Energy in Azerbaijan", held on Azerbaijan's national Energy Day, with the support of was a first of its kind dialogue in the country, brought together over 40 representatives of policy and decision-makers, project developers, investors, technology providers and NGOs as well as international donors and financial institutions to discuss a prioritized set of legal, regulatory, technical and financial recommendations which could jumpstart investments in renewable energy and improve project bankability, streamlining procedures and cost reduction in project development.

Five buildings of the State Oil Company – SOCAR was efficiently remodeled with UNDP support which showed 46% energy savings and 130 tons/year of CO₂ emissions reduction. Similarly, pilot trainings for 'eco-driving' had demonstrated an 8-14% reduction in fuel consumption, with practically no investment costs.

Improvement of national capacities for sustainable environmental development

The cooperation continued with Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources with the establishment of the Gizil-Agaj National Park and upgrading of its management capacities and infrastructure to manage visitors, to patrol poachers and protect lands from

overgrazing. These activities resulted in a reduction of illegal grazing cases from 705 in 2015 to 400 in 2017. Besides, a Financial Management Plan (FMP) for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (CMPA) has been prepared and capacity building was provided to implement those plans. Finally, monitoring equipment has been procured to monitor critical thresholds for ecosystem health.

The resilience of vulnerable communities was strengthened, to cope with negative impacts of land degradation and climate-induced hazards, through the development of management plans for forests and farm-based pastures which resulted in 20,000 hectares of forests and 7,900 hectares of pastures in two districts to be under for sustainable forest and land management practices. Alternative income sources for rural communities were created to reduce their dependence on livestock farming, reaching 160 people, nearly half of them women.

To support flood forecasting and warning activities, the capacity of State Agency for Water Resources was enhanced with UNDP support by installing 10 meteorological stations, introducing hydrological and hydraulic models and initiating community-based flood early warning system: 10 communities with 48,000 people now have emergency response toolkits and risk maps.

The Ministry of Education and Ministry of Emergency Situation was supported by UNICEF to introduce the Life Skills programme with a Disaster Risk Reduction

20000 ha forests and 7900 ha pastures are under sustainable forest and land management practices



Illegal grazing cases reduced from 705 in 2015 to 400 in 2017

(DRR) module in the non-formal education system. It was able to reach over 1,500 children in the initial phase of the programme. The Ministry of Education is considering further expansion of the Life Skills programme to other extra-curricular institutions countrywide. A new curriculum and syllabus of the



To decrease the excessive use of farmlands for livestock breeding in rural Azerbaijan, UNDP offers local communities access to alternative livelihood options, such as beekeeping

Photo: UNDP Azerbaijan, Andrea Egan

DRR course in the Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University were developed and submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval. A case study on Disaster Risk Assessment methodology was carried out and recommendations for replication of the methodology at the national level were provided.

2. LESSON LEARNED

Strategic Priority Area 1 - Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development underpinned by increased diversification and decent work

The interventions targeting policy level changes require a longer period of engagement and advocacy from UN agencies and commitment and ownership from national partners.

Many factors affect the achievement of the results of the interventions in the agriculture sector, primarily the seasonality and nature conditions. Application of modern techniques faces resistance due to the traditional way of thinking and lack of trust by the farmers.

The new strategic roadmap for economic reforms in eleven priority non-oil sector areas requires alignment with 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and SDGs to ensure that greater focus and resources are allocated to the social sector.

Strategic Priority Area 2 - Strengthening institutional capacities and effective public and social services

A key constraint in the area of data and knowledge was acknowledged by a number of UN agencies working in this area.

Over the last decade, Azerbaijan has made demonstrable progress in obtaining reliable data through censuses, demographic and thematic surveys and administrative registers, such as birth and death recording systems. Yet, there is a need to further strengthen the national institutional capacities for the analyses and utilization of the data to foster sound and evidence-based policymaking.

As in other areas, gaps in human and institutional capacity continued to constrain progress in many sectors. One notable concern identified during the year was a challenge in encouraging a better understanding and appreciation of the human rights aspects of reproductive health and gender-based violence. Barriers were encountered to the introduction of family planning and reproductive health programming, based

on misconceptions about decreasing population size, financial interests in the health sector in relation to conducting abortions, and attitudinal barriers regarding gender-based violence and reproductive health within society. This has been exacerbated by a chronic lack of civil society and community-based actors working in the field of reproductive health and gender rights.

Constraints identified during the year, in relation to development and provision of quality public and social services continued to relate mainly to technical capacity and policy limitations, and low availability of specialized services for some groups, especially in the health and education sectors.

Strategic Priority Area 3 - Improving environment management and resilience to hazards and disasters

Environmental issues continue to be compartmentalized in the national development strategy. Broader awareness raising and engagement of various line ministries is key to adopting an integrated approach to environmental sustainability.

Limited funding opportunities both internally and externally hinder expanding interventions in this area.

Despite the fact that Azerbaijan 2020 promotes greener growth, the environmental/ green economy elements of Azerbaijan's policy framework do not seem to be well articulated—especially at the outcome level. In light of relevant inter-sectoral linkages, issues such as energy subsidies, water pricing and efficient use, and carbon taxes may be particularly important in this context²¹.

3. WAY FORWARD

Following the Joint Annual Review in March 2018, its findings and recommendations and the 2018 Joint Work Plans were validated by the UNAPF Steering Committee in June 2018. The plans were signed by the respective UN and Government counterparts.

Having reached the midpoint of the current UNAPF 2016-2020 presents an opportunity for the UNCT to

²¹ MAPS report, p. 14

carry out a mid-term review to provide a new sense of direction for future activities and to align UNAPF more closely with current national development priorities and the SDGs. The UNCT will also strive to ensure that its efforts are aligned in support of the UN Secretary-General's UN Development System Reform Agenda, by providing regular updates to the government and development partners regarding the UNDS reform.

Developing a strategy for joint resource mobilization is a high priority for the UNCT in the coming year, including exploration of the feasibility of establishing a local fund for joint programmes. This is integral for maximizing the impact of the UN's limited resources and to ensure the achievement of the outcomes as identified under the strategic priority areas of the UNAPF. In particular, the UN and the government must prioritize financing of the SDGs which will include targeting official development assistance and private capital flows.

Besides, a particular attention will continue to be paid to the engagement with young people through a closer cooperation with UNYAC and rolling-out of the Joint UN-Government Youth Houses Initiative.

Having made vital strides towards the nationalization of the 2030 Agenda, it is expected that 2018 will be another important year for Azerbaijan to advance the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs). The "Baku Principles for National SDG Mainstreaming and Acceleration" are expected to set out concrete actions plan supporting national SDG implementation in Azerbaijan. It will also be as one of Azerbaijan's inputs into the Regional SDG Forum inter-governmental meeting, which is planned later in 2018 in Baku, with the UN support. In addition, the UNCT will continue its joint advocacy efforts to increase public awareness of the 2030 Agenda and prioritize efforts towards addressing the "leaving no one behind" principle.

Finally, the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be an ideal opportunity to ensure that the advocacy in the field of human rights and other UN system values, standards, and principles remains high on the agenda of the UNCT in Azerbaijan.

Annex A: List of Partners

National Implementing Partners

| | |
|--|--|
| Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action | Ministry of Internal Affairs |
| Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society | Ministry of Justice |
| Azerbaijan Tourism & Management University | Ministry of Justice |
| Black Sea Commission | Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population |
| Cabinet of Ministers | Ministry of Transport |
| Justice Academy | Ministry of Youth and Sports |
| Mandatory Health Insurance Agency | Non-Governmental Organisations |
| Ministry of Agriculture | Office of the Ombudsperson |
| Ministry of Communications & High Technologies | Parliament |
| Ministry of Culture & Tourism | Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity Protection |
| Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources | State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations |
| Ministry of Economy | State Border Service |
| Ministry of Education | State Committee for Family, Women and Children's Affairs |
| Ministry of Emergency Situations | State Committee for Refugees and IDPs |
| Ministry of Energy | State Migration Service |
| Ministry of Finance | State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs | State Statistical Committee |
| Ministry of Health | |

Participating UN organizations, funds and programmes

| | |
|--------|---|
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations |
| ILO | International Labour Organisation |
| IOM | International Organisation for Migration |
| OHCHR | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNECE | United Nations Economic Commission for Europe |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| WHO | World Health Organisation |

Appendix A: Progress against 2017 Joint Work Plans

UN agencies reported against the output indicators set in the 2017 JWPs by providing the current status of the indicators and showing their progress using the color based approach in a table format: green for “achieved”, yellow for “partially achieved”, orange for “constrained” and red for “not achieved”. To allow for consistency the agencies adjusted their target indicators for 2017 only taking into consideration that some agencies have set multiyear targets in the original JWPs.

The UN agencies also provided a brief description of key achievements and lessons learned/challenges to complement the indicator status updates with a narrative.

Appendix B: Financial Overview

The Annual Common Budgetary Framework was updated with the latest budget information on expenditures against the planned budget. The discrepancies observed between the budget information in the signed JWPs and the actual annual budgets of the agencies and the overspent/underspent were accompanied by the explanatory notes by the agencies.

Appendix A: Progress against Joint Work Plans 2017

| UN entity | Indicators | Baseline | Target | Means of verification | Progress status | Value of Indicator | Source of evidence | Key achievements | Challenges/Lessons learned |
|--|---|---|--|--|--------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Strategic Priority Area 1 Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development underpinned by increased diversification and decent work | | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 1.1 By 2020, the Azerbaijan economy is more diversified and generates enhanced sustainable growth and decent work, particularly for youth, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, ILO, OHCHR, FAO, IFAD, UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO, WB | 1) GDP average annual growth rate in non-oil sector. 2) Global Competitiveness Index Score 3) Unemployment rate disaggregated by sex and age. | 1) 7% 2) 4.53 (2014) 3) Population: 4.9% Males: 4.0% Females: 5.8% Youth (15-29): 9.7% | 1) 7% (2020) (14) 2) 4.7 (2020) 3) Population: 4.9% Males: 4.0% Females: 5.7% Youth (15-29): 9.5% | 1) Ministry of Economy 2) World Economic Forum 3) Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population | | 1) 2.5 % (2017) 2) 4.7 (2017) 3) Population: 5 Males: 4.2% Females: 6% Youth (15-29): 9.4 % (2016) | 1) Ministry of Economy 2) World Economic Forum 3) Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population | | |
| Output 1.1.1 Employment and decent work is accessible to refugees/stateless persons. | | | | | | | | | |
| UNHCR | # of refugees/stateless persons registered by the Public Employment centers. # of refugees/stateless persons regularly employed. | 0 | Target: 20 (2018) Target: 10 (2018) | Reports from government and UN sources, feedback from individual beneficiaries | constrained | 1. 1 UNHCR registered refugee minor was registered with the Public Employment Centre for the purpose of being involved in state certified vocational training course 2. No reliable data on refugees/stateless persons regularly employed The State Migration Service committed to facilitate an access to labour market and receiving of Tax ID for Government recognized refugees. One minor refugee registered with UNHCR the Employment Office for attending vocational training | Minutes of the meetings; reports from the events | 1. UNHCR jointly with MOBILAZE project of ICMPD in Azerbaijan organized a workshop on Integration of Refugees on 29-30 May 2017 in Baku, Azerbaijan. The workshop was also linked to the 4th component of MOBILAZE project related to Improvement of the asylum decision making procedure. Staff of the Refugee Status Determination department of the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan and members of Inter-Ministerial Working group on socio-economical and cultural integration of refugees were invited to the workshop to share the national practice as well as to learn from the experience of developed European countries- such as Poland and Slovak Republic. International Experts invited from these two countries shared the EU Member States experience and knowledge on integration of refugees, existing procedures and rules, programs and policies. During the Workshop it was agreed that the SMS will handle challenges of Government recognized refugees on case by case basis, as and when required. It was also concluded that more work should be done in development of national integration strategy for the smooth integration of refugees in the country. 2. Following the Integration Workshop, UNHCR and ICMPD initiated analyses of the existing national practice on integration and develop a roadmap for integration of refugees in Azerbaijan. International Experts invited for this purpose were able to meet with all the relevant authorities and drafted an initial Roadmap which is being reviewed by UNHCR and ICMPD and will be discussed with the Government for follow up actions in the course of 2018. 3. Series of meetings were organized and number of publications were printed by Hayat International NGO in the framework of the project on Integration of Refugees and Stateless persons financed by the State Council in support to NGOs. All discussions were attended by UNHCR staff. Meetings were dedicated to issues like access to labour market, access to social rights, legal status of refugees in the country and other protection matters concerning refugees were touched upon during the public discussions which involved representatives of state and non-state institutions and business companies. The Project Coordinator is at the same time Chair of the Public Council at the State Migration Service, which empowers him to advocate the issues related to integration of refugees with the Governmental structures. UNHCR aims to coordinate all integration related matters and help to develop a united integration strategy where different institutions will complement the work of each other in the mentioned field. | |
| Output 1.1.2. Training capacities of the state institutions are strengthened to prepare qualified workforce for the non-oil sectors of economy | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1.1.1: Number of new training modules developed Indicator 1.1.2 Number of people (youth, women, people with disabilities) benefiting from training programmes | Baseline: 0 Baseline: 0 | Target: 5 (2020) Target: 250, with 40/60 sex ratio; with at least 80% under the age of 30, and at least 5% persons with disabilities (2020) | Project progress reports | achieved | 5 132 youth (55% women) 909 women | ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT (E4) PROJECT_Quarterly Progress Report_July – September 2017 QUARTERLY NARRATIVE REPORT-Enabling civil society to play a greater role in advancing gender equality and women's rights_July-September 2017 | Ganja Syslab Center trained 5 groups of unemployed youth, with total of 73 youth (68% female participation rate) Masalli Syslab Center trained 5 groups of unemployed youth, with total of 59 youth (39% female participation rate) • New Women Resource Centre was established in Salyan • 6 community projects implemented in Neftchala region • training on CV development, presentation, job searching, and communications skills, computer skills and accounting skills was conducted in Bilasuvar, Neftchala, Sabirabad and Masalli covering 909 • More than 100 women in Masalli and Bilasuvar participated at the Job Fair and nearly 20 persons (5 men) get employed. • Study tour for WRC coordinators and/or active WRC members to learn experiences on community-based women's was organized • 2 Booklets: Economic and Social Rights of Women in Azerbaijan and 10 paths to Economic Empowerment have been published. • a toolkit on monitoring fulfilment of obligations under CEDAW Convention and guidelines on preparing alternative CEDAW report were developed. • The modern tutorials and manuals purchased and handed over to the ATMU • The interactive multimedia application for guides prepared (for the establishment of the laboratory) • Pre-audit of the ATMU conducted by the consultant of the UNWTO Themis Foundation. The report was handed over to the ATMU | • Due to funds transfer delays from the Ministry, the study tour and trainings for ATMU staff will be conducted in 2018 |
| Output 1.1.3 Managerial capacities of state agencies supporting small and medium-sized businesses are improved | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1.2.1: Number of young people supported in business start-ups, disaggregated by sex | Baseline: 25 (of which 12% are young women) | Target: 40 with at least 25% women (2020) | Project progress reports | achieved | 78 youth (nearly 51% female) found employment; 48 women have started new businesses; | ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT (E4) PROJECT_Quarterly Progress Report_July – September 2017 QUARTERLY NARRATIVE REPORT-Enabling civil society to play a greater role in advancing gender equality and women's rights_July-September 2017 | 47 youth (64%) found employment during or immediately after Syslab trainings in Ganja, while 31 youth (53%) found employment during or immediately after Syslab trainings in Masalli. Thus, 59% (78 graduates out of 132) found jobs as the result of participation in Syslab methodology. In-kind contribution has been provided to 5 women in Neftchala, 9 women in Salyan, 7 women in Bilasuvar, 8 women in Sabirabad and 16 women in Masalli have started their businesses. | |
| Output 1.1.4. ICT infrastructure is further enhanced and expanded to remote and economically disadvantaged areas | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1.3.1: Number of people with access to upgraded broadband internet | Baseline: 0 | Target: 6,180,000 (2020) | Project progress reports | constrained | This component has been removed from project by decision of the Steering committee due to financial constraints. However UNDP continued its work in the area of IT and e-governance with Ministry . | | UNDP provided expertise support to the Government in planning and managing digital public services, effective investment conditions and special venture investment rules for the hi-tech sector and a knowledge-based and innovative Economy. 160 civil servants – 3 quarters from districts – know now about e-governance and e-participation. | |
| Output 1.1.5. Mine clearance and mine victim assistance programme are maintained to enhance economic activity on the conflict-affected territories of Azerbaijan | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1.4.1: Number of mine victims with improved livelihoods | Baseline: 0 | Target: 100 (2020) | Project progress reports | constrained | no data available | | 92 843 672 sqm of contaminated land cleared (35 117 UXO, 204 anti-tank and 35 anti-personnel mines have been found and destroyed). This year equipment for maintenance and implementation of the demining operations and UXO clearance is partially upgraded UNDP takes its capacity building support to ANAMA into new stage by providing networking and certification support to promote it as an International Mine Action Centre. | The component on mine victims assistance was stopped due to constraints in transfer of funds to local NGOs and lack of funding. |
| 1.1.6. Improved implementation of policies and programmes promoting Decent Work for young men and women in Azerbaijan | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| ILO | 1) Number of national policies, programmes and initiatives on youth employment reviewed, adjusted or revised to take into account ILO methodology and international best practice 2) Number of PES staff trained 3) New programmes targeting youth introduced with the ILO support (activity 1.1.6.3 - subject to a pilot new programme) 4) Number of young people (disaggregated by sex) who obtained a positive result (employment, further education/training) as a result of the measures developed with the ILO support (1.1.6.4)- 5) Number of State Labour Inspection Service staff trained (activity 1.1.6.5) ; 6) One national event conducted in 2017 to strengthen capacities of relevant staff for further development of national mechanisms for formalization of economy (activity 1.1.6.6) | 1) Baseline: approx 80 persons in 2016 in all the regions 2) Baseline: 1 programme (entrepreneurship) in 2016 3) Baseline: 4) Baseline: 5) Baseline: 6) Baseline | 1) Target: NES adopted 2) Target min 160 persons covering all the country regions; 3) Target: 1 more programme institutionalized ; 4) Target: 80% of those who participated in the piloting programme (based on the monitoring results) ; 5) Target: 6) Target: one event | Progress reports | partially achieved? | 1) National OSH Strategy fully in line with the ILO Conventions N 155 and 187 ;National Employment Strategy is fully agreed with all stakeholders; 27 consultation were held with the ILO tripartite constituents held to support the development of the NES . 2) 240 staff members fully equipped with skills for preparing and implementing Active Labour Market Programs (ALMP) 3) 4) 5) 6) | Minutes of consultations; Reports on trainings | National Employment Strategy final draft submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers; Public Employment Service is implementing the Active Labour Market Programs Work compliance training held for social partners to increase their role in preparing and implementing National OSH Policy | | |
| Output 1.1.7 Increased productivity of the local caucasian honeybees and improved capacity of beekeepers to produce more honey from each beehive | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | The income of beekeepers improved by at least 10% through changes that will be adopted in their bee farm management | 0% | 10% (2017) | Mission and training reports, Statistics | partially achieved | 5% | Mission and training reports, Statistics | 46 beekeepers of Ganja Apiculture Center and Beekeepers Association were trained on Bees Artificial Insemination and Bee Diseases "Beekeeping for beginners" and "Queen Bees rearing" manuals were published and disseminated to the beekeepers, Ministry of Agriculture, Apiculture Center and Beekeepers Association Increase in income of beekeepers will be estimated in August 2018. However, it was higher for 3,5% in 2016 compared to 2015 figures. | The seasonality of bee lifecycle and the delays in implementing certain activities result in a missed window of opportunity for long periods of time <i>Note: the results of this indicator based on project achievements should be measured in upcoming years.</i> | |
| Output 1.1.8 Improved legal basis and organic agriculture management followed by enhanced food security, rural development, sustainable livelihoods and environmental integrity through trainings, transfer of modern and conventional approaches as well as networking | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | National strategy document on adoption and promotion of organic agriculture is developed Institutional framework and certification system in place and applied in the project districts No of trainings on organic agriculture | 0 0% 0 | 1 (2017-2018) 100% (2017-2018) 5(2017-2018) | BTORs, project progress reports | partially achieved | 0.7 (In progress) 80% (In progress) 4 | Back to Office Reports (BTORs), training/study tour reports, inspection and certification documents | The National Strategy document is planned to be finalized in early 2018 Certification system is designed and submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and relevant stakeholders 4 capacity building exercises: - consultation meetings - training of organic agriculture inspectors (18) - 1 study tour of 3 Government staff members to Turkey - Turkish experience on organic agriculture was shared; - conference on organic pomegranate in Goychay | - Legislation on organic agriculture to be sent to Cabinet of Ministers. Full achievement of the output depends on the endorsement and adoption of the new Law and appointment of the Responsible Entity. - The overlaps in the division of tasks and responsibilities between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry Ecology and Natural Resources in this area have resulted in challenges - More awareness raising for the general public is needed <i>Note: The non-cost extension of the project to complete the activities is applied - the expected new NTE of the project: 30 April 2018.</i> | |
| Output 1.1.9 Improved legislation and strengthened institutional and technical capacities of the national counterparts in variety testing, registration and protection and in seed quality control and certification | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | Laws and regulations are in line with the internationally accepted procedures and standards, seed sector strengthened Production of certified seeds increased by 20-30% | 0% 0% | 100%; (2017) 20% (2017) | Seed laws and regulations Seed production data Catalogue of varieties | achieved | 100% 20% | BTORs, "Report on the status of the seed sector", amended legislation, regulations prepared | - Seed Law and Plant Variety Protection Law were prepared and submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers for further procedure; - Regulation on seed quality control and certification and Regulation on testing were prepared and agreed with the Ministry of Agriculture; - 57 seed specialists and technicians trained on testing, registration and protection of plant varieties - 50 seed specialists trained on internationally accepted seed testing and certification procedures and rules - Production of the certified seed will be achieved in the coming years once the system is fully functional | There were no major issues during achievement of the output. Challenges might occur during the enforcement of the new legislative system. Therefore, the Ministry of Agriculture needs to follow up to further streamlining, if needed. | |
| Output 1.1.10 Enhanced food security, rural development, sustainable livelihoods and environmental integrity achieved by building capacities of the national counterparts in breed development and modern farming techniques | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | AI Centre is well functioning Inseminators are properly trained and farmers have confidence in the use of artificial insemination or are more aware of the need for breed improvement | 0% 0 | 100% (2017) 40 (2017) | Monitoring reports and data recording | achieved achieved | 100% 37 | Registration Forms, Certificates, Progress Reports | - The AI Center is functioning; inseminators are properly trained, farmers are more aware of the benefit for breed and improved confidence in the use of artificial insemination - 7 training sessions (5 full days each) on Artificial Insemination were carried out for 35 inseminators. A Training Guide was developed and printed to help the trainers in implementation of the courses. Moreover, 2 staff members of AI Center traveled to Izmir for 2 weeks study tour on AI practices. | AI Center in Goygol district is well-functioning, but there is a great need to establish a management system of the whole Center including the Lab as well as continued technical capacity development for the staff and AI inseminators. There will be a follow up project funded by FAO-Azerbaijan Partnership Program for further strengthening of the Center including semen production and embryo transfer. | |
| Output 1.1.11 Preparation of a national strategy for land consolidation and an increased capacity to design and implement modern land consolidation projects | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | No land consolidation programme in place (0) No National Strategy for Land Consolidation (0) Lack of capacity to design and implement modern LC (0 capacity building activities) | (0) (0) (0 capacity building activities) | Land consolidation conducted in pilot area (1) National strategy for land consolidation drafted (1) National capacity increased (9 capacity building activities) | BTORs, progress and mission reports | no progress no progress partially achieved | 0 0 3 | BTORs, progress and mission reports, landownership maps and re-allotment plans, created database | This target achievement depends on the completion of the below and implementation of the community development plan. Preparatory work to formulate the National Strategy for Land Consolidation is underway: - survey of 600 landowners for the identification of the needs, gaps, proposals; - preparation of land ownership map; - preparation of Community Development Plan and further interconnection with the land re-allotment planning. Stakeholder awareness raised through Training seminar; 60 landowners gained knowledge on land consolidation through Community Development Workshop 15 landowners participated in the Exchange Visit to Turkey for experience gaining and advocacy | Convincing farmers was challenge due to lack of knowledge as well as credibility of population about the land consolidation . This was expected. The very objective of the project is to make this transformational change in mind sets and land use systems. | |
| Strategic Priority Area 2 Strengthening institutional capacities and effective public and social services | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 2.1 By 2020, Azerbaijan has enhanced institutional capacities for transparent, evidence-based and gender-responsive policy formulation and implementation | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|--------------------|--|--|---|--|--|---------|
| UNDP,UNICEF,UNFPA, UNHCR,OHCHR, WHO,ILO, UNODC,UNECE, WB, IOM | 1) New sex-disaggregated indicators aimed at supporting the development of informed policies are incorporated into the national statistical databank 2) Human Development Index 3) Gender Inequality Index 4) Government effectiveness estimate 5) Networked readiness index | 1) 257 (2013); 2) 0.747 (2013); 3)0.340 (2013); 4) -0.78 (2012); 5) 4.31 (2014); | 1) 280 2) 0.750 3) 0.325 (2020) 4) -0.5 (2020) 5) 4.7 | 1)State Statistical Committee 2)UNDP 3)UNDP 4)World Bank 5)UNDP | | 1)310 (2017) 2)0.759 (2016) 3) 0.326 (2016) 4)-0.16 (2016) 5)4.3 (2016) | 1)State Statistical Committee 2)UNDP 3)UNDP 4)World Bank 5)World Economic Reform | | | | |
| Output 2.1.1 Government and other actors are formulating and implementing evidence-based equitable state policies, programmes and budgets | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNICEF | EMIS is updated to include data from all districts disaggregated by age, sex and disability. | EMIS does not include such data. | EMIS does include disaggregated data (2020) | | no progress | | | | implementation was postponed until 2018 | | |
| UNICEF | # of evidence based reports that include disaggregated data by gender, age, location and disability status of children generated by the SSC, MoE and SCFWCA. | 0 (2015) | 5 (2020) Target: 2 by end 2017 | Reports generated | Achieved | 2 | The SSC, MoE and SCFWCA | With the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs, UNICEF Azerbaijan and UNICEF Georgia conducted a qualitative study on street children. A second round of a Child Deprivation Study was conducted jointly with the State Statistical Committee and comprehensive comparative analysis of both first and second surveys will now be made. A Child Functionality Measurement was adapted to the local context and will be implemented early next year. | High number of data collection activities in 2017 resulted in delay of fieldwork of some studies subsequently delaying overall timeline of studies. | | |
| UNICEF | A central comprehensive database on all children is in place | Database not available (2015) | Available (2018) | Central Child DataBank | Partially achieved | Database generated data on 1.7 million children only. Currently we work with the committee to develop services | SCFWCA | The number of children's records entered into the National Centralized Child Databank has increased to 1.7 million and currently UNICEF is providing technical support for relevant parties so data is automatically synchronized with the Child Databank. | The SCFWCA needs additional human and financial resource to maintain physical servers and dedicated staff for keeping databases running. | | |
| UNHCR | Detailed statistical reports are available on economic and social situations of refugees and stateless persons. | Baseline: not available; | Target: available by end 2017 | | Partially achieved | Available on refugees | UNCHR database | Since 2017 UNHCR has changed its Cash Based Intervention modality according to which precise data on socio-economic situation of refugee households in Azerbaijan was made available. Social workers regularly collect data on socio-economic situation of refugees based on pre-defined questionnaires uploaded o gadgets, The data is further being analysed through an automated system to define vulnerability of refugee households. | | | |
| | Assistance programmes for IDPs are implemented through verifiable, detailed and transparent criteria taking into primary consideration vulnerability and needs | | | | Partially achieved | Available for Jojug Marjanli village | AGDM Participatory Assessment | The office carried out AGDM Participatory Assessment in Jojug Marjanli to identify and address gaps in protection and assistance, ensure that the voice of IDPs of all ages, genders and diversity groups is heard and advocate for a more rights-based and targeted approach to assistance provision. This principle also applied when providing legal assistance and SGBV awareness sessions, as well as during Vision Aid Mission of Fuji Optical for distribution of eye glasses. | | | |
| | An integration plan exists for refugees and stateless persons. Baseline: not available; Target: available by end 2017 | | | | | no progress | Not available | Public Council under SMS | Draft integration plan was elaborated by the inter-agency task force on integration. It was not finalized and made public by the end of 2017 | | |
| Output 2.1.2 National, regional and international migration and border management capabilities are enhanced to combat human trafficking and ensure protection of trafficked persons as well as persons involved in migration | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IOM | New and innovative migration management e-Services available | No | Yes, 2018 | Project reports | Partially achieved | Foundation of the actual work has been completed constituting 75% of total work, nevertheless 25% is technical and bears more of a financial burden. | Project report, trianing manual, meeting minutes, project activity write up | Approval of the counter trafficking manual framework by the Government. Identification of the participating government agencies in the trainings. Started school awareness seminars on counter trafficking in schools. Conducted five day comprehensive review of counter trafficking manual for Nakchivan Police. Update on activities: Developed the consular manual framework - currently the manual is being drafted Conducted a consular workshop on counter trafficking where 13 embassy representatives participated. These include embassy from US, Switzerland, Netherlands, Germany, Belarus, Mexico, Korea, Georgia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Iraq and Palestine . Organized World Day Against Trafficking in Person (WDaTIP) with the Government of Azerbaijan and US Government from July 27-July 30 where more than 100 participants attended the event in Ganja. Public event to mark the WDaTIP was held in Baku and Ganja. Organized EU anti-Trafficking day on Oct 18. This event brought together multi-disciplinary stakeholders on the efforts to discuss about the prevention and fight against this crime as well as provide adequate information on protection and assistance to the victims. It was attended by 100 officials from | | | |
| | Combating Human Trafficking: What Diplomats Should Know and Do Manual | Not available | Available, 2018 | | Partially achieved | | | | | | |
| | Geographical coverage of available capacity building opportunities in countering irregular migration, in particular combating trafficking in persons, through institutionalized training programmes in relevant State agencies' training programmes. | limited | Whole of country, 2018 | | Partially achieved | | | | | | calibri |
| Output 2.1.3 Institutional set-up and capacity development is provided for preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural policies and programs | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | Existence of a monitoring and evaluation system for agricultural policies and programs | There are no analytical tools available to design, monitor and to evaluate agricultural policies as a whole. The partial tools employed either ignore vertical or horizontal linkages or both. (0%) | CountryStat established to streamline the collection and dissemination of data (100%) (2017) | Project reports Workshop Reports Web-based IT system (countrystat) | Achieved | 100% | Web site for CountrySTAT Azerbaijan platform Registration Form, BTORs | CountrySTAT- Azerbaijan platform (http://azerbaijan.countrystat.org/) was officially launched and presented to national authorities, regional and international organizations, development partners and national institutions 30 staff from the Analytical & Statistics Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture, State Statistics Committee and the relevant institutions were trained on monitoring, evaluation and modelling in agriculture, presenting the most commonly used models (CAPRI, PSE, AGMEMOD) Note: A second stage of capacity development is planned to be organized in early 2018 | | | |
| | National capacities increased to monitor and evaluate agricultural policies and programs | National capacities increased to monitor and evaluate agricultural policies and programs 0% | National capacities increased to monitor and evaluate agricultural policies and programs (100%) | | Partially achieved | 50% | | | Coordination of multiple stakeholders has been challenging. A higher level commitment to the utilization of CountrySTAT platform would ensure more effective and sustainable usage of the system. | | |
| Output 2.1.4 National institutional capacities are strengthened for formulation and implementation of transparent and rights-based policies that integrate evidence on population dynamics and its inter-linkages with sexual and reproductive health and rights | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNFPA | Number of qualitative and quantitative reports and surveys on population dynamics and its inter-linkages with sexual and reproductive health and rights developed with advocacy/technical support from UNFPA with particular focus on the vulnerable populations. | Baseline: 17 | Target: 27 (+10 new for 2016-2020) Target: +2 new (for 2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | Achieved | 2 | Related contract documents, study questionnaires | Taking into account that the dynamics of gender relations in Azerbaijan has long been among the issues overlooked while developing policies and programs on SRHR, UNFPA Azerbaijan CO initiated the quantitative and qualitative research to inform and support advocacy for advancing sexual and reproductive rights and gender equality, and combat the harmful practices of gender-biased sex selection, as mentioned elsewhere in this report. The IMAGES (International Men and Gender Equality Survey) report was finalized and translated into Azerbaijani in 2017. Publication and launch of the report is scheduled for 2018; UNFPA CO provided support to the Government in producing a solid population projection by economic regions of Azerbaijan until 2050. The main objective was to contribute to the efforts of the government to ensure proper planning, formulation and implementation of population-oriented social and economic policies and programs in the country | Although the government of Azerbaijan demonstrates the growing attention to the population-related issues, more efforts should be applied with regards to the activities aimed at sensitization and improving awareness of government officials, decision makers and influential on population dynamics and its inter-linkages with gender equality, sexual and reproductive health. It is also indispensable in placing population concerns into development agendas. | | |
| UNFPA | Number of new age and sex-disaggregated indicators are incorporated into the publicly accessible national statistical databank to guide the development of policies on population dynamics. | Baseline: 257 | Target: 307 (+50 new for 2016-2020) Target: +10 new (for 2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | Achieved | 19 | "Men and Women in Azerbaijan, 2017", SSC's webpage | As countries and organizations embark on implementing the ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, reliable and timely statistics and indicators are more important than ever. In 2017, UNFPA supported the Government to enhance the population data-bank through further improving the availability of disaggregated data and facilitating the expansion of population and development indicators. 19 new sex-disaggregated indicators were developed and further integrated in the national population databank. | One of the major facilitating factors to UNFPA interventions in the field was the awareness of the Government on the importance of data in national development planning and, thus, taking up a considerable number of initiatives to improve the coverage and quality of data. However, the Government needs support from its development partners to strengthen national capability to handle all aspects of data collection, processing and analysis and data dissemination | | |

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| UNFPA | Number of advocacy events for strengthened national statistical system in a capacity to generate, analyse and use disaggregated population data. | Baseline: 100 | Target: 200 (+100 new for 2016-2020) Target: +20 new (for 2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | partially achieved | 10 | Minutes of the meetings | UNFPA continued its efforts in advocating for strengthening country's capacity to improve availability and reliability of population data disaggregated by sex, age and region as well as generating knowledge for evidence-based advocacy and policymaking throughout the reporting period. To promote further evidence-based policy, advocacy and decision making, UNFPA has been continuously deepening and expanding partnership and collaboration with the State Statistics Committee, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population and other line national counterparts in this arena. | Over the last decade, Azerbaijan has made demonstrable progress in obtaining a reliable data through censuses, demographic and thematic surveys and administrative registers, such as birth and death recording systems. Yet, much remains to be done to analyze and utilize the data collected in a way that fosters sound, evidence-based policymaking. |
| Output 2.1.5. Institutional capacities are strengthened to train civil servants in various dimensions of policy formulation, implementation and monitoring | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 2.1.1: Existence of a dedicated training centre for civil servants | Baseline: None | Target: Training Centre is fully operational (2020) | Donor reports | Achieved | Training Centre is fully operational | Evaluation report "Support to the Civil Service Training in the Republic of Azerbaijan" FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT "Support to the civil service training in the Republic of Azerbaijan" | Over 500 civil servants are now trained in modern public administration at the Academy of Public Administration in a multitude of topics such as strategic management, decision-making, leadership skills, monitoring and evaluation, SDGs etc | |
| Output 2.1.6. Measures are implemented to strengthen national institutions and systems to formulate, implement and monitor gender-sensitive programmes and policies | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 2.2.2: Number of new state programmes, strategies and plans using sex-disaggregated indicators and gender-sensitive approaches | Baseline: 0 | Target: 4 (2020) | UNDP reports | partially achieved | data is not available | SDG monitoring_Final report | UNDP provided technical support to strengthen national capacities for producing SDG data, including gender-disaggregated indicators. The conceptual framework and format of the National Informational Portal on SDGs indicators was established. The official presentation of the Portal is planned to be launched in January 2018. | |
| Output 2.1.7. National capacities are built for greater effectiveness and improved data availability for the implementation of labour and social protection policies | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP, ILO | 1) Existence of a single management information system (MIS) 2) New databases on vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities, unemployed) | 1) None 2) Paper-based and scattered data available | 1) MIS is fully operational (2020) 2) Databases are computerised and data exchanges enabled (2020) | Donor reports | partially achieved | no data available | | ILO and UNDP has signed a letter of Intent with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population to expand a self-employment programme, national employment strategy and capacity development which is expected to benefit over 7,000 families. | |
| Output 2.1.8. Institutional capacities for implementation of the integrated border management policies are in place | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 2.4.1: Integrated border management strategy in place Indicator 2.4.2: Extent to which capacities of laboratory testing compliance of food products with safety standards are improved | Baseline: None Baseline: 3 | Target: Strategy exists (2020) Target: 4 (2020) | Donor reports | Achieved Achieved | -Operational capacities of border agencies of Azerbaijan and Georgia are improved through organizing and carrying out coordinated operations at green border; - EU standard laboratory sampling equipment permitting Azerbaijan SCC to efficiently collect and store SPS samples to be verified in central laboratories procured and installed; Trraining on use of new sampling equipment at BCP organised; National and bilateral trainings programmes on general SPS control Checks at EU Border Inspections Posts; on Phyto-sanitary Issues, Veterinary and Food Safety controls delivered; | Progress Report-Better Coordination of Protection of Land Border Between Georgia and Azerbaijan Final Progress Report "Support to the Development of Red Bridge Border Crossing Point between Azerbaijan and Georgia" | UNDP also facilitated a coordination mechanism between border agencies of Georgia and Azerbaijan and an Agreement on Border Delegates, which is awaiting endorsement. 170 staff of border authorities and custom specialists are now trained on border protection issues and sanitary, phytosanitary, veterinary and food safety controls. SPS facilities and equipment are in place. | |
| Output 2.1.9. Azerbaijan's institutions are enabled to provide knowledge services to other developing countries | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 2.5.1 Number of countries that benefited from the knowledge services | Baseline: 2 | Target: 5 (2020) | | partially achieved | 1 (2017) | | Azerbaijan's set of successful reforms in the national pension security area are of great interest to the Extra-Budgetary Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance of Uzbekistan. UNDP Azerbaijan has received request from UNDP Uzbekistan to organize a study tour for delegation from the Extra-Budgetary Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance of Uzbekistan to Azerbaijan. Delegation of ten senior/leading experts from the Fund headed by Executive Director visited Baku on 05-12 October 2017. They have familiarized with Azerbaijani experience in pension system, reforms and application of modern econometric modelling tools in forecasting the revenues and expenditures of the Fund's resources. Special attention was made to the coverage and quality of provision of pensions, services, instruments of personification in pension granting and mechanisms of payments and coordination. | |
| Outcome 2.2 By 2020, Azerbaijan has made progress in line with international human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review and other treaty obligations, and has strengthened capacities for implementation, monitoring and reporting aligned with international standards | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1) Number of the implemented recommendations issued by Human Rights Treaty Bodies. 2) Number of submissions to the Human Rights treaty bodies from the Government, civil society organisations and the UN agencies. 3) Existing foreign worker recruitment processes are in line with the international standards and norms, including the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS). | 1) Recommendations partially implemented under CRC 2012, UPR 2013, CMW 2013, CESCR 2013, CEDAW 2015 2) 0 (2016); 3) no; | 1) 30% of recommendations substantially implemented by 2020 2) Target: TBD (CEDAW 2017; UPR 2018; CRC 2018; CMW 2018; CESCR 2018) 3) yes | 1) UNCT 2) UNCT 3) IOM | | | | | |
| Output 2.2.1: The situation of child rights in line with CRC, CEDAW and UPR recommendations is being independently monitored by State and non-State institutions | | | | | | | | | |
| UNICEF | National child rights monitoring mechanism is available and functional | CRM mechanism is not available (2015) | CRM mechanism is available (2020) | | constrained | With request of partner activity was postponed to 2018, however we supported National Preventive Group activities that contributes to this indicator | Ombudsman | The capacity of the National Preventive Group (NPG) was improved through practical and theoretical training, tools and methodologies provided by UNICEF international experts to better identify and prevent child rights violations. Monitoring of detention centres and child care institutions to identify violations of child rights continued together with the NPG under the Office of the Ombudsperson. A Management Information System (MIS) was developed for the NPG with the technical support of UNICEF, to enable better data collection, analysis and management. Currently all monitoring visits, hotline calls and complaints of the children are managed through the MIS. The capacity of all relevant government partners responsible for preparing report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child was strengthened through technical support from international experts, who provided tools and guidance for drafting the reports and will later review the draft submissions. | NPG needs additional human resource dedicated to children issues specifically. Currently small NPG group is responsible not only for the cases of children, but adults as well. |

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| UNICEF | National electronic case-management and referral system is functional. | Case management system is not available (2015) | Case management system is available (2018) | Case management system of the SCFWCA | partially achieved | Case management system is currently being tested in one of the committee centres | | A country Management Information System with Development Assessment Tool (SIB-R) component was established for the first time for the Children and Family Support Centres of the State Committee for Family, Women and Children's Affairs with UNICEF support. The MIS helps to provide real-time progress reports on each child registered in the centres, manage and track cases of children as well as generate reports on their status. Currently the MIS is being tested in one of the centres and will later roll out in all 11 centres across the country. | |
| UNICEF | # of non-State institutions improved skills to analyse primary and secondary data to monitor child rights situation in the country | 0 (2015) | 2 (2020) | Report of the child deprivation study | Partially achieved | 1 | | UNICEF CO will support the SSC in analysis of deprivation study that will develop their capacity. ToR is advertised after consultant is hired s/he will work with the SSC to analyze collected data | |
| Output 2.2.2 The situation of persons of concern to UNHCR (refugees, IDPs and stateless persons) is conform to international standards and state international obligations, and it is being independently monitored by State, non-State and international institutions | | | | | | | | | |
| UNHCR | UNHCR and national monitoring mechanisms are in place and independently operating. | UNHCR exercises fully and freely its Mandate, limited national mechanisms are in place (2016) | National RSD mechanisms are monitored fully (2020) | | Achieved | UNHCR is able to monitor borders, detention centres and has access to national asylum procedures. | Official correspondence between UNHCR and the Government of Azerbaijan. PIB notes of QJEE project. Individual monitoring forms filled as a result of direct monitoring. | Advocacy for amendments to Refugee legislation, including the adoption of complimentary protection was intensified in 2017 through direct engagement of high level consultations. UNHCR was invited by the CoM to present the legal amendments in order to reach consensus within government departments. UNHCR conducted joint border monitoring mission to the border regions and conducted targeted trainings on asylum referral procedure. UNHCR had access to the asylum files at the SMS premises and monitored implementation of the asylum procedure. UNHCR conducted capacity building activities through national and regional trainings and exchange of experiences for the national asylum border and law enforcement authorities, as well as for the judiciary dealing with the asylum cases. UNHCR had access to detained asylum seekers and refugees and was able to conduct eligibility as well as registration interviews with detainees. UNHCR was also able to conduct asylum interviews with the detained asylum seekers jointly with the RSDD of SMS. Update on activities: Capacity of the Government is developed to identify and eradicate incidents of statelessness in the country: UNHCR invited international consultant to facilitate the seminar on how to identify stateless persons during 2019 census UNHCR initiated a three months project to identify gaps in national legislation and practice pertaining the statelessness. National consultant was contracted to conduct the analyses and prepare the recommendations. Initial draft of the report is being reviewed by the Office and will be discussed with the Government for follow up actions. UNHCR compliments extensive Government support to IDPs and advocates for unmet needs: 1. UNHCR identified IDP families displaced due to escalation of fighting between Armenian and Azerbaijani armed forces in April 2016 for providing them with cash-based assistance. Cash assistance in the amount of 250 AZN (157 USD) per family provided in July 2016 covered 70 IDP families (313 individuals). And the one in the amount of 400 AZN (241 USD) in November covered 72 families (278 individuals). 2. UNHCR provided legal assistance and counselling to 3,768 IDPs through the contracted agency based in Baku, Sumgayit and Fizuli. UNHCR also implements project on Sexual and Gender Based Violence through awareness raising among 3000 IDPs and establishment of support networks (state agencies and NGOs) in Baku, Mingachevir, Ganja and Goranboy. 3. Vision Aid Mission of Fuji Optical took place for the 13th year, during which the Fuji Optical team screened 2,900 IDPs and distributed 2,400 pairs of eye glasses. 4. UNHCR carried out Participatory Assessment among IDPs returned to Jojug Marjanli village to identify the needs. The outcomes of the PA will be shared with the Government and respective advocacy efforts will be mobilized for meeting those needs | |
| Output 2.2.3 Participatory mechanism for integrated reporting and implementation of the recommendations of the UN HR Bodies is in place | | | | | | | | | |
| OHCHR | Training programme and curriculum is available and increased number of submissions of the national stakeholders | None | Increased visibility of and accessibility to the UN HR mechanisms by 2020 | Reports and submissions available on the specialized web resources | achieved | By October 2017, UNCT Azerbaijan joint submission was prepared and submitted for the third cycle review of Azerbaijan under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council which will take place during 30th UPR session in 2018. | OHCHR webpage, UPR-specialized websites; annual activity reports | In October 2017, UNCT Azerbaijan joint submission was prepared and submitted for the third cycle review of Azerbaijan under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council which will take place during 30th UPR session in 2018. In 2017, OHCHR organized a number of focus-group discussions with the members of national CSO and lawyers' community to enhance their awareness of UN human rights instruments and mechanisms and encourage them to engage with such mechanisms. Overall, around 30 members of national CSOs and lawyers' community took part in focus-group discussions. The participants of focus-group discussions included chairpersons of eight national CSOs which are mainly specialized in promoting and protecting the rights of the members of vulnerable groups, including PWDs, persons with IDP and refugee background, women and children in vulnerable situation, elderly, etc. Through focus-group discussions, OHCHR introduced the members of national CSOs and lawyers' community to UN human rights instruments and mechanisms, in particular to UN Treaties such as ICESCR and CRPD and respective Treaty Bodies. Elaborating on a key role of civil society in better informing the recommendations and decisions of the UN Treaty Bodies, the focus-group discussions provided the participants with practical information and guidance necessary for their engagement in national submissions on the progress made in implementation of the Treaties ratified by Azerbaijan. Due to financial constraints, both training programme and curriculum development have been postponed for 2018. | N/A |
| Output 2.2.4 Use of national protection systems by vulnerable groups (especially, persons with disabilities), as well as their awareness of their rights and of how to redress violations effectively is increased | | | | | | | | | |
| OHCHR | Free legal services for members of the vulnerable groups, especially PWD and those residing in remote areas of Azerbaijan are available | None | Target: increased availability and accessibility of legal services for vulnerable groups by 2020 | Case management and applicant registry system of applicants | Achieved | Against zero baseline indicator, 121 applicants, including 60 women and 61 men from vulnerable groups benefited from free legal services on a broad range of legal issues (Among 121 applicants, 43 persons were PWD and 78 persons mostly consisted of persons with low-income, persons with IDP and refugee backgrounds, pensioners and unemployed persons). | Annual activity report; filled in case management tool and applicant registry system of applicants; Legal service delivery acts. | In 2017, OHCHR established the Resource Center which provided free legal aid services to the members of vulnerable groups, including PWD and those residing in remote areas of Azerbaijan or having limited mobility, and made them more aware of their rights and on how to redress violations effectively. Apart from free legal services rendered in Baku, OHCHR, in co-operation with the regional branches of the National Human Rights Institution (Ombudsperson) of the Republic of Azerbaijan, provided on-site free legal services to those vulnerable groups members living in the regions, namely in Guba, Ganja and Jalilabad regions and in surrounding districts. Solving the legal issues of the applicants to the maximum possible extent, the rendered free legal services contributed significantly to lifting barriers faced by member of vulnerable groups in realizing their social security rights, labour rights, property and housing rights, consumer rights, etc. As to its contribution to the Outcome 2.2, promoting and increasing, in line with international human rights standards, the use of national human rights protection systems for national actors, specifically for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups is one of the key provisions specified in international human rights standards. Expanding access to justice for members of vulnerable groups is essential for realization of both human rights of vulnerable groups and also obligations undertaken under international human rights mechanisms. | N/A |
| Output 2.2.5 Strengthened legal and policy frameworks to deliver integrated sexual and reproductive health services, with focus on adolescents, youth and vulnerable groups | | | | | | | | | |
| UNFPA | Number of advocacy events with state and non-state actors to improve the institutional framework for the newly adopted protocols for family planning services. | Baseline: 0 | Target: 12 (2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | partially achieved | 10 | UNFPA records, COAR | The up-stream work of UNFPA necessitated a high-level advocacy events for operationalizing family planning concept in the country. The protocols on family planning were developed with the support of the Public Health and Reforms Center of the Ministry of Health. The UNFPA CO and the Ministry of Health co-organized 12 awareness raising campaigns in the course of 2017 to advocate for family planning services in Azerbaijan. It was stated that the linkages between safe motherhood and family planning were evident and, despite significant progress in decreasing maternal mortality in the country, the family planning programme could have sustainably contributed to even more significant reduction of MMR. The media representatives participated to the series of events in 2017. | The government of Azerbaijan still reserves its commitment to the family planning issues in the country. The reasons are: politicization of contraceptive usage due to the myths of decreasing number of population in the country; financial interests of duty bearers in abortions (out-of-pocket money). The second reason is more exponential: the health care providers do not want to loose the client for 3-5 years in case of proposing them IUD - the same client applies 2-3 times a year for abortion bringing financial incentive to the doctor. |
| UNFPA | New national comprehensive sexuality education curriculum aligned with international standards is developed with UNFPA support. | Baseline: No | Target: Yes (for 2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | Achieved | Yes | Records of the Ministry of Education | In the course of 2017 UNFPA jointly with the Ministry of Education and Public Health and Reforms Center continued its work on aligning the CSE plan with secondary schools' curricula. The subject "Healthy Life Style" was proposed in new curriculum as a non-mandatory course for 6-9 grades. The pilot schools were covered with the curriculum. The training was held for teachers, parents and community leaders. | The CSE programme met some impediments from civil society and faith-based community. The reproductive health concept of the programme was heavily opposed by parental society and teachers. At the end, it was decided to rename the programme to "Healthy Life Style" and make it non-mandatory subject. |
| UNFPA | % of regions that have capacity to implement MISP at the onset of crisis. | Baseline: 15% (2017) | Target: 40% (2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | Achieved | 50% | Ministry of Health reports | The MISP was implemented in 50% of all territory of Azerbaijan. The MISP kits were delivered to the country and used during training sessions. The tripartite agreement between the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Ministry of Emergencies was co-signed in March 2017. The MISP training was facilitated by the experts from Public Health and Reforms Center (Ministry of Health). | The implementation of MISP required solid sector-wide approach. The coordination was a challenge due to the leadership / stewardship issues. Finally it was decided to use the Ministry of Health as a coordination body for this exercise. |
| Output 2.2.6 Strengthened national institutional capacities for design and implementation of evidence-based policies to advance gender equality and reproductive rights | | | | | | | | | |

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| UNFPA | Number of surveys on gender based violence and harmful practices is conducted with advocacy/technical support from UNFPA and results disseminated for policy making on gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights. | Baseline: 8 (2015) | Target: 13 (+5 new for 2016-2020) Target: +1 new (for 2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | Achieved | 1 | Related contract documents, study questionnaires | The nationally representative survey on GBV prevalence rates and women's coping strategies was held. The data collection has been finalized towards the end of the year and the analysis of the findings as well as the related advocacy action is scheduled for 2018. The research is the first study on GBV prevalence rates following the adoption of the Law on Prevention of DV (2010). | Reduction of a significant amount of USAID funding to support the strategic interventions on GBV prevention and support. The participatory process and institutionalization of the knowledge and skills are the most crucial factors for success with particular emphasis on the health sector. These efforts should be accompanied by the large scale sensitization campaigns. The issue of availability of reliable and representative data on GBV should also be given a priority. |
| UNFPA | Number of advocacy events with state and non-state actors for institutionalisation of the protocols and standards that integrate gender-based violence prevention, protection and response | Baseline: No | Target: Yes (for 2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | Achieved | yes | Related contract documents, media products /links | The advocacy efforts have mainly capitalised on the issues on gender equality and GBV prevention and response. Expert support was provided to the Government for drafting the National Action Plan on Gender Equality. The international expert support was provided for the analysis of national GBV legislation to identify the provisions that need revision. Series of recommendations (16 specific recommendations to amend the related legal acts and 18 recommendations related to practical arrangements as regards protection measures) were drafted and shared with the Government for further action. Alongside this, the National Action Plan on GBV prevention and response was updated and the guidelines for interagency coordination and monitoring mechanism on GBV prevention and response were drafted by the team of international and local legal experts. Both documents were officially submitted to the Government for further action and endorsement. | The limited numbers of the civil society actors working solely on the issues of reproductive health and rights and gender based discrimination are very limited and their capacities to boost the effective advocacy campaign in the country are underdeveloped. The attitudinal barriers regarding the issues of GBV also persist. The situation is further complicated by the lack of common understanding on the issues concerned between the major actors in the field including the Government and civil society. The active engagement of the NGOs is further complicated by marked deterioration in the sustainability of CSOs in Azerbaijan following several years of relative stability. |
| UNFPA | A functional tracking and reporting system for monitoring implementation of recommendations and obligations on sexual and reproductive health and rights issued by the human rights treaty bodies is in place | Baseline: No | Target: Yes (for 2017) | UNFPA Programme Reports | achieved | yes | Related contract documents | Series of trainings were held for the representatives of the Government agencies and civil society actors for effectively tracking and monitoring the status of implementation of SRHR related recommendations of the human rights treaty bodies. | More efforts should also be directed towards advocacy and awareness raising on the issues of SRHR with particular emphasis on human rights language through active engagement of civil society actors. To back up this initiative, the capacity building events should also target the local NGOs to boost their potential to lead more coordinated work on the subject matter. It should also be kept in mind that accountability is an integral component at every stage of a human rights-based approach which is inclusive of meaningful participation of all affected populations and civil society organizations at all levels of decision-making, implementation and monitoring of SRHR policies and programmes. |
| Output 2.2.7 Enhancement of judicial capacity to better prosecute human trafficking cases and protect the rights of victims and potential victims of human trafficking in accordance to the international practices | | | | | | | | | |
| IOM | Increased convictions by the judiciary, improved treatment towards VoTs by the judiciary. | Baseline: 171 (in 2015). | 5% Increase (by 2018) | Project Reports | partially achieved | Some components of the work have been finalized constituting 50% of total, the rest of the activities are still in progress. | Meeting minutes, project report, activity report, attendance sheet, training manuals, photos | Government provided feedback on the advanced training curriculum on counter trafficking for judges and prosecutors. Held the first working group inter-governmental meeting on advanced training materials. Update on activities: Enhancement of capacities of Justice Academy on developing and delivering distant courses for officials judiciary system via e-learning platform (developed by IOM) on human trafficking: Available at the website of Justice Academy. Video course has been uploaded at the E-Learning Platform and available for distant course participants; The works related to installment of the platform are almost completed and currently the courses are being uploaded to the platform. Develop Advance Training of Trainers Programme for Judges of Regional Grave Crime Courts and delivery of trainings: i) Mainstreaming of the judges and prosecutor's handbook on counter trafficking within the Justice Academy institution, iii) Publication of 200 copies each of Azerbaijani and English version ii) Approval of the advanced counter trafficking manual framework by the Government. Develop International Migration Law Programme within the Justice Academy: Started the process of drafting the IML curriculum Workshop on access to justice by victims of trafficking and role of judiciary in combating human trafficking :Trained 33 lawyers and legal practitioners from Bar Association of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population of Azerbaijan Republic, Academy of Justice under Ministry of Justice of Azerbaijan Republic and NGOs on counter trafficking | The implementation of the activities has kicked off at a later stage than envisaged due to the reasons beyond IOM's control |
| IOM | Network of judges and judicial training officials to nurture cross-collaboration is operational. | Baseline: No network. | Target: Network established; 2018 | Project Reports | partially achieved | The foundation of work is still in the process - preparation of the Advanced Training Programme - that will lead to delivering trainings based on the document and as a result establishing the network of the judicial officials, 30% | Meeting minutes, project report, activity report, attendance sheet, training manuals, photos | Government provided feedback on the advanced training curriculum on counter trafficking for judges and prosecutors. Held the first working group inter-governmental meeting on advanced training materials. | |
| Outcome 2.3 By 2020, quality public and social services are accessible to all and help achieve more socially inclusive and equitable development results | | | | | | | | | |

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| | 1)Mandatory health insurance introduced. 2) Premature mortality from NCD. 3)Sex ratio at birth in the population. 4)Contraception prevalence rate.) 5) GBV (DV) prevalence rate. 6)Percentage of children covered by pre-school education programs. 6.1 Total 6.2 Girls 6.3 Boys 6.4 Urban 6.5 Rural 7)Percentage of children with disabilities involved in inclusive education. 7.1 Total 7.2 Girls 7.3 Boys 8) Coverage of vulnerable groups (poor; families with children in difficult life circumstances, children with disabilities or children deprived of parental care; elderly; refugees and IDPs; migrants and victims of trafficking) by social protection services 8.1 Referral centre for victims of DV 8.2 Coverage of children with disabilities with social services: 8.3 Percent of families receiving TSA 8.4 of family-based care services for institutionalized children 8.5 Number of social support services for elderly population 9) Reduction in prevalence of current tobacco use in persons aged 15+ years. 10)Mortality from cardiovascular diseases, | 1)No 2) 21,583; 3) 115.6 (2013); 4)Any method: 54.9%; Modern method: 13.9% (DHS 2011); 5) 15% (2011) (National Report on VAW. 2011); 6.1)Total: 13.3% (2014); 6.2) Girls:46.80%; 6.3) Boys: 53.2%; 6.4) Urban: 19.2%; 6.5) Rural:7.5%22; 7.1)Total: 2% (2013); 7.2) Girls:50%; 7.3) Boys: 50%; 8.1) 2 8.2)1300; 8.3) 6% (01.09.2014); 8.4) 1 8.5) 2 9) 1,725,141 10) 42,920 | 1)Yes 2)20% reduction for age group 30 – 70 3)110 (2020) 4) Any method: 65%; modern method: 25% (DHS 2011 5)10% 6.1)Total : 30% 6.2) Girls: 50% 6.3) Boys: 50% 6.4) Urban: 35% 6.5) Rural: 15% 7.1)Total: 30% 7.2) Girls : 50% 7.3) Boys: 50% 8.1) 5 8.2) 10,000 8.3)20% reduction in numbers of families receiving TSA (target 4.8%) 8.4) 5 8.5) 4 9) 15% reduction 10) 25% reduction | UNCT UNCT IOM Ministry of Health WHO State Statistical Committee UNFPA UNFPA "Ministry of Education State Statistical Committee" Ministry of Education Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population Ministry of Health | | | | | | |
| Output 2.3.1 Quality, equitable and accessible protection, education, health and nutrition services are reaching adults including mothers and newborns, children, young people and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, and victims of trafficking | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNICEF/WHO/IOM | % of children with disabilities involved in inclusive education | 2% (2013) | 30% (2020) | MOE reports | | | | | THIS BASELINE, TARGET AND INDICATOR NEEDS TO BE REVISED WHO: Technical support in strengthening of the national immunization system has been provided by WHO along with UN partners (e.g. UNICEF). As a result of this support Azerbaijan received M@R elimination certificate in 2016. Support to national system in monitoring of activities also provided in 2017. Technical and financial support was provided in conducting trainings for front line medical workers on vaccine safety and contraindications and workshop on institutionalizing best vaccine management practices. Vaccines management SOPs developed/updated. WHO continued to lead UN support to implementation of the 1st National NCD strategy and action plan approved in 2015. Country wide STEP survey on main risk factors on the Noncommunicable diseases conducted in Azerbaijan jointly with MOH in 2017 with financial and technical support of WHO. New Tobacco control Law adopted by Parliament and implementation started from 1st Jan 2018. A series of joint training and awareness activities conducted jointly with National Public Health Center Technical and expert support provided during the reporting period to implementation of national maternal and child health program. Introduction of Near Miss Case Analysis for prevention of maternal deaths started through country wide workshop and training activities supported by WHO and UNFPA. Study tour for key national experts to the country of excellence in this area arranged. New policy documents under development Technical support to piloting of mandatory health insurance in 2 regions of Azerbaijan provided. Agency capacity building implemented through international training sessions arranged by WHO for the staff. IOM:continues to provide needs-based direct assistance based on the referrals and direct identification of victims of trafficking and vulnerable individuals | |
| UNICEF | # of teaching programmes on inclusive education introduced | 0 (2015) | 3 (2020) | MOE reports | partially achieved | 1 | | MOE | An Inclusive Education model has been provided in four schools in Baku by the Ministry of Education. 40 children with disabilities received education in an inclusive setting throughout the year. UNICEF has provided ongoing mentoring and professional support for teachers of inclusive classes in the four schools. The pre-service teacher training curricula was revised by the working group, including UNICEF technical experts, and the new curriculum for special education addresses not only special but also inclusive education in pre-service Bachelor and Master degree programmes on special education. At the end of 2017, a national programme on inclusive education, which had been supported by UNICEF, was announced by the President. | |
| UNICEF | %of children accessing sanitation and hygiene facilities in schools that is aligned with national standards | 98% (2016) | TBD (2020) | MOE reports | The indicator will be reviewed in 2018 | TBD (To be provided by the School WASH Study soon) | | MOE | A situation analysis on water, hygiene and sanitation was conducted to generate evidence on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in 167 schools, including identifying the current situation on WASH indicators and mapping the needs of the target schools depending on their geographic location, size, availability of resources, level of awareness on hygiene and sanitation and parent and community engagement. The outcomes of the assessment will strengthen future programme design and advocacy for WASH in schools at all levels. | |
| UNICEF | C4D strategy on nutrition related behaviours rolled out by the Ministry of Health | Not available | Available (2017) | UNICEF reports | partially achieved | Officials from MoH are sensitized on Nutrition issue | | MoH | A Nutrition Action Plan is under development by the Ministry of Health. High level decision makers in the Ministry, and other relevant state agencies have been sensitized on nutrition issues through advocacy activities led by UNICEF, including a Round Table on flour fortification and communication activates during national breastfeeding week. | |
| UNICEF | # of social and legal services exists for deprived children with approved annual budget and quality standards | 4 (2015) | 10 (2020) | Developed standard | partially achieved | draft of the Guidelines on Social Work with children and families in Child Protection System and Guidelines on Social Work with children and Families in Juvenile Justice Sytem have been prepared | | MoLSPP | The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and UNICEF prepared Guidelines on Social Work with Children and Families in Child Protection Systems, Guidelines on Social Work with Children and Families in Justice Systems. These three technical documents will be shared with the MoLSPP and related agencies for official approval. | It will be important to strengthen the linkages between the social work sector and the justice sector, including across Ministries, to ensure that vulnerabilities amongst children in conflict with the law, or at risk of becoming in conflict with the law, can be addressed. |
| UNICEF | Government adopts costed Social Services Strategic Plan, with gender analysis | Strategic plan is not available (2015) | Strategic plan is shared with relevant state entities and approved (2018) | Report | partially achieved | draft of Social Services Strategy has been prepared | | MoLSPP | The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Education, local NGO partners and UNICEF developed a draft Child Centered and Equity Focused Social Services Strategy. The ministry and UNICEF jointly will share the strategy with relevant stakeholders next year and advocate for its approval. | Lack of financial data made the costing for proposed action plan difficult |
| UNICEF | % of child policlinics where health care staff has been trained on IYCF counselling | 0 | 60% (2020) Target 5% (2017) | UNICEF reports | Achieved | 13% of staff (proxy indicator for number of policlinics) (against 2020 target) | | MoH | A training package on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) for primary health care workers (mainly paediatricians) was developed and incorporated in the curricula of the Azerbaijan State Advanced Training Institute for Doctors. Four-day mobile trainings on IYCF were conducted in 3 regions of the country, resulting in 177 practicing paediatricians - around 13 per cent of polyclinic paediatricians - from surrounding districts receiving on-the-job training | Integartion of this training package in Continous Medical Education System faces some obstacles due to beaurocratic difficulties. |
| UNICEF | National Communication Plan for anaemia reduction including exclusive breastfeeding is developed and implemented. | Not available | Communication plan is available and implemented (2017) | Strategy and Action Plan documents | Achieved | Communication Strategy for exclusive breastfeeding developed and implemented | | MoH | A communication strategy focused on promoting exclusive breastfeeding was developed based on a rapid Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices assessment. Large-scale communication activities were organized with the Ministry of Health during National Breastfeeding Week reaching an estimated 550,000 people. | |
| UNICEF | Adoption of legislation that enables wheat flour fortification | No legislation | Legislation adopted (2020) | UNICEF reports | partially achieved | During the year flour fortification was advocated by office using various channels. Round table conducted with participation of all relevant state, non-government, industry and international organizations | | MoH | UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to prepare a draft Law on Flour Fortification that was presented during a Round Table Consultation with relevant stakeholders including officials of State agencies, Members of Parliament, academics, representatives of local NGOs, millers and international organizations. The consultation strengthened the commitment of key policy-makers and stakeholders to the concept of a national flour fortification programme as an effective way of addressing anaemia and neural tube defect rates. The draft Law is now under review and will be submitted to Parliament for discussion. | |

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| UNICEF | Statistical data on low and very low birth weight of children is collected | Data is not collected in line with international standards (2015) | Data is collected in line with international standards (2020) | Review report | partially achieved | Report submitted with recommendations | MoH | | Review of data collection tools and methodologies for new-borns with low and very low birth weight (LBW) found that analysis of LBW new-borns is only possible during the perinatal period, after which all medical records are mainly paper-based making further tracking of these children after discharge from the delivery facility is almost impossible. UNICEF CO will continue advocating improvement of Health Information Systems and integration of the system between different levels of health care. |
| UNICEF | Comprehensive system for Early Detection and Prevention of Childhood disabilities rolled out throughout the country | System is not available (2015) | System available (2020) | UNICEF reports | partially achieved | Training course developed, piloted and institutionalized | MoH | A two-day training package on Monitoring of Child Development (MCD) was developed by master trainers from the Azerbaijan State Advanced Training Institute for Doctors, under the guidance of specialists from Ankara University. Six local master trainers now are trained and able to provide this training for primary health care level paediatricians. | |
| UNICEF | % of child policlinics adopted National Guideline on Early Detection and Prevention of Childhood disabilities in line with international standards | 0 | 60% (2020) 10% (2017) | UNICEF reports | Achieved | 15% of staff (proxy indicator for number of policlinics) | MoH | One pilot training in Baku and three mobile trainings in regions were organized with participation of paediatricians from surrounding districts. A total of 210 paediatricians were trained on Monitoring of Child Development by the end of 2017 - around 15 per cent of polyclinic paediatricians. | |
| UNICEF | Case management/referral mechanism is supporting vulnerable children and families | Case management/referral mechanism is not available (2016) | Concept note for new case management system developed (2017) Case Management/Referral system is implemented (2020) | Official documents | Achieved | Concept note and terms of reference for case management system developed and shared with government partners | MoLSPP | UNICEF supported the drafting of a Concept Note and Terms of Reference for Case Management in 2017. The conceptual framework developed for the pilot local social services and referral system considered the proposals and opinions of social work professionals, key government structures, and NGO's. The referral mechanism focuses on strengthening the role of local executive authorities in child protection services and establishing coordination among key government stakeholders (social protection, education, health, employment, youth, police) in social service provision. UNICEF will support the testing of the framework in selected districts in 2018. | |
| UNICEF | # of specialized juvenile justice teams consisting of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers are functional across the country | 1 (2014) | 4 (2020) Target 2 (2017) | Official documents | partially achieved | 1 | MoJ | Provision of free legal aid services continued in 2017 with the European Union (EU) and UNICEF's support, reaching 980 children through 804 cases in ten districts. The EU-funded project on "Promoting Access to Justice for Children in Azerbaijan through National Capacity Building for State and non-State Actors" was completed in 2017. A summative evaluation was carried out by an independent consultant and overall findings were very positive regarding relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the project. The challenge of sustainability was discussed with national stakeholders through a joint validation meeting, and both the Government and UNICEF committed to continuing efforts to integrate legal aid services into the minimum social service package that is currently under development as part of the Social Service Strategy. With the support of the World Bank, UNICEF supported the drafting of the National Strategy on Juvenile Justice that has been finalized and submitted to the Ministry of Justice. In 2017, UNICEF conducted monitoring of the work of the pilot child-friendly court room and specialized team at the Baku Court of Grave Crimes and provided recommendations for improvement of the services and procedures regarding juveniles. UNICEF provided technical support to introduce best practices on probation and mediation services for juveniles from other European countries, through a two-day training for representatives of key government entities by an international expert, and a fact-finding mission to the Republic of Slovenia. | |
| UNICEF | ECD facilitators/teachers who received training with funding provided by UNICEF | 200 (2015) | 400 (2020) | MOE reports | achieved | 3244 | MOE | UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education in design and piloting of a new community-based early learning programme for 3-4 year old children and a family education programme in 50 under-served communities in 11 regions of the country. A training module on developmental needs of the target age children was designed and the capacity of 50 teachers and parents and over 20 community leaders to provide or support early learning, parent education activities was enhanced. About 1,000 children of 3-4 years of age were enrolled into the community-based early learning programme. The Ministry of Education, supported by UNICEF, developed 6 in-service training modules and assessment tools for continuous professional development of preschool and primary school teachers based on identified needs. The modules submitted to the Ministry for approval are expected to be integrated into the formal in-service teacher training systems, enabling schools and other educational institutions to run diagnoses and effectively address training needs of teachers. | Lack of policies supporting Inclusive Education in Azerbaijan, limited awareness and understanding of the MoE, experts and practitioners on Inclusive Education, lack of holistic system vision for education for children with disabilities and children in disaster prone areas, limited or almost no accessibility of schools and kindergartens for children with disabilities, strong social stigma and stereotypes towards Inclusive Education for children with disabilities, lack of disaggregated data by gender, age and disability status of children. |
| UNICEF | Statute of youth houses endorsed by the cabinet of ministers and operationalized | Pending (2015) | Endorsed (2020) | Official government documents | achieved | Endorsed by CabMin and used by the joined UN government team as a baseline for the join youth houses initiatives | CabMin | UNICEF has coordinated a joint UN-Government initiative to develop and pilot an integrated package of basic and specialized youth-friendly services using available resources, through the Government's Youth House network. The pilot will introduce a package of high quality social services to address the key challenges faced by adolescents and youth, especially the most vulnerable, focusing on five internationally recognized priority areas. A baseline survey to inform the pilot was conducted by UNICEF in six districts of Azerbaijan. Two of the 12 Youth Houses under the auspices of the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) have been selected to host the pilot - Mingachevir and Binagadi. Inputs from all the contributing UN agencies were collected to inform the programme of the initiative. Official agreement was signed by UNICEF with the MoYS envisaging financial support for the roll-out of the pilot project. Official launch of the initiative took place in December 2017. | Collecting data from young people, especially on issues considered highly personal or sensitive, can be challenging. Joint initiative such as this involve complex coordination due to a large number of contributing stakeholders. |
| Output 2.3.2 Young people and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, are empowered to engage in decision-making on issues affecting their lives | | | | | | | | | |
| UNICEF | # annual reports from the Ministry of Youth & Sports on implementation of the State Youth Programme including disaggregated results | 0 (2015) | 1 (2016-2017) | | no progress | | | | State Youth Program was endorsed in the end of 2017 therefore no annual reports were produced in 2017. |
| UNICEF | State Youth Programme has annual budget allocation according to endorsed plan | 0 (2015) | 5 annual budgets (2020) | MoYS Report | partially achieved | State Youth Programme (SYP) 2017-2021 endorsed by CabMin in November 2017. Official request made to the MoYS to accommodate the SYP-related expenditures within the yearly budget of MoYS | MoYS | The 2017-2021 State Youth Programme (SYP) was endorsed by the Government. This will serve as an action plan for the State Youth Development Strategy 2015-2025, focusing on areas such as entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, civic engagement, sports and recreation, promotion of human rights and equality and environmental issues. No additional budget was allocated by the Ministry of Finance for implementation of the Programme and additional expenditures are to be covered by the available Ministry of Youth and Sports funds. | Planned youth consultation to monitor the implementation of the SYP in 2017 could not be undertaken due to the lengthy process of approving the SYP itself. |
| UNICEF | % of adolescents disaggregated by sex, disability and location participate in governance system through youth advisory councils . | 20% [girls: 55%, boys: 45%, urban: 13%, rural: 87%, disability: 0] (2015) | 50% [girls: 47%, boys: 35%, urban: 53%, rural: 47%, disability: 5%] (2020) | Reports by the NGO & ExCom | partially achieved | 25% of districts have active youth participation through youth advisory councils, but disaggregated data on individuals is not available. Indicator proposed to be changed in 2018 | ExComs of the 3 LoC districts and YAC | UNICEF supported the re-establishment of the Azerbaijani Youth Advocate Programme to promote participation of adolescents and young people in decision making and resilience building in three districts affected by the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. 60 boys and girls aged 11-18 have undertaken trainings in leadership, child rights, Mine Risk Education and using digital media, and subsequently developed their roles as peer educators and youth advisors with their local authorities. Consultations with youth were conducted to collect their opinions on issues that affect their development as well as ideas to inform joint projects between the young people and local authorities. These joint initiatives - including projects that will provide friendly spaces and conditions for adolescents and young people to acquire new knowledge and skills and to socialise with peers - are expected to get underway in early 2018. | More work is required to strengthen public confidence in young people's potential to contribute to their development and to address a low level of understanding by marginalised young people of their rights to express their opinion and participate in the decision making |
| Output 2.3.3 Country enabled to implement and monitor effective interventions to cover unmet needs in sexual and reproductive health | | | | | | | | | |
| WHO | | | | | | | | WHO led support of UN agencies (UNFPA and UNICEF) the process of development of the new country wide Reproductive Health Strategy. National consultations and multisectoral workshop conducted in 2017. Activities of the working group supported technically and financially. Final draft of the new RH strategy submitted to MOH at the end of 2017 for further approval | |
| Output 2.3.4 Quality and equitable protection, education, health, social and employment services are reaching refugees, IDPs and stateless persons, especially the most vulnerable | | | | | | | | | |
| UNHCR | % of refugee/stateless children attending pre-school courses. | Baseline: 0% (2016) | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 35% | UNHCR database | Due to the advocacy with the Ministry of Education 13 refugee children were accommodated at pre-school facilities in 2017 | Insufficient number of slots at pre-school facilities even for local citizens |
| UNHCR | % of refugee/stateless children attending primary school. | Baseline: 85% (2016) | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 67% | UNHCR database | UNHCR ensures access to education facilities through supporting enrolment, monitoring attendance and progress | |
| UNHCR | % of refugee/stateless children attending secondary school. | Baseline: 60% (2016) | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 50% | UNHCR database | UNHCR ensures access to education facilities through supporting enrolment, monitoring attendance and progress | |
| UNHCR | % of refugee/stateless adolescent attending supplementary classes for above-age students. | Baseline: 0% (2016) | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 11% | UNHCR database | Due to the advocacy with the Ministry of Education 25 refugee and stateless young people were accommodated at special courses for above-aged students in 2017 | Lack of course in Russian language for above-aged students |

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| UNHCR | % of refugee/stateless persons who receive secondary health care in state health clinics. | Baseline: 0% (2016) | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 14% | UNHCR database | 67 Government recognized refugees and 159 refugees processing TRP have access to state secondary health care services. However, this support is advocated by UNHCR | UNHCR-registered refugees do not have access to secondary health care state clinics and this gap is being filled by UNHCR through contracted private clinic. Thus in 2017 80% of UNHCR caseload benefitted from secondary health care services. No data on stateless |
| UNHCR | % of refugee/stateless persons who are fully integrated in social programmes. | Baseline: 0% (2016); | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 14% | UNHCR database | 67 Government recognized refugees and 159 refugees processing TRP have access to social programmes. | No data on stateless |
| UNHCR | % of refugees and stateless persons who receive support for employment. | Baseline: 0 (2016) | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 14% | UNHCR database | 67 Government recognized refugees and 159 refugees processing TRP have right to work. | No data on stateless |
| UNHCR | % of IDPs who have unlimited access to quality public and social services | Baseline: 40 (2016) | Target: 100% (2020) | | partially achieved | 42% | UNHCR database | In 2017 2,300 IDP families were provided with housing in temporary IDP settlement in Baku and Tartar district | No data on stateless |
| Output 2.3.5 Strengthened agricultural associations with active women members | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | Associations established and functioning effectively | A weak Beekeepers' Association and no existence of Inseminators' Association | A Beekeepers' Association is established to conduct continuing trainings and improve the beekeepers' breeding and management skills (2017) An Inseminators' Association is established to improve and expand Artificial Insemination activities and provide technical, legal and materials support to the inseminators(2017) | Certificate for the registration of the Associations, Project Reports, Minutes of Meetings | partially achieved | Capacity of the association was improved The target wasn't reached | Manuals, BTORs, Project reports, Delivery Forms | Beekeepers's Association was strengthened through technical assistance provided and capacity building activities, such as training on Bees Diseases and Artificial Insemination and distribution of Queen Bee Mating Boxes. "Beekeeping for beginners" and "Queen Bees rearing" manuals were published and disseminated. | The Association was established close to the end of the project. Therefore, the project could not benefit from them. |
| Strategic Priority Area 3 Improving environment management and resilience to hazards and disasters | | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 3.1 By 2020, sustainable development policies and legislation are in place, better implemented and coordinated in compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, recognize social and health linkages, and address issues of environment and natural resource management, | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1) To reduce RTI mortality. 2) Disaster risk reduction, disaster preparedness and emergency response strategies have been mainstreamed into migration sectors by the Government of Azerbaijan, in compliance with the Migration Crisis Operational Framework 3)Number of mechanisms adopted to strengthen application of EIA and SEA procedures according to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Trans-boundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). 4)Phase out of HCFC to meet the Montreal Protocol obligations. | 1) 13.1 per 100,000; 2)No 3) 0 4)HCFCs consumption - 14.9 ODP tones | 1) by 10% by 2020 2)Yes 3) 3 4)complete phase out of HCFC-141b and HCFC-22 | | | | | | |
| Output 3.1.1 Institutions and mechanisms are strengthened for better monitoring, analysis and reporting on GHGs emissions, carbon flows and carbon storage potential, including reporting under major multilateral environmental agreements | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1: Reporting complies with requirements of the conventionsIndicator 2: Extent to which the capacities for carbon monitoring are improved | Baseline: Partly complies Baseline: 1 | Target: Fully complies (2020) Target: 3 (2020) | The Reports on the Fourth National Communication and the Second Biennial Reporting to the UNFCCC | partially achieved | in progress | | UNDP supported the Government in preparing its Second Biennial Update Report and Fourth National Communication to the UNFCCC including the inventory of greenhouse gas emissions for nine sectors. This covers the development of scenarios for policies and measures on mitigation of climate change and establishing a domestic measurement, reporting and verification system, a policy framework and a feasibility study. • National Capacity to use IPCC 2006 guidelines has been identified • Data for the greenhouse gas emissions for the year 2013 under the Second Biennial Update report has been collected and amount of emissions has been calculated • Updated report on policies and measures to mitigate climate change has been prepared in accordance with recalculated emissions • Establishment of local Measurement, Reporting and Verification system has been accelerated, international experts has been involved to the process of system foundation | |
| Output 3.1.2 National and subnational capacities are improved to ensure better planning, management and sustainability of the coastal and marine ecosystems of the Caspian Sea | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1: Existence of an integrated management plan for coastal/marine protected areas | Baseline: None | Target: At least one national park has an integrated management plan with community involvement (2020) | Project Reports. PIR Reports. Midterm and Final Evaluations. | partially achieved | in progress | Project progress report "Increasing representation of effectively managed marine ecosystems in Protected Area Systems" | The Management plan for Gizil-Agaj National Park has been prepared, however, its implementation is pending upon the announcement of the National Park. The Project Team works with the MENR to promote its establishment, i.e. transferring the Gizil-Agaj protected area as a national park. Approvals on the establishment of Gizilagaj National Park has been received from the Local Executive Authorities. The Management Plan for Gizilagaj PA has been prepared and accepted by the beneficiary; Outposts and access control infrastructure of Gizilagaj PA were reconstructed; Demarcation works along the Gizilagaj PA's marine boundary have been completed; Critical park equipment for the Gizilagaj PA has been procured; Component 2. Financial Management plan (FMP) for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (CMPA) has been prepared and the trainings were conducted to strengthen capacity of MENR and CMPAs to be able to implement the FMP; Monitoring equipment has been procured to monitor critical thresholds for ecosystem health; | |
| Output 3.1.3. Agricultural policies are developed and institutions and local farmers are supported to conserve and sustainably use local crop varieties important for biodiversity and sustainable land management | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1: Percentage of farmers using local crop varieties in the pilot regions | Baseline: 0 | Target: 15% in the pilot regions (2020) | Project Reports. PIR Reports. Midterm and Final Evaluations. | no progress | The project document was signed in 2016, however, the project actual implementation started on December 2017. | | | |
| Output 3.1.4 Application of climate change mitigation measures and green practices is promoted to reduce GHGs emissions from the energy sector | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP | Indicator 1: Number of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Measures implemented in the oil/gas industry Indicator 2: Number of innovative green practices resulting in reduction of the GHGs implemented in the transport sector | Baseline: 0 Baseline: 0 | Target: 3 (2020) Target: 3 (2020) | Project Reports. PIR Reports. Midterm and Final Evaluations. | partially achieved | 2 :in construction/building sector and in transportation. The third, in associated gas capturing is in progress | Energy Audit Reports | 5 buildings of SOCAR (State Oil Company)– were energy efficiently remodelled which has shown 46% energy savings and 130 tons/year of CO2 emissions reduction. Similarly, pilot trainings for 'eco-driving' had demonstrated an 8-14% reduction in fuel consumption, with practically no investment costs. | |
| Output 3.1.5 Resilience of vulnerable mountainous communities of the Greater Caucasus is strengthened to cope with negative impacts of land degradation and climate-induced hazards | | | | | | | | | |

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| UNDP+A139:1139 | Indicator 1: Number of communities benefitting from an early warning system Indicator 2: Number of farmers benefitting from sustainable livelihoods from improved pasture management | Baseline: None Baseline: 0 | Target: 20 (2020) Target: 16 (2020) | | 20 16 | Project Progress Report "Sustainable land and forest management" Final Evaluation Report "Integrating climate change risks into water and flood management by vulnerable mountainous communities in the Greater Caucasus region of Azerbaijan" | UNDP's support for management plans for forests and farm-based pastures resulted in 20,000 hectares of forests and 7,900 hectares of pastures in two districts to be under sustainable forest and land management practices To support flood forecasting and warning activities, UNDP built the capacity of State Agency for Water Resources by installing 10 meteorological stations, introducing hydrological and hydraulic models and initiated community based flood early warning system: 10 communities with 48,000 people have emergency response tool kits and risk maps. | | |
| Output 3.1.6 Develop a National antimicrobial resistance action plan in accordance to Global AMR plan | | | | | | | | | |
| WHO | National AMR action plan developed | None | | | partially achieved? | | WHO has led the partnership between MOH, Ministry of Agriculture and FAO in development draft of the 1st National AMR action plan. Multisectoral workshop conducted in Feb 2017 and joint working group created. Finalization of the draft of the strategy expected in 2018 | | |
| Output 3.1.7 Promotion of an integrated approach to mainstreaming environmental sustainability in the implementation of SDGs and Engagement with the Government of Azerbaijan as one of the five Contracting Parties to the Tehran Convention | | | | | | | | | |
| UNEP | Indicator: Number of stakeholder institutions engaged in the national and regional meetings on environmental sustainability | 0 | 12 | Meeting reports | partially achieved? | 6 | Meeting reports | National workshop held on environment and security linkages. / Regional plan of oil spill response in the Caspian Sea completed. | Environment continues to be compartmentalized in the national development strategy. Broader awareness raising and engagement of various line ministries is key to adopting an integrated approach to environmental sustainability. |
| Output 3.1.8 National, transboundary and regional mechanisms in place to support planning, approval and implementation of legal and regulatory frameworks in line with the WFD, IWRM and other MEAs. | | | | | | | | | |
| UNECE | The number of draft laws, bylaws, regulations, recommendations based on reviews of existing policies and strategies, draft of new national strategies and policies, draft national and basin plans; Sections on the ratification and progress in the implementation of MEAs, and on support to development and implementation of bilateral agreements in annual progress reports; The number of on-demand policy studies and analysis Number of national and regional NPD meetings organized | | | Project reports | partially achieved? | | | Recommendations to the draft law developed. National guidelines on practical application of SEA are developed. The outcomes of the analysis and recommendations on further steps for ratification of protocols discussed by national authorities; Improved knowledge and capacity of national experts to develop Informative Inventory Report and to improve accuracy and completeness of air emission inventories in accordance with the requirements of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. | |
| Output 3.1.9 Improved national capacity for data collection and monitoring of progress on energy related sustainable development goals | | | | | | | | | |
| UNECE | National Action Plan for sustainable energy developed and submitted to the Government | | | Progress report | partially achieved? | | | The project improved national capacity for data collection and monitoring of progress on energy related sustainable development goals; Improved understanding on the development national action plans for sustainable energy based on the best international practices Promotion of the debate on renewable energy future in Azerbaijan among major stakeholders, namely representatives from policy and decision-makers, energy companies, NGOs, academia and the private sector; As outcome, the discussions provided concrete and commonly agreed recommendations for jumpstarting investments in renewable energy, and for improving the environment for bankable projects' development; | |
| Output 3.1.10 contribute to the knowledge and the development of skills and competencies of Government officials on the subject of migration crisis management | | | | | | | | | |
| IOM | Existence of a tool to assist Azerbaijani Consular Officials in assisting nationals during migration crisis | Baseline: None | Target: Consular Reference Manual contains a chapter dedicated to Disaster and Crisis Preparedness and Management | Project Reports, Manual | achieved | 3 tools developed and 69 persons trained (*) | IOM's newsletters, donor reports, national media, developed tools, signed sheets by training participants | 1. Newly developed Consular Reference Manual has a specific chapter to assist Azerbaijani Consular Officials in assisting nationals during migration crisis 2. Online course programmes for the MFA of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding Improving Assistance to Nationals Affected by Crises Abroad and online course for SMS and Azerbaijani institutions regarding improving assistance to foreigners affected crisis in Azerbaijan developed. 3. Enhanced knowledge and skills at the key national institutions in assisting nationals and migrants in crisis. | *Target tripled. Additional two tools have been developed in partnership with national authorities. |
| Output 3.1.11 Capacities of the Republic Azerbaijan related to plant diagnostics, inspection and relevant procedures applicable to imported and exported production are strengthened. | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | Number of laboratories established, staffed and operational by the end of the project | 0 (current laboratory does not address all relevant points) | 1 (2017) | Project Reports. PIR Reports. Midterm and Final Evaluations | achieved | 1 | Project Progress Reports PIR Reports BTORs | The Central Pest Diagnostics Laboratory of the Republic Quarantine Expertise Center of the State Phytosanitary Control Service under the Ministry of Agriculture was provided with necessary equipment by FAO. 10 laboratory staff were trained in pest diagnostics both in Azerbaijan and abroad. Thus, the laboratory is operational. | The main challenge is related to the division of responsibilities between the agencies based on the Government reforms - some main responsibilities as well as a number of staff of the State Phytosanitary Control Service (SPCS) are subject to be transferred to the newly established Food Safety Agency. The pest diagnostics laboratory is essential for SPCS to undertake its duties, but the project team looks forward to the results of the reforms. There is also a room for improvement of the Republic Quarantine Expertise Center laboratory - additional list of equipment to be procured is pending to be prepared in 2018. |
| FAO | The number of staff trained and level of proficiency | 0 | 150 (2016-2017) | Project Reports. PIR Reports. Midterm and Final Evaluations | partially achieved | 96 | Project Progress reports, registration lists, Letters of Agreement, BTORs of international consultants | 52 staff members were trained on basic inspection and pest diagnostic training. 10 laboratory staff from SPCS and the State Customs Committee (SCC) were trained on various areas of pest diagnostics. 35 inspectors from the SPCS and SCC were trained on import control/regulations in . 49 inspectors from SPCS were trained on export certification in September 2016 and September 2017. | 96 staff members out of 150 planned could be involved to the training. More sessions are planned for 2018. |
| FAO | The number of established procedures in pest diagnostics, import and export regulations | 0 | 48 (2017) | Project Reports PIR Reports Midterm and Final Evaluations | partially achieved | 37 | Project Progress reports, BTORs of international consultants, draft procedures/protocols | The following documents are drafted and presented to the Head of SPCS for approval: - 12 pest diagnostics protocols and 15 laboratory procedures; - 3 procedures related to import regulations; - 3 procedures related to export certification; - 4 operational procedures related to both import/export control. | The approval is pending due to Government reforms linked with the newly established Food Safety Agency. All procedures are planned to be finalized in 2018. |
| Output 3.1.12 Forest Resource Information Management System established | | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|---|---|---|--------------------|----------|---|---|---|
| FAO | National Forest Assessment and Monitoring System established and operating | 0% | 100% (2018-2019) | Inception Workshop Report | no progress | 0% | N/A | The project was not started in 2017 (was under endorsement till September 2017, minor preparatory activities were done). The major activities are planned for 2018 The project has only become operational at the end of 2017 and the workplan is revised for 2018-2019. | No challenges |
| | Forest management planning improved in the 2 pilot areas | 0% | 100% (2018-2019) | Final national workshop report | | 0% | | | |
| | Livelihoods of farmers improved in the pilot sites | to be defined | 100% (2018-2019) | | | 0% | | | |
| | Carbon stocks enhanced in degraded forest areas | 0 ha | 20,800 ha (2018-2019) | | | 0 ha | | | |
| Output 3.1.13 Reduction of releases from POPs and other obsolete pesticides posing high risk to public health and the environment and strengthening the capacity for sound pesticide management throughout the life cycle | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | 900 tonnes of POPs and other obsolete pesticides safeguarded and disposed | 0 tonnes (out of targetted amount) | 900 tonnes (2018) | Project Reports | no progress | 0 tonnes | N/A | The project was not started in 2017 (under endorsement). The sub-regional project is pending approval of the government. The implementation is expected to start in 2018. | Endorsement by the Government takes more time than expected due to sensitivity of the subject. |
| | National legislations comply with international standards; | to be defined | 100%(2018) | PIR Reports | | 0% | | | |
| | Farmers applying IPM methods | to be defined | 20(2018) | Midterm and Final Evaluations | | 0 | | | |
| Output 3.1.14 Determine development perspectives of organic agriculture and develop amendments for improvement of the national legislation on organic agriculture. | | | | | | | | | |
| FAO | Determine development perspectives of organic agriculture and develop amendments for improvement of the national legislation on organic agriculture | no data collection system (0) | established data collection system (1); (2017-2018) | Project Reports PIR Reports Midterm and Final Evaluations | partially achieved | 0 | Project Reports PIR Reports Midterm and Final Evaluations | Establishment of data collection system (and Documentation Center) is in progress | The establishment of the system and the Documentation Center are slightly delayed due to negotiations with other government entities (the main problem is linked with legislation gaps, specifically the lack of Responsible Entity - proposed legislation is under endorsement). |
| | | weak legislation (0%); | recommendations on improvement of organic agriculture legislation (100%); (2017-2018) | | achieved | 100% | | Organic Agriculture Law, regulations are prepared and are subject to be endorsed by the Government. The standards developed by the project expert are under technical review of FAO | Preparation of the National Strategy document is pending - there were several discussions between the government representatives and FAO experts and the document is expected to be ready in early 2018. |
| | | no national organic agriculture strategic plan (0); | prepared national organic agriculture strategic plan (1); (2017-2018) | | partially achieved | 0 | | Planned for early 2018 | Also, please refer to the output 1.1.8 for other challenges related to the Organic Agriculture project implementation. |
| | | no training on organic agriculture (0). | 5 capacity building activities related to organic agriculture(2017-2018) | | partially achieved | 4 | | 4 capacity building exercises including 1 study tour of 3 Government staff members to Turkey were organized | Note: the no-cost extension of the project to complete the activities is applied - the expected new NTE of the project: 30 April 2018. |

¹⁴ 'Azerbaijan: Vision 2020', p. 11

Appendix B: Progress against Annual Common Budgetary Framework 2017

| Agency | Planned budget as signed 2017 US\$ | | | | Planned Budget as reported by agencies 2017 US\$ | | | | Expenditures as reported by agencies 2017 US\$ | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Total | Core/regular, assessed (USD) | Non-core/other/extra budgetary (USD) | To be mobilized (funding gap) (USD) | Total | Core/regular, assessed (USD) | Non-core/other/extra budgetary (USD) | To be mobilized (funding gap) (USD) | Total | Core/regular, assessed (USD) | Non-core/other/extra budgetary (USD) | To be mobilized (funding gap) (USD) |
| Strategic Priority Area 1 Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development underpinned by increased diversification and decent work | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 1.1 By 2020, the Azerbaijan economy is more diversified and generates enhanced sustainable growth and decent work, particularly for youth, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNHCR | 30,000 | 30,000 | 0 | 0 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 0 | 0 | 28,410 | 28,410 | 0 | 0 |
| UNDP | 1,261,036 | 355,000 | 906,036 | 0 | 1,227,300 | 83,900 | 1,143,400 | 0 | 2,685,790 | 249,104 | 2,366,840 | 69,846 |
| FAO | 1,614,000 | 1,114,000 | 500,000 | 0 | 464,000 | 320,000 | 144,000 | 0 | 446,785 | 307,034 | 139,751 | 0 |
| IOM | 145,000 | 0 | 145,000 | 0 | 151,670 | 151,670 | 0 | 0 | 152,231 | 0 | 152,231 | 0 |
| ILO | 209,000 | 0 | 0 | 209,000 | 209,000 | 0 | 0 | 209,000 | 260,000 | 0 | 0 | 260,000 |
| Total | 3,259,036 | 1,499,000 | 1,551,036 | 209,000 | 2,081,970 | 585,570 | 1,287,400 | 209,000 | 3,573,216 | 584,548 | 2,658,822 | 329,846 |
| Strategic Priority Area 2 Strengthening institutional capacities and effective public and social services | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 2.1 By 2020, Azerbaijan has enhanced institutional capacities for transparent, evidence-based and gender-responsive policy formulation and implementation | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNICEF | 309,000 | 139,000 | 170,000 | 0 | 309,000 | 139,000 | 170,000 | 0 | 133,613 | 54,318 | 79,295 | 0 |
| UNHCR | 218,000 | 218,000 | 0 | 0 | 218,000 | 218,000 | 0 | 0 | 206,446 | 206,446 | 0 | 0 |
| IOM | 2,370,000 | 0 | 2,370,000 | 0 | 2,370,000 | 0 | 2,370,000 | 0 | 1,416,060 | 0 | 1,416,060 | 0 |
| FAO | 100,000 | 48,000 | 0 | 52,000 | 63,000 | 63,000 | 0 | 0 | 58,850 | 58,850 | 0 | 0 |
| UNFPA | 900,000 | 600,000 | 100,000 | 200,000 | 145,000 | 30,000 | 115,000 | 0 | 145,000 | 30,000 | 115,000 | 0 |
| UNDP | 4,645,288 | 115,948 | 2,529,340 | 2,000,000 | 4,550,288 | 105,948 | 2,444,340 | 2,000,000 | 2,264,967 | 81,949 | 2,183,018 | 0 |
| Total | 8,542,288 | 1,120,948 | 5,169,340 | 2,252,000 | 7,655,288 | 555,948 | 5,099,340 | 2,000,000 | 4,224,936 | 431,563 | 3,793,373 | 0 |
| Outcome 2.2 By 2020, Azerbaijan has made progress in line with international human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review and other treaty obligations, and has strengthened capacities for implementation, monitoring and reporting aligned with international standards | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNICEF | 61,000 | 8,000 | 33,000 | 20,000 | 61,000 | 8,000 | 33,000 | 20,000 | 109,431 | 98,498 | 10,933 | 0 |
| UNHCR | 174,000 | 174,000 | 0 | 0 | 174,000 | 174,000 | 0 | 0 | 164,778 | 164,778 | 0 | 0 |
| OHCHR | 18,000 | 18,000 | 0 | 0 | 18,000 | 18,000 | 0 | 0 | 18,000 | 18,000 | 0 | 0 |
| UNFPA | 1,900,000 | 1,350,000 | 350,000 | 200,000 | 350,000 | 170,000 | 180,000 | 0 | 350,000 | 170,000 | 180,000 | 0 |
| IOM | 245,000 | 0 | 245,000 | 0 | 245,000 | 0 | 245,000 | 0 | 237,110 | 0 | 237,110 | 0 |
| Total | 2,398,000 | 1,550,000 | 628,000 | 220,000 | 848,000 | 370,000 | 458,000 | 20,000 | 879,319 | 451,276 | 428,043 | 0 |
| Outcome 2.3 By 2020, quality public and social services are accessible to all and help achieve more socially inclusive and equitable development results | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNICEF | 936,000 | 259,000 | 421,000 | 256,000 | 936,000 | 259,000 | 421,000 | 256,000 | 1,097,399 | 335,166 | 762,233 | 0 |
| WHO | 165,000 | 120,000 | 45,000 | 0 | 165,000 | 120,000 | 45,000 | 0 | 211,000 | 211,000 | 0 | 0 |
| IOM | 250,000 | 0 | 250,000 | 0 | 250,000 | 0 | 250,000 | 0 | 205,265 | 0 | 205,265 | 0 |
| UNHCR | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 0 | 0 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,894,746 | 1,894,746 | 0 | 0 |
| FAO | 140,000 | 80,000 | 60,000 | 0 | 15,000 | 0 | 15,000 | 0 | 13,000 | 0 | 13,000 | 0 |
| Total | 3,491,000 | 2,459,000 | 776,000 | 256,000 | 3,366,000 | 2,379,000 | 731,000 | 256,000 | 3,421,410 | 2,440,912 | 980,498 | 0 |
| Strategic Priority Area 3 Improving environment management and resilience to hazards and disasters | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outcome 3.1 By 2020, sustainable development policies and legislation are in place, better implemented and coordinated in compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, recognize social and health linkages, and address issues of environment and natural resource management, energy efficiency and renewable energy, climate change and resilience to hazards and disasters | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| UNDP | 4,583,242 | 330,078 | 4,253,164 | 0 | 4,416,242 | 303,078 | 4,113,164 | 0 | 3,541,497 | 169,016 | 3,372,482 | 0 |
| WHO | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0 | 0 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0 | 0 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 0 | 0 |
| UNEP | 312,000 | 132,000 | 180,000 | 0 | 312,000 | 132,000 | 180,000 | 0 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 0 | 0 |
| UNECE | 154,000 | 50,000 | 104,000 | 0 | 154,000 | 50,000 | 104,000 | 0 | 66,000 | 17,000 | 49,000 | 0 |
| IOM | 110,000 | 0 | 110,000 | 0 | 110,000 | 0 | 110,000 | 0 | 85,000 | 0 | 85,000 | 0 |
| FAO | 5,299,573 | 0 | 5,299,573 | 0 | 522,000 | 0 | 522,000 | 0 | 602,399 | 0 | 546,812 | 55,587 |
| Total | 10,478,815 | 532,078 | 9,946,737 | 0 | 5,534,242 | 505,078 | 5,029,164 | 0 | 4,381,896 | 273,016 | 4,053,294 | 55,587 |

| Agency | Planned budget as in signed summary | Planned Budget as reported by agencies 2017 US\$ | Expenditures as reported by agencies 2017 US\$ |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| FAO | 7,153,573 | 1,064,000 | 1,121,034 |
| ILO | 209,000 | 209,000 | 260,000 |
| IOM | 3,120,000 | 3,126,670 | 2,095,667 |
| OHCHR | 18,000 | 18,000 | 18,000 |
| UNDP | 10,489,566 | 10,193,830 | 8,492,254 |
| UNECE | 154,000 | 154,000 | 66,000 |
| UNEP | 312,000 | 312,000 | 75,000 |
| UNFPA | 2,800,000 | 495,000 | 495,000 |
| UNHCR | 2,422,000 | 2,422,000 | 2,294,380 |
| UNICEF | 1,306,000 | 1,306,000 | 1,340,443 |
| WHO | 185,000 | 185,000 | 223,000 |
| Total | 28,169,139 | 19,485,500 | 16,480,778 |