



# REGULAR RESOURCES REPORT 2019

Forging Generation Equality now and in the future

## **UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women, with the primary purpose of accelerating progress toward meeting the needs of women and girls worldwide**

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls, and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, prioritizing five strategic outcomes. Beginning with the foundational work of UN Women, to support the strengthening and implementation of a comprehensive and dynamic set of **global norms, policies and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women**; and by contributing to the interdependent and interconnected outcomes: **women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems; women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy; all women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence; and women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action.** UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work on advancing gender equality.

### Cover: Cameroon - UN Women's Gender Road Project

Background: A 200-kilometre road (124 miles) project stretches between the townships of Batschenga, Ntui and Yoko, in central Cameroon. The road crosses farms, forests, water bodies and pastoral areas that sustain the mostly agrarian economy of nearly 40 villages and three towns.

The road, a basic infrastructure that many countries take for granted, literally shapes the lives and livelihood of the people living along it. It decides whether a small entrepreneur will get her products transported on time, and at what cost, and whether more people will come to a restaurant that another has invested in. It determines what markets a woman farmer can access and how often a working mother can visit her daughter who is studying in the city. The red dirt road, waiting for asphalt, will determine if food, income, job, healthcare, livelihood will come, when, and to whom.

UN Women's "Gender Road Project", funded by The Development Bank of Central African States and the Government of Cameroon, is aiming to reach at least 20,000 women by 2020, living in rural communities along this road, to prepare them for a better future and access to bigger markets once the road is built. The project teaches them financial and entrepreneurial skills, improved farming techniques and facilitates their access to public services and land rights.

Pictured: Cameroon. Nbdemke Elizabeth, 13, at left, Yeng Chimine, 12, at right, and Vivian, Chimine's mother, in orange. The families recently acquired birth certificates for the girls which open the door for the girls to attend school, sit for national exams and apply for national ID.

Read More: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/feature-story-cameroon-gender-road>

Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

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**Production team:** Rhonda de Freitas, Leona Barusya, Andere Nieva Ramirez, Sijia Cheng and Peter Rizov

**Overall coordination:** Lisa Doughten, Nuria Felipe Soria

**Editor:** Gretchen Luchsinger

**Photo Editors:** Stephanie Montoya, Ryan Brown

**Design:** Stephanie Montoya

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# FOREWORD

## BY UN WOMEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**UN Women results in 2019 are a source of pride for us, our partners and our donors.** They were possible thanks to the generosity of our partners who provide regular (core) resources. These highest-quality contributions are the lifeblood of UN Women's interventions. They make it possible to carry out our mandate as the global champion, convenor and catalyst for gender equality and women's empowerment. And now, in the era of COVID-19, our partners' engagement and support are more critical than ever before to building back better and achieving societies that are more inclusive and resilient for everyone. Our thanks to you all.

This report illustrates how regular resources led to substantial and tangible benefits for women and girls around the world in 2019. It also invites readers into the lives of the women and girls we work with, sharing their stories to show how they are successfully overcoming challenges.

Regular resources create value beyond funding programmes. They **provide the stability** required to plan and achieve our long-term objectives; they **offer flexibility** in responding to crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic with its severe impacts on women, girls and their communities; and they **ignite innovative programmes** that leverage other resources to scale-up, as has been the case with UN Women's growing contributions to coordinating the UN system and advancing gender-responsive humanitarian action.

As the COVID-19 pandemic escalated, regular resources gave UN Women the power to set global policy guidance and define priority measures to aid recovery efforts. Strengthening collaboration with international financial institutions to mainstream gender in response and recovery efforts remains a key priority moving forward.

UN Women received regular resources from 119 partners in 2019, including 106 United Nations Member States. As this report details, these funds allowed UN Women to support 102 countries to review progress on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action 25 years after it was adopted

as a set of landmark commitments on women's rights. Regular resources underpinned our restructured UN Women's country footprint, helping us to become more efficient and responsive to country demand and to scale up actions to end violence against women, drive climate-smart agriculture, increase economic opportunities and help women lead and build resilience in the face of crisis.

Given this, it is unfortunate that in recent years, regular resources have declined while other resources have increased. In 2019, for the first time since its establishment, UN Women achieved its target budget of USD 500 million. Of that amount, however, regular resources comprised USD 143 million, marking a 4 per cent decline from the previous year.

For UN Women, regular and other resources are complementary. Other resources capture the mutual interests and priorities of specific partners. Regular resources enable the collective interests of our Board and partners more generally. As such, they remain the bedrock of our work and reflect multilateral commitment to UN Women's vital roles in common global efforts to achieve gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals.

We fully appreciate the enormous pressure being placed on resources in the current climate. Yet our mandate is as crucial now as it has ever been. Maintaining a healthy balance between regular and other resources is essential for UN Women to deliver on its mandate and ensure that our post-COVID-19 recovery does not simply rebuild the patriarchy. I call on all our partners to be bold, and to reflect on our shared commitment to gender equality as they consider their priorities. This is a time to step up, not step back. We look forward to continuing to deliver with your support.

**Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**

*United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN Women*

# 102

## COUNTRIES

supported to conduct a 25-year review and appraisal of implementation of the **BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION**

# 17

initiatives were developed to monitor **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN POLITICS**

# 28

new and/or improved **GENDER-RESPONSIVE POLICIES ON LAND RIGHTS** were developed and/or implemented

# 13 countries

conducted community activities on **GENDER EQUALITY AND RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS** and developed national curricula on gender and violence against women

# 548

**CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS** and networks were supported to influence peace processes



Provided training to over 50,000 women in over 20 countries on agricultural productivity and climate adaptation measures.



Over 100 indigenous women candidates enhanced campaign skills in Guatemala.



More women come to peace tables and make a case for change.



UN Women supported 11 countries in the Asia-Pacific region in conducting national Beijing+25 reviews.



A regional commitment moves towards a reality in women's lives.

# MAXIMUM IMPACT: WHY GENDER EQUALITY DEPENDS ON REGULAR RESOURCES



## FOUNDATION FOR GLOBAL ACTION TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY

**UN Women celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2020. We are still a young organization, but can already claim a decade of extraordinary achievements touching the lives of women and girls around the world.**

In that short time, we have become the world's global champion of gender equality. Our leadership sets agendas. Our advocacy, ideas and programmes bring people together behind a common cause.

Amid the unfolding shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic, which trace the lines of sharp inequality in the world today, and are in many cases felt most profoundly in the lives of women and girls, UN Women's presence is more needed than ever before. We are one of the keys to a future that is more inclusive and just, and less vulnerable to the ravages of a virus.

When UN Women was founded, we were given a unique, carefully crafted global mandate by the UN General Assembly. It allows us a role in each of three arenas fundamental to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. First, we help set the continually evolving standards that uphold women's rights. Second, we bring together the combined forces of the vast system that is the United Nations so that every part adopts gender equality as a priority concern, and demonstrates measurable progress. Third,

we show what's possible through our programmes. These directly benefit women and girls, bringing change on the ground. They also inspire governments, businesses and other partners to take similar measures, amplifying the results on a wide scale.

In just a decade, UN Women has made notable strides within and across each of our roles, connecting them so that they reinforce each other and generate powerful momentum for change. Our funding partners have made enormous contributions to this success, including through generous infusions of regular resources, the foundation of our work. In 2019, our other resources reached new highs.

At the same time, much of our potential is still not fully tapped. The mix of these two types of resources still falls short of the commitment made at our founding, to have an organization with the reach to rectify the gender disparities still at play in every country of the world. For the first time in 2019, the share of regular resources in the total slipped below the UN-mandated minimum threshold of 30 per cent. This meant the bulk of our funding came in project by project, issue by issue, even though gender equality by its nature requires a broader lens, one equipped to see all of the pieces that

influence or hinder progress, and calibrate the right combinations of responses.

Regular resources maximize impact by providing the stability to plan and achieve long-term objectives, and the flexibility to realize short-term goals. In 2020, regular resources powered UN Women's immediate response to the COVID-19 crisis, and its ability to draw global, regional and national attention to the gender dimensions of the pandemic as soon as they emerged. Through regular resources, UN Women sustains work in over 100 countries, on the issues that matter most to women there, and in communities that are most vulnerable and hard to access. We pioneer new ideas and experimental programmes that later expand through other resources and partnerships.

Regular resources underpin the core multilateral values of the United Nations. They signify neutrality and independence, and they embody a promise that was made and must now be kept, not just to UN Women, but to women and girls. With COVID-19 threatening to undermine gains that have been made, it is time to empower the one organization that can do the most globally to prevent backtracking and propel progress.



Mobina Khatun, 45, is one of the 40 Rohingya Women Volunteers working with UN Women to mobilize their communities and raise awareness on COVID-19 within different camps in Ukhiya, Bangladesh. Photo: Pappu Mia/UN Women

# OVERVIEW OF REVENUE, 2019

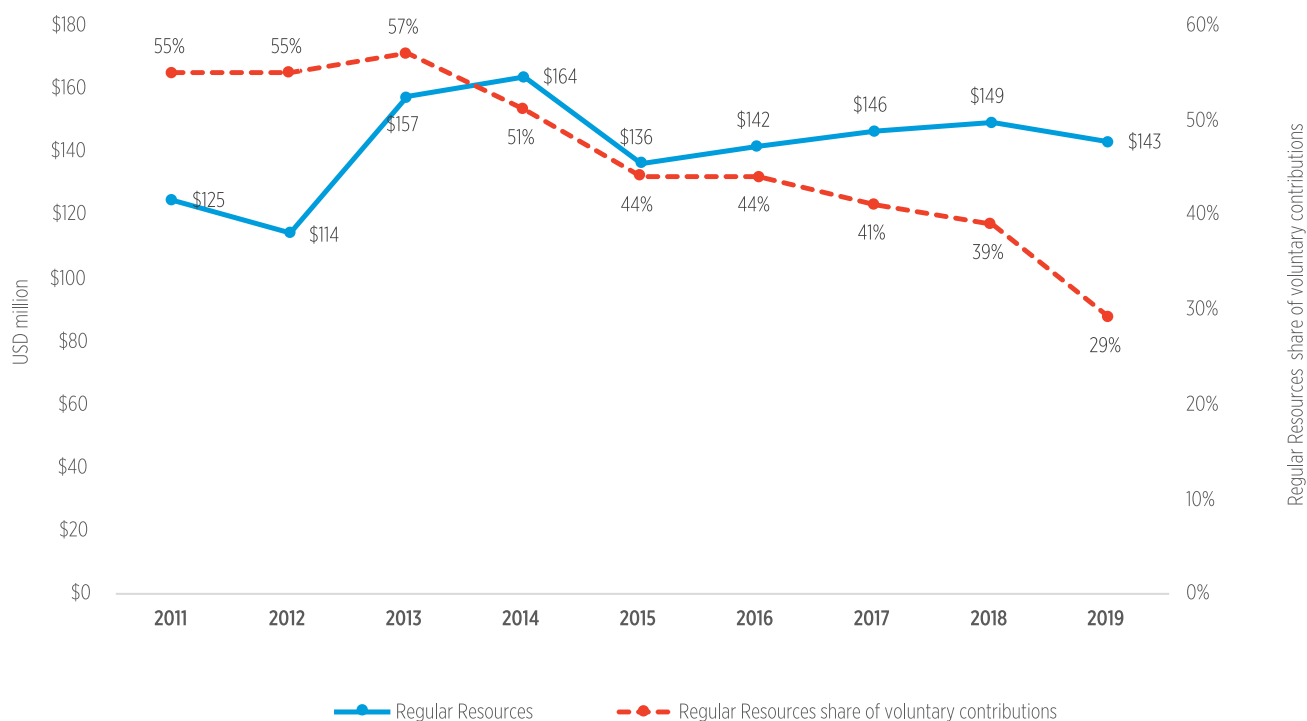


In the northern Bolivian Amazon, a sustainable venture is involving the local community in processing wild fruits from the Amazon jungle, and at the same time, protecting the forests against felling of trees and pollution. Photo: UN Women/Teófila Guarachi.

**In 2019, UN Women total voluntary contributions stood at USD 500.4 million, exceeding the total estimated budget endorsed by the Executive Board (USD 440 million).**

Regular resources comprised USD 143 million, marking a 4 per cent decline from the previous year. While regular resources have declined proportionally since 2013, as well as in amounts during 2015 and 2019, other resources have increased significantly, reaching an all-time high of USD 357.4 million in 2019. The share of regular resources in total voluntary contributions declined from 39 per cent in 2018 to 29 per cent. This marked the first time in the history of the entity that regular resources fell below the global Funding Compact threshold of 30 per cent.

**FIG. 1 CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGULAR RESOURCES, 2011-2019**





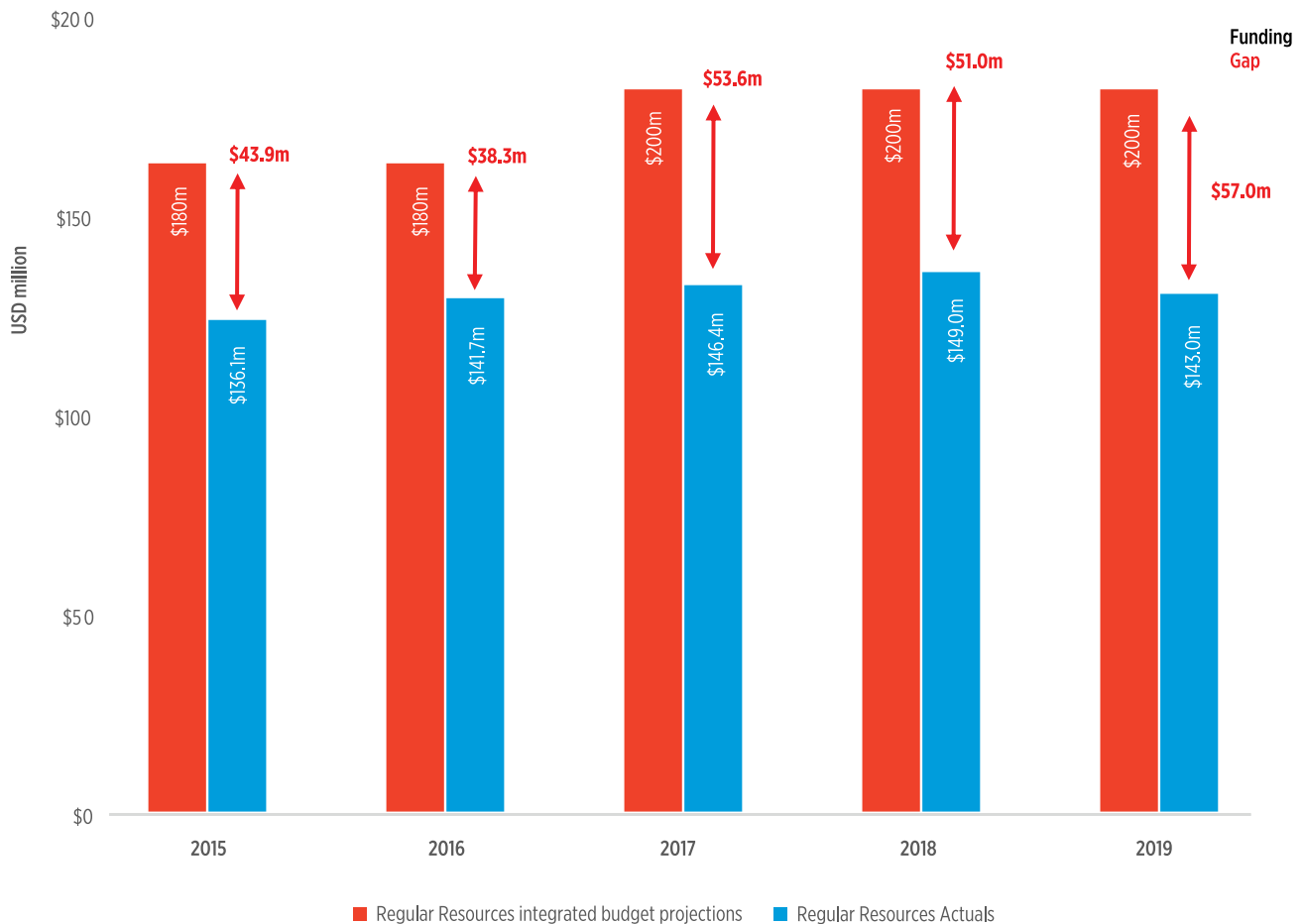
**The regular resources revenue shortfall was USD 57.04 million or 29 per cent of the projection for 2019.**

The shifting proportion of regular to other resources impacts the overall funding structure of UN Women and affects the work the organization can carry out and the results it is able to achieve in partnership. An adequate level of regular resources is critical for sustainability, the integrity of the Strategic Plan and the ability of UN Women to mobilize other resources.



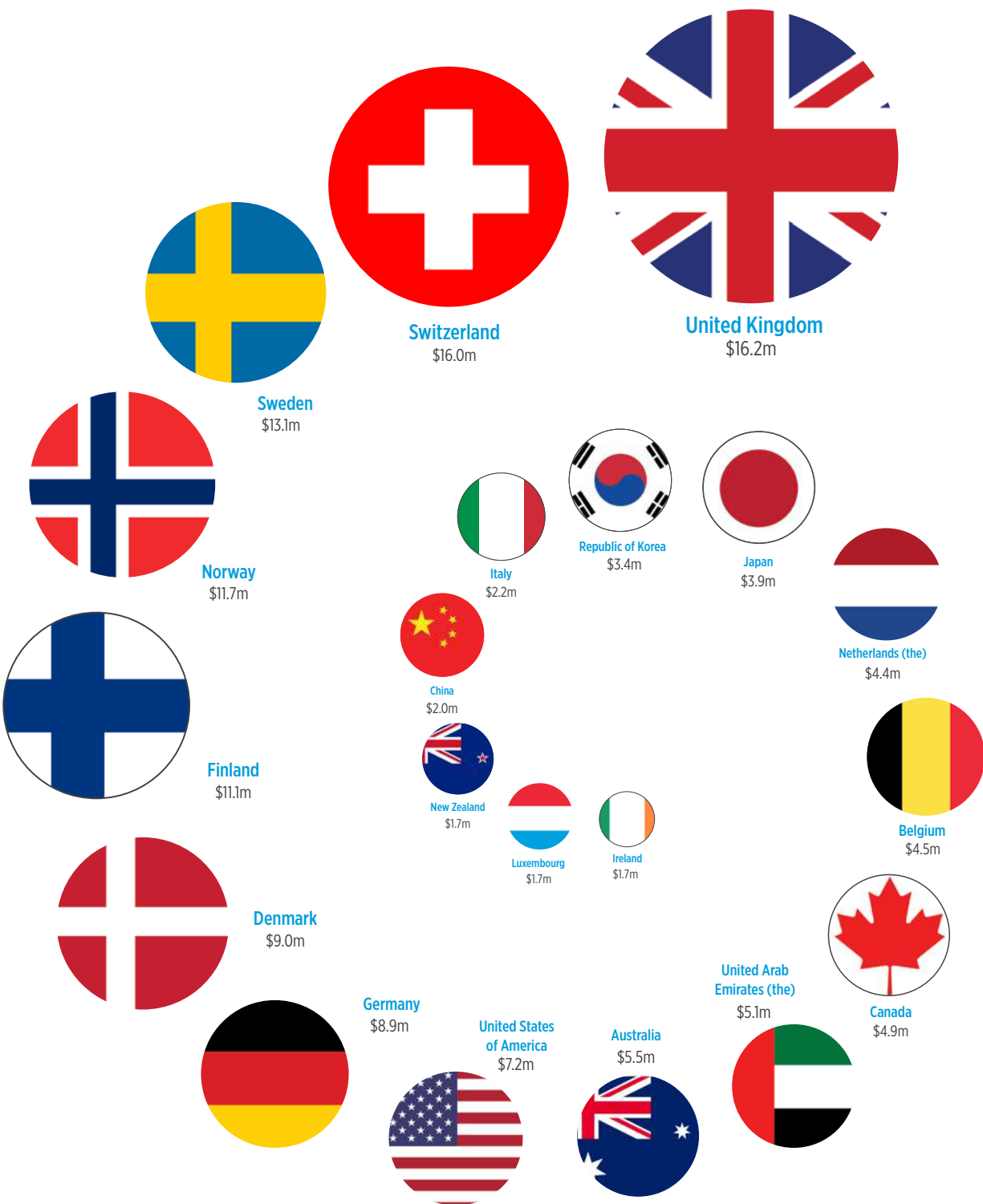
UN Peacekeepers take part in the women's military, defence and security forces parade to mark the launch of the Namibia National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. Photo: UN Women/Otae Mkandawire

**FIG. 2 FUNDING GAP IN REGULAR RESOURCES, 2015–2019**



# COMMITTED TO THE CORE

FIG. 3 TOP 20 REGULAR RESOURCES PARTNERS, 2019  
(IN USD MILLION)



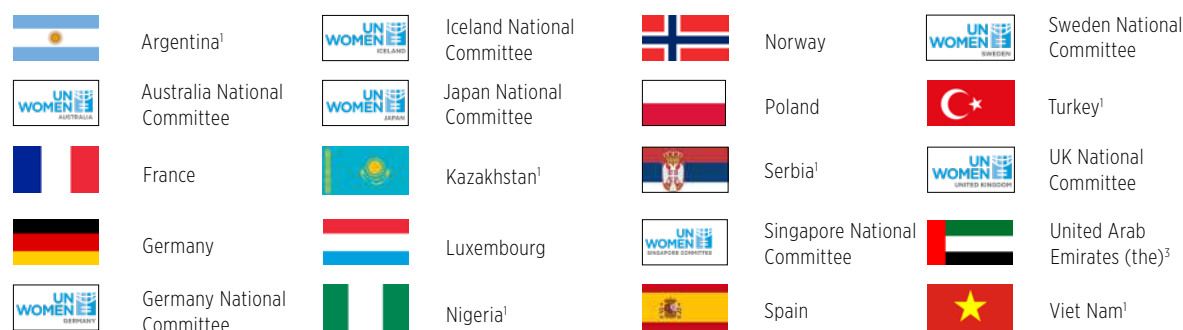
## FIG. 4 REGULAR RESOURCES MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENTS, 2019

The number of multi-year commitments in 2019 went up to 30 from 29 in 2018.



## FIG. 5 PARTNERS THAT INCREASED THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO REGULAR RESOURCES, 2019

In 2019, seven UN Women National Committees increased their regular resource contributions.



## FIG. 6 NEW (N) AND RETURNING (R) REGULAR RESOURCE PARTNERS, 2019

In 2019, there were 23 new or returning regular resource partners, up from 18 in 2018.

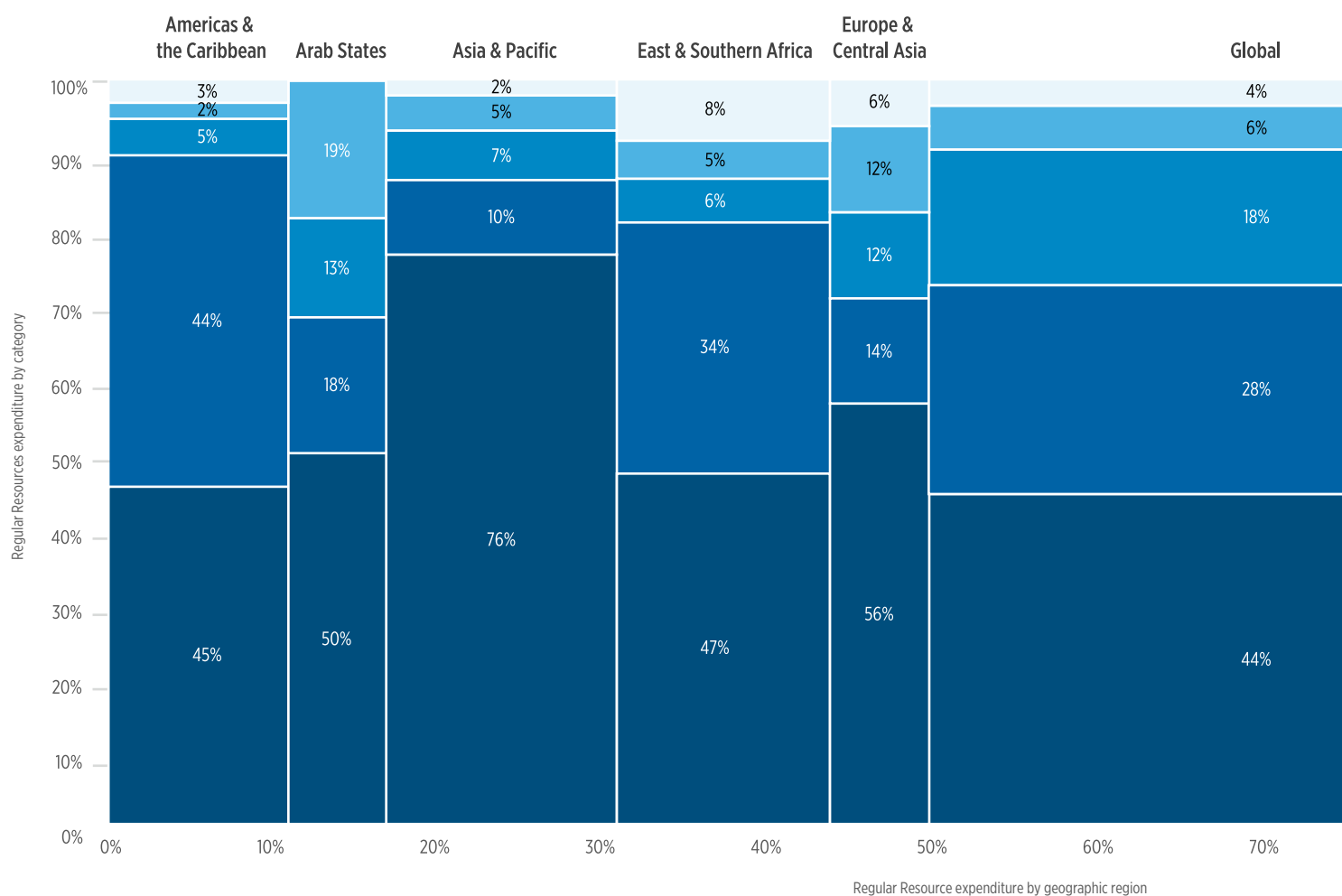


# EXPENDITURE, 2019

**Regular resources expenditure in 2019 totalled USD 155.7 million (Figure 8).** Spending was greatest on programme implementation, technical support and stewardship, at 50 per cent of the total, followed by leadership on normative and coordination work as well as management, at 27 per cent. A smaller share went to partnership, communication and resource mobilization activities at 13 per cent; United Nations, intergovernmental and civil society coordination stood at 6 per cent, while policy, knowledge and results management, hovered at 3 per cent.

Figure 7, on spending by region, presents each region along the horizontal axis, while each coloured vertical bar represents the total share of programmatic expenditure within the region. For example, expenditure in the East and Southern Africa region was 13 per cent of total regular resources expenditure in 2019. The region's expenditure on programme implementation, technical support and stewardship accounted for 47 per cent of this amount.

FIG. 7 REGULAR RESOURCES SPENDING BY REGION AND PROGRAMMATIC CATEGORY



## KEY

- Programme Implementation, Technical Support and Stewardship
- Leadership on normative and coordination work plus organizational management
- Partnerships, Communications and Resource Mobilization
- UN, Intergovernmental and Civil Society Coordination
- Policy Leadership, Knowledge and Results Management

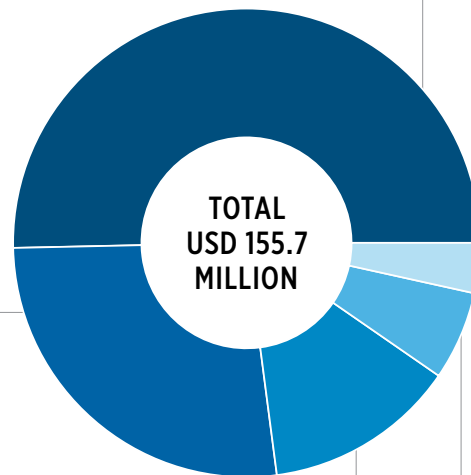
**FIG. 8 REGULAR RESOURCES EXPENDITURE BY CATEGORY**

**PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND STEWARDSHIP - 50%**

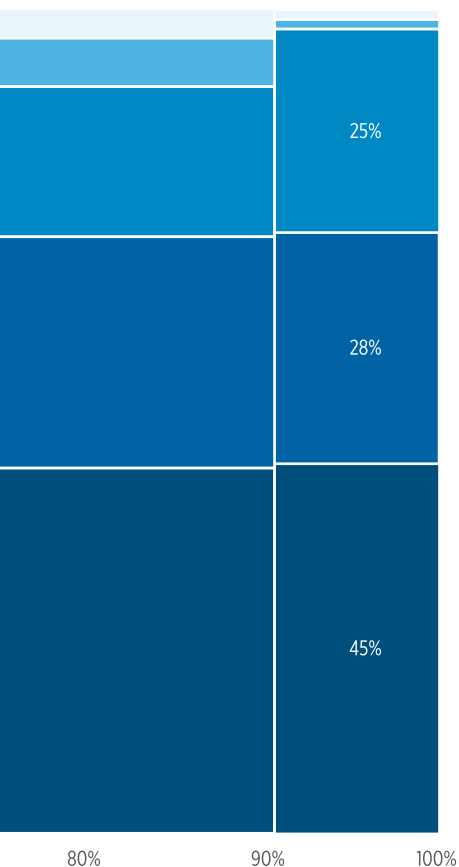
Administration and stewardship of over USD 330 million and over 400 active donor agreements with over 1,000 reporting commitments. Seed funding, support, and oversight for over 1,200 on-going programmes spread over 12 thematic areas over 450 outcomes, and tracking over 2,200 indicators. World experts providing research and analysis, technical guidance, knowledge management, training and capacity development.

**LEADERSHIP ON NORMATIVE AND COORDINATION WORK PLUS ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT - 27%**

Leadership for the implementation of the triple mandate globally and across 6 regional, 5 multi-country, 52 country, 29 programme and 8 liaison offices. Management, mentorship and supervision of over 1,000 staff and over 1,800 contractors, experts and interns.



**West & Central Africa**



**PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION - 13%**

Partnership with over 110 Member States, 12 national committees, 29 UN entities and 2,815 private sector companies signatories of Women Empowerment Principles in 2019 including 68 providing financial or other contributions to UN Women’s mandate. Managing corporate communication and advocacy in collaboration with 81 media partners, reaching out to 10.2 million social media followers and 5.6 million unique visitors on the global website in 2019.

**UN, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND CIVIL SOCIETY COORDINATION - 6%**

Coordination and policy advocacy with 193 Member States, over 80 sister agencies and United Nations bodies, and thousands of civil society organizations.

**POLICY LEADERSHIP, KNOWLEDGE AND RESULTS MANAGEMENT - 3%**



# RESULTS: GLOBAL



Second anniversary of gender parity strategy GA74, September 2019, New York. Photo: UN Women.

Gender parity at all levels of the United Nations is mandated by the General Assembly. Parity represents a commitment to core values and rights, and is imperative for efficiency, impact and credibility. The Office of the Focal Point for Women in the UN System, situated at UN Women and funded by regular resources, monitors and reports on the status of women across the United Nations, keeping progress towards parity on track as outlined in the UN Secretary-General's "System-wide strategy on gender parity" launched in 2017. In 2019, the Office prepared the Secretary-General's Report on the Improvement of the Status of Women, and produced the system's first guidelines on creating an organizational environment that enables gender parity.

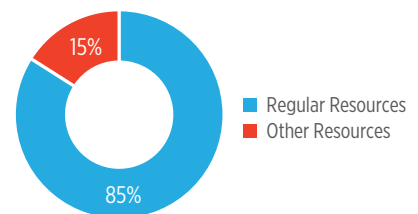
The Office also leads the system-wide Gender Focal Point Network, now 200 members strong. Over 100 convened at the 2019 annual general meeting, including, for the first time, from peace operations, where parity challenges are greatest. Among other outcomes, the meeting improved skills to implement the new enabling environment guidelines. When COVID-19 struck, the Office swiftly responded with tips on sustaining gender parity. Multiple webinars took up topics such as working at home and managing remote teams.

## What's next?

As stated by the Secretary-General, the greatest challenges to gender parity are in United Nations country offices. Regular resources investments in regional or local focal point meetings, tailored capacity-building sessions and hands-on follow-up workshops for Gender Focal Points in the field would quicken uptake of the enabling environment guidelines.

## UPHOLDING CORE VALUES

Fig 11. Share of UN System Coordination Division expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



“The 2019 GFP Global Annual Meeting was an eye-opening learning experience for me. Recently, I became a Gender Focal Point at UNDP, and this meeting prepared me to start this new assignment smoothly, by getting to know the overall support I could count on from the Office of Focal Point for Women, acquitting peer group from across the UN system, discussing challenges, hearing inspiring good practices and accessing all the rich resources I could leverage.”

- Maria Teresa Lago Lao, Diversity and Inclusion Specialist, UNDP, HQ.

# PROVIDING A WORLD OF GENDER EXPERTISE

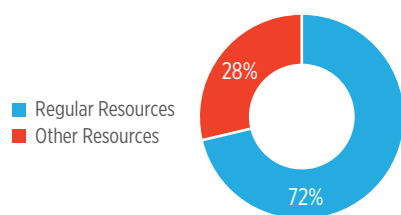
Focused training on gender equality and women’s empowerment equips a critical mass of people with the latest knowledge and skills, and is an essential part of accelerating actions to achieve the Beijing Platform for Action. Since 2014, the UN Women Training Centre has developed a dynamic online eLearning Campus to respond to surging demand for gender expertise, from UN Women, the wider United Nations system, and counterparts.

Fully funded by regular resources, and entirely dedicated to training for gender equality, the eLearning Campus is the only platform of its type in the United Nations, and one of the few globally. In 2019, 38,100 users enrolled in the platform, bringing the total to 103,643. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, an unprecedented increase in demand saw new eLearning accounts grow by 150 per cent per month. With 83 courses, the eLearning Campus offers flexible learning to meet the demands of diverse audiences. A community of practice links nearly 2,600 participants with opportunities to exchange knowledge on current gender training trends, opportunities and resources globally.

## What’s next?

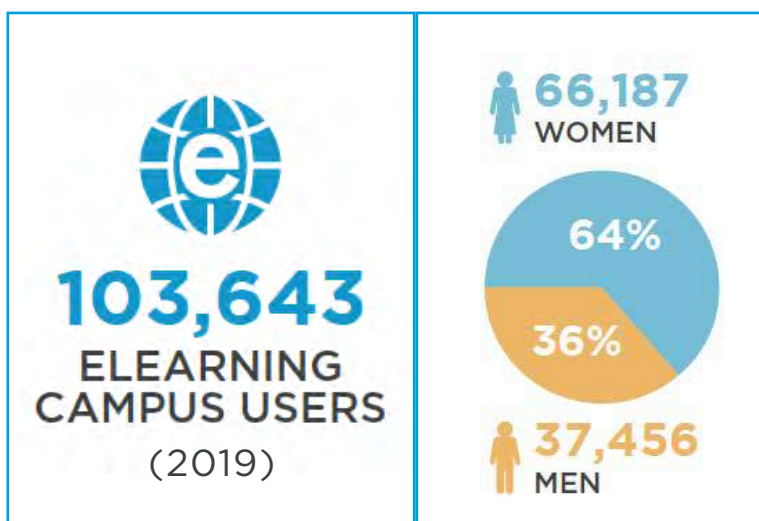
The eLearning Campus requires sustained and additional resources to keep delivering high-quality training for gender equality. It must continue to offer a diverse range of self-paced, moderated, blended and face-to-face courses, tools and services, and keep abreast of new technologies. Improved service to learners would come through advanced hosting, customer and backstopping services. An expanded and more inclusive menu of courses in different languages would engage wider audiences. Better branding could increase participation in the community of practice and help consolidate UN Women’s role as a leader in training for gender equality.

Fig 10. Share of UN Women Training Centre expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



“The Gender and Macroeconomics course by UN Women widened my perspective on the subject matter to include other important outcomes such as empowering women to contribute to the formal labour force, and increasing employment in general, hence contributing positively to the GDP of the country.”

- Amina Tarraf, Social Justice Officer, Ministry of Social Solidarity (Egypt)





Executive Boards of UN Women, UNICEF, and WFP visited sustainable organic farming project in Nariño, Colombia. Photo: UN Women/Luis Ponce

## MAKING LINKS FOR UN MEMBER STATES

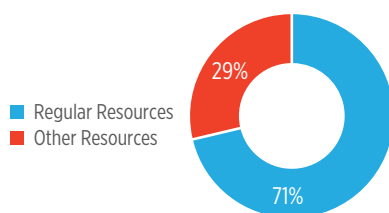
UN Women’s Executive Board Secretariat draws on regular resources to help craft agendas and policies that improve the lives of women and girls globally, and are grounded in multilateral consensus. In 2019, Secretariat activities included supporting Member State participation in the annual joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS; UNICEF; UN Women and WFP. On a visit to Colombia, board members saw firsthand how United Nations organizations work together, including on complex issues related to sustaining peace and development, and advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women. They spoke with local government officials about the first binational project of the Peacebuilding Fund for Latin America, led by UN Women with UNICEF and UNHCR, where one of the main aims is ending gender-based violence.

A second field visit for UN Women’s Executive Board members took place to the Caribbean Multi-Country Office, which covers 22 countries and territories. Members saw programme successes in ending violence and empowering women in the economy, and gained better understanding of the challenges facing small island developing nations.

### What’s next?

In 2020, the Executive Board Secretariat will coordinate all joint activities of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS; UNICEF; UN Women and WFP. Regular resources will bolster its capacity and effectiveness as it takes up tasks requested by Member States, such as streamlining coordination and strengthening governance across United Nations development entities. The Secretariat will convene regular meetings among Executive Board Presidents and Secretariats, with extra urgency arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The crisis has already spurred new and flexible working arrangements on an unprecedented scale, as the United Nations put business continuity plans into operation across the globe.

Fig 9. Share of Intergovernmental Support Division expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



“We are glad to be here to shine a light on the region and on the good work that UN Women is doing. We were struck by the strength and depth of the partnership between UN Women and the countries we visited.”

— Ambassador Pernelle Beckles, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, and President of the UN Women Executive Board (2019)



# SETTING NEW DIRECTIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION

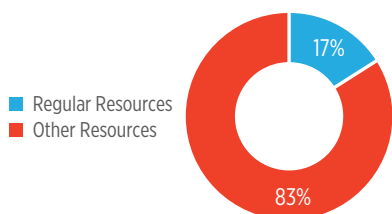
Since 2017, almost a million Rohingya people have sought refuge in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, creating the world’s fastest growing refugee crisis. From the onset, women and girls, who make up more than half the refugees, have faced high risks of abuse, exploitation and violence. Gender-responsive humanitarian action has been critical, and UN Women, with the support of Government of Canada, has led the way forward by establishing a Gender Hub to collaborate with and influence all humanitarian actors.

The Gender Hub provides expertise that strengthens the ability of humanitarian actors to integrate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in their programmes. It developed a gender induction programme for all new staff from different humanitarian organizations, and is creating training for different humanitarian sectors with the first for the food security sector completed. Gender Tip Sheets guide specific sectors, and advocacy highlights top priorities to accelerate progress. Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls feature in every element of the 2020 Joint Response Plan for Cox’s Bazar. UN Women’s Emergency Response Fund (UNWEF), a unique global funding mechanism for gender equality, was created with regular resources and funded UN Women’s initial response to the Rohingya refugee crisis including the inter-sector Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group that UN Women leads, and assessments and consultations that resulted in creation of the Gender Hub.

## What’s next?

Additional regular resources invested in the UNWEF would significantly enhance gender-responsive assistance that is a lifeline for women and girls caught in crisis. Immediate funding for sudden emergencies or a peak in a protracted crisis has allowed UN Women to reach women and girls at critical stages, lay the basis for longer-term relief and empowerment efforts, and influence other humanitarian actors to make services and plans gender-responsive. The UNWEF could become a catalytic fund ensuring that all humanitarian action serves women and girls, saves lives, and helps the international community live up to its promises to deliver on gender equality in the most difficult circumstances.

Fig 12. Share of Humanitarian Action & Crisis Response department expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



“The Gender Hub has equipped us with the tools to effectively provide advice to sectors for a better gender integrated response [...] and the development of specific gender training for food security sector was really helpful in engaging the sector’s partners. The involvement of gender focal points in Gender with Age Marker review has enabled us to learn more on the application of the marker in the project cycle.”

- Rimu Badya, Gender Focal Point for the Food Security Sector and Gender Officer at the World Food Programme



Panel Discussion on Inclusive Access to GBV Services for Rohingya and Host Community, 16 Days of Activism, 8 December 2019. Photo: UN Women/Khaled Arafat Ahmed

# COVID-19

A FAST AND FLEXIBLE RESPONSE. BUT THE WORK FOR WOMEN HAS JUST BEGUN

**COVID-19 began as a global health crisis in 2019 that quickly spiralled into profound economic, social and political shocks.**

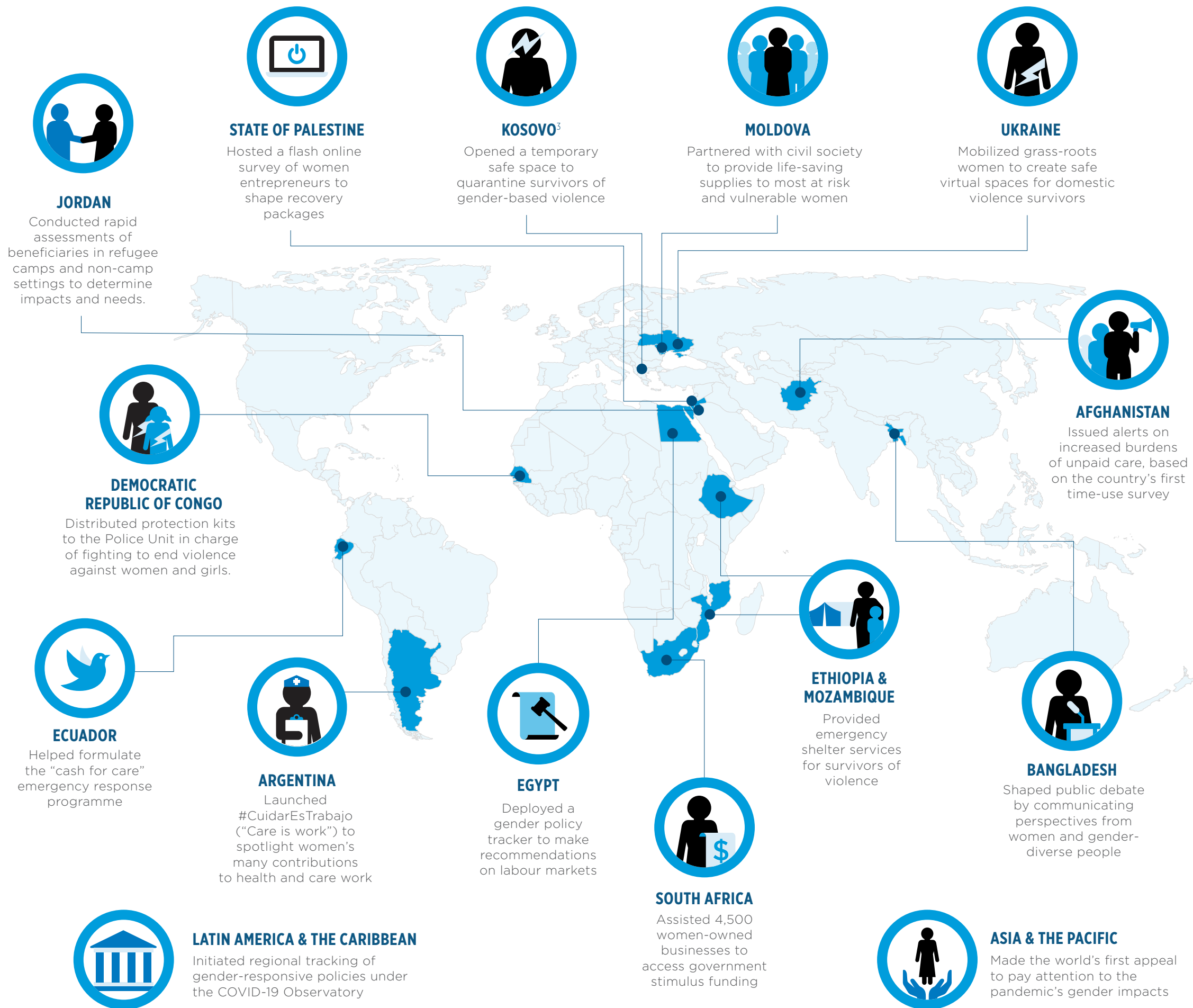
It made the fault lines of inequality glaringly apparent. For women, the results have been higher rates of unemployment than men, high risks of infection since they make up 70 per cent of medical workers, and extra burdens of unpaid care work in families. Under lockdowns, they face more acute risks of gender-based violence.

UN Women is meeting the challenges of the pandemic for women and girls at the global, regional and national levels. It operates on the premise that more than ever, only bold and transformative steps will lead to lasting recovery. The world must build back better.

From the first days of the pandemic, UN Women developed the UN policy positioning, sent out by the United Nations Secretary-General, on the pandemic's specific impacts on women and girls. It warned that COVID-19 could easily reverse limited gains for gender equality and women's rights, and proposed strategies for countries and the United Nations to keep ahead of the curve.

UN Women's expertise has since guided the UN multi-partner COVID-19 response and recovery trust fund, set up to support low- and middle- income countries, and steered coordinated interventions with the international financial institutions. The entity has moved forward with a global programme targeting 20 countries with particularly weak health systems, expanding on past experiences with the Ebola and Zika viruses, which affirmed that only a systematic, intentional gender lens leads to better management of infectious diseases. Further, women's leadership and contributions are critical to curbing infection rates and moving towards recovery.

Regular resources have made UN Women's global response to COVID-19 fast and effective. Yet many countries are fragile and struggling to cope, and here as elsewhere, women bear the brunt. With new infusions of regular resources, UN Women could offer the levels of support that will make a significant difference in the lives of women and their families, and set the path towards transformation.





# RESULTS: REGIONAL



## AFRICA

### MAKING AGRICULTURE EMPOWERING – AND CLIMATE-SMART



Women farmers cultivating shallots, Mali.  
Photo: UN Women

Agriculture drives economies in rural Africa, where women make up more than 50 per cent of the agricultural workforce. Yet increasing pressures come from environmental degradation and climate change. Women face extra barriers thrown up by gender inequalities that profoundly limit their work and productivity. They have less access to land and finance, for instance, and lower educational levels. Their voices often go unheard in households, communities and institutions.

With regular resources, coupled with contributions from the private sector and institutional donors, UN Women’s climate-smart agriculture programme tackles these multiple issues together. It improves individual women’s access to land, skills, technology, finance and markets, while bolstering the institutions and services that support greater voice and productivity. Approximately 50,000 women in over 20 countries have learned new techniques to increase yields and profits from agriculture, while adapting to climate-change.

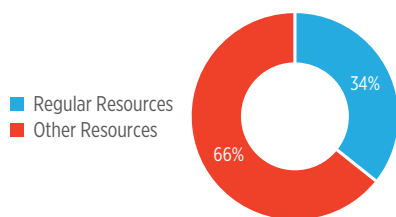
In Côte d’Ivoire, for instance, 1,800 women shea producers gained access to markets in Europe and the United States through the ECOCERT organic certification, while over 4,200 women in Mali learned skills to make higher-value agricultural products. Liberia, women’s right to land was enshrined in the Land Act. Training for 180 government officers in Senegal introduced gender-responsive land governance. In South Africa, rural women in the agricultural sector were supported to participate in the nationwide consultations on land reform and agriculture. In Malawi, UN Women advocated for policy changes of women’s access to credit, resulting in the National Bank of Malawi waiving the need for collateral for loans up to US\$6,700. Stronger entrepreneurial ecosystems emerged through strengthening more than 200 women’s cooperatives in more than ten countries. Beefed-up infrastructure including digital solutions such as the Buy from Women platform, as well as production, storage and market facilities in eight countries.

Regular resources provided the basis for launching the programme, funding productivity studies that generated strong evidence for designing it in line with women’s needs to diversify agricultural production and enter more profitable value chains. A regional training on climate-smart agriculture, also funded by regular resources, brought together over 40 representatives from UN Women country offices to share experiences to broaden the reach of the initiative.

#### What’s next?

Reaching 50,000 women is a solid start for the programme. Additional regular resources would extend climate-smart agriculture to women across Africa, reaching more countries, and further building on lessons learned.

Fig 13. Share of Africa region expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



“Since UN Women gave us a mill and corn processing machine, we have been able to make profits, which we used to buy more machines. We’ve also received training from UN Women, like marketing, accounting... [ ] My life has changed a lot with UN Women’s support and the training received, I now help my husband a lot. Sometimes the children get sick and I can go to the doctor to get prescriptions and buy medicines. I get a lot of joy. And there is also independence.”

— Fatoumata Niang, beneficiary from St. Louis, Senegal



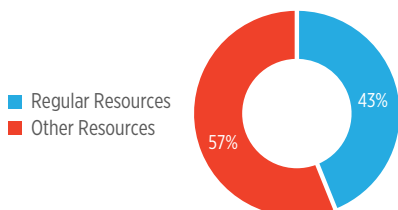
Training sessions Guatemala. Photo: UN Women



## AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN

### SUSTAINED SUPPORT OVER TIME OPENS DOORS TO POLITICAL OFFICES

Fig 14. Share of Guatemala Country Office expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



Women are still rare in political life in Guatemala, despite marginal improvements. In the 2019 elections, 31 women won seats in Congress, still less than 20 per cent of a total of 160 seats. Only three indigenous women were elected, even though indigenous peoples comprise over 40 per cent of the population. At the municipal level, 10 out of 340 mayors are women; none is indigenous.

Making gains in political participation takes time and patience, given the multiple barriers women face, from limited economic resources to gender-based violence. With regular resources, UN Women has made a sustained commitment to developing women’s leadership skills and encouraging them to claim their right to participate. In the lead-up to the 2019 elections, training for over 140 women leaders built advocacy, communications and campaigning skills. The women came from 24 political parties and two civic committees in four key regions in the country. UN Women partnered with the National Forum for Women in exchanging knowledge and strategies to break barriers to participation, especially at the local level. Seven women in the training successfully ran for seats as municipal councillors, where they now oversee local development agendas. Others serve in municipal offices for women, coordinating municipal services for women and girls in their community.

Political participation remains the most underfunded programme area in Guatemala, yet women’s exclusion from decision-making is a major driver of discrimination in many other areas of life. UN Women’s ability to apply regular resources gives the work in this area the traction it deserves.

#### What’s next?

Women’s political participation is a key commitment in Guatemala’s Peace Accords, and in international instruments such as CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. An electoral reform process has presented several recommendations on gender parity and the increased inclusion of women and indigenous peoples. With debate on these proposals taking place in public forums and Congress, continued advocacy and expertise will be vital in backing women’s efforts to ensure reforms actively boost women’s leadership and political clout.

“I was motivated to realize that my contribution in social work, as technician in several institutions, could have a larger impact within a municipal role [...] Now I contribute from the knowledge I have accumulated as a person, with support from UN Women and other entities, and while it is still difficult for women, the three other women councillors and I have broken paradigms.”

— Irma Yolanda Caal Caal, 8th Municipal Councillor, Municipality of San Pedro Carchá, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala

Women and youth have largely been absent from Libya’s peacebuilding initiatives, national and international. Statistics show that women’s direct participation in peace negotiations increases the sustainability and the quality of peace. The participation of civil society groups, including women’s organizations, makes a peace agreement sixty-four per cent less likely to fail.<sup>4</sup> This is a lost opportunity, given that transitions after conflict can open doors to sweeping social changes and that women and girls make transformative contributions to achieving and sustaining peace. Against that backdrop, regular resources sustain UN Women’s ongoing advocacy for ensuring women’s engagement in peace and security activities in Libya, including at high-level international talks such as the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum, held as part of the Berlin Conference on Libya.

UN Women’s work with government, civil society and other actors to promote and advance women’s participation in the peace processes has slowly gained traction. From the last minute inclusion of women in the Palermo Conference in 2018 to the significant momentum of their participation in 2020, when German Chancellor Angela Merkel invited multiple governments to support the three-point plan presented by the then UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General Ghassan Salamé. The resulting Berlin Conclusions made a prominent commitment to encouraging women’s participation in all aspects of a democratic transition, conflict resolution, peacebuilding and the political process. UN Women partnered with the Nordic Women’s Mediator Network to provide expertise to women at the conference so they could make an effective case for prioritizing gender equality and women’s empowerment.

UN Women also drew on regular resources to launch the Gender Working Group, the first of its kind in Libya. Linking the UN peacekeeping, humanitarian and development teams in the country, the group oversees a coordinated, gender-focused response at critical times, such as after the outbreak of conflict in April 2019 and for the COVID-19 pandemic. It has also shone a spotlight on the need to better monitor conflict-related sexual violence, and has begun training national human rights advocates, women’s activists and others on how to collect data on the issue. The group has served as a forum to rally attention to gender across different dialogue processes, such as a Security Council briefing where a Libya human rights defender gave a compelling plea to extend protections for women and girls, including those subject to attack for standing up for women’s rights.

### What’s next?

Women across Libya need to shape and lead advocacy for gender equality and the future of their country. Additional regular resources would help UN Women scale up capacity-building for women’s civil society groups, including to claim their right to participate in peace talks. Greater support would improve analysis of implementation of commitments to women, peace and security by the entire UN country team, and of human rights and gender equality standards, both areas that tend to be underfunded.



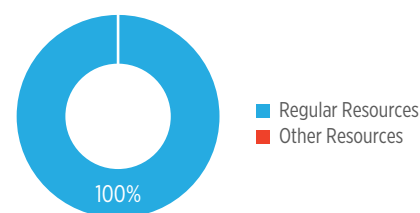
## ARAB STATES

### MORE WOMEN COME TO PEACE TABLES AND MAKE A CASE FOR CHANGE



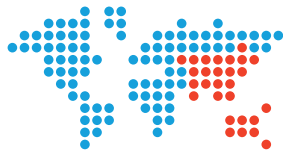
Marwa Mohamed, Head of Advocacy and Outreach at Lawyers for Justice in Libya, addressing the UN Security Council on 4 September 2019. UN Photo/ Manuel Elias.

Fig 15. Share of Libya Country Office expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



“Without this commitment to supporting coordination and advocacy, it would be very difficult to link the various programme areas of intervention that are advancing the women, peace and security agenda in Libya. These funds have allowed a through line between all the different UN Women programmes and have allowed UN Women Libya to promote women, peace and security and women’s participation as a priority throughout the UN Country team, humanitarian country team and UNSMIL.”

— Member of the Gender Working Group



# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

## PACIFIC STATES SHAPE THEIR OWN PLATFORM, ON GENDER AND BEYOND

The Pacific island countries and territories have made a raft of commitments to gender equality. But slow change stems from a complex mix of social, cultural and economic barriers, including harmful social norms and exclusionary practices. Gender equality is not systematically integrated into laws and policies. Limited resources, and constrained government capacity hold back progress. These factors also mean that Pacific countries and territories are underrepresented at international forums, which undercuts their ability to shape and own global commitments. National implementation suffers as a result.

Regular reporting on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action provides an opportunity to reflect on progress and challenges in fulfilling commitments to gender equality in the Pacific islands. It is a chance for governments, civil society actors, development partners and Pacific Island women and men to come together and define what they need to do to accelerate progress.

In 2019, UN Women’s Fiji Multi-Country Office, covering 14 countries and territories, supported 11 of these in conducting national Beijing+25 reviews. When it became clear that most did not have funds for attending meetings to prepare for the Beijing+25 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference, UN Women tapped regular resources to hold a less costly and more accessible preparatory meeting for the Pacific. Over three days, senior government representatives, including from national women’s machineries, convened with civil society leaders to assess challenges, celebrate achievements and identify priorities for action. This meant that when the Asia-Pacific regional review took place, Pacific governments negotiated as a bloc, successfully pressing to include references to the impact of the climate crisis on their region and other low-lying states.

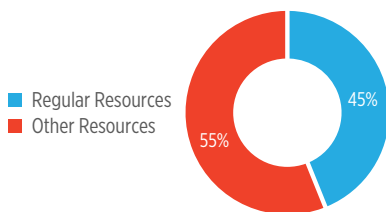
### What’s next?

Each year, the Pacific region faces challenges in preparing for global intergovernmental meetings. With additional regular resources, UN Women could increase capacities among governments and other stakeholders to strategize and effectively advocate for national and regional priorities, including at the Commission on the Status of Women. Meetings could become places to amplify the perspectives of a Pacific ‘bloc’ on regional priorities such as ending domestic violence, improving sexual and reproductive health and rights, and climate resilience. Since travel costs in the Pacific are high, regular resources could support improved digital and online platforms for remote engagement and movement building.



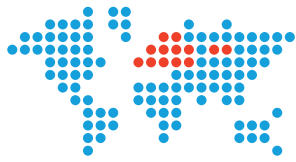
Dr. Andrina Thomas called for generation equality in the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting on the Beijing +25 Review in 2019. Photo: UN Women Fiji MCO

Fig 16. Share of Fiji Multi-Country Office expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2</sup>



“As Pacific Island Countries, we need to commit to a few things, be united in full reaffirmation of the Beijing Platform of Action, build stronger regional consensus to advance gender equality and form coalitions that will take meaningful actions forward with urgency and accountability - regionally and globally.”

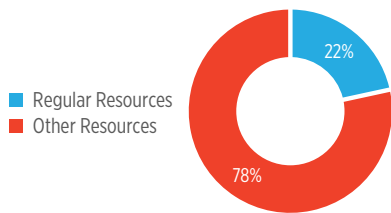
— Honourable Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Government of Fiji



## EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

### A REGIONAL COMMITMENT MOVES TOWARDS A REALITY IN WOMEN'S LIVES

Fig 17. Share of Western Balkan Countries and Turkey offices' expenditure by funding type, 2019<sup>2,5</sup>



The moment that Turkey and most Western Balkan countries endorsed the Istanbul Convention signalled hope for ending high levels of violence against women and girls. The convention provides a comprehensive legal framework that holds States accountable for action (or inaction) to stop violence. The European Union, however, has voiced concerns over how far new promises translate into actual practice.

By combining regular resources with other resources provided by the European Union, UN Women has helped launch a far-reaching regional drive to end violence. This has propelled important legal and policy advances, and strengthened women's organizations to monitor and advocate for continued changes. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, for example, the National Assembly of Republika Srpska stiffened its legal definition of domestic violence, now considered a criminal act, not just a misdemeanour. Kosovo amended its Criminal Code to improve protections around divorce, while an integrated database of cases of domestic violence strengthened coordination and improved the response of law enforcement, the judiciary, and social and rehabilitation services.

UN Women has also supported the first civil society platform on ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey, linking nine leading organizations. The platform has already conducted a detailed mapping of services to respond to sexual violence as part of making a forceful case for comprehensive data. This will shed light on the number of support services working with victims of sexual violence and the types of institutions providing services.

#### What's next?

With increased regular resources, UN Women could continue expanding awareness and encouraging compliance with international and regional norms as well as national laws and policies aimed at ending gender-based violence. It could reach deeper into law enforcement communities and the general population, and it could strengthen multisectoral support services in line with standards set in the Istanbul Convention. UN Women could systematically advocate for government funding for essential, high-quality services, especially for vulnerable women from minority groups.



Regional Forum on the Promotion of Istanbul Convention, Tirana, Albania, November 2019. Photo: UN Women ECA

# UN WOMEN REGULAR RESOURCE PARTNERS

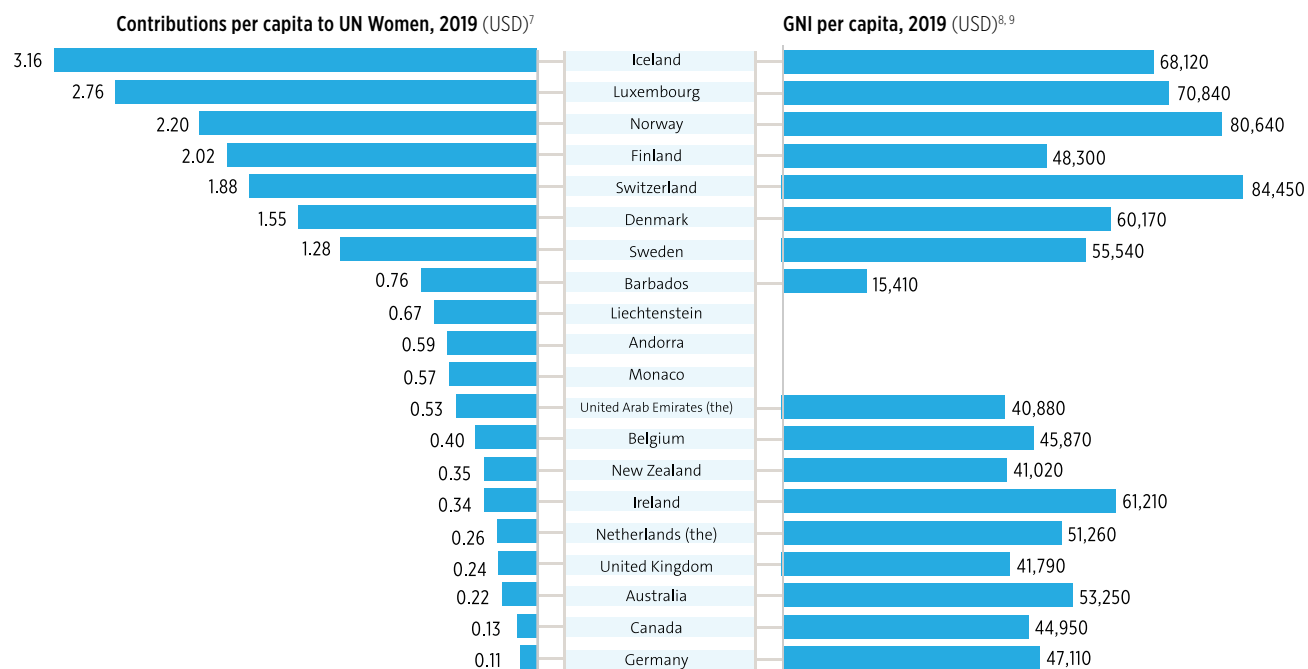
FIG 18. REGULAR RESOURCES (USD) CONTRIBUTIONS BY RESOURCE PARTNER, 2019

RESOURCE PARTNERS	REGULAR RESOURCES (CORE)	RESOURCE PARTNERS	REGULAR RESOURCES (CORE)
<b>GOVERNMENTS AND MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS</b>		Luxembourg	1,677,852
Afghanistan	1,000	Malaysia	50,000
Albania	500	Malta	227
Algeria	1,000	Marshall Islands (the)	100
Andorra	45,181	Mauritius	2,500
Argentina	190,540	Mexico	69,589
Armenia	2,500	Micronesia (Federated States of)	1,000
Australia	5,539,455	Monaco	22,222
Austria	285,388	Mongolia	7,000
Bahamas (the)	5,000	Montenegro	2,188
Bahrain	20,000	Morocco	20,000
Bangladesh	16,500	Mozambique	5,000
Barbados	216,657	Nauru	100
Belgium	4,545,455	Nepal	2,000
Bhutan	500	Netherlands (the)	4,444,444
Bulgaria	15,000	New Zealand	1,678,750
Burundi	979	Nicaragua	5,000
Cambodia	5,000	Niger (the)	100
Canada	4,887,229	Nigeria	57,858
China	2,000,000	Norway	11,700,012
Costa Rica	10,000	Palau	100
Côte d'Ivoire	26,348	Panama	15,000
Cuba	1,000	Paraguay	550
Cyprus	11,200	Peru	6,118
Czech Republic	17,298	Philippines (the)	2,500
Denmark	8,999,704	Poland	51,387
Dominican Republic (the)	73,930	Republic of Korea (the)	3,406,629
Eritrea	1,000	Republic of Moldova (the)	3,000
Estonia	90,909	Saint Lucia	100
Ethiopia	5,000	Samoa	3,261
Fiji	4,543	Senegal	576,805
Finland	11,123,471	Serbia	28,578
France	1,365,188	Sierra Leone	12,500
Gabon	52,692	Singapore	50,000
Gambia (the)	10,000	Slovak Republic (the)	55,006
Georgia	10,000	Slovenia	11,001
Germany	8,905,800	South Africa	42,553
Greece	500	Spain	770,077
Guyana	4,836	Sri Lanka	5,000
Iceland	1,115,180	Sweden	13,051,394
Indonesia	147,000	Switzerland	16,032,064
Iraq	1,000	Thailand	20,000
Ireland	1,668,521	Timor-Leste	72,676
Israel	10,000	Tonga	5,618
Italy	2,200,220	Trinidad and Tobago	5,000
Jamaica	3,990	Turkey	236,641
Japan	3,926,139	Ukraine	10,000
Kazakhstan	44,962	United Arab Emirates (the)	5,108,903
Kuwait	50,000	United Kingdom	16,224,386
Latvia	11,001	United States of America (the)	7,225,000
Lebanon	300	Uruguay	6,000
Libya	500	Viet Nam	85,372
Liechtenstein	25,426	Zambia	500
Lithuania	5,501	<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>140,570,703</b>



RESOURCE PARTNERS	REGULAR RESOURCES (CORE)
<b>NATIONAL COMMITTEES</b>	
Australia	705,622
Austria	1,953
Finland	475,137
Germany	103,932
Iceland	823,002
Japan	16,638
Netherlands	7,604
New Zealand	6,341
Singapore	16,171
Sweden	61,366
United Kingdom	77,749
United States of America	60,915
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>2,356,431</b>
<b>FOUNDATIONS, PRIVATE DONORS &amp; OTHERS</b>	
<i>Miscellaneous Donors<sup>6</sup></i>	35,644
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>35,644</b>
<b>TOTAL 2019 REGULAR RESOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>142,962,777</b>

FIG 20. REGULAR RESOURCES CONTRIBUTIONS PER CAPITA TO UN WOMEN AND GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA, 2019



# ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women
<b>CSA</b>	Climate-Resilient Agriculture
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>CSW</b>	Commission on the Status of Women
<b>DV</b>	Domestic Violence
<b>ECA</b>	Europe and Central Asia
<b>ESA</b>	East and Southern Africa
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FGE</b>	Fund for Gender Equality
<b>FIKA-CI</b>	Federation of Women in Shea Butter Value Chain in Cote d'Ivoire
<b>GAP</b>	Gender Action Plan
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GEM</b>	Gender Equality Marker
<b>GEWE</b>	Gender equality and women's empowerment
<b>GFPs</b>	Gender Focal Points
<b>GRB</b>	Gender-Responsive Budgeting
<b>GRHA</b>	Gender-Responsive Humanitarian Action
<b>GRPBMEA</b>	Gender-Responsive Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring and Evaluation and Auditing
<b>IATI</b>	International Aid Transparency Initiative
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>INGOs</b>	International Non-governmental Organizations
<b>JP</b>	Joint Programme
<b>LAC</b>	Latin America and the Caribbean
<b>MPTF</b>	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
<b>NAP</b>	National Action Plan
<b>NWMN</b>	Nordic Women Mediators network
<b>ODA</b>	Office for Disarmament Affairs
<b>OECD-DAC</b>	Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation
<b>MOPAN</b>	Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network
<b>MPTF</b>	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>RC</b>	Resident Coordinator
<b>RCO</b>	Resident Coordinator's Office
<b>R-GTG</b>	Regional Gender Theme Group
<b>R-UNSDG</b>	Regional United Nations Sustainable Development Group
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SDG MAPS</b>	Sustainable Development Goals- Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support for the 2030 Agenda
<b>UNCT</b>	United Nations Country Team
<b>UNCT-SWAP</b>	United Nations Country Team System-Wide Action Plan
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNDAF</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>UNOCHA</b>	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>UNOPS</b>	United Nations Office for Project Services
<b>UNPF</b>	United Nations Partnership Framework
<b>UNSCRs</b>	United Nations Security Council Resolutions
<b>UNSDCF</b>	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
<b>UNSMIL</b>	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
<b>UNSSC</b>	United Nations System Staff College
<b>UNTFHS</b>	United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security
<b>UNWEF</b>	United Nations Women Global Emergency Response Fund
<b>UPR</b>	Universal Periodic Review

<b>VAW</b>	Violence against Women
<b>VAWG</b>	Violence against Women and Girls
<b>WCA</b>	Workers' Compensation Act
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WPS</b>	Women, Peace, and Security

# ENDNOTES

- 1 In-kind contributions.
- 2 Total Regular Resources (RR) expenditure of a particular office or region as a proxy of the share of RR for a programme in the said office or region.
- 3 All references to Kosovo in this report shall be understood in full compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).
- 4 Source: The Council on Foreign Relations website & the Journal of International Interactions Empirical and Theoretical Research in International Relations, Volume 38, 2012 - Issue 2.
- 5 Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the Republic of North Macedonia and Serbia.
- 6 Miscellaneous Donors includes online and individual giving donations.
- 7 Sourced from: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POPTOTL>
- 8 Sourced from: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GNPPCAP.PP.CD>
- 9 Data not available for Liechtenstein, Monaco and Andorra.

[www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)  
[www.facebook.com/unwomen](https://www.facebook.com/unwomen)  
[www.twitter.com/un\\_women](https://www.twitter.com/un_women)  
[www.youtube.com/unwomen](https://www.youtube.com/unwomen)  
[www.flickr.com/unwomen](https://www.flickr.com/unwomen)  
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220 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10017, USA  
Tel: 646-781-4400  
Fax: 646-781-4444

