

The United Nations in the Islamic Republic of Iran

About UN Iran:

Iran joined the United Nations in 1945 as one of the original 50 founding members. The UN established its field presence in Iran in 1950 and today the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) is represented by **20** resident and **4** non-resident agencies, funds and specialized programmes. There are approximately 450 staff members in the UN system in Iran (90 per cent of whom are Iranian citizens), working in various offices across the country, though most are based in Tehran.



APDIM-ESCAP	UNDSS	UNIDO
FAO	UNESCO	UNRCO
IOM	UNFPA	UNOCHA
UNAIDS	UN-HABITAT	UNODC
UNAMA	UNHCR	WFP
UNAMI	UNIC	WHO
UNDP	UNICEF	

The various UN entities in Iran act according to their development and humanitarian mandates as agreed upon with the Government.

Humanitarian Response

The UNCT is at the forefront of providing humanitarian support to vulnerable populations including refugee communities in Iran.

The UN supports the Government of Iran in implementing inclusive refugee policies and facilitates coordinated protection approaches in support of the Afghan refugee situation.

COVID-19 Response

In 2020, to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, UN Iran worked closely with the Government to tackle the most pressing needs and deliver emergency support to the most affected population.

A COVID-19 Socio-Economic Recovery Programme (SERP) offer was developed by UN Iran in consultation with the Government with the aim to strengthen the national health system; promote employment opportunities and provide social protection.

Development Priorities

The UNCT continued to deliver on its 4 priority development areas:



Snapshot of results achieved in 2020

Key results achieved in 2020 by the UNCT in Iran with the great support of and in collaboration with national and international partners:

Humanitarian Response

In Iran, refugees have access to education, health and livelihoods opportunities. It is estimated that 96% of refugees in Iran live in cities, towns and villages, while 4% live in 20 settlements.

UNHCR | WFP | IOM

500,000 foreign students, including Afghan and Iraqi refugees, enrolled in national schools.

30,300 refugees in 20 settlements received cash and food assistance.

3,000 girl students provided with education incentives.



COVID-19 Response

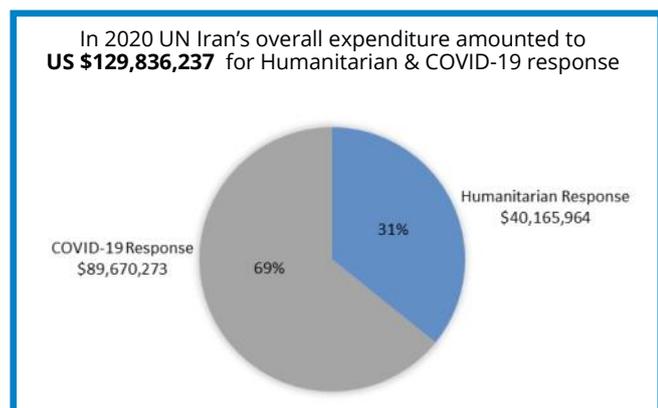
Several activities were undertaken by the UNCT to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the socio-economic downturn.

WHO | UNHCR | UNICEF | WFP | UNDP | IOM | UNFPA | UNAIDS | UNODC | UN-Habitat

6,549 refugee households and 32,000 individuals received cash assistance.

200 metric tons of PPE items and medical supplies procured.

+9 million people benefited from the mental health essential services during the pandemic.



Development Priorities

Health

Challenges addressed: HIV, diabetes, road traffic injuries, mental health and COVID-19.

UNDP | UNICEF | WHO | UNFPA | UNAIDS | UNESCO | FAO

3 million people in 63 cities and 63 villages benefitted from the implementation of Tobacco Free Initiative.

200,000 rapid HIV tests procured.

10 different cancer medicines for children procured internationally.

Environment

Challenges addressed: Water management, desertification, high CO2 emission levels, unsustainable farming and land management, shrinking wetlands and droughts.

UNDP | FAO | UNIDO | WHO | UNESCO | UNEP | UNHABITAT

17 wetland management plans approved and implemented.

191 villages around Urmia Lake adapted sustainable agriculture models and water management solutions.

13 energy efficiency solutions in 217 residential buildings and 33 governmental/public buildings mitigated 1,193 tons of CO2 emission.

Resilient economy

Challenges addressed: Natural disaster, food security and sustainable agriculture, sustainable employment, tourism and cultural heritage, urbanization.

UNICEF | UNDP | UNFPA | UNIDO | UNESCO | UNHABITAT | FAO

2,500 vulnerable groups & women headed households provided with opportunities at micro, small & medium enterprises.

16 new alternative livelihoods initiated across the country's wetland areas.

700 jobs in IT and 1,500 in garment sectors created.

Drug control

Challenges addressed: Drug abuse prevention and treatment and drug supply reduction.

UNODC | WHO | UNICEF

1,147,167 kg of various drugs was seized in 2020.

120 telephone counselors trained to improve the social behaviour of at-risk populations.

1,200 families in pre-schools participated in the prevention of risky behaviors & addiction programme.

