



04 June 2015 – The [United Nations Development Programme](#) (UNDP) just released a new report, emphasizing the Agency’s unique capabilities in responding to the many crises that affected our world in 2014 and looking ahead to its contributions to the upcoming [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

The report, constituting the Agency’s 2014/2015 Annual Report, underpins the UN’s overall priority for this year: [time for global action](#) .

“For UNDP, maintaining and strengthening our partnerships is a very high priority”

In the report’s foreword, Helen Clark – UNDP Administrator – stresses the crucial importance of this year, stating, “[2015 is] the year in which the 15-year quest to achieve the Millennium Development Goals concludes.”

“UNDP played a central role in devising, promoting and helping countries to achieve the MDGs, and is now working with its national partners to prepare for the SDGs.”

Ms Clark continues by emphasizing the unfinished business of the MDGs, especially concerning the eradication of poverty.

“Despite impressive progress on poverty reduction in recent years, there are still 1 billion people living on less than \$1.25 a day,” she states.

The report takes stock of the work completed by UNDP in 2014. This includes creating nearly 1 million jobs in low-income communities and ensuring that antiviral medication was provided to some 1.4 million people infected with the virus.

Looking ahead, Ms Clark states “UNDP’s expertise in poverty reduction, MDG implementation, democratic governance and crisis response and recovery will continue to make it a highly effective partner for developing countries as they strive to achieve the SDGs and tackle climate change”.

How is this expertise playing out in Europe?

Transforming through innovation: UNDP’s work in Europe

A key focus of UNDP’s work in all parts of the world is to help countries to strengthen their capacity to anticipate and withstand the impact of natural disasters and other sudden shocks.

In doing so, the Agency has helped to find adequate shelter and essential social services for internally displaced families, fleeing the fighting in eastern Ukraine in 2014.

Actively engaged in replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy, a EU-UNDP partnership in Moldova provided 90,000 people with heating through biomass systems.

In Croatia, a recent UNDP project helped close to 18,000 people with disabilities to regain the right to vote after they were removed from the national electoral register for being placed under legal guardianship.

Finally, the Agency has also been at the forefront of regional efforts to improve living standards and legal protection for our continent's 9 million Roma, and to change the prejudice they often confront. In Montenegro, for example, a UNDP registered hundreds of Roma for improved access to social and employment services.

More information

To discover more on UNDP's work, both in Europe and globally, read the full report on the [dedicated website](#)

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