



COUNTRY FACT SHEET

UNDP IN INDIA has been dedicated to improve the lives of the poorest, disadvantaged and marginalized since 1951. UNDP helps the government and civil society to overcome development challenges and works towards accelerating the progress of human development. UNDP supports the Government of India (GoI) to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In addition, it assists communities to find lasting solutions, strengthens capacity, and thus, improves their lives, and increases their self-reliance.

The cooperation between GoI and UNDP in India is based on the five-year Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP). Prepared under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and in line with India's Eleventh Five Year Plan, the cooperation over 2008-2012 focuses on:

- Strengthening inclusion of disadvantaged groups such as women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and minorities
- Supporting strategies and initiatives to address their economic and political barriers

UNDP in India works within the following thematic areas:

- Democratic Governance
- Poverty Reduction
- Energy and Environment
- Crisis Prevention and Recovery
- HIV and Development

The implementation of projects within these programme areas is in seven states - Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. These states have been identified for their low ranking in the human development indicators.

INDIA: FAST FACTS

Population¹: **1.15** bn

Annual GDP growth rate²: **8.7%**

132 of 179 countries in Human Development ranking³

34% population is below Purchasing Power Parity of \$1/day⁴

27.5% population lives below the national poverty line²

Women living in poverty⁵: **49%**

64.8% of total population literate¹

Parliament seats held by women⁶: **9.24%**

2.47 mn estimated to be living with HIV⁷

Carbon emitted per capita⁸: **1.2023** mt

¹Census 2001 ²Eleventh Five Year Plan, Government of India ³Human Development Indices: A statistical update 2008 ⁴National Sample Survey Organisation 61st round, 2004/05 ⁵Planning Commission 06 ⁶Election Commission, India ⁷National AIDS Control Organisation ⁸UN Data: <http://data.un.org>

Photo © Benoit Marquet/UNDP India



Photo © Tom Pietrasik/UNDP India

Photo © Benita Sumita/UNDP India

Photo © Benoît Marquet/UNDP India



DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

UNDP in India strengthens the capacity of the Government, local elected representatives, and communities to undertake more participatory and equitable development planning. Other key focus areas are greater transparency and accountability in local governance by improving access to information and justice.

From 2008 to 2012, UNDP in India will further strengthen capacities of elected officials and public administration at the state and district levels. This will reinforce the decentralized governance framework to better address the needs of the people - especially the marginalized and disadvantaged.



POVERTY REDUCTION

Despite annual growth rates that cross eight percent, one in four persons in India still lives below the income poverty line. UNDP India supports national and state governments to implement inclusive poverty reduction programmes, with a focus on human development. This also targets the MDG goal of reducing the number of people living in extreme poverty.

From 2008 to 2012, UNDP will continue to strengthen the government's capacities at the district and state level to improve planning across sectors to promote livelihoods. Special emphasis will also be laid on the promotion of income opportunities and better access to financial products for the poorest.



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

India's Eleventh Five Year Plan not only focuses on pro-poor and inclusive growth measures but stresses resource efficiency.

UNDP in India works to meet emerging challenges posed by climate change. Conserving biodiversity, arresting land degradation and increasing access to renewable energy sources are some of the national policies supported by UNDP. The preparation of an estimate of the amount of greenhouse gas emissions is also supported.

From 2008 to 2012, the emphasis is to continue work to counter climate change, to conserve biodiversity, and to reduce chemical pollutants in the environment. UNDP will protect the environment by empowering people to adopt clean technologies, and use resources in an efficient manner.



CRISIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY

Eighty percent of India's geographical area is highly vulnerable to natural disasters. The primary focus here is to increase and improve the resilience of affected communities and those at risk. This includes training, providing expertise and knowledge-sharing that enable state, district and community members to develop innovative solutions to disaster risk mitigation. More than thirty percent of the population is reached through this programme.

From 2008 to 2012, the emphasis is to ensure that disaster risk management becomes an integral part of the functions of the institutions being established under the Natural Disaster Management Act 2005. UNDP will also help these institutions to strengthen disaster preparedness for and by communities.



HIV AND DEVELOPMENT

An estimated 2.47 million people in India live with HIV. UNDP in India works with the government to respond to HIV and AIDS among vulnerable groups and to ensure rights of people living with HIV and AIDS.

From 2008 to 2012, UNDP in India will support several state governments and non-governmental organizations with the expertise to improve access to livelihoods, information and social services for groups at risk from HIV. Selected government departments are being supported with anti-stigma counsellors to monitor HIV and gender-related discrimination. UNDP in India also emphasises long-term strategies to respond to the specific needs of migrants and their families.



For any queries, please email info.in@undp.org

Or contact
United Nations Development Programme
55, Lodi Estate, P.O. Box 3059
New Delhi - 110 003, India
Tel: +91-11- 4653 2333
Fax: +91-11- 2462 7612
<http://www.undp.org.in>