

**United Nations Development Programme**  
The Administrator



19 June 2020 *Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

Excellency,

COVID-19 has exposed the full extent of human vulnerability for the first time in a generation, and human development—the combined measure of the world’s education, health, and living standards – is on course to decline for the first time since the measurement began in 1990.

From the beginning, UNDP has been on the front lines of supporting countries to urgently and effectively respond to COVID-19, seeking to advance and safeguard development progress and delivering on the pledge to leave no one behind. We undertake this in full support of coherence across the health, humanitarian and socio-economic responses, and with a focus on building back better.

UNDP’s offer is an integral component of the UN system-wide response, especially at the country level. Under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, the UN Country Team members including UNDP are working in close coordination and together with partners in support of national emergency response and recovery plans.

As we continue to battle the pandemic, the coming months are critical, as the choices governments make today could usher in a series of tipping points that transform our societies and our planet for the better. Since our initial COVID-19 offer **Prepare, Respond, and Recover** was presented in March, these choices are becoming clearer. We have consequently evolved our approach, capitalizing on our role as the UN’s technical lead on the Secretary-General’s COVID-19 socio-economic framework, designed to help decision-makers make these choices and manage complexity amid uncertainty.

In this regard, I am pleased to share with you, enclosed, the further evolution of UNDP’s COVID-19 Offer **Beyond Recovery: Towards 2030**. It is focused on four main areas, identified based on demand from our partners on the ground: **governance and agency, social protection, green economy, and digital disruption**. These areas may evolve as countries’ needs evolve and as we together adapt to and learn from the impacts of the pandemic.

His Excellency  
Mr. Bertal Haarder, MP  
FAC Chair  
Copenhagen  
Denmark



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I sincerely appreciate the support of our many partners for the first phase of UNDP's COVID-19 response, by agreeing in many cases to the re-purposing of existing funding commitments and to providing further resources. We continue to rely on your additional support, including to help cover these needs identified in the offer over the next 12 to 18 months.

Excellency, the recovery from COVID-19 must take a different path from the previous global development trajectory. Together, we have a chance to turn one of the greatest reversals of human development in our lifetimes into a historic leap forward to a sustainable, inclusive, peaceful, and resilient future, with the Sustainable Development Goals as our compass.

As outlined in our updated offer, the required scale and scope of our responses calls for stronger partnerships. I look forward to your continued partnership with UNDP and to our collective efforts making a difference in a holistic global response to COVID-19.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Achim Steiner'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Achim Steiner