

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - UPSC Notes

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is a global network for development that advocates change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life for themselves. Such international bodies and programs are very relevant for the [IAS exam](#). In this article, you can read all about the UNDP and its relations with India.




International organisations and groupings are an important part of the International Relations section of the General Studies paper-2 in the [UPSC Syllabus](#).

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) provides expert advice, training and grants support to developing countries, with an increasing emphasis on assistance to the least developed countries. It promotes technical and investment cooperation among nations.

- The UNDP Executive Board is made up of representatives from 36 countries around the world who serve on a rotating basis.
- It is funded entirely by voluntary contributions from member nations.
- UNDP is central to the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), a network that spans almost 170 countries and unites the 40 UN funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other bodies working to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The UNDP is considered an executive board within the [UN General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#).
- It is headed by an Administrator.

UPSC PRELIMS FACTS - UNDP



Name: United Nations Development Programme

Year of Formation: 1965

Headquarters: New York, NY, USA

Sector: Development & Poverty Reduction

Is India a Member: Yes

Part of United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG)

Human Development Report

The Human Development Report (HDR) is an annual report published by the Human Development Report Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

- The [Human Development Index \(HDI\)](#) is a statistic composite index of life expectancy, education, and per capita income indicators, which are used to rank countries into four tiers of human development.
- A country scores a higher HDI when the lifespan is higher, the education level is higher, and the Gross National Income GNI (PPP) per capita is higher.

To get a [list of reports published by international organizations](#), click on the linked article.

UNDP and India

India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have worked since 1951 on various issues related to human development involving sustainable livelihoods, environment, literacy, institutional strengthening, sustainable energy and resilience.

- The Government of India aligned with UNDP to work on the India 2030 National Development Mission and build further [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#).
- The three major areas of focus for UNDP India's country programme for 2018-2022 are:
 - Inclusive Growth
 - Environment & Energy
 - Strengthening Systems & Institutions
- The nodal agency for all matters related to UNDP in India is the Department of Economic Affairs, Finance Ministry, GOI.
- The UNDP has offices in 6 locations in India.

UNDP's Accelerator Lab

In November 2019, the United Nations Development Programme launched its Accelerator Lab in India to work on tackling pollution in collaboration with the government's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM).

- Air pollution and Sustainable water management will be the issues addressed by the lab.
- What is Accelerator Lab?
 - Developed by the collaboration of UNDP, Federal Republic of Germany and the State of Qatar, Accelerator Lab is an innovative initiative to find solutions for the new complex challenges faced by the world.
 - India's Accelerator Lab will be part of a network of 60 global labs covering 78 nations, that will test and scale new solutions to global challenges like climate change and inequality.
 - These Labs will identify grassroots solutions together with local actors and validate their potential to accelerate development.

UPSC Questions related to UNDP

How does UNDP work?

Funded entirely by voluntary contributions, UNDP is central to the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), a network that spans almost 170 countries and unites the 40 UN funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other bodies working to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

What is the full form of HDI?

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a single index measure that aims to record the three key dimensions of human development: access to knowledge, a decent standard of living, and long and healthy life. In other words, the human development index is used to measure how development has improved human life.

What are the 6 major organs of the UN?

- The UN is structured around five principal organs:
 - General Assembly
 - United Nations Security Council (UNSC)
 - Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
 - International Court of Justice
 - UN Secretariat
- A sixth principal organ, the **Trusteeship Council**, suspended operations on 1 November 1994, upon the independence of Palau, the last remaining UN trustee territory.

