



# UPU activities and projects in Asia-Pacific

13<sup>th</sup> APPU Congress, 29 August – 2 September 2022



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## What do we do?

We take care of the UPU member countries in Asia-Pacific.

We fulfil their needs by *implementing development projects that meet their national priorities, UPU's Postal Strategy and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*

*Our activities:*

- consultancy missions,
- capacity building
- training workshops,
- equipment procurement, and
- individual training activities.

There are 36 UPU member countries in Asia-Pacific.





Our priority is to reduce postal development gaps in Asia-Pacific by:

- Supporting national and regional development efforts;
- Strengthening institutional and technical capacities;
- Improving the exchange of experience and know-how among developing countries;
- Responding to the specific challenges of developing countries;
- Increasing the impact of international cooperation and UPU's effectiveness in the region.





## Asia-Pacific region's share in the 2020 world postal statistics

Table 7 Access to postal services

	Population having mail delivered at home	Population having to collect mail from a postal establishment	Population without postal services
Africa	11.2%	45.2%	43.6%
Arab region	74.2%	9.8%	16.0%
Asia-Pacific region	96.2%	1.2%	2.6%
Europe and CIS	99.3%	0.7%	0.0%
Industrialized countries	99.2%	0.8%	0.0%
Latin America and Caribbean	86.5%	10.9%	2.6%
World	86.5%	6.6%	6.9%

Source: Estimates based on UPU official statistics.

Table 6 Worldwide operating revenue

Operating revenue in SDR (2020)	Annual growth (2020)	5-year CAGR (2015–2020)
291.86 billion	6.5%	3.6%

Source: UPU estimates based on UPU official statistics (2021).

### Asia-Pacific operating revenue

Operating revenue in SDR (2020)	Annual growth (2020)	Asia-Pacific share
77.77 billion	6.89%	<b>26.65%</b>



## Asia-Pacific region's share in the 2020 world postal statistics

Table 9 Post offices

Region	Measure	Value (2020)	Annual growth (%)	CAGR (2015–2020, %)
Africa	Outsourced offices	4,756	-4.5%	-1.1%
Africa	Offices managed by the operator	7,891	-2.3%	0.0%
Africa	Total number of post offices	12,647	-3.1%	-0.4%
Arab region	Outsourced offices	5,984	-9.3%	3.7%
Arab region	Offices managed by the operator	13,589	5.9%	3.2%
Arab region	Total number of post offices	19,573	0.7%	3.3%
Asia-Pacific region	Outsourced offices	68,759	-2.6%	-7.4%
Asia-Pacific region	Offices managed by the operator	223,895	1.0%	0.6%
Asia-Pacific region	Total number of post offices	292,654	0.1%	-1.6%
Europe and CIS	Outsourced offices	9,323	28.4%	6.9%
Europe and CIS	Offices managed by the operator	93,076	-1.7%	-0.8%
Europe and CIS	Total number of post offices	102,399	0.4%	-0.2%
Industrialized countries	Outsourced offices	80,264	0.2%	-2.9%
Industrialized countries	Offices managed by the operator	82,427	-0.4%	0.6%
Industrialized countries	Total number of post offices	162,691	-0.1%	-1.2%
Latin America and Caribbean	Outsourced offices	16,241	-36.2%	-11.5%
Latin America and Caribbean	Offices managed by the operator	12,211	-2.7%	-2.1%
Latin America and Caribbean	Total number of post offices	28,452	-25.2%	-8.1%
World	Outsourced offices	185,327	-5.0%	-5.1%
World	Offices managed by the operator	433,089	0.1%	0.3%
World	Total number of post offices	618,416	-1.5%	-1.5%

Asia-Pacific share:

- **37.1%**
- **51.7%**
- **47.3%**

Source: Regional estimates based on UPU official statistics.



# Asia-Pacific region's share in the 2020 world postal statistics

Table 10 Postal staff

Region	Measure	Value (2020)	Annual growth (%)	CAGR (2015–2020, %)
Africa	Full-time staff	56,500	-4.0%	1.1%
Africa	Part-time staff	2,548	-10.7%	3.4%
Africa	Total staff	59,048	-4.3%	1.2%
Arab region	Full-time staff	116,964	-0.2%	1.6%
Arab region	Part-time staff	1,414	-40.7%	-8.4%
Arab region	Total staff	118,378	-1.0%	1.4%
Asia-Pacific region	Full-time staff	1,184,575	-12.9%	-3.2%
Asia-Pacific region	Part-time staff	325,990	1.4%	-1.0%
Asia-Pacific region	Total staff	1,510,565	-10.2%	-2.7%
Europe and CIS	Full-time staff	540,852	-1.9%	-2.2%
Europe and CIS	Part-time staff	180,715	-1.6%	0.2%
Europe and CIS	Total staff	721,567	-1.8%	-1.6%
Industrialized countries	Full-time staff	1,859,511	1.7%	-0.1%
Industrialized countries	Part-time staff	619,106	-6.8%	0.4%
Industrialized countries	Total staff	2,478,617	-0.6%	0.0%
Latin America and Caribbean	Full-time staff	166,360	-0.5%	-3.5%
Latin America and Caribbean	Part-time staff	3,540	40.1%	11.0%
Latin America and Caribbean	Total staff	169,900	0.2%	-3.3%
World	Full-time staff	3,924,762	-3.9%	-1.4%
World	Part-time staff	1,133,313	-3.7%	0.0%
World	Total staff	5,058,075	-3.9%	-1.1%

Asia-Pacific share:

- 30.2%
- 28.8%
- 29.9%

Source: Regional estimates based on UPU official statistics.





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## UPU's commitment to the SSTC



Masahiko  
**METOKI**

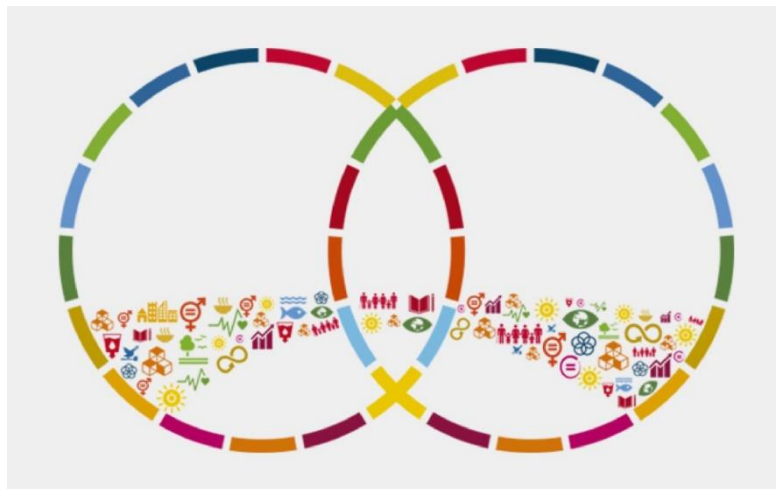
*Director General of the UPU  
International Bureau*

*"I want to reaffirm my commitment to using the director general's office to lead and oversee the successful implementation of the 2002-2025 Abidjan Postal strategy. (...) It sets out a vision of the Post as an essential engine for sustainable development, and invites governments to do everything possible to reduce the gaps in postal development around the world."*



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## South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) is our vision



In **South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)**, traditional donor countries and multilateral organizations facilitate South-South initiatives through the provision of funding, training, management and technological systems, and other forms of support *to share knowledge, skills, resources, and successful initiatives* in different areas.

SSTC involves *3 actors: 2 from the South and 1 from the North*. The latter (can also be an international organization) provides the financial resources so that the countries of the South can exchange technical assistance on a specific topic.

**"Nothing for me without me"** is the voice of the South in the development cooperation field. Within this framework, the UPU has developed its strategy for the SSTC.





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## UPU's commitment to South-South and Triangular Cooperation



Marjan  
**OSVALD**

*Deputy Director General  
of the UPU International  
Bureau*

*"It should be our mission to  
find the model of solidarity  
that will reduce the  
[development] differences  
among us."*



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## UPU's commitment to the SSTC



*Abidjan Postal Strategy (2022–2025) lays down the development cooperation between UPU member states based on the SSTC mechanism.*

In order to support the achievement of Postal Vision 2030, the UPU is expected to *"...seek to offer postal sector stakeholders quality advice, training and technical cooperation options to support them in navigating the challenges and opportunities of a fast-changing sector."*

The UPU Congress has emphasized on this methodology to raise resources for beneficiary developing UPU member states. The focus is *to support their relative initiatives and to align them with their national priorities* by applying a "bottom-up" development approach.



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# Appeal for contributions to the UPU Special Fund for development cooperation activities within the framework of SSTC from the UPU DG



UPU International Bureau  
Weltpoststrasse 4  
3015 BERN  
SWITZERLAND  
T +41 31 360 31 11  
F +41 31 360 31 10  
www.upu.int

Contact: Mr. Thekhar Subhash Singh/Mr. Kazuyoshi Yoshino  
T +41 31 360 31 64/+41 31 360 32 44  
subhash.singh@upu.int/kazuyoshi.yoshino@upu.int

Reference: 7101(DCDEV.PAP)1001

Subject: Appeal for contributions to the UPU Special Fund for development cooperation activities within the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation

Dear Sir/Madam,

First, I wish to reaffirm my commitment, in my capacity as Director General of the Universal Postal Union, to leading and overseeing the successful implementation of the Abidjan Postal Strategy 2022-2025. This strategy sets out a vision of the Post as an essential driver of sustainable development, and invites governments to do everything possible to reduce the gaps in postal development around the world.

During the previous cycle, the UPU implemented a number of excellent projects under South-South and triangular cooperation, as follows:

- COVID-19 recovery project to supply IT equipment to 19 small island developing states (SIDS), least developed countries (LDCs) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs);
- Project to provide training for postal officials from developing countries;
- Project to provide training equipment to the Asian-Pacific Postal College;
- Supply of 200 green computers, donated by a member country, to designated operators (DOs) in the Pacific region (an example of a contribution in kind).

Other important projects are currently under implementation, including a project to assess the types of government/social services that can be provided by post offices in order to meet the social responsibilities of member countries' governments in fulfilling the UN Sustainable Development Goals and to enhance postal revenue.

The UPU is currently devising several useful projects to enhance postal IT infrastructure among SIDS, LLDCs and LDCs. Furthermore, it is preparing projects aimed at upgrading postal infrastructure through the provision of postal equipment, particularly for countries that have suffered significantly as a result of COVID-19.

It is important that the world community now come to the aid of DOs, particularly those in SIDS, LLDCs and LDCs. It is essential to support these DOs in every possible way. This contribution may be in cash or in kind. In particular, the UPU would like to upgrade both physical and IT infrastructures in these countries.

- Union member countries
  - Governmental authorities
  - Designated operators
- Restricted unions

Berne, 15 February 2022

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In view of the above, I appeal to all Union member countries and their DOs to contribute to the UPU Special Fund. We hope that we can count on your generosity, so that we can launch planned Special Fund activities as soon as possible.

The UPU's bank account information is as follows:

Bank:	CREDIT SUISSE	UBS
Account:	0207-143996-61-10	0235-90208452 0
SWIFT:	CRESCHZZ30R	UBSWCHZH30A
IBAN:	CH48 0483 5014 3996 6101 0	CH58 0023 5235 9020 8452 0
Reference:	CONTRIBUTION SPECIAL FUND	

Many thanks in advance for your invaluable contribution, which will help to strengthen the bonds of solidarity between Union member countries.

Yours faithfully,

Masahiko Metoki  
Director General



### **During 2017-2021, the UPU implemented the following important projects:**

- COVID-19 Recovery Plan to supply IT equipment to 19 SIDS, LDCs, and LLDCs;
- Provision for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the LDCs and SIDS to protect the postal staff from Covid.
- Interactive Online Training Programs (IOTPs) at the APPC for developing countries: 422 participants, 8 IOTPs in 2020 and 17 IOTPs in 2021;
- Operational Readiness for E-commerce (ORE);
- Training for postal officials from developing countries at APPC;
- Training equipment for the APPC;
- LDC Action Plans for 11 DOs;
- Special Project for the Pacific Islands;
- 200 green computers to DOs in the Pacific (contribution in-kind);
- Desk Study of the situation in Asia Pacific on the role of postal sector in fulfilling its social obligation in 2019;
- Workshops for Postal Financial Services
- Workshops for e-services and diversification





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## UPU's focus on SIDS, LDCs, and LLDCs in the current cycle

*"The UPU is originally a technical organization that ensures that the technical, not political, matters are solved. Therefore, the role of the UPU is to react very fast and to assist the developing countries practically so that their needs are met," – UPU Director General Masahiko Metoki, 5 January 2022*



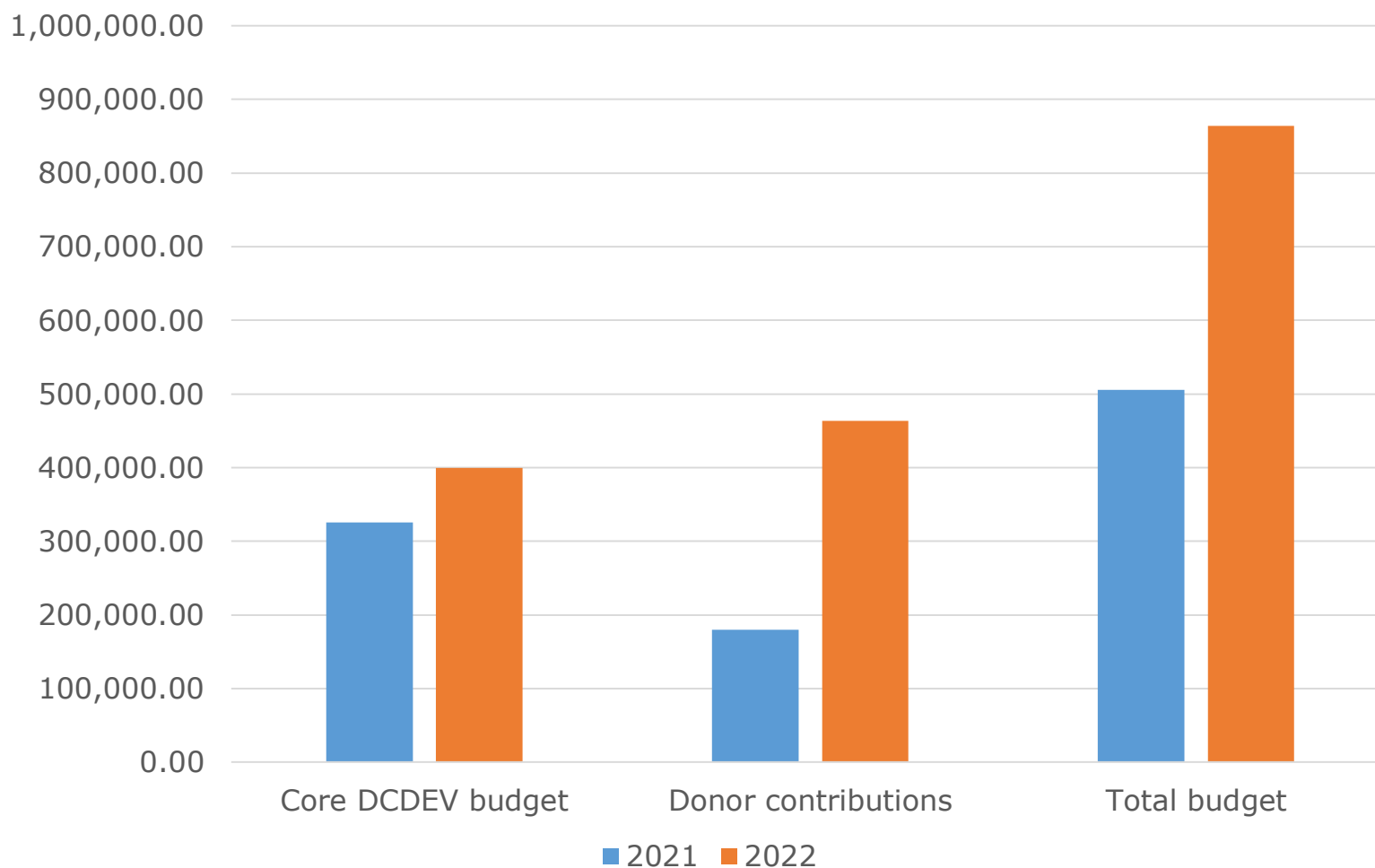
In the current cycle, **the UPU focuses on the development of SIDS, LDCs, and LLDCs**. Therefore, the UPU DG issued a special appeal to all UPU members to assist the DOs of these countries financially:

*"It is important that the world community now comes to the aid of DOs, particularly those in SIDS, LLDCs, and LDCs. It is essential to support these DOs in every possible way."*





## UPU Asia-Pacific planned project budgets 2021 and 2022

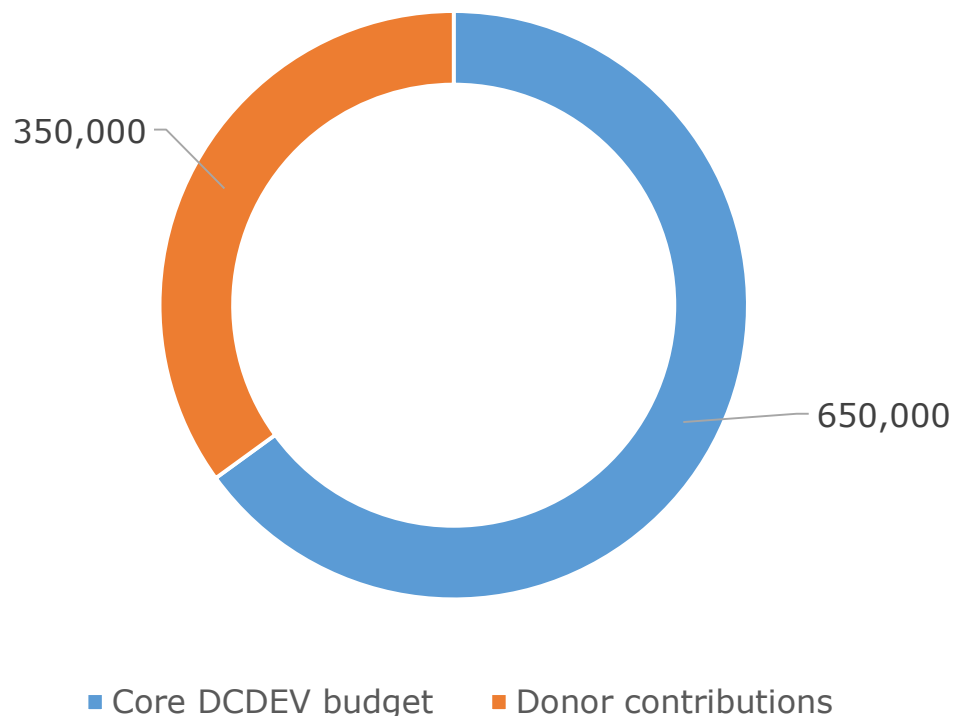




## Our projects for Asia-Pacific in the 2022-2025 cycle

- **Postal infrastructure upgrades for efficient mail operations** in 18 LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs in Asia-Pacific.
- This project will help to facilitate all other projects aimed at improving the quality of postal service in the region.
- *A special project is being developed for Tonga, in cooperation with UPU's Disaster Risk Management team to help the country recover from the underwater volcanic eruption and tsunami (January 2022).*

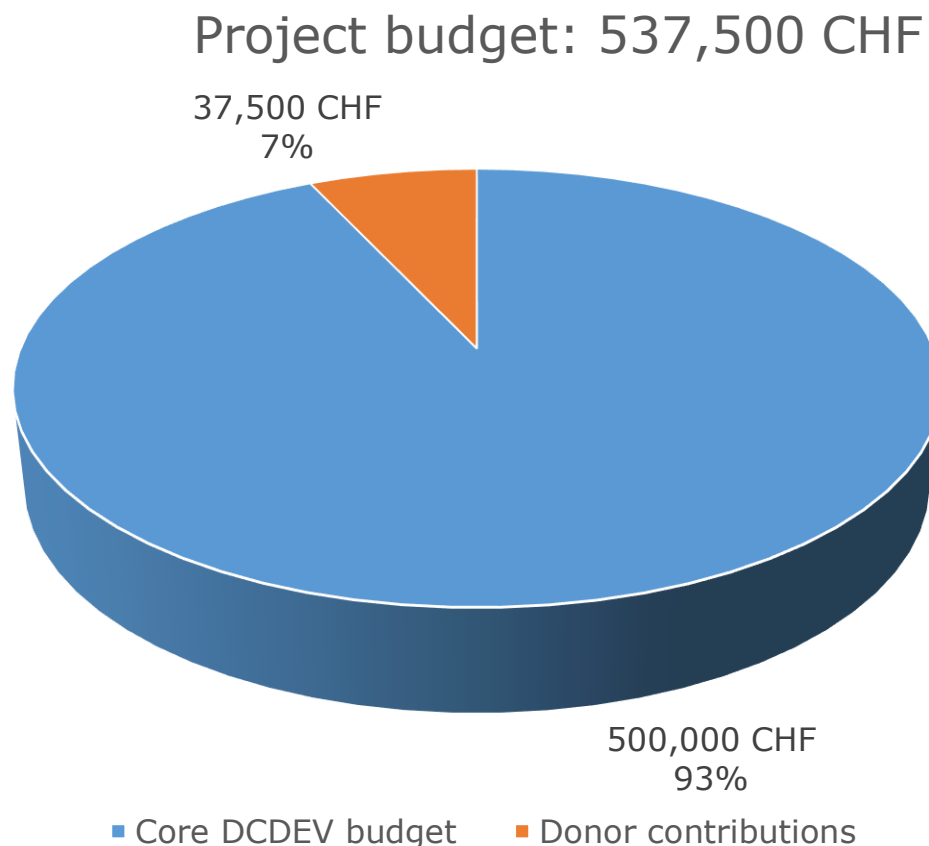
Project budget: 1,000,000 CHF





## Our projects for Asia-Pacific in the 2022-2025 cycle

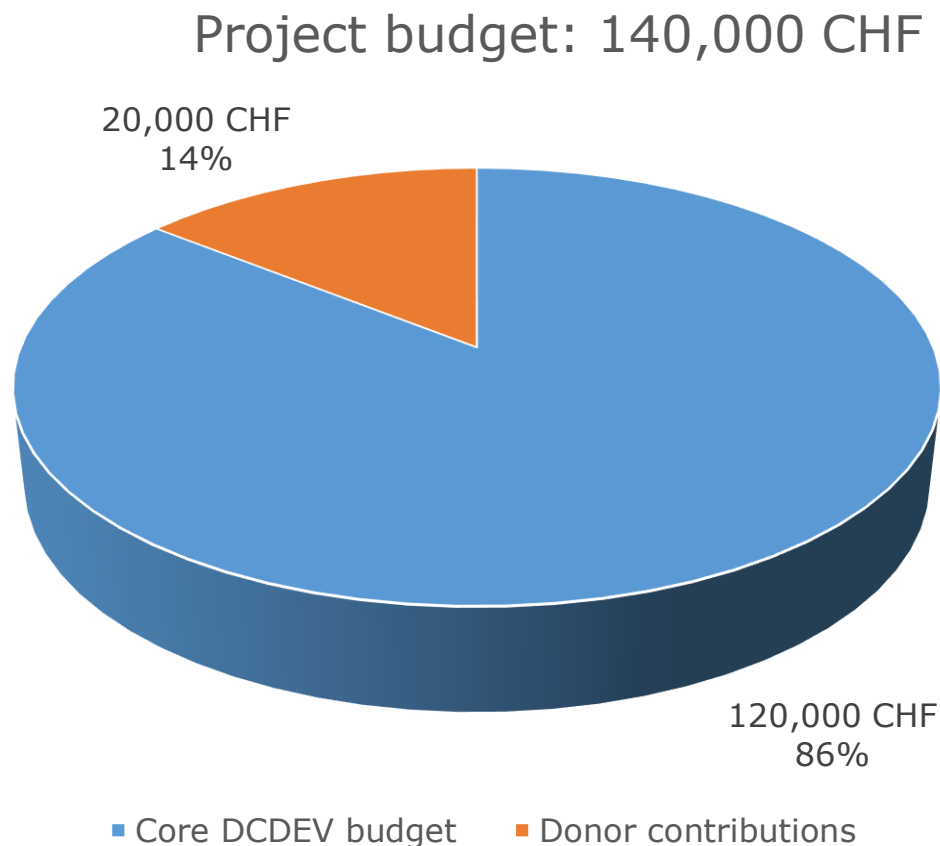
- **Operational Readiness for E-commerce (ORE)**  
“Operational efficiency and e-commerce development”  
in 24 Asia-Pacific countries.
- The project “Postal infrastructure upgrades for efficient mail operations” will help to meet the goals of the ORE project.
- UPU’s PAP team is likely to get more funds for this project as has been the case in the last cycle.





## Our projects for Asia-Pacific in the 2022-2025 cycle

- **Capacity building for postal officials at the APPC** in 29 Asia-Pacific countries (19 LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs, and some DCs based on the analysis of the countries' training needs).
- This project concerns various subjects related to postal operations, e.g. customs, international mail accounting, compliance, standards, environmental sustainability, etc.)





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## Our projects for Asia-Pacific in the 2022-2025 cycle

### Other projects in Asia-Pacific in the current cycle:

- Evaluating government / citizen services provided by the postal sector (ongoing since the previous cycle);
- IOTPs on digital strategies and terminal dues (ongoing since the previous cycle);
- Remuneration and Strategy Roundtable;
- Training programs/workshops for postal officials in cooperation with the APPC on:
  - international mail accounting (IMA);
  - environmental sustainability;
  - e-services and digitalization;
  - the provision of social and governmental services by post offices;







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## Our projects for Asia-Pacific in the 2022-2025 cycle (continued)



### Other projects in Asia-Pacific in the current cycle (continued):

- Revision of postal regulations policies:
  - Bhutan Post (done);
  - Cambodia Post (done);
- Training of governments / DOs / 1 regulator on the postal sector modernization and improvements of the national regulatory environment;
- The UPU – WCO Joint Conference in Japan.

### Projects under planning:

- Postal Financial Services (PFS);
- Domestic Postal System (DPS);
- Support in reduction of carbon emission among the Posts in SIDS, LDCs, LLDCs by the supply of electric / carbon-neutral equipment;



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**Understanding and implementing the UN  
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
is our primary objective at the UPU**



*"It is essential that the world  
achieves the 2030 Agenda for  
Sustainable Development, and I  
believe the UPU and the  
international postal sector have  
significant roles to play in their  
achievement. "*

*Masahiko Metoki  
UPU Director General*





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## **Thakur Subhash Sinha**

Coordinator, Asia-Pacific  
and South-South Cooperation

## **International Bureau**

Weltpoststrasse 4  
3015 BERNE  
SWITZERLAND  
T +41 31 350 31 64  
F +41 31 350 31 10  
E [subhash.sinha@upu.int](mailto:subhash.sinha@upu.int)  
[www.upu.int](http://www.upu.int)



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# Thank you!