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UPU activities and projects in Asia-Pacific

APPU Executive Council meeting, 14 August 2023



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.





- Under its new Regional Development Policy, the UPU enhances its role and geographic presence in the world by setting up more regional offices.
- Apart from its office in **Bangkok, Thailand**, two new regional offices were successfully established in 2023: in **Suva, Fiji**, and **New Delhi, India**.



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Inauguration of the UPU Regional Office in Suva, Fiji



Important milestone in the history of the UPU: the inauguration of the new UPU Regional Office in Suva, Fiji on 23 May 2023.



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Inauguration of the UPU Regional Office in New Delhi, India



विशेष आवरण SPECIAL COVER



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19-07-2023
नई दिल्ली-110001 New Delhi



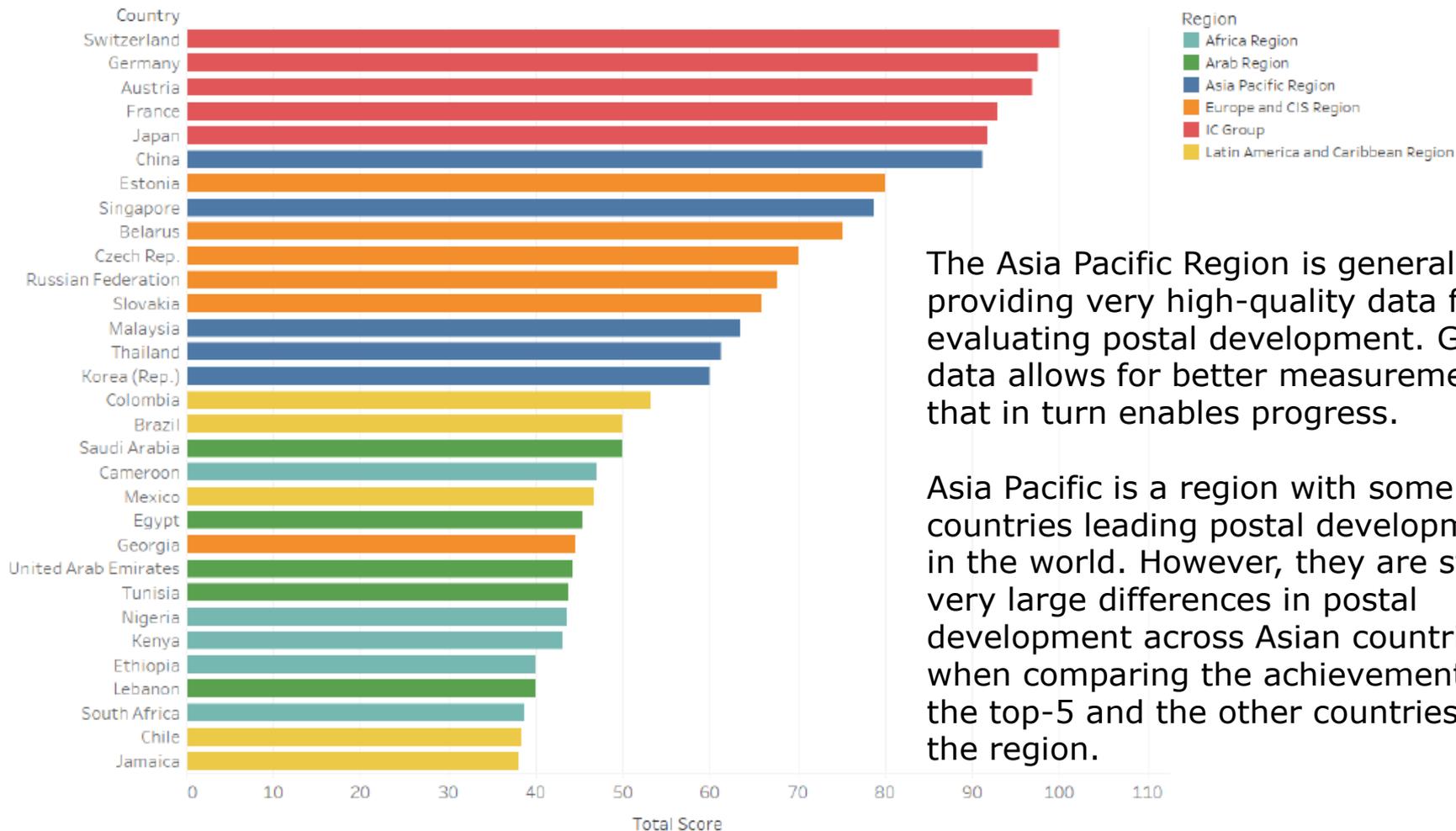
एक विश्व। एक डाक नेटवर्क One world. One postal network

विश्व डाक संघ के भारत स्थित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय का उद्घाटन
Inauguration of Universal Postal Union, Regional Office India

Special stamp cancellation ceremony took place on the occasion of the New Delhi office inauguration on 19 July 2023.



2IPD: Top 5 Countries by Region

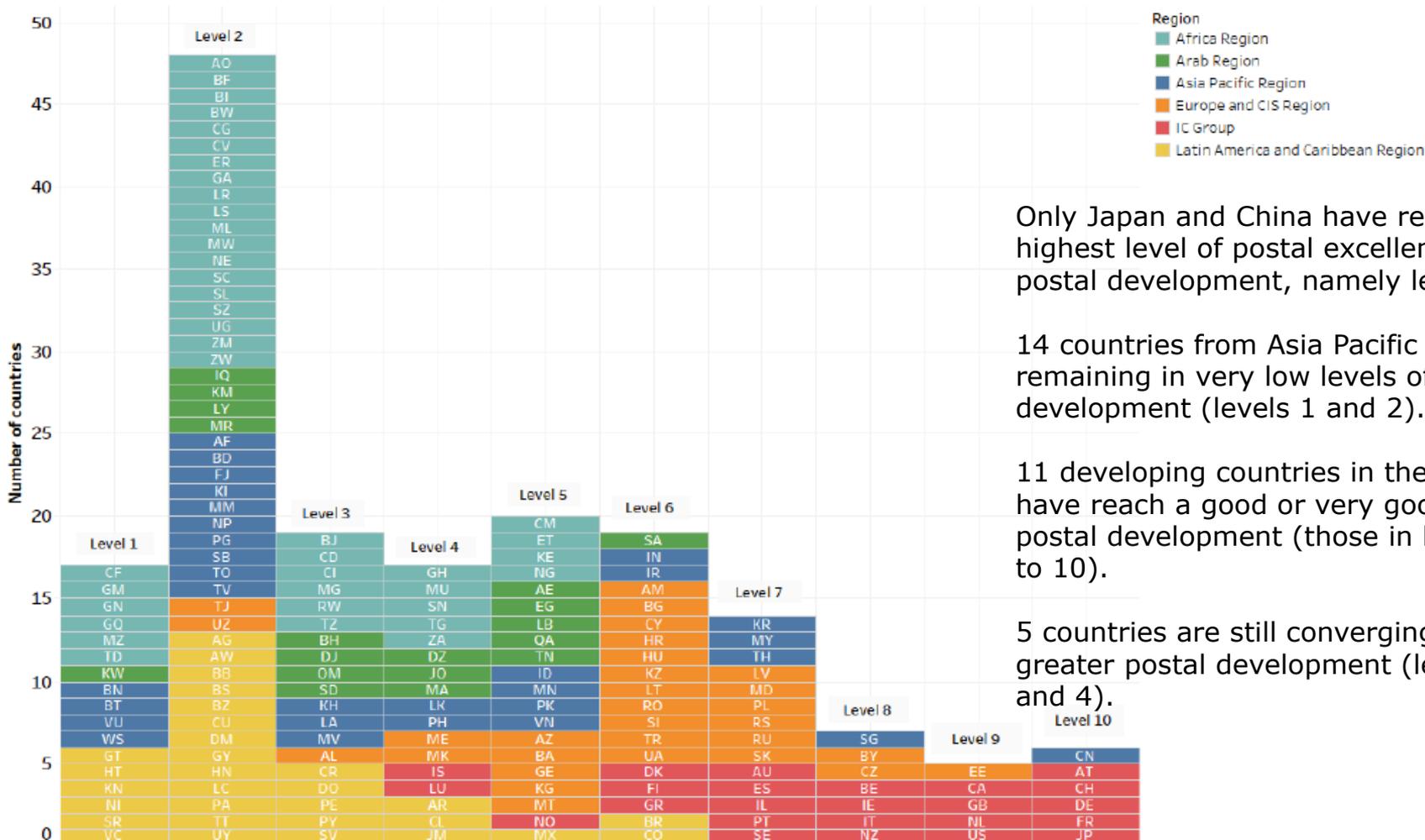


The Asia Pacific Region is generally providing very high-quality data for evaluating postal development. Good data allows for better measurement that in turn enables progress.

Asia Pacific is a region with some countries leading postal development in the world. However, they are still very large differences in postal development across Asian countries when comparing the achievements of the top-5 and the other countries in the region.



2021 Postal Development Levels (PDL) Across Countries And Regions



Only Japan and China have reached the highest level of postal excellence in postal development, namely level 10.

14 countries from Asia Pacific still remaining in very low levels of postal development (levels 1 and 2).

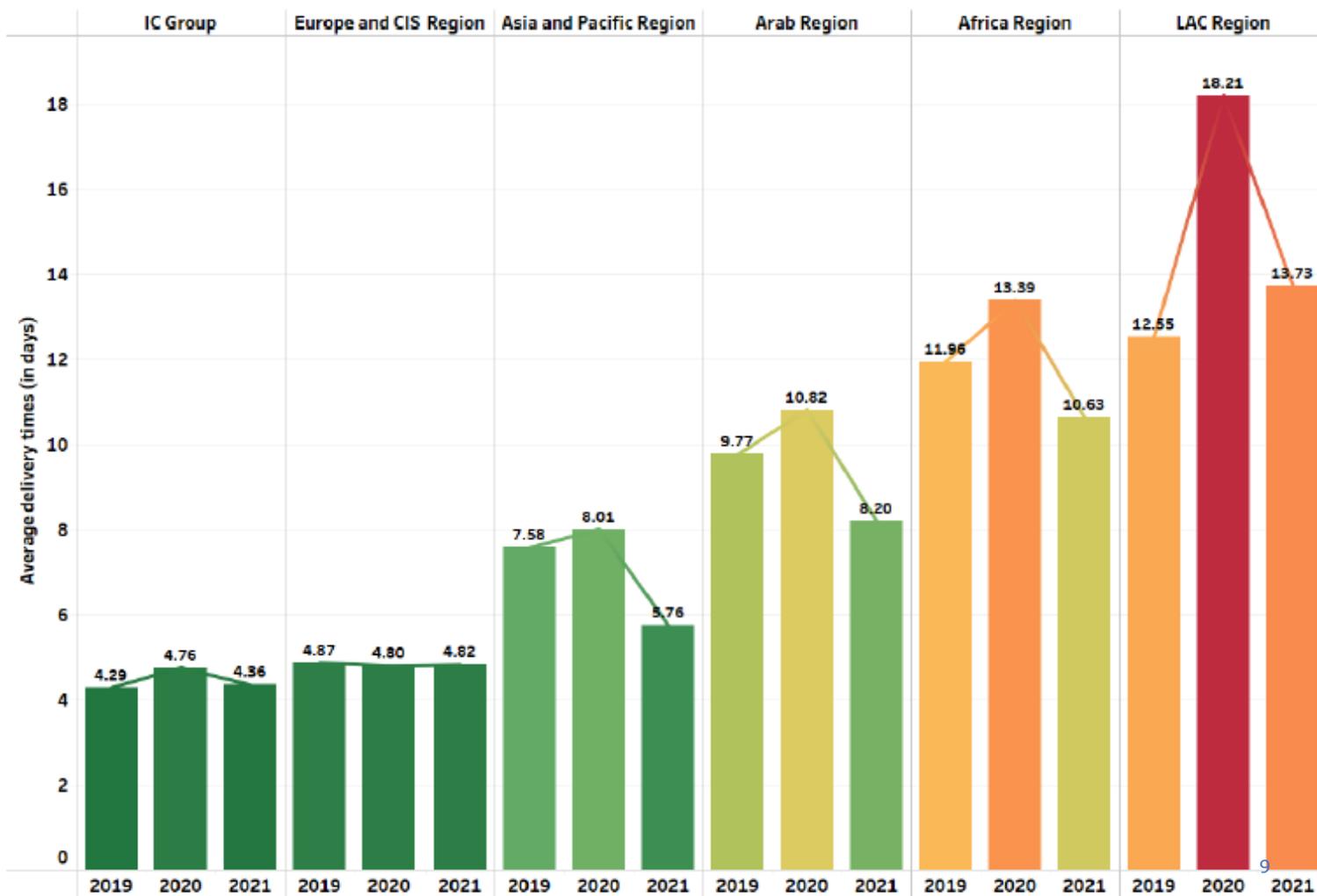
11 developing countries in the region have reach a good or very good level of postal development (those in levels 5 to 10).

5 countries are still converging towards greater postal development (level 3 and 4).



The level of postal reliability has dramatically improved in the Asia and Pacific region with average delivery times decreasing from a high of 8.01 days in average in 2020 to a low of 5.76 in 2021.

Average delivery time per region over the years





- It seems that some of the UPU member countries in Asia-Pacific did not provide the required data for the 2IPD research and final report.
- We encourage all UPU member countries in the region to provide this important data accurately and on time.
- We are planning to organize a virtual workshop on 2IPD in November 2023.





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) billion	Annual growth (2020)	5-year CAGR (2015–2020)
291.86	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%	26.65%



Table 9 Post offices

Region	Measure	Value (2020)	Annual growth (%)	Compound annual growth rate
				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%**



Table 10 Postal staff

Region	Measure	Value (2020)	Annual growth (%)	Compound annual growth rate 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%**



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UPU's commitment to the SSTC



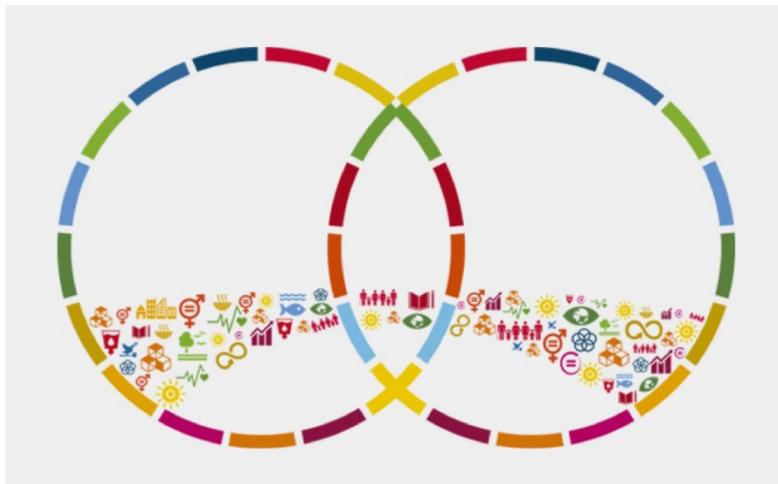
Masahiko
METOKI

*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."



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.

UPU's Abidjan Postal Strategy (2022–2025) lays down the development cooperation between UPU member states based on the SSTC mechanism. 15



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



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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

2

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	

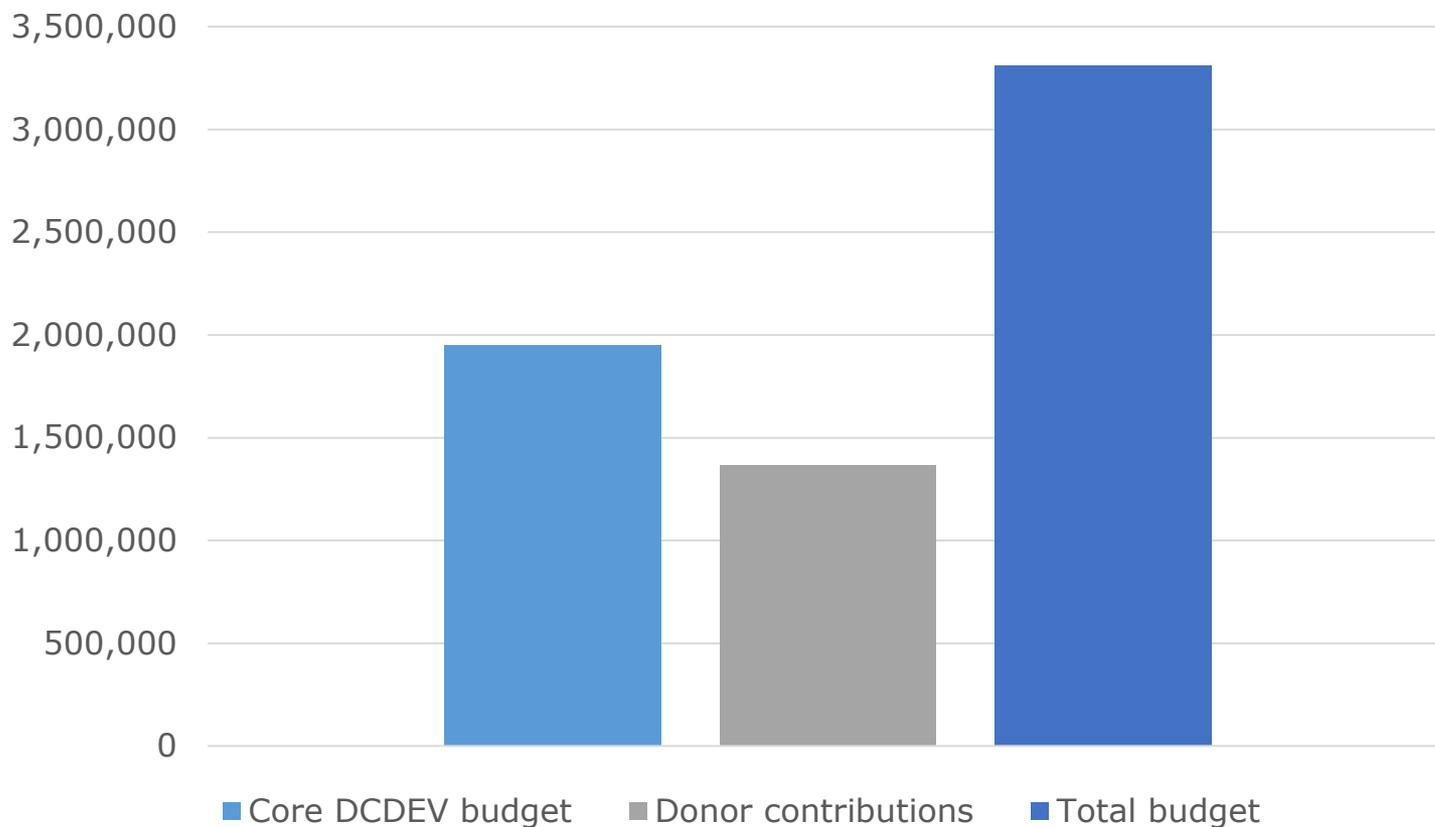
Many thanks in advance for your invaluable contribution, which will help to strengthen the bonds of solidarity between Union member countries.

Yours faithfully,

Masahiko Metoki
Director General



UPU Asia-Pacific planned project budgets 2021-2025, CHF



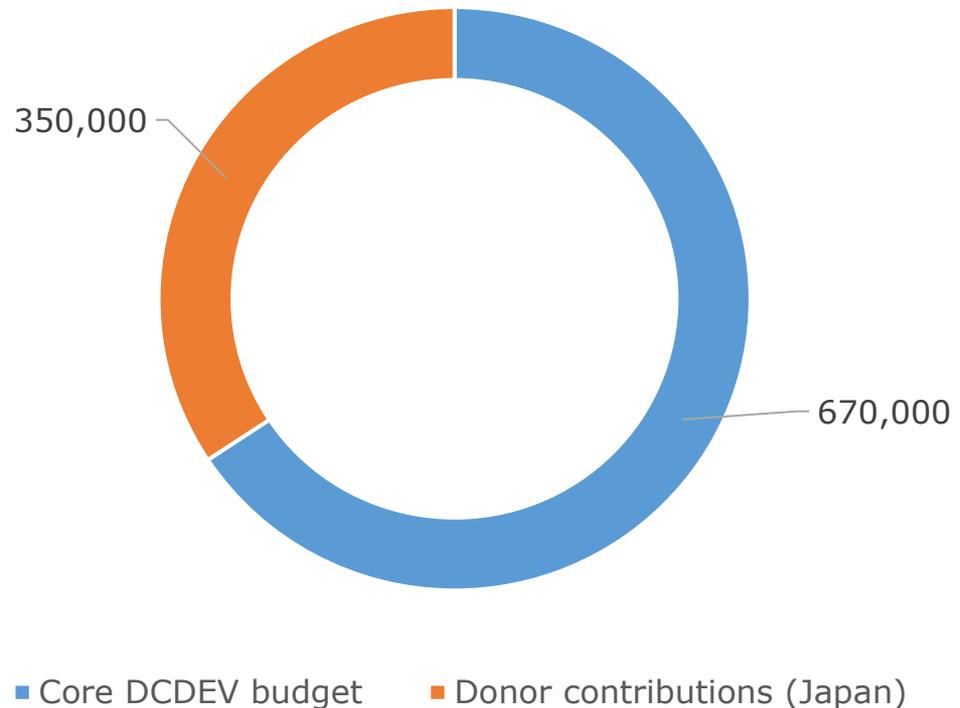
Donor contributions from:

- China
- France
- India
- Japan
- USA



- **Procurement of postal equipment for 19 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 DRM team to help the country recover from the underwater volcanic eruption and tsunami (January 2022).*

Project budget: 1,020,000 CHF





- **ORE Operational efficiency and e-commerce development** in 36 Asia-Pacific countries

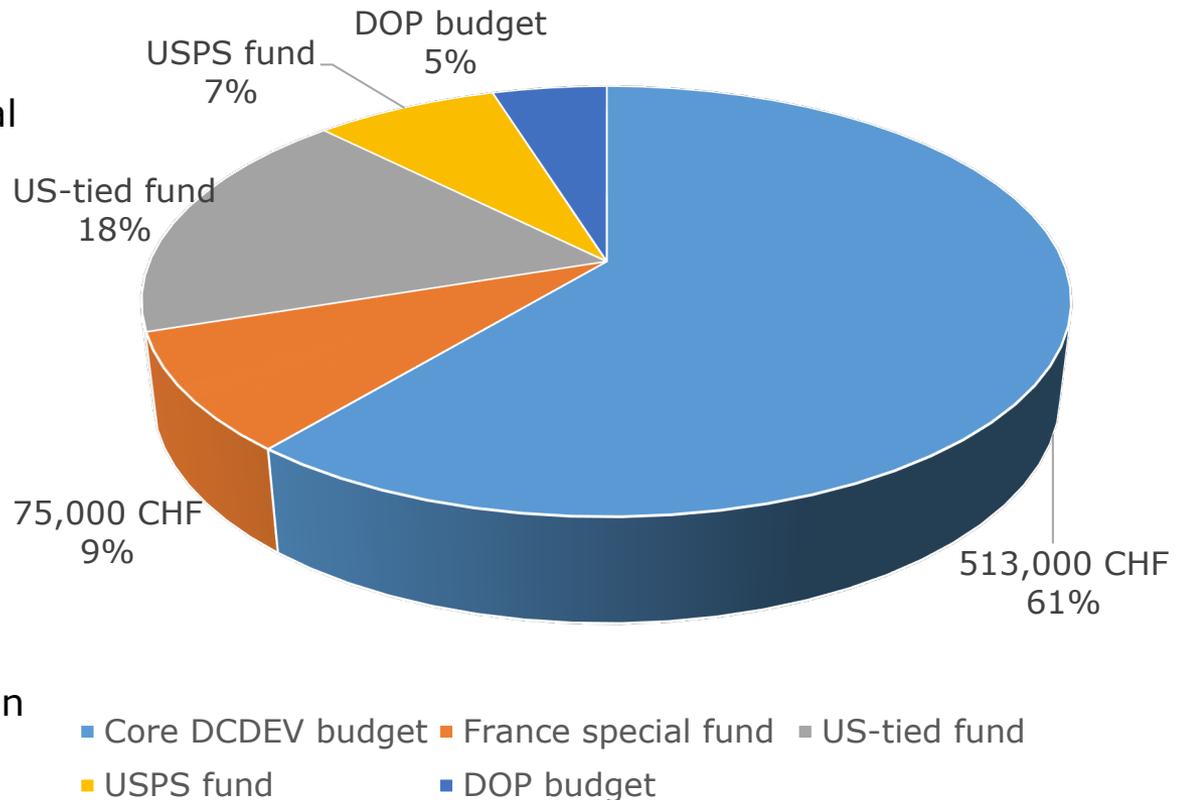
- The project “Procurement of postal equipment” will help to meet the goals of the ORE project

- UPU’s PAP team is likely to get more funds for this project as has been the case in the last cycle

- In 2023:

- UPU-OCC Special Security workshop, 27-31 March, Tonga
- 2nd Asia Workshop 3-7 July, Bangkok
- 2nd Pacific Workshop 18-22 Sept in Vanuatu
- 2 special PTC workshops planned for Asia and Pacific
- 17 LCDs/SIDS/LLDCs received fellowships to attend the UPU-WCO Joint conference, June, Tokyo.

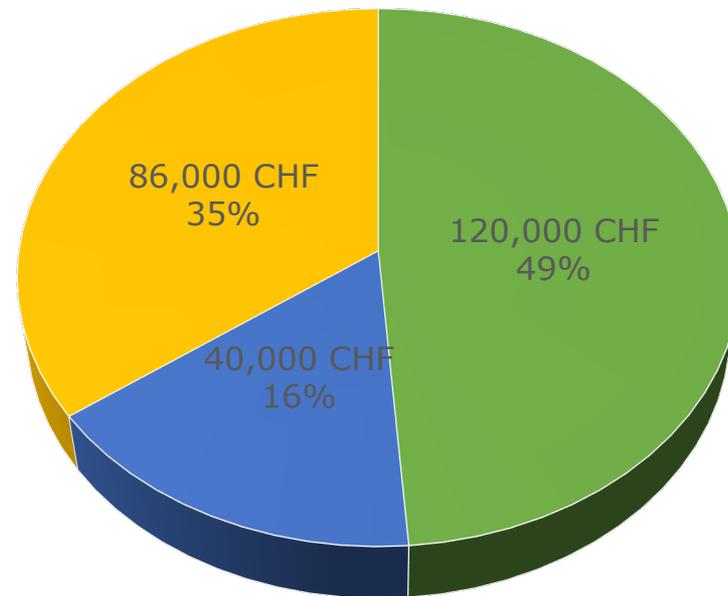
Project budget: 842,000 CHF





- **Capacity building for postal officials at the APCC** 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.)
- In 2023:
 - 38 Fellowships granted
 - EMS Workshop to be held for operational improvements

Project budget: 226,000 CHF



- Core DCDEV budget
- France contributions
- USPS contributions



Other major projects in 2023 funded by Japan:

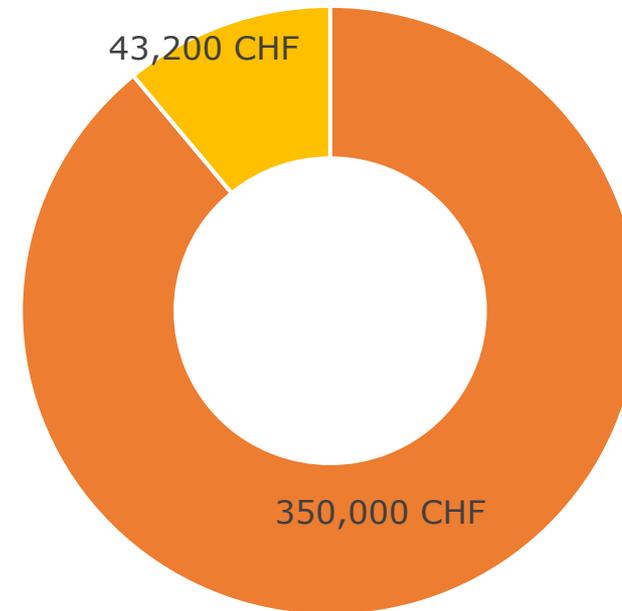
Flexible supply chain and mail transport network in the Pacific and operational efficiency of the regional hub (“Transport Hub”) for 9 Pacific countries:

- Establishment and inauguration of the UPU Regional Office Suva on 23 May 2023;
- Kick-off meeting, Nadi, Fiji 24-26 May 2023;
- Consultant recruited.

Evaluation of governmental and citizen services provided by the postal sector in Asia-Pacific (“Governmental Services”):

- ongoing since the previous cycle;
- 2 Consultants recruited;
- Maldives, Bhutan, Cambodia, Mongolia ready to receive the consultants missions in 2023;
- Virtual workshop planned for November.

Ongoing projects



■ Transport Hub ■ Governmental Services



Projects in Asia-Pacific recently completed:

- Cambodia Post improvement project with the support of Japan Post
- Revision of postal regulations policies:
 - Bhutan Post (done);
 - Cambodia Post (done);
- Training of governments / DOs / a virtual workshop for a regulator (done) on the postal sector modernization and improvements of the national regulatory environment.





Before the project...



Processing & storing mail on the floor; Inefficient work flow/line; No EDI with Customs and carriers...

Project team



Now... after 12 months



Modern OE, process mapping, EDI exchange with Customs & carriers, ,



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The UPU – WCO Joint Conference in Japan





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Planned projects for Asia-Pacific in the 2022-2025 cycle



- Remuneration and Strategy Roundtable in 2024;
- Postal Financial Services (PFS);
- Domestic Postal System (DPS);
- Support in building climate resilience in Asia-Pacific region.



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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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Thank you!