



Migration MPTF
JOINT PROGRAMME DOCUMENT TEMPLATE



PROJECT INFORMATION	
Joint Programme Title:	United Nations Pilot Project for Strengthening Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion through Stakeholders' Engagement, Socio-Economic Activities and Countering Anti-Migrant Narratives in South Africa
Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):	South Africa
Convening UN Organization:	IOM
Participating UN Organization(s):	IOM, UNDP, OHCHR, UNHCR and UN Women
Implementing Partners	<p>Government partners: Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), National and Provincial Departments of Social Development, Justice and Constitutional Development (lead implementing agency), Sports, Arts and Culture</p> <p>Civil Society: Institute for Social Cohesion and Skills Development, Adoni Musati Project, Zoë-Life Innovative Solutions, Consortium for Migration and Refugees in South Africa, Refugee Social Services, Scalabrini Centre, Lawyers for Human Rights, , Islamic Relief Fund of South Africa, More Than Peace, Africa Unite, Umoja Project Development.</p>
Migration MPTF Thematic Area	Thematic Area 5: Improving the social inclusion and integration of migrants
Primary GCM objectives	<p>Objective 16: Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social inclusion</p> <p>Objective 17: Eliminate all forms of discrimination and provide evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration</p>







<p>Relevant SDG Target</p>	<p>SDG 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status; SDG10.3: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard SDG 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere; 16.B: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development SDG17.18: By 2030, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts</p>
<p>Expected Project Commencement Date Period of Implementation (in months):</p>	<p>01 October 2020 – 30 June 2023 30 months</p>
<p>Requested Budget: Indicate budget per PUNO and total</p>	<p>IOM: USD 1,064,948 UNDP: USD 565,570 OHCHR: USD 385,050 UNHCR: USD 300,000 UN Women: USD 250,000 Total Budget Requested: USD 2,565,570</p>
<p>Project Description (Max 400 characters, including blank space)</p>	<p>The focus of the United Nations’ joint programme (JP) is to strengthen migrant integration and social cohesion, particularly among the populations in vulnerable situations, through targeted engagement and participation of government counterparts, civil society, migrants and host communities in community-level peace and socio-economic related activities. The JP will also help to shape the public narrative on migration, promote tolerance and evidence-based discussion on migration.</p>
<p>Project Gender Marker Score (1, 2, 3 or N/A):</p>	<p>2</p>

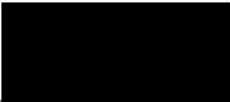


SIGNATURE PAGE

UN Resident Coordinator	Representative of the National Authority
<p>Country: South Africa</p> <p>Name: Mr Ayodele Odusola, a.i</p> <p>Date 24 / 06 / 2022</p> <p>Signature </p>	<p>Name of institution <i>Dept of Social Development</i></p> <p>Name of representative <i>MR FP NETSHAPLE</i></p> <p>Date <i>28/07/2022</i></p> <p>Signature and seal </p>

Participating UN Organizations (PUNO)	
<p>Name of Convening UN Organization: International Organization for Migration</p> <p>Name of Representative: Ms Lily Sanya</p> <p>Date 23/06/2022</p> <p>Signature </p>	<p>Name of Participating UN Organization: United Nations Development Programme</p> <p>Name of Representative: Dr Ayodele Olusola</p> <p>Date 24 / 06 / 2022</p> <p>Signature </p>
<p>Name of Participating UN Organization: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights</p> <p>Name of Representative: Ms Abigail Noko</p> <p>Date 24.06.2022</p> <p>Signature </p>	<p>Name of Participating UN Organization: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</p> <p>Name of Representative: Ms. Preeta Law</p> <p>Date 27 / 06 / 2022</p> <p>Signature </p>



<p><i>Name of Participating UN Organization: UN Women</i></p> <p><i>Name of Representative: Ms. Aleta Miller</i></p> <p><i>Date</i> 24 June 2022</p> <p><i>Signature</i> </p>	
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JOINT PROGRAMME PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

1. Migration Context and Rationale

South Africa has made considerable efforts to promote good governance, a peaceful and cohesive society and has prioritized in its National Development Plan (NDP) the elimination of poverty, reduction of inequality and growing an inclusive economy by 2030. The country has **ratified** seven out of the nine core international human rights treaties and optional protocols. At the regional level, South Africa has ratified the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. South Africa is also a signatory to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration which calls for a more coherent approach to migration governance. Gender-based



violence was declared a national crisis in 2019 and the Government has put in place protective laws and policies to address this scourge and a Cabinet-level inter-ministerial committee was established in May 2012 to examine and develop strategies to deal with the high levels of violence against women.

South Africa remains the main country of destination for migrants in the region and among the top 20 countries of destination in the world, with an estimated number of 4.2 million migrants. This number comprises over 266,694 asylum seekers and refugees¹ that have sought international protection in South Africa and are protected by a national asylum legal framework and obligations under the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention.

Migration is recognized in the 2030 Agenda as a development enabler that can contribute to the achievement of many of the goals if well managed as it powers economic growth. Within the context of South Africa, migration has been recognized as playing a significant role in the development of the country. The 2017 White Paper on International Migration recognizes the benefits of a well-managed migration for development². The impact of immigration on gross domestic product per capita is positive, and the estimates from an econometric model show that immigrant workers may raise the South African income per capita by up to 5%³. However, migrant flows also exert pressure on limited resources and pre-existing service delivery concerns. Migration issues, including mixed flows involving irregular migrants, asylum seekers, and other vulnerable groups are often linked to larger developmental challenges such as high unemployment, low living standards and stark economic inequalities. Migrants are often met with significant immigration, socio-cultural and economic challenges. Irregular migration has become a real challenge in the country and is exacerbated by post-apartheid inequality and a growing societal negative narrative about migration, migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers. These perceptions have led to violence, tensions and looting between migrant communities and citizens and in turn affecting social cohesion and human security. Incidents of xenophobic attacks have been reoccurring resulting in the loss of many lives, damage to property and public outcry.

These incidents have been condemned by Government, but the capacity to respond remains limited given the multiplicity of challenges. South Africa has made a strong commitment to combat xenophobia, through the participatory development and adoption of its National Action Plan (NAP) to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in March 2019, together with a detailed five-year implementation plan that brings together different Government departments and stakeholders to achieve key goals to prevent and combat these related human rights concerns. Furthermore, several initiatives on social cohesion and support to migrant communities have been developed. Notwithstanding, the combination of the above-mentioned challenges coupled with the increasing level of frustrations in the local communities where there is limited access to basic services and infrastructural support, have the potential to trigger social and political tensions particularly in fragile and vulnerable communities and is likely to put peace operations to a test and further destabilize the fragile peace architecture in the affected communities.

The outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic has further exacerbated the situation and the preventive measures adopted by Government including lockdown in the interest of public health has impacted the critical productive sectors of the country, which has, in turn, affected the livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable citizens and migrants alike. According to the joint assessment between the UN and

¹<https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/publications/wallchart/docs/MigrationWallChart2019.pdf>

² The White Paper on International Migration: <http://www.dha.gov.za/WhitePaperonInternationalMigration-20170602.pdf>

³ ILO report on how immigrants contribute to South Africa's economy



Government, an estimated 33.3 million people require some form of humanitarian and protection assistance⁴. The humanitarian needs evident across the country are prevalent amongst the vulnerable and migrant communities. Government and private sector joint initiative through the Solidarity Fund has contributed to humanitarian relief efforts to vulnerable populations including migrants. The assessment of the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 conducted by the UNDP⁵ shows that aggregate household income level will fall, and unemployment, inequality and extreme poverty will increase. Moreover, the economic challenges posed by COVID-19 has constrained access to basic needs and livelihoods for in poor communities, irregular migrants, and asylum seekers.

This UN Joint Programme (JP) aims to: (i) Support ongoing national efforts that aim to reduce vulnerabilities of the affected communities through the provision of emergency livelihoods assistance to community resilience as part of the post-COVID-19 recovery process; (ii) Reinforce the strategic holistic approach to promote livelihoods solutions for the affected vulnerable host communities and migrants as well as addressing drivers of violence and outbreak of xenophobic attacks; and (iii) Support efforts to strengthen Early Warning Systems in accordance with the NAP to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance's Programme of Action for the first five-year cycle of the NAP implementation in targeted vulnerable communities for detecting potential violent episodes. The multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that women migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers face will be considered to ensure the incorporation of gender-sensitive integration and social inclusion initiatives⁶. These efforts will be anchored in the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) which provides a framework of the incorporation of gender in prevention, early warning systems and emergency and humanitarian.

The JP has been developed to support and complement existing efforts by the Government and other stakeholders within the framework of the NAP to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030 which in terms of Chapter 15 of the NDP has a focus of transforming society and uniting the country. The programme was developed considering the priorities of the affected population host community members and migrants), local, provincial and national government. Affected population groups have expressed the need to be involved in developing their plans and strategies for strengthening social cohesion and reducing the risk of xenophobia. Local, provincial and national governments have prioritized interventions targeting communities affected by xenophobia. Needs and priorities of the communities themselves have been continuously assessed. This programme was developed in line with these priorities and needs, focusing on community-led initiatives for addressing the challenge of social cohesion.

Furthermore, the current programme is informed by discussions and deliberations with various stakeholders including government partners, civil society, host communities as well as with migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers. In line with the NAP to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and 2030 NDP, the focus of the programme is to promote social cohesion and shape a positive narrative on migration across the country towards the achievement of the development priorities of the country.

1b) Complementarity and Additionality:

⁴ United Nations Country Team Emergency Appeal for the Impact of COVID-19 in South Africa

⁵ COVID-19 in South Africa: Socio-economic impact assessment – draft May 2020.

⁶ UN Women: *Making migration safe for women*



To strengthen the added value of the Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs), the JP will build on the achievements and lessons learned from the previous projects implemented by the partner UN agencies with the Government of South Africa. Complementarity will also be promoted with ongoing projects. The JP complements the on-going IOM's sub-regional project on migrant integration and social cohesion being implemented in collaboration with OHCHR, the Departments Social Development, Justice and Arts and Culture. Under the JP, this ongoing initiative will establish synergy with the UNHCR's activities with the Council of Southern African Football Associations (COSAFA) and the Judo for Peace organisation to achieve greater impact. The Joint Programme is strongly aligned with the South African NAP to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance adopted in 2019, which benefited from technical support from OHCHR. The NAP to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance provides for specific outcomes and a process of bringing stakeholders together to discuss the challenges of combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances.

The JP will build synergies with these existing programmes and provide an opportunity to scale up ongoing interventions. It will bring stakeholders together to consolidate progress to stop xenophobia in the country as the current funds earmarked and spread over multiple and small interventions. The JP will avoid duplication of support and services from UN Agencies and promote coordination with government and civil society, to save time with consultations while improving effectiveness and efficiency.

1c) Linkages to relevant national (or regional) strategic priorities:

The dynamics of social cohesion are likely to be influenced by the post-COVID-19 impacts which could be exacerbated by the negative socio-economic indicators in the country. The JP will not only contribute to the UN's strategic priorities but also facilitate the achievements of the pillar 12 of the 2030 NDP⁷ "Building Safer Communities". Also, the focus of the JP is towards supporting the government in the implementation of the NAP, which will ensure the institutionalization of the interventions and its sustainability. The NAP provides the basis for the development of a comprehensive public policy against racial discrimination and assists States in giving effect to their international human rights obligations related to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. It provides for specific outcomes and is also a process of bringing stakeholders together to discuss the challenge of combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

1d) Alignment to the SDGs and Relevant Frameworks

The methodology of the JP is in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG), particularly SDGs 10, 16 and 17. The proposed project will be implemented, as part of concerted national efforts to address the most relevant national issues. This will guide the project implementation and provide a strong platform for ensuring the ownership and sustainability of the action.

By supporting Government, communities and other stakeholders to prevent and address xenophobia in a meaningful and strategic way, this project will contribute to strengthening conflict prevention, dispute resolution, access to justice, improved security, peaceful co-existence, a cohesive society and adherence to the rule of law. To ensure full national ownership, the JP will provide an enabling project implementation environment that allows national, provincial and local authorities to take the lead and institutionalize these efforts. Also, the focus of the JP is to support the government in the implementation of the NAP (2019), which will ensure the institutionalization of the interventions and sustainability.



2. Results Framework and Theory of Change

2a) Results Framework:

The overall objective of JP is to contribute to strengthening migrant, refugee and asylum-seeker integration, social cohesion and positive relations with host communities. The project will focus on populations in vulnerable situations in three xenophobic-affected provinces of Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Western Cape, which contains some of the largest cities, where the interplay between migrants and host communities over limited resources are much more evident and where violence attributed to xenophobia has frequently occurred. The JP seeks to employ a “Prevention, Protection and Empowerment” framework using a three-pronged approach based on three interrelated outcomes to stop xenophobic attacks and promote social cohesion.

Outcome 1. National and local systems and capacities improved to prevent and respond to violence and victims of violence.

In order to effectively prevent and respond to the occurrence of xenophobia, the proposed intervention will contribute to enhancing the capacities of state and non-state actors, development and adaptation of human rights tools to the specific context based on the analysis of capacity needs and strengthened protection framework for victims of violence through awareness-raising activities to access services across the three targeted provinces.

Output 1.1: Community members and civil society organizations are capacitated to better respond to the occurrence of xenophobic violence (IOM, and UNHCR).

Targeting key vulnerable communities, JP will support the mapping of social networks and capacities for violence reduction at the community level will be conducted to respond to the needs of the communities. A gender analysis will also be conducted as part of the assessment to identify specific needs and challenges faced by women and child migrants, including the opportunities available to address them. Following the mapping exercise, community focal points, community conflict prevention and mediators will be established. The focal points will be capacitated on peacebuilding and conflict resolutions through the Community Capacity Enhancement approach – Community Conversations (CCE-CC). A Standard Operating Procedures to guide the community conflict prevention and social cohesion mechanisms will be developed or strengthened.

Output 1.2: A training package on the human rights of migrants, non-discrimination and xenophobia for state and non-state actors is developed and delivered (IOM, UNHCR and OHCHR).

The action will assess gaps in knowledge and capacity of officials and community stakeholders concerning the human rights of migrants, non-discrimination, xenophobia. Following the assessment, a training package and tools on human rights, non-discrimination and xenophobia for state and non-state actors will be adapted to the specific context and operationalized for government officials and civil society at the national level and in the three targeted provinces.

Output 1.3: Increased awareness and access to legal, psychosocial and administrative support for victims of violence (OHCHR, UNHCR, IOM)

This intervention includes mapping existing service providers, assessing gaps in access and promoting increased awareness of referral pathways and access to legal, psychosocial, administrative, social protection and related social services to enhance migrants and host community well-being and developmental contributions, as well as support to victims of xenophobia.



Outcome 2: Social inclusion and peaceful coexistence reinforced between migrants, other groups and host communities.

This outcome seeks to adopt the whole of society and the whole of government approaches to promote social inclusion in the identified communities. Following the assessment under Outcome 1, the UN will work towards developing joint holistic, localized, targeted and participatory interventions and strategies to raise awareness and promote positive narratives using socio-cultural approaches, community dialogues, community outreach and social media. These interventions combined with local peace mediation approaches with the traditional leaders and women as well as improved access to socio-economic opportunities will contribute to strengthening the resilience of the vulnerable communities towards peacebuilding and social inclusion.

Output 2.1: The knowledge of the host communities and migrants on social cohesion and peacebuilding is increased through awareness-raising activities (IOM, UNHCR and OHCHR)

This output will align with ongoing interventions by IOM and FIFPro and UNHCR's activities with COSAFA, using socio-cultural activities such as community-level football exhibitions, cultural diversity programmes to promote migrant integration and social cohesion. The action will also include the organization of dialogues on priority cross-cutting issues including peacebuilding and reconciliation process across the targeted provinces. In parallel, the action will develop alliances with the private sector and other NGOs to promote inclusion and peaceful coexistence through corporate social responsibility schemes.

Output 2.2: Outreach and social media strategies on migration narratives developed and implemented (OHCHR, IOM and UNHCR)

Focusing on promoting positive narratives around migration based on respect for human rights of all – migrants and nationals, the action will develop participatory, localized and targeted communication initiatives, including on social media. The action will build on existing research on public perceptions and migration narratives in South Africa and draw lessons learned from prior the communication and outreach initiatives. The output will also engage with and build the capacity of media professionals on the human rights of migrants, addressing xenophobia and harmful narratives.

Output 2.3: Migrants and host community members are trained in confidence-building and the promotion of traditional conflict resolution methods (IOM, OHCHR, UNDP and UNHCR)

The action will seek the support of community leaders in confidence-building and the promotion of traditional conflict resolution methods. This will be done through engagement and capacity building activities for youth groups, community leaders and peer educator in the management and mitigation of conflicts.

Output 2.4: Capacities of women community leaders increased in Mediation and Peacebuilding approaches; including creating innovative solutions to their challenges (UN Women and UNHCR).

The action will promote dialogues between women in host communities and migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, utilizing the Umoja project as a good practice example. In parallel, the action will train women community leaders in conflict resolution, mediation and peacebuilding while promoting innovative local peacebuilding infrastructures such as peace clubs for young people and local peacebuilders awards.

Output 2.5: Vulnerable youth, women and children at risk have access to socio-economic opportunities (UNDP, UNHCR).

Drawing on the mapping and analysis conducted under Outcome 1, the action will facilitate community groups to establish joint social enterprises and create employment opportunities for locals, migrants and refugees. The enterprises will identify infrastructure that will promote ownership by all groups and in



particular youth and women. The activity to support livelihoods of the vulnerable communities will be in the form of cash-based support, social services like child-care, health facilities, care for elderly and disabled. Physical and infrastructure enterprises would be retail, light manufacturing, transport services like public transport, car repairs, telecommunications services. In parallel, the action will leverage the technical expertise in the private sector to strengthen the vocational skills development of the vulnerable youths and women in the communities. The focus of such activities will be on projects that promote and encourage joint action between different groups and strengthen the most vulnerable groups. Understand the impact of COVID-19 on livelihoods and ensure the inclusion of vulnerable groups to recover.

Outcome 3: Improved institutional systems for understanding the causes, and dynamics of crisis and violence, and for articulating responses

This outcome area will focus on developing joint methodologies between Government, SAHRC, the UN, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to identify communities at risk and map the underlying causes of xenophobic violence, for articulating appropriate responses will be undertaken. The assessment will be designed to capture perceptions from both the host, migrant and refugee communities through a mixed methodology, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods to enable a better understanding of the social cohesion dynamics and the outcome of the research will be used to strengthen policy responses to the challenges of xenophobia and hate crime.

Output 3.1: Evidence-based and gender-disaggregated multidimensional analysis on the causes and dynamics of crisis, violence and xenophobia in South Africa is available. (IOM, UNHCR and OHCHR)

The action will support the conduct of research to analyze the structural causes and dynamics and triggers of crisis and violence in South Africa and organize a validation workshop on the findings with national, provincial and community stakeholders, and the whole range of other stakeholders, to formulate conflict prevention plans.

Output 3.2: Early warning and rapid response systems on xenophobia and hate speech are strengthened and support clarification of relevant definitions and standards (OHCHR, UNDP, IOM, UNHCR, UN Women).

The action will work with State and civil society institutions to map relevant actors, identify good practices and gaps, assess the alignment of definitions and standards relating to xenophobia with national and international standards and best practice. Based on the findings of the research, the action will strengthen collaboration between stakeholders on existing systems, including under the NAP, to monitor, track trends and provide early warning and rapid response concerning hate speech, xenophobia and xenophobic incidents in South Africa.

Output 3.3: Capacities of mandated government departments are strengthened to adjust relevant policies and programme to implement violence prevention and containment mechanisms (UNDP, UNHCR, OHCHR and UN Women).

These interventions will provide evidence-based data to national, provincial and local governments in conflict-sensitive recovery and development planning, impact monitoring for early recovery and livelihoods, and service delivery. The action will also deliver technical recommendations to the Government of South Africa to provide it with an operational tool and general guidelines in order to address the identified gaps and obstacles. Building on the South African Radar for Social Cohesion developed by the Cultural Observatory, the action will review and refine a tracking and monitoring system for social cohesion.



2b) Theory of change

Migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in South Africa will enjoy greater social inclusion and integration, protection of their human rights and be able to contribute more meaningfully to the country's transformation and development agenda without being left behind.

Outcome

Change in Systems:
Systems and capacities strengthened to prevent and respond to xenophobia

Strengthen social cohesion:
Social inclusion and peaceful coexistence improved to prevent the occurrence of xenophobia

Change in Policy:
Improved systems for understanding the causes, and dynamics of crisis and violence and for articulating policy responses

CHANGE



Output

- Establishment of conflict prevention mechanisms in the local communities
- Training package on the human rights of migrants, non-discrimination and xenophobia are developed and delivered.
- Increased awareness and access to legal and psychosocial support and administrative support for victims

- Increased knowledge of the host communities and migrants on social cohesion and peacebuilding.
- Communication and social media strategies on positive migration narratives developed.
- Communities members are trained engaged in confidence-building and the promotion of traditional conflict resolution methods.
- Women community leaders are capacitated on mediation and peacebuilding approaches and innovative solutions to conflict.
- Access to improved socio-economic opportunities by the vulnerable groups

- Evidence-based and gender-disaggregated multidimensional analysis on the causes and dynamics of crisis, violence and xenophobia in South Africa is available.
- Strengthen collaboration on early warning and rapid response on xenophobia and hate speech.
- Capacities of mandated government departments are strengthened to adjust relevant policies and programme

Assumptions:

- The government's political will and the commitment to ensuring a more cohesive society towards the achievement of the NDP and SDGs will continue and continues to prioritize tackling anti-migrant narratives and xenophobic violent attacks.
- The Government of South Africa at all levels and PUNOs maximize the effectiveness of the existing schemes, programmes and actions which have a proven impact on strengthening social inclusion without leaving no-one behind.
- All targeted communities and other stakeholders provide the necessary political and administrative support to the process and work constructively to achieve social cohesion

Risks:

- Deteriorating security due to heightened levels of xenophobic violence that hinder staff access to targeted communities.
- Decline in the commitment of government counterparts and willingness to participate in the planned activities.
- Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and uncertainty delay implementation
- The project may become vulnerable to politicization from both internal and external actors

Problems to be addressed

- Incidence of social exclusion and xenophobic attacks is particularly pronounced in South Africa's communities
- Limited capacity to effectively address prevent and respond to the occurrence of violent attacks and social inclusion.
- Lack of data for articulating evidence-based policy responses to mitigate and respond to the occurrence of violence

Drawing on the complementary expertise of the five participating UN agencies, the project will specifically target communities within **Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape** provinces directly impacted by different forms of xenophobic attacks and anti-migrant narratives which are destabilizing the social cohesion fabrics of the communities and where local and provincial government authorities are struggling to implement adequate responses. The programme will be implemented in close coordination with respective state and non-state counterparts, which will play a very active role to support the implementation of activities that fall within agencies' mandates. The joint programme will also collaborate closely with the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), civil society, local communities and other relevant stakeholders, through a whole-of-society approach, in line with the Global Compact on Migration. These activities are coordinated and synergized at each output and objective level under the



leadership of designated lead UN agencies for respective outputs and objectives. The implementation of programme activities will also include disaggregation by age and gender, taking into consideration the different experiences of social cohesion between men, women, girls and boys as well as intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination faced by particular groups within the migrant and refugee community, including in relation to age, gender, ethnicity, nationality, religious belief, minority status, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.

The initial work by the UN to support the development of the NAP to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the UN's Common Country Analysis have revealed increased understanding and the priorities of different government agencies that will require a more integrated approach to reach the objective of building community resilience towards peacebuilding and achieving a more cohesive society. The programme will also place the UN system in South Africa as a catalyst to promote a more integrated approach in the multi-stakeholder strategy to address the challenge of social cohesion in the country.

The Joint Programme will adopt the following approaches which are also the underlying strategies for sustainable development.

- **Support to implementation of national strategies** to prevent and address xenophobia, including the National Action Plan (NAP) to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and other Government and national commitments, to ensure alignment, synergies and complementarity between the Joint Programme and Government, SAHRC, civil society initiatives.
- **A bottom-up approach** in empowering communities and enhancing community participation through active engagements. Within the context of this approach, the first activity to be carried out is conflict assessment and analysis. The assessment will focus on understanding the causes, and dynamics of xenophobic violence and existing stakeholders' self-conflict resolution. The assessment will provide the platform of articulating responses and execution of the actual work, and community conversations and training on peacebuilding, human rights and promotion of social cohesion will be carried out through the project phases.
- **The top-down approach** in engagement and capacity development of local government units – Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Western Cape provincial governments as the main counterparts along with other local authorities, and facilitate their direct contribution as an equal partner of project execution including project management, technical advisory services and capacity development;
- **Multi-sectoral UN Country Team approach** embodied through the UN inter-agency collaboration – each of the UN agencies involved will contribute from their areas of specialization and strength while working in collaboration especially to carryout multi-disciplinary interventions, evaluations and regularly bringing together progress results and findings to synergize Outputs;
- **Building effective local partnerships**, enhancing the capacity of the local communities and authorities, and promoting community livelihoods support, to ensure capacity for the long-term sustainability of initiatives. Beneficiaries who are the most marginalized or face discrimination (including women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, minorities, people living with HIV, LGBTI people) will be given priority to participate in livelihoods activities; and
- **Using culturally and linguistically appropriate approaches and materials**, increasing opportunities for the most vulnerable communities and groups to actively participate in socio-



cultural activities and to understand complex information on social cohesion and migrant integration disseminated and exchanged throughout the project.

Within the broader priority geographic areas and context analysis outlined above, the decision to initiate social cohesion support in a given community will be made by the Joint Project Steering Committee in consultation with the Government of South Africa utilizing the following criteria and other factors where relevant:

1. Communities that have experienced xenophobic conflict, and related disruption in the social fabrics over the past 36 months.
2. Communities prioritized by the Social Protection, Community and Human Development Cluster based on the outcome of previous assessments and reports.
3. Communities with a significant presence (as a proportion of the total population) of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeker populations with prevalent anti-migrant narratives and legitimate claims of frequent xenophobic attacks and anti-migrant narratives.
4. Migrant communities impacted by COVID-19 measures and potential fragility towards social cohesion.

As the COVID-19 crisis continues in South Africa, the Government of South Africa has implemented a series of measures to reduce the risk of contagion and the health system is overwhelmed. These measures have included the declaration of a State of National Disaster with a range of restrictions that depend on specific levels of transmission and which have been regularly amended. At the moment restrictions include a night-time curfew, limits on the number of people at gatherings, the closure of borders to regular migration, quarantine upon entry into the country, and stopping regular commercial flights.

Based on these circumstances, the PUNOs do not envisage significant delays in the commencement and implementation of project activities. Many activities, including assessment, research, development of tools and awareness-raising materials, virtual online training, formalization of a partnership agreement with the implementing partners, establishment of governance structure and activities that can be implemented in the local communities with limited numbers of participants will still be able to be carried out despite the COVID-19 pandemic. It is hoped that the situation will improve in the coming months. However, if it does not, some activities may experience some considerable negative impact because of the COVID-19 crisis. Activities that require direct contact with participants and the community-level engagement that involves bigger groups, activities that rely on international experts flying into South Africa, will need to be implemented through alternative *modi operandi*, such as on virtual platforms, and may face some delays.

3b) Cross-Cutting Principles

The human rights principles of equality and non-discrimination, participation, inclusion and accountability will guide the implementation of this JP. South Africa has ratified seven out of the nine core international human rights treaties⁸ and three regional human rights instruments⁹. The JP seeks to support the government of South Africa in the implementation of its human rights obligations and commitments. The country was reviewed by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) working group in May 2017. South Africa

⁸ Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

⁹ African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance



received 257 recommendations and is committed to implementing 103 recommendations at the adoption of its UPR outcome in September 2017. In 2019, the UN Committee against Torture was concerned that xenophobic attacks against foreign nationals, refugees and asylum seekers, including violence and threats of violence, have continued in South Africa, resulting in deaths, destruction of property and displacement, and that no one has been convicted for past outbreaks of xenophobic violence. Similarly, in 2016, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination expressed concern regarding the rise in hate crime and hate speech in South Africa and recommended South Africa to establish a dialogue within communities in conflict to address root causes of discrimination and violence. The Committee also recommended South Africa to conduct educational campaigns to end racism and xenophobia and promote tolerance and respect for diversity, with a focus on the role and responsibilities of journalists and public officials. In addition, the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech directs relevant UN entities to be able to recognize, collect data, monitor and analyze hate speech trends.

Gender considerations will be integral to the assessment, design and implementation phases of the project. The project will ensure that women, men, girls and boys and groups that are marginalized and face discrimination (including older persons, youth, persons with disabilities, minorities, persons living with HIV, LGBTI people) can benefit equitably from the project activities and are appropriately represented in all project activities and that sexual and gender-based violence sparked by xenophobia is also addressed through the project. An assessment will be also carried out with beneficiaries to ensure risk is mitigated and women can access preventative and livelihood activities implemented by the project without an increased risk to violence.

This project will incorporate a gender dimension throughout the implementation of the action, including in the following sets of activities: community sensitization (with the presence of women groups, wherever possible, in addition to female community members, men and boys); in the selection of target households (priority will be given to women-headed households); ensuring equal representation and participation of men and women (and inclusion of boys and girls where appropriate) in the planned community consultation and engagement as well as cultural/arts/sports activities.

The JP will ensure mainstreaming gender-disaggregated data collection and reporting, including female members in the core facilitating team, community focal points and project staff. More specifically, training and socio-cultural events will consider gender dynamics and sensitivity. The livelihoods project will ensure that opportunities and tasks are equally accessible to women and men, without discrimination based on gender or other grounds. In addition, based on the assessment result, activities will be identified and implemented in a way that ensures safe and equal access to resources and livelihood opportunities to all and to promote their equal rights and status within society.

4: Stakeholder Mapping and Partnerships

4a) Stakeholder Mapping: See annex 1

4b) Partnerships

The joint programme will be coordinated and implemented by UN agencies which have proven capacities to implement and coordinate activities with government and civil society counterparts at the national level and in the communities.

In addition to the context of the stakeholder mapping analysis outlined above, the PUNOs will ensure that project implementation is coordinated with the following national counterparts; Parliament, Judiciary,



Cluster System, Departments of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO); Department of Social Development (DSD); Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD); Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (DCGTA); Department of Arts and Culture (DAC); Department of Home Affairs; South African Police Services; Chapter Nine Institutions and in particular the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC); the National House of Traditional Leaders (HTL); These departments are part of the Social Cluster (Social Protection and Community Development Cluster) and are tasked with the work of social cohesion. Once buy-in is secured from these national offices, they will introduce the project to their provincial counterparts and endorse it. Provinces in South Africa are somewhat independent and have a role to implement government policies. Partnerships will be formed with relevant directorates at provincial levels including and Offices of the Premiers, Mayors and Speakers in the programming communities and local authorities. All relevant ministries, local authorities and NGOs will be involved throughout project implementation to build their ownership and capacity, so that effective handover and exit are ensured.

The programme will build a strong collaboration with DoJ&CD as the lead agency in the implementation of NAP. In addition, JP will build synergy with DSD in the implementation of the community-level engagement to strengthen social cohesion. These two government agencies will play a critical role in the implementation of project activities and ensure that the objectives of the action are met. At the community level, the JP will work with civil society organizations which have earned legitimacy with key migrant constituencies and have been effective partners against gender-based violence. The JP will also partner with organizations that represent migrants and those that have in-depth knowledge working with victims of gender-based violence.

In order to strengthen the delivery of the output 2.1, the JP will partner with the Africa Division of FIFPro and private organizations and philanthropic foundations such as Multi-Choice International, Motsepe and Nelson Mandela foundations while ensuring synergy with the IOM's ongoing regional project on social cohesion. During implementation, the local FIFPro in South Africa and the PUNOs will be leveraged upon to facilitate and support the engagement of African footballers for the football exhibition match and community dialogue activities.

SAHRC is a leading constitutional body with a mandate to raise awareness and educate on human rights, monitor and research the situation of human rights and take steps to investigate and address instances of human rights violations. Therefore, the SAHRC's complaint handling procedure is also relevant in the context of migration, xenophobia and discrimination. The Commission monitors the incidents of xenophobic attacks, issues recommendations regarding migrants and engages with state institutions and other stakeholders to advance human rights. The SAHRC has established a Committee of Experts on the human rights of migrants.

Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and academic institutions will be key partners across the joint programme in reaching out to vulnerable populations and host communities in the implementation of project activities. PUNOs have engaged with several organizations advocating for the rights of migrants, through a range of different programmes, and which will be integral to this project. In order to ensure a whole-of-society approach, the action will ensure partnerships with CSOs and academic institutions in the country including the Institute for Social Cohesion and Skills Development, Adoni Musati Project, Zoë-Life Innovative Solutions, Consortium for Migration and Refugees in South Africa, Refugee Social Services, Scalabrini Centre, Lawyers for Human Rights, Africa Centre for Migration and Society, Ahmed Kathrada



Foundation, Media Monitoring Africa, Centre for Child Law, Centre for Analytics and Behavioural Change and others.

The JP will engage with CSOs and academic institutions particularly in order to:

- Support community-level initiatives and capacity enhancement on social cohesion.
- Raise awareness with the general public and ignite social conversation on peacebuilding and respect for the rights of migrants.
- Help form policy advocacy agenda and policy reform to respond in relation to xenophobia and/or provision of legal and other support to migrants and refugees.
- Strengthening knowledge on access to services social protection with the general public and vulnerable populations.
- Support the research efforts under the action.
- Strengthen monitoring, early warning and rapid response systems

5. Innovation and Sustainability

5a) Innovation

Strengthening the UN efforts in social cohesion and overall peacebuilding is linked to a long-term development strategy in South Africa. Much of the response to social cohesion and migrant integration crisis has been reactive, focusing on the humanitarian needs of food, health, and shelter to address the immediate needs of migrants who have experienced xenophobia. However, more needs to happen in the areas of leadership by the relevant government stakeholders, community-level engagement and public awareness in the peace and reconciliation discourse to achieve a more inclusive South African society.

Implementing catalytic activities that will engage the migrants, women, children, youths and communities at risk to promote peacebuilding, facilitate social cohesion, income-generating activities, as well as quick-impact support to communities, is a highly needed approach for South Africa at this stage. This project will lay a foundation for promoting peace and reducing violence in the short and medium-term; such that will create a model that could be used to demonstrate to other stakeholders (international and national) that social inclusion and cohesion can contribute to peaceful coexistence and stability of their communities.

Given the social cohesion context in South Africa as well as the current interest and commitment from the government of South Africa, Ambassadors and High Commissioners of the affected migrants' countries, other partners including private organizations in addressing the challenges of social cohesion and the occurrence of violent attacks in the vulnerable communities, the opportunities for scaling-up and replication for this project are high. While the funding from MPTF will be mainly focused on few communities in Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Western Cape, funding from other donors will be used to expand project activities in other affected areas in these locations, particularly those that are more vulnerable to socio-economic fragilities with potentials to fuel xenophobia.

Considering that xenophobia and reprisal attacks are issues affecting other countries in Southern Africa, especially Lesotho, Malawi and Zimbabwe and that this joint initiative is a pilot one, the results gained through the implementation of the programme can be replicated by other countries in Southern Africa to



pave the way for similar initiatives. In this regard, the UN will draw wisdom and direction from the Africa Forum, an informal network of former African Heads of State and Government established in 2006 to harness experience, moral authority, promotion of peace and security, promotion of human rights, and enhancement and sustenance of peace and security in Africa. UN Women will use innovative methods such as Design Thinking in supporting communities to come up with their solutions to challenges.

The JP offers a collective UN approach to match the complexity of problems associated with attacks and the integration of foreign nationals. The combination of UN Agencies, working together in a whole of community approach, offers complementarity and coordination by addressing multidimensional issues and challenges associated with migrants living in South Africa. The JP interventions will work in partnership with several key government departments to bolster coordination and coherence from the top down. At the community and local government level, the JP will combine the strengths of different Agencies to address issues of human rights, socio-economic needs, service delivery, documentation, capacities for early warning, strengthening of local capacities for dialogue, inclusive participation of marginalized groups and gender-based violence comprehensively and simultaneously.

The above new way of working from UN Agencies aims to strengthen capacity and cooperation between different government departments and between different layers of governance. It further aims to increase levels of confidence between groups and improve collaboration and interaction of immigrant groups with government and police.

At project implementation level different Agencies will pilot innovative interventions in hotspot areas. UNDP emphasis on strengthening the socio-economic status of both youth and women will raise awareness of an often-hidden dimension within the larger migration issue. Sustaining dialogue to proactively address problems, and act as an early warning is designed to prevent escalation and overt outbreaks of conflict.

5b) Sustainability:

A key approach of the Joint Programme to ensure sustainability is to align the JP strategy, outcomes, outputs and activities to support existing national strategies to prevent and address xenophobia, including the National Action Plan (NAP) to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (validated) and other Government and national commitments, to ensure alignment, synergies and complementarity between the Joint Programme and Government, SAHRC, civil society initiatives. A key aspect of the JP in this regard will be to act as a platform to further strengthen collaboration between Government and other stakeholders with a view to effective implementation of these commitments. The JP will also act as a catalyst to pilot different approaches to the implementation of the NAP and support the sharing and dissemination of good practices at the local and provincial level.

The two-year JP aims to strengthen capacities, relationships and collaboration between key stakeholders who carry the responsibility of addressing issues associated with the integration of migrants. Building confidence and understanding between stakeholders hold intrinsic value and will continue beyond the lifespan of the MPTF. Several systems will be enhanced that will endure after the JP has come to an end. This includes systems of early warning to prevent conflict and stir local leaders into action, access to justice and of early warning and communication and dialogue through joint forums.



The JP will also contribute to changing the negative perceptions on migration by demonstrating through dialogues, arts and culture the positive contributions of migrants in their host communities. Hate speech will be addressed, joint projects will provide face-to-face encounters and youth will document problems and joint solutions for communities to discuss in facilitated conversations. The joint socio-economic activities aim to enhance inter-dependence between opposing groups to provide a shared stake in building towards collective stability and security for the community. Providing livelihoods will be premised on self-reliance and local productive capacities and not dependent on UNDP inputs.

6. Project Management and Coordination

6a) Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs) and Implementing Partners:

The strength of the JP is the strong partnership built between the five agencies, namely IOM, UNDP, UNHCR, OHCHR and UN Women. Each of them has different complementary areas of expertise and global comparative experiences that will benefit and allow the project to partially address the complex migration, mixed flows, human rights and livelihoods issues of South Africa in a holistic manner and through advocacy and peace-building lens. All five implementing UN Agencies have a wealth of experience in South Africa and the project proposal benefits from the various technical capacities that each brings to the table.

The **Resident Coordinator Office (RCO)** will play a central role in coordinating the work of the PUNOs and leading the political dialogue, ensuring the UN delivers a harmonized message at different policy levels, including the high-level policy dialogue. Additionally, the RCO will coordinate activities with other UN agencies through UNCT meetings and other initiatives to avoid possible duplication, and invite relevant agencies to contribute with their specific expertise, ensure the alignment of activities in the UNSDCF, and make sure contributions made through this joint programme are reported under this framework.

IOM has been working in South Africa since 1996 and has been involved in a wide range of activities supporting government institutions, migrant population and the host communities in the implementation of migration-related activities. IOM has the experience of advocating for the inclusion of migrants needs and rights in laws and policies as well as working with relevant duty bearers to ensure that the laws and policies are subsequently implemented. As the CA, IOM will provide overall coordination of the project including the reporting obligations and submission to the MPTF Secretariat. In that sense, a strong team of national and international experts will be dedicated to the implementation of each component of IOM's area of expertise in the project. In light of the diverse experiences and areas of expertise, the team will be able to provide technical and monitoring support to each of the stages and activities of the project. IOM will leverage on its presence in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Western Cape to strengthen the implementation of the activities in the provinces.

UNDP leads the UN efforts to help countries achieve sustainable development by eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, accelerating structural transformations for sustainable development and building resilience to crises and shocks. Using its strong position as an integrator of the SDGs, UNDP South Africa will play an active role to ensure that SDGs are mainstreamed into this JP, with a stronger focus on universality and the intention to "leave no one behind" and "reach those furthest behind first". UNDP works as a facilitator and catalyst for development and using its capacity building advantage, will help build the capacity of partners in government, civil society and the private sector to be better able to



respond to migrant and social cohesion challenges and support improved socio-economic opportunities in the vulnerable communities.

UNHCR is the lead agency for refugee and statelessness matters. UNHCR was the first human rights agency back in South Africa at the end of apartheid to assist with the return of South Africans in exile in 1991 and has continued to support the Government in asylum advocacy and technical support. UNHCR's presence in South Africa has since extended to a role of protection coordination with a variety of stakeholders including Government counterparts, UN agencies, civil society and communities through advocacy, technical support and capacity building. Furthermore, UNHCR supports Government efforts and works through implementing partners, offering legal advice and counselling in five major cities, social assistance, language training and income-generating activities to refugees. UNHCR has a field presence in Cape Town and Durban. The offices also work with a variety of implementing and operational partners to strengthen refugee protection and social cohesion.

OHCHR is the lead UN entity on human rights, including the human rights of migrants, and has a Regional Office for Southern Africa that is based in Pretoria and covers South Africa. OHCHR's key added value is its technical expertise on law and policy reform, human rights analysis and advocacy, countering discrimination, xenophobia and hate speech, strengthening accountability, access to justice, rule of law and national human rights protection institutions and human rights monitoring and early warning. In South Africa, OHCHR has been working closely with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, Chapter 9 institutions and civil society actors on the elaboration and adoption of South Africa's National Action Plan to combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and will continue to support its implementation. OHCHR has been a key global player to advance the human rights of migrants, particularly migrants in vulnerable situations, and also supports the work of UN human rights mechanisms on the rights of migrants, including the Committee on Migrant Workers and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. OHCHR will recruit a dedicated National Human Rights Officer to support the implementation of the Joint Programme.

UNWOMEN, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. UN Women South Africa Multi-Country Office (MCO) covers SACU countries: Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa. The SA MCO's work falls under UN Women's triple mandates: *normative; operational; and coordination*. Under the *normative* function, SAMCO supports inter-governmental process at the regional level in partnership with regional bodies, such as the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), in the formulation of policies, global standards and norms to achieve Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. SAMCO also supports the Member States in domestication and implementation of international norms and standards including the Sustainable Development Goals.

6b) Joint Programme Management and Coordination:

(b) National Steering Committee and Joint Programme Management Team (See annex 2)

In order to strengthen the overall governance in the implementation of the JP, a National Steering Committee (NSC) and Programme Management Team (PMT) was originally envisaged. Unfortunately, that structure did not materialize as the government requested for a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which took long to resolve. Following the signature of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation



Framework (UNSDCF) and a Cabinet Decision on the same in April 2022, it was agreed that the Cooperation Framework would provide the necessary framework for implementation of the Joint Programme activities as these directly contribute to Results Group 1, 2 and 3 of the Cooperation Framework. Furthermore, for purposes of keeping the relevant governance structures informed of the JP activities, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation at a meeting held on 22 April 2022 welcomed the idea of presenting programme activities to the different priorities and clusters established to oversee the implementation of the National Development Plan and its Medium Plan Strategic Priorities. Other structures include the Protection Working Group and its Advisory Group co-chaired by Department of Justice & Constitutional Development (DOJ&CD) and UNHCR, the National Task Force on Social Cohesion chaired by Department of Social Development, and various coordination mechanisms under the National Action Plan (NAP) on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

The PMT was established in late 2021 and is responsible for the day to day coordination and implementation of project activities and provides technical support and guidance to implementing partners in order to ensure the project objectives are met and build synergy with the activities outlined in the NAP and its implementation plan to ensure complementarity in the implementation of anti-xenophobia interventions in the country. Regular field trips will be undertaken to project sites to gauge perceptions from the ground and collect first-hand information. It will ensure regular consultations with all key stakeholders – including authorities, international agencies and community-based NGOs. The PMT will meet monthly to discuss the implementation and managerial aspects of the project, identify challenges and coordinate with the relevant coordination structures on the strategic approach to mitigating the impact of the challenges on the project implementation and the achievements of the project objectives.

6c) Risk Management: See Annex D2: JP MPTF Risk Management Plan

By implementing this Action, the PUNOs anticipate the occurrence of the following risks:

- The deteriorating security situation due to heightened levels of xenophobic violence that hinder staff access to targeted communities. This risk is planned to be mitigated by ensuring that all actions are carried out within the parameters of the security guidelines set forth by the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and South Africa African Police Service and other relevant security structures. Should the implementation become impossible, PUNOs will consult the MPTF Secretariat and Government entities to discuss possible revisions in the target locations.
- The vulnerability of the project to politicization from both internal and external actors and a breakdown in collaboration between stakeholders, including Government and civil society. The specific measure will be put in place to ensure that the project maintains an open channel of communications with all stakeholders and facilitate discussions between government, community and civil society actors to ensure timely and efficient achievement of the project goals and to build trust and strengthen collaboration.

The risk assessment and risk treatment indicated above will be continuously reviewed throughout the operations of the project implementation cycle. The PMT will ensure regular communication and consultations with all relevant stakeholders throughout the risk management process and provide continued monitoring and review for maintaining the relevance of the risk management process to the evolving context.



6d) Joint programme Monitoring:

The MPTF M&E will adopt a participatory and results-based approach will be guided by an M&E framework that will be jointly elaborated. M&E activities will be multi-tiered; at the agency level, inhouse M&E processes and systems will ensure consistent M&E oversight. At the joint project level, a joint M&E task team (M&E Reference Group) consisting of M&E Officers or the equivalent of each agency will drive the M&E function. Joint and regular monitoring visits with local partners will be organized on a half-yearly basis and will include key government counterparts at both the provincial and local level.

Regular monitoring will include the collection of feedback from project partners, to ensure that all activities are carefully coordinated, and to be able to identify and adequately manage challenges and ensure smooth and proper activity implementation. It will ensure that activities are reaching the intended beneficiaries and that lessons learnt, and best practices can be produced even under COVID-19 related restrictions and gathering. Monitoring of associated risks due to COVID-19 will be done by project management using the risk management plan. Communication and feedback between all project partners and IOM project management and staff will be key in monitoring pre-identified risks, and in identifying new potential risks, and to ensure that proposed mitigation/treatment plans are still relevant.

6e) Evaluation:

The overall M&E budget of USD 75,000 will be used to finance specific activities under the M&E workplan such as; a collection of routine and non-routine data, monitoring visits and the final evaluation. The budget will be further divided to cover costs of used to monitor and evaluate at the outcome and output level of the JP.

A final external evaluation by an independent evaluator in the last three months of the project implementation focused on relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability & impact in general and specific impact on vulnerable groups (women and youth, persons with disabilities) as a result of the COVID-19, and promotion of human rights and achievement of project-related SDGs. This will also encompass the revision of financial expenditures. All data collected will be disaggregated according to gender. According to the activity plan, data will be collected in the three provinces to assess the current situation and institutional capacities. The results of the data assessment will be published in the final report. Both monitoring and evaluation will be utilized to inform learning and accountability within each agency and collectively. The evaluation will be conducted in line with the United Nations Evaluation Group Guidance Document on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations.

Coordination for M&E within the agencies

In addition to the Joint PMT comprising the MPTF project managers for each agency, an M&E reference group consisting of the agencies M&E focal will be established to drive the M&E framework and support its operationalization at the agency level. The M&E reference group will provide technical support and ensure data feeds into the reports developed by the PSC. The M&E reference group will be responsible for developing data collection tools and ensure a standardized approach to M&E.

The PMT and M&E teams will meet quarterly to review progress, address challenges, share experiences and best practices and overall integrate positive lessons learnt into project management. Annual review and reflective meetings will be held to assess the performance and to identify key project priorities for the coming year and to discuss the challenges including risks and strategies to minimize their impact. All relevant implementation staff will be represented in these annual meetings. The review meeting report containing an action plan to improve project implementation will be produced.



7. Project Budget and Workplan

7a) Budget: See Annex D3 – MPTF JP Budget

7b) Workplan: See Annex D4: MPTF JP Workplan