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**[JOINT PROGRAMME ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES: ACHIEVING TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE IN RWANDA THROUGH BUILDING SUSTAINABLE AND LIVEABLE CITIES FOR ALL]**

**MPTF OFFICE GENERIC ANNUAL PROGRAMME[[1]](#footnote-1) NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**

**REPORTING PERIOD: January 1 - December 31, 2023.**

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| **Programme Title & Project Number** | |  | **Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results[[2]](#footnote-2)** | |
| * **Programme Title:** Contribution joint programme on sustainable cities: Achieving transformative change in Rwanda through building sustainable and liveable cities for all * Programme Number *(if applicable)* * MPTF Office Project Reference: RWA202 | | *Country/Region: RWANDA* | |
| *Priority area/ strategic results:*  The UNSDCF 2018-2024 Strategic Priority 1: Economic Transformation: OUTCOME 1: By 2024, people in Rwanda benefit from more inclusive, competitive, and sustainable economic growth that generates decent work and promotes quality livelihoods for all. | |
| **Participating Organization(s)** | |  | **Implementing Partners** | |
| * Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme   United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT)  United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN)  International Labour Organization (ILO)  Food and Agriculture Organization(FAO) | | To successfully implement the JP, PUNOs partner with both government, private, NGOs & others and other International Organizations. Particularly the implementing partners includes:   * Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA: * Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) * Ministry of Environment (MoE) * Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA), * Ministry of Public Service and Labour (MIFOTRA) * Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) * Rwanda Housing Authority (RHA) * Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) * Local Administrative Entities Development Agency (LODA) * Rwanda Land Management and Use Authority (RLMUA) | |
| **Programme/Project Cost (US$)** | |  | **Programme Duration** | |
| Total approved budget as per project: USD 1,505,420  MPTF /JP Contribution:   * UN-Habitat: USD 235,089 * UNEP USD 100,019 * UNWomen USD 125,331 * ILO USD 100,000 * FAO USD 107,019  |  | | --- | | Agency Contribution   * UN-Habitat: USD 492,050 * UNWomen USD 295,912 * FAO USD 50,000 | |  | |  |   **TOTAL: USD 1,505,420** |  |  | Overall Duration *(months)*  45 months |  |
|  |  |  | Start Date[[3]](#footnote-3) 29.09.2020 |  |
|  |  |  | Original End Date*[[4]](#footnote-4)* 30.06.2023 |  |
|  |  |  | Current End date[[5]](#footnote-5) *30.06.2024* |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.** | |  | **Report Submitted By** | |
| Assessment/Review - if applicable *please attach*  Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*  Mid-Term Evaluation Report *– if applicable please attach*  Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy* | | * Name: Grace Lubaale * Title: Human Settlements Officer & Manager, Berbera Urban Development Project & Head/ UN-Habitat Somaliland Office/Regional Office for Africa * Participating Organization (Lead): UN-Habitat * Email address: [grace.lubaale@un.org](mailto:grace.lubaale@un.org) | |

# NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Joint Programme on Sustainable Cities in Rwanda is being implemented by different UN agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women). It aims to contribute to bringing sustainable, resilient, and inclusive urbanization to the forefront of the country’s development agenda, and to support achieving Agenda 2030 and the outcomes and outputs of the UNSDCF 2018–2024 under its Strategic Priority 1 of Economic Transformation 1.

During this reporting period from January 2023 to December 2023, the Joint Programmme key achievements include but not limited to the following:

The programme contributed to the creation of decent employment through the fostering of skills development, economic empowerment, promotion of entrepreneurship, and financial inclusion for all, especially women and youth. Through different initiatives, the programme has enhanced the entrepreneurial capabilities and market competitiveness of local artisans and cooperatives. Additionally, training staff in the employment ecosystem on decent work, social protection, and social dialogue has created a more conducive environment for sustainable employment and improved working conditions.

The joint programme has also significantly contributed to the review of the Urban and Rural Settlement Sector Strategy Plan (USSP) 2018/19-2023/24 and the elaboration of the new USSP 2024/25-2028/29. This initiative has resulted in a comprehensive evaluation that will not only contribute recommendations to the new USSP but also inform the development of other sector-related policy documents; By strengthening the strategic framework guiding infrastructure development, this activity sets the stage for more efficient and effective implementation of development initiatives, ultimately contributing to Rwanda's overall sustainable development objectives.

# Purpose

The Joint Programme on Sustainable Cities is supporting activities that aim to increase the capacity of Rwandan cities to better manage existing challenges and prevent future ones. These challenges are related to urban poverty, unemployment, poor housing and underdeveloped infrastructure, natural and human-made disasters, as well as constraints on productivity, safety, and security, especially for women and girls. The Joint Programme is, therefore, supporting Rwanda to create livable and inclusive cities that provide security, access to jobs, decent housing, and a better quality of life for all citizens. Reducing social inequality, strengthening citizen participation, and giving people hope and better prospects are the underlying driving forces of the programme. It is contributing to the achievement of the outcomes and outputs of the UNSDCF 2014-2024 under its Strategic Priority 1 of Economic Transformation, namely “By 2024, people in Rwanda enjoy an improved quality of life sustained by a modern economy that is globally competitive, knowledge-based, and environmentally sustainable”.

# Results

1. **Narrative reporting on results:**

**Outcome 1:** By 2024 people in Rwanda benefit from more inclusive, competitive, and sustainable economic growth that generates decent work and promotes quality livelihoods for all.

**Output 1.2** Decent employment promoted, through fostering of skills development, economic empowerment and promotion of entrepreneurship and financial inclusion for all, especially women and youth.

**Activity 1.2.1** Engage in partnerships to upgrade cooperative enterprises of garments and tailoring.

* By Support of the ILO, thirty tailors across 20 cooperatives were empowered with advanced business and e-commerce skills, enhancing their capacity to thrive in a digital economy. This initiative aimed to drive sustainable economic growth by equipping artisans with the tools needed to expand their market reach and increase their income. As a result, participating tailors experienced a notable increase in online sales and improved business sustainability, contributing to the broader goal of fostering entrepreneurship and economic resilience in the community.
* In pursuit of enhancing economic empowerment among local tailors, a comprehensive training program was conducted. Thirty tailors underwent intensive training sessions on 'Improving Your Business,' equipping them with essential skills and knowledge to enhance their entrepreneurial acumen and operational efficiency. Additionally, another cohort of 30 tailors received specialized training in financial literacy, aimed at enhancing their financial management skills and fostering sustainable business practices. By capacitating these tailors in both business improvement and financial literacy, the initiative aimed to empower them to make informed decisions, optimize their businesses' performance, and contribute effectively to the local economy's growth.
* The ILO has successfully conducted training sessions on decent work, social protection, and social dialogue, benefitting 47 staff members within the employment ecosystem. This initiative aimed to enhance their capacity and understanding of key principles, ensuring they are better equipped to promote and implement sustainable practices within their respective roles. The training's impact is evident in the increased knowledge and skills of these staff members, leading to improved practices and outcomes in the realm of decent work, social protection, and social dialogue.

**Output 1.3 National and local institutions are equipped with the technical capacity to implement knowledge-based, inclusive, and sustainable urbanization policies and plans.**

**Activity 1.3.1.** Review of urbanization and rural settlement sector strategic plan 2012/13-2017/23

* UN-Habitat, in collaboration with the Ministry of Infrastructure, engaged a consultant to conduct the end-term evaluation of the Urban and Rural Settlement Sector Strategy Plan (USSP) 2018/19-2023/24. This evaluation aims to assess the effectiveness of the USSP in achieving its goals and objectives, identify key achievements and challenges, and provide strategic recommendations for future urban and rural settlement development in Rwanda. By evaluating the USSP, this activity seeks to enhance the strategic planning and implementation of sustainable urban and rural development initiatives, ultimately contributing to improved living conditions, infrastructure, and services for all Rwandans.

**ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:**

Using the **Programme Results Framework from the Project Document** **/ AWP** - provide an update on the achievement of indicators at both the output and outcome level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, clear explanation should be given explaining why, as well as plans on how and when this data will be collected.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Achieved Indicator Targets** | **Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)** | **Source of Verification** |
| **Outcome 1[[6]](#footnote-6)**By 2024, people in Rwanda benefit from more inclusive, competitive and sustainable economic growth that generates decent work and promotes quality livelihoods for all.  **Indicator:**  **1.1:** % of population living in urban areas  **1.2**: Number of new decent jobs created  **Baseline:** **50**  **Planned Target: 500** |  |  |  |
| **Output 1.2** : Decent employment created, through fostering of skills development, economic empowerment and promotion of entrepreneurship and financial inclusion for all, especially women and youth  **Indicator 1.2.7** Number of informal associations and cooperatives upgraded to better serve women and men in selected sub-sectors.  **Baseline:0**  **Planned Target:20 cooperatives.**  **Indicator 1.2.9** Number of MSEs reporting more than 5% increase in annual income measured from baseline.  **Baseline:0**  **Planned Target:** 60 informal tailors.  **Indicator 1.2.11** Number of staff in the employment ecosystem specifically in the City of Kigali capacitated to ensure effective implementation of the national employment policy in response to new development in employment and COVID-19 crisis recovery.  **Baseline: 0**  **Planned Target:** 43 staff. | 30 tailors 20 cooperatives from were equipped with new business and e-commerce skills | No variance | Training report |
| 30 tailors were trained on ''Improve your business'', and 30 tailors were capacitated in financial literacy.  47 staff in employment ecosystem have been trained on decent work, social protection, and social dialogue | No variance  No variance | Training report  Training report |
| **Output 1.3 National** and local institutions are equipped with the technical capacity to implement knowledge-based, inclusive, and sustainable urbanization policies and plans.  **Indicator 1.3.1** The USSP (2018/19-2023/24) is evaluated and with recommendations to inform next USSP (2024/25-2028/29)  **Baseline: 0**  **Planned Target: 1** | The UN-Habitat has supported the ministry of infrastructure with a consultant who has undertaken the assignment of conducting the end-term evaluation of the Urban and Rural Settlement Sector Strategy Plan (USSP) 2018/19-2023/24 and the elaboration of the new USSP 2024/25-2028/29. | No Variance | USSP end term evaluation report (2018/19-2023/24). |

1. The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document; [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](http://mdtf.undp.org/) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be **as outlined in the Project Document** so that you report on your **actual achievements against planned targets**. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)