

Joint Programme 2021 Annual Progress Report

SDG Financing Portfolio - Component 1

Cover page

UNCT/MCO: Ghana Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2021 JP title: Accelerating Attainment of SDG in Ghana PUNOs: UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, WHO Government partner: Ministry of Planning Target SDGs: SDGs 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17 Gender Marker: 3 Approved budget: USD 999,840 Co-funding: USD 1,300,000 Total Disbursement by 2021: USD 999,840 Total estimated expenditures: USD 592,229.5 (est. Delivery rate: 59.2%) Total estimated commitments (including expenditures): USD 825,080.9 (est. Committed rate: 82.5%) RCO focal point name: Peter Aidoo RCO focal point email: peter.aidoo@un.org

Executive Summary

The JP's performance over the reporting period has been satisfactory. Significant number of work plan activities have been implemented yielding the majority of the expected results across the four outputs. Governance, overall coordination and implementation mechanisms were established. Important and strategic partnerships and engagements were undertaken culminating in the successful launch of the project with all stakeholders and establishment of the overarching steering committee. The governance and overall coordination of the JP reinforced the coordination role of the UN Resident Coordinator in driving a coherent and coordinated UNCT in support of national actions to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Key highlights of the deliverables are as follows:

The development and training of government partners in the evidence-based planning and assessment tools: National Infrastructure Systems Modelling (NISMOD) and Sustainable Infrastructure Financing Tool (SIFT) and handover, including the Infrastructure Financing Strategy (IFS), to the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Finance; and The development of pipeline of SDG-aligned bankable projects and, SDG Investment Map providing market intelligence on investment opportunity areas in Ghana which were showcased at the series of SDG Investment Fairs globally and in Ghana. These form part of the JP's efforts to build national capacities and strengthen systems to stimulate integrated and transformative policy shifts;

In support of the creation and testing of SDG financing strategies the developed five local assembly financing framework to support the implementation of recovery plans for selected border communities in Ghana as part of the establishment of the INFF, and contributed to the Investment Case for the establishment of Innovative Health Financing Strategy in the health sector medium term development plan of Ghana.

Annual Progress

Overall JP self-assessment of 2021 progress:

On track (expected results achieved)

Comments on self-assessment: The JP's significant number of work plan activities have been implemented yielding the majority of the expected results across its four outputs. Governance, overall coordination and implementation mechanisms were established while important and strategic partnerships and engagements were undertaken reinforcing the coordination role of the UN Resident Coordinator in driving a coherent and coordinated UNCT in support of national actions to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The JP's on-track performance reflects in key intermediate milestones. Notably, (i) strengthening financing capacities and through development and establishment of evidence-based planning and assessment tools and training of government partners in these tools; the development of pipeline of SDG-aligned bankable projects, provision of market intelligence of investment opportunities for investors, and building and strengthening strategic partnerships through impact investment facilitation. These form part of the JP's efforts to build national capacities and strengthen systems to stimulate integrated and transformative policy shifts;

In addition, the JP has supported the creation and testing of SDG financing strategies for the implementation of recovery plans for selected border communities in Ghana, promotion of women in trade and investment to benefit from the Africa continental free trade area and contribution universal health coverage in Ghana. These are being complemented with improvement in transparency, accountability and reporting for quality service delivery through the revision of the PFM social accountability template in line with the public financial management law for the local assemblies in Ghana, and the ongoing development of gender and child-sensitive budget codes.

Through these flagship milestones, and some progress on SDG 17, the JP is on course to deliver multiple financing strategies for SDGs 3, 5, 9 and 10.

Overall progress and key developments to date (3 key JP milestones)

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Changes made to JP: The JP workplan was revised to include the conduct of the biennial Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) survey which serves to monitor, review and document the evidence on the status of effectiveness of development cooperation in Ghana. The government values the DCF Survey as an opportunity for a structured reflection on national development cooperation systems, including bringing specific value through (i) contributing to design and operationalization of INFF and (ii) making financial and non-financial cooperation more adequate, predictable and targeted towards achieving the SDGs.

The JP sees the DCF Survey as an opportunity to deepen understanding of the SDG financing landscape and implementation agenda in Ghana. The survey evidence will help support the development of appropriate financing strategies and partnerships as part of the key objectives of the INFF and other financing strategies. It will also support the review of the JP's implementation strategy across all its outputs towards accelerating the attainment of SDGs in Ghana.

Main Challenges: The JP workplan was revised to include the conduct of the biennial DCF survey which serves to monitor, review and document the evidence on the status of effectiveness of development cooperation in Ghana. The government values the DCF Survey as an opportunity for a structured reflection on national development cooperation systems, including bringing specific value through (i) contributing to design and operationalization of INFF and (ii) making financial and non-financial cooperation more adequate, predictable and targeted towards achieving the SDGs.

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Updates on SDG financing framework

Inception phase	Assessment Diagnostics	Financing Strategy	Monitoring Review	Governance Coordination
Completed (100%)	Previously Completed	Advancing (50-99%)	Planned (0%)	Advancing (50-99%)

Descriptions on progress by INFF building blocks

Inception Phase: The JP and the Ministry of Finance is leading the establishment of the INFF. The INFF survey report and related documents suggest Ghana seems to be using a bottom-up approach, from sub-national to national government. Thus going through the INFF processes to establish financing frameworks for all the 260 metropolitan, municipal and district assemblies and then consolidate all into a national financing framework. The pilot phase has been completed for 5 MMDAs (Ketu South, Kumasi, Kassena Nankana West, Sagnarigu and Sefwi- Wiawso municipal and district assemblies). Rather than a development finance assessment, the SDG investor maps and government's own analysis (DPAT-district assembly performance assessment tool) was used at the pilot phase and used to conduct the scoping exercise in support of the inception phase. The Road map for the establishment of INFF has

been launched for the districts and the government oversight committee established. In terms of funding, the SDG Fund component one project provides 17.5%, UNDP provides 71.6%, and the Ministry provides technical and the remaining 10.9% through the Rapid Financing Facility for the COVID19 funding support of IMF.

Assessment & Diagnostics: Based on the approach adopted, the INFF process relied on existing government's costing estimates for delivering the SDGs at the metropolitan, municipal and district assemblies. The JP, in addition, supported the development of Ghana's SDG Country Financing Road Map. This will be used for the national level financing framework.

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Financing Strategy: The Financing strategy developed and launched so far is the 5 district financing framework for 5 different Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies launched in January 2021. These financing strategies are; • embedded within and designed to support the COVID-19 local economy recovery plan consistent with the national recovery plan (Ghana CARES), reflect some integration as it connects the national plan with areas of financing policy that were not previously connected with the national plan. Thus, it includes the private sector with the SDG investor maps, • it is more coherent as it addresses trade-offs or synergies between different financing policy areas including investment policy reforms that realign resource allocation from the private sector • It focuses on access to finance with prioritization in areas including taxation & other government revenue, public-private partnerships, fintech, digitalization, and development cooperation • New key financing instruments to be considered are PPPs at the districts, remittances / diaspora investment, Investor Maps

Monitoring & Review: The financing strategy monitoring system is yet to be developed and the plan is to undergo a quarterly reporting timeline, leveraging existing government budget and expenditure data and capacity building.

Governance & Coordination: The INFF National Oversight Committee has been established within existing mechanisms to play the oversight function at the national level; and At the sub-national level, the Oversight Committee comprise of membership from the General Assembly, Executive Committee, and Municipal/District/Metropolitan Planning Coordinating Unit.

Priority Cross-cutting Issues

How did the JP adapt to the COVID-19 context

Under the UN SERRP Pillar 4, the JP contributed to the UN's support for government response and recovery plan through the JP's interventions to strengthen national capacities and systems, create financing strategies, and further stimulating transformative policy actions towards consolidating SDG Financing ecosystems in Ghana. These interventions also seek to leverage integrated national financing frameworks and strengthen cooperation and resilience for border communities and economies to enable Ghana leverage opportunities of the AfCFTA to advance its Ghana Beyond Aid and industrialization agenda.

The overall objective of the JP in this is to enable the UN support government implement policies and programmes to build forward better and strengthen the country's financial resilience against shocks of such magnitude as the COVID-19 pandemic.

How did the JP apply the Gender Marker

As part of the efforts to ensure no one is left behind in Ghana's development process, the JP continues to engage the Ministry of Finance to develop gender and child specific SDG budget codes to enable tracking of child and gender specific SDG financing through the national budget. In addition to the budget coding process, the JP is also supporting the review of the methodology for the preparation of the SDG Budget Report. The budget report illustrates how the government is using the national budget to finance the SDGs in Ghana. Also, the JP is supporting studies around building an investment case for gender and child based financing, as well as fiscal space analysis for social sector investments.

Estimated % of overall disbursed funds spend on gender: 15%

Aligment with cross-cutting UN issues (e.g. human rights, decent work, inclusion, LNOB)

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Towards the provision of decent jobs, the JP supported development of the AfCFTA Guidelines for local government authorities to enable MMDAs unlock their potential and harness the benefits of the AfCFTA. In addition, as part of efforts to leave no one behind, and specifically towards addressing the issue of low awareness of the AfCFTA among agribusinesses in the local border economies, the JP in partnership with the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) and the Ministry of Trade, engaged selected Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MM-DAs) in Ghana to facilitate the participation of local economies in the AfCFTA. The initiative forms part of the JP's transformational approach to leverage trans-boundary opportunities such as the AfCFTA to support financing and implementation of the SDGs in Ghana.

How did the JP work to build ownership and buy-in of key stakeholders

The JP facilitated impact investment events to present to the private sector investment opportunities identified by the SDG Investor Maps in the ICT, health, agriculture and manufacturing.

The JP supported capacity building and systems strengthening towards enhancing financing and strategic investments including (i) the development and training of government partners in the evidence-based planning and assessment tools: National Infrastructure Systems Modelling (NISMOD) and Sustainable Infrastructure Financing Tool (SIFT) and handover, including the Infrastructure Financing Strategy (IFS), to the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Finance.

Annual Reporting on Results

Results achieved in promoting the priority thematic SDG agendas

SDG 3: Good health and wellbeing In December 2019, the Government launched the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Roadmap to ensure consensus over what Ghana needs to do to achieve UHC. One of the key objectives is to ensure that Ghana has a sustainable health financing mechanism. To this end, the JP is supporting the revision of the Ghana Health Financing Strategy (HFS), which will build on the foundation of health vision, policy, strategy, and priorities contained in the UHC Roadmap and Health Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (HSMTDP, 2022-2025).

SDG 9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure The JP supported capacity building and systems strengthening towards enhancing financing and strategic investments including (i) the development and training of government partners in the evidence-based planning and assessment tools: National Infrastructure Systems Modelling (NIS-MOD) and Sustainable Infrastructure Financing Tool (SIFT) and handover, including the Infrastructure Financing Strategy (IFS), to the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Finance; (ii) Development of pipeline of SDGaligned bankable projects and, SDG Investment Map providing market intelligence on investment opportunity areas in Ghana which were showcased at the series of SDG Investment Fairs globally and in Ghana; (iii) Development of local assembly financing framework to support the implementation of recovery plans for selected border communities in Ghana as part of the establishment of the INFF; SDG 17: Partnerships The JP in collaboration with the World Bank supported the Ghana statistical services (GSS) conduct the COVID-19 Local Economies Tracker, Business Tracker, and in collaboration with GIZ supported GSS to conduct the COVID-19 Agribusiness Tracker. These trackers provided the needed information to policy responses in the national response and recovery plan as well as for the development of selected local assembly recovery plans. The JP organized a follow-up policy engagement with stakeholders to review the findings of the agribusiness survey and make policy recommendations on how to support the sector recover and build forward better. To communicate the results of these reports, another session was organized for Journalists to better interpret findings of the study and effectively communicate data findings and present these in simple and straightforward terms to facilitate understanding, especially among non-technical experts.

The JP collaborated with the World Economic Forum's Sustainable Development Investment Partnership (SDIP), the EU and Danida to prepare the SDG Country Financing Road Map for Ghana which estimates Ghana's SDG financing gap of circa US\$52.2 billion annually for the next ten years. The report also highlights challenges within the SDG financing landscape and proposes steps to closing the SDG financing gap

JP contributions to the Joint SDG Fund's global results (especially around Outcome 2 & Output 4)

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 2 (Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement): Based on the JP's interventions implemented so far, the government partner (Ministry of Finance) is currently conducting an assessment to estimate the JP's contribution so far to the US\$500m additional resources anticipated to be mobilized from the SDG-linked bonds market, and the US\$20m additional resources expected to be mobilized for health and infrastructure.

Over the reporting period the JP through the Infrastructure Financing Strategy (IFS) IFS presents a total of 82 funds (approximately US\$274 billion worth) with the ability to finance infrastructure in Ghana to the government of Ghana. Of the 82 funds identified, the government has an existing relationship (over the last 10 years) with 44% of the funds. This means 46 new funding opportunities exist that can increase the range of options for infrastructure financing available to the Government of Ghana. 62% of funds identified through the JP's Sustainable Infrastructure Financing Tool (SIFT) intervention are able to finance project preparation activities, to address the constraint of the level of readiness of projects to attract investment which has been a key barrier to sustainable infrastructure financing in Ghana. In summary, the IFS if effectively implemented equips Ghana with a comprehensive strategy to identify and attract infrastructure financing

Joint SDG Fund Output 4 (Integrated financing strategies for accelerating SDG progress implemented): The JP is rolling out and testing 7 financing strategies for infrastructure, health, local economy recovery and trade. Five of these strategies are currently being tested - towards boosting local government capacity to generate revenues and attract private capital to critical development projects, the JP supported five border district assemblies to develop their Integrated Assembly Financing Frameworks and COVID-19 Recovery Plans. This is expected to further strengthen the linkages between plans and budget processes as part of the building blocks to establishing an Integrated National Financing Framework in Ghana.

Progress against JP-specific outcomes

The JP adopted the joint SDG Fund Outcome 2 (additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement). The JP attained the following towards achieving the targets of ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scope (US\$500m from SDG-linked bond) and ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scale (US20m for health and infrastructure):

Using the SDG Investor Map intelligence tool "Pipeline Builder" an intermediary that streamlines the investment origination process to drive more capital to SDG focused SMEs in emerging markets, successfully identified a base value of US\$39 million worth of SME investments in Ghana in the six months to September 2021 under its pilot scheme with the potentials for an additional US\$15.5 million. https://sdginvestorplatform.undp.org/news/ghana-pipeline-builder-successfully-identifying-usd-39-million-worth-sdg-focused-sme

Underpinned by the analysis performed using the JP's SIFT for Ghana, the IFS highlights a total of 82 funds (approximately US\$274 billion worth) with the ability to finance infrastructure in Ghana. Of the 82 funds identified, the government has an existing relationship (over the last 10 years) with 44% of the funds. This means 46 new funding opportunities exist that can increase the range of options for infrastructure financing available to the Government of Ghana. 62% of funds identified through SIFT are able to finance project preparation activities, to address the constraint of the level of readiness of projects to attract investment and hence a key barrier to sustainable infrastructure financing in Ghana. In summary, the IFS equips Ghana with a comprehensive strategy to identify and attract infrastructure financing.

Progress against JP-specific outputs

Output 1.1: The JP achieved all of its targets under output 1.1 ensuring that seven out of seven diverse stakeholders were engaged and involved in the financing frameworks. In addition, the financing frameworks established addresses issues of inequalities and incorporates leaving no one behind principles. The local assembly financing frameworks for selected deprived and low revenue generating districts to facilitate their recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and transform the structure of the local economy to make them more robust and resilient;

Output 1.2: The JP supported the conduct of 200 town-hall meetings on the revised gender and child responsive PFM accountability templates against a target of 220 over the reporting period. The JP also organized two stakeholder sessions to develop the SDG gender and child response budget tracking methodologies, and three studies related to gender and child responsive SDG budgeting and tracking;

Output 1.3: The JP's output 1.3 contributes to establishing mechanisms to facilitate and nurture innovative financing for health in Ghana. Within the reporting period the JP achieved all targets organizing seven onsite support and capacity building events for the strengthening of the health economics/financing, research and data analytics capabilities at the Ministry of Health and its Agencies. The JP also supported the organisation of onsite sessions on the development of the National Health Financing Strategy, to include a resource mobilization strategy that will guide mobilization of additional resources, focusing on innovative financing, for the health sector;

Output 1.4: As part of JP's capacity building and systems strengthening objectives towards nurturing innovative financing strategies for infrastructure, the JP trained relevant personnel in 9 against the target of 3 state agencies to use new generation infrastructure modelling tool to develop pipeline of bankable Infrastructure projects. Also, 17, more than the target of 3, State Agencies were supported to establish strong linkages between planned infrastructure projects and SDG targets.

JP contributions to stregnthening UN coherence, partnerships and reducing duplications of efforts

The joint programme, through its governance, overall coordination and implementation mechanisms reinforced the coordination role of the UN Resident Coordinator in driving a coherent and coordinated UNCT in support of national actions to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Summary of key joint interventions under the JP mimicking a UN catalytic coherence and system-wide support to the SDGs are below:

The UNCT and development partners came together to launch the joint programme to kick off implementation activities. The steering committee of the joint programme include representatives of PUNOs, IFIs, CSOs and DPs;

The UNDP and UNOPS at country level worked together to enable Ghana showcase invest-able opportunities and projects at the SDG global investment fair. While UNOPS supported the government of Ghana to develop the pipeline of SDG-aligned bankable projects and the attendant investment brochure (Ghana Rising: Sustainable Infrastructure Post-COVID-19), the UNDP supported the government of Ghana to prepare the SDG Investment Map and Platform providing market intelligence on investment opportunity areas in Ghana. The Map and Platform were showcase the bankable projects supported by UNOPS;

The JP engaged the entire UNCT to contribute to the development of the AfCFTA Guidelines for local government authorities to enable MMDAs unlock their potential and harness the benefits of the AfCFTA.

Strategic Partnerships, Documents and Communications

How did the JP faciliate collaboration with diverse stakeholders in the SDG financing space

Partnership for data, diagnostics and research: The JP in collaboration with the World Bank supported the Ghana statistical services (GSS) conduct the COVID-19 Local Economies Tracker, Business Tracker, and in collaboration with GIZ supported GSS to conduct the COVID-19 Agribusiness Tracker. These trackers provided the needed information to policy responses in the national response and recovery plan as well as for the development of selected local assembly recovery plans. The JP organized a follow-up policy engagement with stakeholders to review the findings of the agribusiness survey and make policy recommendations on how to support the sector recover and build forward better. To communicate the results of these reports, another session was organised for Journalists to better interpret findings of the study and effectively communicate data findings and present these in simple and straightforward terms to facilitate understanding, especially among non-technical experts.

SDG Country Financing Road Map: The JP collaborated with the World Economic Forum's Sustainable Development Investment Partnership (SDIP), the EU and Danida to prepare the SDG Country Financing Road Map for Ghana which estimates Ghana's SDG financing gap of circa US\$52.2 billion annually for the next ten years. The report also highlights challenges within the SDG financing landscape and proposes steps to closing the SDG financing gap;

Did the JP secured additional financing (co-funding/co-financing) from the following stakeholders:

Government	Donors & IFIs	Private Sector	PUNOs	Other Partners
No	No	No	No	No

Comments on additional financing secured: Partnership for data, diagnostics and research: The JP in collaboration with the World Bank supported the Ghana statistical services (GSS) conduct the COVID-19 Local Economies Tracker, Business Tracker, and in collaboration with GIZ supported GSS to conduct the COVID-19 Agribusiness Tracker. These trackers provided the needed information to policy responses in the national response and recovery plan as well as for the development of selected local assembly recovery plans. The JP organized a follow-up policy engagement with stakeholders to review the findings of the agribusiness survey and make policy recommendations on how to support the sector recover and build forward better. To communicate the results of these reports, another session was organised for Journalists to better interpret findings of the study and effectively communicate data findings and present these in simple and straightforward terms to facilitate understanding, especially among non-technical experts.

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JP organized events in 2021

JP Launch Event	Annual Donor Event	Partners Event
Organized in 2020	No	Yes in 2021

Number of strategic documents produced by the JP: 15 Number of strategic documents contributed by the JP: 9 Number of communication materials produced: 8

2022 Plans & Way Forward

JP priority activities & expected results for 2022

Governance, Overall Coordination, Monitoring & Evaluation: organisation of governance and technical coordination meetings, preparation of monthly, quarterly and annual reports; and issuance of communication products through all media;

Further pursue investment promotion interventions, examine the INFF governance and implementation systems at the local level, establishment of diaspora funds at the targeted districts, validation of the MSMEs Ecosystem report and launch of digital gateway system for MSMEs. This will contribute to the target of mobilizing additional financing for multi-sectoral solution and the SDGs as part of the consolidation of the SDG financing landscape in Ghana;

Ongoing revision of SDG Budget Methodology, development of SDG Gender and Child Specific Codes and finalization and launch 2021 SDG Budget Report. The JP will also train district planning and budget officers in the integrated PFM social accountability template and health community scorecard. These will further strengthen the JP's achievement on the indicators of extensively engaging and creating awareness for community folks on the need to mobilize additional financing to increase investments in children and gender and also adequately track child and gender responsive budget through studies and tracking;

Support finalization of the health sector medium terms development plan - HSMTDP (2022-2025) Costing, revision of the National Health Financing Strategy to align with the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Roadmap, and provision of technical support, training and coaching. This will contribute to strengthening of health economics, research and data analytics capabilities in partnership with School of Public Health, University of Ghana

3 major transformative results that will be achieved by the end of the JP

Creation and testing of Innovative SDG Financing Strategies: By the end of the joint programme, relevant state agencies led by the Ministry of Finance in Ghana should have tested the efficacy of SDG-aligned innovative and alternative financing strategies to mobilize additional financing and increased investments for the SDGs;

Transformative Policy Actions for increased investments to Ghana: The joint programme interventions of SDG investment fairs, bankable projects, investor map, investment promotion events and others should have stimulated transformative policy actions by government and private sector for increased investments in Ghana; and

Capacities of State Institutions – skills, tools and systems - for SDG financing and implementation would have improved with evidenced in integration of planning and budgeting processes through the INFF, revised gender and child-sensitive budget codes, improved budget reporting methodology and strengthening of ecosystem institutions for SDGs in Ghana

Estimated rate of completion for each result as of 31 Dec 2021

Result.1	Result.2	Result.3
Advancing (50-99%)	Advancing (50-99%)	Advancing (50-99%)