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**Joint Programme**

**Leveraging the Full Potential of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment to Achieve Rwanda’s Transformation”**

**MPTF OFFICE ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

**Reporting Period: 1 January – 31 December 2022**

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| **Programme Title & Project Number** |  | **Country, Locality, Priority Area / Strategic Results** |
| * Programme Title: Joint Programme – Leveraging the Full Potential of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment to Achieve Rwanda’s Transformation * Programme Number:00120074 * MPTF Office Project Reference Number*:* 00120074 | *Country/Region:* Rwanda |
| *Priority area/ strategic results:* Transformational Governance |
| **Participating Organizations** |  | **Implementing Partners** |
| * Agencies which received funding from MPTF: **UN Women and IOM** * Other UN participating Agencies: **UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM and OHCHR** | **Government of Rwanda: Ministries departments, agencies and districts**  Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF), Gender Monitoring Office (GMO), National Women’s Council (NWC), Rwanda Women Parliamentary Forum (FFRP), Ministry in charge of emergency management (MINEMA), Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN), Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB), Rwanda National Police (RNP), National Child Development Agency (NCDA), National Electoral Commission (NEC), Rwanda Governance Board (RGB), Districts.  **Civil Society Organisations**  PRO-FEMME TWESE HAMWE, Rwanda Association of Local Government Authorities (RALGA), Rwanda Civil Society Platform (RCSP), Association Rwandaise des Conseillers en Traumatisme (ARCT-RUHUKA), Imbuto Foundation (IF), Action pour le Développement du Peuple (ADEPE), Association For Human Rights Promotion and Development (AJPRODHO), Rwanda Religious Leaders Initiative (RRLI), New Faces New Voices (NFNV), Association of Rwandese Female Journalists (ARFEM), National Forum of Political Parties Organizations (NFPO), Haguruka, Rwanda Bar Association (RBA), Rwanda Extractive Industry Workers Union (REWU), Young Women Christian Association (YWCA), Alight Rwanda, Inkomoko, Caritas Rwanda, Indego Africa, Food for Hungry (FH), Umbrella of Human Rights Organizations in Rwanda (CLADHO), Réseau des femmes œuvrant pour le Développement Rural, NGO Forum, Rwanda network of People living with HIV (RRP+),  **Development partners**  Embassy of Sweden, Embassy of Switzerland, GIZ **Academic Institutions**  Integrated Polytechnic Regional Centre (IPRC-Kicukiro). |
| **Programme/Project Cost (US$)** |  | **Programme Duration** |
| Total approved budget per project document: **USD 13,463,495**  MPTF /JP Contribution   * **USD 1,481,866.22**   **Agency Contribution (core):**   * UN Women: **USD 2,604,798** * UNHCR: **USD 1,145,000** * UNDP: **USD 484,132** * UNICEF: **USD 750,000** * UNFPA: **USD 1,322,000** * IOM: **USD 57,000**   **Other Contributions (donors):**   * Netherlands: USD 750,000 * SDC: USD 2,000,000   **Government contribution:** **USD 2,778,783** (as per the ProDoc, this is not included in the programme budget)  **Total available budget: USD 10,594,796** | * Overall Duration: 5.5 years (66 months) * Start Date (11.02.2019) * Original end date (30.06.2023)      * Current end date (30.06.2024) |
| **Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.** |  | **Report Submitted By** |
| Assessment/Review  Yes No  Mid-Term Evaluation Report  Yes No | * Name: Jennet KEM * Title: UN Women Country Representative * Participating Organization (Lead): UN Women * Email address:[jennet.kem@unwomen.org](mailto:jennet.kem@unwomen.org) |

**ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ADEPE Action pour le Développement du Peuple

AFAWA Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa

AJPRODHO Association for Human Rights Promotion and Development

ARCT Association Rwandaise des Conseillers en Traumatisme (National Organization of Professional Trauma Counselors)

ARFEM Association Rwandaise des Femmes Journalistes (Association of

Rwandese Female Journalists)

ART Antiretroviral services

ASRH Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health

CLADHO Collectif des Ligues et Associations de Défense des Droits de l'Homme

au Rwanda (Umbrella of Human Rights Organizations in Rwanda)

CP Child protection

CPWO Child protection and welfare officers

CSO Civil Society Organizations

CSE Comprehensive Sexuality Education

CSW Commission on the Status of Women

DNA Deoxyribonucleic acid

FBO Faith Based organizations

FFRP Forum for Women Parliamentarians

GAD Gender Accountability Day

GBV Gender-based Violence

GEPMI Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiatives

GEWE Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment

GIZ Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

FH Food for the Hungry

GMIS Gender Management Information System

GMO Gender Monitoring Office

GRB Gender-responsive Budgeting

ICT Information communications technology

IDPD International Day of Persons with Disabilities

IEC Information-Education- Communication

IF Imbuto Foundation

IGA Income Generating activities

ILPD Institute of Legal Practice and Development

IOM International Organization for Migration

IOSC Isange One Stop Centers

IP Implementing partner

ISLG Integrated Saving and Loan Group

IWD International Women’s Day

IZU Inshuti z’ Umuryango (Friends of Family)

JP Joint Programme

LARC Long-acting reversible contraceptive

MAJ Maison d’accès à la Justice

MIGEPROF Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion

MINIJUST Ministry of Justice

MINEMA Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management

MINECOFIN Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning

MINISANTE Ministère de la Santé (Ministry of Health)

MPTF Multi Partner Trust Fund

NCDA National Child Development Agency

NCPD National Council of Persons with Disabilities

NGFC National Gender and Family Cluster

NFPO National Forum of Political Organization

NGO Non-Governmental Organizations

NEC National Electoral Commission

NFNV New Faces New Voices

NST National Strategy for Transformation

NWC National Women’s Council

PAC Parent-Adolescent communication

RBA Rwanda Bar Association

RBA Rwanda Broadcasting Agency

RALGA Rwandan Association of Local Government Authorities

RCSP Rwanda Civil Society Platform

REWU Rwanda Extractive Industry Workers Trade Union

RGB Rwanda Governance Board

RIB Rwanda Investigation Bureau

RNADW Rwanda National Association of Deaf Women

RNP Rwanda National Police

RRLI Rwanda Religious Leaders Initiative

RWAMREC Rwanda Men Resource Centre

SASA Start, Awareness, Support, Action

SBCC Social Behaviour Change Communication

SDC Swiss Development Cooperation

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

SGBV Sexual and Gender-based Violence

SIDA Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

SOP Standard operating procedures

SRHR Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

TOT Training of trainers

TV Television

TVET Technical and Vocational Education and Training

UN United Nations

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNSDCF United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

USSD Unstructured supplementary service data

VAC Violence against children

VAWG Violence Against Women and Girls

VSLAs Village Saving and Loan Associations

WCBT Women in cross borders trade

YWCA Young Women Christian Association

YPWD Young people with disabilities

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The United Nations in Rwanda contributes to the realization of national development aspirations expressed through the National Strategy for Transformation and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)). Through the One UN Joint Programme on Gender (JP Gender) “Leveraging the Full Potential of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment to Achieve Rwanda’s Transformation” promising gains on gender equality and women’s empowerment were registered over the reporting period. These gains include the strategic support and technical assistance that culminated into the development of the National Men Engage and Gender Transformative Strategy for Gender Equality, and the National Strategy for accessing AFAWA facility (Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa). The elaboration of these strategies largely relied on a highly participatory and consultative approach involving major stakeholders, including the government, United Nations agencies, CSOs advocating for women’s rights, and religious and community leaders, the National Bank of Rwanda and key external stakeholder institutions, including the Rwanda Development Board, key commercial banks, the Private Sector Federation, academia, among others.

The Rwanda Women Leaders Network Summit aimed at bringing together the next generation of women’s rights activists, gender equality advocates and visionaries who were instrumental in the implementation of the Beijing platform for action in Rwanda. The summit enhanced women’s vertical and horizontal peer learning to harness the potentials of the next generation of women leaders and sustain the results. Women and girls shared challenges and ideas on how to fully exploit their potentials, nurture young women and girls’ leadership through empowerment programmes and, allow those already in leadership positions to give back to the community such as through mentorship and entrepreneurship.

The Joint Programme on Gender continues to contribute to further strengthening the national accountability systems on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (GEWE). In collaboration with several partners and stakeholders that include ministries and government agencies, CSOs as well as development partners, the JP gender continues to support the coordination of the Gender Accountability Day (GAD) events. One of the key achievements of the GAD is the development of the gender profile of one of the participating districts (Gicumbi district) which indicates the district’s increased commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women. The gender profile will be used to inform planning and decision-making by different partners in the district.

In addition, institutional capacities were strengthened through trainings, including in “Transformational Leadership”, Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) and Gender Economic Policy Management Initiatives (GEPMI). Staff from national and local level were equipped with necessary skills in effective Gender-responsive Budgeting (GRB), gender analysis and mainstreaming skills to support and advocate for the implementation of gender responsive policies and programmes.

1. **PURPOSE**

The Joint Programme on Gender contributes to the achievements of the outcomes 1, 4, 5, and 6 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2018-2024) which has three pillars: Economic Transformation, Social Transformation and Transformational Governance. The main objective of the Joint Programme is to ensure that *"Women and girls, especially the most vulnerable, participate in, contribute to and benefit from political, economic and Social transformation in Rwanda"*. This will be achieved through the below outcomes:

* By 2024, people in Rwanda benefit from enhanced gender equality, justice, human rights, peace, and security (**UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 5**)
* By 2024, people in Rwanda participate more actively in democratic and development processes and benefit from transparent and accountable public and private sector institutions that develop evidence-based policies and deliver quality services. (**UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 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. (**UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 1**)
* By 2024, people in Rwanda, particularly the most vulnerable, have increased resilience to both natural and man-made shocks and enjoy a life free from all forms of violence and discrimination. (**UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 4)**.

1. **RESULTS**
2. **Narrative Reporting on Results**

**Outcome 1: By 2024, people in Rwanda benefit from enhanced gender equality, justice, human rights, peace, and security. (UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 5)**

**JP Output 1.1: Women’s capacity to compete for leadership positions and to lead decision-making processes at local and national levels strengthened.**

In its efforts to build capacities of women ahead of the coming parliamentary elections, the National Forum of Political Parties Organizations (NFPO) trained 381 women from 11 political parties on gender equality and women’s leadership. This has resulted in women leaders’ enhanced knowledge on transformational leadership and provided them with an opportunity to be mentored and coached by role models. The capacity building sessions also increased the commitment for women wing leaders to be more proactive in the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment needs and priorities within their respective political organizations.

At the Women Leaders Network Summit was convened through the programme which brought together approximately 100 women leaders including ministers, parliamentarians, senators, senior officers. The summit enhanced women’s vertical and horizontal peer learning, mentorship of young women leaders to sustain the gains made around women leadership and participation in decision making. Women and girls at the summit shared challenges and ideas on how to fully exploit their potential, nurture young women and girls’ leadership through programmes to empower them and, allow those already in leadership positions to give back to the community through mentorship, entrepreneurship and others.

**JP Output 1.2: National and local level Government institutions’ capacities to execute gender-responsive development strategies, sector strategies, district development plans and budgets increased**

148 staff (79 males and 69 females) from Government Ministries in the infrastructure and agriculture sectors, as well as districts’ focal persons including directors of good governance, National Women’s Council newly elected coordinators at sector level, chairpersons of the Economic Commission of the district councils and the directors of One Stop Center benefitted from the trainings committed to ensuring that all plans and budgets including the gender budget statements are gender-responsive. As result, participants’ capacities were strengthened in gender mainstreaming with attention to the whole economic planning process at both local and national level. As a result, they were well conversant with gender budgeting processes and procedures and how these should be integrated into national planning for sustainable development.

Additionally the programme supported technically and financially two sub-clusters on GEWE: the Family Promotion and GBV Prevention and the Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment sub-clusters to bring together actors who intervene in Gender and Family Promotion areas including: Government institutions, Development partners, Civil Society and Faith Based Organizations to discuss pertinent issues and plan key activities such as the organization of the International Women’s Month, the international day of the girl child and the 16 days of activities, among others.

A joint monitoring and evaluation field visit was conducted as part of the *Indashyikirwa* (agents of change) project, an initiative that uses the men engage approach. It was an opportunity for the partners to visit Ngarama district Isange One Stop Center (IOSC) safe shelter and safe rooms that accommodate temporary GBV victims; the majority of whom are women and girls. The partners and IOSC staff discussed key issues including the provision of quality services to GBV victims and rehabilitation and reintegration of GBV and child abuse victims into the community.

The International Women’s Day celebrations were held in March 2022 under the national theme of “Gender equality to address climate change” offered an opportunity to examine the country’s progress on gender equality vis à vis climate change adaptation, mitigation, resilience while also recognizing women as enablers of transformation. The celebrations raised awareness on women’s increased vulnerability to climate change impacts compared to men, as they constitute the majority of the world’s poor and are more dependent on the natural resources which climate change threatens the most. Therefore, their participation and leadership are needed for more effective climate action.

**JP Output 1.3: Community awareness of gender equality and civic understanding of women’s right to equal participation in decision making increased.**

To further advance gender equality and women's empowerment agenda, promoting positive masculinities is key to transforming social norms and cultural beliefs that advance gender equality. In this context, UN Women contributed to the development of a National Men Engage and Gender Transformative Strategy for Gender Equality that aims to promote positive forms of masculine behaviour and engage men and boys as positive and supportive partners in women's socio-economic development and in the prevention of gender-based violence. Upon its official launch and dissemination in May 2023, this first national strategy will serve as an important tool to encourage men and boys to abandon harmful stereotypes, embrace respectful, healthy relationships, and support the human rights of women and girls. With its full operationalisation, it will provide end users including government, UN system, CSOs, development partners and GEWE advocates a comprehensive guide to planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of gender transformative initiatives that put men and boys as key allies for the elimination of discriminatory norms, practices and attitudes.

**Outcome 2: By 2024, people in Rwanda participate more actively in democratic and development processes and benefit from transparent and accountable public and private sector institutions that develop evidence-based policies and deliver quality services. (UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 6)**

**JP Output 2.1: Accountability mechanisms on gender equality and women’s empowerment in government agencies, CSOs, FBOs, I/NGOs and political parties are monitored and strengthened**

The Gender Monitoring Office (GMO) in partnership with Rwanda Civil Society Platform (RCSP) and Association Rwandaise des Conseillers en Traumatisme (ARCT-RUHUKA), with support from UN Women conducted gender accountability dialogues (GAD) with local leaders in the districts of Muhanga, Gicumbi, Nyagatare and Nyamagabe to enhance community awareness on gender accountability systems and galvanize their commitment to address gender inequality barriers that affect men and women, boys and girls in their communities. These dialogues enhanced the awareness and commitment of more than 3990 community and village leaders, police officers, the army, parliamentarians (senators and deputies) to challenge negative gender stereotypes which hinder women from accessing socio-economic and political opportunities and perpetuate gender-based violence. District authorities have committed to apply gender principles in their community mobilization work for equitable social economic development that “leaves no one behind”.

In Gicumbi and Nyagatare districts, stakeholder dialogue platforms were held with teen mothers on the specific challenges girls face in these districts including child defilement, school dropouts and limited social services. Over 700 teen mothers participated in the dialogue platforms to advocate for increased commitment of stakeholders for the prevention and response to GBV and other socio-economic issues in the targeted districts. These dialogues strategically engaged a further 100 youth from Gicumbi district to raise their awareness on the role they need to play in advancing gender equality principles as well as identifying and addressing gender and GBV issues affecting their communities. As a result of the dialogues, participating youth committed to be champions in the fight against all kinds of injustices especially GBV related incidences by reporting, denouncing, or preventing them before they happen, end the use of drugs as well as GBV. As a result, they also committed to mobilize fellow youth to champion GEWE in their communities.

Under the Joint Programme, UNDP, in partnership with the Rwanda Governance Board (RGB) and the Association of Rwandese Female Journalists (ARFEM) organized an annual conference on gender equality to enhance the capacity of 45 women journalists to promote the gender equality agenda; the forum resulted in stakeholder’s clear commitment to strengthen synergy and partnerships to collectively fight gender-based violence and advocate for gender mainstreaming in the media sector.

In addition, to strengthen the institutional capacity and promote Gender mainstreaming within the media sector, a 5-year strategic plan (2022-2026) for AFREM was developed and approved. A gender policy is under development to serve as a model framework for application by all media houses.

**Outcome 3: By 2024, people in Rwanda benefit from more inclusive, competitive, and sustainable economic growth that generates decent work and promotes quality livelihoods for all. (UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 1)**

**JP Output 3.1: Women have enhanced skills and access to finance and markets to leverage business opportunities**

During the reporting period, 1007 members of 8 cooperatives and 31 women’s saving groups (898 women and 109 men) in Karongi, Rutsiro in Western Province and in Gasabo District in City of Kigali, have been skilled in leadership, financial literacy, business plan development, financial and business management, cooperative management, and gender equality/equity to prepare them to receive a seed capital to support their businesses. This was a result of the efforts from National Women’s Council, the 3 districts authorities and Profemme Twese Hamwe, a civil society organization with UN Women technical and financial supports. The activities of some cooperatives have started to generate profits, and this is changing the lives of vulnerable women members of the cooperatives. They are now able to pay their children's school fees, eat a balanced diet and can afford health insurance. They are very well organized as subgroups with clear responsibilities. Membership in cooperatives further provided them with a support system and collaborative opportunity. A cooperative member testified that ‘*although she was not initially ready to join a cooperative due to her limited means to pay the initial financial contribution, due to the support she received from other members of the cooperative, she was accepted and allowed to pay in progressively’*.

In 2022, MIGEPROF in collaboration with UN Women has developed the national Strategy for accessing AFAWA facility (Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa). AFAWA is a Pan-African program initiated by the African Development Bank, built on three pillars: (1) Building capacity of women entrepreneurs and financial institutions (2) Strengthening access to finance for women-owned businesses; and (3) Engaging in dialogue to support key legal, policy and regulatory reforms that support women entrepreneurs and business owners for innovation and growth. The strategy will be used as an important advocacy tool to promote women’s financial inclusion and entrepreneurship in Rwanda.

**Outcome 4: By 2024 people in Rwanda, particularly the most vulnerable have increased resilience to both natural and man-made shocks and enjoy a life free from all forms of violence and discrimination. (UNSDCF 2018-2024)**

**JP Output 4.1: Increased awareness among target communities on Sexual and Gender Based Violence prevention, reporting, response, and service availability for survivors**

With the partnership forged with Rwanda Extractive Industry Workers Trade Union (REWU), 948 (358 female and 590 male) including owners and managers of mines and quarry companies/Cooperatives, workers representatives, staff from REWU increased their awareness on GBV Prevention and response including reporting and referral mechanisms in the Mining and Quarry fields in Muhanga and Kamonyi districts. The sessions provided an opportunity for interactions on the key GBV related challenges and priority actions which resulted in stakeholder commitment to step up coordinated efforts to address the challenges holistically and committed to advocating for and protecting women’s rights in the mining and quarries sector. Consequently, there is noticeable improvement in work environment with new decisions taken such as the requirement of evidence of actions taken to address women and girls’ discrimination at the workplace and the adoption of an inclusive recruitment policy as a condition for the renewal of mining licenses.

Moreover, the 16 Days of activism against GBV provided additional opportunity to mobilise and engage multi-sectoral partners in order to end GBV.The campaign resulted in increased awareness of 769 community members (362 Men and 407 women) on GBV, its causes, consequences, existing response mechanisms and referral structures to increase adolescent youths’ access to GBV services and strengthen community-based action to recognise and report GBV.

In addition, UN Women in collaboration with Rwanda Bar Association convened a policy dialogue on GBV Prevention and Response in Rwanda.

The dialogue brought together 150 participants from different institutions working in the area of gender equality, and prevention and response to GBV including Government institutions such UN agencies, the Rwanda Bar Association and its members, CSOs, media practitioners among others. Consequently, the policy dialogue resolved 22 recommendations that would ensure effective GBV prevention and response in Rwanda.

Under the Start, Awareness, Support, Action (SASA) approach on prevention of GBV in refugee communities, a total of 47,563 persons (6,564 men, 12,661 women, 13,347 boys and 14,991 girls) from refugee camps and host communities have increased awareness on GBV prevention and response including actions to disrupt gender norms and fight GBV. On the other hand, a total of additional 1053 (377 Men, 676 Women) refugee stakeholders and 88 staff (60 women and 28 men) from UNHCR, partners and government increased their knowledge on GBV prevention and response including referral pathways through trainings organised in collaboration with different implementing partners.

Under the JP, through UNICEF, 2075 adolescents (1576 girls and 499 boys) participated in community dialogues which enhanced their awareness including on their rights and violence against children (VAC) and Sexual and Gender based violence (SGBV). The dialogue platforms further linked the beneficiaries with service providers. As a result, 62% of targeted adolescents improved their knowledge on education and availability of child protection/violence against children health services.

Through the programme, with support from IOM, 3 safe spaces were created at cell level in Rusizi district benefitting 40 women in cross borders trade (WCBT) from the counselling services; 20 critical cases of WCBT & Porters victims of GBV were supported through group, couple and individual therapy as well as a toll-free line; 60 WCBT enhanced their knowledge on how to deal with trauma, violence and use of non-violence communication; 20 couples with vulnerable women cross-border traders, porters and carriers enhanced awareness and knowledge on gender equality, GBV, conflict prevention, sharing domestic work and positive masculinity to transform gender relations in their homes; 10 therapy groups catering to12-15 women each created; 20 women GBV victims from Rusizi received legal advice ; 12 groups of savings and loans (15 members each) constituted by WBCTs formed, opened bank accounts and now operational at the cell level.

Under the joint programme, UNFPA and its partners, conducted campaigns involving young people, parents and community leaders in 3 districts and 6 refugee camps. A total of 340,504 adolescents and youth were equipped with skills and knowledge to make informed decisions and choices for healthy living through awareness creation and Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) campaigns. Routine awareness creation and behaviour change communication campaigns were delivered through health education sessions conducted at health facilities; semi structured health education talks and audio spot messages on community radios; and quarterly house to-house campaigns. 143,304 AY (52,002 were 10–14-year-olds; 56,110 were 15–19-year-olds; and 35,192 were 19–24-year-olds) were reached through routine campaigns, of whom 53% (76,659) were female, and 47% (66,645) were male.

**JP Output 4.2: Strengthened capacity of relevant institutions/GBV service providers to handle/respond to S/GBV cases including capacity to harmonize and preserve forensic evidence**

Moreover, the joint programme, under the leadership of the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, 448 GBV victims (416 Females and 32 Males) through the provision of safe accommodation, protection and comprehensive support including medico-legal and psychosocial assistance in the GBV shelters and Isange One Stop Centres which helped to restore their hope of life and esteem.

Furthermore, a comprehensive child protection system assessment – including on the policy and legal landscape – was completed. Based on findings from the assessment, the development of a child protection Case Management Framework has been developed and approved by the National Child Development Agency (NCDA). Its official launch is planned in 2023.

The JP further strengthened institutional capacity to deliver client-centred health services, including Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) through training of health care providers and teachers. In this regard, UNFPA in collaboration with Rwanda Biomedical Centre trained additional 135 Health Providers to deliver high-quality sexual and reproductive health services and for early detection of GBV cases. The training focused on the full youth friendly services training in the districts; GBV and the delivery of long-acting reversible contraceptive (LARC) methods for providers based in the Refugee Camps. To support quality service provision, 27 youth corners were equipped with basic equipment such as TV sets, IEC materials and tools. Furthermore, 723 religious leaders from the Anglican Church were engaged to support interventions challenging negative cultural norms on gender equality through forums and policy dialogues. As a result of the policy forums, religious leaders pledged to educate their communities on the importance of preventing and responding to GBV in family settings.

**Key findings of the mid-term review process on the contributions of the JP**

Through the JP on Gender, a midterm review of the programme was commissioned and conducted during June-December 2022 to take stock of the achievements, lessons learnt, challenges which will inform future programming for the remaining programme implementation period. The review process revealed:

* The number of women in leadership positions and with capacities to compete in election has increased. Female graduates equipped with leadership capacities through internships, and 20% of them went on to win 2021 elections.
* The capacity of National Gender and Family Cluster, National Youth Council Committee and Media High Council to coordinate gender responsive development frameworks was strengthened.
* Formerly vulnerable women have become financially independent and were able to access financial services.
* Corporate sector companies committed to Gender Seal Certification Programme. (8) Increased sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) awareness through 16 days of activism and media communications.

**Challenges, best practices, and lessons learned**

1. **Challenges**

* Budget constraints: The JP on GE has received notable funding from SIDA. However, considering that it is a USD 13,000,000 project, it faces significant budget gaps. In this regard, funding related uncertainties including decisions related to allocation of resources for participating organizations and implementing partners hinder the full realization of the outcomes of the program. This in turn continues to negatively affect planning and budgeting process mainly of the NGM institutions.
* National Gender and Family Cluster (NGFC) was put in place to coordinate and propel gender action across sectors. It functions through the main cluster as well as sub-clusters. While the sub-clusters are consistently operational, the main cluster has not been fully functional.
* Limited application of the men engage approach countrywide for the promotion of GEWE and prevention and response to GBV using men as role models and agents of change.
* Limited legal assistance and socioeconomic reintegration of GBV victims including school reintegration.
* Limited accountability and monitoring toward GBV prevention and service delivery.
* Limited research around GBV prevention and response to inform programming and decision making.

1. **Lessons learned**

* Strong leadership of National Gender Machinery institutions is a crucial for the success of the JP. Therefore, it is crucial to strengthen their capacities.
* Joint programming is an important strategy for the success of the JP as it brings together various experiences and sectors in an effective way.
* Engaging men as ‘champions’ has been an effective approach to changing negative social norms, promoting gender equality and addressing violence against women s and need to be sustained.
* The use of mobile clinics to support women victims of SGBV and toll-free lines makes support more accessible to communities.
* With the right and age-appropriate support, children and adolescents are capable to exert their citizenship, inform and influence the decisions that matter to them.

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| 1. **Indicator Based Performance Assessment:** | | | |
| **Indicator Based Performance Assessment** | **Achieved Indicator Targets** | **Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)** | **Source of Verification** |
| **Outcome 1**  By 2024, people in Rwanda benefit from enhanced gender equality, justice, human rights, peace and security. (UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 5)  **Indicator 5.5:**  Gender Gap Index (GGI).  **Baseline:** 0.82 (2017)  **Planned Target:** 0.85 (2023)  **Indicator 5.6:**  % of women holding positions in decision making organs.  **Baseline: (July 2018)**  1) Parliament lower chamber: 63.7%  2) Parliament -Senate: 38%  3) Cabinet: 40%  4) Districts Mayors: 20%  **Planned Target: 2023**  (1) 63.7%, (2) 40%, (3) 45%, (4) 30%.  **Indicator 5.7:**  Number of state institutions (disaggregated by ministries and districts) whose budget planning process and implementation meet gender responsive planning and budgeting principles.  **Baseline: 2018**  *Allocation:* Ministries: 8, Districts: 15  *Budget expenditure:* Ministries: 10, Districts: 15  **Planned Target: 2023**  *Allocation:* Ministries: 17, Districts: 30  *Budget expenditure*: Ministries: 17, Districts: 30 | **Indicator 5.5:**  0.811 (2021)  **Indicator 5.6:**  1) Parliament, lower chamber: 61.3% (2021)  2) Parliament, Senate: 38% (2021)  3) Cabinet: 55%  4) District Mayors: 30% (2021)  **Indicator 5.7:**  1) Ministries: 17  2) Districts: 30 | **Indicator 5.5:**  The gender gap index has slightly decreased from 0.805 registered in 2021 to 0.811 in 2022.  **Indicator 5.6:**  1) On track (next parliamentarians elections scheduled for 2023)  2) On track  3) Achieved  4) Achieved  **Indicator 5.7:**  1) Achieved  2) Achieved | **Indicator 5.5:**  Global Gender Gap Index 2022  **Indicator 5.6:**  National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), National Gender Statistics Report 2019; and Premature website (<https://www.gov.rw/cabinet>); National Electoral Commission, 2021 Local Government Elections report (<https://nec.gov.rw/fileadmin/user_upload/Abatowe_muri_BIRO_na_NYOBOZI_2021.pdf> .  **Indicator 5.7:**  Gender Budget Statement 2022 reports /MINECOFIN /GMO. |
| **Output 1.1**  Women’s capacity to compete for leadership positions and to lead decision making processes at local and national level strengthened.  **Indicator 5.1.4:**  No. of women candidates with skills and capacities to participate in the electoral process.  **Baseline: July 2018**  1) Parliament: 221, 2) Local government: 209, 3) Mediators: TBD  **Planned Target:**  **2018** 1) Parliament:543  **2020** 1) Parliament: 743  **2021** 3) Mediators: 200  **2022** 2) Local government: 418  **2023** 1) Parliament: 442 2) Local Government: 418 3) Mediators: 200  **Indicator 5.1.5:**  Number of women and girls reached out through mentorship program in leadership and entrepreneurship.  **Baseline:** 7900 (2017)  **Planned Target:**  **2019:** 8,700, **2020:** 9,000, **2023:** 10,000  Target values are cumulative over the years) | **Indicator 5.1.4:**   1. Parliament: 221 (no change in 2022. Next Parliamentarians elections are scheduled for 2023) 2. Local government: 655 (No change in 2022 since the next local government elections are scheduled in 2026)   **Indicator 5.1.5:**  UNW 1031 (2022) | **Indicator 5.1.4:**  No change since no elections took place in 2022.  **Indicator 5.1.5:**  On track | **Indicator 5.1.4:**  NWC, NEC, 2021 Local Government Elections, GMO, MIGEPROF annual reports.  **Indicator 5.1.5:**  MIGEPROF Annual reports; RALGA Progress Report 2021 |
| **Output 1.2**  National and local level Government institutions’ capacities to execute gender-responsive development strategies, sector strategies, district development plans and budgets increased.  **Indicator 5.1.1:**  Gender budget tracking tool for use by state institutions developed.  **Baseline: 2018** No  **Planned Target:**  **2019:** Advocacy starts with GMO to develop a gender budget allocation tracking tool  **2020:** Prototype of the gender budget tracking tool tested  **2023:** Yes. Budget tracking tool in place and in use.  **Indicator 5.1.2:**  Number of government institutions with at least 2 staff who have skills to systematize gender budget planning and execution tracking and reporting.  **Baseline: 2018**  Ministries: 2, Districts: 5  **Planned Target:**  **2019:** Ministries: 10 Districts: 18  **2020:** Ministries: 12 Districts: 20  **2023:** Ministries: 17 Districts: 30 | **Indicator 5.1.1:**  GRB remains the only tool in use, but the UNSDCF 2018-20242 targets a more systematic tool.  **Indicator 5.1.2:**  1) Ministries: 17 (in 2022)  2) Districts: 30 (in 2021) | Indicator 5.1.1  No change as no new tool was developed so far.  **Indicator 5.1.2:**  1) Achieved  2) Achieved | **Indicator 5.1.1:**  MINECOFIN, GMO, MIGEPROF (Gender Barometer Report by MIGEPROF).  **Indicator 5.1.2:**  MIGEPROF/GMO annual reports, UN Women annual reports. |
| **Output 1.3**  Community awareness of gender equality and civic understanding of women’s right to equal participation in decision making increased.  **Indicator 5.1.3:**  Proportion of media houses with gender mainstreaming editorial policies in place  **Baseline:** < 5% (2018)  **Planned Target:** 20% (2023) | **Indicator 5.1.3:**  Not available | **Indicator 5.1.3:**  Not available | **Indicator 5.1.3:**  UNESCOs reports |
| **Outcome 2**  By 2024, people in Rwanda participate more actively in democratic and development processes and benefit from transparent and accountable public and private sector institutions that develop evidence-based policies and deliver quality services. (UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 6)  **Indicator 6.1:**  Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive.  **Baseline:** 77% (2018)  **Planned Target:** 80% (2023)  **Indicator 6.3:**  % of citizen satisfaction in their participation in elections.  **Baseline:** 87% (2018)  **Planned Target:** 90% (2023)  **Indicator 6.5:**  % of citizens' satisfaction with holding leaders accountable.  **Baseline:** 81.6% (2018)  **Planned Target:** 85% (2023)  **Indicator NSTI 54:**  % of citizens satisfaction in their participation in planning and budgeting processes  **Baseline:** 25.6% (2017/2018)  **Planned Target:** 90% (2023/2024)  **Indicator NSTI 50:**  % level of transparency and accountability in public sector  **Baseline:** 85.78% (2017/2018)  **Planned Target:** 97% (2023/2024) | **Indicator 6.1:**  1) 87.5% of women are satisfied with their involvement in decision making  2) 88.2% of men are satisfied with their involvement in decision making  **Indicator 6.3:**  **94.3%**  **Indicator 6.5:**  74.42%  **Indicator NSTI 54:**  **66.8%**  **Indicator NSTI 50:**  86.77%% | **Indicator 6.1:**  Achieved  **Indicator 6.3:**  Achieved  **Indicator 6.5:**  Decreased 7.18% from baseline.  **Indicator NSTI 54:**  On track  **Indicator NSTI 50:**  On track | **Indicator 6.1:**  RGB/RGS, CRC 2022  **Indicator 6.3:**  RGB/RGS, CRC 2022 Reports  **Indicator 6.5:**  RGB/RGS, CRC 2021 Reports  **Indicator NSTI 54:**  RGS and CRC 2022 reports  **Indicator NSTI 50:**  RGS and CRC 2021 reports |
| **Output**  JP Output 2.1: Accountability mechanisms on gender equality and women’s empowerment in government agencies, CSOs, FBOs, I/NGOs and political parties are monitored and strengthened.  **Indicator 6.4.2:**  Level of citizen satisfaction with service delivery in local administration.  **Baseline:** 72.9% (2018)  **Planned Target:** 80% (2023)  **Indicator NSTI 53:**  % of citizen satisfaction with the performance of local government councils  **Baseline: 47.5% (2018)**  **Planned Target: 90% (2023)** | **Indicator 6.4.2:**  79.7%  **Indicator NSTI 53:**  84.98% | **Indicator 6.4.2:**  On track  **Indicator NSTI 53:**  On track | **Indicator 6.4.2:**  RGS and CRC 2022 reports  **Indicator NSTI 53:**  RGS and CRC 2022 reports |
| **Outcome 3**  By 2023, people in Rwanda benefit from more inclusive, competitive and sustainable economic growth that generates decent work and promotes quality livelihoods for all. (UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 1)  **Indicator 1.4:**  Unemployment rate by sex and age.  **Baseline:** Total: 16.7% (Youth: 21%; Male: 16.1%; Female: 17.5%)  **Planned Target:** Will be based on final NST Labour force survey 2017  **Indicator 1.7:**  % of total employment with main job in informal sector.  **Baseline: 2017** 91%  **Planned Target: 2023:** 85%  **Indicator NST1 38:**  %age of learners enrolled in STEM related subjects  **Baseline: 2017/2018:** 58.0% (TVET)  **Planned Target: 2023/2014:** 63.6 (TVET | **Indicator 1.4:**  Youth: 29.7% (November 2022)  Male: 20.9% (November 2022)  Female: 28.3% (November 2022)  Total unemployed population: 24.3% (November 2022)  **Indicator 1.7:**  Total of informal employment: 89.5% (no updated data available since the Annual LFS 2022 is yet to be published by NISR)  **Indicator NST1 38:**  1) % of STEM students enrolled in Upper secondary schools in 2019: 58.3%  2) % of STEM students enrolled in tertiary institutions in 2019: 43% | **Indicator 1.4:** The Labour Survey conducted by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) in November 2022, showed the unemployment rate among women over the age of 16 increased from 21.4% to 28.3% between August and November 2022, compared to 15.4% to 20.9% for men. The same survey found the female labour force participation rate at 46.1%, much lower than the rate of men at 61.3%.  **Indicator 1.7:**  On track  **Indicator NST1 38:**  On track | **Indicator 1.4:**  NISR: Labour force survey  **Indicator 1.7:**  NISR: Labour force survey.  **Indicator NST1 4:**  NEP Reports EICV survey, Labour Force Survey  **Indicator NST1 38:**  MINEDUC (2019 Education Statistical yearbook) |
| **Output**  JP Output 3.1: Women have enhanced skills and access to finance and markets to leverage business opportunities.  **Indicator 1.4.1:**  No. of target population with entrepreneurship skills. (Disaggregated by sex, rural/urban, age range).  **Baseline: 0 (2018)**  **Planned Target: 2019:** 2,060, **2020:** 5,120, **2021:** 7,240, **2022:** 9,300, **2023:** 10,600  **Indicator 1.4.2:**  No. of people reached through new financial products (e.g. new products, UN Supported Women's Investment Funds). (Disaggregated by sex, age and rural/urban).  **Baseline: 2018:** Women’s Investment Fund: 0 clients  **Planned Target: 2023:** Women’s Investment Fund: 80,000 clients | **Indicator 1.4.1:**  UNW: 953 (2022)  **Indicator 1.4.2:**  UNW: N/A | **Indicator 1.4.1:**  On track  **Indicator 1.4.2:**  N/A | **Indicator 1.4.1:**  Programme progress reports, UN Women Annual Report 2021  **Indicator 1.4.2:**  BNR and WB reports  UN Women Annual Report 2020 |
| **Output**  JP Output 3.2: Women’s capacity and opportunities to access remunerated off-farm employment increased  **Indicator 1.4.5:**  Number of youth led organizations and networks participating in national policy dialogue, advocacy and programming, including in humanitarian settings.  **Baseline: 1 (2018)**  **Planned Target: 10 (2023)**  **Output**  JP Output 3.3: Corporate sector actors demonstrate increased understanding of and commitment to implement gender equality and women’s empowerment practices.  **Indicator 1.4.1:**  No. of target population with entrepreneurship skills.  **Baseline: 0 (2018)**  **Planned Target: 2019:** 2,060, **2020:** 5,120, **2021:** 7,240, **2022:** 9,300, **2023:** 10,600. Target values are cumulative over the years. | **Indicator 1.4.5:**  **UN Women: 7 (2022)**  **Indicator 1.4.1:**  UNW: 1075 (2022) | **Indicator 1.4.5:**  N/A  **Indicator 1.4.1:**  On track | **Indicator 1.4.5:**  African Youth and Adolescents Network on Population & Development (AfriYan) reports.  **Indicator 1.4.1:**  Programme progress report |
| **Outcome 4**  By 2023, people in Rwanda, particularly the most vulnerable, have increased resilience to both natural and man-made shocks and enjoy a life free from all forms of violence and discrimination. (UNSDCF 2018-2024 Outcome 4).  **Indicator 4.2:**  % of women aged 15-49 who have ever experienced violence (by type).  **Baseline : 2015 (DHS)**  Sexual violence : 22% Physical violence : 35%  Intimate violence from partner: 37%  **Planned Target: 2023**  Sexual violence: 15%  Physical violence: 30%  Intimate violence from partner: 32% | **Indicator 4.2:**  Sexual violence: 23% Physical violence: 37%  Intimate violence from partner: 46% | In general, the data from DHS 2020 shows that the domestic violence has increased between 2015 and 2020. Intimate partner violence increased from 40% to 46%; Sexual violence has slightly increased from 22% to 23% while Physical violence increased from 35% to 37%. | **Indicator 4.2:**  Demographic and Health Survey 2019/2020. |
| **Output**  JP Output 4.1: Increased awareness among target communities on available S/GBV services (e.g. at the IOSC), how to prevent and/or timely report and how to respond to incidents of S/GBV.  **Indicator 4.2.3:**  # of individuals that have improved knowledge and awareness on S/GBV prevention and response (by target group).  **Baseline: 2017**  MDIT: 300 Security organs: 250  HeforShe outreach: 4,200  Women and men in cross border trade: 40  Inmates convicted of SGBV: 1,000  Refugees: 224  **Planned Target:**  MDIT: 500 Security organs: 500  HeforShe outreach: 20,000  Women and men in cross border trade: 2,000  Inmates convicted of SGBV: 2,000  Refugees: 446 | **Indicator 4.2.3:**  MDIT: 170  Security organs: 126 (  HeforShe outreach:  Women and men in CB trade:  Inmates:  UN Women (2022): 50,000 people increased their awareness on GBV prevention and response including 948 from the mining sector, 21,131 rights holders reached using toll free lines, 550 rights holders reached using mobile legal clinics and 361 community members reached through family evening dialogues. | **Indicator 4.2.3:**  An additional 30,251 individuals (20816 women and 9435 men) have improved their knowledge and awareness on GBV prevention and response.  A total of 417,184 young people (226,577 females and 190,107 males) gained their knowledge on GBV and ASRH through various awareness activities. | **Indicator 4.2.3:**  UN Women reports. |
| **Output**  JP Output 4.2: Strengthened capacity of relevant institutions/GBV service providers to handle/respond to S/GBV cases including capacity to harmonize and preserve forensic evidence  **Indicator 4.2.4:**  # of service providers with the capacity to respond to cases of SGBV, child abuse, exploitation and neglect.  **Baseline:**  IOSC: 4  (Inshuti Z’Umuryango) IZU: 0  Other Service Providers (MAJ/ MINIJUST, MINISANTE, RNP, NCC, CSOs, etc): 2  **Planned Target:**  IOSC: 23  IZU: 29,674  Other Service Providers (MAJ/ MINIJUST, MINISANTE, RNP, NCC, CSOs, etc): 27 | **Indicator 4.2.4:**  **UN Women:** IOSC: 12 (2022)  IZU (UN Women): 88 (2022)  UN Women (2022): Other Service Providers: 5 (including RIB, legal advocates, local leaders (2,233 including 1141 F&1092M); 4 GBV Shelters and 9 Health Centers)  IZU: 26,728 were trained on child protection in emergencies and disability inclusion with a gender focus.  176 youth volunteers, 56 local security organs and 48 legal advocates have been capacitated to effectively provide services (legal aid support services) to GBV victims.  196 justice, law enforcement and child protection professionals were trained on gender and family sensitive RIB’s SOPs.  840 professionals (42 per cent female) from justice, law enforcement and child protection were trained on gender sensitive child justice. | **Indicator 4.2.4:**  Among the 348 individuals from service providers organizations, there were 193 females and 145 males). In addition, 331 local government leaders (with only 9 females) at village level enhanced their capacities in GBV case management and referral.  26,728 have been trained on child protection in emergencies and disability inclusion with a gender focus. A dedicated module on Prevention and response to Violence against children was developed, a ToT training was conducted, and the rollout is planned from 2023.  Capacity of 136 healthcare providers was enhanced, which enabled them to conduct GBV screening on 8,883 young people. 27 Health facilities received basic equipment and tools towards improved standards of services.  196 justice, law enforcement and child protection professionals were trained on gender and family sensitive RIB’s SOPs.  840 professionals (42 per cent female) from justice, law enforcement and child protection were trained on gender sensitive child justice. | **Indicator 4.2.4:**  MAJ/MINIJUST, MINISANTE, RNP, CSOs, UN Women reports. NCC/ MIGEPROF reports. |