

Joint SDG Fund
PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LNOB

Joint Programme 2020 Annual Progress Report

Cover page

Country: Malawi

Joint Programme title: Social Protection for the Sustainable Development Goals

Short title: SP4SDG

Start date (month/year): January 2020

End date (month/year): December 2021

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Budget (Joint SDG Fund contribution): 1,999,937

Overall budget (with co-funding): 1,999,937

Annual Financial Delivery Rate (= Total JP expenditures / transferred funds x 100%): 21%

Rate of Committed Funding (= Total JP commitments / transferred funds x 100%): 80%

Short description of the Joint Programme (max 1 paragraph):

The United Nations Joint Programme: Social Protection for the Sustainable Development Goals (SP4SDG) aims to support the Government of Malawi (GoM) to adapt the national social protection system to meet emergency food needs and reduce the vulnerability of those most at risk of food insecurity by 2022, while strengthening the social protection system for all vulnerable households across the lifecycle. The programme combines advancing an innovative Shock-Sensitive Social Protection (SSSP) prototype with reinforced financial structures and the transformation of existing policies into legal frameworks to enhance the social protection system to be more robust, comprehensive, and sustainable, leaving no one behind.

Overall instructions for using the template:

- Do not go over the maximum number of pages per section – the report should be no more than 12 pages, not including the executive summary and annexes.
- Please be succinct and to the point, emphasizing only the most important accomplishments and issues that you want to bring to the attention of the Fund at the global level.
- Please include a one- or two-line summary of each response longer than two paragraphs.
- The primary purpose is to report on annual, “big picture” results to the global level of the Joint SDG Fund, specifically with reference to the JP document that had been approved. It is independent of the separate, more detailed reports that may be required of your local partners that you can prepare in addition to this report.
- When in doubt, please contact the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat for further clarification.
- Delete all instructions after completing the report.

Executive summary

Maximum 0.5 page to summarize the most important aspects from your detailed report below that you want to highlight for inclusion into the Joint SDG Fund’s global annual report.

This should, primarily, include annual results, main achievements, and any major changes in the JP’s approach.

In 2020, the SP4SDG Joint Programme (JP) supported the GoM to enhance the Malawi social protection system to be more comprehensive, integrated, shock responsive, and financially sustainable. Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the national elections that resulted in a new government administration, the JP made significant progress toward the planned outcomes and remained strategic by adapting to the changing context. Through programme adaptations and leveraged partnerships, the JP continues to spur catalytic changes for the benefit of the most vulnerable in Malawi, with the ultimate goal of leaving no one behind.

Through coordinated efforts, the JP provided a basis for systemic adaptations to the Malawi social protection system, enhanced knowledge management, provided targeted capacity strengthening, and leveraged the social protection system to meet heightened food needs during the annual lean season, while providing technical assistance to the GoM. The JP completed several crucial analyses of social protection financing that will serve as foundational tools and evidence for the GoM to increase spending efficiency and sustainability of spending for social protection programmes. Multisectoral consultation processes were completed that have laid the groundwork for the social protection policy analysis and draft legal framework for a comprehensive and integrated social protection system in Malawi.

To remain strategically aligned to government priorities, the workplan was adapted to support the GoM’s COVID-19 response plan. The JP supported data collection for the national social registry to be used for the crisis intervention and for future programming; beneficiaries in urban areas were targeted for the first time in Malawi, opening the potential for a catalytic change in the existing social protection system. The JP supported the government to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines to enable the GoM to identify new geographical hotspots of vulnerability likely be most affected by the economic effects of the pandemic, and as the response was rolled out by the social protection sector, this support laid the foundations for routine assistance to be provided following the emergency. Beyond supporting the response to COVID-19, the innovative use of new targeting and verification processes has opened the discussion around targeting and verification for routine social assistance in Malawi.

A. Annual Progress

In sum, part A should be a **maximum of 7 pages**.

It should refer to the broader context and JP approach and provide an update on priority issues. Note that you will present annual results in detail in part B.

Please be very succinct and clear - use bullet points when possible. Responses should generally be should be no more than 1-2 paragraphs per section

A.1 The overall approach

Broader context and JP changes

Briefly explain any changes in the broader context in the past year that led (or might soon lead) to a change of the JP’s approach, strategy, Theory of Change, or expected results. If a change of the broader JP is anticipated, please explain what that might include and what the implications might be.

While the overall approach, Theory of Change (TOC), and expected results of the JP have not changed, the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in necessary adaptations to programme activities including the decision to reprogramme a percentage of funding towards supporting the GoM's COVID-19 Urban Cash Initiative (CUCI). As the JP was designed to address the shock of the annual Lean Season Response (LSR), the TOC was tested with the unexpected and unprecedented shock of COVID. The TOC has remained valid while the programme's scope has somewhat expanded to ensure the JP remains strategic and address the needs of the Malawi social protection system. The expanded scope has included the support to CUCI in that beneficiaries in urban areas were targeted for the first time in Malawi, opening the potential for a catalytic change in the existing social protection system. In addition, the pandemic revealed new knowledge gaps for responding to economic and health crises in both urban and rural areas; as such the planned government capacity strengthening initiative was redesigned to fill these gaps to enable government social protection actors to respond effectively to both economic and health emergencies.

Ensuring that JP remains strategic and catalytic

Briefly explain how your JP contributed to UNDAF and/or preparation of new Cooperation Framework.

The JP remains aligned to Outcome 7 of Malawi's 2019-2023 UNDAF: households have increased food and nutrition security, equitable access to healthy ecosystems and WASH, and resilient livelihoods. The intermediate outcomes include expanded and strengthened social protection systems and capacities to meet basic needs in line with the MNSSP II; and strengthened capacity of the social protection system to become responsive to shocks.

This year the JP has drafted SOPs to enable the GoM to leverage the social protection system to reach new beneficiaries in times of heightened need. Instead of using the international humanitarian system to target and deliver additional assistance, the national social protection system is being strengthened and leveraged, benefiting both chronic and acute needs in the future. The JP supported the development and finalization of the 2019 Lean Season Response (LSR) After Action Review (AAR), testing the use of social protection systems as part of the LSR for the first time, and producing recommendations to inform the use of the social protection system to reach heightened need as part of the 2020-2021 LSR. The JP committed funding to provide 5,000 households with cash assistance in line with needs. A strategy was developed with the GoM to update the Unified Beneficiary Registry (UBR) more regularly, increasing the accuracy and timeliness of targeting for social protection and humanitarian interventions. An assessment of the latest global and regional lessons learned and best practices related to updating registries, including during the COVID-19 response, will inform a contextualized, practical, and sustainable solution for Malawi.

The JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the CUCI to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability likely be the most affected by the economic effects of COVID-19. This was the first time that a geographical approach with universal registration to targeting was undertaken for such an intervention in Malawi. A rigorous verification exercise was conducted using survey data, Google Earth, and high-resolution satellite imagery to independently verify the targeting process using one city of four as an example. Beyond supporting the response to COVID-19, the innovative use of new targeting and verification processes has opened the discussion around targeting and verification for routine social assistance in Malawi. This helped the government to develop processes for targeting in new geographical areas, and as it is being rolled out by the social protection sector, it lays the foundations for routine assistance to be provided following the emergency transfer.

The participatory consultative process for the review of the National Social Support Policy (NSSP) was completed this year and will be followed by a draft Policy Analysis Document which is expected to be submitted in early 2021. The policy analysis will translate into a Policy Framework Document (PFD), which will complete the review of the NSSP, leading to an updated policy, and finally a draft legal framework. The consultative process included the collection of community, district, and regional level stakeholders' views on how to define the scope and objectives of the social protection system in Malawi.

Leveraging the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project, the JP supported the development of the Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP) Strategy to contribute to defining a framework for the social protection system in Malawi. As the SCTP is the largest social protection programme in Malawi, the development of the strategy creates a solid foundation for defining the scope and objectives of social protection programmes. The possibility of introducing old age social pensions and expanding contributory social protection are also being

considered under this process jointly with a European Union-funded Enhancing Financial Management and Fiscal Sustainability for Social Protection in Malawi Project.

The JP completed three key pieces of analysis on the financing of social protection in Malawi, examining the status of public and donor funding to the sector in the current budget, its evolution over the recent past, and its possible future developments with a focus on the country's fiscal space. These will support the GoM to strengthen, rationalise, and increase the sustainability of the national financing infrastructure for social protection. They will also support in exploring the viability of different options for increasing the budgetary allocations to social protection programmes in the long run, making the sector less dependent on donor support.

All activities completed during Year 1 of the JP directly strengthen the Malawi social protection system and its ability to become responsive to shocks.

Briefly explain how you adapted the JP to COVID-19 in 2020 (through formal re-purposing of 20% of the overall budget or other changes/adaptations). Provide a brief update on the progress/status of these adaptations (e.g. did you finalize the re-purposed activities? If not, what is the plan).

The workplan was adapted to financially support the GoM with the registration of shock-affected households in urban areas, enabling data collection for the national social registry to be used for the crisis intervention and future programming. As noted above, when GoM priorities shifted in response to the pandemic, the JP supported the government to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines to enable CUCI to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability which were likely to be most affected by the economic effects of the pandemic.

The PUNOs also repurposed a small amount of funding to support the GoM to develop a social protection resource website to be integrated into their existing ICT infrastructure to enable the government, development partners, and the public to easily access Malawi-centric social protection resources, ultimately enhancing knowledge on social protection and helping to enable evidence-based programming. In 2020, the website's skeleton was designed, and numerous resources have been catalogued to be uploaded to the site in early 2021, including those produced by this JP.

Additional adaptations included designing the Grievance Response Mechanism (GRM) for use in CUCI in advance of the LSR and shifting both the modality and scope of the government capacity strengthening initiative. The latter initially included participation in international conferences, however the activity was redesigned to promote in-country learning to mitigate the consequences of travel restrictions. The redesign also enabled the inclusion of new areas of learning to empower government social protection actors to respond to economic and health crises in both urban and rural areas. The JP has partnered with GIZ to pool resources, enabling the inclusion of more stakeholders in the training, thus increasing input and buy-in to the resulting policy documents that will be produced during the training.

Briefly explain any other re-alignments of the JP over the past year, including those related to changed/new national strategic priorities, and how you have ensured that the JP remains strategic and catalytic.

There were no other realignments during the past year.

Refer to how the JP aligns with the UN's SERP in your country, or how you plan to ensure such an alignment in the next year.

Emerging issues and priorities for the Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP) were presented in the monthly Heads of Cooperation (HoC) meeting, which is chaired by the Resident Coordinator and attended by the PUNOs. The Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) is awaiting feedback from key government stakeholders including the National Planning Commission and the Department of Economic Planning and Development.

Following feedback from HOCs and the GoM, the JP will continue to work closely with the RCO to ensure all stakeholders within the JP are integral to shaping the social protection pillar of the plan and to ensure the JP continues to be aligned with government priorities.

A.2 Update on priority issues

SDG acceleration

In bullet points, please provide a brief update on JP contribution to the acceleration of the progress towards the SDGs, in line with the JP's Theory of Change for SDG Acceleration.

- Using the SRSP prototype, the JP has helped to adapt the social protection system to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector (SDG 2.1) by leveraging and strengthening the system (SDG 1.3), while reaching approximately 5,000 shock-affected households with emergency food assistance.
- The JP has contributed to assisting the GoM to increase its share of the social protection budget and undertake measures to improve efficiency and sustainability of spending (SDG 1.a, 17.1) via progress towards a financing strategy.
- The JP has also contributed to ensuring that the Malawi social protection system is more comprehensive and integrated via progress towards a legal framework that will define and streamline the essential measures and systems to enhance protection throughout all stages of life, with due attention to women and marginalized groups (SDG 1.b), and advances the right to social protection in line with Malawi's human rights treaty obligations (1.3).

Vulnerable groups

In bullet points, please provide a brief description of how you have directly and/or indirectly provided support to the vulnerable groups that your JP focuses on (i.e. the groups identified in the JP document). Provide an updated number of individuals that were reached through the JP's efforts in 2020, and the total number that you expect to reach by the end of the programme (disaggregated by vulnerable groups and gender).

- The IPC Report noted that approximately 2.6 million people will be food insecure, including 0.6 million in the four urban centers over the lean season. The food gap analysis varies from district to district and between districts and cities, with assistance required as early as November 2020 for a period of two to five months depending on the food gap in each district
- Under the radio programme, 1,938,057 people were reached with tailored messages on social protection and emergency processes, of about 51% (988,409) were women; the messages were also listened to by 793 ICT Hubs and radio listening groups within the districts, of which approximately 75% of the listeners were women (11,895).
- For the Lean Season Response (LSR), technical assistance by the PUNOs enabled the government to provide emergency top-ups to households on the Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) in the three most-affected districts (Nsanje, Balaka, and Neno). These households are those who are poorest, labour constrained (i.e. disabled, chronically ill, elderly), and more likely to be food insecure. By the end of 2021, this will include approximately 70,858 households / 318,816 people. The social protection system was also leveraged in Balaka and Nsanje to reach the remaining food insecure population not covered by the scalable social protection system, covering approximately 70,501 households / 317,255 people, of which 5,000 households will be directly funded by this programme.
- For the CUCI, approximately 185,000 households / 832,5000 people were targeted using guidance designed under this joint programme, with the government planning the distributions for January 2021. Targeted households include the ultra poor, informal sector households residing in the most vulnerable areas across the four main cities of Malawi. This is an emergency intervention, designed and implemented jointly with the social protection sector. The disaggregated data will be available in 2021.
- The SCTP strategy and the review of the NSSP aim to improve/increase coverage of social protection in general, including for women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. At present, social protection programmes reach approximately 5 million people (SCTP targets nearly 300,000 households which translates to over 1.5 million individual beneficiaries; School Meals Feeding Programme reaches approximately 3 million children; Enhanced Public Works Programs targets approximately 10,000 households). The JP is supporting

the SCTP Strategy development and will therefore have at least an indirect impact on all of these vulnerable groups.

- The possibility of introducing old age social pensions and expanding contributory social protection are being considered in the SCTP Strategy jointly with a European Union-funded Enhancing Financial Management and Fiscal Sustainability for Social Protection in Malawi Project.

Gender marker

In bullet points, please briefly explain how you applied the Gender Marker in JP implementation in the past year, and/or other ways in which gender was mainstreamed into implementation.

- Gender is mainstreamed across several programme outputs, while all promote gender equality in their delivery.
- Outputs 3.1 and 3.3 directly aim to promote gender equality, in particular the promotion of equal rights to social protection for men and women. Other outputs are focused on system strengthening elements that follow the principles of gender equality, but do not make visible reference to them. As part of the NSSP review process, gender analysis and will be included in the PAD via an equality assessment including an examination on how the previous policy helped to empower women.
- Gender sensitive indicators are present in Outputs 1.2 and 2.3, though the latter is planned to be implemented in 2021.
- The outcome indicator for Outcome 3 is disaggregated by sex, age, and disability, monitoring gender equality from the perspective of legal coverage of social protection programmes, the baseline for which will be available in 2021.
- The JP actively coordinates with the Ministry of Gender and the Ministry of Finance (MoF). As the ministry with the mandate over gender issues in Malawi, it is one of the key implementers in the social protection sector, being responsible for the SCTP and as Pillar Lead on Consumption Support of the MNSSP II. The MoF has the mandate over coordination of social protection policy and is the policy holder of the MNSSP II.
- The JP responds directly to MNSSP II Strategic Action 5.8: Mainstream Gender across MNSSP II, which was developed together with Malawian CSOs.
- Women are the majority (estimated that around 75% of them are female-headed) of the recipients of the proposed cash transfers (31.4% of the total budget) - representing 23.6% of the total budget directed to promote women economic empowerment. The disaggregated results of the targeting exercise will be available in 2021.
- Activities geared towards grievance and redress mechanisms, social accountability, and individual agency strengthening represent about 8.9% of the total budget to ensure girls and women's rights to social protection are respected and empower them to hold service providers accountable to high standards of service quality.
- The disaggregated results of the CUCI targeting exercise will be available in 2021.

Human rights

In bullet points, please briefly explain how human rights mechanisms were mainstreamed in JP implementation in the past year, as envisaged by the original JP design.

- The framework for this JP remains the legal and normative human rights obligations that bind the GoM, including treaty obligations under the ICESCR, CEDAW and CRC, particularly:
 - o ICESCR - general comment No. 19 (2007) on right to social security (art. 9)
 - o CEDAW, Concluding Observations on the 7th periodic report of Malawi
 - o UPR on Malawi (1st cycle) A/HRC/16/4 (UPR, 2011), recommendations from Malaysia and Hungary
 - o The UPR of Malawi was held on 3 November 2020, however the outcome of the review is not yet available.
- As described in further detail in Part B, progress has been made toward the critical outcome of drafting a legal framework for social protection in line with Malawi's human rights treaty obligations.
- The cash transfers under Outcome 1 targeted approximately 5,000 households identified as the most vulnerable using a human rights and gender-sensitive approach to data.
- The JP remains grounded in UN principles including non-discrimination, gender equality, transparency, participation, and accountability, which are closely aligned to international instruments, such as the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, ILO Convention 102 in the Minimal Standards for Social Security, and ILO Recommendation 202 on Social Protection Floors.

Partnerships

In bullet points, please list the main highlights regarding JP's partnerships. Refer to how these have been aligned with the broader UNCT's partnership approach.

- The UNCT is engaged in building an environment conducive to building partnerships. Building on the UNSDCF, the UNCT continue to maintain a strong dialogue and partnership with GoM and International Financial Institutions (IFIs).
- The JP partnered with GIZ to leverage resources for the government capacity strengthening initiative, enabling the inclusion of more stakeholders in the training, thus increasing input and buy-in to the resulting policy documents that will be produced during the training.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support the development of the Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP) Strategy to contribute to defining a legal framework for the social protection system in Malawi.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the PROSPER project which also has a component on advancing shock-sensitive social protection.

Strategic meetings

Indicate if you organized any of the events below (in person or virtually). If you did not, indicate in the comments when you plan to organize them.

Type of event	Yes	No	Comments
JP launch event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The in-person launch was cancelled as gathering restrictions were put in place by the GoM and UN agencies and was transitioned to a digital launch. The programme was announced via email and at the MNSSP steering committee, with additional advocacy communicated via a newsletter and social media campaigns. Several digital activities were postponed due to the sensitivity of communicating on social protection initiatives while the GoM had yet to announce their social protection response to the crisis. As the CUCI is now established, several planned activities can be combined with the 2021 strategic communications plan.
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The partners event was postponed until the third quarter after the COVID-19 response stabilized and the PUNO focal points were able to allocate time to planning the event, however it was then decided that it would be more strategic to wait to hold the event in Q1 of Year 2 as there will be more significant achievements to highlight.

* This refers to any event that included representatives of the Joint SDG Fund's global development partners/donors (Denmark, European Union, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.) Please note that this event can be held together with a launch event or other partners' event.

Funding and financing

In bullet points, please provide an update on what the JP has done (or plans to do) to leverage additional funding and/or financing from Government, IFIs or other partners.

- The JP partnered with GIZ to leverage resources for the government capacity strengthening initiative, enabling the inclusion of more stakeholders in the training, thus increasing input and buy-in to the resulting policy documents that will be produced during the training.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support the development of the Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP) Strategy to contribute to defining a legal framework for the social protection system in Malawi.
- The technical assistance from the JP has enabled donors to fund the national social protection system directly to address heightened emergency needs, while enabling additional resources to be contributed to the COVID-19 Response, and Lean Season Food Insecurity Response.

- A key coordination priority for 2021 is for the JP focal points to work with the RCO to identify strategic engagement opportunities with the ultimate goal of securing funding to continue the work advanced under this programme.

Innovation, learning and sharing

In bullet points, please list the main highlights regarding your JP's work on innovation and learning – this should be an update on implementation of the JP learning and sharing plan from your JP doc.

- The Joint Coordination Unit (JCU) (comprised of the PUNO technical focal points, the RCO focal point, and the JP Coordinator) has met regularly on a monthly basis since the beginning of the programme to share programme updates and resources, brainstorm programme adaptations, and identify areas of activity crossover to strengthen coordination and learning opportunities. The online information platform was established as a SharePoint site and document library which all focal points have access to. All JP resources are stored in the shared library.
- Social protection information and programme resources have been shared with the broader public, government counterparts, and development partners online and through social media campaigns, an e-newsletter, and radio programming. Despite movement restrictions, the JP conducted communications field visits to gather beneficiary responses to cash transfer interventions. Key information on the programme and social protection in Malawi are available on socialprotection.org and malawi.un.org.
- JP updates were shared on a monthly basis with the UNCT via an HoA/RC update. A presentation on the JP for the PUNO Deputy Country Directors was requested in December and is scheduled for mid-January.
- As described above, government colleagues' attendance at regional conferences was redesigned in light of COVID-19 into an in-country training plan.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the technical and strategic learning events were reimaged as an MNSSP II resource repository website that is hosted by the GoM in the existing ICT infrastructure and will be publicly accessible. The JP worked with the GoM E-Government team to design the site skeleton this year, and recruited a research assistant who is currently compiling all available Malawi social protection resources for uploading to the site's database, while utilizing the JP SharePoint library as a temporary resource storage space.
- Several evidence generation activities took place including the completion of the AAR, the UBR concept paper, and the ongoing compilation of resources for the MNSSP II website. The PUNOs are working together to redesign one planned evidence generation activity to account for changes to the workplan, including the addition of the MNSSP II website. Three fiscal analyses were also completed this year, as was the consultation processes that will inform the NSSP policy analysis that will be available in Q1 of 2021.
- Learning from the JP and PUNOs helped to inform CUCI and the SERP.
- The launch of the JP was announced at the MNSSP steering committee. The PUNOs also provided an introduction on the JP to the Director of the Poverty Reduction and Social Protection Division (situated within the Ministry of Finance) who has requested quarterly updates for the remainder of the programme. The third quarter progress report was shared with her.
- The PUNOs and RCO worked jointly on a concept note for strategic advocacy on social protection with the aim of bringing together key GoM actors with their counterparts in other countries, linked by the regional DCO, to share learning and innovative solutions for social protection across the region.

Strategic communications

In bullet points, please list the main highlights regarding your JP's strategic communications - - this should be an update on implementation of the JP learning and sharing plan from your JP doc. This should be a brief overview as you will provide more specific information in Annex 3 of this report.

- As noted above, the planned learning events were redesigned into the MNSSP II website. Strategic communications via social media are planned for the official launch of the site.
- Social media campaigns on Twitter and Facebook, and an e-newsletter sent to the GoM and development partners advocated for social protection initiatives and outlined the core components of the JP.
- To ensure the efficient use of the social protection system in times of heightened need, the JP enabled the creation and dissemination of radio programmes that were widely broadcasted in advance of the lean season to address information gaps on the MVAC, social protection, and the LSR.
- Due to movement restrictions, the planned media and parliament field visits were postponed until 2021. The feasibility of these activities will be re-evaluated in Q1 of Year 2 and redesigned if necessary.
- The communications plan was redesigned several times to adapt to the context of COVID-19 and the national elections. Several planned communications activities are being redesigned and will be included in a comprehensive TOR for a consultant to complete in early 2021. The recruitment process was finalized for a consultant to create the planned SRSP video.

B. Annual Results

In sum, part B should be a **maximum of 3 pages**.

It should provide specific information on the achievement of expected annual results as per the workplan, following up on the broader progress presented in part A.

Overall progress

Provide a self-assessment on the JP's overall progress in the past year, including a brief explanation.

- On track (expected annual results achieved)
- Satisfactory (majority of expected annual results achieved)
- Not-satisfactory (majority of expected annual results not yet achieved)

Please, explain briefly: Despite the limitations imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges arising from the election period and subsequent change of government, the joint programme (JP) has made impressive progress in 2020 toward the three programme outcomes, working toward the ultimate goal of strengthening the social protection system in Malawi.

Contribution to Fund's global results

Provide brief overview on your JP's contribution to the global outputs and outcomes of the Joint SDG Fund (in terms of the annual targets outlined in the Results Framework of your JP document). Note that you will also provide a consolidated table in Annex 1.

The Joint Programme has contributed to the Joint SDG Fund's Outcome 1: integrated multisectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale by contributing to the adaptation of the Malawi social protection system to ensure it meets emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector; supporting the GoM to increase its share of the social protection budget and undertake measures to improve efficiency of spending; and ensuring the Malawi social protection system is more comprehensive and integrated.

JP Outputs and Outcomes

Provide information on the implementation of annual results in relation to the JP's specific outputs and outcomes, as per your expected targets over the past year.

While annual results might refer mostly to output-level results, they might also include contributions to outcomes.

Therefore, divide the information into:

- Achievement of expected outputs
- Achievement of expected contributions to outcomes

Note that you will also provide a consolidated table in Annex 1.

Achievement of expected outputs:

Output 1.1 The Malawi social protection system is reviewed and updated in line with humanitarian response needs:

- The JP has met the 2020 goal of developing draft SOPs to enable the GoM to leverage the social protection system to reach new beneficiaries in times of heightened need. These SOPs are being tested in real time, having been successful in one district in the current lean season response (LSR), and are in progress in a second district. Instead of using the international humanitarian system to target and deliver additional assistance, the national social protection system is being strengthened and leveraged, benefiting both chronic and acute needs in the future.
- The JP supported the development and finalization of the 2019 LSR AAR which tested the use of social protection systems as part of the LSR for the first time, producing recommendations and helping to inform the use of the social protection system to reach heightened need as part of the 2020-2021 LSR.
- A strategy was developed with the GoM to update the UBR more regularly, thereby increasing the accuracy and timeliness of targeting for social protection and humanitarian interventions. An assessment of the latest global and regional lessons learned and best practices related to updating registries, including during the COVID-19 response, will inform a contextualized, practical, and sustainable solution for Malawi.
- In support of monitoring for the GoM's Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) and its use in crises, the collection of registered beneficiary phone numbers was completed.
- The first stages of the capacity strengthening initiative for government staff to enhance knowledge on social protection were completed: key informant interviews were conducted and the kickoff meeting was held.
- The staff funded under this grant also provided technical assistance to the GoM, in collaboration with PROSPER, another JP with WFP and UNICEF as PUNOs, including: analysing data on social assistance

coverage adequacy from a shock-perspective; developing evidence to inform improved targeting using the social protection system; supporting the re-targeting exercise of the SCTP to enable improved targeting for chronic and acute needs (i.e. when emergency top-ups are provided); developing GoM monitoring frameworks to ensure data collection can be compared across sectors; and drafting technical options for improved coordination across the emergency and social protection sectors.

Output 1.2: The Malawi social protection system, together with the humanitarian sector, contributes to assisting an emergency caseload as identified by the GoM:

- The JP has committed funding to provide 5,000 households with cash assistance in line with needs as identified by the GoM via the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC). The cash transfers will be distributed in December 2021 and the related administrative costs will be expended by February 2021. Data collection for this output is finalised, and analysis will be completed in January 2021, at which time baseline and target figures will be determined as planned in the results framework.
- With emerging GoM priorities due to COVID-19, the JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the urban crisis cash response to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability which were likely to be most affected by the economic effects of COVID-19. This was the first time that a geographical approach with universal registration to targeting has been undertaken for such an intervention in Malawi. Due to the election, the GoM requested support with a verification exercise to measure the accuracy of the targeting approach, thus a rigorous verification exercise was conducted using survey data, Google Earth, and high-resolution satellite imagery to independently verify the targeting process using one city (Blantyre) of four as an example. The exercise found there to be no inclusion errors and minimal (less than 5%) exclusion errors. Beyond supporting the response to COVID-19, the innovative use of new targeting and verification processes has opened the discussion around targeting and verification for routine social assistance in Malawi. The JP helped the GoM develop processes for targeting in new geographical areas, and as it is being rolled out by the social protection sector, will leave behind the foundations of a social protection system, so that routine assistance can be provided following the emergency transfer.
- With support in part from this JP, the GoM completed household registration for the urban social registry of shock-affected households in urban areas that enabled the implementation of the COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention (CUCI). The data collected was added to the national social registry to be used for the crisis intervention as well as future programming.
- To ensure the efficient use of the social protection system in times of heightened need, the JP enabled the creation and dissemination of radio programmes that were widely broadcast in advance of the lean season to address information gaps on the MVAC, social protection, and the LSR.

Output 2.1: GoM social protection financing strategy finalized and informing domestic funding:

Three key deliverables were completed as planned this year, namely the Financing and Expenditure Brief, the Budget Brief, and the Fiscal Space Analysis. The Finance and Expenditure Brief provides an analysis of the financing trends in social protection in Malawi over the past four fiscal years to identify the specific issues affecting social protection financing in the country, looking at both on- and off-budget resources for the four social protection programmes (when data allowed). The Budget Briefs are produced yearly to analyse the sector funding, based on on-budget resources, and provide recommendations on key issues pertaining to sector financing, budget execution, and sustainability. The Fiscal Space Analysis examined sector financing from the point of view of sustainable financing and the feasibility of increasing own resource coverage for social protection in Malawi, reducing donor dependency. The availability of fiscal space in Malawi is challenged by both the ongoing COVID-19 emergency and structural aspects of Malawi's public finance and economy. The evidence provided by the reports will feed in the ongoing efforts to design a more rational, cost-effective, efficient and sustainable financing structure for the SCTP and is relevant for tackling sector-wide issues beyond the SCTP, such as donor dependency of key programs, two of which are completely off-budget.

Output 2.2: GoM has improved knowledge and commitment to invest in social protection: Efforts were focused on accomplishing Output 2.1; and the implementation period of the activities planned to achieve Output 2.2 were extended to 2021. Though as part of the programme's adaptation to the pandemic, the PUNOs repurposed a small amount of funding to support the GoM to develop a social protection resource website to be integrated into their existing ICT infrastructure to enable the government, development partners, and the public to easily access Malawi-centric social protection resources, ultimately enhancing knowledge on social protection and helping to enable evidence-based programming via an accessible evidence compendium. In

2020, the website's skeleton was designed, and numerous resources were catalogued to be uploaded to the site in early 2021, including those produced by this JP.

Output 2.3: Malawi Government has improved capacity for social protection expenditure: The activity to accomplish this output is planned to be implemented in 2021.

Output 3.1: Malawi has a comprehensive social protection draft legal framework agreed by all stakeholders: The consultations for the review of the National Social Support Policy (NSSP) were completed this year, and will be followed by a draft policy analysis which is expected to be submitted in early 2021. Activities to fully accomplish this output are planned to be implemented 2021 as the legal framework will be informed by the reviewed and updated NSSP and policy analysis.

Output 3.2: Malawi has updated the scope and objectives for the social protection system: The review of the National Social Support Policy (NSSP) is in progress. An inception report was completed, including the plan for a literature review desk study, participatory consultative process, and an impact library. The participatory consultative process was completed including the collection and incorporation of stakeholders' views on how to define the scope and objectives of the social protection system in Malawi. Stakeholders from the community, district, and regional levels were included. The process will conclude with an analysis of progress and achievements of the previous policy (the 2012 NSSP) and will contribute to finalizing the scope and objectives of social protection in Malawi. This preparatory work serves as a basis for the draft legal framework to be developed in 2021.

Output 3.3: The basic social protection measures are defined to respond to the needs of all men, women, boys, and girls: Leveraging the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project, the JP supported the development of the Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP) Strategy to contribute to defining a framework for the social protection system in Malawi. The strategy is currently in draft form and will be finalized in Q1 of 2021. As the SCTP is the largest social protection programme in Malawi, the development of the strategy creates a solid foundation for defining the scope and objectives of social protection programmes. The possibility of introducing old age social pensions and expanding contributory social protection are also being considered under this process jointly with a European Union-funded Enhancing Financial Management and Fiscal Sustainability for Social Protection in Malawi Project.

Achievement of expected outcomes

Outcome 1: Malawi social protection system is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector: The JP has made the expected amount of progress in 2021 toward this outcome by providing a basis for systemic adaptations to the Malawi social protection system via the above-described SOPs, AAR, UBR study, capacity strengthening initiative, targeting verification exercise, and M&E support to the SCTP, leveraging the social protection system to reach heightened food needs over the 2020/2021 lean season, and providing significant technical assistance in line with the needs of the GoM. The JP has also laid the foundations for the roll out of a Grievance Redress Mechanism which, coupled with the planned work on individual agency strengthening, will ensure beneficiaries' stronger ownership and understanding of their rights within the SCTP. The outcomes of this work in the lives of the beneficiaries will be continually monitored into year 2.

Outcome 2: GoM increases its share of the social protection budget and undertakes measures to improve efficiency of spending: Progress has been made toward this outcome in the form of the financing analysis deliverables as described above. These analyses (in addition to those planned for 2021) will feed into the ongoing efforts to design a more rational, cost-effective, efficient, and sustainable financing structure for the SCTP and are relevant for tackling sector-wide issues beyond the SCTP, such as donor dependency of key programs, two of which are completely off-budget.

Outcome 3: Malawi social protection system is more comprehensive and integrated: Significant progress has been made towards achievement of the outcome. The development of the Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP) Strategy, and the review of the 2012 NSSP involved multi-level stakeholder consultations that will lead to the inclusion of multisectoral views for a comprehensive and integrated social protection system in Malawi.

In addition to the above outputs, the Evaluation Terms of Reference (TOR) have been finalized; having completed this preparatory work in 2020 allows the PUNOs more time to focus on programme activities in 2021.

Workplan

If you modified JP workplan in the last year, please provide brief explanation.

- JP workplan was modified
 JP workplan was not modified

Explain briefly: The workplan was updated to support the COVID-19 response: with support in part from this JP, the GoM completed household registration for the urban social registry that enabled the implementation of the COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention (CUCI). The JP supported the GoM with the registration of shock-affected households in urban areas to collect data for the national social registry to be used for the crisis intervention and future programming.

C. Plan for the Next Year of implementation

In sum, part C should be a **maximum of 2 pages**. Please build upon Parts A and B to describe the plan for the next year as you approach the end of JP implementation.

Next year

Regarding the next year (1 Jan – 31 Dec), briefly explain:

- The focus of the annual work plan
- Expected annual results (in terms of outputs and outcomes)

In 2021, the focus of the workplan will be to realize the targets as set out in the results framework, while increasing programme visibility and strategic engagement to leverage the catalytic effect of the JP, and to continue the well-established coordination between the PUNOs and RCO.

- To realize Outcome 1, the JP will complete the cash transfers to the targeted beneficiaries, ensuring food consumption scores remain stable and or improve, ensuring that the Malawi social protection system, together with the humanitarian sector, contributes to assisting an emergency caseload as identified by the GoM (output 1.2). In addition, the draft social protection SOPs will be finalized, and key lessons learned from year 1 of the intervention will be institutionalised. Other important activities will also continue, including: the UBR analysis will be enhanced with costed options; the capacity and knowledge strengthening plan will be implemented in the form of evidence-based trainings for GoM staff; beneficiaries' individual agency will be strengthened through the support of civil society organizations; and all activities ensure that the social protection system is reviewed and updated in line with humanitarian response needs (output 1.1).
- To realize Outcome 2, the JP will build on the evidence produced and collected over the past years to support deepening the GoM's commitment to and support for social protection (output 2.2); to improve the GoM's capacity for social protection expenditures (output 2.3); and to support the drafting of a sustainable financing strategy that ensures the social protection system is less donor-reliant and more financially sustainable (output 2.1).
- To realize Outcome 3, following the initial consultation processes to define the scope and objectives of social protection in Malawi, additional consultations will result in a Policy Framework Document (PFD) which will complete the review of the NSSP, leading to an updated policy, and finally a draft legal framework. The updated NSSP will be disseminated to stakeholders after it is validated by the GoM. The JP will support the GoM to finalize, launch, and disseminate the SCTP strategy. This strategy combined with the updated NSSP will provide the foundation for developing the legal framework for social protection in Malawi by updating the scope and objectives for the social protection system (output 3.2) and ensuring that basic social protection measures are inclusive (output 3.3). A draft framework will be developed, and the JP will advocate for its adoption (output 3.1).
- Finally, all PUNOs will support the completion of the programme evaluation.

Towards the end of JP implementation

Present the expected final JP results and briefly explain how you plan to achieve them by the end of JP implementation. Indicate if you anticipate any further modifications to the overall JP.

Towards the end of 2021, the JP will have contributed to an adapted national social protection system in Malawi that meets emergency food needs with the humanitarian sector by having reduced fragmentation in social protection interventions during emergencies, and having stabilized or improved the food security of at least 5,000 beneficiaries as part of a government-led response.

The GoM will have increased its share of the social protection budget and will have undertaken measures to improve spending efficiency as the JP will have identified areas of investment, provided the GoM with the tools required to address investment gaps in the form of financial analyses and expert recommendations, and provided adequate evidence on the cost benefits of social protection systems.

Having built on the work of the NSSP review and analysis, the JP will have advocated for the adoption of the draft legal framework, resulting in a more comprehensive and integrated social protection system in Malawi.

Lastly, the PUNOs intend to have secured additional funding to build on the results achieved during this JP.

Risks and mitigation measures

Briefly present the main risks and associated mitigation measures as you move forward with implementation. Note that you will include an updated JP Risk Matrix in Annex 4, so this section should focus on the update of the overall Risk plan that you have in an annex of your JP doc.

The sustained capacity and interest of the GoM to lead and implement the programme and build on its results after it is concluded is of crucial importance. True ownership and leadership by the government is essential to ensure delivery of the activities of the JP and ensure that the JP's results have lasting impacts in the operational, financial, and legal capacity of the social protection system. Political support is crucial for the realization of the programmes' objectives and for long term sustainability of its outcomes. The JP has seen an understandable shift in priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic, and while workplans appear to be getting back on track, cases are rising once again in Malawi which could cause further delays. To mitigate these risks, the JP was designed from robust consultations with all key government stakeholders and is in alignment with nationally defined priorities and policies. The programmes' implementation will follow close engagement with national and district-level government counterparts.

Reaction of the broader development community: As this programme is laying the cornerstones for the transition of a donor-driven social protection sector toward nationally owned systems, the results of the development of the legal framework may require changes in priorities and areas of investment which may not match with donors' objectives and programmes. Moreover, shifts in operations of social protection instruments may meet resistance from development partners (DP) that are operating their own instruments to deliver their programmes. To mitigate these risks, the programme is engaging the donor and DP community, ensuring that programme delivery is aligned with national priorities, which are broadly supported by DPs.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose a risk to programme implementation. Travel restrictions and limitations on physical presence at gatherings including meetings and workshops can prevent the completion of activities requiring government consultation and participation. As cases are rising again, shifts in PUNO priorities to pandemic response could result in delays.

Misuse or abuse of cash transfers includes tampering with targeted beneficiaries' lists, mishandling of payments, or theft. To mitigate these risks the JP has based beneficiary selection in government systems, which includes elements of community consultation to minimize inclusion errors; delivery of payments will be closely monitored; and robust operational procedures enforced. As broader measures to reduce these risks, the JP will implement grievance and redress mechanisms, actively work with communities to strengthen individual agency, and pilot community monitoring tools.

Annex 1: Consolidated Annual Results

1. JP contribution to global programmatic results (annual)

Provide data for the Joint SDG Fund global results (as per targets defined in the JP document).

Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

List up to 3 main SDG targets that your Joint Programme primarily focused on in 2020

SDG: 1 No Poverty

SDG: 2 Zero Hunger

SDG: 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Global Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

1.1 Did your Joint Programme contribute to implementation of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerate SDG progress in terms of scope¹ in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: The JP supported CUCI, which contributed to a comprehensive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to the use of the social protection system in urban areas and the potential for expanded social protection coverage in the future. The policy review consultations contributed to a policy analysis that will lead to a comprehensive social protection policy.

1.2 Did your Joint Programme contribute to implementation of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerate SDG progress in terms of scale² in 2020? (if so, brief explanation)

Yes

No

Explain briefly: The JP supported CUCI, which contributed to a comprehensive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to emergency intervention in urban areas in addition to rural areas in 2020 and the potential for expanded social protection coverage in the future. The social protection system was used to respond to emergencies nationwide.

Global Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

1.3 Number of innovative solutions tested in 2020

Total number disaggregated by % successful and unsuccessful: 2 solutions; 100% successful

Provide the list: targeting and verification process in urban areas; the use of the social protection system during the LSR

Explain briefly: The JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the urban crisis cash response to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability which were likely be the most affected by the economic effects of COVID-19. For the LSR, instead of using the international humanitarian system to target and deliver additional assistance, the national social protection system is being strengthened and leveraged, meeting both chronic and acute needs in the future.

1.4 Number of integrated policy solutions implemented with the national partners in lead in 2020

Total number: 2

Provide the list: CUCI, LSR

¹Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

²Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

Explain briefly: CUCI responds to households' basic needs in terms of food, shelter, and health and can improve multiple outcomes in terms of SDGs; the LSR is led by the GoM and integrates the humanitarian and government systems.

1.5 Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: the government capacity strengthening initiative began in 2020 and will continue in 2021 via a needs-based online learning programme that will empower the GoM to effectively respond to economic and health crises in both urban and rural areas.

1.6 Did your Joint Programme develop a functioning partnership framework for integrated policy solutions to accelerate progress on SDGs in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: The JP had a catalytic role in linking with PROSPER activities and leveraging funding for other programmes working on similar initiatives.

2. Selected global performance indicators (annual)

Provide data for aggregation at the global level of the Joint SDG Fund.

2.1. Did your Joint Programme contribute to the improvement of overall UNCT coherence in 2020?

Yes, considerably contributed

Yes, contributed

No

Explain briefly: The JP built on existing strong coordination between the PUNOs.

2.2. Did your Joint Programme contribute to reduced transaction costs for participating UN agencies in their interaction with national/regional and local authorities and/or public entities compared to other Joint Programmes?

Yes,

No

N/A (if there are no other joint programmes in the country)

Explain briefly: The measure is unclear.

2.3. Was your Joint Programme aligned with the UNCT Results Groups in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly:

2.4. Did your Joint Programme secure additional funding resources in 2020?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: However, the JP compliments another JP (PROSPER) which did secure additional funding.

3. Results as per JP Results Framework (annual)

Present annual JP results in the following template

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected 2020 target	2020 Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected 2021 target	Expected final target (if different from 2021)
Outcome 1: Malawi Social Protection System is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector						
1.1 Percentage of targeted households with borderline to acceptable food consumption (FCS), disaggregated by age, and sex,	Baseline analysis being finalized, results to be available first week of Jan	60%	First round of distributions finalizing (Dec 2020), PDM to be done in early 2021		80%	
1.2 Percentage of targeted households not engaged in negative coping strategies (rCSI), disaggregated by age, and sex	Baseline analysis being finalized, results to be available first week of Jan	60%	First round of distributions finalizing (Dec 2020), PDM to be done in early 2021		70%	
1.3 Percentage of targeted households not engaged in livelihoods-based coping strategies, disaggregated by age, and sex (Livelihood coping strategy index (ICSI).)	Baseline analysis being finalized, results to be available first week of Jan	60%	First round of distributions finalizing (Dec 2020), PDM to be done in early 2021		70%	
1.4 Proportion of households identified to receive emergency food assistance (IPC-based) served via government social protection channels	72%	n/a	18%		90%	
OUTPUT 1.1: Social protection system is reviewed and updated in line with humanitarian response needs						
1.1.1 Percentage completed of operational guidance informing how the social protection system can be used with the humanitarian sector to address emergency needs	30%	50%	50%		100%	
OUTPUT 1.2: The Malawi social protection system, together with the humanitarian sector, contributes to assisting an emergency caseload as identified by the Malawi government						
1.2.1 Proportion of target beneficiaries to receive emergency food assistance reached through government social protection	n/a	95%	Distributions finalising, results to be		95%	

channels disaggregated by age, and sex, as a % of planned			available first week of Jan			
1.2.2 Proportion of cash transferred to targeted beneficiaries disaggregated by age, and sex, as % of planned,	n/a	95%	Distributions finalising, results to be available first week of Jan		95%	
Outcome 2: Malawi Government increases its share of the social protection budget and undertakes measures to improve efficiency of spending						
2.1: Percentage Share of Government Contribution to Social Protection Programmes	7%	10%	7.7%		10%	
Output 2.1: Malawi Government Social Protection Financing Strategy Finalized and Informing Domestic Funding.						
2.1.1 Social Protection Financing Strategy Finalized.	0%	50%	35%		100%	
Output 2.2: Malawi Government has Improved Knowledge and Commitment to Invest in Social Protection						
2.2.1: Proportion of total transfer value going to beneficiaries in relation to total programme costs	15%	10%	15%		8%	
Output 2.3: Malawi Government has Improved Capacity for Social Protection Expenditure						
2.3.1: Proportion of Social Protection Payments delivered through Harmonized Payment System by sex	7%	15%	7.4%		50%	
Outcome 3: Malawi Social Protection System is more comprehensive and integrated.						
3.1: Percentage of population with legal coverage under the draft SP legal framework, by age, sex and persons with disabilities	TBD June 2021	0	0		50%	
Output 3.1: Malawi has a comprehensive social protection Draft Legal Framework agreed by all stakeholders						
3.1.1: Social Protection Draft Legal Framework Developed	0	30%	25%		100%	
Output 3.2: Malawi has updated the scope and objectives for the Social Protection System						
3.2.1: Social Protection scope and objectives revised and updated	0	100%	70%	Review process suffered some delays due to C19 pandemic, but activities toward this target are expected to be concluded in Q1/2021.	100%	
Output 3.3: The basic Social Protection measures are defined to respond to the needs of all men, women, boys and girls						
3.3.1: Basic Social Protection Instruments and Measures Defined	0	60%	45%	Review process suffered some delays due to C19	100%	

				pandemic, but activities toward this target are expected to be concluded between Q2 and Q3 2021.		
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Annex 2: List of strategic documents

Complete the tables below by focusing on documents that are of strategic importance for the JP results and for the priorities of this Joint SDG Fund portfolio.

Strategic documents that were produced by the JP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
Targeting verification tools	10/20	The JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the CUCI to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability which were likely be the most affected by the economic effects of COVID-19
Nationwide radio programmes scripts	11/20	Radio programmes were aired for 12 weeks on social protection processes, vulnerability analyses, and emergency response (LSR)
Financing and Expenditure Brief	12/20	Provides an analysis of the financing trends in social protection in Malawi over the past four fiscal years to identify the specific issues affecting social protection financing in the country, looking at both on- and off-budget resources for the four social protection programmes (when data allowed).
Budget Brief	12/20	Produced yearly to analyse the sector funding, based on on-budget resources, and provide recommendations on key issues pertaining to sector financing, budget execution, and sustainability.
Fiscal Space Analysis	12/20	Examined sector financing from the point of view of sustainable financing and the feasibility of increasing own resource coverage for social protection in Malawi, reducing donor dependency.
NSSP Review Inception Report	11/20	The report is a basis for the initial work that precedes the updated NSSP. It sets out the approach and activities to be executed in order to develop a draft policy framework document that translates into a new/updated policy. The JP funded and provided technical input into the document.

Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
2019 Lean Season Response After Action Review	08/20	Support to the government to document the use of the social protection system during the 2020/21 LSR

CUCI Implementation Guidelines	10/20	The PUNOs input into the implementation of the national implementation guidelines for the CUCI
SRSP SOPs	11/20	WFP drafted SOPs to enable the social protection system to be leveraged during the 2020/21 LSR, including in coordination with a retargeting exercise of a key social assistance programme
District-specific communication and sensitization package	11/20	Tailored messaging for use in posters, mobile vans, district radio, and face to face meetings on social protection and emergency response
SCTP Strategy	12/20	The strategy is a 5-year plan that shapes the SCTP. The government is leading the process through the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare. The JP is providing technical input to the document.

Annex 3: Strategic communication results

Provide the responses to the questions below with data for the last year overall.

3.1. Have you created a strategic communication plan for the Joint Programme?

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly: The communication plan has been updated several times over the course of the first year of the JP. It will again be updated to align with strategic engagement opportunities in Year 2.

3.2. What percentage of the annual budget towards communications was utilized from the total budget? (Note that the entire JP comms budget must be min 5% of the total JP budget)

Explain briefly: 1.2%

3.3. Have visibility outcomes increased due to the provided funding for JP strategic communications?

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly: The JP has developed several key communication materials.

3.4. Does the Country Profile Page on the Joint SDG Fund website contribute to your JP outreach?

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly: The link is used when communicating with partners.

3.5. How many articles (interviews, human interest stories, press releases, expert insights, etc) about your JP were published by an external media outlet (Non-UN published)?

Total number: 0

Explain briefly: No articles or press releases were submitted to external media outlets in 2020 due to the timing of the election and sensitivity of publicly reporting on social protection before the GoM determined their COVID-19 response.

3.6. How many articles (interviews, human interest stories, press releases, expert insights, etc) about the Joint Programme were published by the UNCT and JP PUNOs?

Total number: 3

Explain briefly: 3 articles on the UNICEF Malawi site, plus one video uploaded to the WFP Malawi YouTube channel

3.7. Have you received an increase of social media followers?

- Yes
- No

Total number: (Not mandatory)

Explain briefly: TBD

Multi-Media Faucets

Complete the table by focusing on most important strategic communication documents (factsheets, promotional materials, infographics, videos, etc.). Provide hyperlinks when possible.

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
Social Protection for the Sustainable Development Goals Programme Video	07/20	Intro video to the programme for broad communication, available here
Fact Sheet: Joint SDG Fund	03/20	Fact sheet on the Joint SDG Fund for a Malawi development community/GoM audience, available here
Fact Sheet: Social Protection for the SDGs (SP4SDG) Joint Programme	03/20	Fact sheet on the JP available here and here
SP4SDG Programme Component Infographic	03/20	Infographic depicting the 3 programme components; available here and here
Social Protection advocacy E-Newsletter	04/20	Distributed via mailchimp, portions are available here

Social Media Campaigns

Complete the table by focusing on the highest social media impressions or campaigns. Provide hyperlinks when possible.

Title of the document	Type (FB/Twitter/LinkedIn/Etc.)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
Did You Know campaign	Twitter	To promote advocacy on social protection messaging
Myths campaign	Twitter	To challenge commonly held negative myths about social protection
August series	Twitter/FB	To communicate widely on SRSP
October series	Twitter/FB	To communicate widely on social protection systems

Annex 4: Updated JP Risk Management Matrix

Update the table from your JP document with the most recent analysis of risks and corresponding mitigation measures. This should support the narrative update provided in part C above.

Risks	Risk Level	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person

Contextual risks					
Socio-economic conditions do not remain in a positive or stable trend over the long term	Medium (6)	Unlikely - 2	Moderate - 3	Continuous support government in innovative financing options and build the investment case for SP in times of crisis	UNICEF/ILO
Discontinued government and political endorsement of social protection, including SRSP	High (5)	Rare - 1	Extreme - 5	Efforts to increase political parties' commitment; Advocacy and engagement with political stakeholders throughout the programme implementation	RCO & PUNOs
Donors lose interest and reduce/stop support for humanitarian and social protection assistance, including SRSP	Medium (4)	Rare - 1	Major - 4	Include DPs and donors in the process and activities of the programme	RCO & PUNOs
Lean season emergency food need is not identified	Low (2)	Rare - 1	Minor - 2	Identify alternative Cash+ interventions that build resilience and preparedness against future shocks	WFP
COVID-19 pandemic severely effects in Malawi	High (5)	Likely (3)	Extreme - 5	Reassess and feasibility of activities; adapt or postpone as needed.	RCO & PUNOs
Rising political tensions result in increased violence	High (5)	Unlikely - 2	Moderate - 3	Adapt programme activities to any movement restrictions and inability to engage the government in certain activities; potential activity postponement.	RCO & PUNOs
Programmatic risks					

Government does not lead the process and truly own its results and products	High (10)	Unlikely - 2	Extreme - 5	Continuous engagement with political actors in the government and parliament - Leverage in ongoing capacity building efforts for coordination and leadership for government officials in social protection	RCO & PUNOs
Government officials are not available and willing to work with the programme in its implementation	Medium (8)	Unlikely - 2	Major - 4	Ensure programme is reflecting national objectives, priorities, operational capacities	RCO & PUNOs
Underlying social protection systems (e.g. MIS) experience failures or significant constraints, impeding that the systems function as normal	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Strategic engagement with stakeholders and the government to maintain and continue the development of existing systems	RCO & PUNOs
DPs and implementation partners do not support the process of integration of social protection at policy, programmatic, or at operational levels	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Include DPs and donors in the process and activities of the programme	RCO & PUNOs
Donors and development partners reject the programme and do not support its development	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Include DPs and donors in the process and activities of the programme	RCO & PUNOs

There is insufficient or no cooperation from the many different actors in the sector to provide information and inputs to the different stages of the process	Medium (3)	Unlikely - 2	Major - 4	Engage closely with stakeholders to ensure understanding, ownership and support of the process, and plan in advance for delays and challenges in accessing information on implementation of SP - leverage on work on PER and costing of MNSSP II IP	RCO & PUNOs
Institutional risks					
The programme's implementation brings reputational damage to the UN and/or PUNOs	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Programme is grounded in UN principles including the principles of non-discrimination (including the principle of gender equality), transparency, accountability and participation, and are closely aligned to international instruments, and with national priorities, such as the MGD III and MNSSP II;	RCO & PUNOs
Fiduciary risks					
Misuse and abuse of funds of cash transfers, by service providers, local stakeholders, or opportunistic individuals	High (8)	Unlikely - 2	Major - 4	Programme implementation to follow best practices in transparency, accountability and participation; use of robust monitoring mechanisms for delivery of payments; Close cooperation with local authorities and stakeholders to ensure on-the-ground awareness and transparency; Leverage the ongoing work on payment solutions modelling towards better inclusion of the private sector service providers	RCO & PUNOs

