

Joint SDG Fund

PORTOFOLIO ON INTEGRATED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LNOB

Joint Programme 2020 Annual Progress Report

Cover page

Country: Thailand

Joint Programme title: Accelerating progress towards an integrated and modernized Social Protection System for All in Thailand

Short title: UNJP on Social Protection for All in Thailand

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Budget (Joint SDG Fund contribution): USD 1,999,816.00

Overall budget (with co-funding): USD 2,661,816.00

Annual Financial Delivery Rate (= Total JP expenditures / transferred funds x 100%): 42%

Rate of Committed Funding (= Total JP commitments / transferred funds x 100%): 76%

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

The United Nations Joint Programme (UNJP) on Social Protection for All in Thailand, funded by the Joint SDG Fund, is a collaboration between the Royal Thai Government and UN agencies – ILO, IOM, UNICEF, and UN Women – in Thailand. The main strategy of Joint Programme (JP) is to enhance and integrate the country's social protection system, and to scale up and ensure coverage for all, especially for the more vulnerable groups, such as children, elders, informal workers, migrant workers, and people with disabilities. By bringing together the expertise and the contact points of different government agencies who have decades of experience on implementation, the UN system in Thailand can act as a catalyst to promote a more integrated approach. The JP comprises three interrelated and independent expected results: 1) integrated policy solutions developed following a review of the social protection system, 2) scale up of coverage of the Child Support Grant through evidence generation, technical support on the Management Information System (MIS) and communication strategies, and 3) provide policy options to ensure a more effective coverage of domestic workers, including migrants, within the existing social security schemes, are designed and tested. At the end of the two years of implementation, it is expected that Thailand will move forward towards a more integrated social protection system that ensures coherence, effectiveness and efficiency and is scaled up particularly for groups until now being left behind in the social protection system.

Executive summary

Outcome 1: Develop integrated policy solutions following a review of the social protection system

Despite the implementation challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the initial months, the Joint Programme (JP) has adapted its approach and made significant progress since May 2020 with the improved COVID-19 situation in Thailand. The key activity achieved was the start of the Social Protection Diagnostic Review (SPDR) based on the Concept Note approved by the Royal Thai Government (RTG) in Q1 and commissioned to Oxford Policy Management (OPM) in September 2020. OPM is also developing three of the four background papers, namely Background Papers on Migrant Workers, Gender, and Informal Economy. The fourth Background Paper on Pension has been conducted by another external collaborator, Mr. Charles Knox-Vydmanov. These research papers will assess the current situation of the country's social protection system, as well as level of accessibility, key challenges, and gaps in policy and implementation levels for each sector. The background papers will also provide feasible reform options based on the reviews and analysis of national and international best practices. OPM began the review of existing data and evidence as part of the mapping exercise of social protection and poverty/vulnerability analysis and completed the inception report for the SPDR and three background papers in early November 2020. This was followed by an Inception Report Workshop organized on 17 November 2020 which brought together 40 government stakeholders and relevant organizations including the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Ministry of Labour, Social Security Office, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council, Fiscal Policy Office, and Bank of Thailand, to discuss the inception report and the direction of the research as well as to gather inputs and validate some of the critical preliminary findings.

To complete the SPDR, researchers will need to conduct a social budgeting forecast exercise to understand the short- and long-term quantitative aspects of the social protection system. Therefore, the JP collaborated with the ILO International Training Centre (ITC) to adapt the global social budgeting course for Thailand, and invited the different partnered government agencies to send representatives to attend a virtual tailor-made Social Budgeting Course, a 12-weekly sessions commenced in October 2020 and ended in December 2020. As part of the exercise, 15 participants used real data consolidated from each government agency to create social budgeting projections and forecasts that will be used to support the SPDR.

Outcome 2: Scale up coverage of Child Support Grant from 700,000 children to 2 million children

The RTG took a giant leap forward in the expansion of Child Support Grant (CSG) towards the realization of a universal approach. An important decision was made by the National Child and Youth Committee (NCYC) when it fully endorsed the Universal CSG proposal in September 2020. This would extend the number of eligible children (under 6 years old) who will benefit from the CSG from the current target of 2 million children to over 4 million children, and will contribute in addressing exclusions of vulnerable children caused by the current income-based targeting if approved by the cabinet in 2021. The Department of Child and Youth (DCY) is moving ahead in improving the access and delivery of the CSG, as a key priority area of this outcome with particular focus on upgrading the Management Information System (MIS) and communication of the CSG. Following the JP's participatory and comprehensive assessment of the current MIS of CSG, DCY expressed its commitment in rolling out the key recommendations in 2021 to strengthen the MIS functionalities and efforts to streamline the operational processes to register, manage and monitor the delivery of the CSG. The communication strategy for CSG is expected to be finalized for implementation by early 2021, and will lead to increase coverage, minimize exclusion, and help the government to communicate changes in policies, including for the universal CSG.

Outcome 3: Policy options to ensure effective coverage for domestic workers, including migrants, within the existing social security schemes are designed and tested

The Terms of Reference (TOR) for conducting a policy assessment on domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers' access to the social security schemes, is being developed. The selection of a consultancy firm to provide this assessment will be initiated in January 2021. In preparation for the communications campaign that will build on the recommendations of this policy assessment, a communication strategy is also being developed, to be finalized in Q1, 2021. The communications campaign will aim to promote the adoption of proposed policy solutions to enhance the inclusion of domestic workers and migrant domestic workers into the existing social security schemes.

A. Annual Progress

A.1 The overall approach

Broader context and JP changes

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the Thai economy, which contracted by at least by 7.8 per cent in 2020 according to the Bank of Thailand. COVID-19 and mitigation measures had significant impact on the implementation of the JP's activities in 2020, causing delay to the process and posing challenges to conduct missions, interviews, or any fieldwork. In March 2020, foreseeing that COVID-19 will worsen the economy, the JP took a proactive approach and jointly produced a policy note with several recommendations, among others, to top-up existing cash transfer programmes as a short-term emergency relief. The team mobilized advocacy at the highest level to drive implementation, including a meeting with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) for endorsement and submitted the recommendations directly to the Prime Minister's Office and key Ministers on March 30. The RTG's decision on June 18 to approve monthly payments of THB1,000 (approximately US\$32) for three months on top of existing social protection programmes was a welcome move in a critical time. The recipients include beneficiaries of the Child Support Grant, Disability Grant, Old Age Allowance, and State Welfare Card programme who were not eligible to receive other COVID-19 related financial support. The top-up financial handouts eventually helped over 8 million people in dire need of financial assistance, contributing to the sustained survival of the country's most vulnerable groups in a very difficult situation.

Those sectors which employ large numbers of migrant workers were among those most affected by the pandemic. While migrant workers employed in the formal sector were able to access unemployment benefits provided under the Social Security Fund, many migrant workers were barred from enrolment because of their employment in the informal sector and/or their irregular migration status. However, migrant workers in informal employment – including domestic work, agriculture, forestry and livestock farming – are indeed eligible to enrol in the Migrant Health Insurance Scheme, but coverage is limited to health care, and costs (paid by the worker themselves) can be a deterrent. Unemployment benefits notwithstanding, many migrant workers are eligible for social protection coverage by law, but they often face significant obstacles to accessing it in practice. Such obstacles include language barriers, lack of information and awareness on available schemes, poor enforcement and compliance including among employers, fear of stigmatization and engagement with authorities (notably deportation for those with irregular migrant status), as well as lack of portability of social protection. These obstacles have only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the attendant socio-economic impact on migrant workers, further fuelling the need for increased social protection. In this context, the SPDR and development of the Background Paper on Migrant Workers ("Access to Social Protection for Migrant Workers and Their Families in Thailand") is critical in providing evidence-based policy recommendations for a more inclusive, integrated, coherent and sustainable social protection system. The Background Paper on Migrant Workers, to be finalized in Q1 2021, will assess the current situation of social protection for migrants and their families in Thailand, including level of access to the existing social protection programmes and their benefits, as well as key challenges, barriers and gaps at policy and implementation levels; the paper will also suggest feasible reform options based on an extensive review and analysis of the national context and international good practices towards a more inclusive social protection system for migrants.

Key findings from studies and surveys conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) and Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), with JP's support, highlighted that families with young children are among the most affected by COVID-19 due to increased expenditure and reduced income. As a result, some families fell into poverty, although they were not eligible to receive the poverty-targeted Child Support Grant.

Ensuring that JP remains strategic and catalytic

The JP closely supported the socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19, specifically on the sectoral analysis on social protection. The socio-economic impact assessment is a key pillar of background documents of the Common Country Assessment, guiding the new Cooperation Framework.

Although the COVID-19 situation is well controlled by the government, most of the activities have been delayed by approximately six months. To ensure programme implementation despite delays, the JP focused on activities that did not require travel or face-to-face interactions and worked to further promote the social protection reforms and to advocate for those vulnerable groups who are most affected by the pandemic, especially children, the elderly, those working in the informal sector, and low-income families with children through the expansion of the Child Support Grant. As most meetings, events and workshops have been delayed or postponed to 2021, the JP moved around 15% of the overall budget – mainly on communication activities under all Outcomes – to 2021.

The JP is well-aligned with the United Nations Socio-Economic Recovery Plan (SERP) in Thailand, as the JP's Outcomes directly address the needs of the most vulnerable groups, such as children, the elderly, informal workers, and migrant workers including migrant domestic workers, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Where the SERP emphasizes social protection based on the socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19, including a chapter dedicated to poverty and social protection, the JP also points to the importance of extending social protection based on the evidence gathered from the SPDR and other evidence generated under the JP. The JP will continue advocating and advising the Government, through its technical expertise and consultations with civil society and domestic workers groups, on ways to improve access and coverage for domestic workers.

A.2 Update on priority issues

SDG acceleration

- Towards the end of the two years of implementation, the JP expects that Thailand will have a more integrated social protection system that ensures coherence, effectiveness and efficiency, and inclusion, and scaled up its social protection system to cover groups that until now are still being left behind, improving the income of the bottom 40 percent of the population (SDG 10.1).
- Once the SPDR is completed and recommendations adopted by the RTG, the policies on social protection will be revised and harmonized to ensure full coverage along the life cycle, ensuring that the social protection system functions in an effective and efficient manner and contribute to the acceleration of achievement of indicators under SDG 1.3.
- The expansion of the CSG, if approved by the cabinet in 2021, will directly contribute to the expansion of social protection under SDG target 1.3, and also contribute to acceleration of child-related SDGs, including on nutrition (target 2.2), early childhood development (target 4.2) and gender equality (target 5.4).
- Following the completion of the Background Paper on Migrant Workers in February 2021, the JP will conduct consultation workshops with key stakeholders to advocate for the inclusion of social protection for migrant workers. The JP will also carry out a policy assessment to advocate for access and coverage of social protection schemes for domestic workers specifically (both Thais and migrants), by identifying challenges and barriers and designing policy options and innovative approaches to enhance gender-responsive and migrant-inclusive social protection schemes. This aims to ensure that the social protection schemes are more equitable and offer maximized potential for the achievement of SDG 10.1 and related SDGs. These include recognizing and valuing unpaid care and domestic work through the

provision of social protection policies (target 5.4) as well as protecting labour rights and promoting a safe and secure working environment for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants and those in precarious environments (target 8.8).

Vulnerable groups

- As part of the research development of the SPDR and Background Papers on Migrant Workers, Gender, Informal Economy and Pension, the JP has directly engaged with over 200 key stakeholders through the SPDR inception workshop (40), social budgeting course (15), Child Support Grant MIS assessment workshop (35), consultation and progress update meetings (60), key informant interviews (KIIs) and data collection (50). The stakeholders include high-level and technical-level government officials, representatives of employers' and workers' organizations, civil society organizations' representatives, migrant workers, and several leading experts and academics. The JP's activities directly influence the stakeholders' understanding of the importance of social protection and coverage for all, leading to incremental changes in the policy directions, strategies, and implementations.
- The JP's joint policy note recommending top-up to the existing cash transfer programmes as a short-term economic emergency relief for COVID-19 directly reached over 8 million people who were in dire financial situation and the most vulnerable groups, including children, elderlies, people with disabilities, and those with very low-income (those under the State Welfare Card programme). The cash transfer programmes, and top-up relief indirectly raise awareness amongst all Thais of the importance of the social protection system and the benefits of joining the social security schemes.
- Child Support Grant now reaches 1.8 million vulnerable children under the age of six, but following the UN and the JP's advocacy, technical support and partnerships, the National Child and Youth Committee (NCYC) has endorsed a Universal Child Support Grant proposal in September 2020 that would extend coverage to over 4 million children if approved by the cabinet in 2021.
- As part of the development of the Background Paper on Migrant Workers, the JP has provided indirect support to migrant workers by engaging with 23 stakeholders through KIIs and data collection. These interventions were conducted to identify levels of access, challenges and the needs of migrant workers towards providing an evidence-based study to mainstream migration into the SPDR and generating a set of policy recommendations for a more inclusive, integrated and coherent system, that takes into account the specific needs of migrant workers. These stakeholders included: two relevant government agencies implementing social protection schemes for which migrant workers are eligible, namely the Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Public Health; one hospital implementing Migrant Health Insurance; 13 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) working with migrant workers employed in domestic work, construction, manufacturing, agriculture and fishery, *inter alia*; one employers' organization; one workers' organization; one academia representative; and two UN agencies. In addition, KIIs were also conducted with two migrant domestic workers, allowing the JP to have direct information from beneficiaries and learn from their knowledge on social protection, challenges, and needs.
- Total number of individuals that were reached through the JP's efforts in 2020:
 - o 200 key stakeholders
 - o 1.8 million poor and near-poor children
- Total number expected to reach by the end of the programme:
 - o Over 350 key stakeholders
 - o 4 million children
 - o 13 million of people aged 60 and older
 - o 2 million people with disabilities
 - o Approximately 100,000 domestic workers (of whom 50,000 are migrant domestic workers)
 - o 25 million informal workers

Gender marker

- Understanding that gender is an important element of the SPDR, the JP commissioned OPM to develop a background paper specific to gender issues. The “Gender Impact Assessment of the Social Protection System in Thailand”, or the Background Paper on Gender, is a gender analysis of the Thai social protection system that will assess the access to, and effectiveness of, social protection for women and girls. The paper will also identify barriers to promoting gender equality and women/girls’ empowerment through social protection and provide recommendations to improve the gender-sensitive and gender-responsive social protection policies in Thailand.
- The analysis of the Background Paper on Gender will include literature reviews, KIIs and data collection in consultation with the JP and the MSDHS. The KIIs will include several relevant government agencies, gender, and women experts, NGO/CSOs, and academics engaged in gender issues and the social protection system. The paper will focus on the integration of gender equality and gendered needs in design and implementation as well as governance using the life-cycle approach to assess impact on women and girls across the life’s course. The JP expects to receive the draft from OPM in January 2021 and the complete report in February 2021.

Human rights

- By design, the JP’s SPDR will draw upon relevant human rights analysis, and develop strategies to address human rights issues throughout the research process, when dealing with groups such as migrant workers and stateless persons. The use of International Recommendations such as ILO C102 – Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102), R202 - Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202) and the ILO Decent Work Agenda and its strategic objectives on employment, social security, social dialogue and fundamental principles and rights at work, as well as the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM), in particular objective 15 (to provide access to basic services for migrants) and objective 16 (to empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion) will be used as guidelines for the assessment.
- The JP’s advocacy for the social protection coverage for domestic workers, including migrants, and the push for universal Child Support Grant are underpinned by the human rights and child rights principles, to realize the universal rights to social protection and income security.

Partnerships

- The JP has established a strong partnership with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS), the RTG’s main focal point for the implementation of the programme, and ensured regular consultation with the working team to advance the programme’s activities and implementation. In 2020, the JP, in close collaboration with the MSDHS, successfully organized:
 - o A Workshop on the Discussions on Social Protection System in Thailand to validate the concept note of the SPDR chaired by the MSDHS’s Permanent Secretary in January 2020.
 - o The first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting chaired by the MSDHS’s Permanent Secretary and UN Resident Coordinator in August 2020 to discuss the programme’s progress and further plans. As a result of this PSC meeting, the PSC members agreed in principle to establish Advisory Committees to provide technical guidance on achieving the JP’s outcomes.
 - o The Inception Workshop in November 2020 to validate the SPDR inception report and background papers chaired by the MSDHS’s Deputy Permanent Secretary; and
 - o Bimonthly progress update meetings with the MSDHS’ focal point and working team to update the JP’s progress and discuss project activities and events.
- To promote integrated policy solutions for the SPDR and Background Papers, the JP also engaged with over 200 key stakeholders, including ministries, departments and governmental organizations responsible for Thailand’s social protection schemes, through consultation meetings, data collection, information exchange, and KIIs. These included, among others, the MSDHS (Department of Children and Youth, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Department of Women’s Affairs

and Families Development, Department of Older Persons, and Department of Social Development and Welfare), the Ministry of Labour (Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Department of Employment, and the Social Security Office), the Ministry of Public Health (Division of Health Economics and Health Security), the Ministry of Finance (Fiscal Policy Office and Comptroller General Office), the Office of National Economic and Social Development Council, and the Bank of Thailand. Through the activities and meetings implemented in 2020, the JP also engaged with employers' organizations, trade unions, NGOs and CSOs, as well as academics to ensure that the policy solutions derived from the SPDR and Background Papers fully reflect realities on the ground.

- To advocate for the universal Child Support Grant (CSG), the JP developed strong partnership with the Department of Child and Youth (DCY), MSDHS, to enable steady progress on the universal CSG, commitment to upgrade the CSG's MIS, and development of the communication strategy to improve access to the CSG. Key partnership established with Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI) has been the basis for delivering Outcome 2, including the expansion of the CSG and the study of the CSG links to other services.

Strategic meetings

Type of event	Yes	No	Comments
JP launch event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>The event was postponed to April-May 2021 due to a schedule conflict of the key ministers and heads of UN agencies in 2020 and recurring of COVID-19 cases in Dec 2020 and Jan 2021.</i>
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>The event postponed to April 2021 will include donor representatives.</i>

Innovation, learning and sharing

- As elaborated in the JP project document, discussion with the RTG ministries highlighted an interest and need for a review of the current social protection system with learning plans based on two complimentary methodologies:
 1. The Social Protection System Diagnosis Review (SPDR) applied an adapted version of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Social Protection System Review (SPSR) framework (in lieu of the initially planned Assessment Based National Dialogue). The OECD framework covers five elements of the social protection system: need; coverage; effectiveness; sustainability; and coherence.
 2. Targeted research and Background Papers on Migrant Workers, Gender, Informal Economy and Pension, complemented the SPDR in the in-depth analysis of vulnerable groups with limited or no access to social protection schemes, such as migrant workers. The assessment matrix was identified, and the Inception Report finalized. Data collection and KIIs with government agencies, employers' and workers' organizations, academics, NGOs and CSOs completed in 2020, with findings and recommendations slated to be finalized in Q1 2021.
- In the case of improvements to the CSG's MIS, technological innovation was an important factor that helped to strengthen the system. The MIS consultants were recruited to identify the latest technologies to leverage technological innovation from experiences within Thailand and from around the world to ensure that the system facilitates the operational processes of the CSG.

Strategic communications

- The JP uses two channels to promote strategic communications and advocacy with key audiences to promote integrated policy solutions of the SDPR and Background Papers: consultative meetings with relevant government agencies as well as through civil society and media.
- In 2020, JP engaged with over 200 key stakeholders, including ministries, departments, and governmental organizations responsible for Thailand's social protection schemes, through consultation

meetings, data collection, information exchange, and KIIs. The JP also engaged with employers' organizations, trade unions, NGOs and CSOs, as well as academics to gain beneficiaries' perspectives and ensure that the policy solutions derived from the SPDR and Background Papers fully reflect realities on the ground

- The JP developed three Op-Eds to provide insights and raise awareness among public opinion in ensuring social protection for all amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
- More communication campaigns to encourage implementation of policy change, and to integrate and strengthen the social protection system according to the recommendations from the SPDR and Background Papers will be implemented in 2021.

B. Annual Results

Overall progress

- 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 challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic in the early months of 2020, the JP has adapted its approach and made progress with satisfactory results, amid delays of many activities including the launch event, consultation workshops, communication activities, and the development of the SPDR and Background Papers which initially scheduled to be completed within 2020.

JP Outputs and Outcomes

Outcome 1: Integrated policy solutions developed following a review of the SP system

Achievements: A key activity under Outcome 1 is to support the RTG in carrying out the Social Protection Diagnostic Review (SPDR), a comprehensive review of the social protection system in Thailand, along with Background Papers on Pension, Migrant Workers, Gender and Informal Economy. Oxford Policy Management (OPM) has been commissioned to conduct the SPDR and three background papers (Migrant Workers, Gender and Informal Economy), in close consultation with the JP; as of December 2020, 200 stakeholders from various sectors including relevant government agencies, employers' and workers' organizations, NGOs and CSOs have been consulted for data collection and KIIs. The SPDR and background papers are expected to be completed in Q1, 2021 and would collectively propose a common framework and definition of social protection, review existing social protection schemes and address challenges, and make a set of policy recommendations towards a more inclusive, integrated and coherent system, including the fiscal implications through social budgeting exercises.

- **Output 1.1: Policy and seminars held to foster dialogue on strategic directions for SP in Thailand**
 - o The JP held its first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting in August 2020 chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) and the UN Resident Coordinator in Thailand. The PSC members comprised high-level representatives of relevant ministries and government agencies (i.e. MSDHS, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Public Health, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council, etc.) as well as members of the academia. The objective of the meeting is to ensure that all related government agencies were aware of the project's objectives, implementation, and direction, and to review the programme's progress on the SPDR and background papers and the project's progress and activities.
 - o As part of the SPDR, researchers would need to collect quantitative data from the different government agencies and conduct a social budgeting forecast exercise to understand the short- and long-term quantitative aspects of the social protection systems. The JP worked with the ILO International Training Centre (ITC) to create a tailor-made social budgeting course conducted completely online, and took this opportunity to engage the different partnered government agencies in sending representatives to attend a virtual Social Budgeting Course

and used real data consolidated from each agency to create social budgeting forecasts to support the SPDR. The JP invited a total of 15 participants comprised of technical specialists working in the areas of social protection, social budgeting and welfare, and social policy development from the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Social Security Office, the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council, the Fiscal Policy Office, and the Bank of Thailand to participate in the 12-weekly sessions online, held during October to December 2020.

- In November 2020, the SPDR Inception Report Workshop was held with 40 participants from several government counterparts and relevant organizations, including the MSDHS, Ministry of Labour, Social Security Office, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council, Fiscal Policy Office, Bank of Thailand, several university academics, and with the research team acting as facilitators. Researchers presented the country's social protection mapping, conducted exercises, posted questions to gather input from participants, and some preliminary findings were subsequently validated.
 - In November 2020, the JP requested a meeting with over 30 high-level and technical officials from different departments of the Ministry of Labour, including the Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Department of Employment, and the Social Security Office, to conduct KIIs, discuss labour issues in relation to the social protection system, and work towards gathering information and data for the SPDR and Background Papers on Migrant Workers, Gender and Informal Workers.
- **Output 1.2: Public Advocacy on the importance of Social Protection is increased, including among the public opinion**
- Implementation in 2021.
- **Output 1.3: A comprehensive review of the social protection system followed by policy recommendations towards a more inclusive, integrated, and coherent system.**
- In Q1, before the COVID-19 pandemic, the JP made significant progress setting up the foundations for one of its main outcomes, the Social Protection Diagnostic Review (SPDR), by developing a solid Concept Note (CN) which outlines the background of the process, the governance mechanisms, expected results and work plan. A consultant was recruited for the development of the CN through a participatory process with a series of consultations with various ministries and departments involved in social protection (i.e. MSDHS, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council, Ministry of Labour, etc.), the UNRC and UN partner agencies. A workshop was organized with the Permanent Secretary of MSDHS to validate the findings from the mission. The CN was further revised and adjusted for the implications of COVID-19. The socio-economic impact of COVID19 highlighted the need for better coordination of different schemes and Ministries and strengthening the linkages between contributory and non-contributory social protection systems. The CN will support to fill the gaps identified during COVID19 response.
 - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SPDR process took longer than anticipated with government counterparts focused on emergency measures leading to delays in discussions through July 2020. Considering the significance of this study, the RTG re-emphasized the importance of quickly delivering the results and findings of the SPDR to create further policy dialogues based on the study's recommendations to improve and reform the country's social protection systems. To comply with this urgency, the JP finalized the Terms of Reference (TOR) and commissioned OPM to deliver the SPDR and three background papers; OPM had previously conducted the Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 Assessment for the UN Country Team in Thailand allowing the JP to capitalize on the work already completed by OPM, including on the poverty assessment, microsimulations mechanisms, and a preliminary introduction to the social protection mechanisms. The SPDR and background papers are expected to be completed in Q1 2021 and would propose a common framework and definition of social protection, review existing social protection schemes and address challenges, and make a set of policy

recommendations towards a more inclusive, integrated and coherent system, including the fiscal implications through social budgeting exercises.

- As of end of 2020, OPM has conducted some 200 KIIs with relevant government agencies, employers' and workers' organizations, academics and NGOs and CSOs, and is working on the first draft of the SPDR and background papers to be submitted to the JP by January 2021.
 - The JP held several progress update meetings with the MSDHS, its government focal counterpart, to update on the JP's progress and to agree on the next steps of SPDR implementation. The JP has developed an action plan for Q1 2021 that includes consultation workshops and a visioning exercise based on the findings and recommendations of the SPDR and background papers. The MSDHS also supported conducting a high-level event in April 2021 to present the final SPDR and background papers.
- **Output 1.4: National Social Protection Policy Framework and a National Social Protection Monitoring Framework are developed and adopted**
- Implementation in 2021.

Outcome 2: Scale up of coverage of the Child Support Grant from 700,000 children to 2 million by end 2021 as a result of strengthened integrated social protection system.

Achievements: As a result of the UN and JP's advocacy, technical support and partnerships, particularly with Department of Child and Youth (DCY) and Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), a landmark decision on social protection was made by the National Child and Youth Committee (NCYC) to fully endorse the Universal Child Grant proposal in September 2020. This would extend the coverage of eligible children from poor and near poor families who benefit from CSG to over 4 million children and will contribute in addressing exclusions of vulnerable children caused by the current income-based targeting if approved by cabinet in 2021.

- **Output 2.1: Improved capacity of the national identification system to register and monitor through the MIS the registration of new beneficiaries**
 - Following comprehensive analysis of the MIS of CSG under the JP, DCY expressed its commitment to roll out the key recommendations to upgrade the MIS in 2021. In September 2020, the results of the findings and recommendations of the MIS assessment were presented to key stakeholders. Upgrading the MIS entails strengthening the MIS functionalities and efforts to streamline the operational processes, which is expected to facilitate access to the CSG and greater accountability of the programme to the 1.8 million current beneficiaries and new children to register with the expansion of the programme. MIS international and national consultants have been recruited to support DCY in rolling out the recommendations.
- **Output 2.2: National policy consultations on integration of the cash/non-cash under the Child support grant with transformative programs for ECD in place for maximizing the potential of the grant to all children.**
 - A review of international experiences on linking cash transfer programmes to other social services was conducted. An international consultant has been recruited to work together with TDRI and support strengthen linkages to CSG to other services such as parenting programme, pre- and post-natal services, and childcare services. The approaches taken by different countries provided elements for consideration in identifying the needs of the CSG beneficiaries, defining the most relevant services to be linked to the CSG programme and understanding the operational mechanisms to bring together the different services.
- **Output 2.3: Evidence generation for the impact of the grant on young children in Thailand to inform further policy expansions towards UCSG**
 - Partnership agreement has been developed with TDRI to jointly work towards this output and initial discussion with the DCY has taken place to agree on vision of the work. Further discussions and preparatory work are expected in early 2021.

- **Output 2.4: Improved public and programme communication**

- o Communication strategy for the CSG was developed in close collaboration with DCY. The strategy is expected to be finalized and endorsed by the end of 2020, and once implemented in 2021, will lead to increase coverage and to minimize exclusion. With support from DCY, the communication strategy will also help the government in communicating any policy changes in the future, including for universal CSG.

Outcome 3: Policy options to ensure a more effective coverage of domestic workers, including migrants, within the existing social security schemes, are designed and tested

- **Output 3.1 – Policy assessment and design of innovative program solutions to eliminate the barriers for the coverage of domestic workers developed and discussed**

- o The development of Background Papers on Migrant Workers, Gender and Informal Economy will lay the foundation for improving the access of migrant workers, including domestic workers, to social protection. A policy assessment will be conducted followed by the development of innovative programme solutions to address the gaps and challenges of integrating domestic migrant workers in social protection schemes in Q1, 2021.
- o The TOR for the policy assessment is being drafted and consultancy selection will be initiated in January 2021. The policy assessment will discuss access and coverage of social security and social protection schemes of domestic workers both Thais and migrants, identify challenges and barriers and design policy options and innovation to enhance gender-responsive and migrant-inclusive social protection schemes. Domestic work was chosen as this occupation is feminized and a large number of women migrant workers are employed in this sector in Thailand; according to the Department of Employment, as of July 2019, there were 122,117 migrant workers employed in domestic work, of which 99,797 were women and 22,320 were men. The assessment will lay the foundations and framework for evidence-based policy discussion to extend social protection eligibility and coverage to other occupations.

- **Output 3.2 – Pre-test of suggested policy options with targeted domestic workers completed, and assessed**

- o Implementation of this output is expected in 2021. Targeted outreach to key stakeholders to review possible options and build trust and commitment among stakeholders to address the situation of domestic sector workers, including migrant domestic workers will be carried out in 2021. Policy advocacy and strategic communication campaign will be implemented after the completion of policy review (under Output 3.1.). In preparation, JP is drafting the communication strategy, outlining key milestones and activities aimed at promoting the inclusion of domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers in the social protection schemes.

Workplan

- JP workplan was modified
 - JP workplan was not modified
- Explain briefly:

C. Plan for the Next Year of implementation

Next year

Outcome 1:

- Finalization and endorsement of the SPDR and background papers through visioning exercise, consultation workshops, and validation by the Project Steering Committee (Q1 2021).
- PSC Meeting will be held to review the programme's progress and action plans, with the UNRC and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security sitting as Co-Chairs of the meeting (Q1 2021).
- Advisory Committee Meetings will be convened to provide technical guidance for each programme Outcome.

- High-level event to launch the SPDR and ensure support to derived policy recommendations (Q2 2021)
- Advocacy activities and communication campaign to encourage implementation of policy change to integrate and strengthen the social protection system according to the recommendations from the SPDR and Background Papers (Q2 & Q3 2021).

Outcome 2:

- Support the cabinet approval of the universal CSG with additional evidence generation and advocacy support (Q1 & Q2 2021).
- Support DCY roll out the recommendation to upgrade MIS, with the support of an international consultant, a national consultant, and a vendor (Q2 2021).
- The partnership with TDRI will support the further expansion of the CSG, define the adequate benefit amount, strengthen linkages of the CSG to other services (Q3 2021)
- Roll out of the communication strategy on CSG (Q1 2021).

Outcome 3:

- Policy assessment of domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers in Q1-Q2, 2021. This will also include: (1) consultative workshops with representatives of domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers as well as key stakeholders to discuss challenges, needs and policy options as well as international good practices; and (2) validation workshop for policy proposals and the design of administrative procedure for the implementation of new modalities.
- The communication campaign to promote the adoption of the proposed policy options in Q3 2021. This will include: (1) consultative meeting with relevant government agencies for endorsing the communication campaign; (2) campaign implementations through production of communication materials and outreach activities with key stakeholders including employers, migrant workers, and frontline administrative personnel.

Risks and mitigation measures

- External risks includes the "second wave" of the COVID-19 pandemic which saw a significant spike in December 2020, with rising numbers of new confirmed cases that may disrupt normal government and business operations and affect socioeconomic recovery plans from the pandemic, with the potential changes in government priorities. The JP and its government counterparts are monitoring the situation closely and will adapt its activities and schedules accordingly.
- One of the high risks anticipated by the JP is the low degree of coordination among relevant ministries, however, from current activities and engagements organized by the JP, it is noticeable that collaborations between government officials from different agencies have been very positive and there is an eagerness amongst the officials at all level to improve and enhance the country's social protection system under the JP's advice/guidance and according to international standards. The JP will maintain its engagements with the ministries at all levels (high-level and technical level) to ensure full support in the implementation of recommendations from the SPDR and background papers once completed in Q1 2021.
- Medium-level risk that the JP foresees is that national sentiment towards migrant workers might influence political will to include them in social protection coverage. The JP advocated for the economic and social importance of domestic workers, including migrant workers, and argued for the need to provide them with social protection through consultative meetings and workshops, but received mixed feedback. During the SPDR Inception Report Workshop, 67 percent of the participants considered that the current social protection programmes for migrant workers in Thailand were not sufficient and that many migrant workers still lacked awareness about the programmes and could not access the benefits in practice. While 33 percent responded that current social protection programmes for migrant workers are good as compared to Thai nationals. In 2021, JP will develop and implement a communication strategy to provide evidence-based targeted messages, highlighting positive socioeconomic contributions of migrant workers and the need to provide them access to social protection. Public advocacy and high-level policy dialogue will also be continued to improve the social protection for all, including migrant workers.

Annex 1: Consolidated Annual Results

1. JP contribution to global programmatic results (annual)

Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

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

SDG: 1.3

SDG: 10.1

SDG: 2.2

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 SDPR and Background Papers will be finalized in Q1 2021.

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 SDPR and Background Papers will be finalized in Q1 2021. Once finalized, the JP will develop a transitioning plan to ensure the adoption of proposed policy recommendations from the SDPR and Background Papers. Also, considering Thailand's pioneering role in ASEAN on social protection, the findings, and recommendations from the SDPR and Background Papers are expected to inspire social protection policies in the region and bring about opportunities for similar developments.

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: N/A

Provide the list N/A

Explain briefly: The policy assessment on domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers will be conducted in Q1 and Q2 2021. Innovative solutions derived from the assessment will be tested in Q3 2021.

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

Total number: N/A

Provide the list N/A

Explain briefly: The policy assessment on domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers will be conducted in Q1 and Q2 2021. Innovative solutions derived from the assessment will be implemented with national partners in Q3 2021.

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.

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:

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 engaged regularly with national partners, primarily with the MSDHS, a Government focal point, through the bimonthly consultative meetings to update the JP's progress and discuss project activities. The JP also successfully established the PSC and held its first meeting in August 2019. The PSC provides overall guidance and recommendations towards the implementation of the project. It is co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the MSDHS and the UN Resident Coordinator and its members include representatives from government agencies, academia as well as participating UN agencies. Under the PSC, the Advisory Committee has been proposed to be established for each of the three outcomes to provide technical inputs on the work and activities directly contributing to the achievement of each outcome. The Advisory Committee will be established in Q1 2021.

2. Selected global performance indicators (annual)

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 met regularly to discuss project's activities, ensuring cohesion in action and advocacy.

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 JP's PSC provides a platform to engage with government agencies. The JP will also establish Advisory Committees for the project's three outcomes, providing a platform to engage with technical level officials from relevant government agencies to discuss technical aspects of the programme implementation.

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:

3. Results as per JP Results Framework (annual)

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: Integrated policy solutions developed following a review of the social protection system						
Outcome 1 indicator – The RTF has a National Protection Policy with cross-sectoral relevance	No	No	Yes	N/A	A National Protection Policy established	N/A
Output 1.1 – Policy dialogue to foster dialogue on strategic directions for SP in Thailand						
Output 1.1 indicator - # of high-level policy dialogue events	0	1	0	COVID-19 and key ministers schedule conflicts	1	1
Output 1.1 indicator - # of technical seminars associated with the development of a social protection review	0	4	2	COVID-19	4	6
Output 1.1. indicator - # of policy recommendations resulting from the high-level policy dialogue events and technical seminars	0	4	2 (Top-up Policy Brief and Inception Report Seminar)	COVID-19	5 (SPDR and 4 Background Papers)	7
Output 1.2 – Public Advocacy on the importance of Social Protection is increased, including among the public opinion and decision makers						
Output 1.2 indicator - A media campaign to promote social protection is being implemented	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Media campaign implemented	N/A
Output 1.2 indicator – Level of public awareness on Social Protection	Low	Low	Low	N/A	High	N/A
Output 1.2 indicator – Number of policy advocacy events to be run by the National Civil Society Coalition	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	1	1
Output 1.2 indicator – # of meetings with key policy makers, parliamentarians and political parties	0	3	2	Met with Permanent Secretaries of MSDHS and Minister of Labour (but not Ministers-level yet)	1	3
Output 1.2 indicator – Thailand is a member of the Global Universal Social Protection Coalition	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Yes	N/A

Output 1.3 – A comprehensive review of the social protection system is developed followed by policy recommendations towards a more inclusive, integrated and coherent system						
Output 1.3 indicator - A Mapping of Welfare Schemes exists and is available for discussions by senior stakeholders	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes
Output 1.3 indicator - # of background papers supporting the SP Review ready and available for discussion by National Welfare Committee or Cabinet	0	3	No	COVID-19, delayed to Q1 2021	3	4 (Background papers on Migrant Workers, Informal Economy, and Pension)
Output 1.3 indicator - A background paper on Social Protection and Gender is available	0	Yes	No	COVID-19, delayed to Q1 2021	Yes	Yes
Output 1.3 indicator - Background paper on Social Protection and Migrant workers are available	0	Yes	No	COVID-19, delayed to Q1 2021	Yes	Yes
Output 1.3 indicator - Background paper on Social Protection and Persons with disabilities is available	0	Yes	No	COVID-19, delayed to Q1 2021	Yes	Yes
Output 1.3 indicator - A Comprehensive Review of the SP System in Thailand is finalized and includes policy recommendations for the National Welfare Committee or Cabinet	0	Yes	No	COVID-19, delayed to Q1 2021	Yes	Yes
Output 1.3 – A Budget Forecasting tool is developed and available for use by MSDHS/FPO and BB	0	Yes	No	COVID-19, delayed to Q1 2021	Yes	Yes
Output 1.4 - National Social Protection Policy Framework and a National Social Protection Monitoring Framework						
Output 1.4 indicator – A draft of the National Social Protection Policy/Strategy is finalized before adoption by Cabinet	No	No	No	N/A	Yes	Yes
Outcome 2: Scale up of coverage of the CSG from 700,000 children to 2 million by end 2021 as a result of strengthened integrated SP systems						
Outcome 2 indicator - Coverage of the Child Support Grant	700,000	1.4 million	1.8 million	N/A	4 million	4 million
Output 2.1 Improved capacity of the national identification system to register and monitor through the MIS the registration of new						

beneficiaries						
Output 2.1 indicator - Technical assessment of the MIS system in place with recommendations for technical upgrade of the system, including resources (financial and human) required for its operation	No	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	Yes
Output 2.1 indicator – Revised MIS upgraded	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Yes	Yes
Output 2.2: National policy consultations on integration of the cash/non-cash under the Child support grant with transformative programs for ECD in place for maximizing the potential of the grant to all children						
Output 2.2 indicator - Number of consultation meetings organized that resulted in policy proposals	0	2	0	COVID-19	4	4
Output 2.2 indicator – Draft of revised integrated policy available for adoption by NCYDC	0	1	1	N/A	2	3
Output 2.3: Evidence generation for the impact of the grant on young children in Thailand to inform further policy expansions towards UCSG						
Output 2.3 indicator – MoU in place for the research partnership for evidence generation	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Yes	Yes
Output 2.3 indicator - Research design adopted for a longitudinal evaluation and implementation	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Yes	Yes
Output 2.3 indicator – Research is being implemented	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Yes	Yes
Output 2.4: Improved public and programme communication						
Output 2.4 indicator - Public communication strategy finalized and adopted by the MSDHS	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Yes	YEs
Output 2.4 indicator - Program communication strategy in place on the revised CSG	No	Yes	No	COVID-19	Yes	Yes
Output 2.4 indicator - # of visits of the bilingual website on the GSC	N/A	2.5 million	2.8 million	N/A	500,000	3.3 million
Output 2.4 indicator – # of staff trained on the new integrated policy design	0	100	0	COVID-19	100	100

Outcome 3: Policy options to ensure a more effective coverage of domestic workers, including migrants, within the existing social security schemes, are designed and tested						
Outcome 3 indicator# Reform proposals for the inclusion and increased registration of domestic workers approved	No	No	No	N/A	1	1
Output 3.1 Policy assessment and design of innovative program solutions to eliminate the barriers for the coverage of domestic workers developed and discussed						
Output 3.1 indicator# Report reviewing the existing policy, schemes and barriers and proposing solutions to reduce barriers and increase access to domestic workers to social protection is available	0	1	0	The policy review will be developed based on the findings from the Background paper on Migrant Workers, Gender, and Informal Workers. The policy review will be conducted in Q1, 2021	1	1
Output 3.1 indicator# No. of workshops organized to discuss design solutions	0	2	0	COVID-19	2	2
Output 3.1 indicator# Technical note detailing final scheme design proposal, including administrative elements, is available	0	0	0	N/A	1	1
Output 3.1 indicator# of female domestic workers attending dialogue sessions on the design of the scheme	0	150	0	COVID-19	150	150

Output 3.2 Pre-test of suggested policy options with targeted domestic workers completed and assessed						
Output 3.2 indicator# A campaign is being implemented to promote the extension of coverage to domestic workers	0	1	0	The campaign will be implemented after the completion of the policy assessment under Output 3.1.	1	1
Output 3.2 indicator# Level of awareness of DWs and SS benefits and regulations	Low	Low	Low	N/A	High	High
Output 3.2 indicator# Policy options assessed based on the results of the campaign	0	0	0	N/A	3	3

Annex 2: List of strategic documents

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
Technical Note 'Protecting the most vulnerable from the impact of COVID-19'	03/20	The Technical Note proposed recommendations short-term emergency relief including top-up of existing cash transfer programmes during COVID-19. The Technical Note resulted in successful advocacy of the top-up allowance which directly benefited 8 million vulnerable beneficiaries through the Child Support Grant, Disability Grant, and Old Age Allowance schemes. The JP mobilized expertise on social protection, financial projections, gender, and migrant workers to ensure inclusiveness and advocacy with well-established partnership with MSDHS.

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
UNCT Social Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in Thailand	07/20	The Social Impact Assessment analysed the implications of the pandemic on the social sectors and on the SDGs in Thailand and to develop integrated policy options and recommendations to mitigate further deterioration in the social sectors in the country to build back better. The JP provided technical inputs on poverty and social protection and facilitated the consultation with relevant stakeholders to ensure coverage of vulnerable groups including children, women, and women.

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: In 2020, the JP had several advocacy communications, especially Op-Eds and policy briefs to the RTG. Public strategic communications and activities were delayed due to COVID-19 and will be implemented in 2021.

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:

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

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly: Yes, especially with the high-profile Op-Ed articles in the leading English-language newspaper. More communication activities slated for 2021.

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

- Yes
 No

Explain briefly: The JP refers stakeholders to Country Profile Page when required to provide introductory information.

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: 4

Explain briefly:

- A joint Op-Ed article in the *Bangkok Post* newspaper ““Social Protection is the pathway to pandemic recovery” written by Thomas Davin, UNICEF Thailand representative, and Graeme Buckley, ILO Country Director for Thailand, Cambodia and Lao People’s Democratic Republic, was published in the Thai media to congratulate Thailand’s emergency social protection responses to those affected by COVID-19 and to encourage the Thai government to use this opportunity to conduct fundamental reviews and reforms of the social protection systems to protect vulnerable populations against future shocks and support economic recovery. Link to the Bangkok Post Op-Ed article: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/1945176/social-protection-is-pathway-to-pandemic-recovery>
- An article in the *Bangkok Post*, “Vulnerable and struggling, how society's poorest families suffer and survive amidst Covid-19”, urging for the Child Support Grant to be universal to ensure that the much-needed support reaches all families and young children. Link to the article: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/life/social-and-lifestyle/1921188/vulnerable-and-struggling>

- Video clip Advocating for the Child Support Grant be made universal through Work Point media outlets to prevent the detrimental effects of COVID19 on children.
<https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=%21AA4FrohRqgJV7Xw&cid=76AC7BFA5B1E6ADB&id=76AC7BFA5B1E6ADB%2126593&parId=76AC7BFA5B1E6ADB%2126585&o=OneUp>
- An Op-Ed article in the *Bangkok Post*, “Watching over migrant workers” written by Dana Graber Ladek, IOM Chief of Mission to Thailand, was published in the Thai media to highlight the importance of ensuring migrants are not left behind in the COVID-19 crisis. Link to the Bangkok Post Op-Ed article: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/1904805>

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:

Explain briefly:

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

Yes

No

Total number: (Not mandatory)

Explain briefly: No social media page specifically for the JP

Multi-Media Faucets

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
N/A		

Social Media Campaigns

Title of the document	Type (FB/Twitter/LinkedIn/Etc.)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
N/A		

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 x Impact)	Likelihood: Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1	Impact: Essential - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person
Contextual risks					
Changes in political priorities – elections were carried out in March 2019 and there is an expected slowdown in government operations amidst uncertainty regarding the Constitution of the new cabinet	High	3	3	The JP continued systematic involvement of partners in project implementation as this is key to handling these risks. Engagements in the development of the programme document and participatory process under the leadership of the MSDHS proved effective. The Project Steering Committee meeting, consultative meetings and workshops were organized, and the work plan explained on all occasions to ensure buy-in of national stakeholders. However, COVID-19 and unstable political situation still looming towards end of 2020.	RC and PUNOs
Deviation of the project objective by Politicians associated to the project	Medium	3	2	Engagement with politicians interested by this issue was in plan for the launch event with Ministers from different ministries and guest speakers attending. However, due to the COVID-19 situation and the schedule conflicts of key ministers, the	Office of the Permanent Secretary of MSDHS with support from PUNOs

				event was postponed to April 2021, along with the involvement of the communication strategies.	
Programmatic risks					
Willingness of national stakeholders to collaborate amongst themselves	High	3	3	The involvement of the different line ministries in the JP's implementation and activities increased collaboration between the agencies, which will eventually lead to the development of integrated policy frameworks. The JP is maintaining the engagement levels and relationship of all stakeholders involved.	Each PUNO is responsible in encouraging participation with the working group, they are supporting. MSDHS to reach out to relevant ministries in case of difficulties in collaboration.
National sentiments towards migrant workers influence political openness to extend coverage to them	Medium	4	3	Consultative meetings and workshops with relevant stakeholders will ensure migrant workers' rights and needs are included in the policy dialogue. This is supported by a communication strategy to provide evidence-based targeted messages, highlighting positive socioeconomic contribution of migrant workers and a need to provide them social protection, to adjust changes in public opinions and to harness the opportunity available given the degree of public support for advocacy for policy change that take into consideration the inclusion of social protection for migrant workers.	IOM with support of ILO and other UN partner agencies

Institutional risks					
High staff turnover – line Ministry staff regularly change;	High	4	3	The JP organized several activities and workshops involving participation of both high-level and technical-level officials to ensure that the knowledge is not lost with the changes in departmental leadership.	ILO assessed training needs with PUNOs and MSDHS' support.
Fiduciary risks					
Thailand's economic performance: funding for social protection is dependent on revenue created so a contraction of the economy could reduce the fiscal space available.	Medium	2	4	The JP continued its advocacy messages about the importance of SP during the COVID-19/economic crisis to ensure SP allocations are not diverted.	PUNOs with support from UNRC, IMF, WB, ADB