

Joint SDG Fund  
PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED POLICY AND LNOB

## Joint Programme 2021 Annual Progress Report

### Cover page

**Country:** Somalia

**Joint Programme title:** Toward Somali-led transition to social protection systems

**Short title:** Toward Somali-led transition to social protection systems

**Start date** (day/month/year): **01/01/2020**

**End date** (day/month/year): **01/05/2022**

**RC (name):** Adam Abdelmoula

**Government Joint Programme Focal Point** (name and ministry/agency): **Fardosa Abdullahi, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs**

**Representative of Lead PUNO** (name and agency): **Chrystelle Tsafack Temah, UNICEF**

**List of PUNOs:** UNICEF, WFP, ILO

**RCO Main JP Focal Point** (name): **Olga Cherevko** E-mail: [cherevko@un.org](mailto:cherevko@un.org)

**Lead Agency Main JP Focal Point** (name): **Chrystelle Tsafack Temah** E-mail: [ctsafack@unicef.org](mailto:ctsafack@unicef.org)

**Contact person for Joint Communications** (name): **Iman Jama** E-mail: [iman.jama@molsa.gov.so](mailto:iman.jama@molsa.gov.so)

**Budget** (Joint SDG Fund contribution): **USD 2, 045,300.00**

**Overall budget** (with co-funding): **USD 2,640,226.00**

**Total estimated expenditure** (in USD, for the whole JP by 31 Dec 2021): 2,182,497.71

**Total estimated commitments** (in USD, for the whole JP by 31 Dec 2021): 155,209.50

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

The Joint programme seeks to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Somalia to focus on prioritizing support to the most vulnerable populations, with a view of transitioning from short-term emergency response, to long-term predictable social protection mechanism – with linkages to education, health and justice systems. More specifically it aims to strengthen the Ministry and Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) leadership on social protection through a targeted institutional support and capacity development. This support will be done both at federal government and at federal member state (FMS) levels and will focus on three areas: (i) Supporting MoLSA institutional capacity for policy analysis and coordination of partners activities in order to ensure national ownership and leadership of the social protection reform agenda; (ii) Support MoLSA role to create an adaptive approach to reform through capturing the potential for scale of past and present social protection and link them with human capital (nutrition, health and education); and (iii) Strengthen MoLSA capacity on International Standards for Social protection.

## Executive summary

The key oversight role of coordination by the federal ministry was strengthened owing to the fund availability which enabled the ministry to undertake monitoring and provide oversight through federal level consultations demonstrating leadership and direction to the social protection portfolio. Social protection Directorate in MoLSA federal and state ministries is functional with staffing and equipment owing to this capacity injection. In addition, improved coordination across state and federal governments was noted as staff regularly convened meetings. Furthermore, staff supported through the Joint programme have seen their understanding of Social Protection reinforced during the last two years through continued capacity strengthening, exposure to global trainings and events and hands-on experience working in collaboration with the national safety nets programme team. MoLSA is capacitated to serve as a Learning and convening organization on Social Protection, which coordinated Government COVID-19 social protection response and alignment with other sectors' response. In terms of learning, the vulnerability assessment and the work on policy options undertaken within the framework of the Joint programme aim to inform the targeting methodology of future safety nets programmes in Somalia contributed to strengthening the technical know-how of the ministry. In terms of integration of international Standards into social protection approach, the social security inquiry was completed and 17 participants (ten male and seven female) have completed the E-academy course on social security. The course was online that was facilitated by ITCILO and had started on 13rd September -22nd October 2021. The purpose was to enhance their knowledge and competencies required to improve the governance, design, reforms and administration of social security institutions.

Soon after kick-starting the implementation of the Joint Programme, COVID-19 crisis hit the whole world, including Somalia. A major characteristic of the crisis was movement restriction, which translated into a standstill of air travel and cancelation of face-to-face gatherings. A major output of the joint programme which is capacity development through trainings, study tours and participation to international conference and workshops on social protection had to be completely restructured to account for the new reality.

- Thus, the Joint Programme redesigned the set of activities related to this output to be implemented remotely, with trainings online and data collection of the vulnerability assessment was undertaken by phone. The vulnerability assessment which initially aimed at informing the targeting methodology of future safety nets programmes was redesigned to provide evidence on the groups most affected by the epidemic to inform a swift government response to the crisis.
- In addition, the programme supported MoLSA strategically to coordinate government social protection response to the pandemic by funding the position of a COVID-19 coordinator, who had oversight on various initiatives supported by different partners in Somalia. Adhering to COVID 19 travel restrictions the project aligned to working remotely and conducting most of the interstate communication through the virtual platform. Thus, the government was able to make a strategic shift during the COVID-19 crisis, providing guidance and still in the driver seat to implement such a response.

### *Link with UNDAF/ UNSD Cooperation Framework*

- Under the Social Development pillar of the United Nations Cooperation Framework (UNCF) 2021-2025, the Joint Programme contributes towards UNCF Outcome 4.3: By 2025, the

proportion of vulnerable Somalis with scaled-up and sustained resilience against environmental and conflict related shocks is increased based on better management of life cycle risk, food security and better nutrition outcomes.

- A specific output of the UNCF towards which the JP SDG fund is contributing is 'Proportion of poor people covered by predictable government safety nets'. Especially, monitoring visits by staff supported under the Joint Programme allowed to improve implementation of the safety nets programme by better targeting. This translated into more poor people receiving predictable cash transfers from government. Staff supported under the Joint Programme were also involved in providing technical oversight of the Urban cash transfer programme implemented in Banadir under the Joint Programme : Combating Poverty and Vulnerability through Social Protection in Somalia”.

#### *COVID-19 impact*

- The vulnerability assessment undertaken in Q3 2020 aimed precisely at informing a government response to address the socio-economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis, by providing evidence on the most affected groups and the extent of the deprivations that they experienced as a result of the crisis. The assessment which revealed a deep increase of poverty in urban areas, also provides a set of recommendations to various stakeholders, including the federal government, the federal member States, donors and technical partners.
- The results of the vulnerability assessment were presented to major social protection stakeholders in Somalia during a learning event that also raised the profile of the JP and increase its visibility.
- Staff supported under the Joint programme also contributed to the implementation of the urban cash transfer programme, which was expanded vertically by adding a top-up to existing beneficiaries to counter the socio-economic impact of COVID-19.

## **I.2 Update on priority cross-cutting issues**

### *UN Development System reform - UN coherence at the country level*

- The Joint programme intended to set up a Social protection thematic working group under the new UNCF architecture. The terms of reference of the thematic group were drafted and shared by UN agencies for review. The creation of the group was also discussed during one of the meetings of the programme management team (PMT) of the UNCT. However, it was decided to avoid duplication of thematic working groups and to discuss social protection issues within the framework of the social development pillar working group.
- Nonetheless, all UN agencies in Somalia are familiar with the Joint programme and are regularly updated on the progress in its implementation. They also collaborate to specific activities implemented under the programme and seek for collaboration from the Joint programme in their own social protection interventions. All these interventions are implemented in close collaboration with the federal government through MoLSA.

### *Going beyond "business as usual" to produce catalytic results at scale*

- Moving away from the usual Practice of assistance in Somalia to recruit international consultants to provide technical assistance to government a mixed approach of support to government staff and select advisory positions were supported. While beneficial during the lifetime of project/programme implementation, a singular approach of supporting consultants only does not ensure sustainability of results because there is no long-term capacity development once the project/programme comes to an end. The Joint programme departed from this approach by ensuring that the staff supported under the programme is long-term government staff, who will remain within the ministries' workforce long after the project and who are already part of government staff structure. This guarantees the sustainability of results achieved, as well as effective knowledge transmission of social protection. This is catalytic because long-term knowledge transmission across the whole country improves the implementation of all social protection intervention implemented by the federal and state governments, which go well beyond the framework of the joint programme. More importantly, the implementing PUNOs pushed for the inclusion of female civil servants whenever possible in order to achieve gender parity in the workforce.
- The results of the vulnerability assessment were shared with all UN agencies and fed into a socio-economic impact assessment (SEIA) led by the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development in collaboration with UNDP. They were the main source of information to draw specific recommendations for social protection sector response. This ensured a coherence in UN initiatives to assess the impact of COVID-19 on many aspects of wellbeing of Somali population.

#### *SDG acceleration*

- The Joint programme contributed to the acceleration of SDG 1 by fast tracking the setup of institutional capacity to implement safety nets and other social protection programmes in Somalia. The programme implementation Unit of the safety nets project funded by the World Bank is established at federal level and sits in the capital Mogadishu while the programme provides cash transfers to identified eligible beneficiaries in rural areas. Staff supported under the joint programme, especially in the FMS have been critical in ensuring implementation of the safety nets project through monitoring visits. Their involvement has directly contributed to strengthen the delivery capacity of the government of Somalia to be able to provide social protection schemes to its citizens, based on identification of people in need and in coordination with main stakeholders. This contributed to SDG 1 Ending poverty and its target 1.3: implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
- The JP also contributed to the acceleration of SDG target 2.1: end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food. This was done by targeting of beneficiary households under the safety nets project (Baxnaano), who are poor households living in areas that are regularly food insecure. Although there has not been a formal impact evaluation of the project, beneficiaries interviewed during monitoring visits reported that they use the money received to buy more food for their families. In addition, beneficiary households were referred to nutrition services provided by UNICEF and WFP while receiving the cash transfers.
- Since the Joint programme is by essence an institutional capacity development programme, it also contributed to the acceleration of SDG 16, develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. In the Somalia context where federalism is not totally

effective, it takes time to cascade decisions and intervention from the federal level to the member states levels. Because the Joint Programme focused the member states level ministries, it allowed to accelerate institutional capacity strengthening across Somalia and Somaliland.

#### *Policy integration and systems change*

- Two years after the beginning of the programme, all State Ministries have at least one staff member who has been trained in Social protection, exposed to the experience of another country, who is able to monitor and to social protection intervention implemented by the Government and to collaborate with partners to ensure coherence among various initiatives and their alignment with the national social protection policy (NSPP).
- Staff supported under the Joint Programme in the FMS greatly contributed to the elaboration of the implementation framework of the national social protection policy. The implementation framework is instrumental in safeguarding alignment of various social protection interventions with the NSPP, in the short term, medium term and long term. Furthermore, the mapping of SDG indicators included in the implementation framework was undertaken as a main activity of the Joint Programme.
- The vulnerability assessment provides background information to design the social protection component of the Integrated Local Economic Development (ILED) Project funded by the European Union in Somalia. This programme also capitalizes on the existence of the solid staffing structure in the ministries in charge of social protection in FMS to accelerate implementation and to break silos among different programmes.

#### *Contribution to improvement of the situation of vulnerable groups*

- The Joint Programme contributed to improvement of the situation of vulnerable groups by active participation of supported staff in the implementation of the national safety nets project. This project provides monthly and predictable cash transfers (\$20) to vulnerable households in food insecure districts.
- At the end of 2021, 93% of 200,000 households enrolled in the national safety net, Baxnaano had received four quarter transfers in 2021. Staff supported under the Joint programme contributed to the identification of these households.
- Sixty-nine percent (69%) of beneficiary households recorded acceptable food consumption score in the second quarter of 2021, improved levels compared to results observed in late 2020.
- Estimated number of individuals that were reached through JP efforts in 2020-2021:

Total number of beneficiary households of Baxnaano<sup>1</sup>: 1,132,596 individuals<sup>2</sup>  
Percentage of women and girls: 47.3%

#### *Mainstreaming Gender equality and women empowerment*

---

<sup>1</sup> This is the number of beneficiary households of the national safety nets project, so this is a number of individuals indirectly reached through Joint Programme efforts.

<sup>2</sup> Equivalent to 188,766 households, since the average size of a household in Somalia is six.

- Recruitment of staff supported under the project sought to achieve gender parity, although this did not eventually materialize. Out of a total of eight staff supported through the project, two are female.
- The Joint programme also engaged with a CSO IIDA Somalia Women’s Development Organization to prepare a gender-sensitive and inclusive social protection training in Somalia. Preparations for the training were ongoing and well advanced when IIDA Head of programme left his organization, thus leading to a cancellation of the training with IIDA. The training is now being rescheduled to be delivered by ITC-ILO online in February 2022.
- Estimated % of overall disbursed funds spent on Gender equality and Women empowerment by the end of 2021: N/A

### *Human rights*

- Staff supported under the programme participated in a number of training programmes to make them familiar with designing and implementing inclusive social protection programmes. The training on inclusive social protection training specifically emphasizes the rationale for a human-rights based approach to social protection, that should be aligned with human rights mechanisms such as the CEDAW and the CRC, with the view of correcting existing gender imbalances and avoiding creating new gender discriminations. The training also stresses the importance of child-sensitive social protection as a powerful instrument to fulfill the rights of children, as set forth in the CRC which Somalia ratified on 21 September 2020.

### *Partnerships*

- The three PUNOs jointly contribute to the Government Development partners (GDPWG) Social Protection working group convened by MoLSA. MoLSA focal person supported through the SDG fund ensures that coordination in programming is undertaken at the federal as well as state levels.
- In addition, UNICEF, WFP and ILO are the key UN agencies contributing to the Social Development pillar under the UN Cooperation Framework. The strategic partnership between these agencies has enabled UN and government work towards identifying, prioritizing key gaps in the delivery capability of the government.
- The Joint Programme was implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, which has a coordination role performed through an SDG Fund coordinator. The SDG Fund coordinator works on a daily basis with social protection staffs in the member states ministries in charge of social protection, identifies together with the PUNOs capacity development opportunities for civil servants and follow through implementation of the Joint programme activities. She also ensured collaboration with other ministries, such as the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management in the design of the vulnerability assessment and in the preparation of the training on shock-responsive social protection.
- The Joint Programme also partnered with the NGO IIDA Somalia Women’s Development Organization for the preparation of two trainings: gender-sensitive social protection and inclusive social protection. Although the trainings were not eventually delivered by IIDA Somalia Women’s Development Organization, the perspective provided by this NGO working on the ground and with a very good knowledge of the reality of Somali women was very helpful to prepare the training package and the agenda of the training.
- Federation of Somali Trade Unions and Somali Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- Donors like the European Union and the Italian Cooperation were regularly updated on the Joint Programme and took it into consideration while designing their own programmes to ensure collaboration, complementarity and avoid duplication. These include the Italian Cooperation which assessed the availability of social protection staff supported by the Joint

programme to propose support to the development of the social protection policy in Somaliland.

- Other major stakeholders like the Somali Cash Consortium collaborated closely with the Joint Programme to organize the learning event on the vulnerability assessment. The safety nets projects funded by the World Bank also greatly benefited from monitoring performed by staff supported under the Joint programme.

*Mobilizing additional funding and/or financing*

- Somalia reached the decision point of the Heavily Indebted Poor country (HIPC) Initiative on 25 March 2020. Immediately Somalia received about \$1,5 million USD interim assistance for one year (March 2020 to March 2021). This assistance is granted in terms of debt reduction and not actual funds, but it means that the country will now have more funds to allocate to social protection since they will not be used for debt repayment. When the country will reach HIPC completion point, this will mean even more resources provided by IMF and other creditors to finance development, especially social sectors (education, health, social protection).
- The fiscal space analysis currently undergoing under the Joint programme identifies resource gaps for social policy along with options to mobilize additional funding for social protection. These include mobilization of domestic revenues, reprioritization and efficiency of expenditure, increase of grant aid and deficit financing with new borrowing. Debt relief is equivalent related to additional resources freed by borrowing which will not be repaid.... The fiscal analysis precisely advocates to use debt relief to increase social protection spending and cover more vulnerable people in Somalia.

*Strategic meetings*

Type of event	Yes	No	Description/Comments
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The learning event on vulnerability assessment was combined with the JP development partners event. It was organized on 24 November 2021. Given movement restrictions in Somalia due to the security situation, the European Union represented the Joint SDG Fund Donors at the event.
Other strategic events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The objective of the learning event was to promote the utilization of the vulnerability assessment findings in social protection programming and inform policy response from the government (from different sectors) and partners, as well as funding allocations from donors to support the vulnerable members of the communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

*\* 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.*

-----

*Innovation, learning and sharing*

- The Joint programme has a strong component of learning, since parts of outputs 1 and 3, and the whole output 2 is dedicated to learning and sharing, including south-south cooperation.
- The Joint Programme supported MoLSA staff to undertake trainings identified through training needs assessment and summarized into a capacity development plan. Learning

initiatives included formal trainings, peer-peer learning, study tours, learning by doing and learning event.

- Sharing will be done specifically through: (i) monthly meetings of the Joint programme committee be facilitated by the Programme Coordinator, (ii) regular meetings between the programme coordinator and the MoLSA SP advisor to ensure the same level on information among the two groups of stakeholders; (iii) regular meetings between the programme coordinator and the TAF to ensure the same level of information between UN agencies and the donors; (iv) ad hoc meetings when new development occurred in the social protection landscape in Somalia.
- In terms of innovation, the Joint programme adapted to the new way of working virtually, and many learning activities were held online, the learning event on vulnerability assessment was organized through a mixed approach that combined virtual and physical participation.
- The use of social media (MoLSA webpage, Twitter) was widely used to relay learning information on the Joint programme.

## II. 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)

Implementation of the Joint programme was generally satisfactory, with the Joint programme achieving the majority of its expected annual results. Progress has specifically been recorded on outputs 1 and 2, while output 3 lagged behind. Notable achievements include:

- A functional social protection Directorate is now in place at MoLSA and ministries in charge of social protection in FMS.
- The improvement of coordination across state and federal governments is noticeable.
- Government staff working on social protection have increased their knowledge of social protection through targeted trainings, study tours and on-the-job learning (especially their involvement in the implementation of Baxnaano).
- The learning event on vulnerability assessment was completed and the findings are now available and disseminated to inform Government and partners response to the COVID-19 crisis and other shocks affecting Somalia.
- Highly technical work is ongoing with simulations on social protection coverage and expenditure to inform policy options available to government.

### Contribution to Fund's global results

- ⇒ **Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1 (as per annual targets set by the JP)**
  - Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale
- ⇒ **Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale**  
 The Joint programme contributed to the integration of the national social protection policy in Somalia by providing staff capacity (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to implement the policy. Without this additional capacity, the national safety nets project that deliver cash transfer to targeted vulnerable households in Somalia will be lagging in its implementation and progress towards SDG 1.3 would be slower and the programme would not have delivered its benefits to so many people. So, the joint programme contributed to the implementation of an integrated multisectoral policy to accelerate SDG 1.3 with greater scope and scale.
- ⇒ **Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Output 2 (as per annual targets set by the JP)**
  - Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement
- ⇒ **Outcome 2: This outcome is yet to be achieved, since the fiscal space analysis that will serve as an advocacy tool to leverage debt relief additional resources is still ongoing.**

### JP Outputs and Outcomes

- ⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outputs**  
**Result 1: Functional, equitable and inclusive social protection Directorate at MoLSA and social protection units in FMS**

This output is almost achieved, with staff present in social protection directorate at MoLSA and in all FMS. Key interventions under this output include:

- Continued financial support to Senior Advisor within MoLSA who continues to coordinate across various safety net initiatives, partners, and ministries; and ensures policy/programme coherence in approach and implementation of SDG initiatives between the FGS and FMS. The advisor continues to serve as key personnel at MoLSA, representing the Ministry in various social protection platforms including serving as the lead for the social protection sub-working group and providing regular updates to the Office of the Prime Minister on matters related to the social protection portfolio.
- 
- Continued financial support (top-up salaries) of eight (8) senior specialists (one for each FMS, one for Somaliland and two for MoLSA Federal). The specialists at FMS continue to support in the implementation of the social protection agenda at state level. These focal persons also serve as the key contact persons on social protection in their respective states. They have proven crucial in the government's agenda of strengthening and promoting the engagement of state governments. Majority of the focal points hold senior positions in their respective states enabling devolved decision making and state cooperation. Additionally, with their representation FMS needs and priorities are effectively conveyed and brought forward to the FGS through these staff. This active participation of SDG focal persons was demonstrated in the selection of districts to implement Baxnaano and the continued field level monitoring.
- Support for office supplies and equipment was regularly provided to aid the ministries meet their daily operational needs. With the growing portfolio and the additional financing projects through the World Bank, MoLSA continues to support the state ministries in implementation and overall coordination of social protection related activities. The government staff were able to undertake monitoring visits to the ongoing safety net projects in the villages i.e Baxnaano & Locust projects.
- Improved coordination across state and federal governments was noted. This was made easy by the presence of dedicated staff across state and federal ministries which facilitated dialogue and information sharing. State ministries have been visible in donor and inter-ministerial meetings on social protection where they are able to join discussions and make contributions. They have been particularly present in coordination platforms such as the social development pillar working group and the Government development partner working group which is a social protection coordination platform led by MoLSA Federal.

**Result 2: FGS/MoLSA capacitated to serve as a Learning/Convening Organization on Social Protection in Somalia (learning both from the implementation of past humanitarian assistance in the country and other countries' experience in designing and implementing social protection schemes)**

This output recorded satisfactory progress, with the majority of the trainings and studies completed or ongoing. Key interventions under this output include:

- A two-day workshop on Social Protection delivery systems for MoLSA staff with the objective of equipping government officials with the relevant knowledge and skills to ensure effective and efficient implementation of Somalia's social protection programmes. About 17 government officials from MoLSA federal and federal member states attended the training.
- MoLSA staff both at State and federal government participated in a five -day training programme on introduction to social protection in Kigali, Rwanda. The programme jointly

funded by Baxnaano and the SDG programme aimed at strengthening the capacity of government officials to deliver social protection and to also facilitate interaction and knowledge exchange on designing an effective social protection system for Somalia. Twenty-two (22) government official participated intensively in this training (18 male and 3 female) which was designed and delivered by TRANSFORM, an African Union-UN initiative for an innovative approach to strengthening national capacities for the implementation of national Social Protection Floors (SPFs) in Africa.

- Completion of the course E-academy course on social security, which was attended by seventeen (18) government officials (10 male and 8 female). The course, which was organized from 13rd September to 22nd october 2021 aimed at enhancing participants' knowledge and competencies required to improve the governance, design, reforms and administration of social security institutions.
- The learning event on vulnerability assessment completed in 2020 was organized in collaboration with the Somali Cash Consortium. The learning event was combined with a donor event and attended by major stakeholders working on social protection, including various ministries, academia, civil society, multilateral and bilateral partners and UN agencies. In addition to disseminating the findings of the assessment, the event also presented ways in which those findings should be used in policy response to address not only the COVID-19 crisis, but also other shocks affecting Somalia.

### **Result 3: International Standards for an integrated social protection approach, including inclusion and gender equity mainstreamed into Social Protection Implementation Strategy.**

Progress toward this output is lagging, with many activities still ongoing. The main intervention achieved under this output is the social security inquiry (SSI) Key ongoing interventions include:

- The costing of a social protection floor in Somalia
  - The fiscal space analysis for social protection
  - A feasibility study for sickness and maternity benefits for civil servants
  -
- A consultancy firm has been selected to conduct these remaining activities.

#### *JP Outputs and Outcomes*

##### ⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outcomes**

The Joint Programme progress is satisfactory to achieve its outcome: MoLSA capacitated to design and implement long-term social protection system with a shift from assistance to more emphasis on building human capital. Technical and financial support provided by the Joint Programme enabled the ministry to ensure active engagement at the federal and state level for the implementation of the national social protection policy. This was materialized by staff involvement in the implementation of the national safety nets project Baxnaano (including its extension with the Shock-responsive safety nets for Locust Response Project). Before the inception of Joint programme, the lack of financial capacity, federal and state government did not have full time staff representation in monitoring of Baxnaano. This gap was covered by the SDG fund, enabling federal and state level staff to actively participate in the design, initial planning and engagement with the UN in the rollout of the safety net programme. Staff supported under the Joint programme were also actively involved in the consultations for the implementation framework of the national social protection

policy, and a consultant supported under the Joint programme developed a mapping of indicators which is part of the implementation framework. With the institutional and technical capacity provided, staff supported under the Joint Programme have a better knowledge of social protection, discuss Somalia social protection issues as case studies in the professional trainings they undertake and participate in policy discussion in wider social protection forums. This outcome is being achieved through three outputs.

- ⇒ **Monitoring and data collection:** *briefly explain the monitoring and data collection arrangements and whether the arrangements worked well / what could have been done better*

Since the inception of the Joint Programme, reporting has been results-oriented, and evidence based. WFP, ILO and MoLSA provided the UNICEF with inputs for the quarterly progress and annual reports prepared in accordance with instructions and templates developed by the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat. Additionally, regular update on progress was shared by the PUNOs during bi-monthly meetings of the Programme committee.

UNICEF compiled the narrative reports and submitted a consolidated report to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, through the Resident Coordinator. The Resident Coordinator Office monitored the implementation of the joint programme, with the involvement of Joint SDG Fund Secretariat to which it submitted data and information when requested.

Data for all indicators of the results framework were shared with the Fund Secretariat on a regular basis, in order to allow the Fund Secretariat to aggregate results at the global level and integrate findings into reporting on progress of the Joint SDG Fund.

#### *Lessons learned and sustainability of results*

- A major lesson learned during the implementation of the Joint programme is the importance of flexibility and adaptability to new circumstances. Less than three months after the inception of the Joint programme, COVID-19 hit the whole world, including Somalia. This constitutes a major blow for the implementation of a programme of which most activities are based on travel and gatherings. In order to progress on the implementation of those activities, it was important to adapt to new ways of working and to repurpose some of the funds towards new relevant activities.
- Another lesson learned is the necessity of building institutional memory to ensure sustainability of results. For at least six months, output 3 was at a standstill due to the departure of an ILO staff member who has been critical in designing the programme. The staff member who replaced him had to start afresh with the programme, and this delayed the recruitment of the programme specialist in charge of the Joint Programme in ILO. Without this setback, progress on output 3 would have been much faster and would have been on track of achieving its outcome.

### III. Plan for the final phase of implementation

As noted in part II, progress toward the Joint programme outcome is satisfactory and to be rated as on track, the joint programme needs to complete remaining activities that are already ongoing. These are mainly related to Outputs 2 and 3 and are expected to be completed in February 2022. These include:

- The tailor-made training on inclusive and gender-sensitive social protection organized in collaboration with ITC-ILO
- The study tours in Lesotho and Rwanda that will be organized in collaboration with Baxnaano.
- The analytical work on policy options which presents simulation on various options for social protection with estimation of their coverage, cost and impact on poverty reduction. These options include: universal child grant, programme for pregnant women and infants, school targeted programmes (school feeding programme and scholarship), old age pension, transfers to IDPs households and transfers to food poor households.
- The costing of a social protection floor in Somalia
- The fiscal space analysis for social protection
- A feasibility study for sickness and maternity benefits for civil servants.

In addition the final evaluation of the Joint Programme started in January 2022 and is the inception report will be submitted to the PUNOs during the second week of February.

#### *Towards the end of JP implementation*

- In order to ensure the sustainability of results achieved through the Joint Programme, MoLSA is planning to develop a comprehensive human resource management system for all its civil servants. This will ensure that civil servants holding strategic positions are supported through regular government resources, which are deemed to increase with debt relief. Till now, owing to resources constraint, all civil servants in payroll are supported either under development partners projects projects such as the The Recurrent Costs and Reform Financing Project (RCRF).
- In addition, the PUNOs and MoLSA designed a capacity development plan for a timeframe that goes well beyond the timeframe of the Joint programme and that is meant to be a living document to be updated as learning opportunities arise. This capacity development plan is already being used and shared with other donors such as the World Bank and the Italian Cooperation, fundraising.
- The outline of the report of the final evaluation of the Joint programme has a section on recommendations that will be proposed to the PUNOs and MoLSA, based on the challenges encountered during implementation and what could have been done differently. To arrive to those conclusions, the evaluation team will conduct interviews and focus group discussions with main stakeholders and beneficiaries of the joint programme.

#### *Risks and mitigation measures*

The main risk associated with the implementation as we move to JP finalization is the delay in completion, a programmatic risk. Almost all remaining activities need to be completed in one month timeframe, which is quite a tight delay. In order to ensure completion of these activities, update meetings will be held every week, instead of bimonthly as previously. Another major risk is fiduciary risk, since there is still a big share of the budget that is not yet spent. The PUNOs may be tempted to waste the remaining resources to ensure full budget execution. Since contracting and recruitment of consultants are done through UN procurement and HR processes, they will be subject to strict scrutiny and to audits as per the PUNOs plans.

## Annex 1: Consolidated Annual Results

### 1. JP contribution to global Fund’s programmatic results

#### Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

Select up to 3 SDG *indicators* that your Joint Programme primarily contributed to (in relation to SDG targets listed in your JP ProDoc)

SDG:1.3

SDG: 16.1

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

Outcome indicators	Expected 2021 target	2021 result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
1.1: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope <sup>3</sup>	0	1		1
<i>List the policies:</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National social protection Policy</li> </ul>				
1.2: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale <sup>4</sup>	2	1	Another national policy was developed in Somalia, the national youth policy. The Joint programme was not involved in policy development.	1
<i>List the policies:</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National social protection policy</li> <li></li> </ul>				

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

Output indicators	Expected 2021 target	2021 result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
3.1 Number of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)				
3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead	2	2	The two policy solutions that were implemented with the	2

<sup>3</sup>Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

<sup>4</sup>Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

			national partners in lead are: (i) mainstreaming of capacity development within government normal activities and (ii) mainstreaming of international standards for social security.	
--	--	--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators in 2020-2021?

- Yes  
 No

Yes, the Joint programme core objective was precisely to strengthen national institutional and technical capacities to implement social protection programme. The national safety nets projects which greatly benefits for this capacity strengthening is a cross-sectoral SDG accelerator, since it contributes directly toward achievement of SDG 1 and 2, and indirectly to other SDGs, including SDG 3,4,5,10 and 16.

## 2. Results as per JP Programmatic Results Framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected 2021 target	2021 Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
Outcome: <i>MoLSA is capacitated to design and implement long-term social protection system with a shift from assistance to more emphasis on building human capital</i>					
Outcome indicator SP Directorate is functional (with staff and equipment)	SP Directorate is not equipped and has no dedicated staff	SP Directorate staff has received adequate SP training	SP Directorate and SP units at FMS have 8 staff that have received adequate training.	N/A	SP Directorate and SP units at FMS have 8 staff that have received adequate training.

Output 1: Institutional Capacity of FGS/MoLSA Strengthened by a Functional social protection Directorate at MoLSA and social protection units in FMS					
Output 1.1 indicator: SP Directorate is created	SP Directorate at MoLSA & FMS limited	SP officers are in place in all FMS, disaggregated by gender	8 SP staff are in place in MoLSA and FMS, including 2 female	N/A	8 SP staff are in place in MoLSA and FMS, including 2 female.
Output 1.2 indicator: Government SP core staff receive adequate training on SP, disaggregated by gender	SP directorate and SP units' staff do not have adequate training in SP	2 SP directorate staffs and SP staff in all of the FMS participate in one learning event	2 SP directorate staffs and SP staff in the other half of the FMS participate in one learning event	N/A	2 SP directorate staffs and 6 SP staff in all of the FMS participated in one learning event
Output 1.3 indicator: Gender and inclusion are mainstreamed throughout most learning event sessions	No specific session on gender and social inclusion on learning events	A session on gender and inclusion in Social Protection systems is included in all learning events	A session on gender and inclusion in Social Protection systems is included in all formal trainings.	Not all learning events were designed so as to include a session on gender and inclusion. When this was not possible, gender and social inclusion were mainstreamed throughout the learning events.	Gender and inclusion in Social Protection systems is mainstreamed in all formal trainings
Output 2: FGS/MoLSA capacitated to serve as a Learning/Convening Organization on Social Protection in Somalia					
Output 2.1 indicator: No systematic learning opportunity mechanism from other country experience	No systematic learning opportunity	Study tour on SP delivery systems	Study tour on SP delivery systems is planned in	N/A	Study tour on SP delivery systems is organized in Lesotho

	mechanism from other country experience		Lesotho in February 2022		
Output 2.2 indicator: learning event organized between federal level and FMS hosted by MoLSA	No experience sharing platform between different government levels	Exchange visit on learning and sharing and good practice in SP	Exchange on learning and sharing and good practice in SP organized through the learning event on vulnerability assessment.	N/A	Exchange on learning and sharing and good practice in SP organized through the learning event on vulnerability assessment.
<b>Output 3: International Standards for Social Protection, including inclusion and gender equity mainstreamed into Social Protection Implementation Strategy</b>					
Output 3.1 indicator	No diagnostic on SP	Mapping and data collection on social protection coverage in Somalia	Social security inquiry completed for the social protection coverage in Somalia		Mapping and data collection on social protection coverage in Somalia completed
Output 2.2 indicator	No ABND initiated	Dialogue process on social protection to set up national priorities	Consultant recruited to undertake the ABND	Delays in the procurement process led to late onboarding of the consultant.	ABND completed

## Annex 2: Strategic documents

### 2.1. Contribution to social protection strategies, policies and legal frameworks

*Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP*

<b>Title of the document</b>	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	<i>If published, provide the hyperlink</i>
Social Protection Policy Implementation framework	09/20	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	researchgate.net/publication/348804596_Somalia_Social_Protection_Policy_Implementation_Framework

### **Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)**

<b>Title of the document</b>	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	<i>If published, provide the hyperlink</i>
------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------

## **2.2. Focus on vulnerable populations**

### **Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP**

<b>Title of the document</b>	<b>Date when finalized</b> (MM/YY)	<b>Focus on gender equality and women empowerment</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on children</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on youth</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on older persons</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on other groups</b> (List the group/s)	<b>Focus on PwDs</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Included disaggregated data by disability - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability</b> (Yes/No)
Primary and secondary socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19	09/20	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/somalia/media/2381/file/Somalia-vulnerability-assessment-MoLSA-September-2020.pdf">https://www.unicef.org/somalia/media/2381/file/Somalia-vulnerability-assessment-MoLSA-September-2020.pdf</a>	No

on livelihood groups in urban Somalia								
---------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on gender equality and women empowerment (Yes/No)	Focus on children (Yes/No)	Focus on youth (Yes/No)	Focus on older persons (Yes/No)	Focus on other group/s (List the group/s)	Focus on PwDs (Yes/No)	Included disaggregated data by disability - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability (Yes/No)
Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in Somalia	04/21	No	No	No	No	Yes: Poor and informal sector	No	No

### Annex 3: 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 (e.g. social, environmental, security and safety risks)					
Environmental	High	5	4	Adopt all COVID 19 prevention protocol and adapt activities to adhere to COVID-19 protocols	PUNOs
Programmatic/Operational risks					
Government ownership	Low	1	5	Government Joint SDG Fund Coordinator was recruited to ensure	MoLSA

				government ownership of the programme	
Monitoring and supervision	Low	2	4	Close monitoring and supervision of the programme done jointly by PUNOS and MoLSA during bimonthly meetings. The lead agency was responsible of following up bilaterally with each PUNO to ensure progress was adequate and to request the PUNO to share plans for improvement when progress was slow.	MoLSA and PUNOs
Institutional risks (e.g. political, regulatory risks)					
Government staff turnover	Medium	3	5	Continue fund raising to extend project support till safety net is transitioned to government in 2023 as the provision of salary and operational support to staff will be gap that the government will not be able to fill once the SDG project comes to an end.	MoLSA and PUNOs
Fiduciary risks (financial risks, fraud & corruption risks)					
UN established partnership framework	Low	1	3	Each UN agency established a partnership agreement (MoU or Work plan) to hold all parties responsible for delivery as per UN standards	PUNOs

Monitoring and supervision	Medium	1	4	Financial monitoring was undertaken to ensure funds are accounted, following UN harmonized approach to cash transfers (HACT) procedures.	PUNOs
----------------------------	--------	---	---	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------

#### Annex 4: Results questionnaire

- Complete portfolio questionnaire online at: <https://forms.office.com/r/H4eZakyx9H>