



Joint Programme Document and Fund Transfer Request

- Template -

Development Emergency Modality – Response to the Global Crisis on Food, Energy, Finance

Eligibility Check

Does the proposal address one or more of the following sectors affected by the global crisis? Select all relevant sectors.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance
What are the areas of intervention that will be implemented by this proposal? Select all relevant intervention areas.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data collection/analytics <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analysis and forecasting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Help devise comprehensive preventative package of response measures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Testing / catalysing new integrated policies, financing solutions, programmes		
Is the proposal developed under the RC leadership to mobilize the UNCT to effectively and efficiency respond to the crisis?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the proposal contribute to results in the UNSDCFs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the proposal building on and topping up an existing joint programme supported by the Joint SDG Fund?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>(If yes, please follow the specific guidance as per communications from the Secretariat)</i>	

Cover-page

MPTFO Project Reference Number	<i>(Leave blank, for automatic population in Atlas)</i>
Country	The Kingdom of Eswatini
Region	Southern Africa
Joint programme title:	Understanding and motivating proactive response to the global crises and their interactions with existing vulnerabilities in Eswatini

Outcomes(s): <verbatim from CF>	
Duration:	6 months
Anticipated start and end dates:	6/2022 to 12/2022
Short description	<p>This project is aimed at creating an evidence-based and shared understanding of the current and potential impacts of the current global crises of food, energy and finance, their potential interaction with existing vulnerabilities, and their implications for Eswatini, and serve as a basis for accelerated national preparedness and response plan. The project will have 3 phases and will be coordinated by the UNCT.</p> <p>Phase 1 (2 months)</p> <p>A Rapid Country Assessment (RCA) on the impacts of the food, energy and finance crisis to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the food, energy and finance nexus and the impact on Eswatini’s achievement of SDGs, with a focus on vulnerable populations. • Assess the potential interactions and impacts of the triple crises with already existing vulnerabilities including those pertaining to recent civil unrest and others identified in the updated CCA. The updated CCA emphasizes on the peace and security pillar with regard to the potential interactions between the global crises and the identified new risks/vulnerabilities. • Identify needs, data gaps and institutional arrangements to monitor national capacities in response to crises. • Analyse national budgets, identify entry points and instruments for funding crisis response to inform budget reallocation/realignment. <p>The RCA will provide recommendations on interventions by the government, including possible repurposing of current and leveraging new resources, to mitigate the impacts of the crises</p> <p>Phase 2 (1 month)</p> <p>National stakeholders and development partners will be engaged to prioritise an inventory of short, medium, and long-term interventions which build on existing programmes for deployment by Government guided by the RCA</p> <p>Phase 3 (3 months)</p> <p>Select and pilot at least one short-term multidimensional programme (inclusive of gender equality and climate action) from the prioritised inventory targeting vulnerable groups, while harvesting lessons for scaling up.</p> <p>These activities and outputs will result in an Eswatini that is better informed and prepared to respond proactively to the impacts of the global crises and their interactions with existing risks and vulnerabilities.</p>

Resident Coordinator	Mr George Wachira (george.wachira@un.org)
UN Joint Program RCO focal point	Benjamin Ofosu-Koranteng, Email: Benjamin.ofosu-koranteng@un.org , Coordination Officer and Team Leader, Eswatini Resident Coordinator's Office.
PUNO Lead agency JP Focal point	UNDP, Ms. Rose Ssebatindira, Resident Representative, Email: rose.ssebatindira@undp.org
Other PUNOs JP focal point	WFP, Mr. Deepak Shah, Head of Office, Email: Deepak.shah@wfp.org
	WHO, Dr. Cornelia Atsyor, Country Representative, Email: atsyorc@who.int
	FAO, Ms. Khanyisile Mabuza, Assistant Resident Representative, Email: Khanyisile.mabuza@fao.org

Total budget:	\$250,000
Source of funds:	
• UN Joint SDG Fund	up to \$250,000 (\$400,000 for MCOs)
• PUNO 1	
• PUNO 2	
•	
• Other sources	

SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint Programme	Min 2 max 5 SDG targets SDGs 2, 3, 5,7 and 8
<u>Gender Marker</u>	Select only one from the options below <input type="checkbox"/> GEN3: Have gender equality/women empowerment as the primary or principal objective. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GEN2: Make a significant contribution to gender equality/women empowerment. <input type="checkbox"/> GEN1: Make a limited contribution to gender equality/women empowerment <input type="checkbox"/> GEN0: Make no contribution to gender equality/women empowerment

JOINT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Situation Analysis

The Kingdom of Eswatini faces a triple crisis, that of climate induced natural disasters, COVID-19 and civil unrest. In 2015/16, an El Niño drought led to 1/3 of the population facing severe food insecurity. This cost the government 19% of its annual expenditure (equivalent to 7% of GDP), and spiked inflation to 7.8%. In 2021, the Cyclone Eloise rendered over 1,000 people homeless. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic struck, which is estimated to have increased poverty between 2.3% to 5.6% over the 2017 rates. In 2021, the country was affected by unprecedented civil unrest, which resulted in the killing of 65 demonstrators and sparked an ongoing political tension. The civil unrest is estimated to have caused damage of more than US\$ 210 million and the loss of over 5,000 jobs. Today, in 2022, as the war in Ukraine continues, Eswatini faces further adverse impacts, with food prices increasing and fuel prices increased twice this year.

These shocks exacerbate vulnerabilities, making the poor even poorer. Around 70% of the approximately 1.3 million people of Eswatini live in rural areas and practice subsistence agriculture. Eswatini has the highest rates of unemployment (46%), child poverty (56.6%), a Gender Inequality Index of 0.567, ranking it 143 out of 162 countries. It also has the tenth highest level of inequality in the world (Gini Index: 51.5), dropped in the Fragile State Index by 14 points since 2007, and is currently ranking 47th among 178 countries.

With a score of 22.5, the level of hunger in Eswatini is classified as “serious” in the 2018 Global Hunger Index. In addition, annual vulnerability analyses indicate that an average of 35,451 very poor and poor households have experienced food insecurity in the past 10 years; a similar number of households (35,349) have been identified as “extremely poor” in a quantitative assessment of social assistance.

Access to energy is important to address poverty and, clean energy sources are required to sustainably drive rural and urban economies. Eswatini has one of the highest rates of electricity in Africa at 80% in 2019. However, the country currently imports about 80% of its electricity needs. The dependence on fossil-fuels imported electricity translates to an indirect carbon footprint on the country with GHG emissions estimated at 3,240 Gg CO2 equivalent in 1990-2018 of which 40% comes from the energy sector. The high national electrification rate masks the variance between urban centers (90%) and rural areas (69%).

Though yet to be fully studied, the Russia-Ukraine conflict could further retard Eswatini to get back on track to attain the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. As the country struggle to recover from the destabilizing effects of the Cyclone Eloise, COVID-19 pandemic and civil unrest, which caused deep economic regression, the Ukraine crisis will further create additional vulnerabilities and make it more difficult for the country to achieve its SDGs. Therefore, urgently greater understanding and proactive response to the global crises and their interactions with existing vulnerabilities in Eswatini is required.

Programme Strategy

Rationale

With the recent increase in fuel and commodity prices, Eswatini is already facing serious economic consequences from the simultaneous global crises of food, energy, and finance due to supply disruptions caused by the Russia's -Ukraine war. While the connection between the three and their impacts are yet to be fully studied the country is already grappling with vulnerabilities stemming from COVID-19, destructive Cyclone Eloise in 2021 followed by civil unrest in the same year with significant impacts on women, youth, and children. There is thus an urgent need to better understand these highly interconnected crises, their interactions and potential impacts in order to inform response.

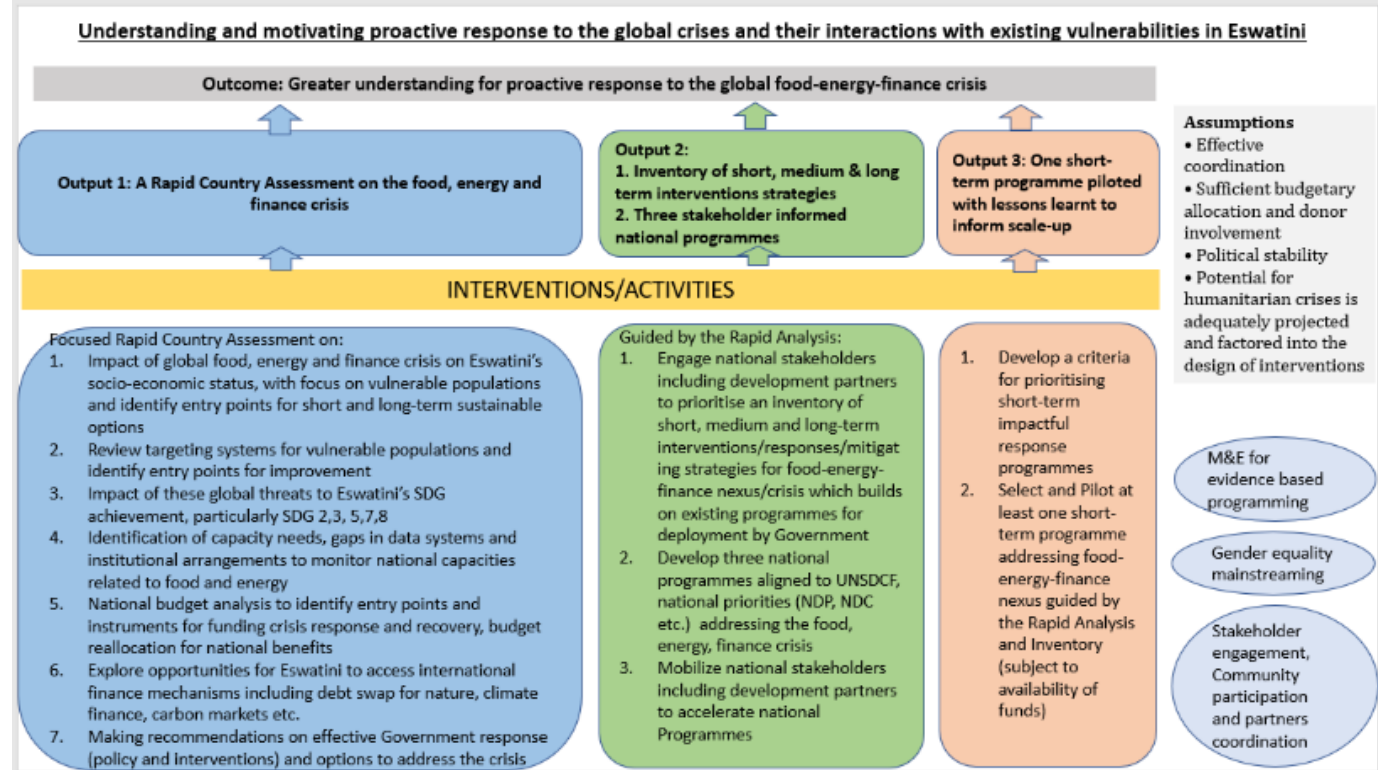
Proposed Approach

The proposed approach will include **firstly**, a Rapid Country Assessment on the food, energy and finance crises their relevance and interaction with existing risks and vulnerabilities in Eswatini. The multi phased assessment will include understanding the impact of global food, energy, and finance crisis on citizens socio-economic status, focussing on vulnerable populations; and identifying entry points for short and long-term sustainable options. It will review targeting systems for vulnerable populations and identify entry points for improvement while providing synthesised information on the impact of these global threats to Eswatini's SDG achievement, particularly SDGs 2, 3, 5,7 and 8. The assessment will also analyse threats to the achievement of Eswatini's Nationally Determined Contributions and identify existing needs, gaps in data systems and institutional arrangements to monitor national capacities related to food, energy, and finance. A comprehensive national budget analysis will be conducted as part of the assessment to identify entry points and instruments for funding crisis response and recovery and budget reallocation and explore opportunities for accessing international finance mechanisms including debt swap for nature, climate finance, carbon markets etc. Lastly, the assessment will make recommendations on effective Government response (policy and interventions) and options to address the crisis with funding from funding from development partners and other sources

Secondly, guided by the Rapid Analysis, national stakeholders including development partners will be engaged to prioritise an inventory of short, medium, and long-term gender sensitive interventions for food-energy-finance crisis which builds on existing programmes for deployment by Government. Three national programmes will be designed, aligned to the UNSDCF and national priorities (NDP, NDC etc.) to specifically address the food, energy, and finance crisis. National stakeholders including development partners will be mobilized to accelerate the country's preparedness to implement these programmes.

Thirdly, the pilot phase will entail the implementation of selected short-term impactful integrated gender responsive interventions addressing the food-energy-finance nexus. A criterion to select at least one intervention addressing the food-energy-finance nexus will be developed (subject to availability of funds). The beneficiaries of such short term intervention would include women and children and contribute toward gender equality and climate action. Where possible, synergies will be sought, building on existing programmes such as capacity building in renewable energy, improving nutrition of children through the home-grown school feeding programmes, and providing therapeutic feeding to those diagnosed with malnutrition and having them as index clients for household support. The purpose of the pilot will be to demonstrate sustainability while providing lessons for scaling up. It is anticipated that these activities and outputs will result in a better informed and prepared Eswatini and lead to accelerating integrated responses to the crisis.

The Theory of Change of this proposal articulates that if there is increased country understanding of the potential impacts of the food-energy-finance crisis, it will facilitate a rapid shift in decision making and design of interventions that can effectively respond to the crisis in an integrated way in the short, medium, and long term



Linkages to UNSDCF and SDGs

Eswatini's United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025 has been signed between all 16 heads of Agencies, Funds and Programmes (AFPs) under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and all cabinet ministers led by the Prime Minister since October 2020. The UNSDCF is the collective vision of the UNDS. It has been prepared in the context of a system-wide response to COVID 19 pandemic in the country which has further exacerbated pre-existing socio-economic inequalities. The Russia- Ukraine war is already manifesting in increasing food, agricultural inputs, and energy prices, and threatening to significantly slowdown the realization of the 2030 Agenda. The UNCT will use opportunity to deepen and further build strategic partnerships with Government, development partners, private sector, civil society, IFIs to respond to the triple crisis. The UNSDCF Joint Workplans for 2022 and beyond provides the platform for these partnerships,

and a framework through which greater understanding, integrated and accelerated responses to be realized to address the crisis.

The programme will contribute to SDGs 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8 and will contribute to **Outcome 1 of the UNSDCF**: “By 2025, women, men and youth including marginalized persons contribute to and benefit from economic progress through greater access to decent employment, equitable socio-economic opportunities, sustainable enterprise opportunities as well as resilient and financially sustainable social protection systems” This outcome area is directly contributed to by FAO, WFP, and UNDP. The agencies have the capacities to deliver this project and will leverage existing partnerships with Government and local institutions to deliver the outputs in a short period of time.

Governance and implementation arrangements

Partnerships: A Joint National Steering Committee (JNSC) will provide the overall strategic direction and coordination of project implementation, including the interaction between Government of Eswatini and partner entities. It will be co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Deputy Prime Minister’s Office. Representatives from the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Principal Secretaries from Ministries that are aligned to the Project result areas, and civil society representatives will be included. Other members will include bilateral and multilateral development partners/donors, or representatives from private sector, including national small and medium enterprises, civil society, youth, and other vulnerable population groups.

Governance: The UNCT, as the highest-level inter-agency coordination and decision-making body of the UN in Eswatini, will be responsible for ensuring the delivery of results in this proposal.. The UNCT is chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator, and its membership includes the Heads/ Representatives of all 16 UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes accredited in Eswatini. The Operations Management Team (OMT) and the UN Communications Group (UNCG) which report directly to the UNCT will support the management and reporting of the project, with the Policy and Programmes Support Group (PPSG) providing the technical guidance, policy, technical quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation support to ensure that planned interventions align to the project’s the expected results. The PPSG is also tasked with identifying areas for effective integration and joint programming in line with agencies’ comparative advantages and mandates.

Implementation Modalities: A Project Implementing Team will be established comprising of the UN Agencies spearheading implementation and Government ministries including DPMO. The Project Implementing Team will be serviced by a secretariat comprising of Government representatives(1 or 2 focal persons) and UN agency representatives following the normal operational procedures for UN programmes. FAO, WFP, WHO, and UNDP already have the established support system in terms of technical staff for running the project within the country. The roles of keys players are summarized as follows:

Resident Coordinator: The RC will provide overall oversight, receive regular reports, monitor programme implementation and performance and report to the Fund in line with the agreed procedures.

- Project implementing team: The existing national joint steering committee will provide technical oversight, networking opportunities, content and process review as well as mobilization of relevant players.
- FAO, WFP, UNDP and WHO will dedicate specific focal point persons (and staff) depending on the level of involvement in the project activities to be part of the project secretariat in collaboration with a representative from Government, particularly the Department of Social Development, Ministry of Economic Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy.
- Other UN entities: UN entities through the UNCT will assist the RCO in providing overall oversight, receive regular reports, monitor programme implementation and performance and reporting

- Civil society: Will participate in the technical committee and platforms convened by the Ministry of Agriculture and Department of Social Development. Feedback mechanism through a toll-free contact number will be used to get participation of vulnerable groups including emerging issues in the design and implementation of the programme.

Legal context

The agreements between each Participating UN Organization (PUNO) and the government are as follows:

Agency name: **World Food Programme**

Agreement title: Basic Agreement between Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland and WFP

Agreement date: 27th May 2005

Agency name: **United Nations Development Programme**

Agreement title: Agreement between Government of Swaziland and UNDP

Agreement date: 28th October 1977

Agency name: **World Health Organization**

Agreement title: Agreement between Government of Swaziland and WHO for the provision of technical advisory assistance

Agreement date: 11th July 1973

Agency name: **Food and Agriculture Organization**

Agreement title: Agreement for the opening off FAO representation in Swaziland: 28th July 1983

Agreement date: 28th July 1993

		Workplan Template													
Outcome		<i>A better Informed nation, with improved preparedness to accelerate response to the food-energy-finance crisis</i>													
Output	Target/s	List of activities	Time frame Months						PLANNED BUDGET				PUNO/s involved	Implementin g partner/s involved	
			1	2	3	4	5	6	Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution s (USD)	Total Cost (USD)			
Output 1 A Rapid Country Assessment on the food, energy, and finance crisis	One Rapid Country Assessment	Recruit a team of consultants to undertake Rapid Country Assessment	X							Stakeholder workshops	0	0	0	UNDP WFP FAO WHO	UNDP
		Hold stakeholder engagement workshops	X						Consultancy fees for five experts						
		Conduct a Focused Rapid Country Assessment	X						Community visits						
		Hold Validation workshop on the Rapid Country Assessment		X											
Output 2 An Inventory of short, medium, and long term interventions/responses/mitigating strategies	One inventory Three stakeholder informed national programmes	Hold workshops for stakeholders including development partners to prioritise an inventory of short, medium, and long-term interventions			X					Stakeholder workshops	0	0	0	UNDP WFP FAO WHO	WFP FAO
		Hold workshops to develop three national programmes aligned to UNSDCF, national priorities (NDP, NDC etc.) addressing the food, energy, finance crisis			X				Consultancy fees for five experts						
		Conduct awareness raising through various media to mobilise national				X			Community visits						

		stakeholders including development partners to accelerate national Programmes /priorities													
Output 3 A criteria for prioritising short-term impactful response programmes developed and at least one pilot programme addressing food-energy-finance nexus implemented	One short-term programme piloted with lessons learnt to inform scale-up	Hold stakeholder workshop to develop criteria for prioritization				X		Stakeholder Workshops							
		Implement a pilot programmes				X	X	Pilot programme costs including contractual services	0	0	0	UNDP WFP FAO WHO	UNDP WFP FAO WHO		
		Document process of pilot and undertake reflection exercise for identifying lessons learnt						X Documentation/printing costs							

Monitoring, accountability, financial management, and public disclosure

Standard text – do not change

Reporting on the Joint SDG Fund will be results-oriented, and evidence based. **The Convening/Lead Agent will develop a simple final narrative report and submit it to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, through the Resident Coordinator no later than two (2) months after the operational closure of the programme activities.**

The Resident Coordinator will be required to monitor the implementation of the joint programme, with the involvement of Joint SDG Fund Secretariat to which it must submit data and information when requested. Additional insights (such as policy papers, value for money analysis, case studies, infographics, blogs) might need to be provided, per request of the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat.

PUNOs will be required to include information on complementary funding received from other sources (both UN cost sharing, and external sources of funding) for the activities supported by the Fund, including in kind contributions and/or South-South Cooperation initiatives, in the reporting.

PUNOs at Headquarters level shall provide the Administrative Agent with the following statements and reports prepared in accordance with its accounting and reporting procedures, consolidate the financial reports, as follows:

- Annual financial reports as of 31st December each year with respect to the funds disbursed to it from the Joint SDG Fund Account, to be provided no later than four months after the end of the applicable reporting period; and
- A final financial report, after the completion of the activities financed by the Joint SDG Fund and including the final year of the activities, to be provided no later than 30 April of the year following the operational closing of the project activities.

The Project will be using a pass-through fund management modality where UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office will act as the Administrative Agent. The programmatic UN entity of the Facility shall assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent of the Joint SDG Fund (Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office). Such funds will be administered by each UN Agency, Fund, and Project in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives, and procedures. The entity shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent. Indirect costs of the Participating Organizations recovered through project support costs will be 7%. All other costs incurred by each PUNO in carrying out the activities for which it is responsible under the Fund will be recovered as direct costs. Procedures on financial transfers, extensions, financial and operational closure, and related administrative issues are stipulated in the Operational Guidance of the Joint SDG Fund. PUNOs and partners must comply with Joint SDG Fund brand guidelines, which includes information on donor visibility requirements.

Risk Management

See further instruction below (delete the instructions before finalizing the ProDoc)

Risks	Risk Level: (Likelihood x Impact, as per instructions)	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					
Civil unrest	Medium	3	3	PUNOs will be monitoring the political climate/situation in the country and raise concerns whenever the project implementation is affected during political instability.	UNDP
Programmatic risks					
Prioritization of other response plans by stakeholders	low	1	2	PUNOs will create awareness to all stakeholders involved about the urgency of this response plan from inception of the project to the close out.	UNDP WFP FAO WHO
Institutional risks					

Limited involvement of stakeholders during the project cycle	Low	1	1	PUNOs have extensive experience undertaking multi-stakeholder initiatives and will aim to ensure that all relevant stakeholders are engaged and involved throughout the project cycle.	UNDP WFP FAO WHO
Fiduciary risks					
Insufficient funding to continue the piloting of suggested programmes to the government	Low	1	2	The respective implementing partners will strive to maximise the funding that is available	UNDP WFP FAO WHO

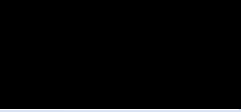
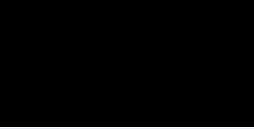
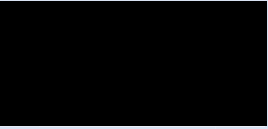
Budget per UNSDG Categories

UNSDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	UNDP		WFP		WHO		FAO	
	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)
1. Staff and other personnel	0		0		0		0	
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	0		30,000		10,000		10,000	
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	45,000		0		5,000		0	
4. Contractual services	50,000		0		0		0	
5. Travel and conferencing	15,000		0		1,519		15,000	
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	0		50,000		0		0	
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	2,500		0		0		0	
Total Direct Costs	112,500		80,000		16,519		25,000	
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	7,875		5,200		1,156		1,750	
TOTAL Costs	120,375.00	0	85,200.00	0	17,675.01	0	26,750.00	0

Signature of Joint Programme document and Fund Transfer Request as per UNSDG budget categories.

I hereby confirm that the funds requested are in accordance with the approved Work Plan & Joint Programme Document. * I also certify that the copy transmitted to the MPTF Office is a true copy of the original which is secured by the RC Office. I have received documentation from Participating Organizations demonstrating Committed amounts where applicable. I also confirm that the PUNOs' indirect cost does not exceed 7%.

RESIDENT COORDINATOR SIGNATURE	Name: George Wachira	
	Date and Signature	

UNDP Representative SIGNATURE	Rose Ssebatindira, Title: Resident Representative Date and Signature	
WFP Representative SIGNATURE	Deepak Shah, Title: Head of Office Date and Signature	
WHO Representative SIGNATURE	Cornelia Atsyor, Title:Country Representative Date and Signature	
FAO Representative SIGNATURE	Khanyisile Mabuza, Title: Assistant Resident Representative Date and Signature	