

Joint Programme Document and Fund Transfer Request

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 type="checkbox"/> Energy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Help devise comprehensive preventative package of response measures <input 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

Cover-page

MPTFO Project Reference Number	<i>(Leave blank, for automatic population in Atlas)</i>
Country	Mauritania
Region	Western Africa
Joint programme title:	Contribute to the assessment of the impacts of the current crisis and the identification of funding sources for the national response plan

SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint Programme	SDG1, SDG 2 and SDG 17
<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

Effective social protection systems are essential to protect the poor and vulnerable at times of crisis. Social protection programmes have proven to be a pillar on which governments rely to provide an effective response to vulnerable populations. It is therefore important to ensure that the prioritization of social protection, nutrition, and food security programmes is maintained and reinforced when the country faces financial challenges. Mauritania's total expenditure on social protection, excluding health, was 3.6% of the GDP in 2021 while the average of Sub-Saharan Africa was 2.1%. However, the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the food crisis on the economy have spilled over into the labor market and impacted the living conditions of local populations.

International estimates point to an **increase in poverty**, corroborated by pessimistic household perceptions of their well-being. Prior to the Ukraine food crisis, data projections were already alarming, indicating that the COVID-19 pandemic could cause poverty to increase by 5.4 to 6.3% between 2019 and 2020, and then by 6.4% in 2021. It is clear that the effects of the war will continue to have a huge impact on the government's ability to mobilize public funding for social protection, nutrition, and food security programs. **The country, therefore, needs to have appropriate analysis of the current fiscal space, to simulate the capacity of the government to increase its coverage in terms of food security, nutrition, and social protection.**

Finally, female-headed households (33% according to the latest national household food security survey conducted by WFP in October 2021) are disproportionately affected due to difficulties related to access to land, income sources and credit. It is on this basis - and by applying a **gender lens** to the project - that the data collection and analysis as well as the response plan itself will be gender-sensitive.

Programme Strategy

Max 1000 words, summarizing the proposal, including (1) the rationale and relevance of the proposed approach; (2) the expected outputs and their contribution to addressing the impact of the global crisis, CF outcome(s), and related SDG; (3) How the JP results

The rationale and relevance of the project are:

1. Strengthening the capacity of the existing national systems for preparedness and early warning of shocks to provide the Government with the tools and mechanisms to cope with the surge in the number of vulnerable people resulting from the abovementioned crises (outcome 1)
2. Evaluating, through two specific household surveys, the impacts of the current crisis on the food and nutritional situation (outcome 2)
3. Informing the current strategies and policies to equip national authorities with appropriate evidence and tools to identify potential resources in the national budget that can contribute to the food and nutrition crisis response (outcome 2)

1. The direct one is **governmental authorities** whose capacities will be strengthened to develop tools and mechanisms allowing them to respond effectively, comprehensively and timely to food and nutrition shocks affecting the country. Moreover, the governmental authorities will have a better understanding of the fiscal space to identify available funds for the national response plan and potential gaps.
2. The indirect target are **vulnerable Mauritanian people**, whose food and nutritional security worsened due to the negative spill over effects of the Ukraine crisis, the consequences of the COVID 19 pandemic, and inflation reducing their purchasing power. These vulnerable people will be better identified and will receive the needed food and nutritional assistance.

In terms of the role of the UNCT, the **Resident Coordination (RC)** will assume a leadership and advocacy role vis-à-vis the government. The RC will facilitate the launch of the project and will support the agencies to get the government's buy-in, ownership, and leadership in the implementation of the activities.

The project ensures a **proper consideration of risks** potentially impacting the achievement of the results. The main identified risk is the delay in taking into account the data and evidence produced or delay in validating the response plan. As a mitigation measure, the two implementing agencies will strengthen their advocacy efforts vis-à-vis the DCAN in using the results of the November 2022 CH, together with the results of the two evaluations of this action, to finalize the national response plan by mid-December 2022 and submit it for validation. At the same time, WFP and UNICEF will continue to raise awareness among the executives of the decision-making bodies of the response plan in order to facilitate their understanding and therefore validation. More on a programmatic level, technically qualified support expertise may not be available locally. The hiring of an international consultant will be the mitigating measure for this risk.

Governance and implementation arrangements

Max 500 words. Explain the specific roles and responsibilities of RC/RCO, PUNOs and other partners – to ensure integrated implementation and effective governance under the RC leadership. Focus on coordination, decision-

WFP and UNICEF will pool their efforts, each in its own area of expertise, using the comparative advantage of each agency to influence government decision-making in terms of preparing and implementing the next lean season response, using the evidence generated by this project. To do this, they will use the leadership of the RC to carry the message to the Prime Minister during regular meetings between the Government and the United Nations system.

The project will build on existing structures and mechanisms at the government and UNCT level. In particular, DCAN, an already functional and operational mechanism, will be the main entry point and main interlocutor for this project. It also will be the main user and recipient of the evidence produced by the project.

Agency name: UNICEF
Agreement title: Direction Générale du Budget
Agreement date: 2018

										institutions, SSC focal points, city hall etc.							
Outcome 2		The effects of the food, energy and financial crisis on food and nutrition security and livelihoods in urban and rural areas are understood and financial resources to address them are identified															
	Target/s								Time frame	PLANNED BUDGET							
Output		List of activities								Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)	PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved		
Output 2.1																	
Primary face-to-face and mVAM data collection in rural and urban areas at the peak of the lean season is conducted		Conduct face-to-face survey of a sample of 6,000 households representative by regions and area of residence							X	X	The budget will be used to collect and analyze data	106,000	0	106,000	WFP	ANED SDD	

	populations are available	and a financing plan to ensure coverage of the vulnerable population by food security, nutrition and social protection services																			CSA TAAZOUR
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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 program activities.**

The Resident Coordinator will be required to monitor the implementation of the joint program, 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.

Budget per UNSDG Categories

UNSDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	PUNO 1 WFP			PUNO 2 UNICEF		
	Joint Fund (USD)	SDG	PUNO Contribution (USD))	Joint Fund (USD)	SDG	PUNO Contribution (USD)
1. Staff and other personnel		-		4,700		
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	5,110.00			55,000		
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)		-		0		
4. Contractual services	99,218.42			39,000		
5. Travel		-		0		
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts		-		0		
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	27,126.98			4,104		
Total Direct Costs	131,455			102,804		
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	8,544.60			7,196		
TOTAL Costs	140,000			110,000		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	Cheikh FALL Date and Signature	[Redacted]
PUNO Representative SIGNATURE	Kinday Samba, WFP Deputy Date and Signature	[Redacted]
PUNO Representative SIGNATURE	Marc Lucet, UNICEF Representative Date and Signature	[Redacted]