

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.	⊠ Food [□ Energy	☐ Finance
What are the areas of intervention that will be implemented by this proposal? Select all relevant intervention areas.		nprehensive preve	☑ Analysis and forecasting entative package of response measures ed policies, financing solutions, programmes
Is the proposal developed under the RC leadership to mobilize the UNCT to effectively and efficiency respond to the crisis?	⊠ Yes □	l No	
Does the proposal contribute to results in the UNSDCFs?	⊠ Yes □	l No	
Is the proposal building on and topping up an existing joint programme supported by the Joint SDG Fund?		No w the specific gu	idance as per communications from the Secretariat)

Cover-page

MPTFO Project Reference Number	(Leave blank, for automatic population in Atlas)				
Country	Niger				
Region					
Joint programme title:	Planning to build back better food security in Niger				
Outcomes(s): <verbatim cf="" from=""></verbatim>					

Duration:	Maximum 6 months, no later than 31 December 2022						
Anticipated start and end dates:	07/2022 to 12/2022						
•	(for Top-ups, extensions to no later than 31 December 2022)						
Short description	Max 300 words This proposal covers the compilation of data and reports on food, energy, finance, climate change and ancillary issues into a common database and a virtual library set up under the RCO with UNOPS support; and the collation of data in a number of multi-sectoral dashboards. An additional study on the impact of the Russo-Ukrainian crisis will be conducted by the FAO. This information will form the basis of a strategic forecasting exercise to be led by the RCO with external expertise brought in through UNOPS support. This will enable a wider range of UN and government agencies to participation in this reflection beyond the formal implementing partners of this joint programme. Regional ramifications of the crisis will be clarified and linkages established on the occasion the 27 th Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 27) in Egypt in November 2022, during which implementing partners will host a side event. Finally, the analysis will lead to the formulation of a UNCT-wide flagship programme on food security, one of three flagship programmes slated to be developed under the new UNSDCF. This will constitute a comprehensive preventive package of response measures to the combined crisis of the Russo-Ukrainian conflict, climate emergency, and regional insecurity.						
Resident Coordinator	Louise Aubin, louise.aubin@un.org						
UN Joint Program RCO focal point	Daniel Ladouceur, <u>ladouceur2@un.org</u> , Head of RCO, Tel. +227 80 09 71 83						
PUNO Lead agency JP Focal point	FAO, Luc Genot, <u>Luc.Genot@fao.org</u> , Deputy representative, <u>luc.genot@fao.org</u>						
Other PUNOs JP focal point	UNOPS, Tatiana COSTA GUIMARAES TRINDADE tatianaco@unops.org						
Total budget:							
Source of funds:							
UN Joint SDG Fund	\$250,000						
PUNO 1	FAO: 150,000						
• PUNO 2	UNOPS: 100,000						
Other sources							

SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint	Min 2 max 5 SDG targets				
Programme	Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable				
	agriculture				
	Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns				
	Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts				
	Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for				
	sustainable development				
Gender Marker	Select only one from the options below				
	\square GEN3: Have gender equality/women empowerment as the primary or principal objective.				
	\square GEN2: Make a significant contribution to gender equality/women empowerment.				
	☐ GEN1: Make a limited contribution to gender equality/women empowerment				
	\square GEN0: Make no contribution to gender equality/women empowerment				

JOINT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Situation Analysis

Max 500 words. A brief, evidence-based situation analysis of the development challenges to be addressed. It is connected to country analytical work as relevant. Apply a gender lens to the analysis and description of the problem.

The war in Ukraine and its ripple effects on food prices, energy prices and access to finance puts Niger at serious risk of acute food insecurity, social unrest and political instability. At first sight, Niger only marginally depends on imports from and exports to Ukraine and Russia. But this crisis intervenes at a time when rising insecurity in Niger and related population displacements are already adversely affecting the country's agricultural production, a sector employing 70% of Niger's labour force. Niger has a little diversified economy, dependent on agriculture for 40% of its GDP. The level of extreme poverty at 41.8% in 2021 concerns more than 10 million people.

Burkina Faso, Benin and Mali have now suspended their own cereal exports, while cargo entering the port of Cotonou – one of the primary entry points for Niger's supplies – is experiencing serious delays. Rising costs of fertilizers and petrol are fuelling domestic inflation. In addition, poor rainfall in 2021 led to a 39% decrease in domestic cereal production, and a consequent slowing down of the country's economic growth, a trend that will likely be exacerbated through the effects of climate change. Food security is clearly at the nexus of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding priorities.

Analysis of the vulnerability of risk areas in December 2021 highlighted 257 extremely and moderately vulnerable classified areas (compared to 160 in December 2020). The latest analysis of the *Cadre Harmonisé* (Harmonised Framework), carried out in March 2022, projects that around 4,402,406 people could experience a food crisis (phase CH 3-4), during the lean season (June-July-August).



Conflicts are increasingly complex, and their triggers and consequences are intricately linked to climate, environmental degradation and the struggle to control finite natural resources. More and more, the evidence confirms that climate change triggers or aggravates security threats, such as food insecurity, which are linked to different types of conflicts. Niger is often presented as the last country in the Sahel still governed by a civilian regime upholding democratic values; this war and its profound economic and political consequences might just be the proverbial straw that breaks the camel's back.

However this crisis also constitutes an opportunity to set the country on a different track. Food security has been identified as a key priority both in the National Economic and Social Development Plan (in French: PDES) 2022-2026, and in the UNSDCF 2022-2027. This commitment at the highest level, at a moment when both the Government of Niger and the UNCT are reviewing their programmes and priorities, means we have an opportunity to anchor strengthened responses to our joint efforts to reach the Sustainable Development Goals. In a world still reeling from the effects of the pandemic, struggling to respond adequately to the climate emergency, and now facing additional geo-political uncertainties, a fresh look at our strategy is timely indeed.

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 translate into medium-term policy and/or financing solutions; (4) Focus on vulnerable groups; (5) The role of wider UNCT and other stakeholders. Outline any potential risk you foresee in carrying out the strategy and how you plan to mitigate against such risk, if any.

The UNCT, under the leadership of the UNOPS, proposes to address this crisis through a four-pronged approach: (1) Data collation and compilation to get a more complete picture of the multi-sectoral risks facing Niger in light of this crisis; (2) Intersectoral analysis and forecasting to outline possible future scenarios and propose short- to mid-term responses; (3) Regional consultation and coordination of responses; (4) Devising a comprehensive preventative package of response measures.

(1) Data collation and compilation

The UNOPS has conducted a review of existing data collection efforts in Niger by UN agencies and technical and financial partners as part of its Common Country Analysis. The review concluded that Niger is generally a data-rich environment, but data on climate change is limited and a proper baseline is lacking. In addition, existing data is under-utilised due to insufficient information sharing, incompatible data management systems, and poor analytical capacity. Sectoral mandates of UN agencies investing in data collection obscure the multisectoral ramifications of what are intrinsically complex, interlocked issues. A case in point are the ripple effects of the war in Ukraine, which – as the United Nations Global Crisis Response Group identified – affects food, energy and finance, with further ramifications, particularly in the case of Niger, on armed violence and insecurity, population displacement, and gender equality. The crisis is also compounded by climate change and the country's vulnerability to droughts.

As a first step, UNOPS proposes to fast-track the collation of existing data on food, energy, finance, climate change and ancillary issues in a common database. The UNOPS has already laid the groundwork for such a common database. Funding would enable implementing agencies to pool and collate existing datasets in order to produce multi-sectoral dashboards as tools for decision-making support. Efforts would also seek to gather and catalogue existing reports and analyses into a virtual library – as with the common database, the UNOPS has already developed a basic web platform to host such a library, but is yet to systematically provide it with content. In addition, support will be extended to strengthening the existing data collection networks at departmental level of the Prime Minister's Unit for Public Policy Analysis and Evaluation of Government Action (CAPEG).

In the same vein, an in-depth study of the impact of the Russo-Ukrainian crisis on livelihoods and food security in Niger will be jointly conducted by FAO, and DNPGCA in July 2022.

(2) Intersectoral analysis and forecasting

Making data available will not in itself provide the UNCT and the Government of Niger with actionable policy and programmatic recommendations. Evidence-based policy and programming instead requires analysing and making sense of the data. The UNOPS is in the process of boosting its own capacity for integrated, multi-sectoral strategic analysis, but at the moment, such analytical capacity remains woefully weak in Niger. Under the leadership of the UNOPS, implementing agencies therefore propose to work with experts in strategic foresight in order to lead the UNCT and its government partners through a structured scenario planning exercise to inform our policy and programmatic responses to the crisis.

Under this Joint Program, UNOPS will bring in the expertise – through international consultants or a partnership with a French-speaking academic or research institution – to facilitate a strategic forecasting exercise. This exercise will bring together representatives of participating United Nations organisations (the UNOPS and FAO in collaboration with WFP) but also extend to further partners with relevant expertise in the government and UN system (UN Women, UNCDF), the World Bank and others, therefore broadening the scope of the partnership nurtured by the joint programme.

The collaboration already established with the National Meteorological Department and the AGRHYMET Regional Center within the framework of the Inter-Agency Anticipatory Action Pilot will be strengthened in order to improve intersectoral analyses and forecasts.

The aim of this bespoke process will be two-fold. First, the scenarios that will be developed will boost the UNCT and its government counterparts' capability to anticipate and respond to the fallout of the Ukraine war. Second, it would also develop the UNOPS's capacity to facilitate strategic forecasting and foresight exercises for other issues that may arise in the future. This indeed responds to a concern of the 2019 Internal Guidance for the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, which encourages UN agencies to project themselves over longer time horizons (para. 44).

(3) Regional consultation and coordination

As our situation analysis makes clear, the fallout from the war in Ukraine has regional ramifications that cannot be ignored. While primarily focused on Niger, this joint programme is keen to use opportunities to consult with and learn from the experience of other Sahel countries offices. One opportunity for such exchanges will present itself at the 27th Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 27) which will be held in Egypt in November 2022. This is particularly topical given the interconnection of the questions of food security and climate change. This joint programme will support a side event at this conference enabling us to initiate this dialogue based on the conclusions of the forecasting exercise.

(4) Devising a comprehensive preventative package of response measures

As indicated above, the Government of Niger through its Economic and Social Development Plan and I3N Action Plan 2021-2025 of the food and nutritional security and sustainable agricultural development strategy *«Les Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens»*, as well as the UNCT through the UNSDCF, have made food security one of their priorities for the next five years. This commitment now needs to be translated into an Outcome Flagship programme that will seek to strengthen the community resilience in the face of multifactorial crises on food security. The UNCT may also decide to establish a common pooled fund to support it. Data collation and analysis, as well as strategic forecasting, will form the evidence base upon which this programme will be elaborated. Ultimately, food security will be instrumental in operationalising the nexus between the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding sectors.

Thus, to contribute to the food security of vulnerable households, activities to inject financial resources will be implemented with a view to "reviving" the local economy and mitigating the effects of the crisis. Max 500 words. Explain the specific roles and responsibilities of RC/UNOPS, PUNOs and other partners – to ensure Governance and implementation arrangements integrated implementation and effective governance under the RC leadership. Focus on coordination, decision-making, reporting and how transaction costs will be reduced. Explain why this is the best approach including how it avoids introducing parallel structures to those that already exist, and confirm that existing structures and mechanisms of UNCT, government, and related programs/initiatives are leveraged. UNOPS has strengthened its capacity for strategic analysis and coordination. It has recruited a team of data, knowledge and partnership specialists that will be able to directly oversee the collation and analysis of data – with the assistance of externally-recruited methodological expertise, and in partnership with experts from the UNCT and the government. It has an existing partnership with CAPEG and HACP, and signed an implementation agreement with Search for Common Ground to strengthen data collection. Importantly, UNOPS has also developed a web platform that will enable to share both quantitative and qualitative data. The infrastructure is largely in place to receive the data and analytics that will be collated and generated by this project. The FAO will take the lead in overseeing the development of the five-year Outcome Flagship programme, recruiting a team of consultants to strengthen its country team which has experts in food security, agriculture, livestock, gender, climate change, farmer organizations, etc. FAO has sub-offices in 4 regions of the country, which will allow to ensure the participation of civil society and decentralized stakeholders at local level in overseeing the flagship programme. FAO is co-lead with WFP in the food security cluster and co-lead with the European Union Delegation of the agriculture sector table of technical and financial partners At the level of the UNCT, the joint programme will be overseen by the Inter-Agency Results Group on food security which was established to support implementation of the UNSCDF, and is slated to oversee implementation of the 5-year Outcome Flagship programme on food security. The initiative will also closely coordinate with the Food Security Cluster in the humanitarian field. Legal context This section refers to cooperation or assistance agreements form the legal basis for the relationships between the Government and each of the UN organizations participating in this joint programme. For example: the Basic Cooperation Agreement for UNICEF; Standard Basic Assistance Agreement for UNDP, which also applies to UNFPA; the Basic Agreement for WFP; as well as the Country Programme Action Plan(s) where they exist; and other applicable agreements for other

organization.

participating UN organizations. For the Funds and Programmes, these are standing cooperation arrangements. For the specialized Agencies, these should be the text that is normally used in their programme/project documents or any other applicable legal instruments. The text specific to each participating UN organization should be cleared by the respective UN

Indicate the title and date of the agreement between each Participating UN Organization (PUNO) and the government in the following format:

Agency name: FAO

Agreement title: Prolongation du Cadre de Programmation Pays 2017-2022

Agreement date: 24/02/2021

Workp	Workplan Template													
	Outcome 1	The UNCT and the multi-sect							Niger are in a position to a var in Ukraine	nticipate	and communic	cate policy and pr	ogrammati	c responses to
				Tir	ne	frai	me		PL	ANNED E	SUDGET			
Output	Target/s	List of activities	J u I	A u g	S e p	O c t	N o v	е	Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)	PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved
Output	Dashboards and virtual library are	Database development	Х	Х	Х	Х				40,000 50,0		90,000	UNOPS	
1.1	constituted and available online	Data collation and dashboards	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х			50,000			
Output 1.2	Strategic foresight exercise is completed and scenarios are elaborated	Forecasting training and workshops		х	X				International consultant, workshop facilities and catering	40,000	10,000	50,000	UNOPS	
Output 1.3	Regional consultations are held	COP27 side event					х		International travel and accommodation	10,000		10,000	UNOPS	
	Outcome 2 The UNCT supports the Government of Niger with a flagship programme document to respond to food insecurity and improve the resilience against shocks (socioeconomic, climatic and others)									and improve				
				Tir	ne	frai	ne		PL	ANNED B	SUDGET			
Output	Target/s	List of activities	- I	A u g	S e p		N o v	е	Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)	PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved

Outpu 2.1	Flagship programme document developed, including financing mechanism	context		x x x		×		International consultants: Lead + sectoral humanitarian, development and peacebuilding specialists; Workshop facilities; international travel Staff time	160,000	0	160,000	FAO	
--------------	---	---------	--	-------	--	---	--	---	---------	---	---------	-----	--

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 31 May 2023 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	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person
Contextual risks					
Serious deterioration of the security context that failure to carry out some activities, mainly in the field	9	3	3	Strong involvement of local actors, development of specific strategies for the implementation of activities (training, workshop,	UNOPS/FAO

Aggravation of intra or inter-community conflicts at a level that compromises the management of activities or affects the participation of stakeholders.	9	3	3	data collation) and collaboration with UNDSS. Adoption of conflict-sensitive and community dialogue approaches in the planning phase: identification of activities that benefit the population as a whole, creation of stakeholder dialogue that will encourage the maintenance of social cohesion, and participation of women and young people, public and private sector in the design of the program.	FAO
Programmatic risks Risk of duplication or failure to leverage outputs and outcomes of other projects/ programmes/ strategies	3	1	3	UNOPS and FAO will ensure synergies and complementarities with other programs and strategies on food security, climate change, peacebuilding, and involve partners in developing this project All stakeholders, including the technical ministries concerned, are regularly informed and involved in the entire process of project implementation	UNOPS/FAO
Institutional risks Nigerian institutions do not want to participate in the joint development of a medium-term program to respond to food insecurity	4	1	4	Stablish a fluent and permanent dialogue with Government	UNOPS/FAO
Fiduciary risks			<u> </u>		

Money programme is used to provide support of entities or individuals associated with money laundering, terrorist financing, or prohibited practices.	3	1	3	UNOPS and FAO administrative and financial procedures will be applied	UNOPS/ FAO

Likelihood	Occurrence	Frequency
Very Likely	The event is expected to occur in most circumstances	Twice a month or more frequently
Likely	The event will probably occur in most circumstances	Once every two months or more frequently
Possibly	The event might occur at some time	Once a year or more frequently
Unlikely	The event could occur at some time	Once every three years or more frequently
Rare	The event may occur in exceptional circumstances	Once every seven years or more frequently

Consequence	Result
Extreme	An event leading to massive or irreparable damage or disruption
Major	An event leading to critical damage or disruption
Moderate	An event leading to serious damage or disruption
Minor	An event leading to some degree of damage or disruption
Insignificant	An event leading to limited damage or disruption

Level of

	Consequences									
Likelihood	Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)					
Very likely (5)	Medium (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Very High (20)	Very High (25)					
Likely (4)	Medium (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Very High (20)					
Possible (3)	Low (3)	Medium (6)	High (9)	High (12)	High (15					
Unlikely (2)	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)					
Rare (1)	Low (1)	Low (3)	Medium (3)	Medium (4)	High (5)					
		1000			- Contract C					

HISIK	
Very High	Immediate action required by executive management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Risk cannot be accepted unless this occurs.
High	Immediate action required by senior/ executive management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by Risk Owner.
Medium	Senior Management attention required. Mitigation activities/ treatment options are undertaken to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by Risk Owner.
Low	Management attention required. Specified ownership of risk. Mitigation activities/treatment options are recommended to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Implementation of monitoring strategy by risk owner is recommended.

Result

Budget per UNSDG Categories

	PUNO 1 UNOPS		PUNO 2 FAO		PUNO 3 name		PUNO 4 name	
UNSDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	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	72,958		90.000					
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	2,500		3.000		0		0	
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	0		-		0		0	
4. Contractual services	8,000		-		0		0	
5.Travel	7,000		21.500		0		0	
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	0		-		0		0	
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	3,000		25,687		0		0	
Total Direct Costs	93,458		140,187		0		0	
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	6,542		9,813		0		0	
TOTAL Costs	100,000	0	150,000	0	0	0	0	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	Name: Louise Aubin
SIGNATURE	Date and Signature

PUNO Representative SIGNATURE	Name, Title: Attaher Maïga, FAO Representative Date and Signature
PUNO Representative SIGNATURE	Name, Title: Kirk Bayabos, Head of Cluster, SDC, NYSC, UNOPS Date and Signature 17 June 2022
PUNO Representative SIGNATURE	Name, Title: Date and Signature
PUNO Representative SIGNATURE	Name, Title: Date and Signature