

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.	 ☑ Data collection/analytics ☑ Help devise comprehensive preventative package of response measures ☑ 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?	⊠ Yes □ No
Does the proposal contribute to results in the UNSDCFs?	⊠ Yes □ No
Is the proposal building on and topping up an existing joint programme supported by the Joint SDG Fund?	☐ Yes ☐ No (If yes, please follow the specific guidance as per communications from the Secretariat)

Cover-page

MPTFO Project Reference Number	(Leave blank, for automatic population in Atlas)						
Country	Mauritius and Seychelles						
Region	Africa/ Indian Ocean						
Joint programme title:	Building the Resilience of Food Systems in Mauritius and Seychelles by leveraging on sustainable						
	agricultural practices						
Outcomes(s): <verbatim cf="" from=""></verbatim>	<u>Mauritius</u>						

	Outcome 1: By 2023, there is a stronger policy and regulatory environment that promotes innovation and increased productivity in targeted traditional and new sectors (ICT, Pharma, Renewable energy, Agri-food) Outcome 3: By 2023, the marine sector has an integrated policy and regulatory environment that promotes sustainable resource management and private-sector led diversification and job creation Seychelles Outcome 2: By 2023, the population, especially most vulnerable, has increased agricultural
	productivity, food and nutrition security, and enhanced livelihood opportunities
Duration:	Maximum 6 months, no later than 31 December 2022
Anticipated start and end dates:	July /2022 to December/2022
Short description	(for Top-ups, extensions to no later than 31 December 2022) Max 300 words
	Mauritius and Seychelles import 77% and 90% of their food requirements respectively, highlighting the vulnerability of the food systems of the two Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) to external shocks. The Ukraine crisis has exacerbated the food crisis in both countries with the disruption in the supply of food items and also soaring food prices. In Mauritius , one particular concern is the disruption in supply and high price of fertilisers following the Ukraine crisis, which will affect the capacity of food production of the country. In that respect, one of the strategies of the Government of Mauritius is to explore the potential of using locally available inputs to become self-sufficient in terms of fertilisers production. This Joint Programme (JP) will support the country to produce locally low-cost bio-fertilisers from seaweeds for its food security needs, thereby reducing their dependence on imported chemical fertilisers.
	In Seychelles, the Government is prioritizing strategic interventions to establish the enabling environment to transform the food value chain in the country, build capacity with regards to sustainable agricultural practices. The objective is to increase the volume of local production of local fruits & vegetables to 90% and carbohydrates to over 50%. This JP promote the use of climate smart agricultural methods and approaches (for instance aquaponics, hydroponics and sheltered farming amongst others) in Seychelles by smallholder farmers (including men and women) and households in view to increase the production of local food. This JP builds on the recommendations of the National Food Systems Dialogues conducted in 2021 in both countries and their respective National Food Systems Pathways. In addition, this JP will benefit from South South Collaboration and Knowledge exchange between the two countries, fostering a regional approach between SIDS in tackling food security concerns.

Resident Coordinator	Ms Christine N Umutoni, christine.umutoni@un.org									
UN Joint Program RCO focal point	Mr. Robert Banamwana, RCO Team Leader & Strategic Planner, robert.banamwana@un.org									
PUNO Lead agency JP Focal point	UNDP, Daniel McMondo, Daniel.omodo@undp.org									
Other PUNOs JP focal point	FAO, Poojanraj Khurun Poojanraj.Khurun@fao.org / UNWomen, Mehjabeen Alarakhia,									
	mehjabeen.alarakhia@unwomen.org									
T . 11 1	LIGD 400 000									
Total budget:	USD 400,000									
Source of funds:										
UN Joint SDG Fund	USD 400,000									
• PUNO 1	UNDP: USD 170,000									
• PUNO 2	FAO: USD 130,000									
PUNO 3	UNWomen: USD 100,000									
SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint	SDG 2 - End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable									
Programme	agriculture									
	SDG 12 - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns									
	SDG 14 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable									
	development									
Gender Marker	Select only one from the options below									
	☐ GEN3: Have gender equality/women empowerment as the primary or principal objective.									
	☐ GEN2: Make a significant contribution to gender equality/women empowerment.									
	☐ GEN1: Make a limited contribution to gender equality/women empowerment									
	☐ GEN0: Make no contribution to gender equality/women empowerment									
	Control in the control 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.

Mauritius imports about 77% of its food requirements and is thus considered to be a Net-Food Importing Developing Country (NFIDC) with only 7,300 ha of land dedicated to food crops production (such as potatoes, onions, garlic). In that respect, through the National Food Systems Dialogues organised in 2021 for the UN Food Systems Summit, the relevant stakeholders in the country have highlighted the need "to produce more of what we consume and to consume what we produce." A National Pathway for a green, fair, and resilient Food System was developed and recommended, inter alia, for the promotion of sustainable production of local foods through eco-friendly approaches.

The COVID-19 pandemic has already highlighted the vulnerability of the country to external shocks with severe impact on both the supply of food items and their prices. The Ukraine crisis has further exacerbated the food crisis. Since the beginning of the crisis, food prices in the country have soared, driving year on year inflation rate to a 11% in April 2022. In the agricultural sector, one of the main impacts relates to the imports of fertilisers for local agricultural production. It is estimated that that 61% of imports of Mauritius from Russia relate to fertilisers. The crisis is however an opportunity for Mauritius to seek alternatives to imports from Russia and Ukraine, which are the two main producers of phosphate, with the aim to become self-sufficient in terms of fertilizer production. In that respect, as part of the Budget Statement 2022/23, the Government of Mauritius will explore "mechanism and policy support for encouraging the commercial production of fertilisers including liquid fertilisers".

Similarly, in **Seychelles**, 90% of the food requirements are imported. It is estimated that about 10% of the carbs (rice, potatoes, flour, pasta etc) daily requirements of the country are imported while less than 50% of the daily requirements of vegetables are produced locally. The National Food Systems Dialogues has further stressed the urgent need of the country to "transform our local food and nutrition production landscape to a more self-sufficient system." A National Pathway was developed with the objective of increasing the volume of local production in relation to total consumption of livestock to 80%, local fruits & vegetables to 90% and carbohydrates to over 50%. This would require, inter alia, strategic interventions to establish the enabling environment to transform the food value chain in the country, build capacity with regards to sustainable agricultural practices and incentivise local production by households, small planters and the private sector.

The Ukraine crisis came at a time when the country was slowly recovering from the devasting impact of the COVID-19 on its economy. While the country's imports from Russia and Ukraine are relatively small, the global increase in prices and disruptions in supply have negatively affected the country and its population.

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goal on food security, both islands will need to develop increased self-reliance on local production through a strengthened sustainable supply and value chain.

Programme Strategy

Max 1000 words, summarizing the proposal, including

The overall strategy of the Joint Programme to build the resilience of food systems in both Mauritius and Seychelles through sustainable agricultural practices. This would help the two countries meet their respective goals of achieving food security.

In **Mauritius**, the JP will support the country to produce locally low-cost bio-fertilisers from seaweeds for its food security needs, thereby reducing their dependence on imported chemical fertilisers and the vulnerability of their food systems to external shocks such as the Ukraine crisis. Interventions under this JP will include an in-depth technical and economic analysis of the potential of producing agri-fertilisers from seaweeds in Mauritius as well as capacity building of small farmers, fisherman and SME's.

The islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues experience daily seaweed washaways within their shores. The economy being reliant on tourism, the seaweed is discarded through private contractors daily towards landfills to keep the beach "clean and tidy". The JP proposes to experiment on utilising seaweed given the exceptional properties of seaweeds as an excellent fertilizer. In addition to reduce the reliance of the country on imported chemicals, the production of fertilisers from seaweeds may also support the local cash crop production by halting land degradation and decreasing the use of chemical inputs and rendering agriculture more productive and profitable in the short and medium term. Moreover, the disposal of seaweed waste into landfills will be diverted into a fertiliser production value chain to promote sustainable waste management and promote a circular economy approach. The expected outputs of this JP are:

- An Economic and Technical analysis of the potential of using seaweed as agri-fertilisers in Mauritius
- Capacity building and awareness raising of small farmers, fishermen and SME's (including youth and women) on the technical guidance and the economic opportunity of producing fertilisers from seaweeds.
- Gap and Needs Analysis on the economic, technical, regulatory and financial barriers to the production and utilisation of seaweed fertilisers

Moreover, building on the experience of Seychelles in the local production and commercialisation of seaweed fertilisers, Knowledge Exchange sessions through webinars and a study tour will be organised between the two countries. As such, relevant stakeholders in Mauritius will have the opportunity to draw key lessons and best practices from the Seychelles experience that could be applied in the local context.

In Seychelles, the JP will support the country to promote the use of climate smart agricultural methods and approaches (for instance aquaponics, hydroponics and sheltered farming amongst others) by smallholder farmers (including men and women) and households in view to increase the production of local food, thereby reducing its reliance on imported products and the vulnerability of its food systems to external shocks. Interventions under this JP will include the analysis of the technical, economic and financial barriers on the deployment of climate smart agricultural methods and approaches in Seychelles including recommendations. The project will also build the capacity of smallholder farmers (including women farmers), households (including female headed-households) and also vulnerable groups such as unemployed women and youth to such methods and approaches.

Agriculture in Seychelles is limited by a lack of arable land and extreme rainfall patterns and meteorological events. It is estimated that arable land in the country constituted about 0.3 percent of the land area while 3 percent of the land area was occupied by permanent crops. With the increased impact of climate change, there is a definite need to adopt climate smart practices in the agricultural sector so as to increase both crop production and their resilience to climate change. As such the expected outputs of this JP include:

- Setting up a demonstration project of Climate Smart Agricultural practices
- Capacity Building of smallholder farmers (including women farmers), households (including female headed households) and unemployed youth (young men and young women) and women on climate smart agriculture practices
- Gap and Needs analysis of the economic, technical and financial barriers to the deployment of climate smart agricultural methods in Seychelles, including recommendations.

In addition, the JP will benefit from South South collaboration between Mauritius and Seychelles by organising knowledge exchange activities between the countries, given the experience of Mauritius with regards of the deployment of climate smart approaches.

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-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.

The JP will be implemented under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator with the UNDP, as lead PUNO being responsible for the coordination, monitoring and reporting of the project.

A steering committee, chaired by the RC, will be established to follow-up on the implementation of the project and facilitate the collaboration between the PUNO's and also with relevant stakeholders from the Government, the private Sector and the civil society in Mauritius and Seychelles. The Steering Committee will be meet on a monthly basis to ensure timely and effective implementation.

The project will also be implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food security in Mauritius and the Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment in Seychelles.

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 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 organization.

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

UNDP

Agency name: UNDP

Agreement title: Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Mauritius and the UNDP

Agreement date:1974

Agency name: UNDP

Agreement title: Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Seychelles and the UNDP

Agreement date:1977

&

Agency name: UNDP

Agreement title: Country Programme Document (Mauritius)

Agreement date: 2019 - 2023

Agency name: UNDP

Agreement title: Country Programme Document (Seychelles)

Agreement date: 2019 - 2023

FAO

Agency name: FAO

Agreement title: Country Programme Framework Document (Mauritius)

Agreement date: 2022-2025

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) signed a new Memorandum of Understanding in September 2019 to strengthen their partnership towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The priority areas for the strategic collaboration between UNDP and FAO include sustainable agriculture, natural resource management, eradicating poverty, improving food security and addressing climate change. The agencies have also committed to exploring ways to support countries to develop sustainable food systems, and to continue ongoing initiatives on forests, adaptation planning and the One Planet Network.

Workplan Templ	late											
Outcome 1	ı	The potential of or	gan	ic se	awe	ed :	fertiliser prod	uction as	s an economic a	activity t	o create green jobs d	letermined.
			Cı	me istoi rele			PLANNED BUDGET					
Output Target/s	List of activities					Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)	PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved	
Feasibility Output 1.1: on	Conduct a technical and economic feasibility study on the potential for the production of seaweed fertilisers in Mauritius			Х	Х		70,000	0	70,000	UNDP/UNWomen (6:1)		
Technical potential fertilis of utilising seaweed as fertilisers in Mauritius is determined is	seaweed fertiliser production in Mauritius	Piloting of the production and			X	X		60,000	0	60,000	FAO	Ministry of Environment/Ministry of Agro- Industry/FAREI/Mauritius Innovation and Research Council
	is available t t f t	Gap and Needs Analysis on the economic, technical, regulatory and financial barriers to the production and utilisation of seaweed fertilisers			X	х		40,000	0	40 000	UNDP/UNWomen (3:1)	Council

			1 1						Т
	in Mauri								
		endations							
	Productive technical for the properties and utilises fertilisers.	l guides roduction sation of	X	X	30,000	0	30,000	FAO	
Output 1.2: Capacity of Small Farmers, Fishermen and SME's on production and utilisation of seaweed fertilisers is built	building with farmers/l and SME including and wom production utilisation seaweed	Fishermen E's g youth nen on the on and on of fertilisers	X	X	30,000	0	400 000000	FAO/UNWomen (1:2)	
	building Gender I and Wor	Equality nen erment in	X	X	10,000		10,000	UNWOMEN	
Output 1.3: South South collaboration between Mauritius and Seychelles on Seaweed Fertilisers production and utilisation strengthened	Organisa Knowled exchang activities study tou	lge e s such as	Х	X	10,000	0	10,000	UNDP	

Outcome 2		The enabling envir	ronn	nent	for	the	deployment	of clima	te smart agricul	tural pra	actices in Seychelles	is strengthened.	
	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	
		Setting up of Demonstration project of climate smart agricultural methods in Seychelles			X	X		60,000	0	60,000	UNDP/UNWomen (2:1)		
Output 2.1: Capacity of key stakeholders in Seychelles to use climate smart agricultural practices		Organisation of capacity building and training session for small farmers, households and unemployed women and youth on climate smart agricultural methods			X	X		20,000	0	20,000	FAO/UNWomen (1:1)	Ministry of Agriculture/Seychelles Institute of Agriculture & Horticulture/University of Seychelles	
is strengthened		Piloting of the production of food using climate smart agricultural techniques in Seychelles by small farmers, households and unemployed women and youth			X	х		30,000		30,000	FAO/UNWomen (2:1)	Seychelles	
		Gap and Needs analysis of the economic,			X	X		20,000	0	20,000	UNDP		

	technical and financial barriers to the deployment of climate smart agricultural methods in Seychelles, including recommendations Conduct Capacity building on Gender Equality							
	and Women Empowerment in the Agricultural sector	X	X	10,000		10,000	UNWOMEN	
Output 2.2: South- South collaboration between Mauritius and Seychelles on the deployment of climate smart agricultural practices strengthened	Organisation of Knowledge exchange activities such as study tours	X	X	10,000	0	10,000	UNDP	

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)

Institutional risks Change in Focal Points at Government Institutions that may delay the project implementation High (9) 3 3 Regular meetings undertake with Government stakeholders to ensure continuity of the project in case of change in focal point Fiduciary risks The Steering Committee and the PUNO's will ensure that expenditure is ensure that expenditure is in line with the Project.	Limited interest of the community for the uptake of seaweed fertiliser/climate smart agricultural practices	High (9)	3	3	Collaboration with Government entities and also farmers association to ensure their buy-in and participation to the programme	UNDP/FAO/UNWOMEN
Change in Focal Points at Government Institutions that may delay the project implementation High (9) 3 3 Regular meetings undertake with Government stakeholders to ensure continuity of the project in case of change in focal point Fiduciary risks The Steering Committee and the PUNO's will ensure that expenditure is	Institutional risks					<u> </u>
The Steering Committee and the PUNO's will ensure that expenditure is	Change in Focal Points at Government Institutions that may delay the project	High (9)	3	3	undertake with Government stakeholders to ensure continuity of the project in case of change in	
The Steering Committee and the PUNO's will ensure that expenditure is	Fiduciary risks					
Document and also with the Operational Guidelines of the Joint SDG Fund	Mis-allocation of funding	Medium (6)	2	3	and the PUNO's will ensure that expenditure is in line with the Project Document and also with the Operational Guidelines	RCO/UNDP/FAO/UNWOMEN

Lik	elihood		Occurrence	F	requency	Consequence		Result		
100000		The ev	ent is expected to	100	nth or more	Extreme	An event leading to massive or irreparable damage or			
Ver	ry Likely		n most circumstan	ces frequently		Major	disruption An event lea	ading to critical damage or disruption		
	Likely	The ev	ent will probably	Once every	two months or	Moderate		ading to serious damage or disruption		
1	Likely	occur i	n most circumstan	ces more frequ	ently	Minor	An event leading to some degree of damage or disruption			
Po	ossibly	The ev	ent <mark>might</mark> occur at ime	Once a yea	r or more frequently	Insignificant	An event leading to limited damage or disruption			
U	nlikely	some t	*****	more frequ			Level of risk	Result		
	Rare		event may occur in Once every seven years or eptional circumstances more frequently		The state of the s		Very High	Immediate action required by executive management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Risk cannot be accepted		
					onsequences			unless this occurs. Immediate action required by senior/		
elihood	Insignit		Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)	22000	executive management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to		
ry likely (5)	Mediu		High (10)	High (15)	Very High (20)	Very High (25)	High	reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by		
kely (4)	Mediu	m (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Very High (20)		Risk Owner. Senior Management attention required.		
sible (3)	Low	(3)	Medium (6)	High (9)	High (12)	High (15		Mitigation activities/ treatment options are		
likely (2)	Low	(2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)	Medium	undertaken to reduce likelihood and/or		
are (1)	Low	(1)	Low (3)	Medium (3)	Medium (4)	High (5)		consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by Risk Owner.		
								Management attention required. Specified ownership of risk. Mitigation activities/treatment options are		

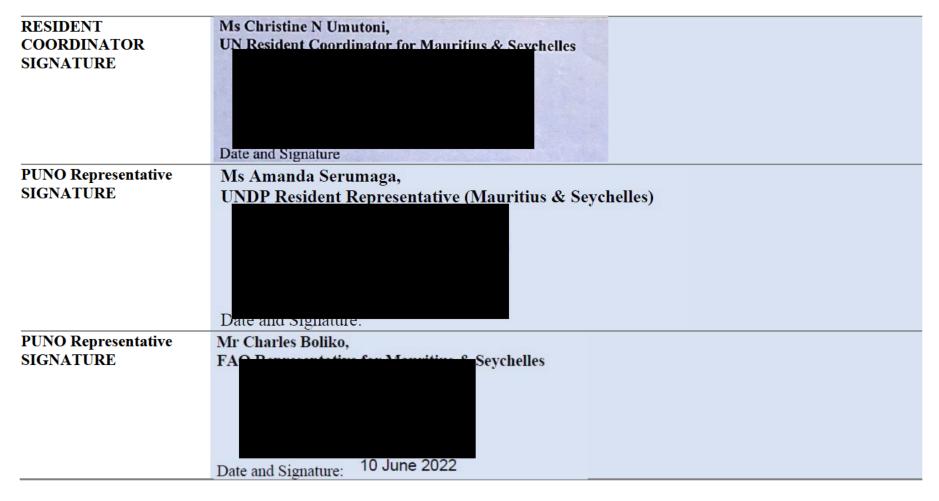
strategy by risk owner is recommended.

Budget per UNSDG Categories

	UN	DP	FA	10	UNWOMEN	
UNSDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	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	10000		10000		10000	
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	25000		30,000		5,000	
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	0		0		0	
4. Contractual services	76000		40000		70000	
5.Travel	30000		25000		5000	
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	0		0		0	
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	17879		16495		3458	
Total Direct Costs			121495		93458	
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	11121		8505		6542	
TOTAL Costs	170000	0	130000	0	100000	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%.



PUNO Representative	Mr Maxime Houinato, Regional Director for Eastern and
SIGNATURE	Southern Africa
	Date and Signature: 10 June 2022