

## General Information

<b>Fund</b>	MPTF_00209: UN COVID-19 MPTF						
<b>Title</b>	FUNDING Recovering Better and Inclusively from COVID-19 Through Gender Sensitive Social Protection System in Rwanda						
<b>MPTFO Project Id</b>							
<b>Start Date</b>							
<b>End Date</b>							
<b>Contacts</b>	<b>Contact Type</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>e-mail</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Additional e-mail</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Skype</b>
	Project Manager	Josephine Ulimwengu	ulimwenguj@un.org				
	Focal Point	schadrack Dusabe	schadrack.dusabe@unwomen.org				
	Project Manager	Josephine M Ulimwengu	josephine.ulimwengu@one.un.org	Strategic Planning and RCO Team Leader	ulimwenguj@un.org	+250782220025	
	Focal Point	Aimee Muziranenge	aimee.muziranenge@one.un.org	Partnership and Development Finance Officer		+250788643528	
Focal Point	Angela N Zeleza	angela.zeleza@one.un.org	Economist		+250784294075		

<b>Description</b>	<p>This programme contributes to Outcome 3 of the Socio-Economic Recovery Plan (SERP) : “Expanded access to social protection to households and communities most impacted by COVID-19 whilst protecting women and girls from sexual abuse and exploitation” ). Through systematically targeted conditional cash transfers and a multi-stakeholders social cohesion awareness and services, the new vulnerable population essentially women including refugees whose livelihoods have been severely affected by COVID-19 , persons with disabilities, victims of all forms of GBV, sexual exploitation and abuse exacerbated by the pandemic are expected to recover better and inclusively.</p> <p>The UNCT in Rwanda has been actively taking part in both the formulation and implementation of the national response and recovery plan. Through this framework, the UNCT has formulated a Joint Programme in support of the national socioeconomic recovery plan. Among this Joint Programme’s outcomes, this concept note is aligned and responds to the Outcome 3 “Expanded access to social protection to households and communities most impacted by COVID-19 whilst protecting women and girls from sexual abuse and exploitation.”</p> <p>To achieve this outcome, the programme envisions the following interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply evidence based and gender responsive social protection targeting through provision of conditional cash transfers to those most hit by the impact of COVID-19</li> <li>• Support to the economic recovery of most vulnerable groups and mainly women headed households, refugees and households that have been most hit by the COVID-19 pandemic</li> <li>• Increase Awareness and Capacity to Respond to Gender Based Violence</li> </ul> <p>The outcome will help all the populations of Rwanda including the most socially and economically vulnerable (women, girls and persons with disabilities) to recover together and better from COVID-19 through a two pronged but complementary approach: Provision of well targeted gender responsive social safety nets and addressing gender based violence in all its forms because violence and deprivation are closely linked within the context of COVID-19.</p>			
<b>Universal Markers</b>	<b>Gender Equality Marker</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GEM3 - GEWE is the principal objective of the Key Activity</li> </ul>	<b>Risk</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Risk</li> </ul>	<b>OECD-DAC</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ending violence against women and girls</li> <li>• Informal/semi-formal financial intermediaries</li> <li>• Sectors not specified</li> </ul>	
<b>Fund Specific Markers</b>	<b>Fund Windows</b>	<b>Fund Windows</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Window 3: Recover better</li> </ul>		
	<b>Human Rights Based Approach to COVID19 Response</b>	<b>HRBA integrated</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> </ul>		
	<b>Primary Socio-Economic Pillars</b>	<b>Pillars</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pillar 2: Protecting People</li> </ul>		
	<b>Concept Note Type</b>	<b>Type</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> </ul>		
<b>Geographical Scope</b>	<b>Geographical Scope</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional</li> </ul>	<b>Name of the Region</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Africa</li> </ul>	<b>Region(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Africa</li> </ul>	<b>Country(ies)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rwanda</li> </ul>

<b>Participating Organizations and their Implementing Partners</b>	<b>Participating Organizations</b>	<b>NGOs</b>	<b>New Entities</b>	<b>Implementing Partners</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR</li> <li>• UNWOMEN</li> </ul>		Financial Institutions: Inkomoko Business & Entrepreneurship Development and Access to Finance Rwanda (AFR)	Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) Imbuto Foundation HAGURUKA NGO SOLID'AFRICA New Faces New Voices Rwanda Chapter CESTRAR (Rwanda Workers' Trade Union Confederation Rwanda Women's Network Rwanda Bar Association
<b>Programme and Project Cost</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	<b>Budget Requested</b>		\$831,514	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>\$831,514</b>	
<b>Keywords</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covid-19 Socio-Economic Impact</li> <li>• Social Protection</li> <li>• Digitization</li> <li>• Build Back Better</li> </ul>			
<b>Programme Duration</b>	<b>Anticipated Start Date</b>	Jul 31, 2021		
	<b>Duration (In months)</b>	8		
	<b>Anticipated End Date</b>	Mar 31, 2022		

**Comments**

**From:** Josephine Marealle Ulimwengu <ulimwenguj@un.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 4:16 PM  
**To:** Nina Andersen <nina.andersen@undp.org>  
**Cc:** fode.ndiaye@un.org; Jens Christian Wandel <jens.wandel@un.org>; fatou.lo@unwomen.org; fallah@unhcr.org; schreiner@unfpa.org; edith.heines@wfp.org; schadrack.dusabe@unwomen.org; bamba@unhcr.org; ahmareen.karim@wfp.org; tiina.honkanen@wfp.org; Piyoo Kochar <piyoo.kochar@undp.org>; Olga Aleshina <olga.aleshina@undp.org>; dukuzumu@unhcr.org; kantengwa@unfpa.org; gakwerere@unfpa.org; Rwanda ONE UN Resident Coordinator Office <rcoffice.rw@one.un.org>; karugwiza@unfpa.org; mungai@unfpa.org; angela.zeleza@un.org; aimee.muziranenge@un.org; Kristoffer Tarp <kristoffer.tarp@undp.org>  
**Subject:** FW: MPTF Office: UN COVID-19 MPTF | Concept Note / Project - Submitted for review  
**Importance:** High

Dear Nina,

Greetings from Kigali,

On behalf of the UN RC and PUNOs, I wish to inform you that we have submitted online the full proposal from the approved concept note entitled "Recovering Better and Inclusively from COVID-19 Through Gender Sensitive Social Protection System in Rwanda" to be implemented by UN Women as lead agency and UNHCR as a Participating UN Organization – see below automatic message from the MPTF Office Fund Management Platform for the UN COVID-19 MPTF fund acknowledging receipt of our submission.

As discussed yesterday with only 8 months to implement the project under the current context when the 3rd wave of COVID-19 infections is unfolding with much higher severity, UNFPA and WFP took a strategic decision to pull out of submission, whilst UN Women and UNHCR reprioritized and dropped some interventions. For instance, UNFPA's activities on prevention and response to sexual and gender based violence have been taken over by UN Women making UN Women's plan for about 70% of the budget due to the nature of gender sensitive activities which will efficiently be delivered through UN Women's traditional partners in the country that have strong local presence and outreach capacity.

The second UNFPA's activity in support of the National Statistical system through the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) to generate survey data that could inform social protection targeting has been removed because the implementation period is not matching with the NISR survey data collection and analysis schedules and plans.

As for WFP's activities in support of refugee food, nutrition and cash assistance requirements particularly for COVID-19 treatment, isolation and quarantine-related needs, it was found complex particularly after many treatment centres have been closed by the Government of Rwanda in the last few months and the fact that some refugee camps are being relocated.

Furthermore, the mode of delivery on food and nutrition support which involves, in most cases, direct implementation may be difficult within a very short period of implementation (8 months) given that movement restriction is likely to continue for a while.

The lead agency has also planned for a strong programme implementation team to drive the process, whilst for UNHCR, the project will leverage on existing teams from ongoing programmes that are familiar with the targeted beneficiaries and their locations. The two Agencies have come up with a robust risk mitigation to warrant successful implementation for results.

Lastly, as discussed in your WhatsApp conversation with Schadrack, the following sections on the online Concept Note platform are blocked and therefore we could not edit to remove UNFPA and WFP: CN\_II, CN\_III and CN\_IV. Kindly consider the aforementioned changes as you review our proposal. I have also include the above on the comment section on the online platform.

Thank you for your unwavering support and guidance throughout the proposal development process.

Best regards,

Josephine Marealle-Ulimwengu

Title	Text	Comments
<p>CN_I. What is the specific need/problem the intervention seeks to address? Summarize the problem. Apply a gender lens to the analysis and description of the problem. Be explicit on who has established the need (plans, national authorities, civil society, UN own analysis, or citizens).</p>	<p>The COVID-19 global pandemic is causing a health and socio-economic crisis in which millions have or will lose their jobs and livelihood and the crisis disproportionately affects the lives of women and girls. In Rwanda, the gender differentiated socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 was confirmed by the socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19) conducted by the UNCT (June 2020) and the rapid gender assessment conducted by both UN Women and UNFPA in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) in November 2020. The assessments showed disproportional impacts for women in terms of unpaid work, care burden and lost income, particularly for those relying on informal businesses and daily wages. The current crisis threatens to push back the limited gains made on gender equality in Rwanda and exacerbate the feminization of poverty, vulnerability to violence, and women's equal participation in the labour force.</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic led to the enforcement of an almost two month's country wide lockdown, and additionally extended lockdown for certain areas and districts in which COVID-19 cases were detected. With the second wave of the pandemic another partial lockdown and geographically targeted restrictions were recommended between December 2020 and March 2021. In mid-August 2020, two main food markets in Kigali were temporarily closed, in which 90% of the vendors are women. In addition, the COVID-19 lockdown caused massive disruptions in markets and value chains and many women lost their jobs. In the informal sector, where women are overly represented as daily wage earners with 60.8% in 2019 the lockdowns exacerbated their vulnerability. Findings from the Labour Force Survey (LFS-2019) indicate that over the past three years, more females were informally employed with 92.5 percent in 2017 and 91.2 percent in 2019, compared to males with 89.5 and 88.3 percent in 2017 and 2019 respectively. Female-headed households are at a far greater risk of being impacted by the adverse effects of the COVID-19 crisis; in fact, they could fall into deeper poverty levels and even face extreme poverty. Mitigating this risk will require higher and more targeted investments as well as adequate social safety nets. Similarly, as the lockdown and its negative effects on households' income and living conditions extend to a longer period, a high number of households and individuals, the majority of the daily wage workers where women are overly represented as vendors and domestic workers might slide into the poorest Ubudehe wealth rank category (Category 1 in the old ranking and E in the revised wealth rank categorization) and have to rely on food distribution and cash transfers for their survival. Targeting will be facilitated by the local government and community-based populations wealth rank matrix recently updated countrywide. This means the direct beneficiaries to target are known in each community and all the information about each household's livelihood and income status before, during and after COVID-19 are available.</p> <p>Due to some of the Governments' restrictions, some social protection programs are not operating at the same pace as before the pandemic. Although this affects various population groups, women are the majority benefiting the direct support under the VUP program (about 68%), participating in the public works (52%), and benefiting from financial services under the same program<sup>[1]</sup>. It is anticipated that the number of women to be supported under these categories will increase. There is, therefore, a need to consider gender aspects while formulating economic risk mitigation strategies, social protection programmes in response to the COVID-19 crisis, and the same appeal would also apply for the recovery period.</p> <p>Further, the livelihoods of refugees especially in the urban areas, who mostly rely on daily wages, have been heavily affected by the COVID-19 measures. UNHCR has identified the most vulnerable families of refugees and asylum seekers and planned to target them with a multi-purpose, one-time cash assistance, to support their subsistence. Single parent headed families, especially women headed families constitute 55% of the targeted refugee families. The preventive measures put in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, such as school closures and restrictions on</p>	<p>...</p>

movements have disrupted children's routine and deepened the care burden of women as primary caregivers, and some have had to forego work, further weakening their livelihoods.

Global studies also show a drastic increase of gender-based violence since the COVID-19 outbreak. In Rwanda, various assessments confirmed the increase of cases GBV during the period of COVID-19 pandemic where for instance according the Joint Rapid Gender Assessment conducted by UN Women and UNFPA, the reported monthly cases of GBV almost doubled for the months of May and June compared to the monthly trends before the pandemic. National institutions supported by several development partners have stepped up efforts to raise awareness on the risk of increased violence during the lockdown and to provide additional hotlines and mobile police services to prevent and or address the issue. Prior to the outbreak, the Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS 2014-2015), showed that twenty-two (22) percent of women and five (5) percent of men aged 15-49 reported having experienced sexual violence at least once in their lifetime. The Rapid Gender Assessment provided evidence that crowded homes, substance abuse, limited access to services and reduced peer support lead to increased violence against women. This increased vulnerability puts women and girls at high risks of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in both domestic and public places. Furthermore, as a preventive measure related to COVID-19, some workplaces, including schools, remained closed for about a year which constituted a high risk to child headed households and children in various institutional care settings including potential risk and exposure to teenage pregnancies, early marriages among others. Changes in gendered roles and responsibilities in the home, particularly concerning economic income, have had a negative impact and increase the likelihood of intimate partner violence or violence against children. The Isange One Stop Centre (IOSC) is a key strategy that the government of Rwanda has put in place as a response to the GBV and child abuse in holistic way, but more needs to be done to adequately respond to the crisis.

Policy Options and recommendations from the socio-economic impact assessment of Covid-19 in Rwanda to address GBV include:

- Informing the public that justice and the rule of law are not suspended during periods of confinement or lockdown. GBV prevention strategies need to be integrated into operational plans of the justice and security sectors for the crisis and statutes of limitations on offenses, particularly sexual violence offenses, should be applied as normal.
- Integrate prevention efforts and services to respond to violence against women into COVID-19 response plans;
- designate safe spaces for women where they can report abuse without alerting perpetrators, e.g. in grocery stores or pharmacies;
- expand online SGBV services;
- stepping up advocacy and awareness campaigns, including targeting men at home, among others.

Since June 2020, the government of Rwanda adopted a National Economic Recovery Plan (NERP) which also provides for an Economic Recovery Fund (ERF) guidelines. The United Nations in Rwanda together with other Development Partners in Rwanda have had an opportunity to review and advise the Government of the most effective recovery model that would help the country respond and recover better from COVID-19. While the Economic Recovery Fund (ERF) carries more than a half of the investment into the NERP, only well-established businesses are eligible for support which leaves a small proportion of the investment going to social protection and gender among other non-directly economic sectors. The One UN Joint Programme in Support of the government of Rwanda's COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response and Recovery (SERP) from which this proposed project originates, is aimed at supporting the NERP to effectively cater for the most vulnerable populations leaving no one behind. The Joint Programme is targeting informal sector workers of which the majority are women who would not otherwise be eligible of ERF, victims of SGBV and other socioeconomically vulnerable populations like refugees who, after the restriction of movements outside the camps were left with very limited livelihood opportunities. This project is aligned and premised to the overarching imperatives of the UN Framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19 and

	<p>guided by the <a href="#">Secretary General's report[2]</a> on COVID-19 which underscores the importance and calls for focus on people – women, youth, low-wage workers, small and medium enterprises, the informal sector and on vulnerable groups who are already at risk.</p> <p>[1] These are statistics of 2017/18 on VUP and Ubudehe</p> <p>[2] United Nations Comprehensive Response to COVID-19: saving Lives, Protecting Societies, Recovering Better (June 2020)</p>	
<p>P_I. Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID19 and its impact</p>	<p>The targeted vulnerable households and individuals consisting of the women headed households that were pushed into extreme poverty due to COVID-19 , the daily wage earners including urban refugees and female domestic workers who lost such opportunities are expected to recover from COVID-19 imposed vulnerability and regain livelihood basis through well targeted conditional cash transfers. Recipients of cash transfers will first of all undergo a rapid basic entrepreneurship coaching for them to have an idea of how the transfers will be capitalized for more financial sustainability and multiplier effects to their food security , children's continued education and capacity to enrol the affected households members into community health insurance -Mutuel de Sante.</p> <p>Victims of Sexual and Gender Based Violence which tend to increase in both domestic and public spaces during COVID-19 pandemic period will first of all reduce as a result of the targeted awareness raising of security organs , health promotion and Youth Volunteers in charge of enforcing COVID-19 prevention in public spaces . Secondary, the reported SGBV cases will be catered for with an appropriate response including protection wherever necessary as well as facilitating their access to holistic package delivered through Isange One Stop Centres , health facilities and legal services.</p>	<p>...</p>
<p>CN_II. Results expected to be achieved and a clear explanation of tangible results or changes that will be achieved through this collaborative programme Describe the results expected to be achieved and how it contributes to the Covid-19 response and the SDGs. Describe programme approaches, methods, and theory of change, and explain why they are the appropriate</p>	<p>The UNCT in Rwanda has been actively taking part in both the formulation and implementation of the national response and recovery plan. Through this framework, the UNCT has formulated a Joint Programme in support of the national socioeconomic recovery plan. Among this Joint Programme's outcomes, this concept note is aligned and responds to the Outcome 3 "Expanded access to social protection to households and communities most impacted by COVID-19 whilst protecting women and girls from sexual abuse and exploitation."</p> <p>To achieve this outcome, the programme envisions the following interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support evidence based and more effective social protection targeting</li> <li>• Support to the economic recovery of most vulnerable groups and mainly women headed households, refugees and refugee host communities and households that have been most hit by the COVID-19 pandemic</li> <li>• Increase resilience of refugees through adequate food and nutrition support to mitigate the adverse effects against women and children refugees</li> <li>• Increase awareness and capacity to respond to Gender Based Violence, sexual harassment and exploitation through a multisectoral approach whilst addressing the particularities of GBV cases arising amidst COVID-19.</li> </ul> <p>The outcome will help all the populations of Rwanda including the most socially and economically vulnerable to recover together and better from COVID-19 through a two pronged but complementary approach: Provision of well targeted gender responsive social safety nets and addressing gender based violence (GBV) in all its forms because the programme seeks to address GBV and its link with deprivation within the context of COVID-19.</p> <p><b>2.1 Support evidence based and more effective social protection targeting</b></p>	<p>...</p>

response to the problem. Please highlight a) how the solution(s) is data driven (especially on population being targeted) b) if and how it employs any innovative approaches; c) if and how it applies a human rights-based approach and how is it based on the principle of “recover better together” d) if and how the theory of change reflects the Gender Equality Marker score selected in this solution

Social protection programmes require systematic and sometimes rigorous targeting approaches. This will be achieved through support to national statistics systems to provide more gender based empirical evidence on the extent of deprivation affecting the population of Rwanda in a way that facilitates well targeted social protection interventions in order to recover better and together from COVID-19. Primary sex disaggregated data collection and advanced gender analysis will be conducted to ensure the socioeconomic recovery process is systematically and effectively targeting the most needy and affected communities. Relevant assessments will help both categorical and geographical targeting so that the social protection and post GBV services are transferred to the right people, in real time, in a more realistic manner that is proportional to the socioeconomic impact that COVID-19 has had on the targeted populations.

## **2.2 Support to the economic recovery of most vulnerable groups and households mainly women headed, refugees and refugee host communities and households affected that have been most hit by the COVID-19 pandemic**

With the high gender differential of the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 on the detriment of women and girls, more women will be enrolled in the existing social protection - Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme (VUP)[\[1\]](#) by providing to them more gender sensitive social safety nets such as conditional cash transfers to inject in their livelihood activities that have been severely affected by COVID-19 pandemic. The programme will be leveraging from the existing financial inclusion facilities like “mobile money” (by local telecom companies) in order to monitor the management of the conditional transfers made for women/girls by for the responsible institutions and UN Organizations.

Targeting women as recipients of social safety nets is justified by not only the fact that the socioeconomic impact assessment of COVID-19 in Rwanda has shown that they are the most affected because of the nature of their livelihood activities (informal sector) but also because they have proven high efficiency in managing households’ income in times of economic shocks. The 2016 FinScope survey for Rwanda showed that during hardships, more than 50 percent of women revert to financial rationality by cutting down non-priority expenses. The recently published 2020 FinScope re-confirmed similar trend in findings. These findings suggest that entrusting women the management of any social protection funds or other risk mitigation allocations would be more effective in mitigating the impact of COVID-19 for more inclusive recovery. It is envisioned that the social safety nets received in form of cash transfers will be capitalized through skills development and initiating gender responsive small income generating activities.

With women being the primary care givers both at home and within health facilities, it is paramount to expand and provide inclusive social protection for caregivers to mitigate the effects of the overload of unpaid care work which has exponentially increased during the lockdown period. As we observe the increase of COVID-19 patients in Rwanda, women caregivers have an absolute need of being protected both from COVID-19 infections, and from the increased unpaid care work. UN Women in Rwanda have already undertaken this programme, but at a very minimal scale. The Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) recovery fund will help to upscale this social protection programme for women care givers in health facilities or caring for the sick relatives at home. This aspect of social protection for caregivers is new and complements the ongoing implementation of the SDG Fund supported Social Protection programme which is targeting other socioeconomically vulnerable population but non-COVID-19 related vulnerabilities.

## **2.3 Increase resilience of refugees through adequate food and nutrition support to mitigate the adverse effects against women and children refugees**

Food and nutrition assistance will be provided to affected populations of 1,132 identified vulnerable women and girls (52% of the total) and men and boys (48% of the total ) either in the form of take-home rations of in-kind food or through the provision of hot meals, dependent upon the context. The location of the distribution will also be context specific, such as in the case of providing assistance to refugees in



government-operated quarantine facilities or those confined in their homes and unable to actively engage into their usual livelihood undertakings. Specialized PUNOs in managing food and nutrition programmes will work with cooperating partners in the provision of the assistance, in coordination with the Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA), and other humanitarian partners.

Additionally, children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and nursing women and girls who are either in treatment or isolation centres (majority of which have been closed now) or home based isolation as part of COVID-19 prevention measures will receive specialized nutritious foods that prevent malnutrition. The specialized nutritious foods will directly contribute to reduction in stunting while the food assistance is aimed at improving the underlying determinant of nutrition being food security and contribute to the SDG SDG indicator 2.2.1 "Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age and 2.1.1 "Prevalence of undernourishment". The UN system in Rwanda has a long and rich experience in managing nutrition Joint Programme since 2013 which is a strong leverage for the PUNOs addressing the COVID-19 linked food and nutrition deficiencies and therefore complements the health support.

In line with the two humanitarian PUNOs' policies, they will guarantee that the assistance does no harm to the safety, dignity and integrity of the women, men, girls and boys receiving it and that it is provided in ways that respect recipients' rights. Also, the monitoring and data analysis will ensure collection and use of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability.

#### **2.4 Increase awareness and capacity to Respond to Gender Based Violence**

In response to the varied forms of Gender Based Violence (GBV) which the National Social Security Strategic Plan 2018/2019-2023/2024 qualifies as new forms of social vulnerability, this programme will seek to address the violation of human rights by promoting the use of hotlines to report protection concerns and refer victims/survivors to services. The programme will decentralize the helpline based GBV reporting by increasing the number of GBV reporting helplines from the current 2 to 30 which means one helpline per District. These helplines will also facilitate anonymous counselling, ensuring increased confidentiality and reporting of GBV cases, victims continued counselling and monitoring when they are back to their families and promote help seeking behavior around GBV in communities. With the COVID-19 pandemic affecting women and girls in varied ways, the programme will seek to establish multiple reporting entry-points in response to the various vulnerabilities that they face during the pandemic. The programme will initiate toll-free helplines in all Isange One Stop Centres and 6 refugee camps. These toll-free helplines will also be used by the surrounding communities to report any case of GBV and child abuse. The programme will also seek to avail GBV safe rooms within three refugee camps to serve as a safe environment for survivors of GBV to access holistic support, including psychosocial and legal aid services, among others.

To ensure effective prevention and response to GBV, the programme will seek to build the capacity of government institutions and NGOs to provide innovative trainings on GBV prevention and response to all 44 IOSCs and six refugee camps. In accordance to the COVID-19 context, equipment will be provided to increase capacity for virtual trainings of GBV service providers. This programme will also assist victims to report cases, support evidence gathering and preservation as well as legal assistance in Court of Law.

During COVID-19 pandemic, sexual harassment and gender-based violence can also happen in public places by the institutions abusing the restriction measures in place. The programme will conduct a gender safety audit in the capital city and other secondary cities in Rwanda to understand the implications of COVID-19 to the safety of women, men and children. Furthermore, with the economic deprivation resulting from loose of jobs and other livelihood opportunities during COVID-19, vulnerable women including those living on daily wages and adolescent girls run a high risk of going for indecent jobs and sexual advance to have jobs so that they recover from the pandemic. Awareness raising and strengthening their protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA),

online counselling and technology-based solutions such as SMS, online tools, and social support networks will be prioritized. Awareness raising and training against sexual harassment and gender-based violence will be conducted targeting volunteers and security organs in charge of enforcing prevention measures in Kigali (the capital city) and 5 secondary cities.

### **Theory of Change**

The programme proposed gender responsive social protection builds on the premise that most livelihood activities in the women dominated casual labour category would be adversely affected by the lockdown and social distancing measures introduced in the outbreak management strategy. The negative impact is set to continue long after the relaxation of the stringent measures to contain the pandemic, especially for the households that were already classified as the most vulnerable to extreme poverty (ubudehe category 1 and 2 according to social protection and vulnerability ranking [2], as well as those households who would transition into these categories from previously non-vulnerable categories.

Further, in most urban and peri-urban areas, subsistence casual workers have lost their employment opportunities, while earnings and consumption levels have slumped. The Government has instituted a social protection response to cushion the effects on COVID-19 on these vulnerable households. The Joint Programme will support the efforts of Government in targeting the social protection response as well as cover those areas and groups of populations who may have slipped through the cracks in this extensive programme (e.g., refugees).

### **Consequently, the results are based on the following Theory of Change:**

#### **IF:**

1. The national statistical systems and key social protection institutions and partners are capacitated to generate sex, age and regionally disaggregated vulnerability data including digital innovations tapping into the opportunity of [ConnectRwanda](#) availing smart phone technology to vulnerable categories majority rural women for a more effective and efficient delivery of gender sensitive and inclusive social protection and GBV response during and post COVID-19 period;
2. The women headed households that newly fell into extreme poverty during and as a direct consequence of COVID-19 period as well as women dominated informal sector workers including daily wage workers receive conditional cash transfers as safety nets;
3. Women and men recipients of conditional cash transfers are capacitated with knowledge and skills to invest the cash as start-up into business and/or income generating opportunities for their households
4. For most vulnerable refugee population particularly women and children food and nutrition security is not compromised by COVID-19 restrictive measures and
5. National, local and community-based structures in charge of targeting for social protection response to COVID-19 pandemic have increased capacity to plan, communicate, build partnerships and deliver gender sensitive and inclusive social protection response to COVID-19 in an inclusive and coordinated manner;
6. Private Sector actors and trade unions are aware of and prevent work places or employment related sexual exploitation and abuse that may arise within the context of COVID-19 ;

**THEN** , the adverse socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis on vulnerable populations, particularly women , adolescent girls and children from marginalized groups will be mitigated, women will regain bargaining power at home **BECAUSE** the necessary capacities and conditions for an inclusive, gender responsive and comprehensive social protection responses are in place and benefiting to women who recover better and safely with dignity as productive breadwinners for their households' recovery from COVID-19 .

[1] Currently, the implantation VUP pivots around three major components: the **Safety Net Component** (comprised of Direct Support, Nutrition Sensitive Direct Support, Expanded Public Works and Classic Public Works); the **Livelihood Development Component** (comprised of Asset Transfers, Skills Development and Financial Services); as well as the **Sensitization and Community Mobilization Component** (Caseworker mechanism)

[2] Ubudehe is a community participatory development approach which categorizes all households at community level according to their wealth ranks with Ubudehe 1 representing the destitute and the Ubudehe category 4 the wealthier . Launched officially in 2014, the Ubudehe targeting approach is already used by some social protection interventions to identify beneficiaries of social protection programmes. For example, public works, direct support and microcredit components of VUP, mutuelle de santé, etc.

CN\_III. Catalytic impact and nexus Describe how the intervention is catalytic by mobilizing or augmenting other financial or non-financial resources including from IFIs, foundations, the private sector. Describe how the proposed intervention supports medium to long-term recovery for example by enabling other actors to engage, generates an enabling environment for longer-term development.

The interventions have been selected after consultations with relevant government and non-government actors to upscale some already existing initiatives and social protection services by mainstreaming the COVID-19 response and recovery plan. Such programmes include the [Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme](#) ; the Civil Society and Trade Union’s implemented programmes targeting domestic workers and daily wage workers; the government run Isange One Stop Centre (IOSC-provision of holistic GBV services under one roof) services etc.

The implementation of activities will seek collaboration and partnership with private sector and Trade Unions , tele-communication companies especially on demand creation and virtual trainings and awareness raising to increase availability of mobile solutions in GBV, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) at the work place including tele-work . Participation of communities and in humanitarian settings including capacity building of community activists is a long-term strategy to avail long-term solutions and support in regard to GBV prevention and response. Integration of IOSC structure in public health systems is recognized as the long-term strategy to avail multisector services to the community. Building capacity of this structure is a best way to strengthen the provision of GBV services at all levels. The project will seek to build synergies with existing interventions in the areas of gender, GBV prevention and response including child defilement with a strong focus on national capacities and systems. This will ensure the sustainability of project gains beyond COVID-19 pandemic. The multi country Safe Cities programme to prevent and end violence against women and girls in public places implemented in Kigali since 2012 is expected to be catalytic to implement new and private sector operators and trade unions driven innovative ways of preventing and responding to cases of SGBV in public places, protection of sexual exploitation and abuse in time of COVID-19. Response interventions to COVID-19 already undertaken though at a minimal scale by agencies including UN Women on social protection and PPE for women caregivers for inpatients in 4 selected hospitals in Kigali, employment opportunities for few women linked with the UN Supported manufacturers of PPE like locally made face masks, psychosocial counseling for women small business owners who went bankrupt as a result of COVID-19 etc all constitute catalytic interventions to upscale through this programme . This already lived experience and lessons learnt will be duly leveraged.

Thanks to advocacy of the UN system and partners with evidence from the socio-economic impact assessment report, refugees have been included into the National Socio-Economic Recovery Plan. This national plan has been informed and is supported by various development partners including UN agencies, World Bank and IMF, other Development partners and the Private sector, under overall coordination of the Government of Rwanda to ensure that environment for long-term development is enabled.

Financial institutions and partners in humanitarian within refugee settings including AFR, INKOMOKO, etc. have canceled delay penalties on loans provided to persons of concern. Some recovery grants have been provided to sustain small businesses in

...

refugee settings in order to give to them a chance to survive the consequences of COVID-19 on long-term livelihoods solutions for refugees. For the immediate support to refugees, UNHCR is working in close collaboration with IOM who already provided PPE Kits for the Treatment Centers, facemasks and handwashing facilities in Mahama camp. UNHCR also works with UNICEF to provide hospital tents used for the COVID-19 Treatment Center in Nyamagabe District. WFP continues to assist refugee families with fortified porridge flours cash assistance for food to the refugees in camps, including assisting refugees in camp-based quarantine centers with food assistance.

This project will henceforth facilitate private financing and will unlock resources from other partners including foundations and other Development partners. This will complement other national initiatives promoting gender equality and empowerment of women through the financing systems. The project will deepen advocacy to ensure gender-responsive budgeting is fully adhered to in national budgeting and that public budget reviews fully integrate COVID-19 related indicators and SDGs targets relevant to gender equality and that they are part of the performance-based budgeting approach adopted within the public sector. This will ensure sustained and prioritized gender responsive financing for humanitarian, peace and longer-term development.

Similarly, through women’s cooperatives, the conditional cash transfers for women will be leveraged to spur women’s participation in public procurement within the supply chain management of the Government led social protection Programme “Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme”. In a study commissioned by UN Women assessing women’s participation in public procurement for the period of 2017-2018, it was found that for the analysed fiscal year women had only won less than 5% of tenders constituting not more than 11% of monetary value. This proposed Programme will be catalytic and cast the traditional bias that only well-educated and wealthy women can participate in public procurement. Through the other UN supported e-commerce platforms which the UN Joint Socio-economic impact assessment identified as a key element in the economic recovery from the effects on COVID-19, the programme will support to enhance women’s participation in digital transactions to bridge the gender gap. Recipients of conditional cash transfers will invest the received cash in various income generating opportunities including supplying the basic needs items necessary for the implementation of national social protection Programme in their communities eg. basic Public works equipment, household utensils, locally produced or purchased food etc. Within the above spirit , this programme is expected to prove that even the very low income women if supported with adequate social safety nets can leapfrog and contribute to the economy including their participation in the digital transformation.

CN\_IV. Who will deliver this solution List what Recipient UN Organizations (no less than 2 per concept note) and partners will implement this project and describe their capacities to do so. Include expertise, staff deployed, as well as oversight

The overall coordination will be linked to the broader context of the Socio-economic response plan. The RCO will coordinate and oversee the joint programme while the four PUNOs will be responsible for its implementation In order to ensure an integrated approach towards implementation and effective coordination, the PUNOs will develop a joint work plan, and the designated lead agency (UNWOMEN) will support agencies at the output indicator level. The project will be implemented by the PUNOs based on their comparative advantages and past experience in the area of gender equality and empowerment of women and take the lead on specific elements where they have existing experience and networks, also to ensure cost-effectiveness. Government ministries and institutions will play a key role in implementation and participate in decision-making. The Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion will be the primary government lead on the programme, while the other and institutions will participate on a needs-basis, depending on the agenda, or bilaterally when necessary.

To ensure consistent reporting, coordination, and participatory decision-making, two governance structures will be established: a steering committee and a technical committee. The technical committee will support the Steering Committee and report to it. The steering committee made up of high-level representation from the RCO, UNWOMEN, UNHCR, WFP & UNFPA will meet on a bi-annual basis to discuss the

...

mechanisms that determine the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) arrangements and responsibilities. Use hyperlinks to relevant sites and the current portfolios of RUNOs so the text is short and to the point.

work plan and budget, progress, and make decisions in response to unexpected changes and/or risks which may arise during the programme implementation. This steering committee is the governing body of the joint programme.

Mid-term and final reports will be produced based on the existing work plan and results framework. The PUNOs technical focal points will communicate and regularly interact in their daily operational work. Close collaboration between focal points will contribute to strengthening overall coordination and integration within the programme and reducing transaction costs with oversight by the One UN Monitoring and Evaluation Facilitation Task Force.

#### **A) RUNO**

##### **UN Women:** Lead agency

UN Women is the lead and coordinating entity within UNCT on gender mainstreaming through the UNDAP gender mainstreaming strategy. To that end, UN Women provides the technical leadership of the UNCT Gender Technical Reference Group (GTRG) that provides oversight on how the UNCT and Partners are mainstreaming gender in the UNDAP/ Cooperation Framework in Rwanda. UN Women is actively engaged in the Covid-19 response and recovery plan and has been so from the onset by leading on the gender dimension of the socioeconomic impact assessment of COVID-19 in Rwanda. This enabled UN Women to initiate partnerships to respond to COVID-19 from a well-informed source. The agency has a strong team in both programme and operations with wide experience in managing gender responsive programmes.

##### **UNFPA**

At the Government level, UNFPA will partner with its existing implementing partner such as Rwanda Biomedical Center, Rwanda Investigation Bureau and Imbuto Foundation to implement activities under this project. In humanitarian settings, UNFPA will collaborate with its partner, ALIGHT, with a mandate of GBV response in all humanitarian settings in Rwanda. UNFPA has experienced staff in gender and human rights but also in humanitarian response who will coordinate, monitor the implementation of interventions under this project. Existing implementing partners have enough capacity in terms of staffing and logistics to implement these interventions.

At the decentralized level, UNFPA district coordinators interface the districts and health facilities including implementing partner staff to facilitate planning, monitoring of implementation of interventions and feed information at the country office level. Additional technical support to country offices is provided by UNFPA regional office as required to supplement Government and NGOs capacity. Both UNFPA and UN Women sit as members of National Statistics Development System Steering Committee and this is a great opportunity to leverage in harnessing gender and age sensitive social protection data including also SGBV prevalence and their reporting frameworks.

##### **UNHCR and WFP**

The inclusive recovery process will continue to capitalize on both UNHCR and WFP's humanitarian and resilience building experience in refugee settings and disaster prone areas and together with their national partners in government and CSOs there is a fully competent workforce to successfully implement the recovery plan with no one left behind even in humanitarian settings. The detailed interventions in refugee settings will be implemented directly by UNHCR in partnerships with service providers in the country. UNHCR has enough staff deployed to handle the implementation process on the programme within refugee settings in Rwanda. The operation will be subject to M&E process of UNHCR and the latter will be responsible for the reporting of the operation's outcomes and impacts on the assisted people. Add sex disaggregated data of existing refugee population served by WFP & UNHCR in Rwanda

Finally, all the 4 proposed UN Organizations (UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR and WFP) as participating to this gender responsive social protection and resilience building project are already familiar to working together and deliver results together through Joint Programmes. UN Women leads on UNDAF gender joint programme with both UNHCR and UNFPA among other PUNOs while UN Women is also a PUNO to WFP led Joint Programme on Accelerating Women's Economic Empowerment in Rwanda. UNFPA leads on Joint Programme on data to which UN Women also participates to and both agencies have a strong team skilled on gender responsive programming and gender statistics.

### 1. Implementing partners

The main partners to this programme have been selected on merit because of their already proven institutional and organizational capacities in implementing social protection gender and SGBV prevention and response programmes. They include the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) a leader nationally in conducting surveys including national gender statistics and gender thematic reports on each national survey. NISR has gained a global recognition in having strong statistical systems providing real time data with all necessary disaggregation to inform national and local development planning and ensures gender mainstreaming with publications of periodic gender statistical reports. The existing partnership between NISR with UNWOMEN, UNFPA and WFP on the Joint programme on data will be leveraged.

The Isange One Stop Centres run by Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) are the outstanding model centers providing holistic and multisectoral integrated response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Rwanda. The IOSC have strong capabilities to accelerate GBV response amidst COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

[Local Administrative Entities Development Agency](#) (LODA) is a Government Fund under the supervision of the Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC). Established by law n°62/2013 of 27/08/2013 establishing the Local Administrative Entities Development Agency (LODA) and determining its responsibilities, organization and functioning. LODA focuses on Local Economic & Community Development, Social Protection, capacity building of local administrative entities within the scope of its mission. Moreover, LODA does monitoring and evaluation on the implementation process of development programs in local government entities with the view of contributing to the capacity building of population and decentralized entities as well as reducing extreme poverty in the country. In this programme, LODA will be instrumental in ensuring that women headed households who slide back into extreme poverty are enrolled in the most appropriate Government social protection schemes. This will complement existing interventions with LODA supported by UN Agencies to accelerate policy interventions in social protection in Rwanda.

The Ministry of Gender and Family promotion (MIGEPROF): A main partner to the UN System in Rwanda on gender equality and women's empowerment and family promotion is the coordinating entity for the National Gender Machinery will keep the coordination role including at policy level to assure quality and compliance of all stakeholders within the framework of the social protection services to women and girls as part of the implementation of Covid-19 socio-economic recovery plan.

Partnership with Private Sector Operators and Trade Unions will help throughout this programme in ensuring that women are not victims of sexual exploitation and abuse at work place or at home while teleworking during COVID-19 restrictions or to prevent any sexual abuse as advance to regaining lost employment. Furthermore, Private Sector operators like financial institutions who work mostly in informal sector with women are expected to be very instrumental in ensuring that the conditional cash transfers are financially sustainable.

Solid Africa is a non-profit organization, operating in Rwanda since 2010, with the mission to help vulnerable patients in public hospitals. Since April, at one month of COVID-19 pandemic in Rwanda, Solid Africa has been partnering with UN Women to provide social protection support including PPE to women caregivers in various Hospitals in Kigali, the Capital of Rwanda. This significantly helped women mitigate the plight of the unpaid care work within this unprecedented COVID-19 crisis.

**1. Risk assessment**

The proposed programme may face two main risk but both of them have been rated as low because their mitigation are controllable by the PUNOs and their implementing partners. It will ensure all actors engaged respect do-no-harm principles and activities are designed with appropriate risk mitigation measures.

The first potential risk pertains to the targeting approach which partially relies on the traditional community based wealth ranking through Ubudehe programme . The Government has recently revised the Ubudehe wealth rank categorization which will serve as the guiding framework when it comes to targeting the proposed interventions' beneficiaries. This may create a confusion or overlap of households' wealth categories and make the task to have programme baseline information somehow complex. However, with the existing partnership with National Institute of Statistics and the Local Administrative Entities Development Agency, the actual database and the complaints /appeal systems in place will be used to manage potential disputes in targeting process.

Secondly, conditional Cash transfers targeted to adult female household members could increase their bargaining power and strengthen their position in the household by giving them more choices, including the self-sufficiency to manage or influence expenditure. Alternatively, the shifting power dynamics could lead to backlash by a male partner who is trying to reassert control, thus increasing the risk of violence. However, the fact that cash transfers to women is concurrently implemented with GBV prevention and response there will be behaviour change campaigns targeting spouses within cash transfers beneficiary households for respectful relationships , gender sensitive intra-household decision making and division of labour .

P\_V. Target population

COVID-19 has affected all Districts and provinces in Rwanda but the City Of Kigali (Capital city ) has been and remains the hardest hit followed by secondary cities . These effects apply for both the number of COVID-19 infected persons and the socioeconomic impact because the Cities receive many populations operating in both formal and informal sectors many of whom have been laid off by their employers or run out of their working capitals with a direct consequence to the living conditions of their households and dependents.

The Integrated Households Living Conditions Survey (EICV) provides poverty measures across households in Rwanda. The two latest EICV surveys (EICV4 of 2013/2014 and EICV5 of 2016/2017) show that, although poverty levels have declined, female-headed households were more likely to be poor compared to male-headed households, with 39.5 percent of female-headed households being poor compared to 37.6 percent of male-headed households in 2016/17 whereby the fact that Female-headed households are at a far greater risk of being impacted by the adverse effects of the COVID-19 crisis; in fact, they could fall into deeper poverty levels and even face extreme poverty. Assessments from relevant Government and non government social protection actors suggest the same increasing trend of women headed households falling in extreme poverty over the last 14months of COVID-19 pandemic . Cash transfers for especially vulnerable women categories with condition of being capitalized and mitigating the income, health and education poverty trap is the proposed solutions targeting extremely poor or those who are very close at high risk of falling in extreme poverty are seen as quick wins against the impact of COVID-19.

Violence against women and girls is increasing globally as the COVID-19 pandemic brings with it economic and social stresses and measures to restrict contact and movement. Crowded homes, substance abuse, limited access to services, and reduced

...

peer support are exacerbating these conditions. Before the pandemic, it was estimated that one in three women would experience violence during their lifetime. The assessment conducted by One UN in Rwanda indicated that SGBV cases almost tripled for the months of May , June 2020 and this as a direct consequence of the pandemic and the vulnerability risk which came with it.

Many of these women have been trapped in their homes with their abusers or they are often subject of double victimization by their oppressors. By raising awareness around SGBV prevention and response through multi-sectoral approach more than 1000 victims , majority (95%) being women , the programme will be coming to a significant rescue of victims of SGBV.

Vulnerability to shocks becomes of a higher concern when it is affecting an individual or household from an already existing vulnerability .Such is the case for People (especially women) living with disability , female domestic workers that includes those who were evicted from schools due to teenage pregnancies or were unable to complete a level of education of their dream. Urban refugees are also counted among those with multiple vulnerabilities and risk which sometimes expose young women to human trafficking . That is the reason why the programme will aim to explicitly target at least 100 individuals targeted on cash transfers will be selected from people with disabilities and 1500 of the cash transfers beneficiaries will be urban refugees including those rescued from human traffickers.

Geographically and because of the severity of the pandemic on urban poor populations, the programme will focus on City of Kigali (including the rural part of the Capital City) , Musanze District ( urban and rural) ,Muhanga , Nyagatare (Urban and rural ) and Nyamasheke District which presents the far highest number of people living in poverty and extreme poverty in Rwanda (69.3% below poverty line according to EICV5 against the national average 38.2%).

## SDG Targets

Target	Description
<b>Main Goals</b>	
<b>Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere</b>	
TARGET_1.3	1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
<b>Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</b>	
TARGET_5.1	5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
TARGET_5.2	5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
<b>Secondary Goals</b>	
<b>Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</b>	
TARGET_2.1	2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

## SDG Indicators



Indicator Code	Description
No data available.	

## Contribution to SDGs

Participating Organization	% TARGET_1.3	% TARGET_5.1	% TARGET_5.2	% TARGET_2.1	% Total
UNWOMEN	30	30	35	5	100
UNHCR	40	25	30	5	100
<b>Total contribution by target</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>Project contribution to SDG by target</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100</b>

## List of documents

Document	Document Type	Document Source	Document Abstract	Modified By	Modified On
<a href="#">FUNDING Recovering Better and Inclusively from COVID-19 Through Gender Sensitive Social Protection System in RwandaMPTF_00209_00155.docx</a>	Other Docs	Concept	The UNCT in Rwanda has been actively taking part in both the formulation and implementation of the national response and recovery plan. Through this framework, the UNCT has formulated a Joint Programme in support of the national socioeconomic recovery plan. Among this Joint Programme's outcomes, this concept note is aligned and responds to the Outcome 3 "Expanded access to social protection to households and communities most impacted by COVID-19 whilst protecting women and girls from sexual abuse and exploitation." To achieve this outcome, the programme envisions the following interventions: • Support evidence based and more effective social protection targeting • Support to the economic recovery of most vulnerable groups and mainly women headed households, refugees and refugee host communities and households that have been most hit by the COVID-19 pandemic • Increase resilience of refugees through adequate food and nutrition support to mitigate the adverse effects against women and children refugees • Increase Awareness and Capacity to Respond to Gender Based Violence The outcome will help all the populations of Rwanda including the most socially and economically vulnerable (women, girls and persons with disabilities) to recover together and better from COVID-19 through a two pronged but complementary approach: Provision of well targeted gender responsive social safety nets and addressing gender based violence in all its forms because violence and deprivation are closely linked within the context of COVID-19.	ulimwenguj@un.org	Mar 31, 2021

<a href="#">FUNDING Recovering Better and Inclusively from COVID-19 Through Gender Sensitive Social Protection System in RwandaMPTF_00209_00155 .pdf</a>	Other Docs	Concept	<p>The UNCT in Rwanda has been actively taking part in both the formulation and implementation of the national response and recovery plan. Through this framework, the UNCT has formulated a Joint Programme in support of the national socioeconomic recovery plan. Among this Joint Programme's outcomes, this concept note is aligned and responds to the Outcome 3 "Expanded access to social protection to households and communities most impacted by COVID-19 whilst protecting women and girls from sexual abuse and exploitation." To achieve this outcome, the programme envisions the following interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support evidence based and more effective social protection targeting</li> <li>• Support to the economic recovery of most vulnerable groups and mainly women headed households, refugees and refugee host communities and households that have been most hit by the COVID-19 pandemic</li> <li>• Increase resilience of refugees through adequate food and nutrition support to mitigate the adverse effects against women and children refugees</li> <li>• Increase Awareness and Capacity to Respond to Gender Based Violence</li> </ul> <p>The outcome will help all the populations of Rwanda including the most socially and economically vulnerable (women, girls and persons with disabilities) to recover together and better from COVID-19 through a two pronged but complementary approach: Provision of well targeted gender responsive social safety nets and addressing gender based violence in all its forms because violence and deprivation are closely linked within the context of COVID-19.</p>	ulimwenguj@un.org	Mar 31, 2021
<a href="#">Theory of Change .pdf</a>	Other Docs	Concept	<p>Theory of Change for Recovering Better and Inclusively from COVID-19 Through Gender Sensitive Social Protection System in Rwanda (MPTF_00209_00155)</p>	ulimwenguj@un.org	Mar 31, 2021

## Project Results

Outcome	Output	Description
<p><b>Outcome 1 :</b> Expanded access to social protection to households and communities most impacted by COVID-19 whilst protecting women and girls from gender-based violence, sexual abuse and exploitation</p>		<p>Increased responsiveness of the fund to the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on countries</p>
	<p><b>Expanded social protection services to the most vulnerable families affected by COVID-19</b></p>	<p>The targeted population categories selected following existing Government managed social protection targeting system benefit from safety nets to recover better from extreme poverty induced by COVID-19</p>

Outcome	Output	Description			
	<b>Activities</b>				
	Title	Description	Lead Participating Organization	Participating Organization	Other Organizations
	Direct social protection support for inpatients' care givers essentially women to reduce their burden of care for the sick (Covid-19 and Non COVID-19 patients)	Through an experienced implementing partner -SOLID AFRICA	UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA) Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) Imbuto Foundation ALIGHT AHA (African Humanitarian Action) HAGURUKA SOLID'AFRICA New Faces New Voices Rwanda Chapter CESTRAR (Rwanda Workers' Trade Union Confederation Private Sector Federation (PSF)

Outcome	Output		Description		
	Cash transfers ( multi-purpose Cash Based Assistance-CBI) to support to the most vulnerable among the urban based refugees (already identified)	These are the refugees who mostly used to rely on daily wages, now heavily affected by the COVID-19 measures	UNHCR - UN High Commissioner for Refug		National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA) Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) Imbuto Foundation ALIGHT AHA (African Humanitarian Action) HAGURUKA SOLID'AFRICA New Faces New Voices Rwanda Chapter CESTRAR (Rwanda Workers' Trade Union Confederation Private Sector Federation (PSF)

Outcome	Output		Description		
	<p>Conditional Cash transfers to Women headed households who dived into poverty especially extreme poverty as a direct impact of COVID-19</p>	<p>These households identification will be based on the Government's social protection agency (Local Development Authority-LODA) database from assessments done by local governments</p>	<p>UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN</p>		<p>National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA) Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) Imbuto Foundation ALIGHT AHA (African Humanitarian Action) HAGURUKA SOLID'AFRICA New Faces New Voices Rwanda Chapter CESTRAR (Rwanda Workers' Trade Union Confederation Private Sector Federation (PSF)</p>
	<p><b>Service providers and communities have strengthened capacities and knowledge to prevent and respond to SGBV, violence against children, child abuse, exploitation and neglect</b></p>		<p>The Isange One Stop Centres' capacity to respond and provide a holistic service package to victims of SGBV in a real time soonest after cases are reported ; COVID-19 response teams including Youth Volunteers are aware of and equipped with knowledge and capacity to address SGBV, sexual harassment and exploitation that might affect women and girls in public spaces during the pandemic</p>		

Outcome	Output	Description																														
	<p><b>Activities</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="411 231 800 388">Title</th> <th data-bbox="800 231 1205 388">Description</th> <th data-bbox="1205 231 1423 388">Lead Participating Organization</th> <th data-bbox="1423 231 1724 388">Participating Organization</th> <th data-bbox="1724 231 1950 388">Other Organizations</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 388 800 872">Conduct women and girls' safety audits in Kigali City and Secondary Cities to gauge the safety situation of women and girls in times of COVID-19 in public spaces</td> <td data-bbox="800 388 1205 872">The safety audit in public places is expected to inform the lead agency and implementing partner on the most critical areas of public life in urban settings are prone to exposing women and girls to higher risk of GBV triggered by COVID-19</td> <td data-bbox="1205 388 1423 872">UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN</td> <td data-bbox="1423 388 1724 872"></td> <td data-bbox="1724 388 1950 872">Contract</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 872 800 1356">Awareness raising and strengthening protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and GBV in public spaces as informed by the safety audit (including the use of online counselling and bulky SMS messaging )</td> <td data-bbox="800 872 1205 1356">The awareness raising will use mass and social media channels , public posters,... targeting the potential hot-spots for GBV , sexual harassment , exploitation and abuse</td> <td data-bbox="1205 872 1423 1356">UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN</td> <td data-bbox="1423 872 1724 1356"></td> <td data-bbox="1724 872 1950 1356">Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB)  Imbuto Foundation  Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 1356 800 1792">Legal assistance for victims of SGBV , SEA cases connected with COVID-19 including those committed in refugee camps and hosting communities)</td> <td data-bbox="800 1356 1205 1792"></td> <td data-bbox="1205 1356 1423 1792">UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN</td> <td data-bbox="1423 1356 1724 1792"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR - UN High Commissioner for Refug</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="1724 1356 1950 1792">HAGURUKA NGO  Rwanda Bar Association (RBA)  Legal Aid Forum (LAF)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 1792 800 2044">Support CSOs managed toll-free help lines to report and respond to SGBV exacerbated by COVID-19 context</td> <td data-bbox="800 1792 1205 2044"></td> <td data-bbox="1205 1792 1423 2044">UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN</td> <td data-bbox="1423 1792 1724 2044"></td> <td data-bbox="1724 1792 1950 2044">HAGURUKA  Rwanda Women's Network</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="411 2044 800 2433">Support the increase of safe spaces including shelters for protection of victims of domestic violence from retaliation as post SGBV response including health and legal are engaged</td> <td data-bbox="800 2044 1205 2433"></td> <td data-bbox="1205 2044 1423 2433">UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN</td> <td data-bbox="1423 2044 1724 2433"></td> <td data-bbox="1724 2044 1950 2433">Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Rwanda Women's Network</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title	Description	Lead Participating Organization	Participating Organization	Other Organizations	Conduct women and girls' safety audits in Kigali City and Secondary Cities to gauge the safety situation of women and girls in times of COVID-19 in public spaces	The safety audit in public places is expected to inform the lead agency and implementing partner on the most critical areas of public life in urban settings are prone to exposing women and girls to higher risk of GBV triggered by COVID-19	UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		Contract	Awareness raising and strengthening protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and GBV in public spaces as informed by the safety audit (including the use of online counselling and bulky SMS messaging )	The awareness raising will use mass and social media channels , public posters,... targeting the potential hot-spots for GBV , sexual harassment , exploitation and abuse	UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB)  Imbuto Foundation  Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe	Legal assistance for victims of SGBV , SEA cases connected with COVID-19 including those committed in refugee camps and hosting communities)		UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR - UN High Commissioner for Refug</li> </ul>	HAGURUKA NGO  Rwanda Bar Association (RBA)  Legal Aid Forum (LAF)	Support CSOs managed toll-free help lines to report and respond to SGBV exacerbated by COVID-19 context		UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		HAGURUKA  Rwanda Women's Network	Support the increase of safe spaces including shelters for protection of victims of domestic violence from retaliation as post SGBV response including health and legal are engaged		UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Rwanda Women's Network	
Title	Description	Lead Participating Organization	Participating Organization	Other Organizations																												
Conduct women and girls' safety audits in Kigali City and Secondary Cities to gauge the safety situation of women and girls in times of COVID-19 in public spaces	The safety audit in public places is expected to inform the lead agency and implementing partner on the most critical areas of public life in urban settings are prone to exposing women and girls to higher risk of GBV triggered by COVID-19	UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		Contract																												
Awareness raising and strengthening protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and GBV in public spaces as informed by the safety audit (including the use of online counselling and bulky SMS messaging )	The awareness raising will use mass and social media channels , public posters,... targeting the potential hot-spots for GBV , sexual harassment , exploitation and abuse	UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB)  Imbuto Foundation  Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe																												
Legal assistance for victims of SGBV , SEA cases connected with COVID-19 including those committed in refugee camps and hosting communities)		UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR - UN High Commissioner for Refug</li> </ul>	HAGURUKA NGO  Rwanda Bar Association (RBA)  Legal Aid Forum (LAF)																												
Support CSOs managed toll-free help lines to report and respond to SGBV exacerbated by COVID-19 context		UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		HAGURUKA  Rwanda Women's Network																												
Support the increase of safe spaces including shelters for protection of victims of domestic violence from retaliation as post SGBV response including health and legal are engaged		UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN		Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Rwanda Women's Network																												
	<p><b>Programme management , monitoring and evaluation</b></p>	<p>Full time programme manager + 1 Programme associate + M&amp;E Costs +Telecoms mobile money transfer service fees to manage the cash transfers to targeted vulnerable households and individuals</p>																														

Outcome	Output	Description			
	<b>Activities</b>				
	Title	Description	Lead Participating Organization	Participating Organization	Other Organizations
	Programme management , monitoring and evaluation	Full time programme manager + 1 Programme associate + M&E Costs +Telecoms mobile money transfer service fees to manage the cash transfers to targeted vulnerable households and individuals	UNWOMEN - UNWOMEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNHCR - UN High Commissioner for Refug</li> </ul>	Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) Imbuto Foundation ALIGHT AHA (African Humanitarian Action) HAGURUKA SOLID'AFRICA New Faces New Voices Rwanda Chapter CESTRAR (Rwanda Workers' Trade Union Confederation

## Signature Indicators

Indicator Title	Component Title	Description	Category	Cycle	Scope	Value Type	Baseline Value	Baseline Year	Target Value	Target Year	Linked Outcome / Output
Outcome 2.3		Number of people accessing services (education, health, social protection, etc)	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number	N/A	2020		0	<b>Outcome:</b> Outcome 2
	By Sex	Male	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0		0	
	By Sex	Female	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0		0	

	By Age Group	0-14 years	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By Age Group	15-24 years	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By Age Group	25-59 years	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By Age Group	60 years and over	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Women	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Older persons	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Adolescents; children and youth	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Persons with disabilities	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Persons with mental health conditions Indigenous peoples	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Migrants; refugees; stateless and internally displaced persons	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Minorities	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Persons in detention or in institutionalized settings	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Slum dwellers; informal settlements; homeless persons	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	People living with HIV/AIDS	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Small farmers; fishers; pastoralists; workers in informal and formal markets	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	The food insecure	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	People in extreme poverty	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	
	By risk population	Marginalized people	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number		0	0	



## Imported Fund Outcome / Output Indicators

Indicator Title	Component Title	Description	Category	Cycle	Scope	Value Type	Baseline Value	Baseline Year	Target Value	Target Year	Linked Outcome / Output
No fund indicators available.											

## Project Indicators

Indicator Title	Component Title	Description	Category	Cycle	Scope	Value Type	Baseline Value	Baseline Year	Target Value	Target Year	Linked Outcome / Output
Number of new households including in refugee camps and hosting communities receiving conditional cash transfers from the programme		1500 households from refugee camps and refugee hosting communities (UNHCR target) + 1000 extremely poor women headed households (UN Women target)	Beneficiaries	Yearly	Country	Number	0	2021	2500	2022	<p><b>Outcome:</b> Outcome 1 : Expanded access to social protection to households and communities most impacted by COVID-19 whilst protecting women and girls from gender-based violence, sexual abuse and exploitation</p> <p><b>Output:</b> Expanded social protection services to the most vulnerable families affected by COVID-19</p>
No components available.											
Number of female domestic workers who had lost their jobs during covid-19 who regain other alternative livelihood through the programme			Beneficiaries	Twice a year	Country	Number	0	2021	200	2022	

Indicator Title	Description	Category	Cycle	Scope	Value Type	Base line Value	Base line Year	Targ et Value	Targ et Year	Linked Outcome / Output
<b>No components available.</b>										
Number of women and girls receiving post GBV care (disaggregated by type of services)	UN Women and UNHCR already have been providing post GBV Care but would like to scale up through this programme	Beneficiaries	Twice a year	Country	Number ra	1500	2021	3000	2022	
<b>No components available.</b>										
Number of new SGBV cases reported through this programme funded toll free helpline		Capacity	Twice a year	Country	Number ra	0	2021	300	0	
<b>No components available.</b>										
Number of partners trained and supported to monitor , document and provide support to SGBV survivors	Individuals but members of organizations or institutions experienced with awareness raising on SGBV prevention and responseand linking it with the humanitarina health setting of COVID-19	Capacity	Twice a year	Country	Number ra	0	2021	300	2022	

Indicator Title	Description	Category	Cycle	Scope	Value Type	Base line Value	Base line Year	Targ et Value	Targ et Year	Linked Outcome / Output
No components available.										

## Risks

Event	Category	Level	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Measures	Risk Owner
Targeting accuracy: The targeting approach which partially relies on the traditional community based wealth ranking through Ubudehe programme, has been revised (Ubudehe wealth rank categories) which may cause disputes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operational</li> </ul>	Low	Possible	Minor	The PUNOs have an already existing partnership with National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) through the One UN Joint programme on Data and the partnership with Local Administrative Entities Development Agency (LODA) , the actual database and the complaints /appeal systems in place will be used to manage potential disputes in targeting process.	schadrack.dusabe@unwomen.org

Intra-households Power relations to control the safety nets: conditional Cash transfers targeted to adult female household members could increase their bargaining power & strengthen their position by giving them more choices, which may cause dispute.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social and Environmental</li> </ul>	Medium	Likely	Major	The fact that cash transfers to women is concurrently implemented with GBV prevention and response there will be behaviour change campaigns targeting spouses within cash transfers beneficiary households for respectful relationships , gender sensitive intra-household decision making and division of labour .	schadrack.dusabe@unwomen.org
COVID-19 infections prompting movements restrictions and therefore delays in implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic</li> </ul>	High	Likely	Major	Active engagement of national and local government authorities to be able to implement the activities even with minimal movements from one District to another	schadrack.dusabe@unwomen.org

## Budget by UNSDG Categories

Budget Lines	Description	UNHCR (6.5%)	UNWOMEN (7%)	Total
1. Staff and other personnel		0	56,750	56,750
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials				0
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture, incl. Depreciation		0	3,000	3,000
4. Contractual services		0	47,900	47,900
5. Travel		0	3,600	3,600
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts		200,000	463,800	663,800
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs		0	3,000	3,000
<b>Sub Total Project Costs</b>		<b>200,000</b>	<b>578,050</b>	<b>778,050</b>
8. Indirect Support Costs		13,000	40,464	53,464
<b>Total</b>		<b>213,000</b>	<b>618,514</b>	<b>831,514</b>

**Country: Rwanda**

**Programme Title: Recovering Better and Inclusively from COVID-19 Through Gender Sensitive Social Protection System in Rwanda (MPTF\_00209\_00155)**

**Signature Page**

<p>UN Resident Coordinator: UN Rwanda</p> <p>Name: Mr. Fodé Ndiaye</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:fode.ndiaye@un.org">fode.ndiaye@un.org</a></p>	<p>Signature:</p>  <p>Date: 28 June 2021</p>
<p>Recipient UN Organization: UN Women</p> <p>Name of Signatory (Head of Organization): Ms. Fatou Lo</p> <p>Title: UN Women Representative</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:fatou.lo@unwomen.org">fatou.lo@unwomen.org</a></p>	<p>Signature:</p>  <p>Date: 28 June 2021</p>
<p>Recipient UN Organization: UNHCR</p> <p>Name of Signatory (Head of Organization): Mr. Ahmed Baba Fall</p> <p>Title: UNHCR Representative</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:fallah@unhcr.org">fallah@unhcr.org</a></p>	<p>Signature:</p>  <p>Date: 28 June 2021</p>
<p>Recipient UN Organization:</p> <p>Name of Signatory (Head of Organization):</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Email:</p>	<p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p>
<p>Recipient UN Organization:</p> <p>Name of Signatory (Head of Organization):</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Email:</p>	<p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p>

