

Joint Programme Document

A. COVER PAGE

1. Fund Name: Joint SDG Fund

2. MPTFO Project Reference Number

3. Joint programme title: Building Resilience in Guinea-Bissau through a Shock-

Responsive Social Protection System

4. Short title: Social Protection for Resilience

5. Country and region: Guinea-Bissau

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9. Short description:

To enhance Guinea-Bissau's capacity to respond to climate, health and economic-related shocks, it is important to protect and support the most vulnerable through an effective social protection scheme. However, today, only less than 5% of public and private sector workers have access to social insurance, leaving everyone else behind. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to develop, implement, finance and deliver a shockresponsive social protection system. The JP plans to do so by a) supporting the Government on the policy level with the development of a social protection policy, the design of a financing framework and the outline of a registry system; and b) testing delivery mechanisms through the implementation of a pilot non-contributory emergency social protection scheme in three target vulnerable regions: Bolama Bijagos, Tombali and Gabu. Through these activities, the project wishes to increase the country's resilience in face of any future shocks, thus upholding the principles of leave no one behind and to build back better. In this endeavour, the project is fully aligned with Output 3.3 of the UNSDCF 2022-2026 "National institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear vulnerability criterion and a strong management information system, including in emergency situations".

At the end of the JP, the government of Guinea-Bissau, and in particular the Ministry of Family, Women and Social Solidarity, will have an inclusive national social protection system, including a policy, a scoping study for the development of a unique registry, and financing mechanisms to sustain their work well after the end of the present intervention. National staff, especially the National Directorate of Social Protection, will benefit from capacity strengthening on implementation and monitoring of the social protection scheme. Moreover, 1,500 vulnerable households in food-insecure and climate vulnerable regions will have access to non-contributory emergency social protection schemes and are enabled to meet food and nutrition needs. This will alleviate COVID-19 and climate change impacts on insecure vulnerable girls and boys, women and their families and thus accelerate positive impacts on economic and food security that are unlikely to be achieved in a business-as-usual scenario.



10. Keywords:

Social protection; integrated; gender-sensitive; shock-responsive; child-sensitive; nutrition; resilience; poverty

11. Overview of budget

Joint SDG Fund contribution	USD, 958,400.00
Co-funding 1	USD, 00.00
Co-funding 2	USD, 00.00
TOTAL	USD, 958,400.00

12. Timeframe:

Start date	End date	Duration (in months)
01/01/2022	31/12/2023	<u>24</u>

13. Gender Marker:

2

14. Target groups (including groups left behind or at risk of being left behind)

List of marginalized and vulnerable groups	Direct influence	Indirect influence
Women	х	
Children	х	
Girls	х	
Youth		Х
Persons with disabilities	х	
Older persons		Х
Rural workers	х	
Persons affected by (HIV/AIDS, leprosy)	х	
Persons with albinism	х	

15. Human Rights Mechanisms related to the Joint Programme

- o Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 22 on the Right to Social Security
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, article 9 on the on the Right to Social Security
- The Joint Programme also wishes to contribute to the implementation of some of the UPR recommendations from 2020 (3d cycle), notably the ones concerning the consolidation of inclusive public policies in the area of economic, social and cultural rights (119.94) and the need to formulate a social protection strategy as a good means of eliminating poverty (119.96). The JP is also aligned with several other UPR recommendations, including alleviating poverty and malnutrition (119.97), strengthening the implementation of poverty alleviation programmes through partnerships with the international community (119.98) and promoting socioeconomic activities in rural areas to fight against poverty (119.101)
- The Joint Programme also seeks to address some of the recommendations made by the UN Special rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights in 2015 concerning the implementation of a social protection system, giving priority to the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups.



16. PUNO and Partners: 16.1 PUNO

- Convening agency:
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16.2 Partners

- National authorities:
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SIGNATURE PAGE





B. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

1. Call for Proposal: Building Resilience and Ending Vulnerability in Small Island Developing States (3/2021)

2. Relevant Joint SDG Fund Outcomes

- Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale.
- Outcome 2: Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement

3. Overview of the Joint Programme Results

3.1 Outcomes

- Outcome 1. National institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear vulnerability criterion
- Outcome 2. Child, gender and nutrition-sensitive safety nets are delivered through an empirical-based strategy, adapted to their specific needs and context

3.2 Outputs

- Output 1.1: An integrated and shock-responsive social protection policy is developed in close collaboration with the Government of Guinea-Bissau and partner organizations
- Output 1.2: The need for a single registry is defined in terms of its objective, modality and user requirements
- Output 1.3: financing mechanisms are identified to ensure the implementation of a national social protection floor
- Output 2.1: Delivery mechanisms for social protection are tested through a pilot transfer programme for target food-insecure groups in climate-shock prone areas, along with complementary actions to guarantee their access to education, nutrition and health

4. SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint Programme

3.1 List of targets

- SDG 1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day
- SDG 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- SDG 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
- SDG 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters
- SDG 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 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the
 internationally agreed targets on and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and
 address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women
 and older persons
- Additionally, the programme contributes to SDGs 5, 8, 10 and 13 through mainstreaming and cross-cutting.

3.2 Expected SDG impact

It is expected that the programme will help to accelerate the reduction of poverty and malnutrition through innovations and increased effectiveness of government's intervention on social protection. However, as both poverty and malnutrition are complex and multidimensional issues, sustainable reduction of both are lengthy processes. It is expected that the results of the programme will set the foundation to accelerate the reduction process. Given the complexity and multidimensionality, the results will not be fully observed during the 24-month implementation of the programme but will contribute to the national achievement of the SDG agenda after the finalization and beyond the project cycle of the programme. The end evaluation will help to shed light on the impact of the programme at the end of its implementation.

5. Relevant objective/s from the national SDG framework

"Para uma população afetada por anos de instabilidade, a proteção social aparece como um meio de promover a paz e reconstituir o capital social. Por esta razão, as novas autoridades desejam implementar nos próximos cinco anos um sistema de segurança social centrado na prioridade dos grupos mais vulneráveis, particularmente as mulheres, as crianças e os refugiados"

GOVERNO GUINÉ-BISSAU, TERRA RANKA 2015

- Enhance human capital and improve living conditions of populations (Strategic Objective 4 of Guinea-Bissau National Development Plan 2020-2023)

6. Brief overview of the Theory of Change of the Joint programme 6.1 Summary:

The Theory of Change (ToC) of the joint programme depicts that:

If an integrated and shock-responsive social protection strategy is developed (output 1.1, from UNSDCF priority interventions for social protection), and

if the need for a registry is defined in terms of its objective, modality and user requirements, (output 1.2, from UNSDCF priority interventions), and

if financing mechanisms are identified to ensure the implementation of a national social protection floor (output 1.3, from UNSDCF priority interventions), and

if delivery mechanisms for social protection are tested through a pilot transfer programme for target food-insecure groups in climate-shock prone areas (output 2.1, from UNSDCF priority interventions), along with complementary actions to guarantee their access to education, nutrition and health,

then National institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear vulnerability criterion (outcome 1, UNSDCF Output 3.3) and

then child, gender and nutrition-sensitive safety nets are delivered through an empirical-based strategy, adapted to their specific needs and context (outcome 2) **leading to** enhanced access for all people and groups in Guinea-Bissau, especially the most vulnerable, to essential quality social services (long-term outcome, UNSDCF Outcome 3)



leading to increased resilience and reduced poverty of the key poor and vulnerable (impact).

6.2 List of main ToC assumptions to be monitored:

- Relevant national stakeholders are willing to support policy development and perceive planned activities as a contribution to improvement and acceleration of the existing national approach to eradication of extreme poverty
- Communities and local government are adequately informed and supportive of new social protection programmes and have the required staffing capacity to deliver on social protection.

7. Trans-boundary and/or regional issues

It was found there are no current trans-boundary and/or regional issues relevant to the programme.



C. JOINT PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

1. Baseline and Situation Analysis

1.1 Problem statement

For much of the period after independence in 1973, Guinea-Bissau has struggled with political instability caused by a succession of turbulent events, including a civil war. Perennial insecurity arising from several structural conflict drivers, deeply entrenched governance issues, long-standing paralysis of State's organs, lack of capacity of State and non-State institutions, and several other vulnerabilities trapped the country in a vicious cycle of political and institutional instability and under-development for more than four decades. This has undermined the functioning of institutions and the State's structural capacity to deliver effectively on public services. Economic performance has been erratic, and widespread social and material deprivations is still a major issue. According to estimates from UNICEF and UNDP, 58% of the population are multidimensionally poor.

The country's institutional fragility was exposed and amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 24, 2020, Guinea-Bissau confirmed the first case of COVID-19 in the country. The President declared the state of emergency on March 27, 2020. Immediately after the first case of COVID-19 was identified, the authorities in power in the country declared the state of emergency and closed borders, schools, restaurants and other local businesses, prohibited public gatherings and domestic travels. These preventive measures had a significant negative impact on people's livelihoods. The gross domestic product (GDP) was projected to contract by 1.5 percent in 2020 after eight years of growth at an average rate of 4.2 percent. As a result of containment measures, the country also witnessed a significant deterioration of the food security situation. Results from WFP's rapid emergency assessments conducted in May, July and October 2020 highlighted that the number of vulnerable households applying severe consumption and livelihood-based coping mechanisms increased significantly with respect to pre-COVID-19 levels, going from 12 percent in September 2019 to 51 percent in May 2020. Rising food insecurity affected disproportionately vulnerable groups, notably women and children.

In addition to the sanitary crisis, the country has been grappling since 2020 with an economic crisis caused by reduced international demand and plummeted price of cashew nuts. The value of the cashew nut export, which accounted for more than half of the country's export revenue in 2019, has reduced substantially in 2020 affected by limited international demand. According to the National Cashew Agency, exports of cashew nuts reduced from 195,547 Mt in 2019 to 155,714 Mt in 2020, while the average farm-gate prices was also recorded the lowest level in recent years. This translated into heavy income losses among the population, most of whom rely on cashew nuts sales to meet their household needs during the lean season and to buy necessary agricultural inputs for the monsoon agricultural season. The plummeted cashew nuts price has also caused a significant deterioration in the purchasing power of farmers who often trade cashew nut for rice¹.

Finally, in this already fragile context, climate change acts as a threat multiplier. As shown by a forthcoming study from WFP on the impacts of climate change on agricultural livelihoods, the country is already suffering from rising sea-levels and more recurrent and

¹ For one kilogram of rice farmers were trading on average one and a half kilogram of cashew nuts, while in 2019 the terms of trade were one to one and in 2017 it was almost two to one in favour of cashew nuts.



intense floods and droughts. These impacts negatively affect food security of vulnerable households and can lead to communal conflict over scarcer resources. In 2020, the National Civil Protection Service (SNPC), in partnership with WFP, identified more than 2,000 households affected by flooding, strong winds damaging houses, and fire. At the end, 851 vulnerable households were assisted by WFP through cash-based transfer modality, while more than 1,000 households were left without assistance because of lack of funds.

This triple sanitary, economic and climate crisis highlight the extreme fragility and inadequacy of the country's social protection system. In Guinea-Bissau, there are little and fragmented social protection policies that address income insecurity, poverty and widespread social deprivations. An analysis on the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 in Guinea-Bissau conducted by the UN Country Team highlighted how the country was, and still is, ill-prepared to cope with major shocks, and risks substantial setbacks of some of the development gains obtained during the past decades. The pandemic accentuated the weaknesses of the public service provision and institutional setup in Guinea-Bissau as well as the overall vulnerability of the economy, exposing its dependency on cashew nut and lack of diversification. The analysis identified lower incomes and rising poverty as the immediate consequences of the pandemic in the country, while the non-existence of national social protection schemes (except for pension for veterans and select public servants) and depleted public finances leaves the government with little ability to provide a safety net for its population and to deliver a stimulus to the economy. The analysis also identified the provision of social safety nets as a key measure to counteract rising poverty levels. It recommended that these measures should reach as many as possible, targeting the poor, the informal sector, and food-insecure regions to prevent reinforcing of existing inequalities and addressing gender disparities. It identified emergency cash transfers via mobile money networks as a viable option to support households headed by women out of poverty. On the medium- to long-term, the analysis pointed out at better social cohesion and trust-building between the government and its citizens through the delivery of better basic public services.

Expanding resilient, pro-poor and sustainably financed social protection systems is thus a key priority of the government and of development institutions, including the **UN system.** Access to non-contributory social safety-net schemes can make lifesaving difference to vulnerable girls, boys, women and children, enabling them to meet their basic food and nutrition needs. The Government's National Development Plan 2020-2023 (NDP), which aims to leverage the COVID-19 pandemic to build the economy 'back better', sets forward six strategic objectives. Strategic Objective 4, which covers human development focusing on human capital, improving quality of life and well-being of Bissau Guineans, indicates social protection and solidarity as a key priority, averaging 4% of the overall budgeted resources. However, the UN system still plays a very important role in social protection provision; today, over 95 percent of social assistance programs are funded by donors².

The forthcoming UNSDCF (2022-2026), under its Strategic Priority n.3 "Human Capital Development", sets forward as a strategic output (3.3) that "National institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear vulnerability criterion and a strong management information system, including in emergency situations". The document prioritizes specific interventions, including:

- The development of a social protection policy/strategy inclusive of a financing mechanism for social protection
- The update of the non-contributory social protection law

² World Bank (2018). Realizing the full potential of social safety net in Africa.



- The establishment of delivery mechanisms for social protection
- The identification and targeting of poor and vulnerable population and development of single registry
- The development of a management Information system for social protection
- The scaling up of social assistance schemes for vulnerable households
- The establishment of coordination mechanisms for social protection schemes at national and regional level and coordination between social protection and coordination mechanisms for humanitarian programming (COVID-19).
- The extension of a contributory social security system for workers in informal economy

These interventions are to be implemented by engaging in policy development and advocacy, by providing innovative social protection solutions for rapid response and recovery, by prioritizing evidence generation and enhancing of data collection and analysis, including the establishment of a social database in order to have up-to-date data on population vulnerability before designing and implementing interventions.

The proposed project wishes to operationalize some of these UNCDF recommendations, building on initial progress already achieved in Guinea-Bissau. In fact, several social assistance initiatives led by UN agencies are ongoing, underscoring the need for a coordinated approach to identify existing programs, partners, and gaps as well as to build synergies and complementarities for potential new safety-net assistance and other project interventions. Since 2009, the government has sought support from different development partners, including UN agencies, to build a strong social protection system. From 2009 to 2013, the ILO supported the government in raising awareness of the importance of social protection and strengthening the system to improve its impact on poverty reduction. More recently, UNICEF and WFP, in collaboration with the World Bank, began to provide technical assistance to improve social protection policies within Guinea-Bissau.

The project will align with the roadmap developed during the first national social protection forum, held in 2017 as a result of the dialogue between the government and its development partners. In line with Aspiration 1 of Africa's Agenda 2063, the roadmap calls for developing a national policy and strategy, while strengthening national capacities, particularly among stakeholders in cross-sectoral public institutions. Based on the roadmap, the UN-World Bank Humanitarian-Development Peace Nexus Trust Fund programme has invested in building national capacities and undertaking a diagnostic study on the current situation of social protection. Within the government, these preliminary steps have been led by the Ministry of Health, Women, Family and Social Solidarity through a national multisectoral steering committee on social protection.

In line with Government and UN strategic frameworks, and building on previous actions, the joint programme seeks to ensure that a comprehensive social protection system is put in place, contributing to the progressive realization of universal social protection, as stated in Target 1.3. of SDG 1. In order to do this, the joint programme will support the government to develop a national social protection strategy, identify financing strategies and mechanisms, and test options for cash transfer programmes. Evidence shows that social protection cash transfer programmes directly contribute to increasing consumption expenditure and well-being, as well as positively impact education, health and nutritional outcomes, and local economies particularly in rural areas of low-income countries. The JP will address the fragmentation of the existing social protection programmes by bringing coherence to the policy environment and programme delivery. It will provide an opportunity to strengthening inter-ministerial coordination by creating an integrated institutional infrastructure to foster the sharing of data, analyses and criteria, and more effective collaboration and complementary interventions across ministries.



The intervention also aims to boost Guinea-Bissau's overall progress towards the SDGs, which so far has been limited. Despite government's efforts to pursue economic growth and fight against poverty and inequality, the country's assessment towards the 2030 agenda presented in the Common Country Assessment (CCA), along with a 'Leaving No One Behind' (LNOB) analysis, paints a worrisome picture. Having a high development focus, the country's efforts have primarily targeted the priorities of SDG 1. Despite this, the country experienced an increase in poverty levels, with the poorest 40% of the population share only 12.8% of the country's income. Women do not have secured land tenure, particularly in rural areas, pushing them even deeper into poverty (SDG1/SDG5). Absolute numbers suffering from the burden of malnutrition have increased (SDG2). Moreover, the health system (SDG3) and the education system (SD4) face persistent challenges related to low public spending, poor infrastructure, inadequate personnel. Weak institutions and limited access to justice remain a threat to sustainable development (SDG16). Basic infrastructure including roads, electricity and health centres are concentrated in Bissau and other urban centres (SDG9). Housing conditions in urban areas are also poor, with large numbers of informal settlements, lacking basic access to water, hygiene and proper sanitation facilities (SDG11).

An integrated and inclusive social protection system would have an unparallel transformational potential for Guinea-Bissau, acting as a catalyst for the advancement of most of the SDGs. By laying the foundations of a social protection framework, the JP will accelerate progress towards reducing poverty and inequality, improving access to food and social services, and spurring economic growth. Social protection systems are designed to guarantee a minimum living standard for the population by preventing, managing, and overcoming situations that adversely affect people's well-being. Systems that are well-designed should seek to provide adequate benefits that can contribute to income security, reduce poverty and inequality, and build social cohesion. It is implicit in this conceptual idea that a social protection system naturally contributes to achieving many SDGs, particularly SDG 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 10.

Too often social protection programmes are badly designed and end up leaving certain groups behind, especially fragmented programmes that do not offer a continuation of protection across the lifecycle and rely on limited and irregular funding. To address this, the JP will foster a participatory dialogue to ensure that the system follows a rights-based approach and complies with the standards of accessibility, adaptability, acceptability and adequacy. Furthermore, the JP will ensure that the system follows a lifecycle approach and effectively reaches the poor and vulnerable among children, persons with disabilities, and older persons, particularly in rural areas.

1.2 Target groups

The key target groups of this joint programme are the communities identified as the most vulnerable to health-related, economic and climatic shocks. In particular, the UNSDCF 2022-2026 indicates as target groups for the development of a social protection system the following groups: informal sector workers, people/children with disabilities (including albinos), children affected by COVID-19, women heading households in rural areas, pregnant and lactating women in vulnerable households, children under 5 years and adolescents in vulnerable households, and people living with HIV. In line with findings on multidimensional poverty in Guinea-Bissau produced by UNICEF and UNDP based on national and sub-national wide consultations, as well as the 2020 Alto Comissariado and UNFPA funded study on COVID 19 Knowledge, attitude and practices, these populations usually have limited access to basic services, resulting in poorer health, food insecurity and scarcer incomeerning opportunities.



Women in Guinea-Bissau are disproportionately vulnerable compared to men, especially in rural areas. While 80 percent of women work in agriculture, many of them have no access to land to cultivate due to traditional customary laws They have limited access to credit and household decision-making. Although the constitution prohibits discrimination based on sex, customary laws, social, traditional and religious practices negatively affect the quality of life for girls and women, generating and sustaining disparities between two genders. In many rural communities, women and girls are not permitted to choose the men they marry, and girls may be forced into marriage as early as age 13. Female genital mutilation is widely practised with the national average of 45 per cent, reaching 96.3 percent in Gabu. School dropout rates are higher for girls primarily due to early pregnancy and girls' early marriage. Disparities in education result in illiteracy rates among women, which are 30 per cent higher than for men. Women's quality of diet is concerning. Only 17.9 per cent of women met minimum dietary diversity, consuming at least 5 or more different food groups. Anaemia is an important public health issue that affects 44 per cent of women in reproductive age and 68 per cent of under 5 children. Women's overload of housework and family work negatively influence the amount of time they can devote to preparing children's food and introducing complementary feeding. Hygiene in meal preparation is partial. Distance from the nearest health facility, risks of travel especially at night hours, waiting time for an appointment, costs of health services, and limited availability of drugs were described as the main access barriers to health services. Women's poor diet and high physical exertion even during pregnancy, have consequences such as low weight at birth, premature births, or miscarriages.

Children are also very much exposed to exogenous shocks, due to widespread malnutrition and low school enrolment. The 2019 MICS survey estimated that the national prevalence of under-five stunting was 27.7 percent. Stunting was high in Oio (36.8 percent), Bafata (31.6 percent), and Gabu (30.5 percent). The MICS survey estimated the wasting prevalence at 5.1 percent. The global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate was the highest in Gabu (8.1 percent), Oio (6.8 percent), and the capital Bissau (5.2 percent). Only 2.8 percentage of children aged 6-23 months receiving a minimum acceptable diet, dropped significantly from 8 percent in 2014. Moreover, school enrolment in Guinea-Bissau is critically low. Only a third of children enter the first grade of primary school at the age of 6 and only 62 percent of children in primary school age (6-12 years) attend school. About a guarter of Bissau-Guinean children leave school before 5th grade, driven away by high access barriers to education and family and cultural disincentives. The great majority of school dropouts never return. The total number of out-of-school children, lost to the education system, comprises over 45 percent of children nationwide. Low primary school enrolment and completion rates are due to delayed enrolment, high repetition rates and a peak in children dropping out of school between grades 4 and 5, as schools in many rural communities only offer up to grade 4. Poverty, malnutrition, food insecurity, inadequate infrastructure, child labour, lack of qualified teachers and learning materials, weak community and parent engagement, all limit children's access to school, permanence, quality of learning and success.

In alignment with the Committee on the Rights of the Child's report recommendation <u>CRC/C/RWA/CO/3-4 (CRC, 2013)</u> and the UN pledge to Leaving No One Behind (UN LNOB), this programme will have a strong emphasis on meaningful and empowered participation of all children within the family, community and schools who are living in rural and impoverished areas.

In line with the UN LNOB's principles, this programme also targets people with disabilities. People with disabilities are also amongst the most vulnerable in Guinea-Bissau, particularly children. Around 16 percent of children between 5 and 17 years old live with some form of disability. Their access to health, education, work, social assistance, among others, is



extremely limited. Children with disabilities in regions outside of the capital are in a situation of even greater vulnerability, as most services are concentrated in the city of Bissau. Access to education for these children is hampered by stigma and social prejudice, teachers' lack of training and inadequate infrastructure. Movement restrictions and income losses compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic have further aggravated these obstacles, threatening the ability of children with disabilities to pursue their primary education.

For its pilot unconditional cash-transfer programme, the JP has chosen three target regions: Bolama/Bijagos, Tombali and Gabu (Boé sector). These regions have been chosen through a cross-analysis of several vulnerability criteria, including: 1) food security and nutrition situation; 2) vulnerability to climate change impacts; 3) level of isolation/access to essential services. From the latest Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring survey, conducted by WFP and the Government in Mars and July 2021, Gabu and Tombali were among the regions with the highest number of food insecure households (25.5 and 27 percent respectively). Gabu also presents the highest rate of stunting among children under-five in the country (30 percent). If Bolama/Bijagos seem to have a relatively better food security situation (16 percent of households are food insecure), thanks to their privileged access to fish, their access to a sufficient variety of foods necessary for a nutritious diet is critical. In the latest Market Functionality Assessment conducted by WFP in autumn 2020 showed that all four monitored markets had a medium or low MFI score, indicating insufficient functionality of the markets.

Moreover, the three regions are severely affected by climate change impacts, as highlighted in a forthcoming study from WFP and CGIAR. Bolama/ Bijagos and Tombali suffer from sealevel rise and coastal erosion, threatening their livelihoods on multiple levels (reduction of arable land and rice fields due to water salinization, destruction of shelters, reduced access to fresh water...). Gabu, for its part, is increasingly affected by droughts, and cases of communal tensions for access to fresh water have already been reported multiple times. Furthermore, in Tombali and Gabu regions, more frequent and intense floods and waterlogging recurrently seriously damages crops and villages. Since 2015, floods affected more than 170,000 people across the country and destroyed 55,000 MT of rice (about 8% of total production).

Finally, the targeted regions are the most isolated in the country, and habitants have difficult access to essential services. The non-existence public infrastructure linking the islands to the main island, Bubaque, severely affects the quality of life of poor households living in the Bijagos. Poor road infrastructure and scarce phone connection also result in isolation of large areas in Tombali and Gabu regions. This vulnerability criteria has motivated the prioritization within Gabu region of Boé sector, one of the most isolated areas of Guinea-Bissau.

Targeting of households within the three regions is developed on a well proven methodology, already employed by WFP and UNICEF in 2020 in the context of a UN COVID-19 MPTF-funded intervention. The project aimed to support most vulnerable households in the wake of the pandemic through unconditional cash transfer. To this aim, WFP and UNICEF developed a village and household selection criteria and established a methodology to conduct beneficiary enrolment, registration, and verification. A targeting tool consisting of a manual of procedure, and technical assistance for case management and community-based targeting was developed.

Data from the beneficiary registration and profiling exercise conducted in August 2020 by UNICEF and WFP within the UN COVID-19 MPTF Project showed that selected beneficiaries were highly vulnerable to food insecurity and their demographic profile was characterized by multiple vulnerabilities. Some 65 per cent of the families selected by the JP were female-



headed. About 90 per cent of the beneficiary households had over five dependants and had an unemployed or only seasonally employed head of household. Besides, in 46 per cent of the beneficiary households, there was a pregnant or breastfeeding woman while in 24 per cent of them the head of the household was over 65 years old. The beneficiary household where the head of the household was chronically ill were 34 per cent while those having a disabled member within the household were 29 per cent. In 32 per cent of the selected households' children were not enrolled in school.

The proposed cash transfer pilot intervention will continue to prioritize families most at risk of malnutrition as those headed by women involved in the informal sector, without stable economic activities; with many dependents or where women are the main income earners; households having children under 2 or who has malnourished children or children suffering from a chronic illness, pregnant and breastfeeding women; children or adults with disabilities; single parents or an elderly household head.

Selection of villages for the intervention is conducted by using existing geospatial information on schools and villages. UNICEF and WFP use key indicators as a water source, hygiene and toilets in schools to create a "score" of zero (0) up to three (3) to be used as a proxy measure for vulnerability under the assumption that villages having schools with poor water and sanitation infrastructures are likely to be worse off than other villages. Once a short-list of the villages that would be eligible based on the above criteria is prepared, the information is overlaid against information on the availability of markets and/or small shops to ensure that beneficiaries targeted have access to markets to benefit from the provided cash.

The JP applies a human rights-based approach in line with the "Checklist for a Human Rights-Based Approach to Socio-Economic Country Responses to COVID-19". The targeting system prioritized the most vulnerable families with a gender lens. The information on the family is collected by identifying family members by sex, age and disability including gendered risks, needs and barriers to services. The JP has developed protocols to guarantee the safety and minimize the risk of contagion among beneficiaries and project staff. Baseline and end-line surveys using remote data collection methods will be conducted to assess the success of the JP. A complaint and feedback mechanism (CFM) is already established for the JP to allow affected communities to reach UNICEF and WFP in case of questions, suggestions, feedback or complaints. The CFM will allow for an opening of a two-way communication line between the project stakeholders. CFM mechanisms will be communicated to all project stakeholders throughout the project duration through a) direct messaging b) posters and other materials c) messaging through community committees.

1.3 SDG targets

The selected SDG targets which are the focus of this joint programme are:

- SDG 1.1. By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day
- SDG 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- SDG 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
- SDG 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters



- SDG 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 2.2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

Additionally, the joint programme contributes to SDGs 5, 8, 10 and 13 through addressing and mainstreaming of gender, inclusive economic growth, reduction of inequalities and addressing climate change.

Table 2 presents an overview of the most current available data at baseline level for the most relevant SDG indicator for each identified SDG target. It also captures the source, which provides the baseline data and the intended method that will contribute to measure the progress against these targets at the end of the joint programme in 2023.

Table 1. Key SDG indicators for the joint programme

SDG target	Most relevant SDG indicator	Baseline at national level	Source	Method to be used to measure progress
1.1	1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)	International poverty line: 67.1 per cent (2010) ³	Directorate of General Planning (2015), Guinea- Bissau Profile 2017 data	Annual report of the National Institute of statistics World Bank data
1.2	1.2 1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions	National poverty line: 69.3 percent ⁴	World bank data ⁴	World bank data ⁴
		Men = 67 percent	World bank data ⁴	World bank data ⁴
according to national definitions	according to national definitions	Women = 67 percent	World bank data ⁴	
		Children (0-14 years old) = 71		
1.3	1.3.1 Proportion of population covered	No data. According to CCA, Guinea- Bissau's social	CCA Guinea- Bissau	UNSTATS

³ Source: https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/rwa#goal-1. The proportion of the population living below the international poverty line declined from 77.2% in 2000 to 55.5% in 2016. The international poverty line is set at US\$ 1.90 per day.

⁴ https://databank.worldbank.org/data/download/poverty/33EF03BB-9722-4AE2-ABC7-AA2972D68AFE/Archives-2019/Global POVEO GNB.pdf

16



	by social protection floors/systems	protection system includes only social insurance for government officials covering medical evacuation		
1.5	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	-	National Civil Protection Service (SNPC)	National Civil Protection Service (SNPC)
2.1	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI)	30.7 percent are food insecure	SiSSAN (2019)	SiSSAN (Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System)
2.2	2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age	28 percent (2019)	MICS (2019)	MICS

Trend analysis on the advancement towards the SDGs

Progress on the SDGs in Guinea-Bissau must be viewed in the context of the country's overall vulnerabilities and constraints, and the efforts made to deal with specific developmental challenges. Together with its development partners, the government has made the pursuit of economic growth and the fight against poverty and inequality centrepieces of its long-term development plans. There are therefore important alignments between the government's own developmental priorities and the SDGs, to the extent that progress registered along the pursuit of the country's own development also contribute towards the advancement of some SDGs. Assessing progress on the SDGs is, however, constrained by the lack of data and an appropriate institutional framework for monitoring implementation. Overall, progress towards the Goals has been limited, as indicated in the status matrix which provides a snapshot of the country's performance, with crippling gaps in the availability and quality of data to track progress across the goals, targets and indicators. A more comprehensive assessment towards the 2030 agenda can be found in the CCA.



Table 2. Progress on the SDGs in Guinea-Bissau (source: UNSCDF 2022-2026)

GOAL	STATUS
13, 15	Relative progress
1, 2, 16	Moderate improvements
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14	Far behind
11	Regressed
12, 17	No data on progress

Summary highlights relating to some key goals targets and a 'Leaving No One Behind' (LNOB) analysis contained in the CCA includes:

- Population living in extreme poverty has increased (SDG1), with the poorest 40% of the population share only 12.8% of the country's income. Absolute numbers suffering from the burden of malnutrition have increased (SDG2).
- The health system (SDG3) faces persistent challenges related to low public spending, poor infrastructure, inadequate personnel. Gender-based discrimination remains a significant barrier in the way of access to basic healthcare services including sexual and reproductive health (SDG3/SDG5).
- Quality of education is worrisome as teachers do not have the pedagogical capacity and knowledge due to inadequate training, teaching resources, and salary, and a high percentage of children do not acquire basic level skills resulting in low learning outcomes, while others do not have access to the education system, including because of the continuous strikes or drop out from schools (SDG4).
- Women do not have secured land tenure, particularly in rural areas, pushing them even deeper into poverty (SDG1/SDG5).
- Gender-based violence remains a major challenge, while it is difficult to take an evidence-based approach due to the lack of data. (SDG5/16).
- Weak institutions and limited access to justice remain a threat to sustainable development (SDG16).
- Birth records as the civil registry are limited, depriving the population of a proof of legal identity crucial for the protection of their rights and for access to justice and social services (SDG16). Basic infrastructure including roads, electricity and health centres are concentrated in Bissau and other urban centres (SDG9).
- Housing conditions in urban areas are also poor, with large numbers of informal settlements, lacking basic access to water, hygiene and proper sanitation facilities (SDG11).

Interlinkages

As shown in Section 1.2, poverty has multiple dimensions and multiple underlying causes, which is why an integrated and multi-sectoral approach to poverty reduction is necessary. The same multi-dimensionality is true for malnutrition and food insecurity. Additionally, malnutrition and poverty are related. It is therefore key to tackle these multi-dimensionalities with the LNOB principle, which the joint programme will contribute to.

Opportunities and bottle-necks

Having a high development focus, the country's efforts have primarily targeted the priorities of SDG 1. Despite this, the country experienced an increase in poverty levels. In order to effectively address the challenges related to poverty in all its dimensions, it is important to strengthen the government's capacity to effectively implement the anti-poverty policies and programmes in partnership with other stakeholders.



Expanding resilient, pro-poor and sustainably financed social protection systems would have a catalytic effect on the country's progress towards the SDG. Access to non-contributory social safety-net schemes can make lifesaving difference to vulnerable girls, boys, women and children, enabling them to meet their basic food and nutrition needs. Several social assistance initiatives are ongoing, underscoring the need for a coordinated approach to identify existing programs, partners, and gaps as well as to build synergies and complementarities for potential new safety-net assistance and other project interventions.

1.4 Stakeholder mapping

Under the overall aim to eradicate poverty, the Government of Guinea-Bissau places a strong emphasis on working with multiple stakeholders at all levels. These include key ministries and government bodies, the United Nations, multi-lateral and bi-lateral development partners, civil society organizations (CSOs), NGOs and the private sector.

Government stakeholders

Social protection programmes are an increasing priority within the Government of Guinea Bissau, which has taken concrete actions towards the establishment of a national inclusive social protection system as outlined in its Strategic and Operational Plans—Terra Ranka (2015 – 2020), and Hora Tchiga (2021-2026). In 2017, the Government established a National Forum on Social Protection followed by the National Steering Committee on Social Protection created in 2018. More recently, the Government showed clear signs of recognition and commitment to establishing the much-needed social protection system by creating in July 2019 the new Ministry of Women, Family and Social Protection, which bears "Social Protection" in its name. Within the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Protection, the Directorate for Social Protection is in charge of the social protection sector.

Moreover, the National Institute of Social Security (INSS) is responsible for the administration and disbursement of pensions, medical assistance and different subsidies (sickness, maternity leave, adoption).

UN stakeholders

In addition to the national institutions mentioned above, UN organizations, under the coordination of the RCO, collaborate with the government to design and execute programmes targeting the country's most vulnerable populations.

- WFP has developed different social protection instruments to address hunger, nutrition and vulnerability, such as school feeding and asset creation. School feeding is the largest safety net in Guinea-Bissau, essential in promoting social protection, education, nutrition and agriculture. WFP recently introduced homegrown school feeding, an innovative programme, with special attention to adolescent girls and empowerment of rural youth and women farmers. WFP supports evidence generation for advocacy, policy advisory and programme formulation, development of a legal framework and monitoring system that generates annual analytical report. WFP has accumulated important experiences, tools and knowledge on social protection through both in-kind and cash transfer to rural school children and families, and persons living with HIV.
- UNICEF has been supporting design, implementation, management and monitoring and evaluation of social assistance in various areas such as nutrition, health, and education. It has also been engaged in delivering technical assistance for policy development and result-based programming. It has experimented intersectionality through an integrated programme that combines nutrition, HIV and WASH services. Recently, it has introduced real-time monitoring technology to improve



- service delivery in the areas of birth registration (Rapidpro) and water and sanitation (mWater).
- UNFPA has established its presence in Guinea-Bissau since 1979 with the objective
 of supporting the Government of Guinea-Bissau to implement development and
 humanitarian interventions that encompass social protection that include universal
 access to SRHR, promote reproductive rights, reduce maternal mortality, promote
 gender equality, and accelerate progress towards the achievement of the ICPD
 Program of Action together with the SDGs

Other UN agencies in Guinea-Bissau are also key stakeholders with a strong interest in the social protection sector, including ILO, FAO, the World Bank, UNIDO and UNDP. The joint programme will leverage on their activities and experience to create wider synergies between agencies, as described in the Governance section.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

CSOs and National NGOs also play key roles in the social protection sector in Guinea-Bissau, including in service delivery, sensitization and participation in policy and programme development. They implement social care services and complementary programmes related to livelihood development, nutrition and sensitization on social protection rights and responsibilities. Furthermore, they are developing and piloting new approaches, often drawing on lessons from international experience. Finally, given their extensive experience in delivering services at the community level. Most relevant NGOs working on social protection include:

- Caritas Guiné-Bissau
- Rede Ajuda
- Humanity and Inclusion

PUNOs have established partnerships with a great number of them (ECAS-D, Tininguena, RENLUV, CARITAS, KAFO, Cruz Vermelha...), and will leverage these partnerships for the successful implementation of the programme.

Private Sector

Private companies and enterprises can contribute to increased social protection within the country by creating jobs for the poor with respect to labour standards. Additionally, the private sector can offer a range of services and innovations in different areas including financial services, while also providing the technical skills and skilled labour required for the design and implementation of complex public works projects implemented by unskilled beneficiaries. The expertise and interests of the private sector can also provide technological solutions to social protection delivery challenges and create revenue-generating investment opportunities for pension and other formal social security funds.

2. Programme Strategy

2.1. Overall strategy

Transformational strategy

Social protection systems are designed to guarantee a minimum living standard for the population by preventing, managing, and overcoming situations that adversely affect people's well-being. Systems that are well-designed should seek to provide adequate benefits that can contribute to income security, reduce poverty and inequality, and build social cohesion. It is



implicit in this conceptual idea that a social protection system naturally contributes to achieving many SDGs, particularly SDG 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 10.

By constructing an integrated and inclusive social protection system for Guinea-Bissau, the JP will accelerate progress towards reducing poverty and inequality, improving access to food and social services, and spurring economic growth. Evidence shows that social protection cash transfer programmes directly contribute to increasing consumption expenditure and well-being, as well as positively impact education, health and nutritional outcomes, and local economies particularly in rural areas of low-income countries.

At the policy level, the programme will not only have a transformation role, but rather an "creational" role in initiating and coordinating the elaboration of a comprehensive, coherent and inclusive social protection framework.

The current fragmented approach to government interventions undermines the potential benefits of convergence and synergies between programmes affecting poverty and access to services. In the absence of an integrated system, experiments are not capitalized on due to a lack of an appropriate knowledge management system. Furthermore, limited administrative capacities are often diverted into multiple, uncoordinated mini-projects with questionable value for money. The current model is not conducive to a substantial accumulation of progress that guarantees the rapid achievement of the SDGs. Therefore, the JP will address the fragmentation of the existing social protection programmes by bringing coherence to the policy environment and programme delivery.

The innovative approach proposed will foster inclusive and participatory planning processes, involving all stakeholders, and will be based on solid data analyses and criteria of the 'furthest behind'. The JP will support the design of a unique policy framework with clearly defined priorities and grounded on the principles of national ownership and selectivity. A systemic social protection understanding offers a platform for synergies at policy, implementation and accountability levels, resulting in efficiency and effectiveness gains.

Vertical and horizontal coordination will help reduce duplications and increase value for money. In fact, the joint programme's transformational strategy stands out from other strategies because it creates at the same time 'horizontal' linkages between existing initiatives and actors working on social protection, and 'vertical' linkages, integrating awareness and capacity strengthening at different levels, from the community to the government. In comparison, other previous strategies developed in Guinea-Bissau have been fragmented, focusing on specific policy results, or working only on one level of implementation, by providing either policy support or unconditional financial support.

The JP will explore different options of fiscal space and financing opportunities that provide the government with mechanisms for multiyear budget allocations as well as mobilization of additional resources to steadily and progressively improve social protection coverage. By being informed of ongoing actions and gaps to be filled, external partners may also act to consolidate, enhance results, and expand the coverage of social protection.

The JP will examine options for cash transfer programmes and leverage effective programmes with integrated and complementary interventions, which will be replicated or scaled up, to obtain quick-wins and accelerate progress on SDGs. This approach provides an opportunity to scale-up some initiatives by creating a normative and comprehensive framework of a national social protection floor. This enables better articulation, coordination and synergy among various intervention levels: dialogue, strategy and financing, programme designing, and implementation of programmes.

Government's lead

The joint programme has been developed by UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA and The Ministry of Family, Women and Social Solidarity, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator and with the



support from the RCO. MFWSS has fully endorsed the programme, ensuring that the programme contributes to the government's current needs and vision for the social protection sector. MFWSS will continue as the government lead of the joint programme, and as a main actor engaging other relevant central government partners, such as the Ministries of Economy and Finance, Agriculture, Health, etc. Activity implementation at the decentralized level will be carried out in close collaboration with local government structures. To ensure the joint programme's sustainability beyond the life of the programme, outputs were designed to contribute directly to government national priorities for poverty eradication, and the joint programme aims to be integrated into national and district-level plans and budgets. In addition, the programme is closely linked to the UNSDCF (2022-2026).

UN added value

Based on strong government involvement, the three PUNOs and the RCO will play complementary roles in implementing this joint programme. Under the RC's leadership, the RCO will provide coordination and oversight during the programme. UNICEF will leverage its technical expertise in child- and gender-sensitive social protection to strengthen the social protection framework. WFP will provide technical expertise in shock-responsive and shock-resilient social protection. UNFPA will leverage its expertise on census data to ensure accuracy of targeting and delivery of support in the context of the social protection framework. The UN will also leverage its role in the development coordination mechanisms to foster synergies and support policy changes in the sector. More about this in section 2.5.

Expected situation

Ultimately, the joint programme aims to provide innovative solutions to address the gaps identified at the strategic/policy and community levels, accelerating the results as envisaged in the national social protection strategy, UNSDCF and the SDGs. At the policy level, national capacity for social protection implementation (targeting, financing, delivery) will increase. At the community level, the most vulnerable households in target regions (Bolama Bijagos, Tombali and Gabu) will benefit from pilot social protection model, including financial support and improved access to key information on nutrition, health and other essential services.

Key target groups

As outlined previously, the joint programme's key target groups include the communities and individuals at risk of being left behind or already left behind and, which are most vulnerable to economic and climatic shocks. These include women-headed households, households with a large number of children and households with disabilities. The joint programme will focus specifically on delivering social services to these target groups. Moreover, this joint programme will help the country to comply with the relevant human rights framework, CEDAW, CRC and CRPD.

Alignment with UNSDCF and other initiatives

The strategic framework and implementation plan adopted for this joint programme are relevant to the selected SDG targets, USDCF 2022-2026 outcome 3 and relevant national strategies and programmes, including the country's National Development Plan 2020-2023 and *Hora Tchiga*.

2.2 Theory of Change

Summary of Theory of Change

The Theory of Change (ToC) of the joint programme depicts that:

If an integrated and shock-responsive social protection strategy is developed (output 1.1, from UNSDCF priority interventions for social protection), and

if the need for a registry is defined in terms of its objective, modality and user requirements, (output 1.2, from UNSDCF priority interventions), and



if financing mechanisms are identified to ensure the implementation of a national social protection floor (output 1.3, from UNSDCF priority interventions), and

if delivery mechanisms for social protection are tested through a pilot transfer programme for target food-insecure groups in climate-shock prone areas (output 2.1, from UNSDCF priority interventions), along with complementary actions to guarantee their access to education, nutrition and health,

then National institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear vulnerability criterion (outcome 1, UNSDCF Output 3.3) and

then child, gender and nutrition-sensitive safety nets are delivered through an empirical-based strategy, adapted to their specific needs and context (outcome 2)

leading to enhanced access for all people and groups in Guinea-Bissau, especially the most vulnerable, to essential quality social services (long-term outcome, UNSDCF Outcome 3)

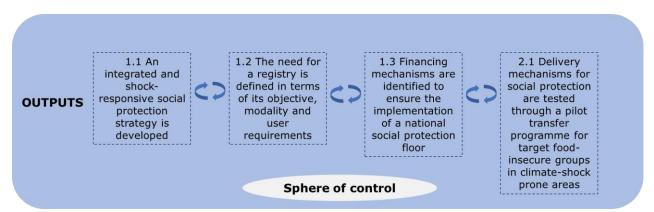
leading to increased resilience and reduced poverty of the key poor and vulnerable (impact).

Detailed explanation

For the development of the ToC, the focus has been mainly on the sphere of control and sphere of influence. Within the sphere of influence in the joint programme, four outputs have been identified, reflecting elements of integrated social protection on two levels, which are within the control of the joint programme. These levels are: strategic and community/implementation. Within the sphere of control of the programme, the ToC contains two outcomes and one long-term outcome, contributing to the overall envisaged impact the programme contributes to (sphere of interest). See Annex 3 for a graphic depiction of the ToC.

The pathways of change in the ToC are intertwined and reinforce each other. Starting at the outputs, covering the two different levels of strategy and implementation, which strengthen and complement each other.

Figure 1. ToC of the joint programme (output level)



The ToC outputs 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3, at the strategic level, use as an entry point the strategic priority n.4 established by the country's NDP 2020-2023 focusing on human development, the roadmap outlined by the government and its development partners after the first social protection forum in 2017, as well as existing social protection initiatives. The outputs reflect the joint programme interventions that support the government to put in place the multisectoral linkages and complementary social services in an effective way. Within the scope of influence of the joint programme is the capitalization on past social protection initiatives to create a coherent framework for a social protection system in Guinea-Bissau (output 1.1). As



in the country there is no comprehensive registry of beneficiaries, the JP wishes to initiate the creation of one, by establishing the needs and developing a sound methodology (output 1.2). The existence of a registry will be a key pre-requisite for the implementation of the social protection roadmap; this is why outputs 1.1 and 1.2 reinforce each other. The other key element for the implementation of a country-level social protection system is the mobilization of sustainable financing mechanisms (output 1.3), allowing the framework to sustain itself after the end of the present intervention.

At the implementation/community level, it is essential to identify: 1. The specific needs of target vulnerable groups, especially in the face of climate, economic or health-related crises; and 2. The best package to support them financially, given their needs; and 3. The most efficient delivery mechanisms, given context-specific barriers. Thus, the JP wishes to implement a pilot cash transfer programme in three food-insecure and climate change vulnerable regions: Bolama/Bijagos, Tombali and Gabu (output 2.1). The pilot intervention will be carried in a gender-sensitive way, prioritizing women-headed households. The pilot programme will allow the UN team and the government to draw important lessons for the future implementation of social protection safety nets, while bringing specific support on the short term to vulnerable target households already affected by climate-related hazards. It will also provide key inputs for the development of the outputs at the strategic level (1.1, 1.2 and 1.3).

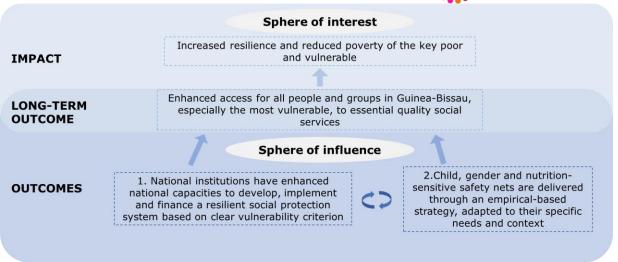
Sphere of influence 2.Child, gender and nutrition-1. National institutions have enhanced **OUTCOMES** sensitive safety nets are delivered national capacities to develop, implement through an empirical-based and finance a resilient social protection strategy, adapted to their specific system based on clear vulnerability criterion needs and context 1.1 An 1.2 The need for 1.3 Financing 2.1 Delivery integrated and mechanisms are mechanisms for a registry is shockdefined in terms identified to social protection responsive social of its objective, ensure the are tested OUTPUTS protection modality and implementation through a pilot of a national transfer strategy is user developed requirements social protection programme for floor target foodinsecure groups in climate-shock prone areas Sphere of control

Figure 2. ToC of the joint programme linking outputs with outcomes

Moving out of the sphere of control and into the sphere of influence, the pathways of change continue, reinforcing each other. The construction of an effective integrated social protection policy strategy, registry and financing mechanisms (outputs 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3) in close collaboration with government counterparts will strengthen the capacities of national institutions to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system (outcome 1). The lessons learnt from the pilot programme will ensure that child, gender and nutrition-sensitive safety nets respond well to the needs and the context on the ground (outcome 2). This understanding, in turn, will contribute to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to implement a comprehensive and adequate social protection system.

Figure 3. ToC of the joint programme linking outcomes with impact





Moving further up in the sphere of influence, having stronger capacity within national institutions for the development and implementation of a resilient social protection system (outcome 1) and having child, gender and nutrition-sensitive safety nets delivered through an empirical-based and context-specific strategy (outcome 2), will improve access for all people in Guinea-Bissau, especially the most vulnerable, to essential quality social services, which is the long-term outcome. This improved access to social protection will strengthen the resilience of vulnerable groups to man-made and environmental shocks of the key target group as impact.

The ToC is fully aligned with the UNSDCF 2022-2026, both to its ToC and to the strategic recommendations it provides on social protection.

ToC assumptions

Three main assumptions underlie the key linkages in the ToC. If one or more of these assumptions are not, or no longer, valid, the pathways of change in the ToC are jeopardized and expected results may not materialize, or in the worst case, may have adverse effects on the key target group.

The first key assumption is identified at the strategic level, where there should be willingness by all relevant (central) stakeholders to support policy development. This assumption also includes that the stakeholders share the perception that the joint programme will contribute and accelerate the existing national efforts to eradication of extreme poverty.

The second key assumption is identified at the community and local government level. It is anticipated that they are adequately informed and supportive of existing social protection programmes. Furthermore, it is assumed that local government has the required capacity, in terms of staffing and workforces, to support the delivery on integrated social protection.

2.3 Expected results and impact

As elaborated in Section 2.2, the joint programme has 2 outcomes and 4 outputs, which are all interrelated. As Section 2.2 already elaborated on the connections between outputs and outcomes, this Section will further explore what each of the outputs entail, in line with the Results Framework in Annex 2.2. As all PUNOs collaborate in an integral way and each



contributes to each output, their specific roles will be elaborated after the description of the outputs. The main outcomes and outputs are:

Outcome 1: National institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, implement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear vulnerability criterion

The project adopts as first outcome one of the strategic outputs (3.3) of the UNSDCF 2022-2026, setting as a priority for collaboration between the UN system and the national government the creation of a comprehensive and implementable social protection system framework grounded on the principles of national ownership and universality. Key prerequisites for the achievement of this outcome are: the development of a social protection policy, the identification of a registry system to easily target vulnerable households, and the identification of financial mechanisms allowing the government to sustain its policy well beyond the implementation of this JP. These three pre-requisites are articulated in the outputs below.

Output 1.1: An integrated and shock-responsive social protection strategy is developed in close collaboration with the Government of Guinea-Bissau and partner organizations

This output entails the following activities: 1.1.a) Facilitating strategic dialogues for policy development and integration of child/gender-sensitive social protection, nutrition, agriculture and disaster risk management, aiming to involve a wide range of stakeholders. 1.1.b) Developing a shock-responsive and gender-sensitive social protection policy; 1.1.c) Providing guidelines, tools and capacity development for its operationalization.

This will all be done as much as possible with the government in the driving-seat, taking ownership and providing content to the different elements. Therefore, this output focuses on two levels: a) creating a conducive and enabling environment in which multiple (mostly government) stakeholders contribute to the acceleration of the national graduation agenda; and b) developing a comprehensive social protection policy, including recommendations for its effective operationalization. The policy will promote progressive universal access to social protection, incorporating mechanisms to help poor families to meet their livelihood and development needs. The policy will pay special attention to the needs and barriers experienced by women, especially vulnerable women in rural households, in order to put in place specific mechanisms and solutions ensuring their access to social protection.

As Guinea-Bissau does not have a social protection policy yet, this output has a remarkable transformational impact. Besides developing a new policy, this output will also enhance the impact of existing social protection-related initiatives, bringing them together and giving them coherence. This will foster synergies between interventions and actors, and facilitate dialogue and lessons learning.

A possible bottle-neck in this approach is the fact that the pace of activities is dependent on broader government planning and priorities. Therefore, the advancement of the activities under this output is sensitive to the availability and cooperation of different ministries and national institutions. The joint programme itself will be used as a mitigating measure with a clear timeframe for planned activities. The planned studies and strategic documents to be developed within the programme will foster buy-in from different stakeholders into the social protection sector. The increased buy-in will in turn accelerate the implementation of the national social protection strategy and hence the attainment of identified SDG targets.



Output 1.2: The need for a single registry is defined in terms of its objective, modality and user requirements

This output entails the following activities: 1.2.a) Identifying the needs and user requirements for a single registry through consultations with the government and with external stakeholders; 1.2.b) Defining the modalities for the development of a single registry.

As pointed out in the UNSDCF 2022-2026, the creation of a single registry is a key prerequisite underpinning the successful implementation of a social protection system. The registry enhances the relevance and the effectiveness of a social protection policy in several ways:

- Facilitates the identification of vulnerable households. Based on a set of vulnerability criteria decided by the government, the registry lists out all vulnerable households responding to these criteria across all regions, thus supporting the identification of beneficiaries of social protection-related interventions;
- Avoids duplication of interventions and facilitates coordination among actors;
- Supports monitoring and evaluation, enabling an assessment of the effectiveness, impact and sustainability of social protection interventions;
- Enables a more equitable approach to distributing resources, channeling them where they are most deserved;
- Improves transparency and accountability, facilitating the prevention of fraud and double dipping;
- Gives to the government a full overview on ongoing activities by different partners, facilitating its decision-making role.

The JP will lay the foundations of a single registry by identifying the specific needs of the government and its development partners, and by defining the modalities for its development. This output will pay specific attention to gender, child and disability-specific data, facilitating the identification and the prioritisation of these groups. In fact, women-headed households, or households with children under 5 and people with vulnerability are generally more vulnerable and more food insecure, as highlighted in the context analysis.

Output 1.3: financing mechanisms are identified to ensure the implementation of a national social protection floor (from UNSDCF priority interventions)

This output entails the following activities: 1.3.a) Advocating for social protection financing; 1.3.b) Exploring fiscal space for social protection; 1.3.c) Defining related accountability systems.

As stated in the UNSDCF 2022-2026, developing a comprehensive financing mechanism is essential to ensure the sustainability of a national social protection system. The JP will offer costs estimations for the government, donors and multilateral organizations, to support fundraising. It will map out potential venues and strategies for financing, and explore the fiscal space for social protection, paying specific attention to gender-related aspects with respect to taxation.

A strong advocacy and awareness raising strategy will support the progressive implementation of the financing mechanism. Social accountability through appropriate engagement of civil society organizations and communities and their capacity building will also be mobilized to hold duty bearers accountable to right holders.

Outcome 2: Child, gender and nutrition-sensitive safety nets are delivered through an empirical-based strategy, adapted to their specific needs and context



This outcome wishes to ground the implementation of the social protection system developed under outcome 1 on empirical-based evidence. This is to maximize its effectiveness, and to tailor implementation of specific needs and context-related barriers. To do so, the JP will test delivery mechanisms through a pilot programme, outlined in output 2.1 below.

Output 2.1: Delivery mechanisms for social protection are tested through a pilot transfer programme for target food-insecure groups in climate-shock prone areas, along with complementary actions to guarantee their access to education, nutrition and health

This output entails the following activities: 2.1.a) Establishing village and household selection criteria in targeted regions (Bolama/Bijagos, Tombali, Gabu-Boé sector), selecting target communities and conducting beneficiary enrolment, registration, and verification. The targeting system will prioritize the most affected families with a gender lens. The information on family will be collected by identifying family members by sex, age and disability including gendered risks, needs and barriers to services. This information will be used to facilitate their access to the cash transfer; 2.1.b) Distributing unconditional cash-transfers to selected foodinsecure and vulnerable girls, boys, women, and men through mobile money solutions to fill immediate food and nutrition gaps. The project will put in place a mechanism enabling for at least two registered representatives in a household to collect transfers and household members to file complaints if the cash provided is not used for the household benefit, ensuring to prevent abusive use of the transfers by one member; 2.1.c) Supporting access of target communities to essential social services, through the organization of awareness raising activities and the provision of an ambulance boat, linking the islands to Bubaque and knowledge to enhance their access to essential social services; 2.1.d) Conducting postdistribution monitoring, management information, and implementing a complaint and feedback mechanism. Women being the main beneficiaries of the cash transfer program, the monitoring and evaluation system will help to inform whether cash transfer in those community could support gender equality outcomes or increase gender-based violence. The grievance mechanism will be designed to be accessible and inclusive of girls, women, persons with disabilities, children and older people to ensure that the program is responsive to the needs of the most marginalised and adapts where it falls short; 2.1.e) Developing recommendations to scale-up non-contributory assistance to a national level.

In line with UNSDCF 2022-2026, the JP will test delivery mechanisms through a pilot cash transfer programme. The pilot project will provide evidence of the benefits of non-contributory emergency social protection schemes (unconditional cash transfers). It will support 1500 most vulnerable households in targeted regions (Bolama/Bijagos, Tombali, Gabu-Boé sector) to meet immediate essential needs and cope with impacts from COVID-19 and climate hazards. Cash transfers will be provided for three months, with monthly allowances of 40.000 CFA (approx. 72 USD). After the implementation of the pilot programme, recommendations will be provided to scale up the non-contributory assistance to a national level.

In parallel, targeted households will benefit from enhanced access to key social protection services, through:

 Awareness raising and sensitization workshops on essential social issues, including nutrition, sexual and reproductive health and gender. Experience shows that there is a need for awareness campaigns and sensitization to ensure beneficiaries access to social services. The implementing agencies will mobilize their respective expertises to provide targeted households with enhance knowledge about nutrition and health practices that can substantially improve their resilience to external shocks.



- The provision of an ambulance boat for the region of Bolama/Bijagos. Lack of transport has deprived pregnant women and children in the islands to access the now improved Bubaque Hospital, with surgery capacity improved with support from UNFPA. Households in the Bijagos have to factor boats or canoes hire in their already scarce familiar budgets. By providing an ambulance boat for patients transfer to and from the main island (Bubaque), the WFP and UNICEF pilot cash transfer process will address key fragility drivers of targeted communities.

This output relates directly to output 3 in the Joint SDG Funds results framework, specifically contributing to indicators 3.1 and 3.2 on the testing of innovative solutions, with leading government partners.

Expected results

At the end of the JP, the government of Guinea-Bissau, and in particular the Ministry of Family, Women and Social Solidarity, will have an inclusive national social protection system, including a policy, a scoping study for the development of a unique registry, and financing mechanisms to sustain their work well after the end of the present intervention. National staff, especially the National Directorate of Social Protection, will benefit from capacity strengthening on implementation and monitoring of the social protection scheme.

Moreover, 1,500 vulnerable households in food-insecure and shock-prone regions will have access to non-contributory emergency social protection schemes and are enabled to meet food and nutrition needs. This will alleviate COVID-19 and climate change impacts on insecure vulnerable girls and boys, women and their families and thus accelerate positive impacts on economic and food security that are unlikely to be achieved in a business-as-usual scenario.

2.4 Financing

The joint programme has an overall cost of US\$ 958.400, with contributions from SDG Fund to be allocated to participating agencies in line with the detailed description of activities and detailed budget. As mentioned in Section 2.3, the SDG Fund's return on investment will be seen in several ways, amongst which the creation of a shock-responsive, integrated social protection policy. The programme will support this process through strategic dialogue, development of standard operational procedures, and analytical work that provides costed options for the delivery of graduation from extreme poverty interventions. It is also expected that the joint programme will leverage more financing for social protection by the government and other donors. This is envisaged as the interventions are implemented to strengthen and complement the ongoing government and other existing development partners' investment in the sector.

Currently, in the context of its NDP 2020-2026, the government has allocated 4% of the budget dedicated to its Objective 4 to social protection. As government resources will not be sufficient to invest in integrated social protection approaches, additional funds are necessary. Because of the nature of this specific fund, the joint programme can contribute to the government's plans, while bringing in innovation and capacity building.

Gender will be mainstreamed into the activities throughout the joint programme's implementation process.

Financial leveraging



PUNOs will leverage on bilateral and multilateral donors' continued interest and investments in the social protection sector. The World Bank, for instance, has been supporting the social protection sector in Guinea-Bissau for several years. The joint programme targets to unlock supplementary support from bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure the sustainability of the social protection scheme even after the end of the JB. To this end, one of the proposed output (output 1.3) will focus specifically on identifying venues for financial leveraging.

In the meantime, the PUNOs within the programme will actively advocate to the government to increase its budget and expenditure on social protection. This will be done through the sharing of programme updates and lessons learned by the steering committee members in other high-level fora.

2.5 Partnerships and stakeholder engagement

The Guinea-Bissau government, notably the MFWSS, is fully engaged in the joint programme, and is committed to foster significative advances on the creation and the implementation of a social protection framework. This provides a conducive political context for the UN to work. The Resident Coordinator will also play a key role in facilitating synergies between the implementation agencies for the JP and external initiatives potentially relevant for the theme of the programme. Agencies have agreed on a clear division labour to streamline the implementation of activities and reduce the risk of duplication.

The UN is a trusted development partner in Guinea-Bissau: well positioned to provide support to develop strong national systems, and institutional and individual capacities transitioning from the state of fragility to progressing on SDGs. The approach to accelerate SDGs builds on specific and advanced expertise and lessons learned from the long-standing capacity building support of the UN to enable governments to lead the development process. To prevent usual slippage in capacity and ownership, a co-creation approach will be applied at technical level. In this approach the government acts as the main driver in the policy arena. Knowledge and technical skills from public administrator and UN specialists are combined to co-develop a transformative integrated social protection system and accelerate action delivery and foster exchange of expertise (cf. chapter 1.4)

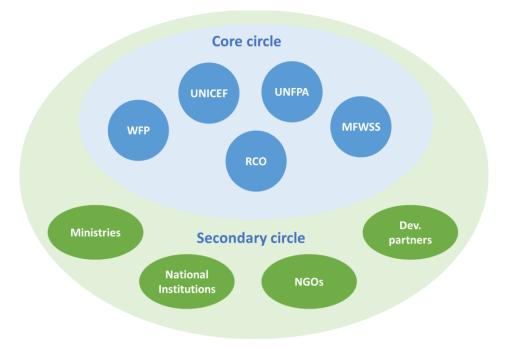
In the current stage of embryonic social protection with various initiatives in silos without government's ownership, the UN is better positioned to convene and influence an accelerated policy formulation by bringing an evidence-based integrating and systemic approach based on international standards. Government and the UN joint interventions will give a stronger credibility for convincing all stakeholders on the value of building a strong integrated national social protection system and fostering social cohesion and State legitimacy. Moreover, each implementing PUNOs will mobilize their respective expertise to ensure the successful implementation of the proposed intervention.

The joint programme will convene the core stakeholders in a steering committee. The six core members of the steering committee are: RCO, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA and The Ministry of Family, Women and Social Solidarity.

The joint programme steering committee will also have a 'secondary stakeholder circle', made up of the key government stakeholders and institutions, as well as key development partners currently working on social protection (World Bank, ILO...) that can support the implementation of specific activities of the joint programme. Representatives of the districts targeted in the pilot programme, as well as NGO's involved in implementation, will also be included in this circle. These secondary stakeholders will convene on an ad hoc basis based on strategic priorities, and the steering committee members will be expanded by engaging them on specific elements of the joint programme design and implementation.



Figure 4. Stakeholder engagement in the joint programme



The joint programme's key target groups will actively participate in the joint programme and take a leadership role in the design and delivery of the programme at the community level.

Furthermore, an additional target group of the joint programme is the central and decentralized government. The joint programme intends to enhance capacities of both central and decentralised government entities through different modalities. At the central level, technical assistance will be provided so that the ministries and institutions involved carry out their proposed roles and interventions. Additionally, tools and guidelines will be developed for the decentralized level by the PUNOs, in close collaboration with the government counterparts, to ensure their ownership and capacity development.

As the programme moves into the next stage of inception, followed by implementation and M&E, the PUNOs will pool and mobilize experts from their (sub-)regional offices and headquarter offices, as well as ensure close collaboration with other relevant UN agencies. Furthermore, the PUNO's global expert pool will be mobilized in a timely manner, whenever necessary. Knowledge from other UN agencies not directly involved will also be mobilized: ILO, World Bank, etc.

In addition, WFP will explore possible collaboration with the WFP Center of Excellence Against Hunger and Malnutrition in West and Central Africa, based in Abidjean. The centre is an incubator of solutions and a meeting point for sharing hunger solutions adapted to the African context. As such, it can provide useful inputs, share lessons learnt from similar projects in other WFP country offices in the region, and potentially facilitate South-South Cooperation with these countries.

Moreover, the RCO and PUNOs have strong in-country relations with several of the main global donors of the Joint SDG fund, including the EU, Germany, the Swiss Development



Cooperation, the Netherlands and Sweden. The PUNOs will leverage on these strong partnerships in-country and will invite relevant donors and partners during the inception event of the programme and explore their possible involvement in the implementation of the joint programme.

3. Programme implementation

3.1 Governance and implementation arrangements

Programme governance bodies and roles

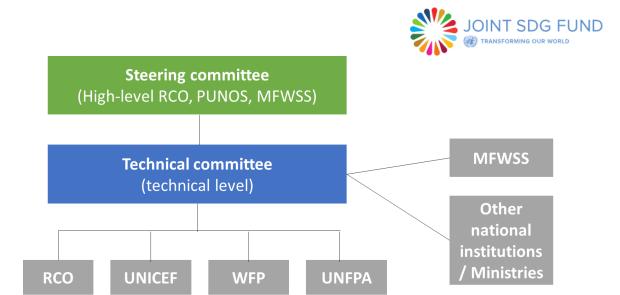
As stated previously, the RCO will coordinate and oversee the joint programme while the three PUNOs will be responsible for its implementation. In order to ensure an integrated approach towards implementation and effective coordination, the PUNOs have developed a joint work plan (see Annex 7) and designated a lead agency and support agencies based on their comparative advantages at the output level as follow:

- Output 1.1: Activity lead: UNICEF. Contribution: WFP, UNFPA
- Output 1.2: Activity lead: UNFPA. Contribution: WFP, UNICEF
- Output 1.3: Activity lead: WFP. Contribution: UNICEF
- Output 2.1: Activity lead: WFP. Contribution: UNICEF, UNFPA

Government ministries and institutions will play a key role in implementation and participate in decision-making. As described in Section 2.5, MFWSS will be the primary government lead on the programme, while the other ministries and institutions will participate on a needsbasis, 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, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA and MFWSS will meet on a bi-annual basis to discuss the workplan 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 considered the governing body of the joint programme. For example, the steering committee will consider any changes that occurred in the time gap between when this proposal was developed and when actual implementation will begin with the first financial instalment. In addition to the steering committee, the technical experts of the three PUNOS as well as the RCO and MFWSS, will form the technical committee, with technical level representation. Each member organization will designate a focal point to participate in technical committee meetings to be held on a quarterly basis or ad-hoc when deemed necessary.

Figure 5. Governance arrangements for the joint programme



Although five agencies and institutions (MFWSS, RCO, UNICEF, WFP and UNFPA) make up the core membership of the joint programme's governing body, additional government ministries, institutions and other partners, such as NGOs, can be invited to join the technical committee meetings and in exceptional cases they may join the steering committee meetings, when needed to engage on relevant agenda items. The technical committee meetings will mainly focus on peer-monitoring through mutual reporting, coordination and information sharing, and joint planning. Specific meeting agendas will consider progress reports from each PUNO; any changes in budget allocation or in the work plan, including timeline and activity revisions; any plans regarding procurement, service and partnership contracts and expert mobilization: and any other operational issues. All issues which fall within these four categories should be pre-informed, discussed and decided (if necessary) with the core members present. Specifically, the technical committee will function as a preparatory body for the steering committee. It will report directly to the committee and review draft agendas to be proposed for the steering committee meetings. Procurement and contracting activities will be communicated beforehand between agencies, in order to identify similar needs and process the procurement work jointly, where possible. This will serve to reduce transaction time and costs.

As specified in more detail in section 3.2, annual, mid-term and final reports will be drafted based on the existing work plan and results framework. In addition to quarterly meetings, the PUNOs technical focal points will communicate and interact regularly 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.

Target groups involvement

In addition to the technical committee, district and community level participation will be called upon when necessary based on relevant activity planning and agenda items. For example, at the programme's early stage, inception meetings will be conducted in all target districts, to include consultations with target groups living in the programme's target communities.

Accountability, effectiveness and efficiency

The overall governance structure, composed of the steering committee and technical committee, will contribute to accountability and quality assurance during implementation. Additionally, integrated and close operation at the technical level will contribute to the programme effectiveness and efficiency because the three PUNOs have built a solid track record in the SP sector, implying that their existing platforms, expertise and credibility built so far could be mobilized and shared among themselves when necessary. The RCO's



experience in coordinating and overseeing multi-agency programmes will also be utilized in the programme's overall coordination and monitoring activities. This integrated approach to operations at the technical level will help maximize complementary and comparative advantages of the participating UN agencies.

Government ownership

The involvement of the MFWSS will help to ensure the programme's integration into the national social protection system while also fostering ownership and potential sustainability of the programme by the government.

3.2 Monitoring, reporting, and evaluation

Reporting on the Joint SDG Fund will be results-oriented, and evidence based. Each PUNO will provide the Convening/Lead Agent with the following narrative reports prepared in accordance with instructions and templates developed by the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat:

- Annual narrative progress reports, to be provided no later than. one (1) month (31 January) after the end of the calendar year, and must include the result matrix, updated risk log, and anticipated expenditures and results for the next 12-month funding period;
- *Mid-term progress review report* to be submitted halfway through the implementation of Joint Programme⁵; and
- Final consolidated narrative report, after the completion of the joint programme, to be provided no later than two (2) months after the operational closure of the activities of the joint programme.

The Convening/Lead Agent will compile the narrative reports of PUNOs and submit a consolidated report to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, through the Resident Coordinator.

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. As a minimum, joint programmes will prepare, and submit to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, 6-month monitoring updates. 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. The joint programme will adequately allocate resources for monitoring and evaluation in the budget.

Data for all indicators of the results framework will be shared with the Fund Secretariat on a regular basis, in order to allow the Fund Secretariat to aggregate results at the global level and integrate findings into reporting on progress of the Joint SDG Fund.

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 done throughout the year.

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:

-

⁵ This will be the basis for release of funding for the second year of implementation.



- 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.

In addition, regular updates on financial delivery might need to be provided, per request of the Fund Secretariat.

After competition of a joint programmes, a final, *independent and gender-responsive*⁶ *evaluation* will be organized by the Resident Coordinator. The cost needs to be budgeted, and in case there are no remaining funds at the end of the joint programme, it will be the responsibility of PUNOs to pay for the final, independent evaluation from their own resources.

The programme will be subject to a joint final independent evaluation with an established arrangement for managing the joint evaluation. The final evaluation will be managed jointly by the PUNOs as per established process for independent evaluations, including use of a joint evaluation steering group and dedicated evaluation managers not involved in the implementation of the joint programme. The evaluations will follow the United Nations Evaluation Group's (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN System, using the guidance on Joint Evaluation and relevant UNDG guidance on evaluations. The management and implementation of the joint evaluation will have due regard to the evaluation policies of the PUNOs to ensure the requirements of those policies are met; and with use of appropriate guidance from PUNOs on joint evaluation. The evaluation process will be participative and will involve all relevant programme's stakeholders and partners. Evaluation results will be disseminated amongst governments, donors, academic institutions and stakeholders of civil society (including workers' and employers' organizations) and a joint management response will be produced upon completion of the evaluation process to be made publicly available on the evaluation platforms or similar of the PUNOs and through the UNEG database.

3.3 Accountability, financial management, and public disclosure

The Joint Programme will be using a pass-through fund management modality where UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office will act as the Administrative Agent (AA) under which the funds will be channeled for the Joint Programme through the AA. Each Participating UN Organization receiving funds through the pass-through has signed a standard Memorandum of Understanding with the AA.

Each Participating UN Organization (PUNO) 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 Programme in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures. Each PUNO 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 programme 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.

⁶ How to manage a gender responsive evaluation, Evaluation handbook, UN Women, 2015



Funding by the Joint SDG Fund will be provided on annual basis, upon successful performance of the joint programme.

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.

Each PUNO will take appropriate measures to publicize the Joint SDG Fund and give due credit to the other PUNOs. All related publicity material, official notices, reports and publications, provided to the press or Fund beneficiaries, will acknowledge the role of the host Government, donors, PUNOs, the Administrative Agent, and any other relevant entities. In particular, the Administrative Agent will include and ensure due recognition of the role of each Participating Organization and partners in all external communications related to the Joint SDG Fund.

3.4 Legal context

Agency Name: United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

Agreement Title: Basic Agreement Between the Government of Guinea-Bissau and the

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

Agreement Date: 1974

Agency Name: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Agreement Title: Basic Cooperation Agreement Between the Government of Guinea-Bissau

and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Agreement Date: 1976

Agency Name: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Agreement Title: Cooperation Agreement between the Government of Guinea-Bissau and

United Nations Development Program (on behalf of UNFPA).

Agreement Date: 29 June 1975



D. ANNEXES

Annex 1. List of related initiatives

Name of initiative/project	Key expected results	Links to the joint programme	Lead organization	Other partners	Budget and funding source	Contract person (name and email)
YE4DD (Youth Empowerment for Demographic Dividend)	"The main goal of this project is to create an enabling environment for harnessing the demographic dividend and socio-economic empowerment of youth, by (1) Ensuring young people have access to quality health for increased well-being (2) Building and strengthening a cadre of youth leadership and empowering young people"	The three years project focus on enhanced economic rent for the youth	UNFPA	UNIDO	775,275.00 Government of Italy	Ana Leonie anlopes@unfpa. org
"Sustaining livelihoods in Guinea-Bissau under COVID-19 negative impacts on the most Vulnerable" funded by The UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (2020)	1400 Families from the regions of Oio, Bafata and Gabu receive 40,000 monthly for 6 months	Great experience in the selection of families, in the confirmation of selected families, in the money transfer process, and above all in the evaluation of the project's impacts on the lives of the beneficiary families	UNICEF	WFP UNDP GPE and Portugal	700,761.77 GPE 22,669.56 Portugal for COVID	Bessa Vitor da Silva, bvdsilva@unic ef.org
"Mitigate the socio- economic impact and safeguard people and their livelihoods" funded by the UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (2020)	Reduction of school dropout among children who live more than 10 km from the nearest school in their community	Monitoring the school attendance of children from selected families	UNICEF	WFP UNDP	47,597.36 Thematic fond for COVID	Bessa Vitor da Silva, bvdsilva@unic ef.org
School feeding programme	Improvement of nutritional status and school attendance in	Biggest safety net in the country	WFP			Talisma Dias, talisma.dias@wf p.org



	874 schools across the country					
"Education without borders" project	Enhance access to education and nutrition for children living with disabilities	Safety net for children with disabilities and their families	WFP	Humanity and Inclusion	300.000 USD in 2020 300.000 USD in 2021	Talisma Dias, talisma.dias@wf p.org

Annex 2. Overall Results Framework

2.1. Targets for Joint SDG Fund Results Framework

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

Indicators		Targets		
indicators	2022	2023		
1.1: integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope ⁷	0	1		
1.2: integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale ⁸	0	1		

Joint SDG Fund Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Indicators	Targets		
Indicators	2022	2023	
3.1: # of innovative solutions that were tested ⁹ (Disaggregated by % successfulunsuccessful)	0	1	
3.2: # of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead	0	1	
3.3: # and share of countries where national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has been strengthened	0	1	

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 2: Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement

ndicators		Targets		
Titulcators	2022	2023		
2.1: Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scope ¹⁰ (disaggregated by source)	N/A	N/A		

⁷Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

⁸Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

⁹Each Joint programme in the Implementation phase will test at least 2 approaches.

¹⁰Additional resources mobilized for other / additional sector/s



2.2: Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scale ¹¹	N/A	N/A
(disaggregated by source)	IN/ A	N/A

Joint SDG Fund Output 4: Integrated financing strategies for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Indicators	Targets		
Illuicators	2022	2023	
4.1: # of integrated financing instruments/strategies that were tested (disaggregated by % successful / unsuccessful)	0	1	
4.2: # of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in lead ¹²	0	1	
4.3: # of functioning partnership/governance frameworks for integrated financing strategies to accelerate progress on SDGs made operational	0	1	

Joint SDG Fund Operational Performance Indicators

- Level of coherence of UN in implementing programme country¹³
- Reduced transaction costs for the participating UN agencies in interaction with national/regional and local authorities and/or public entities compared to other joint programmes in the country in question
- Annual % of financial delivery
- Joint programme operationally closed within original end date
- Joint programme financially closed 18 months after their operational closure
- Joint programme facilitated engagement with diverse stakeholders (e.g. parliamentarians, civil society, IFIs, bilateral/multilateral actor, private sector).
- Joint programme included addressing inequalities and the principle of "Leaving No One Behind".
- Joint programme featured gender results at the outcome level.
- Joint programme undertook or draw upon relevant human rights analysis, and have developed or implemented a strategy to address human rights issues.
- Joint programme planned for and can demonstrate positive results/effects for youth.
- Joint programme considered the needs of persons with disabilities.
- Joint programme made use of risk analysis in programme planning.
- Joint programme conducted do-no-harm / due diligence and were designed to take into consideration opportunities in the areas of the environment and climate change.

2.2. Joint programme Results framework

39

¹¹Additional resources mobilized for the same multi-sectoral solution.

¹² This will be disaggregated by (1) government/public partners (2) civil society partners and (3) private sector partners

¹³ Annual survey will provide qualitative information towards this indicator.



Result / Indicators	Baseline	2022 Target	2023 Target	Means of Verification	Responsible partner
Outcome 1. National institut				t and finance a resilie	ent social
protection system based on Outcome 1 indicator: Number of comprehensive gender-sensitive social protection policy, including recommendations for its effective operationalization	0	0	1	Final project report	UNICEF, UNFPA WFP
Outcome 1 indicator: Percentage of Government budget allocated to social protection	22.2%	24.76%	27.32%	Annual national budget	UNICEF, UNFPA WFP
Output 1.1 An integrated a Government of Guinea-Bissa			l rategy is developed ir	l close collaboration	 with the
Output 1.1 indicator: 1.1.1. Number of guidelines and tools developed to support building of the Social Development Advisors system	0	0	1	Guidelines document	UNICEF, UNFPA WFP
Output 1.1 indicator: 1.1.2. Number of central government staff have strengthened capacity to effectively support households in socioeconomic and natural disaster-prone areas through GEWE lens, disaggregated by sex	-	15	15	Pre- and post- capacity tests included in workshop reports	UNICEF, UNFPA WFP



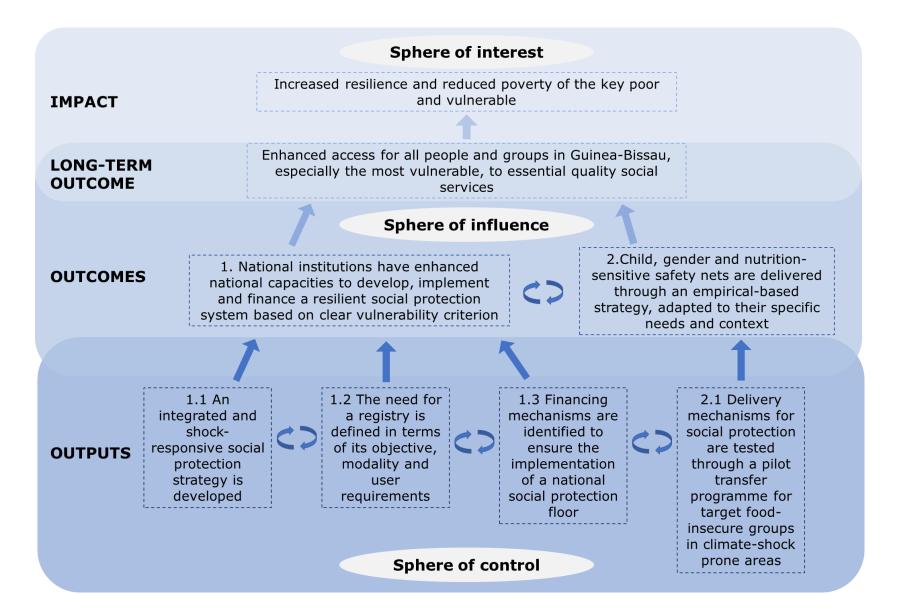
Output 1.2 The need for a interventions)	registry is defined in	terms of its objective	ve, modality and user	requirements (from	UNSDCF priority
Output 1.2					
indicator:1.2.1. Number of existing programmes analyzed for improved targeting, including households affected by shocks	0	4	0	Analysis reports	UNFPA, WFP, UNICEF
Output 1.2 indicator: 1.2.2. A process document is elaborated for the set-up of a gender-sensitive National vulnerable Household Registry	0	0	1	Process document	UNFPA, WFP, UNICEF
Output 1.3 Financing mech UNSDCF priority intervention		d to ensure the impl	ementation of a natio	nal social protection	floor (from
Output 1.3 indicator: 1.3.1 Number of social protection financing policy outlined.	0	0	1	Process document	WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA
Outcome 2. Child, gender ar specific needs and context.	nd nutrition-sensitive	e safety nets are del	ivered through an em	pirical-based strateg	y, adapted to their
Outcome 2 indicator: Proportion of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score disaggregated by sex	62.3 percent (FSNMS-Sept 19)	>=80 percent	>=85 percent	Post Distribution Monitoring Survey	WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA
Outcome 2 indicator: Proportion of women between 15- and 49-years old meeting Minimum Dietary Diversity – Women	17.9 percent (FSNMS-Sept 19)	>=20 percent	>=24 percent	Post Distribution Monitoring Survey	WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA
Outcome 2 indicator: Proportion of children 6–23 months of age who receive	2.7 % percent (MICS 2018)	>=4 percent	>=6 percent	Post Distribution Monitoring Survey	WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA



a minimum acceptable diet					
disaggregated by sex					
,					
Output 2.1 Delivery mecha	nisms for social pr	otection are tested t	hrough a pilot transf	er programme for targ	et food-insecure
groups in climate-shock pro					
health (from UNSDCF priorit		ar complementary a	ctions to guarantee the	Ten decess to education	on, nacreion and
Output 2.1 indicator	-	Total: 1,500	Total: 1,500	Monthly reports	WFP, UNICEF,
2.1.1.		households	households	Tioritiny reports	UNFPA
Number of households		nousenoids	Households		OMITA
receiving cash-based					
transfers – disaggregated					
by sex					
Output 2.1 indicator		200 households	200 households	Monthly reports	WFP, UNICEF,
2.1.2.					UNFPA
Number households with	_				
women, men, boys and girls					
with disabilities receiving					
cash-based transfers					
Output 2.1 indicator		>=80 percent	>=90 percent	Post Distribution	WFP, UNICEF,
2.1.3:				Monitoring Survey	UNFPA
Proportion of beneficiaries	_				
who are aware of the CFM					
mechanism and available					
communication channels-					
disaggregated by sex					
Output 2.1 indicator		>=80 percent	>=90 percent	Post Distribution	WFP, UNICEF,
2.1.4 :				Monitoring Survey	UNFPA
Proportion of assisted people					
informed about the	_				
programme (who is included,					
what people will receive,					
length of assistance) –					
disaggregated by sex					



Annex 3. Theory of Change graphic





Annex 4. Gender marker matrix

Indi	icator		Planting and Paulous Planting	Evidence or Means of
N°	Formulation	Score	Findings and Explanation	Verification
1.1	Context analysis integrate gender analysis	3	The context analysis shows that a number of gender gaps persist in policies, system and community level. This joint programme is designed with a focus on addressing gender inequalities and is an opportunity to bring on board the most disadvantaged people as highlighted in the problem statement (women, children and people living with disabilities). The context, especially the paragraph on target groups, include specific gender analysis of those furthest behind. The joint programme will target womenheaded households by the integrated social protection policy delivery. Moreover, the pilot cash transfer programme will target mainly women-headed households. Progress reports shall exhibit sex disaggregate data to confirm the above-mentioned statement and enable the track of progress.	Progress reports
1.2	Gender Equality mainstreamed in proposed outputs	2	The gender sensitivity of all outputs ensures the PUNOs to mainstream gender throughout their implementation. The outputs perfectly contribute and align to the SDG priorities including SDG 5.	Progress reports
1.3	Programme output indicators measure changes on gender equality	3	71% of the indicators used to monitor the JP are either gender-specific or gender sensitive.	Progress reports
2.1	PUNO collaborate and engage with Government on gender equality and the empowerment of women	2	As the main Government counterpart of this project (Ministry of Family, Women and Social Solidarity) is also responsible for promoting gender equality, by collaborating closely with PUNOs on the creation of the social protection framework, the staff will also benefit from capacity strengthening on gender-related SDGs implementation.	Progress reports
2.2	PUNO collaborate and engages with women's/gender equality CSOs	1	Although at the proposal stage GEWE CSOs have not yet been involved in project development, their participation will be essential in the definition of the	Progress reports



			social protection policy. The JP will count on their participation during the wider stakeholder consultations to ensure full mainstreaming of gender equality into the new policy framework.	
3.1	Program proposes a gender- responsive budget	1	Less than 15% of the Project budget is allocated to gender equality.	Progress reports
Total scoring 12		12		

Annex 5. Budget and Work Plan

5.1 Budget per UNSDG categories

Budget has been allocated to each PUNO based on respective responsibilities within the programme (presented in section 3.1).

LINDC	V	/FP	UN	ICEF	UN	IFPA	P	UNO 4	TOTAL		
UNDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	
1. Staff and other personnel	80,000		70,000		25,000		0		175,000		
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	10,000		10,000		3,600		0		23,600		
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	5,000		6,000		0		0		11,000		
4. Contractual services	20,000		162,000		10,000		0		192,000		
5.Travel	20,000	_	16,000		5,000		0		41,000		
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	350,000		7,624		40,000		0		397,624		
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	30,347		15,000		10,130		0		55,477		

45



Total Direct Costs	515,347	286,624	93,730	-	895,701	
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	36,074	20,064	6,561	ı	62,699	
TOTAL Costs	551,421	306,688	100,292		958,400	-
1st year	275,710	153,344	50,146		479,200	0
2nd year	275,710	153,344	50,146		479,200	0

5.2 Budget per SDG targets

	SDG TARGETS	%	USD
1.1	SDG 1.1. By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day	13	120,582
1.2	SDG 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	10	100,000
1.3	SDG 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	27	256,688
1.5	SDG 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	10	95,840

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2.1	SDG 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	31	300,000
2.2	SDG 2.2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons	9	85,290

5.3 Work plan

The JP workplan is presented below.

Outco	me 1		impleme	ational institutions have enhanced national capacities to develop, nplement and finance a resilient social protection system based on clear ulnerability criterion (from UNSDCF Output 3.3)												clear	
	Ann targ	et/		Time frame PLANNED BUDGET											Impleme		
Output	20 20	20 21	List of activitie s	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Overall budget descrip tion	Joint SDG Fund (US D)	PUNO Contribu tions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)	O/s invol ved	nting partner/ s involved



															-		
Output 1.1: An integrated and shock- responsiv e social protection strategy is developed in close collaborati on with the	1.1. 1.1 1 1	1.1.	Facilitating strategic dialogues for policy developmen t and integration of child/gende r-sensitive social protection, nutrition, agriculture and disaster risk manageme nt, aiming to involve a wide range of stakeholder s.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Transfer for expertise provision to governmen t	306, 688	0	306, 688	UNIC EF, WFP, UNFPA	Ministry in charge of Social Protection, NGOs, UN agencies, Internation al
Governme nt of Guinea- Bissau			Developing a shock- responsive social protection policy.	x	x	x	х	x	x	x	х						Organisatio ns
and partner organizati ons			Providing guidelines, tools and capacity developmen t for the operationali zation of the policy.					x	x	x	x						
Output 1.2: The need for a registry is defined in terms of	1.2.	1.2.	Identifying the needs and user requiremen ts for a single registry through consultation	х	х							Transfer for expertise provision to governmen t	95,8 40	0	95,8 40	UNFP A, WFP, UNICE F	The National Institute of Statistics, and the Ministry in charge of



its objective, modality and user requireme nts (from UNSDCF priority interventi ons)			s with the government and with external stakeholder s. Defining the modalities for the developmen t of a single registry.			×	x	x	×	x	x						Social Protection,
Output 1.3: Financing mechanis			Advocating for social protection financing.	х	x	х	x	x	х	х	х						
ms are identified			fiscal space for social protection.	Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х						
to ensure the implement ation of a national social protection floor (from UNSDCF priority interventions)	1.3. 1	1.3. 1	Defining related accountabili ty systems.					×	×	×	×	Transfer for expertise provision to governmen t	76,6 72	0	76,6 72	WFP, UNICE F, UNFPA	Ministry in charge of Social Protection, Ministry of Economy and Finance
Outco	me 2		Child, gender and nutrition-sensitive safety nets are delivered through an														
		empirical-based strategy, adapted to their specific needs and context															



	Α																
	targ	nual get/ s				Ti	me	frar	ne			Р	LANNE	D BUDGET		PUN	Impleme
Output	20 20	20 21	List of activitie s	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Overall budget descrip tion	Joint SDG Fund (US D)	PUNO Contribu tions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)	O/s invol ved	nting partner/ s involved
Output 2.1: Delivery mechanis ms for social protection are tested through a pilot transfer programm e for	2.1.	2.1.	Establishing village and household selection criteria in targeted regions, selecting target communitie s and conducting beneficiary enrolment, registration , and verification. Distributing uncondition	x								Cash transfer to vulnerable households , Transfer for	479, 200	0	479, 200	WFP, UNICE	NGOs: Aifa Palop,
target food- insecure groups in climate- shock prone areas, along with compleme ntary actions to guarantee	2	2	al cash- transfers to selected food- insecure and vulnerable girls, boys, women, and men through mobile money solutions to fill immediate food and		×	×	×	×	×	×		expertise provision to governmen t	200		200	F, UNFPA	Ecas-D,



their	nutrition											
access to	gaps.											
education,												
nutrition	Supporting								1			
and health	access of											
(from	target											
ÙNSDCF	communitie											
priority	s to											
priority	essential social											
interventi	services,											
ons)	through the											
	organizatio											
	n of	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				
	awareness											
	raising											
	activities											
	and knowledge											
	to enhance											
	their access											
	to essential											
	social											
	services.											
	Conducting											
	post-											
	distribution											
	monitoring, manageme											
	nt											
	information											
	, and	Х		X	X		Х					
	implementi											
	ng a											
	complaint											
	and feedback											
	mechanism.											
	Developing								1			
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	ations to											
	scale-up						Х	Х				
	non-											
	contributor											
	У											

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Annex 6. Risk Management Plan

Risks	Risk Level:	Likelihood:	Impact:	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person		
Contextual risks							
COVID-19 pandemic affecting project communities	High	5	3	Strengthen infection prevention and control procedures in programme implementation; -Supply PPEs and sanitation items to project sites; Provide info on registration/modality to the population and increase the duration; -reduce travel to the minimum and rely on local NGOs, CSOs partners already established on the ground providing social safety nets; -Remote monitoring solution; - Sensitization through media;	Implementing agencies		
Climate shocks and natural disasters affecting project communities Programmatic risks	Low	3	2	-Remote monitoring solution - reduce travel to the minimum and rely on local NGOs, CSOs partners already established on the ground providing social safety nets;	Implementing agencies		



Limited incentives amongst different stakeholders not directly involved in social protection to participate in the policy dialogue	Medium	2	4	Continuous advocacy from PUNOs with the MFWSS and other Ministries that are already partnering with the UN agencies	Implementing agencies
Limited telephone signal on the islands and in Boe for money transfer	Medium	5	2	WFP has already finetuned a system to avoid this problem, announcing in advance to the beneficiaries the day when the cash will be transferred to their phone so that they can go to one of the areas where there is signal	WFP
Institutional risks	T	1	1		
Public sector strikes and limited capacity of Government	High	5	2	Work with NGOs and CSOs complement operations for ensuring the continuity of the implementation; - Involve communities in the project's implementation in a greater extent; - continue the capacity strengthening of national NGOs and CSOs	Implementing agencies
Changes in mandate of government ministries and agencies involved	High	4	3	-actively involve government stakeholders from the planning stage through regular meetings, as well as by ensuring the ownership of the lead ministry on coordination around social protection; - work closely with technical staff to ensure continuity of work.	Implementing agencies
Fiduciary risks					



Limited fiscal space to expand Government's investment	Very high	4	4	-Continuous advocacy on importance of creating fiscal space for sustainable social protection; output 1.2 specifically created to conduct scoping study to assess potential for creating fiscal space; diversify source of funding by strengthening partnerships with other donors	Implementing agencies