

Joint SDG Fund
 Joint Programme
 Evidence-based Final Narrative Report

SDG FINANCING PORTFOLIO – COMPONENT 1
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Cover page

Date of Report: 28 / 03 / 2023

<i>Programme title and Country</i>
Country: Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Joint Programme (JP) title: "Create an enabling environment to identify and unlock the potential for additional financing of the SDGs in the DRC". MPTF Office Project Reference Number¹: 00123449

<i>Programme Duration</i>
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¹ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as "Project ID" on the project's factsheet page on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

² The start date is the date inserted in the original ProDoc submitted and approved by the Joint SDG Fund.

³ As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

⁴ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see [MPTF Office Closure Guidelines](#).

⁵ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the [Certified Final Financial Statement and Report](#).

Programme Budget (US\$)			
Total Budget (as per Programme Document, without co-funding):			
Agency/Other Contributions/Co-funding (if applicable): xxx			
Joint SDG Fund Contribution⁶ and co-funding breakdown, by recipient organization:			
Agency/others	Joint SDG Fund contribution	Co-funding	Total
PUNO1. UNDP	336 000	24 000	360 000
PUNO2. UNCDF	227 000	-	227 000
PUNO3. UNWOMEN	107 000	-	107 000
PUNO4. UNICEF	330000	-	330 000
Total	1 000 000	24 000	1 024 000

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⁶ Joint SDG Fund Contribution is the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

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Abbreviations

UNICEF	United Nations of International Children’s Emergency Fund
AU	African Union
UNS	United Nations System
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
PTF	Technical and financial partners
PPP	Public-private partnership
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
PNSD	National Strategic Development Plan
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OCDD:	Congolese Observatory for Sustainable Development
MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC
ISSSS	International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
INS	National Institute of Statistics
HDI	Human Development Indicator
FDI	Foreign Direct Investments
HNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
GSE	Monitoring-Evaluation Group
GARD	Effective Management for Development Results
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
FARDC	Armed Forces of the DRC
ETD	Decentralized Territorial Entity
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
DSCR	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
DGI	Directorate General of Taxes
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Frameworks

WB	World Bank
BCC	Central Bank of Congo
AfDB	African Development Bank
UNJHRO	United Nations Joint Human Rights Office
ODA	Official Development Assistance
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
COVID	Coronavirus Disease
CNFI	Cadre National de Financement Intégré
DFA	Development Financing Assessment
EAC	East African Community
FC	Fonds Communs
FY	Fiscal Year
GS	Groupe de solidarité
JP	Joint Programme
INFF	Integrated National Financing Frameworks
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
N/A	Non applicable
NDP	National Development Plan
ODD	Objectifs de Développement Durable
PAG	Programme d'Actions du Gouvernement
PDL	Plan de Développement Local
PFM	Public Finance Management
PIB	Produit Intérieur Brut
PME	Petites et Moyennes Entreprises
PND	Politique Nationale de Développement
PPP	Partenariat Public Privé
PUNO	Participating UN Organizations
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
RIA	Registered Investment Advisor
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TIC	Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication

UNCDF	UN Capital Development Fund
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Executive summary

1. The joint programme entitled "**Creating an enabling environment to identify and unlock the potential for additional financing of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Democratic Republic of Congo**" implemented since 2020 by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the United Nations System in the DRC ended on 31 December 2022. This programme was financed by the United Nations SDGs Fund and executed by the Ministries of Planning; Budget; and Finance, with the technical support of UNDP, UNICEF, UNCDF and UN-Women, under the overall coordination of the Minister of State, Minister of Planning, and the UN Resident Coordinator in the DRC.
2. The program aimed to strengthen the SDG financing architecture and ecosystem in the DRC and channel diversified financial resources (private & public) towards national development priorities aligned with the SDGs. The project mainly focuses on two major priorities: (i) Support the country to unlock the potential for additional financing (public, private and community) to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs; (ii) Support the country to expand its national and provincial fiscal space, with a view to increasing the financing of SDG catalytic investments and to strengthen the effectiveness, equity, and efficiency of local and national public expenditure, to improve the impact of public policies, particularly in pro-SDG sectors.
3. In the spirit of One UN, the implementation of the programme went well. Collaboration between the 4 PUNOS and the sectoral ministries and provinces involved in its implementation, and to the sustained commitment of all stakeholders (civil society, private sector, banking sector, bilateral & multilateral development partners, provincial governments, and development actors). All the activities have been completed, and the results achieved have reached the objectives set by the programme. The Office of the Resident Coordinator assumed its coordinating role in convening stakeholders and ensure that activities are run smoothly.
4. In summary, the joint programme has achieved the above strategic outcomes/outputs:
 - (1) **The Development Finance Assessment (DFA) Report and the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) roadmap were produced** through inclusive sectoral dialogue involving all stakeholders and validated by the Steering Committee of the JP on December 15th, 2022. The INFF roadmap will be reinforced by the recommendations of the National Dialogue on Financing for Development scheduled for late March 2023. Its operationalization will be ensured by an INFF Steering Committee currently being set up by the Government.
 - (2) **Mechanisms for managing, mobilizing, and coordinating aid in the provinces to support the implementation of the SDGs have been developed and put in place.** To this regard:
 - Provincial Aid Strategy Document for the pilot provinces of Haut-Katanga and North Kivu have been produced and technically validated by all provincial stakeholders.
 - The institutional frameworks for provincial aid coordination in the above-mentioned provinces have been set up and made operational.
 - The mechanism for managing information on provincial aid in these two provinces and their digital platform are being set up.
 - (3) **In relation to the activity related to the Public Expenditure Review and Fiscal Space Analysis, and the strengthening of national capacities in budget planning and programming, major results were achieved:**

- The public expenditure review and fiscal space analysis studies were produced and technically validated by all stakeholders. These studies will help the country to improve equity, effectiveness, and budgetary efficiency, and to free up budgetary space for the financing of priority and accelerating sectors of the SDGs.
- The capacities of national and provincial actors in results-based budget planning and programming as well as in resource mobilization were strengthened. The experience will be scaled up in 2023 by the Government with the support of the PUNOs.
- A sharing of knowledge and experience in the framework of South-South cooperation on programme budgeting for the benefit of agents and executives of the Ministry of Budget was also carried out. The JP financed a mission to Benin for the executives of the Ministry of Budget for this purpose.

(4) **A framework for additional public, private and community (innovative) financing and PPPs to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs at national and local level has been developed.** In this regard, a study on innovative financing of the SDGs divided into the following components (documents) has been produced and validated. These are

- A proposal for strengthening the legal and institutional framework to create an enabling environment for the promotion of innovative and inclusive pro-SDGs financing.
- A capacity building strategy for the development of gender- and climate-sensitive pro-SD investment projects.
- A policy and advocacy framework for the promotion of private and community investments oriented towards women's entrepreneurship, as well as a communication strategy.
- A capacity building plan for key public and private sector staff to mobilize resources, develop and sustain successful PPPs

Piloting innovative financing for women led SMEs in the transformative food system finance has been launched in 2 provinces (Kongo Central and Kasai Central)

(5) **Gender has been a cross-cutting dimension of all JP activities.** As such, with the expertise of UN-WOMEN, policy dialogue and advocacy for the promotion of entrepreneurship at the community level with a focus on women's entrepreneurship has been strengthened.

5. The implementation of these various reforms and measures within the framework of the INFF roadmap will enable the country to strengthen the DRC's capacity to mobilize diversified financial resources (public, private, internal, and external) and to allocate them to national development priorities, and to reinforce governance and coordination mechanisms as well as monitoring and evaluation systems while enhancing transparency and accountability.
6. Thirteen (13) direct and four (4) indirect strategic documents were produced within the framework of this joint programme and validated by the stakeholders, whose recommendations were made available to the government, in particular to: unblock financing constraints; strengthen the effectiveness of public policies; improve the mechanisms for coordination and monitoring of public policies; strengthen transparency and accountability; improve the business and investment environment; and develop effective financing policies and strategies.
7. In conclusion, by enabling the DRC to create the conditions and environment to strengthen its capacity to mobilize additional funding (public, private, and community) and to channel this funding towards catalytic pro-Development Agenda investments, the programme would contribute both to the achievement of the SDGs targets 1, 2 and 17 directly and to the achievement of the

priorities of the national development agenda. However, it is up to the country to appropriate, capitalize on and scale up the results of this joint programme, with a view to making its results more sustainable. The United Nations System in the DRC remains committed and available to accompany the DRC in the sustainability of the results of this joint programme.

Context

8. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is a fragile and low human development country (HDI<0.550), which has been plagued by recurrent political and security crises over the last three decades. The social situation remains difficult, characterized by deep inequalities (Gini 0.42) and massive poverty (74.7%), with a higher incidence in rural areas (84.9%) than in urban areas (62.6%), and major socio-economic disparities between men (75.6%) and women (71.6%) (EGI-ODD 2021). The peaceful and democratic political transition following the December 2018 general elections has raised enormous hopes for the restoration of peace and security, consolidation of democracy & institutional stability, and acceleration of sustainable human development.
9. With a view to accelerating social progress, consolidating peace, rebuilding institutions, and restoring the state's authority, which has been severely undermined by many years of political and security crises, the Congolese government, which emerged from the December 2018 general elections, has drawn up a new medium-term development planning framework aligned with the sustainable development goals and the 2063 African Union's Agenda. Adopted by the Council of Ministers on 24 December 2019, this plan, known as the National Strategic Development Plan (PNSD) 2019-2023, is currently the only reference framework for programming development interventions by both the central government and development partners.
10. The implementation of this SDG-based PNSD, which has been underway since the end of 2019, was hampered by numerous structural constraints, in particular the lack of funding, the absence of an effective and transparent governance mechanism, and the lack of a monitoring and accountability system. The overall cost of its financing for the period 2019-2023 was evaluated at 47.96 billion US dollars, with a financing gap estimated at 55% of its overall cost⁷. As can be seen, the implementation of this plan required significant funding that has so far not been covered by the level of available resources. Indeed, over the period 2016-2019, the State budget represented only about 9 % of the GDP on average against an average of 20% for other sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries, and credit to the economy was around 5% of GDP against 25% for SSA countries. Public external resources represented barely 3% of GDP and private external resources was limited to 3.5% of GDP. This situation has compelled the DRC to explore the possibilities of mobilizing additional domestic and external public and private resources to finance its development financing gap.
11. This joint programme will substantially contribute in the short and medium term to improving the development financing ecosystem and architecture in the DRC. He mainly focused on two major priorities: (i) Support the country to unlock the potential for additional financing (public, private and community) to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs; (ii) Support the country to expand its national and provincial fiscal space, with a view to increasing the financing of SDG catalytic investments and to strengthen the effectiveness, equity, and efficiency of local and

⁷ The IMF has estimated the overall cost of financing the SDGs by 2030 at USD 165 billion. The SDGs financing gap for the period 2016-20230 is estimated at 80% of this cost.

national public expenditure, to improve the impact of public policies, particularly in pro-SDG sectors.

12. Moreover, despite the combined negative effects of the Covid crisis, the Russian-Ukrainian war and recurrent climatic shocks, the Congolese economy has remained resilient and dynamic over the past two years. Indeed, after the sharp fall in growth in 2020 (-1.8%, WB), the Congolese economy recorded a real growth rate of 5.7% in 2021, 6.5% in 2022 and a projection of 6.7% for 2023 (IMF & INS, 2023), driven both by global demand for primary products and the deepening of economic reforms and the business and investment climate. The internal and external balances have strengthened in 2021. However, inflation (above 10%) remained above the target set by the economic programme supported by the IMF (7%), driven by rising food and energy prices. As for the Congolese franc, its rate of depreciation against the US dollar was set at 5% on average in 2022, compared with just under 3% in the pre-Covid period. Greater prudence in the conduct of monetary policy would help anchor expectations and avoid a sharp depreciation of the currency and new price pressures. The balance of payments shows a slightly positive balance of 0.5% of GDP, following a good performance of the current account (+ 1.5% of GDP) which compensated for the deficit of the capital account (-1% of GDP). Foreign exchange reserves have consolidated, rising from 9 weeks of imports of goods and services at the end of 2021 to 11 weeks at the end of December 2022.
13. As for the situation of public finances, the DRC has benefited from the fiscal and economic reforms undertaken over the past two years and the consolidation of commodity prices. Its revenues have risen from an average of 9% of GDP over the period 2016-2019 to more than 12% of GDP on average over the last three years and should rise to more than 14% by the end of 2023. But the budget balance remained slightly in deficit in 2022 (-1% of GDP) because of spending to cushion the shock of the Covid crises and the Russian-Ukrainian war. The DRC's debt remains sustainable and viable, with the stock of external debt estimated at 16.4% of GDP in 2021; however, the debt situation remains vulnerable due to the still high debt service/revenue ratio (the cost of debt amortization is estimated at around USD 500 million per year).
14. With the COP 25 & 26, the DRC is increasingly positioning itself as one of the solution countries for both the climate transition and the global energy transition, given its enormous forestry potential and its huge endowment of rare strategic minerals. In this regard, the INFF roadmap adopted under this joint project recommended that the country develop a dynamic carbon market as part of an extensive strategy of mobilizing resources for financing of sustainable development et provide government with the necessary technical and financial expertise. The UN system in DRC remains mobilized and committed to accompany the DRC in putting in place relevant measures, including the institution of a carbon tax and the creation of a regulatory authority for the carbon market. It will also continue to assist the government in the mobilization of others innovative finance instead of Vertical Funds, MCC, etc.
15. The direct beneficiaries of the joint programme were the Ministries of Finance, Budget, and Planning, including the Ministry of Decentralization and the provinces. Moreover, by strengthening the capacity to manage, monitor and mobilize public resources, the joint programme will ultimately benefit the entire Congolese population, especially the poor.
16. The implementation of the programme has faced many challenges, notably the persistence of the Covid-19 crisis which has led to a reduction in mobility and interaction with programme beneficiaries, the difficulties to recruit qualified consultants to provide technical assistance to Government, and Lack of relevant data.
17. **The joint programme is in line with UNSDCF axis 2 " Inclusive economic growth, agricultural development, capturing the demographic dividend, protection and sustainable management of natural**

resources " and its outcome 2.1 " By 2024, the Congolese population will enjoy sustainable inclusive economic growth driven by agricultural transformation, economic diversification open to innovation and the promotion of youth and women's entrepreneurship". It is also aligned with axes 1, 2, 4, and 4 of the PNSD 2019-2023.

Joint Programme Results

Table 01: Summary of results achieved in the JP

OUTPUT	ACTIVITIES	DELIVERY RESULTS	IMPACTS
Output 1: By 2021, a strategic policy framework, evidence, and catalytic tools to increase the potential for financing the SDGs are in place.	1.1) Conduct the DFA and formulate the SDGs financing strategy (UNDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive sectoral dialogues on financing for development held over six months. - DFA Report and INFF roadmap produced and validated <p><u>Delivery in progress for added activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Action Dialogue on Financing for Development in prospect. - INFF Steering Committee being set up to operationalize the INFF roadmap. - Holistic strategy for financing the SDGs and the National Development Agenda under preparation. - Strategy for the mobilization of carbon finance being formulated. 	DRC's capacity to mobilize domestic and non-domestic resources to scale up efforts to end poverty, hunger, strengthen household resilience, improve health and wellbeing and access to education, promote gender equality and contribute to foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth increased
	1.2) Develop and implement at national and provincial level development aid coordination and management tools and mechanisms (UNDP)	<p><u>Development of tools and instruments to facilitate aid coordination at national and provincial level achieved:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National aid policy produced and adopted by the central government. - National institutional framework for aid coordination and management established at national level - Aid strategy for Haut Katanga province formulated and validated - Aid strategy for North Kivu province formulated and validated - Institutional frameworks for management and coordination of provincial aid established in North Kivu and Haut Katanga. - Digital provincial aid management platforms established and functioning in HK and NK provinces - National SDG acceleration framework developed and implemented. 	Aid management, coordination, traceability, and mobilization at provincial level to finance their SDGs development priorities, particularly in the areas of health, education, water, electricity, and housing improved.
	1.3) Promote the PPP to accelerate financing of catalytic projects at national and province levels with a focus on women (UNCDF)	<p><u>PPP strategy with action plan targeting high impact projects completed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A capacity building plan for key public and private sector staff to mobilize resources, develop and sustain successful PPPs strengthened. - A PPPs strategy document developed and validated. 	All the tools, instruments and recommendations resulting from these studies help the Congolese state to develop strategies and explore new (innovative) sources of financing likely to fill the financing gap of the SDGs and the PNSD 2019-2023
	1.4) Support / Update the legal framework to create incitation and promote	<p><u>Review and analysis of the legal and regulatory framework to promote inclusive finance completed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A proposal for strengthening the legal and institutional framework to create an 	

	<p>inclusive financing climate financing and investment in social sectors (UNCDF)</p>	<p>enabling environment for the promotion of innovative and inclusive pro-SDG financing (climate, social sectors) produced and put in place.</p>	
	<p>1.5) Support policy and advocacy / dialogue to promote private sector and community investment (focus on women entrepreneurship) (UNCDF & UNWOMEN)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A policy and advocacy framework for the promotion of private and community investments oriented towards women's entrepreneurship, as well as a communication strategy developed. - A capacity building strategy for the development of gender- and climate-sensitive pro-SDGs investment projects developed and put in place. - Innovative financing for women led SMEs in the transformative food system finance, including Climate Smart Agriculture, has been launched in 2 provinces (Kongo Central and Kasai Central). This will lead to increase Local Government Own Source Revenue and improve social service delivery More than 90 local MSMEs, VSLA, and individual businesses are supported in accessing financial services and assets to improve local economies that will contribute to local fiscal expansion for better social service delivery. - Policy dialogue and advocacy for the promotion of entrepreneurship at the community level, with a focus on women's entrepreneurship strengthened. - An action plan on capacity building to accelerate the financing of the SDGs developed and put in place. - Fifty 50 women entrepreneurs, business leaders and rural women from civil society have improved their understanding of best practices on the organization, development of value chains and marketing of agricultural products. - Thirty-one women from the private and public sectors, including nineteen men, were made aware of the cross-cutting approach to gender in the Sustainable Development Goals. - Gender Roadmap to strengthen gender mainstreaming into the Local Development program of the 145 Territories (PDL-145T) produced and operationalized. 	<p>Private and community investments oriented towards women's entrepreneurship and capacity building to accelerate the SDGs financing improved vulnerable community well-being et reduced poverty, hunger.</p>
<p>Output 2: By 2021, An increased fiscal space at national and provincial level is achieved through a strengthened efficiency and</p>	<p>2.1) Train national and local actors in result-based programming, budgeting, and local resource mobilization (UNICEF& UNWOMEN)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thirty-seven men, including ten women experts from sectoral ministries were trained on program budgeting (gender sensitive). - Institutional actors of the Ministry of Planning and the Prime Minister office have acquired knowledge and good practices on the integration of gender in the process of gender-sensitive planning and budgeting in the development project and program. - Capacities of national and provincial actors (around 100 of which 35 were women) in 	

effectiveness of public expenditures		results-based budget planning and programming as well as in resource mobilization strengthened.	Government's ability to allocate more public resources in priority sectors such as education, health, social protection, gender equality and poverty reduction increased.
	2.2) Conduct series of studies including a fiscal space analysis, a comprehensive PER as well as advocate to national and local Government on options to increase fiscal space (UNICEF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public expenditure review and fiscal space analysis studies produced and technically validated by all stakeholders. - A sharing of knowledge and experience in the framework of South-South cooperation on programme budgeting for the benefit of agents and executives of the Ministry of Budget was also carried out. 	
	2.3) Support the piloting and scaling up of planning and programming tools (MTEF, PBB and PAP and budget monitoring tools) at national and select 4 provinces with a focus on priority sectors (UNICEF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Budget planning and programming tools and procedures & mechanisms (programme budget, MTEF, PBB, budget monitoring tools, ...) developed. Capacity strengthened activities done at national (ministry of planning & budget) and provincial level (Lualaba, Nork-Kivu & Kongo Central) 	Strengthening capacities for planning, programming, and monitoring of public resources will promote resource mobilization from development partners to finance catalytic investments in pro-DD sectors.

18. The joint programme has achieved all its results as defined in its results framework. The transformational changes brought about by the programme will be more tangible in the short to medium term as the various reforms called for in the INFF roadmap are put in place. The Development Financing Assessment (DFA) process that has been conducted has enabled the country to develop and operationalize an Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) that will support the implementation of the SDG-based National Strategic Development Plan. This INFF roadmap includes a series of recommendations and reforms that are essential to strengthen the DRC's capacity to mobilize diversified financial resources (public, private, internal, and external), and to reinforce governance and coordination mechanisms as well as monitoring and evaluation systems while enhancing transparency and accountability.
19. Thus, in the short and medium term, the joint programme will contribute to increase domestic and international resource mobilization towards financing the SDGs that are critical to impulse economic and social sustainable development. This will be possible, as stressed previously, through policies, strategies, and a legal framework (see INFF roadmap) which create an enabling environment for stimulating public and private sector resources. In the same perspective, the new niches of additional financing for the SDGs (public, private, innovative, community and others) identified under this JP and the strategies for their mobilization that have been developed, will contribute to strengthening national development financing capacities, while enabling the country to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs. Development of policy, strategies, tools, and instruments to facilitate aid coordination, mobilization and management at national and provincial level should increase the volume and effectiveness of the aid mobilized. The provincial aid strategies developed and put in place in the pilot provinces will help them to strengthen their resources for development financing. This experience will be scaled up in other provinces this year.
20. In addition, the Performance Expenditures Review (PER) and fiscal space analysis undertaken will contribute to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of spending while freeing up budgetary

space for the financing of social priorities. By strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of public spending, the joint programme will contribute to increase the government's ability to allocate more public resources in priority sectors such as education, health, social protection, gender equality and poverty reduction. The same successes will be replicated at the provincial level through an inclusive modeling approach which will be extended throughout the entire country to leave no one behind.

21. Gender aspects have been mainstreamed in all JP's activities. As such, policy dialogue and advocacy for the promotion of entrepreneurship at the community level with a focus on women's entrepreneurship has been strengthened. In this framework, an action plan on capacity building for the public and private sectors to accelerate the financing of the SDGs has been developed and put in place. Thanks to this plan, fifty (50) women entrepreneurs, business leaders and rural women from civil society have improved their understanding of best practices on the organization, development of value chains and marketing of agricultural products. Thirty-seven (37) men, including ten (10) women experts from sectoral ministries (Finance, Budget, Economy, Gender, Planning, primary and secondary education) were trained on program budgeting to improve their understanding of best practices in planning and gender responsive budgeting. Thirty-one (31) women from the private and public sectors, including nineteen (19) men, were made aware of the cross-cutting approach to gender in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to make them aware of contributing to and taking ownership of the SDGs in this implementation phase. A Gender Roadmap to strengthen gender mainstreaming to the Local Development Program of the 145 Territories (PDL-145 T) has been formulated et validated. Stakeholders have improved their understanding of best practices on considering PDL-145 T. Institutional actors from the Ministry of Planning and the Prime Minister Office have acquired knowledge and good practices on the integration of gender in the process of gender-sensitive planning and budgeting in the development project and program at the end of a 5-day workshop. The Prime Minister's Strategic Framework and the Prime Minister's New Priority Action Program are now gender-sensitive, unlike in previous years.
22. Also, capacity building trainings on development planning and programming and gender budgeting were provided within the framework of the JP for experts from sectoral ministries. The proposed training aimed to give participants the knowledge and tools to: (i) Assimilate key concepts related to gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) and convince of its usefulness; (ii) Understand and capitalize on the opportunities of gender budgeting in the program budget; (iii) Understand and capitalize on the opportunities of gender budgeting in the program budget; (iv) Take ownership of the methodology for gender budgeting in the budget process.
23. In more detail, the JP has achieved the following strategic outcomes/outputs:
 1. The DFA Report and the INFF roadmap were produced at the end of an inclusive sectoral dialogue involving all stakeholders and validated firstly at the technical level by all stakeholders and secondly by the Steering Committee of the JP on December 15th, 2022. The INFF roadmap will be reinforced by the recommendations of the National Dialogue on Financing for Development scheduled for late March 2023. Its operationalization will be ensured by an INFF Steering Committee currently being set up by the Government.

The DFA process took place in the form of sectoral dialogues—involving experts from—all stakeholders. This process allowed for a deep diagnosis of the 4 blocks of the DFA/INFF and the production of a roadmap for the INFF including all the reforms and measures to be taken to strengthen the ecosystem and the financing architecture of the DRC.

2. **Mechanisms for managing, mobilizing, and coordinating aid in the provinces to support the implementation of the SDGs and provincial development plans have been developed and put in place. To this regard:**

- Provincial Aid Strategy Document for the pilot provinces of Haut-Katanga and North Kivu have been produced and technically validated by all provincial stakeholders.

The provincial aid strategies produced set out the visions for better tracking and management of aid, and the subsequent policies for turning this vision into reality. They set out the modalities and rules for the mobilization, management, coordination, and monitoring-evaluation of aid at the level of these provinces. These strategies are intended to ensure that all official development assistance flows to these provinces are included in their budgets and can be directed towards the development priorities set out in their provincial development plans. The successful implementation of these strategies will improve the contribution of aid to the economic and social development of these provinces. A budgeted action plan attached to these strategies will be rapidly implemented with funding from these provincial governments and development partners.

Aid is a major lever for financing the development of the DRC's provinces (about 70% of provincial investment budgets are funded by aid). Improving its management, coordination, traceability, and mobilization will enable the provinces to finance their development priorities, particularly in the areas of health, education, water, electricity, and housing.

- The institutional frameworks for provincial aid coordination in the above-mentioned provinces have been set up and made operational.

Provincial Decrees setting out the objectives, missions, and composition of these institutional frameworks have been published by the provincial governments. In The province of Haut-Katanga, the # **Comité Provincial de l'Aide au Développement (CPAD)**, has been set up, while in the province of North-Kivu, the # **Cadre de Coordination des Actions Humanitaires et de Développement (CCAHD)** # has been established.

These institutional frameworks for provincial aid coordination have enable provincial governments (i) to reaffirm their leadership in steering the development process, (ii) to facilitate a better division of labor and harmonization of partners' interventions, and (iii) to promote permanent consultation between all the actors involved in aid. In short, they enable these provinces to play a leading role in all the functions of the aid cycle, namely: assessment of aid needs; identification of development partners; negotiation of funding and conclusion of funding agreements; aid programming and budgeting; implementation of aid-funded projects; and monitoring and evaluation

- The mechanism for managing information on provincial aid in these two provinces and their digital platform are being set up.

The JP supported the two selected pilot provinces (Haut-Katanga and North Kivu) to set up an integrated aid information management system. This system is installed in the provincial planning ministries. It consists of a digital aid management platform, connected by internet to the data sub-systems of other ministries and structures managing aid data, and a technical team of experts qualified in aid management, operating based on a set of procedures codified in an aid management procedure manual. This platform centralizes in

a single database all the information on the financing concluded by the said provinces and/or for the benefit of the said provinces by donor, by origin, and by thematic. It also acts as a one-stop shop for the management of aid from the said provinces through which all development partners declare their interventions in these provinces.

3. **In relation to the activity related to the Public Expenditure Review and Fiscal Space Analysis, and the strengthening of national capacities in budget planning and programming, major results were achieved:**
 - The public expenditure review and fiscal space analysis studies were produced and technically validated by all stakeholders. These have led to four critical conclusions: low fiscal pressure (9% of GDP) compared to the SSA average of 22%; low economic diversification which makes revenues dependent on a single sector highly vulnerable to external shocks; inefficient allocation of public resources often to the detriment of social sectors (health, education & housing); low budget execution in priority sectors; and low budget alignment with development priorities. These studies will help the country to improve equity, effectiveness, and budgetary efficiency, and to free up budgetary space for the financing of priority and accelerating sectors of the SDGs.
 - The capacities of national and provincial actors in results-based budget planning and programming as well as in resource mobilization were strengthened. These capacity-building trainings primarily concerned the ministries responsible for development planning and budget execution at the national level and in the two provinces (Lualaba and North Kivu). The experience will be scaled up in 2023 by the Government with the support of the PUNOs.
 - A sharing of knowledge and experience in the framework of South-South cooperation on programme budgeting for the benefit of agents and executives of the Ministry of Budget was also carried out. The JP financed a mission to Benin for the executives of the Ministry of Budget for this purpose.
 - A meeting and exchange lunch between the Ministry of Budget and the sectoral ministries before the budget orientation seminar was also organized with the support of the UNDP within the framework of the JP.

4. **A framework for additional public, private and community (innovative) financing and PPPs to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs at national and local level has been developed.** In this regard, a study on innovative financing of the SDGs divided into the following components (documents) has been produced and validated. These are:
 - A proposal for strengthening the legal and institutional framework to create an enabling environment for the promotion of innovative and inclusive pro-DDG financing (climate, social sectors).
 - A capacity building strategy for the development of gender- and climate-sensitive pro-SD investment projects.
 - A policy and advocacy framework for the promotion of private and community investments oriented towards women's entrepreneurship, as well as a communication strategy.
 - A capacity building plan for key public and private sector staff to mobilize resources, develop, and sustain successful PPPs.

All the tools, instruments and recommendations resulting from these studies help the Congolese state to develop strategies and explore new (innovative) sources of financing likely to fill the financing gap of the SDGs and the PNSD 2019-2023.

Some of the proposals of the innovative financing are being tested in Kongo Central and Kasai Central. They are focused on financing women led SMEs in the transformative food system investments with the goal to increase Local Government Own Source Revenue and improve local social service delivery.

5. **Gender has been a cross-cutting dimension of all JP activities.** As such, with the expertise of UN-WOMEN, policy dialogue and advocacy for the promotion of entrepreneurship at the community level with a focus on women's entrepreneurship has been strengthened (JP Output 1 activity 1.4). In this perspective, the gender dimension was integrated into the policy and advocacy document (deliverable) produced by the JP for the promotion of community investment and women's entrepreneurship with a communication strategy. Capacity building trainings on development planning and programming and gender budgeting were provided within the framework of the JP for experts from sectoral ministries.

For more detail, the gender budgeting sequences had the following objectives:

1. Budget Planning

- Ensure that gender issues are identified at the planning stage. This is done through a review of the previous year's reports, as well as gender-sensitive budget statements. A gender-sensitive analysis and evaluation should be conducted on all previous years' programs and results in the sector.
- Develop gender-responsive strategies and programs. The strategy must address gender gaps. Reducing the number of hours of unpaid work, for example, may allow women to participate more in paid work. The planning process must be transparent and participatory, involving civil society organizations to ensure that the needs of diverse populations are considered.
- Develop programs that integrate financing for gender equality gaps in development sectors.

2. Budget preparation

- Instructions on gender-responsive budgeting for the publication of the budget circular.
- Ensure that gender-responsive budget statements are used in budget negotiations between the Ministry of Finance and sectoral ministries, making them a condition for submission of the full budget.
- Prepare the budget framework document and include a section on gender-responsive budgeting and resources allocated to gender programming. It should ensure that the budget systematically integrates a gender approach and that areas related to women's human rights are adequately allocated.

3. Budget approval

- Ensure that the consolidated budget statements take gender into account when presenting the budget framework document to the Council of Ministers.
- Submit the budget bill with the gender-sensitive consolidated budget statement to the National Assembly. The gender budget statement is discussed and approved as part of the budget law.
- Integrate gender in the budget execution phase, but also in the planning phase. accountability with performance reports that integrate gender equality results. As well as gender budgeting tools.

- *highlight how the JP contributed to enhancing UN coherence and coordination and the formulation/implementation of UNDAF/UNSDCF as well as what lessons learned and best practices can be applied to future interventions.*

With regard to the coherence and coordination of the work of UN agencies, the JP has enabled UNDPs to develop fruitful and effective synergies and collaborations for the implementation of JP activities, as well as partnerships and exchanges with national focal points for the success of this programme.

The lessons learned and good practices that have emerged from the implementation of this JP are developed in section 6 of this report.

1. Overview of Strategic Final Results

1.1. Overall assessment (max 100 words)

- *Provide an overall assessment of JP implementation in terms of the achievement of its intended results, outcomes and outputs*

- Above expectations (fully achieved expected JP results and made additional progress)
- In line with expectations (achieved expected JP results)
- Satisfactory (majority of expected JP results achieved, but with some limitations/adjustments)
- Not-satisfactory (majority of expected JP results not achieved due to unforeseen risks/challenges)

In general, all JP stakeholders (Government, PUNOs, Multilateral Partners, Civil Society, Private Sector) are fully satisfied with the final strategic results achieved. The results are in line with the JP expectations. All activities foreseen in the programme document validated by the Steering Committee of the project have been implemented and have resulted in the expected change as described in the JP theory of change. In addition, a gender-specific output and indicators have been added to the resources and results framework, to compensate the absence of a clear and precise gender-sensitive indicators.

- *Briefly outline the justification for the assessment.*

1.2 Key results achieved (max 500 words)

- *Identify maximum 3 key transformative and catalytic results the JP has produced that fostered a systemic change in the country. Focus on system-wide results, not process, in advancing the 2030 Agenda.*

The joint programme will contribute to increase domestic and international resource mobilization towards financing the SDGs that are critical to impulse economic and social sustainable development. **To achieve this outcome, the three below transformative results have been achieved:**

- 1. An improved budget and expenditure efficacy, efficiency, and equity at national and provincial levels:** Through the PER and fiscal space analysis, the JP provide national and provincial Governments with strategic evidence and quick win recommendations to improve budget efficiency and effectiveness and equity. Indeed, the preliminary results have shown that (i) there is a high potential to increase public resources through a fiscal reform (ii) an improved efficiency Government expenditure can release significant resources that can be allocated into priority sectors, (iii) a strengthened linkage between budget and policy priority is critical to improve impact on Government budget. In addition, the government capacity building towards a systematic use of budget programming and planning tools such as PBB, MTEF, etc. will significantly improve budget efficiency, execution, and impact. So, in

brief, the JP has considerably increased Government’s ability to allocate more public resources in priority sectors such as education, health, social protection, gender equality and poverty reduction.

2. **In supporting the development of an INFF roadmap et the implementation of the reforms contained therein**, the JP will contribute in short and medium term to increase the DRC’s capacity to mobilize domestic and non-domestic resources to scale up efforts to end poverty, hunger, strengthen household resilience, improve health and wellbeing and access to education, promote gender equality and contribute to foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth. As well, the INFF will offer a technical and institutional monitoring and evaluation system focused on results and impacts, including tools for collecting quantitative and qualitative data, publishing results and impacts to allow possible adjustments; - Very close management of sectoral and global development strategies, transparent mechanisms for technical and financial management of development actions and accountability.
3. **Regarding the provincial aid component**, it will focus on helping provinces mobilize more aid resources (volume effect), channel them towards provincial development priorities (effectiveness), and better use them for more development results (leverage). Indeed, aid is a major lever for financing the development of the DRC’s provinces (about 70% of provincial investment budgets are funded by aid). Improving its management, coordination, traceability, and mobilization will enable the provinces to finance their development priorities, particularly in the areas of health, education, water, electricity, and housing.

In addition, thirteen (13) direct strategic documents, four (4) indirect strategic documents, and numerous tangible outputs were produced within the framework of this joint programme and validated by the stakeholders, relating in particular to the strengthening of the capacities of public actors in budgetary planning and programming, the setting up of institutional mechanisms for the management and coordination of aid at the provincial level, as well as digital platforms for the management of aid information in two pilot provinces, as well as the development of an action plan on capacity building to accelerate the financing of the SDGs.

1.3. Results achieved on Integrated National Financing Framework/SDG financing building blocks (max 2 pages)

- *Please report on the results of the JP according to the INFF building blocks and implementation stages in the table below.*

Implementation stages	Planned (0%)	Emerging (1-49% progress)	Advancing (50-99% progress)	Complete (100% progress)	Previously completed	Not applicable
1. Inception phase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Assessment & diagnostics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Financing strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Monitoring & review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Governance & coordination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- *Provide a brief description of the progresses made or results achieved in the Inception Phase. **Has an INFF Roadmap been developed and/or adopted by the government? What are the roadmap’s key recommendations and timeline?***

- Provide a brief description of the progresses made or **results achieved under Assessment & Diagnostics**. Indicate what diagnostic tools/methodologies have been used (Development Finance Assessment, Public Expenditure Review, Fiscal Space Analysis, Feasibility Study, etc.) and explain how the evidence generated has contributed to the development of the financing strategy and/or changes in policy processes towards financing the SDGs. Was a national plan/SDG/sector costing or budgeting carried out?
- Provide a brief description on the progress or intermediate results achieved/expected under Financing Strategy. **Indicate if the Financing Strategy is already being implemented by the government and which national plan/policy was it designed to support**. Summarize what are the main objectives of the financing strategy to foster SDG acceleration (i.e., **mobilize public revenue, unlock private capital, align public budget with the SDGs, design new financial solutions, strengthen coordination on SDG Financing, etc...**). Provide description of the financial reform(s) prioritized by the financing strategy (i.e., **Results-Based Budgeting, Tax revenue, public funds, MTEF, Digital Finance, Financial Inclusion, Capital market, etc.**). Provide a description of how the government is and will continue to use the Financing Strategy into the future highlighting any changes in planning and financing policy cycles that will be sustained into the future. Note any targets (including quantitative targets) either set within the financing strategy or to which the financing strategy responds.
- Provide a brief description on the progress or intermediate results achieved under Monitoring and Review. **Explain which tools and processes have been brought together or established to monitor the implementation of the INFF and/or track the financial flows towards the SDGs**. Describe how the activities supported under the JP will help the government monitor financing and its impact differently into the future.
- Provide a brief description on the progress or intermediate the results achieved under Governance and Coordination. **Explain what the main functions of the INFF oversight body are and who are the members**. Indicate as well where is the INFF Oversight Committee housed and if it has been embedded into an existing governance structure. Indicate if a secretariat function is established for the INFF Oversight Committee and where it is housed, if applicable. Has there been any changes in processes related to SDGs financing dialogue and coordination (e.g., creation of an SDG financing dialogue platform)? Indicate how these elements of governance and coordination will continue to be used in the future.

1. The Inception phase of the DFA/INFF process has been finalized since March 2022.

The DFA process took place in the form of sectoral dialogues involving experts from the sectorial ministries, the provinces, the private sector, private banks, civil society, and development partners, under the guidance of two Senior National Consultants and the supervision of the Ministry of Planning and the SDG FUND Technical Steering Committee, with the support of the 4 PUNOs. This process allowed for a deep diagnosis of the 4 blocks of the DFA/INFF and the production of the DFA Report and a Roadmap for the INFF including all the reforms and measures to be taken to strengthen the financing ecosystem and architecture of the DRC. The DFA Report and the INFF roadmap were validated at the technical level by all stakeholders involved in the sectorial dialogue on March 2022 and by the Steering Committee of the JP on December 15th, 2022. Its operationalization will be ensured by an INFF Steering Committee currently being set up by the Government. The INFF roadmap will be reinforced by the recommendations of the National Dialogue on Financing for Development scheduled for late March 2023.

This high-level Action Dialogue on Financing for Development, which will include High Level government Officers, CEOs of private companies, Heads Representatives of international organizations, Civil Society Leaders, and High-Level International Experts, aims to facilitate an inclusive and participatory exchange of high-level officials on the prospects for public and

private financing, on financing policies, on existing institutional structures for development financing, and on the effectiveness of development cooperation, with a view to reinforcing the INFF roadmap through its recommendations.

2. The Assessment and Diagnostics Phase was also completed. The analysis of the 4 blocks of the DFA/INFF process was conducted using both a desk-based and consultative approach. The consultants first conducted a documentary analysis of the diversified flows of development finance in the DRC over the last 25 years (public, private, internal, external) and examined existing financial policies as well as governance & coordination and monitoring & evaluation mechanisms in place. They then engaged in sectoral consultations with all parties involved in the DFA/INFF process (sectoral ministries, private banks, Central Bank of Congo, private sector/Congolese business federation, civil society, universities, development partners and IFIs, etc.) to discuss in depth with them the 4 blocks of DFA/INFF, with the support of the 4 PUNOs.

The analysis of the 4 blocks of the DFA (diagnosis, financing strategy, monitoring & review, Governance & coordination) showed, on the one hand, that the country had untapped potential and considerable niches for mobilizing diversified public and private resources for financing development focused on the SDGs and, on the other hand, that the country suffered from major structural problems of governance, coordination of public policies, as well as monitoring, evaluation, and transparency. Nevertheless, beyond these constraints, the DRC can increase its public revenues from 9% of GDP today to 15% GDP in 4 years and to 22% GDP in the next 8 years if it implements the economic and financial structural reforms proposed in the INFF roadmap. The development of a holistic development financing strategy based on the DFA diagnosis, and the recommendations contained in the INFF roadmap is, in this respect, an absolute priority for the Government.

As for the analysis of the country's development financing needs and the cost of implementing the SDGs by 2030, these had already been done by the Ministry of Planning and the International Monetary Fund respectively. For the IMF, the financing needs of the DRC's SDGs by 2030 are estimated at 165 billion USD, while for the Ministry of Planning, they are estimated at 148 billion USD. The cost of financing the 2019-2023 PNSD was estimated at USD 47.5 billion over the five years, with a gap to be financed evaluated at 55% of the total cost. These figures indicate that the DRC needs substantial financial resources to finance its development. This JP indirectly supported the country in formulating its SDG acceleration framework and developing the programmatic tools for implementing its PNSD (PIP, PAP, MTEF, Sector Policies, etc.).

3. Concerning the implementation of the financing strategy, this phase is under development. Indeed, as part of the implementation of the INFF roadmap, a holistic financing strategy is being launched, under the co-leadership of the Ministries of Finance and Planning, with the support of UNDP and other financial partners to be mobilized. In the meantime, sectoral financing strategies have been developed under this JP. In substance, a framework for additional public, private and community (innovative) financing and PPPs to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs at national and local level has been developed. In this context, a proposal for strengthening the legal and institutional framework to create an enabling environment for the promotion of innovative and inclusive pro-SDG financing (climate, social sectors) has been developed; (ii) A capacity building plan for key public and private sector

staff to mobilize resources, develop and sustain successful PPPs has been formulated. All the tools, instruments and recommendations resulting from these studies help the Congolese state to develop strategies and explore new (innovative) sources of financing likely to fill the financing gap of the SDGs and the PNSD 2019-2023.

Furthermore, under the impetus of the JP, the country has strengthened the capacities of national and provincial experts from the Ministries of Planning, Finance and Budget, on budgeting for the SDGs, with the technical and financial support of UNDP. The country is also currently implementing a series of budgetary, financial, and economic reforms through the Comité d'Orientation des Réformes de Finances du Publiques (COREF), a structure of the Ministry of Finance, with the support of partners. These reforms, which have already been underway for three years, have made it possible to increase revenue from an average of 9% of GDP over the period 2016-2019 to 12% of GDP over the period 2020-2012, and to 16% of GDP projected for 2023 (see State Budget 2023). Projections for 2024 to 2016 are estimated at 18% of GDP.

- 4. Regarding monitoring and review phase**, it is important to note that the DRC has structures and instruments to track and monitor public finances. At the level of the Ministry of Finance, there is a Directorate of the Treasury and Ordering with a department responsible for monitoring budgetary statements, which controls all the state's financial operations carried out in the public treasury account held at the Central Bank of Congo. At the level of the Prime Minister's office, there is also a Comité de Conjoncture coordinated by the Prime Minister, which analyses and monitors the situation of public finances, as well as all financial operations of the State, and gives orientations regarding this.

The INFF's roadmap provides for the installation of an INFF steering committee that will monitor the implementation of all recommended financial and economic reforms. This Steering Committee is currently being set up. It will be co-chaired by the Ministers of Finance and Planning and housed within the Ministry of Finance.

- 5. About the Governance and coordination phase:** In DRC, the coordination and monitoring of public policies are carried out by the Ministry of Planning under the direct supervision of the Prime Minister, in accordance with the Decree on the distribution of the functions of ministries. The INFF's roadmap proposes the strengthening of this coordination and monitoring function of public policies, as well as the mechanisms and procedures relating to it.

As for the implementation of the INFF roadmap, the JP proposed, and the Congolese government accepted, to set up a steering committee for the implementation of the INFF roadmap. Based on the results of the DFA's assessment and diagnostic exercises that compile and generate evidence on financing needs, trends, risks and binding constraints, the INFF oversight committee will use this to inform the design of a financing strategy for mobilizing resources for and promoting alignment with national sustainable development priorities, deepens the integration of public and private financing policies with national sustainable development objectives, and builds coherency across financing policy areas. This committee will determine any necessary institutional adaptations, for example to monitoring and review frameworks, structures for internal government coordination or collaboration and dialogue with external actors. The oversight committee will use these structures to deliver the financing strategy once the INFF is operationalized, working closely with responsible policymakers across government as well as representatives of the private sector and other

non-state actors. The INFF oversight Committee will be housed inside the ministry of Finances.

The missions of the INFF oversight Committee include: (i) Guide and oversee a series of activities during the process of operationalizing the INFF building blocks; (ii) Convene actors from across government, the private sector and other actors; (iii) Work with policymakers to design, commit to and implement the reforms needed to operationalize the INFF; (iv) Work with development partners to access technical support for the INFF process; (v) Build capacity within national ministries to carry out the functions of the INFF once operational; etc.

Core members: common to most INFFs: (i) Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Finance, Prime Minister or President’s Office (the Chair of the oversight team would typically be from one of these three ministries); (ii) Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Infrastructure; (iii) Revenue authority; (iv) Central Bank; (v) UN Resident Coordinator & UNDP Resident Representative; (vi) Other representatives that may be included, depending on the scope of the INFF; (vii) Relevant line ministries and agencies; (viii) Leadership of key public entities; (ix) Parliamentarians; etc.

1.4. Contribution to SDG acceleration

- Please list the priority SDGs indicators the JP has contributed to or will contribute in the near term as a result of the SDG Financing Strategy and activities carried out under the JP. Include baseline, targets, actual results achieved/to be achieved in the near term, and reasons for deviation from initial targets, if any (maximum 5 SDG indicators).

SDGs indicators	Baseline	Expected target	Actual results achieved/to be achieved in the near future	Reasons for deviation from targets if any
<u>SDG 1/ Target 1.a</u> Indicators: 1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)	24.5 %	30 %	<u>Annual Budget / Financial law.</u> The target has been reached or even exceeded. According to the 2023 Finance Act, the target is raised to 33%.	Voluntary social policy of the government.
<u>SDG 1/ Target 1.b</u> Indicator: 1.b.1 Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups	0.39 %	1%	<u>Annual Budget / Financial law.</u> The target is largely met.	Increased social spending through numerous social programmes implemented by the government.
<u>SDG 5 / Target 5.5</u> Indicator 5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments	8%	15%	From NSDGs Report 2021. Gender has been taken into consideration during the implementation of all Joint Programme activities.	Voluntary policy of the President of the Republic for gender equality.
<u>SDG 17 / target 17.1</u> Indicator 17.1.1 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source,	11.23% (2022) 18% (2023)	14% 20%	<u>Annual Budget / Financial law.</u> The targets are met.	Performance resulting from the reforms undertaken, including those initiated following the JP

<u>SDG 17 / target 17.17</u> Indicator: 17.17.1 Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private and civil society partnerships	Not collected	USD 2,000,000	<u>JP Reports</u> Target is met	See various UNICEF and UNDP programmes of public-private partnerships
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Source: From the National SDGs Report, 2021; INS, 2022 & BCC, 2022; Annual budget.

The core targets for this joint programme is Goals 1.a (Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions), **1.b** (Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions), **17.1** (Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection) **and 17.7** (Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships).

The programme has contributed to this range of goals and indicators listed in the table above. An appropriate SDG financing framework in the context of DRC supported by policies and systems is a central solution to promote the human development, human capital and contribute to the stability and prosperity. Thus, it will enable DRC to mobilize domestic and non-domestic resources to scale up efforts to end poverty, hunger, strengthen household resilience, improve health and wellbeing and access to education, promote gender equality and contribute to foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

More specifically, in the short and medium term, the joint programme will contribute to increase domestic and international resource mobilization towards financing the SDGs that are critical to impulse economic and social sustainable development. This will be possible through policies, strategies and a legal framework which create an enabling environment for stimulating public and private sector resources (SDG17). On the other hand, with the support provided in strengthening public finance efficiency and effectiveness, the joint programme will contribute to increase the government's ability to allocate more public resources in priority sectors such as education, health, social protection, gender equality and poverty reduction (SDG1). The same successes will be replicated at the provincial level through an inclusive modeling approach which will be extended throughout the entire country to leave no one behind.

1.5. Contribution to SDG financing flows (max 500 words)

- *Provide a brief description of how the SDG Financing Strategy and enabling environment results will unleash public and private financial flows for the SDGs. What are the early indications of mobilization of additional financial resources towards the SDGs?*

Provide a brief description of the JP's results achieved to mobilize financial resources to achieve the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) targets through the development and implementation of the Financing Strategy.

The DRC's SDGs financing needs have been estimated by the IMF at USD 165 billion by 2030, or an annual average of USD 10 billion. But the state's capacity to mobilize internal and external public resources through its budget remains very limited. Over the period 2016-2019, internal state revenues were estimated at 9% of GDP on average, which is still very insufficient to fill the SDGs financing gap. Hence the interest of this JP, whose main aim is to help the country create an enabling environment to unlock the potential for additional financing of the SDGs in the DRC.

In that perspective, the interventions under the output 1 of the JP , have not only enabled the country to obtain factual and empirical evidence allowing it to explore new niches and sources of financing (internal and external, private and public), to identify bottlenecks to resource mobilization, and to identify reforms to optimize resource mobilization and strengthen coordination and governance mechanisms, as well as monitoring mechanisms, including strengthening accountability and transparency, but also to support the Government in setting up an environment, policies, strategies, legislation, as well as tools and mechanisms to attract and channel this funding towards achieving the SDGs.

Secondly, under Output 2, the expansion of fiscal space using the main potential levers will allow the government to increase spending on priority sectors. As for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of public spending, this will lead to a better alignment of resources and priorities but also promote the effectiveness and efficiency of public spending. By achieving the results of Output 2, the Government will strengthen the performance of public spending and will increase Government's ability to allocate more public resources in priority sectors such as education, health, social protection, gender equality and poverty reduction, and thus put the country on track for inclusive sustainable development. The holistic strategy for financing the SDGs is being developed as part of the implementation of the INFF roadmap. Following the diagnosis revealed by the DFA report produced, the main objectives of the financing strategy would be, among others : mobilize fiscal revenue especially from promising economic sector (mining, forestry, hydrocarbon) ; unlock private capital, align public budget with the SDGs, design new financial solutions, strengthen coordination on SDG Financing, etc. ; accompany by some major reform : Results-Based Budgeting, Tax revenue, public funds, MTEF, Digital Finance, Financial Inclusion, Capital market, carbon finance, etc.

The resources to achieve the NDC outcomes are estimated at USD 48 billion. The INFF roadmap includes the development of a robust carbon finance mobilization strategy. Based on this JP, UNDP has committed to support the Government's objectives to establish a dynamic carbon market as part of an extensive strategy of mobilizing resources for the financing of sustainable development and provide the Government with the necessary technical and financial expertise. UNDP is mobilized and determined to accompany the DRC in putting in place the relevant measures, including the institution of a carbon tax and the creation of a regulatory authority for the carbon market.

1.6. Results achieved on contributing to UN Development System reform at the (max 500 words)

- *A key purpose of the Joint SDG Fund is to enable the UNDS/CTs to provide system-wide support to the SDGs at the country level and catalyse UN coherence. Hence, **please provide concrete cases of how the JP has made change and led to strengthening the UN system working together in partnership with the government and other stakeholders with the Resident Coordinators in the lead, fostering policy coherence and reducing duplication of efforts.** How was UN coherence promoted in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the JP?*
- *Explain how the Joint Programme has been more efficient and reduced transaction costs in comparison to what could have been done through a single agency's intervention. To what degree did the JP reduce duplication of efforts by PUNOs?*

Describe how and to which extent the program has contributed to the strategic UN planning frameworks (e.g., UNDAF/UNSDCF) and other strategic documents.

The management and leadership of the implementation of the JP was ensured jointly by the Ministry of Planning and the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System. Given the multi-sectoral nature of the JP, collaboration and partnerships were developed with key ministries, namely the Ministry of Budget and the Ministry of Finance, as well as sectoral ministries (health, education,

energy, and agriculture). At the provincial level, to ensure ownership and sustainability of the actions, the leadership of the implementation of the JP was ensured by the provincial Governors with the support of the Planning and Budget Divisions in the target provinces.

Each PUNO, according to its missions and comparative advantages, has positioned itself on one or other of the reforms set out in the JP, maximizing synergies, and collaboration with the other agencies, as well as with the development partners and state structures concerned or interested.

As a result, all the PUNOs worked together in the development of the DFA report and the formulation of the INFF roadmap. Sustained discussions are currently underway between the PUNOs on the one hand, and between the relevant sectoral ministries and the PUNOs on the other, for the development of the holistic strategy for financing the SDGs in DRC. UN-WOMEN also worked in synergy with UNCDF to develop policies, advocate and engage in dialogue to promote the private sector and community investment (with a focus on women's entrepreneurship); while UNICEF collaborated with both UNDP and UN-WOMEN to conduct the public expenditure review and studies on the effectiveness and efficiency of public expenditure. The sectoral ministries concerned (planning, finances, and budgets) ensured the day-to-day management of the interventions with the support of the PUNOs.

The RCO, with the support of the UNDP (lead agency), ensured the overall coordination of activities as well as the monitoring and evaluation of implementation. The RCO also supported the different agencies in advocacy and mobilization of government and private sector partners. Through the UNCT meetings and other existing coordination mechanisms, all other non-participating agencies contributed to strengthening the overall results of the joint programme.

Synergies with other United Nations System (UNS) agencies and technical financial partners present in the country and with a specific agenda on financing the SDGs (World Bank, IMF, AfDB) have also been forged. A partnership with the Embassies, the inter-donor groups present in the DRC based on criteria of coherence between the respective mandates, the comparative advantages as well as the possible areas of complementarity (gender inequality), have been developed within the framework of this project, to give higher collective results, capable of giving a strong impetus to the development of the country and the provinces.

To ensure overall coherence in the coordination and implementation of the joint programme and to strengthen synergies with other existing dialogue and coordination frameworks, the coordination of the JP was aligned with the thematic groups of the PNSD, particularly the one in charge of the growth axis. To this end, a steering committee led by the Ministry of Planning was set up, composed of key ministries including the Ministry of Budget, Finance, Health, Education, Agriculture, Energy and COMPACT members from the private sector on the SDGs and civil society.

Similarly, in view of the implementation of the INFF roadmap, the JP will strengthen the frameworks for dialogue and partnership with multilateral (WB, ADB, EU, IMF) and bilateral partners (notably France, Germany, United Kingdom, United States, RSA), for the formulation and implementation of the structural reforms outlined therein.

Thus, the better coordination of the implementation of this JP has not only reduced transaction costs, but also improved programmatic coherence and efficiency within the UN Country Team (UNCT).

1.7. Results achieved on cross-cutting issues (max 200 words)

- *Provide a brief description on the results achieved in promoting cross-cutting UN issues with a special focus on gender equality, women's empowerment, human rights, decent work, inclusion and leaving*

no one behind through the SDG Financing Strategy in partnership with the stakeholders. Provide the estimated % of overall disbursed funds that was spent on gender equality or women's empowerment.

The results obtained in the promotion of cross-cutting issues are several, includes:

Firstly: Gender has been a cross-cutting dimension of all JP activities. As such, with the expertise of UN-WOMEN, policy dialogue and advocacy for the promotion of entrepreneurship at the community level with a focus on women's entrepreneurship has been strengthened. Thanks to this, fifty 50 women entrepreneurs, business leaders and rural women from civil society have improved their understanding of best practices on the organization, development of value chains and marketing of agricultural products. Thirty-seven men, including ten women, and experts from sectoral ministries (Finance, Budget, Economy, Gender, Planning, primary and secondary education) were trained on development planning and program budgeting to improve their understanding of best practices in planning and gender responsive budgeting. Thirty-one women from the private and public sectors, including nineteen men, were made aware of the cross-cutting approach to gender in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to make them aware of contributing to and taking ownership of the SDGs in this implementation phase. implemented.

Secondly, the joint programme is human rights and equity sensitive. By unlocking the potential of SDG financing in DRC, the country will be able to invest in greater equity, inclusive development and leaving no one behind. Hence most of the activities including the public expenditure review, the fiscal space study, the DFA / INFF as well as dialogue and capacity building activities included in the program will contribute to this end. More precisely, during the sectoral dialogues, PUNOs ensured that the views of civil society, in particular representing vulnerable groups such as women and youth, were considered. These were also taken into account in the DFA Report and the Report of the public expenditure review and fiscal space analysis.

1.8. Results achieved on COVID-19 recovery (max 200 words)

- *Provide a brief description of how the JP helped the government and partners to strengthen ways to finance the recovery from the pandemic?*

In 2020, DRC experienced a sharp contraction in its real GDP and a drastic fall in public revenue due to the Covid-19 crisis. The combination of these economic and fiscal shocks has severely affected the state's ability to finance its development priorities and the social spending needed to achieve the SDGs. The Covid crisis has also significantly affected the mobility of people, particularly through the quarantine and social distancing measures taken.

These impacts of COVID-19 have been taken into consideration in the implementation of the JP, notably through the mitigation measures recommended in the project's risk matrix. In addition, to accompany the DRC in its efforts to combat the negative multisectoral effects of the crisis and accelerate the return of the economy on its pre-covid trajectory, the United Nations system in the DRC, in phase with the JP, has supported the DRC in developing a Multisectoral Emergency Programme for the Mitigation of the Impacts of COVID-19 (PMUAIC-19), and in readjusting its National Strategic Development Plan, with a view to taking into account the impacts of the COVID shock.

In the INFF's roadmap, the JP also advocated reforms to diversify the structure of the economy to expand sources of financing and strengthen the resilience of the economy to exogenous shocks.

1.9. Strategic Partnerships (max 500 words)

- *Provide a brief description of how the JP created/strengthened new/existing/non-traditional partnerships with diverse stakeholders to drive transformative change on SDG Financing, especially*

with the private sector and development partners (i.e., World Bank, IMF, European Union). Refer only to the most strategic partnerships and/or to the alignment with broader UNCTs partnership approach that leveraged UN capacity, resources and assets to lift and scale up the SDG Financing efforts in the country

Several strategic partnerships were developed through the joint SDG programme:

- The JP contributed to strengthening strategic partnership between the 4 PUNOs and the Ministries of Planning, Budget, and Finances in various areas of the JP, especially on the capacity building of public actors in the areas of gender-responsive results-based budgeting, and on the development and operationalization of the INFF roadmap containing the economic and financial reforms to be put in place to unlock the potential for financing the SDGs, in general. In that perspective, some MOU and LoA have been signed between those ministries and the 4 PUNOS.
- The newly signed IMF programme with GoDRC has also opened strong partnership opportunities between PNUOs and IMF, AfDB and World Bank on PFM reforms focusing on budget efficiency and effectiveness and other reforms containing in the INFF roadmap. In the framework of capitalizing on and sustaining the results of this JP, the 4 PUNOs have strengthened the collaboration with the 3 IFIs.
- Synergies and partnerships with other UN agencies, and other bi & multilateral partners, based on comparative advantages and possible areas of complementarity, have been forged within the JP framework, and will be developed and consolidated. To this end, the UNEP has been consulted to provide expertise in carbon finance in the framework of the implementation of the INFF roadmap.
- Partnerships and collaborations with civil society and the private sector have also been strengthened within the framework of JP, particularly for a better ownership and sustainability of the JP results.
- The project also promoted and encouraged South-South cooperation, through exchanges with countries considered to have implemented good practices in capacity development and implementation of the DFA/INFF process, as well as in the formulation and implementation of results-based pro-SDG programme budgets.

1.10. Additional financing mobilized (max 300 words)

- *Fill out the table below and provide a brief description if the JP secured additional financing towards the SDG Financing Strategy in terms of co-funding or co-financing from the government, IFIs, PUNOs and other public and private sector partners. Please reference any examples where the JP activities have catalysed changes by development partners or others actors who have committed resources to support the strategy, or taken action to align their own strategy or programming with the strategy, even if this hasn't resulted in direct support for the activities of the JP itself.*

Source of funding	Yes	No	Type of co-funding/co-financing	Name of organization	Amount (USD)	Comments
Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Donors/IFIs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
PUNOs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>UNDP own resources</i>	<i>UNDP</i>	<i>880,000</i>	<i>- 4 Strategic documents to which the JP directly contributed to (400 ,000). See annex 2.2. - High-Level Action Dialogue for development Financing (30,000).</i>

						- Functioning oversight committee (150,000) SDG Financing Strategy (300,000)
Other partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Source: From Joint Programme Activity Reports, 2022 & SPU/UNDP PTA 2nd semester 2023.

UNDP has mobilized its own financial resources to produce four strategic documents to which the JP has directly contributed to and has financed the implementation of JP activities from its own resources, including the organization of a high-level dialogue on development financing in the DRC. The UNDP also intends to make available to the project nearly 450,000 USD in the second half of 2023 its own resources to finance the functioning of the INFF steering committee and the formulation of a holistic development financing strategy, in support of the government's efforts in implementing the INFF roadmap adopted in December 2023.

The JP also intends to mobilize the World Bank (WB), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and other bilateral and multilateral partners to finance the operationalization of the INFF roadmap.

2. Results by JP Outcome and Output

2.1. Results achieved by Fund's global results (max 500 words)

- *Complete Annex 1.1 and describe results under each Outcome and Output of the Fund. Describe if final targets were achieved or explain any variance against the planned results. Include a brief description of unintended effects, positive or negative under each outcome. Describe the monitoring and data collection methodology used to identify results.*

The UN had established in 2019 the SDGs Fund to support countries' efforts in implementing the SDGs. This fund has enabled many countries to improve their financing environment (ecosystem) and mobilize additional resources to support the implementation of the SDGs in their countries. DRC has achieved remarkable results with the support of the SDGs Fund that will enable it to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs.

Overall, this joint programme has enabled DRC to:

- Strengthen its capacity to mobilize resources from various sources (public, private, internal, and external), in order to provide countries with adequate and predictable means to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions. See in this respect the INFF roadmap produced, validated, and being implemented; the expenditure performance review which has led to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of public spending and to the creation of fiscal space to finance social priorities; etc.)
- Create strong policy frameworks at national and sub-national levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support the acceleration of investments in the SDGs. See to this effect the PPP strategy formulated and validated; the two provincial aid strategies produced and put in place; Key Strategic directions in improving SDGs finance thru blended finance will lead accelerate off track SDGs. The transformative nature of the elaborated strategic documents will lead to catalyze national and local stakeholders in implementing SDGs.

- Promote effective partnerships between the public sector, the public and private sector and civil society, building on the experience and strategies of funding partnerships. (see the two institutional frameworks for aid management and coordination set up in the provinces; the INFF steering committee currently being implemented; etc.)

All these tools will enable the DRC to mobilize domestic and non-domestic resources to scale up efforts to end poverty, hunger, strengthen household resilience, improve health and wellbeing and access to education, promote gender equality and contribute to foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

These results contribute substantially to the global programmatic results of the SDG Fund.

As for the monitoring and data collection methodology, it is based on the various intermediate programme implementation reports drawn up quarterly by the PUNOs, as well as the official statistics produced by the National Institute of Statistics, the Central Bank of Congo, the Treasury Directorate of the Ministry of Finance and the study and planning directorates of the sectoral ministries concerned by the JP.

2.2. Results achieved by Joint Programme Outcome (max 500 words)

- *Complete Annex 1.3 and describe results under each Outcome. Describe if final targets were achieved or explain any variance against the planned results. Include a brief description of unintended effects, positive or negative under each outcome. Describe the monitoring and data collection methodology used to identify results.*

Outcome of the joint programme: An enabling environment to identify and unlock the potential for additional funding for SDGs in the DRC is in place.

An appropriate SDGs-financing framework, supported by effective policies and systems (governance & coordination mechanism, monitoring system, etc.) is being operationalized. This integrated national financing framework (INFF) will enable the DRC to mobilize domestic and non-domestic resources to scale up efforts to accelerate the SDGs achievement by 2030. This will be possible thanks to the improvement of the SDGs financing environment through the positive effects of the above-mentioned robust policies, strategies et institutional framework.

On the other hand, with the support provided in strengthening public finance efficiency and effectiveness, the joint programme will contribute to increasing the government's capacity to allocate more public resources to priority sectors such as education, health, social protection, sanitation, habitat, energy, gender equality and poverty reduction. The same successes will be replicated at the provincial level by putting in place effective aid strategies to support the implementation of the SDGs and drive inclusive and resilient growth that leaves no one behind.

2.3. Results achieved by Joint Programme Output (max 500 words)

- *Complete Annex 1.3 and describe overall results under each Output. Describe if final targets were achieved or explain any variance against the planned results. Include a brief description of unintended effects, positive or negative under each outcome. Describe the monitoring and data collection methodology used to identify results.*

Output 1: By 2021, A policy, legal and strategy framework as well as innovative and catalytic tools in place to support expansion of SDG financing

Under the output 1, the JP has enabled the country to identify reforms to optimize resource mobilization and strengthen coordination and governance mechanisms, as well as monitoring &

evaluation system, and to set up an environment, policies, strategies, legislation, as well as tools and mechanisms to attract and channel this funding towards achieving the SDGs.

In that perspective, the following results has been achieved:

1. **The DFA report and the INFF roadmap have been produced and validated at the technical level by all stakeholders and by the programme steering committee** following an inclusive sectoral dialogue involving all stakeholders.
2. **Mechanisms for aid management, mobilization and coordination in the provinces to support the implementation of the SDGs have been developed and put in place.** In this regard:
 - Provincial aid strategy papers for the pilot provinces of Haut-Katanga and North Kivu have been produced and technically validated by all provincial stakeholders.
 - Institutional frameworks for aid coordination & management in the above provinces have been established and made operational.
 - The mechanisms and digital platforms for managing provincial aid information in these two provinces and their digital platform are being put in place.
3. **A framework for additional public, private and community (innovative) financing and PPPs to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs at national and local levels has been developed.** In this regard, a study on innovative financing of the SDGs divided into several components (documents) has been produced and validated. These are
 - A proposal for strengthening the legal and institutional framework in order to create an enabling environment for the promotion of innovative and inclusive pro-GSD financing.
 - A capacity building strategy for the development of gender and climate sensitive pro-SD investment projects.
 - A policy and advocacy framework for the promotion of private and community investments geared towards women's entrepreneurship, as well as a communication strategy.
 - A capacity building plan for key public and private sector personnel to mobilise resources, develop and sustain successful PPPs.
 - A financial vehicle has been set up for women farmers in Kongo Central province to demonstrate the link between women's entrepreneurship and decentralisation.

Output 2: By 2021, An increased fiscal space at national and provincial level is achieved through a strengthened efficiency and effectiveness of public expenditures

By achieving output 2, the Government will strengthen public expenditure performance by enabling the prioritization of the major sectors of the PNSD 2019-2023 and thereby putting the country on the path to inclusive sustainable development. The effectiveness and efficiency of public expenditure will lead to better prioritization of target sectors and groups, especially women, youth and children.

The following results has been achieved under the Output 2:

4. **National capacity for budget planning and programming has been strengthened.**
 - Public expenditure review and fiscal space analysis studies have been produced and technically validated by all stakeholders. These studies will help the country to improve equity, effectiveness, and budgetary efficiency, and free up budgetary space for financing priority sectors and accelerate the implementation of the SDGs.
 - The capacity of national and provincial actors in results-based budget planning and programming and resource mobilization has been strengthened. The experience will be scaled up in 2023 by the government with the support of the UNDP.

- A sharing of knowledge and experiences in the framework of South-South cooperation on programme budgeting for the benefit of agents and managers of the Ministry of Budget was also carried out.

5. **Gender has been a transversal dimension of all JP activities.** Thus, thanks to the expertise of UN-Women, policy dialogue and advocacy for the promotion of entrepreneurship at the community level, with a focus on women's entrepreneurship, have been strengthened.

3. Challenges and Changes

3.1. Challenges faced by JP (max 300 words)

- *Explain challenges such as delays in implementation, and their nature such as management arrangements, COVID-19 impact etc. What actions were taken to mitigate these challenges? How did such challenges and actions impact the overall achievements of results?*

The implementation of the JP has faced significant challenges and some changes have been made to the basic objectives and indicators. Among the major challenges encountered during the implementation of the JP are:

- 1) **Persistence of COVID-19 and Ebola resurgence.** The persistence of COVID-19 and the resurgence of a new Ebola outbreak with the resulting distancing and restriction measures have led to a reduction in mobility and interaction with JP beneficiaries with negative effects on the implementation of its activities. The JP tried as much as possible, and where it was impossible to meet face-to-face, to organize meetings, workshops, and seminars via videoconferencing.
- 2) **Difficulties to recruit qualified consultants to provide technical assistance to Government:** with the specificity of the work in the JP, PUNOs needed to recruit quality firms with strong experience and reputation to deliver products that can have the expected impact in the DRC. To mitigate this risk, the JP arranges to use qualified international firms if necessary.
- 3) **Lack of relevant data and difficulties to access financial data.** To reduce this challenge, the JP uses international databases or primary data.
- 4) **Changes in priorities of the second government headed by Prime Minister JM SAMA Lukonde:** The new government set in place a third-year programme whose priorities were not really aligned with the PNSD 2019-2023, which risked disrupting the implementation of the JP according to the commitments already signed by the previous government
- 5) **Frequent changes of the government's focal points:** the rapid turnover of public administration executives was a major challenge for the functioning of both the steering committee and the technical committee of the joint programme.

3.2. Changes made to JP (if applicable) (max 200 words)

- *In case the JP requested changes overtime, explain how these modifications were appropriate to the new context/conditions.*

A new government arrived in April 2021, a year after the launch of the joint programme in January 2020. This new government put in place a new economic and social programme (called the Government Action Plan 2021-2023) whose priorities were not exactly aligned with the PNSD 2019-2023. Large gender-sensitive social programmes, without sufficient available financial resources, were backed up by this new programme, including the free primary education programme, universal health coverage, the local development programme for the 145 territories, etc. This new situation led us to make some changes in the initial objectives and indicators of the JP in order to strengthen the DFA/INFF process and the gender dimension in the programme. Thus, a high-level national dialogue of actions on financing for development was added and the gender dimension was strongly reinforced.

4. Sustainability and Country Ownership

4.1. Sustainability and country ownership (max 500 words)

The joint programme has put in place tools and strengthened the capacity of National Focal Points and Resource Persons that will facilitate ownership, sustainability, and scaling up of the programme. These achievements of the JP include:

1. The implementation of gender responsive planning and budgeting tools at central level and in some provinces.
2. The establishment of a capacity building strategy for the development of gender and climate sensitive pro-SDGs investment projects.
3. Capacity building of national and provincial actors in results-based budget planning and programming and resource mobilization.
4. Institutional and technical capacity building to strengthen the capacity of the ETDs and Provinces to finance socio-economic investments. This could be translated into the development of toolkits for resource mobilization of ETDs and provinces as well as the digitalization of platforms to reduce transaction costs for better efficiency.
5. Strengthening the capacities of development actors at national and local levels, including women and young people, in mobilizing, planning, budgeting, and investing public resources.
6. Capacity building of development actors on SDG-based budgeting.

The JP has also promoted South-South cooperation, through exchanges with countries considered to have implemented good practices in capacity building in the formulation and implementation of DFA/INFF processes (Nigeria, SA, Mali, ...), as well as results-based programme budgets and SDG-based budgets. In that perspective, the JP as allow some agents and managers of the ministry of budget and finances to share their knowledge and experiences in the framework of South-South cooperation on programme budgeting. The steering committee for the operationalization of the INFF set up by the government will continue the process of scaling up and sustaining the results of the programme.

5. Communications

5.1 Communication products (max 300 words)

No specific communication strategy was developed for the JP. However, the JP benefited from the advice and technical support of the UNDP, UN-Women and UNICEF communication teams. These teams ensured the visibility of the JP, through information, awareness-raising, advocacy, and mobilization of actors. All programme events were widely publicized in the media and relayed through social networks. The content of the activities, the objectives and the expected results were brought to the attention of the beneficiaries and all the stakeholders of the programme. A call for ownership of the results and their capitalization was given each time to the actors of the sectoral ministries and other stakeholders.

Below are some of the communication products of the JP:

- 1) The launching ceremony of the JP through the meeting of the steering committee of the programme, which was attended by many sectoral ministers, representatives of the participating agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFEMMES & UNCDF), members of Civil Society, and delegates of the Federation of Enterprises of Congo representing the private sector.

- 2) Some photos and audio interventions of participants in the inclusive sectoral dialogues on DFA/INFF. These dialogues involving experts from the sectoral ministries, the provinces, the private sector, private banks, civil society, and development partners took place over nearly 6 months in 2021 under the general supervision of the Ministry of Planning.
- 3) Photos and digital media clippings from the capacity building workshops on results and performance budgeting.
- 4) Photos and videos of the government-led National Forum on the SDGs in December 2022, with the JP's leadership.
- 5) Photos and videos of the conference at the Kinshasa Campus on 6 December 2022 on the financing of the SDGs and the potential contribution of Congolese universities in the appropriation and implementation of innovative solutions likely to accelerate progress towards the SDGs

5.2 Events

Events are very popular with projects because they make it possible to effectively reach target audiences. SDG Project events often included workshops, kick-off meetings, etc. Public participation in these events was also a good way to inform, raise awareness and train the private and public sectors on the SDG project. And the highlights of these events were during the debates.

These major events were integrated into the communication strategy.

Type of event	Yes	No	Number of events	Brief description and any highlights
JP launch event (mandatory)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Launch of the JP through the meeting of the first Steering Committee of the programme with the participation of many sectoral ministers, members of civil society, the private sector and the 4 PUNOS
Annual donors' event* (mandatory)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	- Sectoral dialogues on the DFA/INFF process with sector ministries, civil society, private sector, private banks, and development partners. -National Forum on the SDGs;
Partners' event ** *(optional)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Conference at the Kinshasa Campus on the financing of the SDGs and the potential contribution of universities in accelerating the achievement of the SDGs.

*the Fund donor countries are Denmark, European Union, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland. Please note that this event can be held together with a launch event or partners' event.

** Key advocacy outreach events with high level JP partners.

6. Lessons and Best Practices

6.1. Key lessons learned, best practices, and recommendations on SDG financing (max 300 words)

Keys Lessons Learned and best practices on SDG Financing

The DFA/INFF process has shown that DRC has untapped potential and considerable niches for mobilizing diversified public and private resources for financing the SDGs. But the country suffered from major structural problems of governance, coordination of public policies, as well as monitoring, evaluation, and transparency.

In that context, the main lessons learned on SDGs financing in DRC, which resulted from the conduct of this DFA/INFF process, include:

- (1) The need for the country to develop a realistic and credible development planning framework, with its programming and budgeting tools based on results and performance.
- (2) The obligation to align the national budget with development priorities, as well as the country's SDG priorities, for better results.
- (3) The urgent need to strengthen multi-stakeholder dialogue (public, private, partners, banks, civil society, experts) on financing and policies, with a view to removing bottlenecks, and to define effective financing policy accepted by all stakeholders.

Some Recommendations on SDG financing

- (1) Implement the economic and financial structural reforms proposed in the INFF roadmap.
- (2) Develop of a holistic development financing strategy based on the DFA diagnosis
- (3) Explore new sources and opportunities for development finance (climate finance, vertical funds, MCC, & others), and develop new innovative financial tools based on new digital and other technologies to provide increased, accelerated, sustainable and equitable access to finance for countries, businesses, and households.

[6.2. Key lessons learned and best practices, and recommendations on Joint Programming \(max 300 words\)](#)

Lessons learnt and best practices:

- The joint projects have been a great opportunity for capacity building, exchange of experience, complementarity, and mutual enrichment on issues of development financing, and development planning, programming, and budgeting.
- The joint programme has been an excellent experience of good collaboration between the UN agencies and the government side. This good collaboration has been key to the success of the joint programme activities.
- The joint programme has produced major multidimensional impacts in various areas: financing for development; capacity building; MDG-based budgeting, etc.
- Strong government ownership and political leadership of the programme is a prerequisite for the programme's success.
- Need to ensure coherence between strategic planning, budgetary programming, and public policies.
- Need to continue the process of capacity building of national and provincial actors in results-based budget planning and programming as well as resource mobilization.
- Need to formulate clear, precise, measurable, and distinct gender-sensitive indicators from the outset of the project document as well as their effects within the results framework

Recommendations:

- Increase the budget of the joint programme, to enable the testing of policies and scenarios developed in the studies, and to implement the recommendations made.
- Scale up transformative financing instruments that have being tested in 2 ETDs in the selected provinces
- Accelerate the implementation of the INFF roadmap.

Annex 1: Consolidated results framework

1. JP contribution to global programmatic results (full programme duration)

- Provide data for the Joint SDG Fund global results (as per targets defined in the JP document).

Joint SDG Fund Global Outcome 2: Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement (Complete table below)

Indicators	Baseline 2019	Target (end of JP)	Result (end of JP)	Notes
2.1: US\$ & Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged disaggregated in terms of public and private sector funds	0		N/A	

Joint SDG Fund Global Output 4: Integrated financing strategies for accelerating SDG progress implemented (Complete table below and provide details as requested)

Indicators	Baseline 2019	Targets (end of JP)	Results (end of JP)	Notes
4.1: Number of integrated financing strategies/instruments that were tested	0	2	4	INFF Roadmap produced and validated DFA report produced and validated Strategy 2 Some of the proposals of the innovative financing are being tested in Kongo Central and Kasai Central. They are focused on financing women led SMEs in the transformative food system investments with the goal to increase Local Government Own Source Revenue and improve local social service delivery
4.2: Number of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in lead	0	1	3	PPP Strategy formulated et under implementation. Two Provincial Aid Strategies produced, validated, and implemented National Aid Policy adopted by the government and implemented
4.3: Number of functioning partnership frameworks for integrated financing strategies to accelerate SDG progress	0	1	4	JP SDG FUND Steering Committee INFF Steering Committee underway

				Two institutional frameworks for aid coordination and management in place (HK & NK) Inclusive Growth Thematic Group
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2. Selected global operational effectiveness indicators (full programme duration)

- Provide data for aggregation at the global level of the Joint SDG Fund.

2.1. Did your Joint Programme contribute to the improvement of the overall UNCT coherence?

- Yes, considerably contributed
 Yes, contributed
 No

Explain briefly:

2.2. Did your Joint Programme contribute to avoiding duplication of efforts for the participating UN agencies in interaction with national/regional and local authorities and/or public entities?

- Yes,
 No
 N/A (if there are no other joint programmes in the country)

Explain briefly:

3. Results as per JP Results Framework

- Present JP results in the following template

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Original Target (as per ProDoc)	Revised Target (if applicable)	Result (end of JP)	Reasons for variance from original target (if any)
<u>Outcome 1: An enabling environment in place in DRC to leverage additional financing to accelerate SDG achievement</u>					
Outcome 1 indicator 1: # INFF Roadmap produced and validated	0	1	-	1	The INFF road map produced & validated, the oversight committee in the process of being set up.
Outcome 1 indicator 2: #Multisectoral financing strategies involving public, private sector and covering PNSD priority sectors (health, education, agriculture, gender, energy) in place and implemented	0	1	6	Health, education, agriculture, gender, energy sector policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 sectoral policy document formulated Holistic development pro-SDGs financing strategy in progress

				documents formulated and implemented.	
Output 1: By 2021, A policy, legal and strategy framework as well as innovative and catalytic tools in place to support expansion of SDG financing					
Output 1.1 indicator 1: # Financing tools and mechanisms (Dialogue, Partnership) in place. Multisectoral Dialogue for development financing conducted / done	0	10	-	10	Multisectoral dialogue for development financing conducted
Output 1.1 indicator 2.: # Evidence generated (DFA and feasibility studies produces and validated) to support decision making and inform the elaboration of the INFF roadmap	0	1	-	1	DFA report produced and validated
Output 1.1 indicator 3: # Multisectoral financing strategies finalized and adopted	0	1	-	In progress	
Output 1.2 indicator 4: # Provincial aid strategy in two pilot provinces produced, validated, and implemented	0	2	-	2	Aid provincial strategy produced and validated for HK & NK
Output 1.2 indicator 5: # institutional framework for provincial aid coordination in place	0	2	-	2	Put in place
Output 1.2 indicator 6: # Aid monitoring information system and its digital platform in place	0	2	-	2	Put in place
Output 1.2 indicator 6: # Policy and strategic framework elaborated	0	4		3	Validated & implemented
Output 1.2 indicator 6: # Innovative funding mechanism tested	0	1		1	Tested and implemented
Output 1.2 indicator 9: # an action plan on public and private sector capacity building to accelerate financing of the SDGs is produces and validated	0	1		1	An action plan on capacity building for development public & private sector actors produced and validated
Output 2: By 2021, an increased fiscal space at national and provincial level is achieved through a strengthened efficiency and effectiveness of public expenditures.					
Output 1.2 indicator 7: # A gender-sensitive fiscal space (PER) analysis with simulation of options to expand disseminated	0	2	-	2	An analysis of the gender budgeting space was made through the gender budgeting tool with the support of UN Women

Output 1.2 indicator 8: # Programmatic gender sensitive tools (GSB, PBB, MTEF, PIA) developed and implemented at national and provincial levels	0	4	-	4	Gender-sensitive programme tools (GSB, PBB, MTEF, PIA) with support from UN Women
Output 1.2 indicator 10: # Building capacity on gender responsive planning and budgeting for public sector experts (sector ministries). Number of men & women trained.	00/00	50/50?	-	50/50	50 experts from the public and private sectors (sectoral ministries) were strengthened, including 15 women and 35 men

Annex 2: List of strategic documents

- Complete the tables by focusing on documents that are of strategic importance for the JP results and for the priorities of the Joint SDG Fund in this portfolio and **attach a copy of all strategic documents to your submission.**

1. Strategic documents that were produced by the JP

Title of the document	Date (month; year) when finalized	Document type (policy/strategy, assessment, guidance, training material, methodology etc.)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
1. Evaluation du Financement du Développement (DFA/INFF) en République démocratique du Congo : une opportunité pour identifier et débloquer le potentiel de financement du développement durable en RDC (Rapport intérimaire, mai 2022).	03/2022	ASSESSMENT REPORT & POLICY	This Report assesses in depth the 4 blocks of the INFF. It makes an in-depth diagnosis of financing flows, assesses policies, analyses governance and coordination mechanisms, as well as monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. It concludes with an INFF roadmap that includes a series of recommendations in the form of reforms to be undertaken by the country to strengthen its development financing capacity.
2. Stratégie Provinciale de l'Aide de la Province du Haut-Katanga (Juin 2022)	06/2022	STRATEGY	The Provincial Aid Strategies produced under the JP present the visions of the above-mentioned provincial governments for better aid management, as well as the subsequent policies for turning this vision into reality.
3. Stratégie de l'Aide de la Province du Nord-Kivu (Juin 2022)	06/2022	STRATEGY	

			They set out the modalities and rules for the mobilization, management, coordination and monitoring and evaluation of aid at the level of these provinces
4. Analyse de l'espace fiscal et revue des dépenses publiques en RDC (2016-2020) : Mission d'analyse de l'espace fiscal, élaboration et mise en œuvre des outils de planification et programmation budgétaire au niveau national et dans les provinces de Lualaba et du Kasai en RDC (Oct 2021) ;	10/2021	REPORT & POLICY	Report prepared and validated. Recommendations to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of public expenditure available to the government.
5. Espace Budgétaire et revue des dépenses publiques en République démocratique du Congo : Rapport mapping et analyse des outils de planification (Avril 2022)	10/2021	REPORT & POLICY	
6. Développement du potentiel de financement additionnel public, privé et communautaire pour l'accélération des objectifs du développement durable (Nov 2021)	11/2021	REPORT & POLICY	
7. Cadre politique et plaidoyer pour la promotion des investissements communautaires et orientés vers l'entrepreneuriat féminin assorti d'une stratégie de communication (2022)	06/2022	POLICY	
8. Plan de renforcement des capacités du personnel des secteurs public et privé à mobiliser les ressources Pro-ODD, à développer et à maintenir des PP fructueux (2022).	03/2022	REPORT & TRAINING MATERIAL	
9. Module de formation sur les outils pro-ODD de contrôle de l'exécutif destiné aux parlementaires (2022)	04/2022	TRAINING MATERIAL	
10. Manuel de formation sur la planification et la budgétisation sensible au genre (2022)	06/2022	REPORT & TRAINING MATERIAL	
11. Plan d'action actualisé sur le renforcement des capacités des secteurs public et privé pour accélérer le financement des ODD : 3ème trimestre, Localisation des ODD au niveau infranational dans le cadre du Programme De développement Local des 145 territoires (2022)	05/2022	REPORT	
12. Atelier de sensibilisation sur les ODD pour l'égalité des sexes et l'autonomisation des femmes.	09/2022	REPORT & TRAINING MATERIAL	
13. Atelier des réflexions sur le Genre dans le Programme de Développement Local des 145 Territoires (PDL- T)	24/11/2022	REPORT & TRAINING MATERIAL	
14. Atelier sur les Outils Programmatiques de Développement et de Budgétisation Sensible au genre au niveau Stratégique et Opérationnel	19/12/2022	REPORT & TRAINING MATERIAL	

15. Atelier d'échanges d'expérience pour intégrer les aspects genre dans le cadre stratégique de la Primature et du nouveau Programme d'Actions Prioritaires de la Primature	07/12/2022	GUIDANCE & TRAINING MATERIAL	
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2. Strategic documents to which the JP directly contributed to

Title of the document	Date (month; year) when finalized	Document type (policy/strategy, assessment, guidance, training material, methodology etc.)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
1. La politique Nationale de l'Aide de la République démocratique du Congo : un levier de croissance inclusive et d'accélération du développement durable (05/2022)	05/2022	POLICY	This document gives the DRC's vision on the issue of development aid and sets out the modalities and rules for the mobilization, management, coordination, and monitoring-evaluation of aid at national level.
2. La Rapport National 2021 de la mise en œuvre des Objectif de développement durable en RDC (2021)	09/2021	REPORT	This report provides an update on the DRC's progress in implementing the SDGs over the period 2016-2020.
3. Cadre d'accélération des objectifs de développement durable : scénarios, hypothèses et politiques, à l'aide du modèle intégré des objectifs de développement durable (iSDG) (2021)	12/2021	STUDY & POLICY	This study attempted to identify cross-sectoral policies and programmes in the DRC that are coherent, synergistic and aligned with the SDGs and Agenda 2063, in order to support the Congolese government in setting up an integrated framework for accelerating the SDGs.
4. Rapport national sur l'emploi et l'employabilité des jeunes. (2022)	12.2022	REPORT	This report took stock of the youth employment situation in the DRC, identifying constraints and proposing policies and strategies to address the challenges of youth employment in the DRC.

Annex 3. Communications materials

1. Human interest story

- **Attach at least 1 human interest story** that summarizes the background, results achieved, impact made, and beneficiaries reached by the joint programme in line with the objective of the portfolio to support increased SDG financing flows and policy reforms.

See the various minutes of the Councils of Ministers and some videos of the government spokesman indicating a strong increase in public revenue, linked among other things to the impulse of the JP.

2. Communication products

- Fill out the table below and **attach/provide links to articles, news/media items, videos, blogs or other major communication materials developed by the joint programme.**

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
The launching ceremony of the JP through the meeting of the steering committee of the programme, which was attended by many sectoral ministers, representatives of the participating agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFEMMES & UNCDF), members of Civil Society, and delegates of the Federation of Enterprises of Congo representing the private sector.	31/12/2020	Many sectoral ministers, representatives of the PUNOs (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFEMMES & UNCDF), members of Civil Society, and delegates of the private sector and the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of planning as well as the RC have attended this meeting. The JP has been presented to all the stakeholders and to the beneficiaries.
Some photos and audio interventions of participants in the inclusive sectoral dialogues on DFA/INFF. These dialogues involving experts from the sectorial ministries, the provinces, the private sector, private banks, civil society, and development partners took place over nearly 6 months in 2021 under the general supervision of the Ministry of Planning.	6 months period: between Feb 2020 to March 2022	See photo & the video link
Photos and digital media clippings from the capacity building workshops on results and performance budgeting.	Sept 2021 & March 2022	See photo & the video link
Photos and videos of the government-led National Forum on the SDGs in December 2022, with the JP's leadership.	12/2022	See photo & the video link

Annex 4: Stakeholder feedback

If applicable, include a list of all stakeholders interviewed during the final report preparation and summarize their feedback.

No	Name of entity	Name of Representative	Title	Contact information	Role in the programme	Summary of feedback
1	UNDP	Taib DIALLO	Economic Advisor		UNDP Focal Point	The validated INFF roadmap includes a wide range of reforms that will undoubtedly strengthen the DRC's capacity to mobilize diversified resources (internal and external) to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in DRC.
2	UNDP	Jean AMISI	National Economist	+243976666459	UNDP Focal Point 2	The DFA study enabled the country to identify all the bottlenecks to mobilizing finance in the DRC and to prepare appropriate responses in terms of reforms and policies.
3	UNCDF	Katiella Mai Moussa	Regional Technical Advisor	+243999370637	UNCDF Focal Point	The JP has enabled the DRC to strengthen the framework for mobilizing innovative resources (community and others).
4	UNICEF	Robert CISSOKO	OIC Chief Social Policy	+243826932482	UNICEF Focal Point	The PER and the analysis of the fiscal space will have a major impact on the financing of the social sectors in the DRC.
5	UNWOMEN	Cathérine ODIMBA		+243976011452	UNWOMEN Focal Point	The JP enabled women to strengthen their capacities in development planning, programming, and budgeting. It also enabled women to develop new activities as entrepreneurs.
6	Ministry of Planning	Noamie MVUMBI	Advisor	+243840112228	Expert SDG FUND Technical Steering Committee	The results on the development of aid strategies will have a major impact on the development of the provinces and their achievement of the SDGs.
7	Ministry of Planning	Daniel EPEMBE	General Secretary	+243990624494	Chair of the SDG FUND Technical Committee	All JP results have been achieved