



DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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UNCT/MCO: Dominican Republic

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2022

JP title: Integrated UN support to the DR to mitigate the impact of the global crisis on food, energy and finance

Thematic SDG Areas: Food systems transformation; Climate action & energy transformation; SDG localization;

PUNOS: FAO, UNICEF, WFP

Stakeholder partner: National Government; Sub-national Governments;

Gender Marker: Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm)

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Annual Progress

Overall JP self-assessment of 2022 progress:

Satisfactory (majority of annual expected results achieved; 1 to 3 months delay in implementation)

Overall Progress

The UN has been able to support the country ensuring cross-sectoral work in the areas of food security and malnutrition and prioritizing short-term development measures that were needed to mitigate the impacts of the food, energy, and fuel crises. Through strategic and integrated interventions of three UN (FAO, UNICEF, and WFP) under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, important progress and support were made to the country in terms of the above-mentioned areas.

Outcome 1: Food security and national nutrition systems supported through the reinforcement of information management, improving surveillance, and allowing preventative policy adjustments to existing mechanisms and programmes.

In terms of food security, the actions were focused on the policy side, supporting the food security and nutrition governance mechanisms system as well as advising on the alternative use of fertilizers. The proposal of the new SSAN Plan 2023-2026 is being organized based on the purpose, strategic objectives and expected results directly related to the six (6) dimensions of food security and considering the reality and the particular problems faced in this area by the Dominican Republic.

Technical and financial support of the UN entities was provided to the Government in the review of the implementation of the SSAN Plan, including the catalytic factors that allowed accelerating the achievement of the objectives outlined, as well as the challenges and main areas of improvement needed for its implementation.

WFP worked with FAO, in supporting the Government in the design of the new SSAN Plan 2023-2027, ensuring not only that this new planning document would link the findings of the national assessment, but also guaranteeing a comprehensive view of food sovereignty and security, under an inclusive and equitable food systems approach.

Using an innovative approach, the programme interventions helped on the development and determination of the potential uses of a Dominican biol origin of sargassum as an alternative to the use of imported chemical fertilizers for Family Farming.

To strengthen food security monitoring capacities in the country, the UN entities mobilized funds complementary to this Programme to carry out two activities defined as priorities in the consultations with government partners. First, WFP conducted a national assessment on food security and nutrition security (EFSA), with provincial representativeness and segregation of groups in greater vulnerability, including migrant population. Secondly, WFP supported the government in conducting training workshops for the measurement of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, together with PROGRESAN SICA.

Outcome 2: National institutions strengthened while developing shock-responsive measures to mitigate the impact of the crisis on the most vulnerable population

For the severe and moderate malnutrition response, the interventions were directed towards strengthening the capacity of the health personnel and promoters to be able to screen the nutritional status of children and pregnant and lactating women, to ensure the quality in the disaggregated data. In fact, 324 people were trained. This made it possible to screen 22,772 children and treat 21% of them for acute malnutrition. Also 5,455 pregnant and lactating women were screened and 29% were treated for acute malnutrition. Both, the National Surveillance System (NSS) and the APP NutreMUAC were strengthened.

A participatory process through the Adaptative Social Protection Working Group (GPSA) was facilitated, drafting, and validating the operational guidelines for the design, implementation, and monitoring of the emergency voucher. In addition, during the last quarter of 2022, WFP has worked with the Government (Supérate and ADESS) to prepare the institutional agreements that will enable the transfer of resources from the WFP to the Government to respond to emergencies.

SDG Acceleration progress towards the SDGs, focusing on the main SDG targets

- The target was achieved with a total of 22,772 children evaluated with 21% of these children being diagnosed and treated for acute malnutrition or risk of acute malnutrition.
- The target for women was achieved with a total of 5,455 pregnant or lactating women being evaluated for 29% of them being diagnosed and treated for acute malnutrition.
- Training and retraining of health personnel was done for a total of 324 health personnel including doctors, nurses, and promoters.
- Nutritional and lactation counseling was achieved for a total of 28,227 families.
- The support of analysis of data collection has been strengthened for the decision making and action in the field, therefore the protocol for the acute malnutrition program will change according to the WHO MUAC/AGE curve.
- The elaboration of the SSAN action plan will contribute in promoting governance mechanisms towards building resilience and reducing vulnerability towards food security and nutrition.
- FAO has developed an innovative approach in the project "Development and determination of the potential uses of a Dominican biol origin of sargassum as an alternative to the use of imported chemical fertilizers for Family Farming".
- The evaluation of the SSAN Plan 2019-2023 has contributed to a systematization of the relevance, appropriation, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability in the design and implementation of the Plan, as well as the identification of findings and recommendations that allow guiding a new SSAN Plan (2023-2027) better structured and more in line with the post-covid and food crisis challenges, and under a perspective of inclusive food systems.
- The design of the operational manual for the social protection "Emergency Voucher" allows the institutionalization of protocols and tools for the country's social protection institutions to respond in a timely and efficient manner to emergencies, complementary to civil protection.
- The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) allows the country to have an analysis of the national food insecurity situation considering different key associated factors and the current global context, which guides and prioritizes public policy interventions in this area.

Constraints that were encountered and any adjustments that were made to strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of the JP and the coherence and coordination of UN system support.

In this project we had the opportunity to respond to a reality of vulnerability and learn new ways to influence the community. The barriers go beyond the geographical ones, like the language, the lack of nutritional education and orientation in self-care and the care of others.

An important factor to highlight was the delay in receiving funds. As recently as November, some UN Entities were receiving the funds, which meant delays in the implementation of the activities planned in this program.

Next steps, scaling and sustainability [up to half a page]

Continue the support to the government institutions through analysis and monitoring of the food security and nutrition situation, the design and definition of adapted policies to ensure capacity to cope with the crisis and supporting communication and messaging to the population.

Strategic Partnerships and Communications

Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP

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Key meetings and events organized

JP steering committee/ programme board meeting	Strategic partners/ donors	Kick-off meeting event
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Priority Cross-cutting Issues

Cross-cutting results/issues

The JP has focused on existing inequalities already exacerbated by the pandemic to impact global value chain disruptions on domestic markets and food consumption, focusing on small-scale farmers and other vulnerable groups. The Evaluation of the 2019-2022 National SSAN Plan, as well as the formulation of the 2023-2027 National SSAN Plan will allow institutions and stakeholders to take action to support local distribution systems, food producer organizations and civil society organizations. Action addresses the components of the plan are linked to actions closely interconnected in terms of common results and objectives, so that they do not necessarily have an equal correspondence relationship with the dimensions of food security, since the lines of action corresponding to their transversal dimensions are distributed in all the components of the plan.

How did the JP apply the Gender Marker

The JP is Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm). Capacity development (e.g. training of social workers, local governments, local communities); Evidence, data collection and analysis (e.g. gender assessments of programmes; policy briefs, costing for scale-up of social services);

JP address the below cross-cutting issues and principles of leaving no one behind

Human Rights	Persons with disabilities	Youth	Environmental and social standards
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Contribution to enhancing SDG Financing

Drafted a bill, strategy, and/or approved a law	Produced financing, costing, diagnostic and feasibility analyses as a	Improved efficiency (cost savings) in the	Improved effectiveness (value for	Drafted policies/regulatory frameworks or	Structured new financial instruments
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increasing the fiscal space for the policy in focus	basis to invest or increase spending on the SDGs	management of programmes/schemes	money; i.e. social impact of \$1 spent) of spending	developed tools to incentivize private sector investment on the SDGs	(public, private or blended) to leverage additional funding
No	Yes	No	No	No	No

How and in which area your JP contributed to enhancing SDG financing

WFP conducted a national assessment on food security and nutrition security (EFSA), with provincial representativeness and segregation of groups in greater vulnerability, including migrant population, to strengthen food security monitoring capacities in the country