



## DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

### Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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## Cover Page

**UNCT/MCO:** El Salvador

**Reporting Period:** 1 January - 31 December 2022

**JP title:** Strengthening the capacity to collect information that complements the analysis of the Economic impacts and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 2022-2023 and its operational analysis structure for monitoring and generating Food and Nutrition Security scenarios

**Thematic SDG Areas:** Food systems transformation; Decent jobs & universal social protection; Digital transformation;

**PUNOS:** FAO, WFP, UNDP

**Stakeholder partner:** National Government; Sub-national Governments; Civil Society Organizations; Humanitarian actors;

**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

#### Output 1.1

The Government strengthens the IPC 2022-2023 analysis of severe food insecurity by improving the availability and quality of complementary data to enable strategic, evidence-based decision making.

From November 28 to December 30, 2022, a first nationwide data collection was carried out through the National Survey on Food Security and Livelihoods (ENSAMv) with the Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) methodology, the process was developed by OXFAM Intermón through a letter agreement with FAO for the Data in Emergencies Center (DIEM), the data analysis and final report is still pending.

In addition, the project has generated information on food insecurity in the country that can be used by the government and development or cooperation actors to strengthen the design of programs and policies to alleviate and respond to the needs caused by the global price crisis and the accumulated effects of previous crises.

#### Output 1.2

Developed a multisectoral technical-policy mechanism for dialogue for the collection of complementary and quality data, which

allows for the analysis of the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity.

Although it was not possible to develop a multi-sectoral technical-policy mechanism for dialogue, nor to update the IPC 2022-2023 analysis of acute food insecurity, the evidence collected contributes to expand the availability of information and improve the quality of data, complementing the information provided by Government on the food security situation in the country.

#### Output 2.1

The country and national government dispose of instruments and information, to take economic and social policy measures with gender perspective, to face the growing poverty and food insecurity due to inflationary pressures.

At the end of 2022, the three products are 75% complete and we are in the stage of reviewing hypotheses and preliminary results; and adjusting the econometric models developed for the calculation of fiscal scenarios and micro simulations. For all products, the methodologies used were developed and validated.

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

The outputs emphasize the impacts and gaps in SDG 1 poverty reduction, but also sensitively consider SDG 2 for decision making on Food and Nutrition Security, SDGs related to promoting economic growth 8 and SDG 17 partnership to achieve the goals. The macro fiscal scenarios are also focused on the gap and opportunity to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs.

1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.

o The evidence generated will be available to state and cooperating institutions to support advocacy initiatives or the design of public policies and social protection programs that contribute to food and nutritional security.

2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

o With the generation of evidence, it will be possible to identify regions or zones with higher levels of food insecurity and thus be able to prioritize households in critical situations and include them in humanitarian assistance projects. At the same time, these populations can be included in other social protection and human development initiatives.

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

o The knowledge generated can serve as a basis for understanding how local contexts influence the relationship between people's livelihoods, economic conditions and, therefore, nutrition. With this type of evidence, the quality and quantity of people's diets can be identified, and gaps can be determined. In this way, it can contribute to the design of programs focused on vulnerable populations and contribute to the eradication of all forms of malnutrition.

2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

o Smallholders were a main group of interest during project implementation due to the different social, economic and climatic conditions that affect them. Identifying which factors contribute most to the deterioration of their conditions is timely to develop resilience programs that benefit their agricultural production and economic development.

-8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.

o Analytical document on macro-fiscal scenarios and financing alternatives for the protection of vulnerable populations.

-8.A Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries.

o Analytical document on inflation transmission mechanisms at the local level, which develops a study of the outlook for commodity prices and their impact on the national economy.

About SDG:

17.4

o Analytical document of micro-simulations to measure the impact on monetary poverty at the household level due to price variations of the Basic Food Basket (CBA).

17.18

o Data collection for the Emergency Data Information System (DIEM) and in agreement with OXFAM Intermón, carried out the National Survey on Food Security and Livelihoods (ENSAMv) and generated evidence on the situation of food insecure families, which will strengthen decision making and advocacy with state and cooperating institutions.

## **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.**

During the execution of the project, coordination was achieved with the different governmental institutions as well as with the United Nations agencies. It was essential to have informative meetings with the different agencies, since they provided feedback on the progress of each one and this allowed to know the scope and limitations of each one, the experiences were taken in order to identify strategies to overcome the difficulties of each one in its context of execution.

Coordination with government partners at operational levels was positive; with logistical support and knowledge of the different territories, it was possible to complete the data collection part of the different studies.

In terms of limitations, the following stand out:

The instability and changes in the functions of some governmental entities, key for the adequate and timely execution of the planned activities, was the major inconvenience faced during the period of the joint program:

- The dissolution of the General Directorate of Statistics and Census (DIGESTYC), approved by the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador on August 9, 2022, with which it was planned to conduct two information surveys at the national level, this meant a delay of 2 and a half months in the start of this activity.

- The change of Minister of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) on December 14, 2022, interrupted efforts to obtain relevant inputs from that institution for the data collection; fortunately, it was possible to obtain them by other means.

- In December, support was expected from the National Council for Food and Nutritional Security (CONASAN), in charge of promoting actions in this area by the Government of El Salvador to convene the working groups for the IPC analysis, but there was no response from the institution to convene them, which made it impossible to carry out the activities planned in product 1.2 of the joint program's work plan. This has not favored spaces for discussions that promote the analysis of the current food security situation and thus promote the inter-institutional exercise that enriches this type of studies, and this has limited this type of activities from the validation of results to decision making.

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

Due to the COVID pandemic, the WFP had not conducted direct household surveys. Since 2020, the information used to know the food insecurity situation in the country was obtained through telephone calls and this generated limitations in the scope of the information, since the collection instruments (questionnaires) had to be simplified to adjust to remote collection. With the development of JP, it was possible to conduct a household survey that obtained information from 3,291 households nationwide (which was possible thanks to the coordination and support of institutions such as Ministry of Health and the Government, who were involved in the definition of territories and the deployment of data collection teams in the field).

On the other hand, the field experience during the ENSAN (National Survey of Food and Nutrition Security) was useful to deeply understand the situation and gives the opportunity to approach the families, their daily life in relation to food and livelihoods. The Understanding at quantitative and qualitative level of the difficulties experienced in some households give us the entry points for a humanitarian- development work but with the final goal to achieve food and nutrition security of the most vulnerable households.

## **Strategic Partnerships and Communications**

### **Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP**

Consejo Nacional de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional (CONASAN), an agency of the Ministry of Health (MINSAL), a governmental partner responsible for supporting the development of activities related to Food and Nutritional Security and for validating all resulting information before it is published. Oxford Committee for Relief Against Hunger (OXFAM), humanitarian aid organization with which, through a letter of agreement signed with FAO, the first data collection was carried out through the National Survey on Food Security and Livelihoods (ENSAMv).

### **Key meetings and events organized**

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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**

All the outputs and methodologies adopted take into account gender disaggregation for the identification of vulnerabilities and populations most affected at the level of men and women, as for example in the standardized instrument for the collection of information from the Emergency Data Center (DIEM) used for the National Survey on Food Security and Livelihoods (ENSAMv), the

Household Decision Making Index (HD-MI) was included. The objective was to measure the level of women's participation in household decision making with respect to consumption, reproductive choices, and other decisions, as well as to monitor women's participation in the first three main sources of household income and whether they have decision-making power over the income they earn.

In addition, the data generated by the project will be able to support advocacy actions for the human right to adequate food. The information will be available both to Government institutions and to other relevant actors for the guarantee and strengthening of this human right.

**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). 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
No	No	No	Yes

**Contribution to enhancing SDG Financing**

Drafted a bill, strategy, and/or approved a law increasing the fiscal space for the policy in focus	Produced financing, costing, diagnostic and feasibility analyses as a basis to invest or increase spending on the SDGs	Improved efficiency (cost savings) in the management of programmes/schemes	Improved effectiveness (value for money; i.e. social impact of \$1 spent) of spending	Drafted policies/regulatory frameworks or developed tools to incentivize private sector investment on the SDGs	Structured new financial instruments (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**

The program analyzes fiscal space to achieve certain SDG targets.