



DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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UNCT/MCO: Fiji MCO

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2022

JP title: Supporting Solomon Islands and Tuvalu to analytically understand and address impacts of the global crisis of food, energy and finance on national food systems

Thematic SDG Areas: Food systems transformation; Transforming education; SDG localization; Decent jobs & universal social protection; Climate action & energy transformation; Digital transformation;

PUNOS: FAO, WFP

Stakeholder partner: National Government; Parliamentarians;

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: The JP has collected impactful data from Solomon Islands on Consumer Price Index, tracking food and non-food items price changes from January of 2019 to September of 2022. The JP has also successfully instituted the process of data collection through the global mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) system, a tool that will collect data on food security and livelihoods on a quarterly basis for years to come with both Tuvalu and Solomon Islands governments. The JPs have been able to fully engage the Tuvalu government as of November 2022 and project implementation is now making significant progress. The data shows the dire impact international shocks have on Pacific governments. Solomon Islands have seen a 10% increase in CPI between January 2019 and July 2022 and a 6% increase since January 2022 alone. Still, the increases in CPI in Solomon Islands were not as drastic as many of its peer countries in the region as the government chose to take swift action to alleviate the pressure on local populations through the tax and duty reductions and exemptions on fuel imports. This has been an important lesson learned for the region and provided a useful model for policy action for future economic shocks. Overall, the data demonstrate highly concerning trends as the represented countries are highly susceptible to international economic shocks and food security has been especially affected by the 5F crisis. The mVAM data collection methodology has been discussed with different national stakeholders and endorsed for both countries. The questionnaire has been contextualized based on needs for the data and finalized with the government officers. Moreover, trainings to strengthen government capacity on data collection and data visualization for evidence-based policy making have been conducted. Government staff in Solomon Islands and Tuvalu (approximately 15 people per country) have been trained on the use of Kobo Toolbox to support the transition from manual data collection to digital data

collection. Moreover, Solomon Islands government officers have been trained on data visualization, to present the data from the assessment and survey results and need base plans in an interactive manner as well as to produce well-presented and informative products, including bulletins, guidance documents, etc. to communicate effectively results of national assessments. This JP is working together with respective governments to track the changes in prices that directly affect peoples' food security and livelihoods. In October, the JP supported key UN Food Systems Summit National Convenors to present the findings of the data collected at the Asia Pacific Symposium on Agrifood Systems Transformation.

Output 2: The JP has successfully developed the CPI tracking framework and the early warning system training. The JP also developed a regional bulletin on the impact of the 5F crisis that has been shared with governments across the region.

Output 3: The PUNOs are taking two approaches to achieve this output: short-term projects to alleviate the pressures on food systems national governments are currently experiencing and the development of long-term concepts to be further funded by IFIs and development partners. Several initiatives to tackle the impact of the 5F crisis have been identified including direct support through piloting a solar-powered canoe project and studying the advantages and disadvantages compared to fuel powered engines in Tuvalu. This is part of a larger strategy by the Government of Tuvalu to begin to shift more toward renewable energy sources.

The longer-term approaches are in development for Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. The JP has successfully analyzed the pathways of both represented countries. Consultations with Tuvalu are underway to develop and validate their food systems pathways.

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

- SDG 1.5 - By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

- o The Pacific is already particularly prone to environmental shocks and disasters. The added economic shocks associated with the rise in prices of fuel, food, feed, fertilizer, and changes in finance have threatened to stagnant or even revert the Pacific's ability to reach its Sustainable Development Goals.

- o The data collection has helped create a monitoring tool to help PIC governments track changes in prices and anticipate shocks.

- SDG 2.4 - By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality

- o This JP continues to support all three countries in readdressing their Food Systems Pathways.

- o This JP has enabled a desk review of both food systems pathways through a social protection lens. This work will complement other work that is ongoing by the PUNOs.

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.

- Communicating with government representatives has been challenging as well as many governments are over-extended and unresponsive to unknown names.
- The above challenges created an opportunity to bring government officials to PUNO agencies as was done with the Asia Pacific Symposium on Agrifood Systems Transformations which took place in October and the Pacific SIDS Solutions Forum which took place in November.
- The connections made during these events have created significant momentum in achieving the JP objectives.
- As connection was only made with many governments in November, the no-cost extension of an additional 3 months has now enabled this JP to produce quality work before the conclusion of the project.

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

Scaling up and delivering sustainable outcomes is built into this project itself. The JP is working with government partners directly to identify next steps to achieve their SDGs and has already initiated the process of developing concept notes for further actions. The Joint Programme is developing two concepts; one is aimed to further Tuvalu's national agriculture development through food systems strategy and the other will improve its information and data management capacities. The JP PUNOs are continuing conversations with Solomon Islands to identify their priority areas for further next steps. Thus far, the EU has been identified as a potential partner for SDG funding.

Strategic Partnerships and Communications

Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP

The JPs facilitated meetings with all parties above either through the National/UN Joint Steering Committee and bilaterally.

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

- Gender equality and women's empowerment:

- o This JP is successfully incorporating social protection measures in the food systems pathways of various countries across the Pacific and these will pay particular attention to vulnerable populations.
- o This JP is mainstreaming gender equality into all aspects of the project including, but not limited to, ensuring any trainings maintain gender parity, consultations must accurately represent the population the policy changes will impact, therefore as many women as men are included.

- Principles of leaving no one behind

- o The economic early warning system that has been developed through this project will support those impacted by economic shocks such as inflation. Populations like people living with disabilities, single-headed households, and the elderly are the most affected by such events. Through this project, governments will be more capable of anticipating economic shocks, communicating those to the public, and take action to support those most impacted by such shocks.
- o One of the core elements of this JP is to build social protection into national governments' food systems pathways.
- o Anticipatory action concept is under development for consideration of regional donors. This will include significant elements of social protection as well.
- o Data collected through the remote monitoring system (mVAM) allows gender and age disaggregation, as well as people with disabilities and households with children under 5 years old. The analysis of the data collected allows to identify which social groups are more vulnerable in terms of food security and access to essential needs for improved targeting and support.

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); Policy dialogues, advocacy (e.g. direct inputs to national policies, strategies, laws, including women's and girls' rights groups in coordination mechanisms); Adaptation of existing programmes (e.g. revision of eligibility criteria, removal of conditionalities); Capacity development (e.g. training of social workers, local governments, local communities);

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	Yes	No	Yes

Contribution to enhancing SDG Financing

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

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