



DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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UNCT/MCO: Ghana

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2022

JP title: Scaling Up of Food Security and Financial Systems Resilience

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

PUNOS: WFP, FAO

Stakeholder partner: National Government; Sub-national Governments; Civil Society Organizations; Humanitarian actors; Private sector; Bilateral aid organizations;

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:

On-track (expected annual results-achieved)

Overall Progress

Overall self-assessment of results recorded so far reflect the Programme's progress as being on track. Over the period, the joint project strengthened government's food security and nutrition surveillance, enhanced stakeholders' (especially farmers) awareness to explore organic fertilizer production of through collaboration with government and private actors and facilitated government review of strategic portfolio for innovative financing for the SDGs, all derived from the combined contribution of the following interrelated output results:

(i) Institutional capacities of 120 district offices and 600 officers were enhanced culminating in the scale up of food security and nutrition monitoring system (FSNMS) and redress of information gaps to support evidence-based policy formulation and planning for food security, nutrition, and social protection programmes. This result was attained through the JP support for government to upscale the FSNMS from 60 to 120 districts in Ghana covering over 6,000 households, while market monitoring efforts were reinforced and upscaled in parallel to reach 120 rural and urban markets. For the nutrition component of the FSNMS, over 46,000 households and 47,000 children under the age of five were covered by the joint project through WFP and UNICEF collaboration, and in close collaboration and coordination with the Ghana Health Service (GHS). Also, the JP through WFP supported government to train 410 Management Information Services (MIS) officers, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and field enumerators of MoFA and GHS, while augmenting their reinforced capacities with digital tools, tablets, and databases, to optimize efficiency during data collection, analysis, and reporting.

The results from the FSNMS fed into the November 2022 edition of the Cadre Harmonize, a critical analysis that was previously restricted to the 60 districts covered in the FSNMS, but consequently expanded to cover the 120 districts covered through the FSNMS. Both the FSNMS and Cadre Harmonise gave fresh insights into the food security and nutrition situation, including food price evolution and showed a significant deterioration in the food security and nutrition situation.

(ii) Stakeholders' awareness and participation as well as private sector partnerships in alternative sources of fertilizer production enhanced in support of agro-ecological means of agriculture production towards strengthening food systems resilience. The Joint Project supported the government of Ghana through collaboration between the FAO and MOFA to develop technical production manuals and extension materials for production of organic fertilizers and other soil fertility enhancement tools for sustained productivity. As a complementary capacity enhancement to maximize impact and sustainability, the joint project established an institutional arrangement through a national technical team to sustain efforts aimed at the promotion of organic fertilizers in Ghana. This is supporting government's efforts and policy direction to encourage local production and use of fertilizers. The initiative has laid a good foundation to forge partnerships with other development partners such as IFAD in leveraging e-extension to promote food security responses to disruptions brought about by COVID19, conflicts and climate change in Ghana.

(iii) As part of measures to mitigate the impact of the financing challenges, the JP supported the SDG delivery unit to review government's strategic portfolio for innovative financing for the SDGs. This has culminated in significant measures to enhance alternative financing for SDGs investments including climate and green finance, government's resource mobilization and partnership strategy, for the SDGs

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

The food security and nutrition monitoring system (FSNMS) data generated contributed to SDG 2 (2.3, 2.4 and 2a), gives fresh insights on the food security situation, which is pivotal to policy formulation and planning for food security, nutrition, and social protection programmes in Ghana. The initiative as well contributed to SDG 17 given the collaboration between the UN agencies (RCO, FAO, WFP, and UNICEF) and the government through its agencies (Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana Health Services, and Ministry of Finance). The core SDG transformation areas the JP contributed to are;

- Food systems transformation
- Digital transformation
- Climate action and energy transformation
- SDG Localization

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.

The Constraints, adjustments and lessons encountered by the Joint Project (JP) are summarized below:

(i) The JP initially experienced a delay in the receipt of funds. This was particularly the case of FAO where there were delays in the receipt of funds from the FAO HQ into the Country office.

(ii) The JP workplan timeline was adjusted from six to nine months to ensure full implementation and sustainability of gains made especially under the data analysis of food security and nutrition monitoring systems and the local fertilizer production

(iii) The establishment of the national technical team or working group on the local production of organic fertilizer and the unearthing complexity and diversity of issues around organic food production presents a strong case for holistic value chain and data analysis to reinforce the successful implementation of government's policy agroecological means of food production

(iv) The joint DEM project interventions are critical to the food systems transformation pathways of Ghana - building data for evidence-based policy and investing in organic fertilizer production which has the potential of addressing nutrition and health concerns of Ghana's food systems, in addition to boosting productive capacity, local markets and trade.

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

Part of the new ways of working under the United Nations SDCF 2023-2025 is a gradual transitioning from direct implementation to more of an enabling role, where agencies in the UN system concertedly work towards strengthening the institutional capacity of the Government of Ghana to deliver on its mandate. Against this backdrop, the UN in Ghana will beyond the joint project, and through the efforts of WFP, continue supporting the government with advocacy and dissemination of the FSNMS results at national and sub-national levels, and seek opportunities to expand the scope of the exercise to consistently attain national coverage for effective countrywide oversight of the food security and nutrition situation in Ghana.

The UN, through contributions of FAO, has made some resource allocation to build on the gains of the Joint Programme through a Technical Cooperation Programme to be implemented with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. FAO is also collaborating with the

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to leverage extension to respond to food security issues including promoting access to organic fertilizers through extension services. The UN looks forward to support government institutionalize the work of the National Technical Team on Organic Fertilizer production to sustain the promotion of organic fertilizers in Ghana.

Outstanding work on innovative financing for food systems including close collaboration with other development partners and the IFIs will be pursued.

Strategic Partnerships and Communications

Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP

In line with WFP's facilitation and enabling role, WFP worked in close collaboration with government partners, by providing capacity streThe following partners were engaged: (1) Statistics, Research and Information Department of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (\MoFA SRID). With WFP support, MoFA SRID provided leadership and coordination; they provided criteria and led the targeting of the districts for the programme. They provided the training to the enumerators and supervised the data collection, analysis, and reporting. Their capacity has been strengthened to coordinate future expansions of surveillance. Their unique role in Food and Agriculture also helped situate the reports in the Agric Sector working group and promoted wide sharing of the reports to all the stakeholders in the sector. Under this JP, tablets provided ensured the use of digitized tools for accurate and timely data collection and reporting. (2) Ghana Health Service: There was a strong collaboration between the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), supported by the Ghana Health Service (GHS) to implement the nutrition component of the FSNMS. Specifically for the nutrition component of the FSNMS which was jointly funded by WFP and UNICEF to maximize impact, over 46,000 households and 47,000 children under the age of five were covered through these joint-up efforts, in close collaboration and coordination with GHS. (3) Social Protection Sector Working Group: The Cardre Harmonise results were shared with the Sector working group. It provided strategic direction on how social protection may be informed by trends in food security and nutrition. (4) Organic Fertilizer Producing Companies (Green Gro Ltd), Farm Radio International and TV organisations participating. Some of these actors will be engaged to implement some of the project activities.

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 joint project ensured the participation of the women in agriculture development (WIAD) Unit in project activities. The development of organic fertilizer extension material ensures materials are developed and messages project both genders, especially ensuring women are projected. The project also targeted young people who are mostly technologically inclined and social media enthusiasts with an online organic fertilizer promotion programme. Participation of youth organizations such as the Strategic Youth Network for Development (SYND) was encouraged. The gender, geographic, demographic, and socio-economic disaggregation of the FSNMS contributed towards the evidence base on the peculiar challenges affecting women and other vulnerable groups as it relates to food insecurity and malnutrition. The evidence, through sustained and enhanced advocacy, would enable the targeting and prioritization of the groups and geographic locations identified as being vulnerable, for food security, nutrition, and social protection interventions, thus ensuring that the principles of leaving no one behind (LNOB) are upheld.

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);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
Yes	No	Yes	No

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	Yes	No	No

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

The draft analytical report on the investment repository for the production of organic fertilizer provides financing, costing and feasibility analyses on a bases to invest or increase spending in organic fertilizer production.

This expansion of the FSNMS coverage from 60 120 districts served as an example of an additional development, funded by a different entity of government. Value for money was demonstrated in leveraging existing systems to derive results, as opposed to setting up new systems.