

# Joint SDG Fund

## Joint Programme Final Narrative Report

### PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED POLICY AND LNOB

## Cover page

**Date of Report: 18 / November / 2022**

#### *Programme title, Number and Country*

**Country: Lebanon**  
**Joint Programme (JP) title: Transforming national dialogue for the development of an inclusive national SP system for Lebanon**  
**MPTF Office Project Reference Number<sup>1</sup>: 119081.**

#### *Programme Duration*

**Start date<sup>2</sup> (day/month/year): 1 January 2020**  
**Original End date<sup>3</sup> (day/month/year): 31 January 2022**  
**Actual End date<sup>4</sup> (day/month/year): 30 September 2022**

**Have agencies operationally closed the Programme in its system?: Yes**  
**Expected financial closure date<sup>5</sup>: 31 may 2023**

<sup>1</sup> 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](#).

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

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

<sup>4</sup> 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](#).

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

### Participating Organizations / Partners

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### Programme Budget (US\$)

**Total Budget (as per Programme Document, without co-funding):** US\$ 2,000,000.00  
**Agency/Other Contributions/Co-funding (if applicable):** US\$ 700,000.00

**Joint SDG Fund Contribution<sup>6</sup> and co-funding breakdown, by recipient organization:**

Agency/others	Joint SDG Fund contribution	Co-funding	Total
<b>UNICEF</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>259,626</b>	<b>859,626</b>
<b>ILO</b>	<b>700,000</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>950,000</b>
<b>WFP</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>190,374</b>	<b>490,374</b>
<b>UN Women</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200,000</b>
<b>UNDP</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>700,000</b>	<b>2,700,000</b>

### [DELETE THIS SECTION BEFORE SUBMISSION]

*The Final Report should be provided after the completion of the activities in the approved document and provide information on the overall results of the Joint Programme including the final year of the activities.*

*Overall instruction to complete the template:*

- 1. Do not go over the maximum number of pages per section – the report should be maximum 11 pages, without cover page, executive summary, and annexes.*
- 2. Be succinct and to the point. Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
- 3. Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
- 4. The report should be submitted in one single file - except for the Annex 3 (survey to be completed [on-line](#)) and Annex 4 (Final JP Evaluation Report, to be submitted separately)*
- 5. When in doubt or if there is a need for additional clarification, contact the person from the Fund's Secretariat in charge of your JP.*
- 6. Delete all instructions (in orange) after completing the report.*

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



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## Executive summary

The social protection system in Lebanon is characterized by fragmented and inefficient programmes, with limited benefits and coverage leaving a large portion of population uncovered. The impact of the compounded crisis exposed even more the weaknesses and gaps in the system and as Lebanon is still grappling with the socio-economic and financial crisis, the most vulnerable are hard hit. As such, the need for a comprehensive, inclusive and integrated national social protection system became more urgent.

To this end, the SDG Joint Programme was successful in convening the UN agencies to place the social protection issue as a priority item on the Government's agenda, as the Council of Ministers approved the National Social Protection Strategy document as an overarching policy framework. The Strategy Document will be revised by the Technical Committee appointed by the Prime Minister to introduce final amendments and submit the final version for endorsement. Important to note that the evidence and integration of both gender and disability aspects are taken into consideration and well reflected across the different pillars of the National Social Protection Strategy. In terms of evidence, progress was made on gender analysis in social protection and work got underway on a financing analysis of the sector as planned.

While the National Social Protection Strategy was developed over the past two years through extensive consultations with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, the Joint Programme achieved key results on multiple fronts. Some of these achievements include strengthening the social assistance system through the expansion of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) from 10,000 households since the beginning of the SDG to 64,000 households by 2022 and building the vision for Social Grants as a foundation for a Social Protection Floor for the country and to address lifecycle vulnerabilities. This work led to a new partnership between EU/ILO/UNICEF to establish Social Grants, starting with a new National Disability Allowance.

In addition, key reforms within the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) were also advanced, including the design of a new pension scheme and consensus over a revised draft pension law in parliament, and amongst social partners; design and consensus over a transitional arrangement to maintain old-age benefits at the NSSF; and a financial assessment of the main social security institution in the country that is facing severe financial imbalance as a result the crisis.

Finally, a number of national platforms with key non-state actors were established, in particular the one with organisations representing people with disabilities successfully leveraged to create further debate and momentum toward reforming social protection and advocating for an inclusive social protection system in Lebanon that leaves no one behind. This also involved a series of dialogue with ageing organizations on the needs of older persons, including the demand for a social pension.

**Result 1:** An integrated cross-sector national SP policy is developed for Lebanon, and supports the establishment of a rights-based, state-led gender and disability responsive SP system  
Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date: 100%

**Result 2:** Evidence to assess the fiscal, social, economic impact of gender-responsive SP reforms generated and used  
Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date: 100%

**Result 3:** Capacity of the GoL in implementing well-performing, scalable and replicable social assistance interventions that equally meet the needs of both women and men is developed building on the basis of the NPTP and related disability social safety nets  
Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date: 85%

**Result 4:** Equitable and innovative modalities for enhancing the adequacy and coverage of NSSF social insurance schemes amongst the working poor are developed in a gender and disability responsive manner  
Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date: 100%

**Result 5:** A platform of dialogue for civil society and academia, which enables, participation from women and people with disabilities, to generate and build on inclusive contributions to the national discussion is established  
Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date: 100%

## I. Overall progress and priority, cross-cutting issues

### I.1 Context and the overall approach

#### *Ensuring an adaptive and strategic JP*

- Following the uprising in October 2019, and the unfolding of the economic, social and financial crisis that is still ongoing, followed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the implications of the lockdown measures, in addition to the Beirut Port explosion coming as a top factor, alongside the resignation of several governments, delays have occurred as the focus shifted towards emergency response.
- Amid these deepening challenges, poverty increased, Government resources drastically declined and major macro-aggregates showed significant deterioration including sharp economic contraction, severe currency depreciation whereby the national currency lost more than 95% of its value, mounting inflationary trend recording a triple digit inflation since mid-2020, and deepening of fiscal deficit. All of this is happening within an extended political deadlock and an idle decision-making process.
- The complexity of the political environment led to several government resignation and political paralysis, therefore interrupting the discussion of policies and reforms requiring Council of Ministers approval, delaying NPTP's scale up and approval of the National Social Protection Strategy.
- The situation deteriorated further with the decrease in purchasing power of income especially for public sector employees threatening the proper functionality of public/government institutions. The situation worsened even more with the energy crisis of fuel shortage and power cuts, leading to increased absenteeism among administrative staff of relevant line ministries and slowing down the work further.
- Shifting the work modality to online throughout 2020 and 2021 as a COVID-19 precautionary measure has caused several delays, especially for meeting with relevant ministries and key focal points across public sector administrations.
- The economic and financial crisis had bleak repercussions on the financial condition of social security institutions, mainly the National Social Security Fund, which necessitated efforts towards restoring its financial balance through needed assessments and reforms, and advancing in the introduction of key benefits to the insured population, including an unemployment and a pension scheme.
- The COVID-19 pandemic and the high uncertainty in the economic outlook have hugely delayed the discussions on the draft law for the pension scheme in the parliamentary sub-committee which were suspended for several months, before resuming again in late 2021 following close engagement with head of sub-committee and Ministry of Labor.

#### *Link with UNDAF/ UNSD Cooperation Framework*

- The link to the UN's mandate is expressed through the United Nations Sustainable Framework which contains a specific output on social protection. In particular, it links to the Government's initiative to seek support from UNICEF and ILO to develop a national social protection policy, as well on previous work with WFP and the World Bank to establish and expand the NPTP. In addition, it underlines established collaboration with the EU and World Bank programmes of support to social protection.

#### *COVID-19 impact*

As the socio-economic and financial crisis started to unfold in mid-2019, the situation compounded with the COVID-19 pandemic and the Beirut Blast explosion. As such, the response to the multiple crises, including COVID-19, was as per the following:

- The completion of a National Social Protection Strategy to provide a long-term shock responsive social protection framework for Lebanon as well as to address the socio-economic impacts of the multiple crises that the country is experiencing, including COVID-19.
- Contribution to the 3RF (Reform, Recovery, and Reconstruction) plan, which is led by the World Bank, European Union and the UN, to address the socio-economic impacts as a result of COVID-19 pandemic and the Beirut Blast. The 3RF served as a platform for agencies working on social protection to come together and draft a clear reform plan for the sector with the Government.
- Although not funded by the SDG-JP, technical assistance was provided to the Government of Lebanon to plan its response to the severe economic crisis that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 situation, particularly providing technical inputs to design a new national cash transfer programme (National Social Solidarity Program) to respond to broader vulnerabilities of Lebanese households. A

report documenting the design and implementation of the NSSP and presenting recommendations and lessons learnt for future national cash transfer programs has been finalized and translated to Arabic.

- An unrestricted cash assistance for the NPTP was introduced in May 2021 and later dollarized in September 2021 at 25 USD per HH to offset negative socio-economic impacts on NPTP beneficiaries (extremely vulnerable households) resulting from Lebanon's multifaceted crisis including COVID-19 pandemic.

## **I.2 Update on priority cross-cutting issues**

### *UN Development System reform - UN coherence at the country level*

- The Lebanon SDG programme has been successful in bringing together UN agencies to scale-up work on social assistance including reaching consensus to establish social grants, place the social protection issue as a priority item on the Government's agenda, and to further strengthen evidence and integration of key lens such as gender and inclusion.
- With the RC in the lead, the UN agencies convened in the development, validation, completion and presentation of the National Social Protection Strategy to the Government of Lebanon.
- Before submission for approval, the SP Strategy was discussed with government and non-government actors through different platforms including the Inter-Ministerial Committee, and the newly formed Social Protection Coordination Forum.
- An extensive round of validation and consultation with different stakeholders including respective line ministries, development partners, DPOs, CSOs, and other non-state actors on the Strategy Document was completed in August 2021.
- In May 2022, the vision, definition and principles of the Strategy Document were approved by the Council of Ministers, with the appointed Technical Committee to introduce amendments and send the final version to Parliament for endorsement.

### *Going beyond "business as usual" to produce catalytic results at scale*

The link to the UN's mandate is expressed through the United Nations Sustainable Framework which contains a specific output on social protection. In particular, it links to the Government's initiative to seek support from UNICEF and ILO to develop a national social protection policy and provide technical support throughout the upcoming implementation phase, as well on previous work with WFP and the World Bank to establish and expand the NPTP. In addition, it underlines established collaboration with the EU and World Bank programmes of support to social protection.

Adaptations of agencies work under the JP as described above relate rather to the importance of being flexible and adaptive when it comes to dealing with changes in a complex political context and deteriorating economic situation. As the onset of a massive economic crisis in late 2019 was further accelerated in 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic and the Beirut Blast explosion, and the exacerbation of the country's political instability, the socio-economic situation continued to severely deteriorate in 2021 and 2022 with the subsidy removal and energy and fuel crisis.

Adaptations to the work of the UN agencies under the JP related rather to adjusting evidence-based policy inputs to be synced with these repeated crises, ensuring that policy dialogue and technical inputs were timely and relevant and to further analyze and integrate the impact of these emerging crises into the strategy's development and national response. It was fundamental that following the Beirut blast, the 3RF (Lebanon's recovery framework led by the UN, EU and World Bank) served as a platform for agencies working on social protection to come together and draft a clear reform plan for the sector with the Government, and in participation with key civil society representatives that were part of sector discussions. By the end of 2021, following review, validation and endorsement of the National Social Protection Strategy by the agencies, the UNCT presented the SP strategy document to the Prime Minister and submitted the Document to Council of Ministers. During their session on May 20th, 2022, COMs approved the SP Strategy as an overarching policy framework, and the appointed Technical Committee was tasked to introduce amendments and submit the final version of the Document to Parliament for endorsement. Lastly, a national consensus was reached to establish Social Grants in Lebanon to address lifecycle vulnerabilities alongside ongoing anti-poverty programmes.

### *SDG acceleration*

- As foreseen in the Programme Document, the programme is directly contributing to the acceleration of the related SDG targets, in particular:
  - o SDG 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; and
  - o SDG 10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.
- In addition, other key SDG targets include:
  - o SDG 1.5 to 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 SDG 8 since efforts to expand SP directly and indirectly positively impact growth and employment;
  - o SDG 10.1 to reduce inequality through expansion of SP coverage;
  - o SDG 5 to reduce gender inequality through the programme's focus on gender inclusion; and
  - o SDG 16 since work will relate to developing institutions and strengthening/developing the social contract in Lebanon.

There has been no change in the relevance of these SDG targets and they continue to be central to the programme.

### *Policy integration and systems change*

- Policy integration within the social protection sector through the SDG JP was primarily ensured through the technical support provided to the GoL to develop a comprehensive and rights-based social protection strategy which includes required reforms under each of the five main pillars of the social protection system in Lebanon, high-level systemic reforms across different institutions and ministries, and finally, institutional reforms that would support the implementation of these strategic priorities.
- Advancing the reforms under the contributory social security system in tandem with the work under the non-contributory system/social assistance, could also ensure an integrated policy approach to social protection towards universal and adequate coverage. For example, the reform of the EoSI into a pension scheme was accompanied with work and policy discussions towards the establishment of social grants, specifically a disability allowance, a child grant and social pension, which could ensure adequate coverage to vulnerable populations and informal sector workers, and support integration into the labor market and the contributory SP system.

### *Contribution to improvement of the situation of vulnerable groups*

List of marginalized and vulnerable groups	Direct influence	Indirect influence
Women	X	X
Children	X	X
Girls		X
Youth		X
Persons with disabilities	X	X
Older persons	X	X
Rural workers		X
Migrants		X
LGBTI persons (sexual orientation and gender identity)		X

- **Women:** the mainstreaming of gender is a specific focus of the Lebanon Joint SP Programme, including in relation to evidence generation, analysis and advocacy. This focus has been successful in strengthening an emphasis on gender, with the review and analysis of the National Social Protection Strategy from a gender perspective and angle.

- **Persons with disability:** under the development of the National SP Strategy, support was provided to convene different actors working on disability, namely organisations representing people with disabilities providing a platform to discuss their views on social protection. The group produced and published a position paper on social protection and their respective priorities. Building on the network established in 2020, OPDs



have been regularly engaged in consultations on the Social Protection Strategy, and actively involved in discussions of establishing the new Disability Allowance.

- **Older persons:** a specific focus of the JP has been to reform end of service indemnity under the National Social Security Fund into a pension with progress in moving the agenda ahead through close technical support to the parliamentary sub-committee assigned to the discuss the draft law. Support was also provided to highlight the voices of older persons in Lebanon around income insecurity and lack of social protection and convene civil society groups in policy dialogue around the need for social pension for older persons who are not eligible for social insurance coverage, which represent the large majority of the population of older persons in Lebanon.
- **Children:** though not directly funded under the SDG but as part to develop the social assistance system and to fill in the gap, UNICEF launched a new cash child grant in June 2021, known as “Haddi” meaning next to me, and reached more than 130,000 vulnerable children and individuals by September 2022. Discussions with Government are ongoing to evolve it towards a national Child Grant under the establishment of Social Grants in Lebanon.

- Estimated number of individuals that were reached through JP efforts:  
Total number N/A  
Percentage of women and girls: N/A

#### *Mainstreaming Gender equality and women empowerment*

- In relation to the context analysis integrating gender, UN Women completed a comprehensive baseline assessment of the social protection sector in Lebanon, which identifies gender gaps in all areas of national social protection, which served as an entry point to different areas, while providing, in collaboration with ILO and UNICEF, gender responsive recommendations that were reflected in the National Social Protection Strategy. This analysis covered those further left behind including vulnerable women, women working in the informal sector and rural areas, women with disabilities, and LGBTIQ groups.
- In the year of 2021, UNW continued to work on ensuring that the Social Protection strategy/framework is gender responsive, ensuring that gender equality and women’s empowerment is embedded within the strategy. As such, the National Social Protection Strategy was informed by an extension gender perspective and analysis and the final Document now includes a summarized gender-mainstreaming section at the end of each pillar, including recommendations for change and considerations. Specially, the review looked at and highlighted initiatives integrated within the strategy pillars that explicitly target women and girls, address their specific needs, or are universal and gender specific considerations were included.
- In relation to mainstreaming of gender equality, the JP’s 5 outputs continue to have a gender focus. WFP, UN Women and UNICEF are collaborating to draft guidance on mainstreaming gender in cash programmes. WFP and UN Women are also working to introduce a gender and GBV lens in the NPTP – training both social worker implementers and raising awareness of beneficiaries using various media – and in regular results monitoring in 2021. The planning for a NPTP gender quantitative assessment also began in late 2021 with data collection beginning in early 2022. The National Social Protection Strategy was reviewed from a gender angle, by UNWOMEN, ILO and UNICEF.
- Regarding PUNO collaboration with women’s and gender equality NGOs, UN Women are involving local feminist and gender organisations to scale-up advocacy initiatives, including through contributions to evidence.
- UNDP produced and published a gender portrait that provides more evidence for policy development and for tracking future policy implementation. Results of the report were used to open a debate amongst key actors to analyze progress achieved by Lebanon in bridging gender inequality. A round table discussion was organized convening key informants in the field to make these highlights.
- More than 10 per cent of the total JP budget continues to be linked to gender equality through gender analysis, assessment, and engagement of women’s CSO organizations.

Estimated % of overall disbursed funds spent on Gender equality and Women empowerment by the end of JP: 10%

#### *Human rights*

- Under Lebanon’s Universal Periodic Review, the UN’s submission in July of 2020 and January 2021 specifically highlighted issues in line with the Joint Programme on enhancing social protection for all including the urgency of expanding social assistance in the context of the current economic crisis to deliver on the human right to access social protection.

### ----- *Partnerships*

- The Government of Lebanon is leading the development of the national social protection strategy and system, with support from key stakeholders, including UN agencies under the JP. Key government bodies who were engaged throughout 2020 through the Inter-Ministerial Committee chaired by the Prime Minister included: the Deputy Prime Minister, and Ministries of Social Affairs, Health, Education, Labour, Economy and Finance as well as the national statistics body. In 2021 and 2022, engagement with the Government was conducted at the Prime Minister level.
- A joint approach by PUNOs, including joint monitoring, is promoted through the JP's steering group, as led by UNICEF. The World Bank has been engaged as an active participant of the UNSF Outcome Group on social protection, as well as in its role in leading the Social Safety Net Forum co-chaired with the European Union. As of November, the SSF Forum was replaced by the Social Protection Coordination Forum, currently co-led by UNICEF alongside the World Bank and EU.
- Civil society (from a very wide range of non-state platforms), academic, technical experts and workers organizations, experts, and disability organizations in Lebanon were regularly engaged in consultations and national dialogues on social protection. These actors have been actively involved in providing their views on social protection definition, principles and priorities, as well as on matters around advocacy and raising public awareness nationally. The involvement of civil society has a strategic emphasis on women's rights organizations and women's national machinery (the NCLW), to ensure that the national social protection system is gender responsive.
- In addition to catalyzing on the aforementioned governmental, civil society, and UN stakeholders, the joint programme has sought to pool and mobilize expertise from across the UN system at country, regional and global levels where relevant. While the programme is locally owned and executed, expertise was leveraged from countries and contexts working on building a stronger national SP system, including production of a paper on international social protection experiences to draw on lessons learned. Joint SDG fund donors were engaged in the programme to the extent possible. Outputs from the programme are routinely shared with donors who participate in Reference Groups to develop the national SP strategy and Forums to coordinate the work on social protection and social assistance.

### *Mobilizing additional funding and/or financing*

The Joint Programme has emphasized the need to scale-up social assistance and reached consensus on the need to establish Social Grants to target individuals with lifecycle vulnerabilities, in particular in the face of the multiple crises that Lebanon is facing and the need to introduce cash transfers, following which:

- The national social protection strategy includes a specific component with financing options to implement the strategy, while the implementation plan will be developed in 2023.
- Additional funds were committed from key donors that led to the scale-up for NPTP being from 15,000 to 36,000 households in 2021 and 64,000 in 2022 as well strengthen programme implementation by developing necessary operational systems.
- By end of 2021, UNICEF and ILO secured a 20m Euro grant to support the institutionalization of Social Grants within the national system and to launch a new National Disability Allowance in early 2023, following the design phase in 2022.
- The World Bank and Government of Lebanon's Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) program agreed to switch the larger social assistance programme to vulnerable Lebanese to cash, with the intention of aligning the current National Poverty Targeting Programme food e-voucher to a cash modality. The World Bank's new programme is based on a new loan of USD 246 million negotiated between the World Bank and Government of Lebanon to provide cash assistance to 147,000 additional households for one year. The programme started in March 2022 reaching 75,600 households.
- The Government introduced its own domestically financing cash transfer programme in response to the COVID crisis with the technical support of UN agencies, that resulted in six cash transfer payments to up to 170,000 households throughout 2020 and 2021.
- As part of expanding social assistance in Lebanon, UNICEF launched in June 2021 a new cash child grant, known as "Haddi" meaning next to me, reaching more than 130,000 vulnerable children by September 2022. The grant aims to support households and children to cope with the consequences of the economic crisis, limiting cuts in spending on children and stemming the rise in negative-coping strategies. Though the programme itself is not covered by the SDG fund, the study will contribute to

the evidence generation of the impact of social assistance on children in Lebanon and pave the way to develop a national child grant.

#### Strategic meetings

Type of event	Yes	No	Description/Comments
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>A quarterly partners' meetings on social protection were organized throughout 2020, 2021 and 2022, with the last meeting taking place in October 2022 through the newly formed Social Protection Coordination Forum. The SDG was mentioned throughout.</i>
Other strategic events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2021, launching event of UNICEF-ILO-EU agreement to strengthen the national social protection system, and to establish Social Grants in Lebanon starting with the National Disability Allowance.</i>

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#### Innovation, learning and sharing

- Development of selected knowledge products were completed including the situation analysis and sector mapping on social protection, the assessment for extension of social health protection and the role of the national social security fund, as well as the vulnerability and SP needs assessment, and the completed National Social Protection Strategy document. An extensive round of validation and consultation with different stakeholders including respective line ministries, development partners, CSOs, and other non-state actors on the Strategy Document was completed in August 2021, ensuring transparency and knowledge sharing. The gender mainstreaming assessment in the social protection sector was completed. The outcome of these products in terms of actionable policy recommendations contributed to the social protection strategy alongside the outcomes from the completed national stakeholder dialogues.
- The programme convened key government entities across the whole of Cabinet and under the leadership of the Prime Minister to reach consensus on the importance of the National Social Protection Strategy, whereby a technical committee was established by the PM to discuss and approve the Strategy; and agree on priority items to be implemented in the short term.
- The programme convened state and non-state actors providing a platform to engage and participate in discussions around priorities and definition of social protection in the context of Lebanon that fed into the strategy document, therefore encouraging non-state participation in the process of developing, validating and finalizing the national strategy.
- Additional key papers were developed and widely shared and disseminated including three UN position papers, policy paper on the importance of putting in place Social Grants, as well as the three position papers respectively produced in 2020 by the experts' collective, persons with disability organizations and workers organizations, reflecting definition and priorities of social protection.

## II. Final Results

### Overall progress

- ☒ All expected results achieved
- ☐ Majority of expected results achieved
- ☐ Only some expected results achieved

Please, explain briefly:

Overall, the Lebanon SDG programme has been successful in convening UN agencies to scale-up work on social assistance including strengthening NPTP and reaching consensus to establish Social Grants in Lebanon, place the social protection issue as a priority item on the Government's agenda, and to further strengthen evidence and integration of key lens such as gender and inclusion. Delays and adaptations to context have occurred due to the overlapping crises, which was coupled with a complex political environment. While Lebanon is still grappling with one its worst crisis, the need for social protection and indeed the focus on the sector fortunately became a priority for the Government.

### Contribution to Fund's global results

#### ⇒ **Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1 (as per targets set by the JP)**

- Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale
- The National Social Protection Strategy was presented and submitted to the Prime Minister and was approved by the Council of Ministers an overarching framework. Importantly, the output of this process was integrated into the 3RF. In addition to policy recommendations, the strategy document proposes an array of financing options that could be opted for by the Government to support its implementation.

#### ⇒ **Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Output 3 (as per targets set by the JP)**

- Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented
- Presentation of the SP Strategy to the Prime Minister and key Ministers on the urgent need to develop a comprehensive and rights-based social protection system was completed with the PM submitting the Strategy to Council of Ministers and establishing a Technical Committee to review the Strategy Document and send it to Parliament for endorsement.
- Strategy Document was drafted following a round of Technical Working Groups convening more than 100 stakeholders whereby consensus on the priorities and definition of social protection in the context of Lebanon was reached. The Strategy Document was validated through extensive consultations.
- A detailed methodology note for costing the SP strategy was developed that can be used in other countries, and the work analyzing the relevant fiscal data was completed.
- Advocacy and influencing to introduce cash assistance instead of food e-card succeeded under the World Bank Emergency SSN programme, which started in March 2022 reaching 75,600 households and aiming to reach a total of 147,000 HHs.
- The gender aspect is highlighted and reflected more systematically across the different activities, becoming a priority issue among development partners such as the World Bank and EU.
- Civil societies and disability organizations platforms were established, increasing non-state actor engagement and participation in national dialogues. Support to DPOs, Experts Collective and Workers Organizations led to the development of three respective position papers on social protection. Engagement with OPDs is still ongoing especially around the new disability allowance.

### JP Outputs and Outcomes

#### ⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outputs**

#### **Output 1**

- The National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) was completed, presented and submitted to the Council of Ministers (COMs). On their last session on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and before entering into a caretaker mode, COMs approved the NSPS as an overarching policy framework. As per COMs Decision 69, an Inter-Ministerial Committee, previously appointed by the Prime Minister and chaired by the Minister of Social Affairs, was tasked to introduce amendments to the Strategy Document and submit the final version to Parliament for endorsement. UNICEF and ILO were requested to facilitate and provide technical support throughout this revision process.
- A diagnostic of vulnerability and social protection needs and gaps, based on the 2019 LFHS data, was developed and informed the work on the strategy (contributing also to output 2.)

- A costing and financing policy note was developed and work on SP fiscal data compilation was completed.

## **Output 2**

- UNICEF, ILO and UNDP worked with the Institute of Finance and completed the government expenditure analysis of the social protection sector.
- UN Women, UNICEF and WFP are collaborating to develop guidance on integrating gender into cash transfers.
- UN Women supported in mainstreaming gender in the social protection framework, through analysis and development of knowledge products focused on identifying gender gaps. In early 2021, UN Women contracted Beyond Group and developed and disseminated a Baseline Report on Social Protection in Lebanon from a Gender Perspective. The report identified the challenges and opportunities available in the social protection framework in Lebanon across the different chapters of the social protection strategy.
- UNW in partnership with Beyond Group, ILO and UNICEF, reviewed the SP framework to ensure that gender is mainstreamed in the National SP Strategy and that gender responsive recommendations are developed for each chapter of the strategy. In addition, a separate section within the strategy which addresses all gender specific gaps and asks was developed.
- UNW developed and finalized a gender review of the National SP Strategy, titled "Social Protection in Lebanon from a Gender Perspective". The document was developed subsequent to the baseline report, analyzing interlinkages between social protection and gender equality in order to establish a set of gender-specific recommendations to inform policy discussions on social protection.
- UNW also developed a report analyzing the impact of the economic crisis on women, titled "Women on the Verge of an Economic Breakdown". The policy paper was developed on macro-economic recovery in Lebanon from a fiscal, social and labour policy point of view, and also provided a set of recommendations for a gender-responsive economic recovery in Lebanon which are essential to be utilized in any recovery plans, ensuring that women needs are upkept.
- Quantitative assessment by ILO of vulnerability and social protection needs and gaps based on the 2019 LFHS data was developed and drafted, with key results published in a brief. The assessment includes projections that reflect the recent economic turmoil and identifies gaps in coverage and adequacy of social protection vis-à-vis vulnerable groups and those most severely affected.
- ILO and UNICEF worked with Development Pathways to develop a policy note on the way forward towards building a Social Protection Floor in Lebanon. The policy note served as a basis for policy discussion with partners and civil society actors and reach consensus on the need to provide social grants to build a more solid social protection foundation. The policy note was launched through a roundtable in collaboration with Oxfam, and the participation of 17 partners working on social protection.
- Building on the costing and financing exercise developed under the NSPS document, UNDP worked with the Ministry of Finance (MoF) to model revenue forecasts and explore possibilities of generating an adequate fiscal space to partially/fully fund programmes of the SPC. The modeling work will primarily feed into developing a more realistic forecast of budget revenues, while factoring in macro-economic developments. The model will also support MoF to revise its tax policy regime to ensure sustainable funding of policies, notably SP policies. The model was transferred to the macro-fiscal department in MoF.
- UNDP supported Central Administration for Statistics (CAS) in producing the national accounts for 2020 and results were fed into the macro-fiscal model of the MoF.
- UNDP, in collaboration with UN Women, developed and published a gender portrait to provide a more comprehensive baseline gender-disparaged data to serve as evidence for policy development. A roundtable discussion was organized to highlight the results which were used to open a debate and to analyze progress achieved by Lebanon in bridging gender inequality.
- UNDP worked with the MoF to resume the publication of detailed fiscal data that used to be published by the Ministry but were halted due to the ongoing circumstances. These reports are important as they provide in-depth insights into sector-related spending, notably the social sector.
- UNDP worked with CAS to develop a draft note on the impact of potential subsidy rationalization on prices, as UNICEF leverages civil society on the issue in partnership with the Lebanon Centre for Policy Studies.
- A VOICES brief highlighting the voices of older people in Lebanon and their struggles with income insecurity in the absence of adequate social protection benefits was developed and designed. The brief is based on focus group discussions with older people from various communities and highlights the demand for a comprehensive pension system to provide adequate income protection for older persons. The brief was disseminated through several webinars and an online campaign in 2021, which sparked interest from various (local and international) media outlets and non-governmental organizations, who have reached out for further input and discussions about the situation of older persons in the country.



### Output 3

- The NPTP caseload increased from 10,000 to 15,000 in 2020 and then to 36,000 households in 2021 and 64,000 in 2022. NPTP assistance became unrestricted, unconditional and dollarized in 2021 (initial NPTP assistance being delivered through food-ecard). Since September 2022, NPTP redemption options are extended to 40 Money Transfer Operators where NPTP beneficiaries can retrieve their assistance in addition to ATMs and shops.
- Three post distribution monitoring (PDM) surveys were conducted in 2020 with Covid-19 and Beirut blast affecting PDMs planned quarterly frequency. Since Q2-2021, regular quarterly NPTP PDM reports were produced.
- In relation to capacity building activity, training for MoSA staff for remote PDMs were completed in 2020. Besides, 550 MoSA governmental staff (social workers and field coordinators) were trained in household assessment (data collection) for the NPTP scale-up in 2021 only. Software and hardware equipment were also provided to PCM and MoSA staff to enhance the NPTP server capacity and digital data collection (donation of 200 tablets to MoSA Social Workers). At last, 505 MoSA workers from central and local level (social workers) were co-trained by WFP and UN Women on gender and GBV-related issues in 2022.
- Communication tools to inform beneficiaries of ongoing scale up were developed and circulated throughout 2020 and 2021. In 2022, all communication material (videos, leaflets, booklets) were updated to reflect NPTP transfer value and redemption options change. A NPTP advocacy strategy was also produced in 2022.
- The launch of the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) in March 2022 by the GoL (through a World Bank loan) also coincided with the development of a Social Protection Information System which may be used by other social safety nets like the NPTP ultimately.
- A report on the extension of social health protection coverage and the role of the NSSF has been finalized and published by ILO.
- The disability inclusion assessment for the NPTP which was expanded to look into NSSF and MPCA (co-funded) and the broader social protection environment, was also finalized.

### Output 4

- On the social insurance front, the finalization of the draft law on the pension reform in the country has been achieved. This has been accomplished through close technical assistance to the parliamentary sub-committee tasked with the revision of the law, and support to its weekly meetings. Technical assistance included devising an adequate design of the scheme, in line with international standards, conducting actuarial assessments, legal drafting, and support in the development of a good governance model, in consultation with all members of the sub-committee. The draft law represents a consensus amongst the different political actors and has been announced in a press conference in May 2022, chaired by the MP head of the sub-committee and attended by members of the committee and management of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) – reflecting a commitment to the reform.
- Given the current crisis context and the time it would take to fully enforce the draft law, and upon the request of the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Labor, ILO has provided extensive technical assistance towards devising policy solutions that could support the sustainability of old-age benefits under the NSSF, and ensure more adequate benefits to older persons, given the financial challenges faced by the End-of-Service Indemnity scheme. The ILO was also requested to join a special expert committee established by NSSF to propose policy solutions that activate article 54 of the NSSF that would allow a shift from lump sums to periodical benefits upon retirement. A policy proposal and associated financing implications have been produced by the ILO, then presented and approved by the NSSF committee. The proposal is currently being discussed amongst social partners in the price index committee.
- ILO has provided ongoing technical assistance to MoL and NSSF on the establishment of the UI fund whereby the draft legislation has been developed and discussed in the parliamentary committee (co-financed).
- Given the current context, the impact of the crisis and the collapse of the Lebanese pound on the financial sustainability of social security institutions, and upon the request of NSSF, ILO has provided technical assistance to assess NSSF's financial position and short-term financial risks. A full report detailing projections of short-term cashflows and key financial risks of each branch was produced and constitutes the basis for policy deliberations with the NSSF.

## Output 5

- Civil society and disability organizations platforms were established, increasing non-state actor engagement and meaningful participation in national dialogues. Regular virtual meetings, as well as a two-day face-to-face workshop were conducted since 2020 with OPDs involving extensive discussions and consultations around social protection reform, including the SP strategy, the design of the new national disability allowance, as well as development of an action plan for OPDs' engagement and advocacy for disability inclusive social protection in Lebanon.
- Three webinars/discussions were conducted, in collaboration with HelpAge International, bringing together organizations working with older people and other human rights organizations in Lebanon, where results from focus groups discussions conducted with older people were presented, and a proposal for the establishment of social pension was discussed, as well as CSOs recommendations on advancing the agenda of social protection for older persons were devised.
- In addition to the VOICES brief under output 2, videos showcasing older people's realities and voices were also developed in collaboration with HelpAge International and launched in 2022 through an online campaign demanding the establishment of social pension.
- Completion of four national consultations and three position papers on development of the social protection policy direction with national experts, OPDs, workers, and development partners.
- A roundtable convening experts, CSOs and DPOs to discuss the potential impact of subsidy removal, and possible alternatives to mitigate its adverse social effects was completed.

### ⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outcomes**

**Outcome:** The establishment of a strengthened national SP system, that is inclusive, integrated, rights based, efficient and effective, with a specific emphasis on gender and PwD.

**Contribution to Outcome:** Consensus to develop an inclusive, integrated, and rights based national SP system has been established among the different stakeholders – state and non-state actors - with specific gender and disability aspects taken into consideration and reflected in the different pillars of the Strategy.

### ⇒ **Monitoring and data collection:**

- A joint approach by PUNOs, including joint monitoring, is promoted through the JP's steering group, as led by UNICEF. The World Bank has been engaged as an active participant of the UNSF Outcome Group on social protection, as well as in the newly formed Social Protection Coordination Forum, alongside the European Union.
- The Consultant to examine the impact of the JP was recruited under which the evaluation will identify strengths and weaknesses in the programme design, strategy and implementation, as well as lessons learned, good practices, and recommendations.

### III. JP finalization and evaluation

#### *Final JP evaluation and lessons learned*

The date when the evaluation was launched (month/year): July 2022

The date when the evaluation report was approved (month/year): November 2022

Lebanon is a living example of the need to retain a focus on system-building even in a crisis and not to revert to parallel ad hoc humanitarian initiatives that can be rather built on to strengthen the national system. As the National SP Strategy has been approved by Council of Ministers, the rapid submission to Parliament for endorsement is key in order to move towards its implementation. UNICEF and ILO have been tasked to provide technical support in the revision process of the Document as well as to oversee the development of the implementation plan. Meanwhile, it is important to build on the momentum to set up operational processes and launch the disability allowance, establish an institutional model and design of a social pension, and progressively expand the Haddi programme into a national child grant, providing the foundation for the establishment of Social Grants and long-term nationally owned programmes that sit under the national SP system.

#### *After the JP: follow-up and possibilities for sustainability of the impact and further scaling*

The situation in Lebanon continued to intensify further in 2022, alongside rising poverty and vulnerability, the worsening socio-economic crisis, the removal of subsidies and energy crisis, where the impact was most felt among the most vulnerable groups. With no solution in sight, and President Michel Aoun concluding his presidential term in October 2022 with no successor in place and a government in an already caretaker mode, further challenges and complexities are adding up on the political front. However, the crises present an opportunity for reform and have already positively impacted the dialogue and programming on social protection. Furthermore, the economic crisis is a major obstacle to identifying fiscal space for further social protection reforms and programmes.

Meanwhile, continued engagement with government and public administrations is important to ensure advancement on a number of social protection related policies and reforms with the focus on the following activities and results:

##### Output 1:

- Follow up with relevant government counterparts on the approval of the social protection strategy and initiate accompanying implementation plan, along with the costing and financing plan, while supporting the initiation of priority interventions in parallel.
- Continue discussions with Government to finalize the design of the disability allowance and progressively expand the Haddi programme towards a national child grant, and establish a social pension, providing the foundation for the establishment of Social Grants that sit as a fundamental component of the national social protection system.
- Set-up necessary national coordination structures for the implementation of the strategy, including a national steering committee at the level of PCM.
- Work on the institutional legal and regulatory aspects related to different social protection pillars, including the necessary capacity assessments and design of possible setups (for instance the institutional framework to handle institutional setup to handle social assistance programmes).

##### Output 2:

- Conduct a costing and financing exercise of selected priorities under the social protection strategy
- Support in the production and publication of official data and statistics to guide the development of evidence-based policies in social protection and to track implementation, with a focus on gender disaggregated data.
- Produce fiscal revenue forecasts and propose alternative tax policy measures to create an adequate fiscal space to fund the SPS.
- Provide the necessary support to ensure that social protection programmes are well integrated into the general budgets. This would entail working on budget classifications to ensure that fiscal allocations on social protection are well captured and are classified in accordance with good practices.



- Produce and publish detailed fiscal data/sector data with focus on the social sector.
- Develop a full gender review to better highlight key gender equality asks. Additionally, a round table discussion will be held with the aim of launching all findings from the developed products, including the baseline report, the gender review, and the gender analysis in the SP framework.

Output 3:

- Complete last rounds of Post Distribution Monitoring including gender and disability related.
- Expand NPTP to cover 75,000 households (although funding for this expansion is not covered by the JP).
- Resume discussions with MoSA on the development of the beneficiaries' management system and Grievance redress mechanism.
- Disseminate assessment on disability inclusion within NPTP (NSSF and MPCA) and develop recommendations for programme adjustments.
- Launch and dissemination of older people's VOICES brief in both English and Arabic, accompanied by a social media campaign and short videos.

Output 4:

- Provide technical support to parliament in the finalization and approval of unemployment insurance fund draft law.
- Build on produced financial assessment of the NSSF to agree on key recommendations to take forward in reforming the fund and ensuring financial sustainability and adequacy of benefits.
- Provide any additional technical assistance to parliamentary committees in approving the pension scheme law, and to the NSSF in its subsequent implementation.

Output 5:

- Continue engagement with existing developed platforms to engage in discussions and conversations around social protection, the national disability allowance and support different stakeholder groups to implement their respective advocacy action plans.
- Build further engagement with CSOs, including organizations working with older people, on the design of a social pension for older people in Lebanon.

The JP implementation will be achieved through the following:

- Coordination with government, donor partners and the wider UN development system as these actors will play a key role in advancing programme implementation, risk management and ensuring complementarities where relevant with other ongoing/future initiatives through different platforms including the Social Protection Coordination Forum, UNSF, and the 3RF.
- At a national level, the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) for Social Affairs was re-activated and was entrusted several tasks related to enhancing the performance of the social sector. As such, continuous coordination and communication through the IMC will be important to ensure consensus at political level. In addition, coordination and continuous follow-up with the Technical Committee established by the Prime Minister to discuss and approve the SP strategy are key. The same coordination and communication mechanism will also continue through the Director Generals Committee of the respective ministries as well as policy advisory support from Ministerial advisors, to ensure technical coordination and broad ownership.

In relation to potential further modifications, it is important to note that with the additional emergency of the Beirut explosion and the COVID crisis that came on top of a deep economic crisis and financial collapse of the country, is by far the biggest challenge to advancing much of this work as set out in the original plan. While crises present an opportunity for reform and have already positively impacted on dialogue and programming on social protection, working in a complex political environment may create a 'political capital' gap. Furthermore, the economic crisis is a major obstacle to identifying fiscal space for further social protection reforms and programmes.

## Annex 1: Consolidated Final Results

### 1. JP contribution to global Fund's programmatic results

#### Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

Select up to 3 SDG *indicators* that your Joint Programme primarily contributed to (in relation to SDG targets listed in your JP ProDoc)

SDG: 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

SDG: 1.5 to 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

SDG: 5.1 on ending gender discrimination

#### **Global Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale**

Outcome indicators	Expected final target	Final result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)
1.1: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope <sup>7</sup>	1	1	
<i>List the policies:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Social Protection Strategy</li> </ul>			
1.2: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale <sup>8</sup>	1	1	
<i>List the policies:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scale up of social assistance and consensus to establish Social Grants</li> </ul>			

#### **Global Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented**

Output indicators	Expected final target	Final result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)
3.1 Number of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)	1	1	
3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead			

<sup>7</sup>Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

<sup>8</sup>Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators?

Yes

☐ No

Explain briefly: National capacities to implement social protection were built through extensive consultations held in the development of the national social protection strategy, and the creation of dialogue platforms for the sector for non-state actors, as well as through the technical working sessions with MoSA focal points on the design of the new disability allowance.

## 2. Results as per JP Programmatic Results Framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected final target	Final Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)
<b>Outcome 1: The establishment of a strengthened national SP system, that is inclusive, integrated, rights based, efficient and effective, with a specific emphasis on gender and PwD</b>				
<b>Output 1: An integrated cross-sector national SP policy is developed for Lebanon, and supports the establishment of a rights-based, state-led gender and disability responsive SP system</b>				
<b>Output 1.1 indicator</b> National gender-sensitive SP framework developed (incl # of thematic areas in the national SP framework that include gender perspective and disability)	0 (No national SP policy/framework/strategy exists. Jan 2019 national discussion held to agree need for SP framework)	1 (Policy is completed)	National Social Protection Strategy with informed gender perspective completed and presented to Prime Minister. The Council of Ministers approved the Strategy as an overarching framework for Social Protection in Lebanon.	
<b>Output 2: Evidence to assess the fiscal, social and economic impact of gender-responsive SP reforms generated and used</b>				
<b>Output 2.1 indicator</b> Availability of evidence on economic and gender impacts of SP reforms	1 (Limited evidence currently available (UNICEF/MOSA study on Social Safety Nets), no specific studies on economic impacts and gender issues in SP in Lebanon)	Studies and statistical reviews covering economic and gender impacts of SP reforms available and integrated in national discussions and technical reviews including compilation and publication of baseline statistics related to Social Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Social Protection Strategy from a Gender Perspective</li> <li>- Social Protection in Lebanon from a gender angle</li> <li>- Baseline assessment report</li> <li>- 4 Studies compiled and published, with evidence integrated into the SPS and in policy discussions</li> <li>- Gender profile: The life of women and men in Lebanon- A statistical portrait</li> <li>- Lebanon quarterly national accounts for 2020</li> </ul>	
<b>Output 3: Capacity of the GOL in implementing well-performing, scalable and replicable social assistance interventions that equally meet the needs of both women and men is developed building on the basis of the NPTP and related disability social safety nets</b>				
<b>Output 3.1 indicator</b> Beneficiary tracking report for NPTP beneficiaries produced and shared with disaggregated data by gender*	0, None (as of July 2019)	4 post-distribution monitoring surveys (PDMS)	7 PDMs conducted	Regular quarterly PDM since Q2 of 2021
<b>Output 3.2 indicator</b>	As of July 2019, 23% of NPTP HHs, % men/women/female headed	50,000 HHs (but funding not covered by the JP)	Increase to 64,000 as of September 2022 with 17% of HH as female headed	

% of NPTP HHs, including women, men, and female-headed households, receiving food assistance monthly				
<b>Output 3.3 indicator</b> Disability sensitive design adopted in the operations, access and implementation of the NPTP	0 (No specific adjustments in place)	1 (Disability inclusion recommendations implemented)	1 Disability inclusion assessment and recommendations developed	
<b>Output 4: Equitable and innovative modalities for enhancing the adequacy and coverage of NSSF social insurance schemes amongst the working poor are developed in a gender and disability responsive manner</b>				
<b>Output 4.1 indicator</b> Social (health) insurance benefit reforms to enhance adequacy, financial sustainability, efficiency and responsiveness and gender responsiveness to the needs of the working poor adopted through national dialogue	0 (Reforms overdue)	1 (National consensus on the reform of the health insurance scheme reached)	Initial assessment on extension of SHP and recommendations for NSSF extension developed and published.  Assessment of financial condition and short-term financial risks of NSSF was conducted with recommendations for the three schemes, including sickness and maternity fund	
<b>Output 4.2 indicator</b> Sector/employment-status based strategies/roadmaps for extension of social (health) insurance to vulnerable informal economy workers, especially women, developed and endorsed through national dialogue	0 (None in place)	2 sector/employment-status based strategies/roadmaps for extension of coverage developed and endorsed through national dialogue	3 Unemployment Insurance scheme developed (design, draft law submitted)  Consensus reached on design of new pension scheme for private sector workers in revised draft law  New policy proposal developed and approved at NSSF experts committee on a transitional arrangement to sustain old-age benefits at NSSF and bridge from current EOSI scheme to a pension scheme	
<b>Output 5: A platform of dialogue for civil society and academia, which enables participation from women and people with disabilities, to generate and build on inclusive contributions to the national discussion is established</b>				
<b>Output 5.1 indicator</b> Civil society platform established to increase non-state actor engagement; dialogue has gender and disability focus	0 (No platform exists)	1 (Platform exists and dialogue - gender and disability focused - effectively feeds into national dialogue)	9 Organizations of people with disability have been regularly engaged in consultations on the Social Protection Strategy, and actively involved in discussions of the new Disability Allowance. Following from initiated engagement through SDG program, formal implementation agreement between ILO and OPDs has now been put in place, and financed through new EU Social Grants partnership with UNICEF.  CSOs engaged in national dialogue on the social protection strategy	

			More than 15 Organizations working with older people and mainstream HR CSOs engaged in dialogue and advocacy around need for old-age social pension in Lebanon	
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## Annex 2: Strategic documents

### 2.1. Contribution to social protection strategies, policies and legal frameworks

#### Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	If published, provide the hyperlink
National Social Protection Strategy	December 2021	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Towards a Social Protection Floor for Lebanon - Policy options and costs for core life-cycle social grants	March 2021	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/reports/towards-social-protection-floor-lebanon">https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/reports/towards-social-protection-floor-lebanon</a> <a href="https://www.ilo.org/beirut/publications/WCMS_828592/lang--en/index.htm">https://www.ilo.org/beirut/publications/WCMS_828592/lang--en/index.htm</a>
Beirut Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) Social Protection Sector Note	October 2020	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Social Protection Response Aligning Immediate, Short and Medium Terms Priorities	October 2020	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
- The life of women and men in	October 2021	No	No	No	NO	yes	<a href="https://www.undp.org/lebanon/publications/life-women-and-men-lebanon-statistical-portrait">https://www.undp.org/lebanon/publications/life-women-and-men-lebanon-statistical-portrait</a>

Lebanon- A statical portrait							
WFP Operational Manual	2019-2020	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	
Hurtling toward a precipice: with no parachute attached Making the case for immediate establishment of social guarantees in Lebanon	November 2020						<a href="https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/press-releases/hurtling-toward-precipice-no-parachute-attached">https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/press-releases/hurtling-toward-precipice-no-parachute-attached</a>
Draft law on amending some provisions of the social security law and establishing an unemployment insurance scheme	September 2021	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Prepared by Ministry of Labor and NSSF, with technical assistance from ILO (design and legal review), and submitted to parliament by selected MPs
Draft Law Amending some provisions of the Social Security Law and setting out a Retirement System	In discussion in Parliament	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Draft law discussed and amended, with technical assistance from ILO (legal and actuarial), in parliamentary sub-committee established for that purpose. Consensus and approval of draft law in sub-committee in May 2022.

**Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)**

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	If published, provide the hyperlink
A Social Protection	January 2020	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	<a href="https://lebanesestudies.com/papers/a-social-protection-emergency-response-a-bridge-toward-a-">https://lebanesestudies.com/papers/a-social-protection-emergency-response-a-bridge-toward-a-</a>

Emergency Response A Bridge Toward a Comprehensive National Social Protection Plan							<a href="#">comprehensive-national-social-protection-plan-expert-group-position-paper/</a>
COVID-19 Response: Considerations for Persons with Disabilities in Lebanon	April 2020	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	<a href="https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_765094.pdf">https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_765094.pdf</a>
Towards a Rights- Based and Comprehensive Social Protection System for Lebanon	May 2020	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	<a href="https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_765088.pdf">https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_765088.pdf</a>
Position Paper of Trade Unions on Social Protection in Lebanon Towards Protecting Social and Economic Rights and Promoting Economic Integration for all Workers	June 2020	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
UN Country Team Position Paper to IMF	September 2020	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	

## 2.2. Focus on vulnerable populations

### *Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP*

<b>Title of the document</b>	<b>Date when finalized</b> (MM/YY)	<b>Focus on gender equality and women empowerment</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on children</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on youth</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on older persons</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on other group/s</b> (List the group/s)	<b>Focus on PwDs</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Included disaggregated data by disability</b> - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability (Yes/No)
Towards a Social Protection Floor for Lebanon - Policy options and costs for core life-cycle social grants	March 2021	Yes	Yes	No	Yes		Yes	
'A Glimmer of Hope amidst the Pain', VOICES of older people on Social Protection and the Need for a Social Pension in Lebanon	March 2022	Yes	No	No	Yes	Older refugees	No	

### *Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)*

<b>Title of the document</b>	<b>Date when finalized</b> (MM/YY)	<b>Focus on gender equality and women empowerment</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on children</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on youth</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on older persons</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Focus on other group/s</b> (List the group/s)	<b>Focus on PwDs</b> (Yes/No)	<b>Included disaggregated data by disability</b> - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability (Yes/No)

## Annex 3: Results questionnaire

- Complete online using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/DfvPvaGfsg>.

## Annex 4: Final report on JP evaluation

- Provide separately.