

# Joint SDG Fund

## Joint Programme Final Narrative Report

### PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED POLICY AND LNOB

*Template*

## Cover page

**Date of Report:** 08 / April / 2022

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

**Country:** Malawi  
**Joint Programme (JP) title:** Social Protection for the Sustainable Development Goals (SP4SDG)  
**MPTF Office Project Reference Number<sup>1</sup>:** 00118530

#### *Programme Duration*

**Start date<sup>2</sup>:** 1 January 2020  
**Original End date<sup>3</sup>:** 31/12/2021  
**Actual End date<sup>4</sup>:** 28/02/2022

**Have agencies operationally closed the Programme in its system?:** Yes  
**Expected financial closure date<sup>5</sup>:** 12/12/2022

#### *Participating Organizations / Partners*

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<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](#).

<b>Programme Budget (US\$)</b>				
<b>Total Budget</b> (as per Programme Document, without co-funding): <b>1,999,937 USD</b>				
<b>Agency/Other Contributions/Co-funding</b> (if applicable):				
<b>Joint SDG Fund Contribution<sup>6</sup> and co-funding breakdown, by recipient organization:</b>				
Agency/others	Joint SDG Fund contribution	Co-funding	Total	
ILO	380,920			
UNICEF	378,780			
WFP	1,240,237			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,999,937</b>			

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## Executive summary

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

- *Maximum 0.5 page to summarize the most important aspects from your detailed report below that you want to highlight for inclusion into the Joint SDG Fund's global annual report. This should include, primarily, JP results and main achievements.*

Through coordinated efforts, the JP provided a basis for systemic adaptations to the Malawi social protection system, enhanced knowledge management, provided targeted capacity strengthening, and leveraged the social protection system to meet heightened food needs during the annual lean season, while providing technical assistance to the GoM. The JP completed crucial analyses of social protection financing that will serve as foundational tools and evidence for the GoM to increase spending efficiency, spending sustainability, and advocacy for social protection programmes. In addition, the JP supported a multisectoral participatory consultative process for the government-led review of the National Social Support Policy (NSSP), that has translated into a Policy Framework Document (PFD) that will lead to an updated comprehensive policy. The latter, in addition to the advocacy on new social protection schemes, and specifically an Old Age Pension scheme, resulted in advancing a more comprehensive and integrated social protection system in Malawi with potential leads to increase in social protection coverage.

The JP, in line with the One UN- action, has built and strengthened systems and tested innovations, by linking up humanitarian and social protection processes, actors, and systems while reinforcing the financial and policy framework of social protection. Considering its short timeframe, the JP has been working on paving the way to ensure adequate resources are allocated, and efficiently used, to streamline policies implementation, operational mechanisms, and enhance coordination through governance arrangements. The JP aimed to provide the blueprint for a domestically financed, comprehensive and integrated social protection system which will enhance quality of life and improve the resilience of vulnerable populations in Malawi. In summary, the JP proposed a model to holistically address operational, financial, and policy framework gaps through its three interlinked components and provided the GoM with the evidence base to shape and influence policy and programmatic processes.

- Provide completion rate for each of the main JP results (as used in 2021 Annual Progress Report and quarterly monitoring – as per this document – [link](#))

**Result 1:** The Malawi Social Protection System is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector, embracing a humanitarian-development nexus' approach. This will be measured, in part, by reducing the impact of crisis and vulnerabilities on 6386 households

Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date:

**100%**

**Result 2:** Malawi has moved towards evidence-based financing for its Social Protection System, starting from the Social Cash Transfers Programme

Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date:

**100 %**

**Result 3:** Ensuring adoption of a comprehensive and integrated policy framework

Estimated rate of completion as of JP end date:

**100%**

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

- *In sum, part I should be **maximum 6 pages**.*
- *It should refer to the broader context and JP approach and provide an update on priority issues.*
  - o *Note that you will present annual results in detail in part II.*
- *Please be very succinct and clear - use bullet points when possible.*

### I.1 Context and the overall approach

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

- *In bullet points, briefly explain any changes in the broader context across the duration of JP implementation that led to a change/realignment of the JP's approach, strategy, Theory of Change, or expected results (e.g. change of national priorities) – and then demonstrate how the JP ensured an adaptive, strategic approach.*
- *Maximum 0.5 page*
- The challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in necessary adaptations to programme activities in 2020, including reprogramming a percentage of funding towards supporting the GoM's COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention (CUCI).
- The overall approach, Theory of Change (TOC), and expected results of the JP remained valid while the programme's scope expanded to ensure the JP remained strategic and addressed the needs of the national social protection system. The expanded scope included the support towards adaptations of the national social protection system to increase its shock-responsiveness, such as supporting the roll-out of the national Management Information System for Emergencies (e-MIS) and its links to the Unified Beneficiary Registry (UBR). Support was provided in relation to the management of the response through the national Management Information System for the CUCI (CUCI MIS), the CUCI Call Centre and mobile money payments in urban areas. In addition, the pandemic revealed new knowledge gaps for responding to economic and health crises in both urban and rural areas. As such, the planned government capacity strengthening initiative was redesigned to fill these gaps to enable government social protection actors to respond effectively to both economic and health emergencies.
- In addition, with the change of government in Malawi in June 2020, the new government's policy priorities emphasized the aspiration to introduce a universal Old Age Social Pension scheme. The JP supported stakeholders' technical discussions that culminated in development of scenarios and designs options for introducing a universal old age pensions scheme and the review of the targeting approach for Social Cash Transfers. Following the development of scenarios, the JP supported advocacy work on the introduction of the Old Age pension scheme including engagement with civil society organizations and policy makers.
- To this end, in 2021, to strategically respond to the current needs and aspirations of the Government, changes to the programme were made. Specifically, Outcome 3 shifted its focus from legal frameworks to focusing on policy review support. Corresponding changes were then made to the Theory of Change and Results Framework, resulting in changes to the indicators and output-level results, while remaining aligned to the overall outcome-level result. These changes were signed off by PUNOs and Government and were approved by the Joint SDG Fund Operational Steering Committee on 28 June 2021.

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

- *In bullet points, briefly explain how your JP contributed to specific outcomes and outputs of UNDAF and/or new UNSD Cooperation Framework.*
- *Maximum 0.5 page*
- The results framework of the JP is aligned and feed into the Malawi's 2019-2023 UNDAF Outcome 7 (By 2023, households have increased food and nutrition security, equitable access to healthy ecosystems and WASH, and resilient livelihoods), and its two intermediate outcomes: Expanded and strengthened social protection systems and capacities to meet basic needs in line with the MNSSP II; and Strengthened capacity of the social protection system to become responsive to shocks.
- The JP provided a basis for systemic adaptations to the Malawi social protection system, enhanced knowledge management, provided targeted capacity strengthening, and leveraged the social protection system to meet heightened food needs during the annual lean season, while providing technical assistance to the GoM.
- The JP completed several crucial analyses of social protection financing that will serve as foundational tools and evidence for the GoM to increase spending efficiency and sustainability of spending for SP programmes.

- Multisectoral consultation processes were completed and resulted in the draft of a Policy Framework Document, which is an update of the existing social protection policy framework (National Social Support Policy-NSSP 2012) aimed to support expansion of the current scope of social protection through a more comprehensive and integrated social protection system.

#### COVID-19 impact

- In bullet points, briefly explain the contribution of the JP to addressing the socio-economic impact of COVID-19.
- Maximum 0.5 page
- To remain strategically aligned to government priorities, the work plan was adapted to support the GoM's COVID-19 response plan. The JP supported data collection for the national social registry (UBR) to be used for the crisis intervention and for future programming; beneficiaries in urban areas were targeted for the first time in Malawi, opening the potential for a catalytic change in the existing social protection system. The JP supported the government to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines to enable the GoM to identify new geographical hotspots of vulnerability likely to be most affected by the economic effects of the pandemic, and as the response was rolled out by the social protection sector. This support laid the foundations for routine assistance to be provided following the emergency, through the innovative use of new targeting and verification processes, which also enabled the use of mobile money payments.
- In addition, as part of the COVID-19 response, Grievance and Redress Mechanisms and a call center for the management of complaints were established. In line with the humanitarian-development nexus, these emergency structures developed for the COVID-19 response are being supported to transition into permanent features of the national social protection system, thus strengthening implementation of social protection programmes.
- New functionalities such as the broadcasting of SMS to beneficiaries and remote data collection for surveys, as well as new programmes (SCTP, Emergency MIS, Child Protection) are being gradually integrated in support of the Government of Malawi and in close collaboration with GIZ. Further, in collaboration with the private sector, the UN has supported *Know-Your-Customer* validation exercises with mobile phones and the National ID. The JP has also contributed to the exploration of categorical approaches for effective and inclusive targeting under CUCI. These experiences on targeting for the COVID-19 response are also feeding into ongoing discussions for the testing of categorical targeting approaches for regular social protection programmes.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed gaps in social protection coverage, financing and adequacy of benefits as well as comprehensiveness of social protection systems globally. The policy review process undertaken by government with support from the JP provided an opportunity to define, design and craft a comprehensive social protection framework that is not only responsive to shocks but that will also accommodate the needs of people throughout the lifecycle.

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

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

- In bullet points, briefly describe how your JP has made change and led to strengthening the UN system working together in partnership with the government and other stakeholders with the Resident Coordinators in the lead.
- Maximum 0.5 page
- The JP has enabled the UN agencies leading on social protection initiatives in Malawi to work together in a very collaborative manner under this programme, targeting systems-level changes. The programme blends shock-responsive social protection interventions and enhanced essential components of a robust, comprehensive, and sustainable social protection system.
- Each PUNO has brought relevant experiences of effectively engaging with GoM at a strategic level. WFP and UNICEF co-chair key working groups with GoM including social protection and emergency food security. ILO offers regional and global experience in developing comprehensive national social protection systems including in financing and costing analysis of social protection measures, all of which have been instrumental in leading the coherent debate with GoM and policy makers on the legal basis for a universal old age pension and a more comprehensive social protection system in Malawi. Given this close connection with GoM, PUNOs have a comparative advantage to engage and coordinate JP implementation interventions at various levels of government.

- The PUNOs perform a technical advisory role to the Learning Taskforce on Coordination of Social Protection. This is a government-led initiative that aims to integrate implementation of the MNSSP II through harmonized SP and humanitarian action.
- An MoU between the UN Country Team and Parliament allows for the JP to engage with three parliamentary committees, legal, community and social affairs, budget and finance. The JP has played a key role in supporting social protection advocacy by enhancing engagement among Civil Society Organizations involved in social protection, government line ministries and the parliamentary committees. Participation in these crucial committees and various task forces provided the political traction to underpin the JPs three outcome areas. The JP has played a critical role in enhancing the coordination among key stakeholders responsible for implementing social protection interventions. This is in line with the National Social Support Policy (NSSP), and the UNSDCF which calls for strong coordination within the social protection sector and is a critical means of improving the livelihoods and welfare of vulnerable people.

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

- In bullet points, briefly explain:
  - How the JP went beyond "business as usual" / conventional approach to fast-track the results and work at scale.
  - How the JP catalyzed results across UNDAF/Cooperation Framework, National strategic priorities, and the work of other development partners (refer to eventual new initiatives that were launched or are expected to be launched).
- Maximum 1 page
- The JP built on previous investments to fast-track the development of a shock responsive social protection (SRSP) prototype, reaching 6,386 households during the 2020/2021 lean season. Modelling this led to operationalizing key processes alongside the LSR and assisted improving targeting, harmonizing and expanding e-payment system, coordination, SOPs and mass media communication. Further opening the opportunities for a more integrated response from development/humanitarian partners. Therefore significantly contributing to providing the GoM with a model to be replicated at scale.
- The JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools and guidelines for the urban cash transfer response. Through the support to the CUCI, established in response to the COVID-19 crisis, beneficiaries in urban areas were targeted for support for the first time in Malawi, opening the potential for a catalytic change to enhance expansion of social protection coverage in the existing social protection system.
- Beyond supporting the COVID-19 response, the programme innovatively used new targeting and verification processes that have opened the discussion around targeting and verification for routine social assistance in Malawi. This was the first time that a geographical approach with universal registration to targeting has been undertaken for such an intervention in Malawi. Specifically, as part of innovation, the targeting and hotspot verification for the CUCI was conducted through satellite imagery, igniting the discussions and laying the foundation for scaling up social protection by targeting new geographical areas and by addressing urban vulnerabilities beyond the pandemic. This innovative use of targeting and verification processes presents potential scope to apply to other social assistance interventions going forward.
- The JP also assisted the GoM to explore categorical targeting approaches for 8,000 households under CUCI, ensuring that vulnerable groups are targeted through linkages with lists provided by social services (child-headed households, households headed by persons with disabilities, etc.). This exercise has fed into the ongoing conversation on categorical targeting approaches for social programmes and was aimed at ensuring that emergency responses are not leaving relevant vulnerable groups behind.
- The JP also supported the Government with the implementation of the CUCI response through the national social protection system, using the CUCI Management Information System (CUCI MIS) and by facilitating the safe provision of this cash support through mobile money payments in partnership with the private sector.
- In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic the JP has supported the Government on the exploration of the use of the CUCI Call centre for Monitoring & Evaluation of Shock-Sensitive Social Protection interventions (e.g. remote data collection for surveys). This work was undertaken as part of the COVID-19 emergency response has the potential to benefit other established programmes in the future (promoting the humanitarian-development nexus).
- In the context of the Lean Season 21/22 the JP has supported the roll-out of innovations that have enabled the national SP system to be expanded both vertically and horizontally for the first time in four districts. These



include support for the roll-out of the national Management Information System for Emergencies (e-MIS), managed by the GoM. The e-MIS reduces the need to resort to the establishment of temporary emergency structures to respond to predictable and recurrent shocks, a tangible example of how the UN has supported innovative approaches going beyond business as usual. Moreover, the JP has supported the provision of cash transfers through e-payments in rural areas with access to mobile money agents.

- The JP supported the development of the Training package on developing shock responsive social protection programmes. This innovative training package is contributing to ensuring sustained capacity strengthening in developing and rolling out shock sensitive social protection programmes models in Malawi.
- Through the policy review process, the JP has contributed to the process of expanding the current social protection framework in Malawi, broadening the scope of the social support policy by including other critical priority areas such as contributory schemes. This will subsequently see an increase in coverage of social protection schemes to include other social protection benefits including for workers in the informal sector. The Covid-19 pandemic unearthed the vulnerability that these people face and as such inclusion of these priority areas is timely in the updated social protection policy.

### *SDG acceleration*

- In bullet points, please provide a brief update on JP contribution to the acceleration of the progress towards the SDGs, in line with the JP's Theory of Change for SDG Acceleration.
  - Provide concrete evidence for specific SDG targets (as per those that JP is expected to contribute to), rather than overall change logic.
  - Maximum 0.5 page
- All components/Outcomes in the JP contribute directly or indirectly to SDG Target 1.3, by leveraging and strengthening the national social protection system.
- Component 1 (SSSP) sought to strengthen the social protection system's delivery capacity so it can be leveraged and expanded to better deliver emergency assistance. Using the SSSP prototype, the JP has helped to adapt the social protection system to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector (SDG 2.1) by leveraging and strengthening the system, reaching 6,386 shock-affected and vulnerable households with emergency food assistance. Moreover, the JP facilitated coordination and innovations that allowed traditional Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) contributors to finance both vertical and horizontal expansions of the national social protection system in response to the Lean Season 21/22, meaning that resources could be mobilized for assisting more than 114,000 households through cash transfers via the national social protection system. In addition, over 30,000 of those SSSP cash transfers are being delivered via innovative e-payment mechanisms.
- Through component 2 (financial architecture) the JP has contributed to assisting the GoM to increase its share of the social protection budget and undertake measures to improve efficiency and sustainability of spending (SDG 1.a, 17.1) via progress towards a financing strategy. It is foreseen that increases in domestic resources allocation for social protection will greatly contribute to ensure continued support by donors and development partners in the medium to long- term.
- Component 3 (Policy review) contributed to the achievement of SDG Target 1.b, ensuring that the Malawi social protection system is more comprehensive and integrated through the review and strengthening of the existing policy framework that will define the essential measures to enhance protection throughout all stages of life, with due attention to women and marginalized groups, and advance the right to social protection for all in the medium to long term (1.3). This also includes the support on designing new schemes, specifically an old age pension scheme that -when adopted- will translate into an increased coverage of vulnerable populations, specifically the elderly. The reviewed national social protection policy includes expanding the scope of social protection schemes, which will also contribute to the achievement of SDG target 8.3 as the comprehensive policy framework will contribute to providing social security for the working age population, promote productive activities, decent job creation, and potentially formalization of the informal economy.

### *Policy integration and systems change*

- In bullet points, list the main highlights regarding the JP's work on integrating policies across sectors and institutions to "break down the silos" and produce coherent systemic change.
- Maximum 0.5 page

- The JP technical assistance enabled the Government to leverage the Social Protection system to reach heightened food needs over the 2020/2021 lean season, igniting linkages and coordination between humanitarian and Social Protection sectors and ensuring that future emergency food assistance is provided by leveraging the social protection system, where applicable and appropriate.
- The JP enabled the Government and implementing partners to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for implementing Horizontal Expansion by leveraging on the Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) under a SSSP approach, allowing future investments to be catalyzed behind one integrated and coherent operational vision with appropriate mechanisms embedded within to ensure transparency, accountability, and meaningful participation of the beneficiaries.
- To remain strategic, the JP expanded the scope of its support towards adaptations of the national social protection system for increased shock-responsiveness. This includes supporting the roll-out of the national Management Information System for Emergencies (e-MIS) and its links to the UBR, as well as e-payments for the Lean Season Response 21/22 in rural areas, where relevant (e.g. Ntcheu). This also included support to capacity building on shock responsive social protection programming among government officials to facilitate design and sustainability of effective shock sensitive social protection interventions.
- In relation to COVID, support was provided to the management of the response through the national Management Information System for the CUCI (CUCI MIS), the CUCI Call Centre and by supporting mechanisms for Government to provide mobile money payments in urban areas.
- The JP provided technical assistance to support the GoM efforts to finalize its social protection financing strategy. The JP has supported the Government of Malawi to develop its social protection strategy, including with critical inputs on the financing side. More specifically, the JP has produced three critical documents that combined provide an operational analysis of the financing trends in social protection and examine both on and off budget allocations resources and explore the feasibility of increasing domestic resource coverage for the financial sustainability of the sector. Lessons from this component can be applied to other sectors for improved development financing for a whole-of-society approach.
- The JP contributed towards enhancement of Malawi's social protection interventions and broader institutional capacity. In this regard, the policy review process in Malawi provided an opportunity to define, design and craft a comprehensive social protection system that is responsive to covariate shocks but also accommodates the needs of people throughout the lifecycle, moving beyond non-contributory social protection schemes.

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

- In bullet points, provide a brief description of how you have directly and/or indirectly provided support to the vulnerable groups that your JP focuses on (i.e. the groups identified in the JP document).
- Maximum 0.5 page
- At the community level in the target district, the JP provided unconditional cash assistance and helped food insecure and vulnerable households meet immediate food needs, ensuring that there was zero hunger during the lean season. As a result, vulnerable communities could afford nutritious food and reduced the use of negative coping strategies, while having an economic multiplier effect on the local economy. The JP approach ensured that the most vulnerable not only receive temporary assistance in times of shocks, but that the social protection system can better provide routine entitlements to the poorest of the poor.
- In addition, the cash provided has enabled 87.6% of boys and girls from beneficiary households to remain in school throughout the lean season period, which has the potential to break intergenerational cycle of poverty and ensure resilient livelihoods and long-term pathways for graduation out of poverty.
- Under CUCI, the JP supported the GoM to explore categorical targeting approaches. This refers to the selection of vulnerable households such as child-headed households and households headed by persons living with disabilities. This work was done in collaboration with social services and the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare and has fed into the ongoing conversations on categorical approaches for national social protection programmes. This approach aimed at ensuring that under the emergency response extremely vulnerable groups were not left behind.
- The review and updating of the existing NSSP seek to ensure inclusion of comprehensive pillars/priority areas that lead to progressively increasing coverage of marginalized and most vulnerable groups, thereby ensuring



that no one is left behind. Contributory/social insurance schemes are earmarked to be incorporated in the new Social Protection policy, including extension of the schemes to the informal sector.

- The extension of social insurance schemes is expected to provide coverage for potentially 8,185,630 million people in the labor force<sup>7</sup>. In addition, critical work has paved the way for the adoption of an old age pensions scheme. Once adopted, the scheme is expected to support more than 600,000 people aged 65 and above.
    - Estimated number of individuals that were reached through JP efforts:  
(The data in this response should align with the data from the Annex 3 / Result questionnaire)
- Total number 161,370 **TBC**  
Percentage of women and girls: 70% approx.

#### Mainstreaming Gender equality and women empowerment

- In bullet points, briefly explain how you applied the Gender Marker in JP implementation, and/or other ways in which Gender equality and Women empowerment was mainstreamed into implementation.
  - Maximum 0.5 page
- Programme outputs are focused on system strengthening elements that follow the principles of gender equality but do not make visible reference to them. As part of the NSSP review process, a gender analysis has been included in the Policy Analysis Document (PAD) via an equality assessment, including an examination on how the previous policy helped to empower women. Additionally, the policy review work considers the principles of gender equality and women empowerment to ensure equality of treatment in the right to access social protection through measures, accounting for the unique needs of both men and women.
- Gender sensitive indicators are present in Outputs 1.2 and 2.3. None of the output indicators under Outcome 3 includes disaggregation by sex or gender specific definition, as they are all mostly policy development outputs. It is envisaged that the effective review of the policy framework will provide for a conducive policy environment for provision of social protection considering the needs for both women and men.
- The JP actively coordinated with the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare as one of the key implementers in the social protection sector, being responsible for the SCTP and as Pillar Lead on Consumption Support of the MNSSP II.
- The JP responds directly to MNSSP II Strategic Action 5.8: Mainstream Gender across MNSSP II, which was developed together with Malawian CSOs.
- Women are the majority (estimated that around 75% of them are female-headed) of the recipients of the proposed cash transfers (31.4% of the total budget) - representing 23.6% of the total budget directed to promote women economic empowerment.
- Activities geared towards grievance and redress mechanisms, social accountability, and individual agency strengthening represent about 8.9% of the total budget to ensure girls and women's rights to social protection are respected and empower them to hold service providers accountable to high standards of service quality.

Estimated % of overall disbursed funds spent on Gender equality and Women empowerment by the end of JP: **23.6%**

#### Human rights

- In bullet points, briefly explain how human rights mechanisms were mainstreamed in JP implementation, as envisaged by the original JP design.
  - Maximum 0.5 page
- The framework for this JP remains the legal and normative human rights obligations that bind the GoM, including treaty obligations under the ICESCR, CEDAW and CRC, particularly:
  - ICESCR - general comment No. 19 (2007) on right to social security (art. 9)
  - CEDAW, Concluding Observations on the 7th periodic report of Malawi
  - The 3rd cycle of UPR of Malawi was held on 3 November 2020; out of the 232 recommendations received, 192 recommendations enjoy the support of Malawi, among them all the recommendations related to strengthen its efforts in continuing to promote economic and social development, advance poverty reduction and improve the living standards of its people, including by strengthening and ensuring

<sup>7</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.TOTL.IN?contextual=default&locations=MW>

adequate social protection and safeguards to improve the human and social situation of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

- Progress has been made toward the critical outcome of developing and adopting a comprehensive, inclusive, and adaptable social protection policy, through a consultative process for the NSSP review. In addition, under the same outcome, critical work has paved the way for the adoption of an old age pensions scheme. Once adopted, the scheme will reflect an increased willingness of the GoM to commit national resources to the development of a national social protection system and address the specific vulnerabilities and needs of the elderly. The scheme is expected to support more than 600,000 people aged 65 and above.
- The cash transfers directly funded by Outcome 1 targeted approximately 6,386 households identified as the most vulnerable using a human rights and gender-sensitive approach to the food insecurity and poverty parameters classified in the social registry through the proxy-means test.

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### Partnerships

- In bullet points, list the main highlights regarding JP's partnerships. Refer to how these have been aligned with the broader UNCT's partnership approach.
- Maximum 0.5 page
- Building on the UNSDCF, the UNCT continues to maintain a strong dialogue and partnership with GoM and International Financial Institutions (IFIs).
- The JP partnered with GIZ to leverage resources for the government capacity strengthening initiative, enabling the inclusion of more stakeholders in a co-creation seminar, thus increasing input and buy-in to the resulting policy documents.
- The JP leveraged on the ongoing work of the UNICEF-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support the implementation of the SCTP, including its expansions in Balaka and Ntcheu.
- The JP also played a critical role in institutionalizing the SCTP as the reference programme for cash transfers in the country, and in creating a partnership with key donors to support SSSP expansions of the national system through innovations introduced via a partnership between UNICEF and KfW for the provision of technical assistance and shock-sensitive cash transfers with EU, German and Irish funds.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Regional Programme to support defining a policy framework for the social protection system in Malawi.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work with the Civil society organizations under the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support strengthening of governance of social protection programmes through increased awareness and advocacy initiatives and engagement with key policy makers and other stakeholders.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of another joint multi-year programme the PROSPER project which also has a component on advancing SSSP implemented by WFP and UNICEF.
- The work under outcome 2 is a sector-specific and expenditure-side complement to the wider financing-side work being laid out under a sister Joint Programme on Financing Architecture, centered on the Integrated National Financing Framework.

### Mobilizing additional funding and/or financing

- In bullet points, provide an update on what the JP has done to leverage additional funding and/or financing from Government, IFIs or other partners in relation to JP results.
- Maximum 0.5 page
- The JP partnered with GIZ to leverage resources for the government capacity strengthening initiative, enabling the inclusion of more stakeholders in the training, thus increasing input and buy-in to the resulting policy documents that will be produced during the training.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support the review of the national social support policy contributing to defining a reviewed policy framework for the social protection system in Malawi.
- The technical assistance from the JP has enabled donors to fund the national social protection system directly to address heightened emergency needs, while enabling additional resources to be contributed to the COVID-19 Response, and Lean Season Food Insecurity Response.
- Following the Malawi SDG Acceleration Fund and this JP contributions, UNICEF was able to mobilize internal resources as well as \$75,000 from Scotland to support the call center.

- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of UNICEF’s social protection partnership with the Embassy of Ireland, and the WFP’s role in the humanitarian sector which significantly increased following SSSP innovations supported by this JP.
- The JP key pieces of analysis on the financing of social protection will support the GoM to strengthen, rationalize, and increase the sustainability of the national financing infrastructure for social protection. They will also support in exploring the viability of different options for increasing the budgetary allocations to social protection programmes in the long run, making the sector less dependent on donor support.

### Strategic meetings

- Indicate if you organized any of the events below and provide description/comments.

Type of event	Yes	No	Description/Comments
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	On 15 September 2021, the SP4SDG organized a high-level partner/donor event to highlight gains achieved by the programme. The event was presided by the Minister of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare (MGCDWS) and Government representatives at the Principal Secretary level from the Economic Planning and Development (EPD) and MGCDWS among others, in-country donor partners working in the social protection sector in Malawi, the UN Resident Coordinator and Heads of the UN agencies implementing the programme took part. The second part of the event was led by an interactive discussion about the critical next steps and key strategic areas for strengthening social protection in Malawi and high-level panelists discussed the potential way forward for future investments. The EPD PS reinforced the Government’s commitment to progressively increase its efforts in investing resources in the sector, with focus on the Social Cash Transfer Programme.
Final JP event (closing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Due to Covid-19, strategic events were implemented late than planned. The final event then was considered not needed given all the other strategic events done and delayed timelines.
Other strategic events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The JP also organized a meeting with the Parliamentary Committee on Community and Social Affairs on 24th November 2021. The meeting, held in collaboration with the GoM through line ministries, aimed at updating the parliamentary Committee on key developments in the social protection sector in Malawi and lobbying for adoption of the Old Age Pensions Bill, social protection budget Analysis and support to the priority areas featured in the new Social Protection Policy.</p> <p>The Committee raised the issue of the need for increasing the target group of social protection programmes, the need to increase awareness on targeting approaches and effective monitoring of social protection programmes. The Committee requested more engagement on social protection to ensure effective advocacy.</p> <p>On 7 June 2021, the JP engaged the Parliamentary Cluster on Social, Community Affairs and Rural Development to present analysis of the social protection budget and recommendations on how the Government can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of social protection spending. This was followed by a highly interactive post-budget public hearing, that involved a roundtable discussion, that was organized on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021, bringing together different members of Parliament and CSOs, to discuss issues around how to improve social protection financing in Malawi, among other key social sector areas.</p> <p>On 24 January 2022, UNICEF organized an event for Development Partners supporting the 2021/22 lean season response through the Social Protection system in Malawi, which was enabled by system innovations supported by this JP. Participants included the Minister of Gender, Community Development &amp; Social Welfare, the Commissioner of DoDMA, the Director of Poverty Reduction &amp; Social Protection (EPD); the Ambassadors of the European Union, Germany, and Ireland; the Country Director of KfW; the Resident Coordinator a.i. and UNICEF Country Representative and the Deputy of WFP. The event brought together key donors and Government counterparts to appreciate recent innovations and to solidify their commitment towards making the national social protection system more flexible.</p> <p>During the first quarter of 2022 the JP through the ILO organized a follow up session with members of the Parliamentary Committee on Community and Social Affairs. This was a follow up on the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Specifically, the</p>

		<p>committee sought an in-depth discussion on the draft policy framework. The committee provided its input into the draft policy framework.</p> <p>During the first quarter the Joint programme organized supported advocacy meetings organized by CSOs with the parliamentary committee on Budget and Finance and the Community and Social Affairs. The advocacy meetings organized by Civil Society Organizations provided an opportunity for members of parliament to further discuss on the need for social protection and specifically advocate for introduction of old age pension scheme. The members of parliament endorsed the need for the old age pension scheme and advocated for piloting the old age pension scheme to provide lessons for scale up.</p>
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*\* This refers to any event that included representatives of the Joint SDG Fund's global development partners/donors (Denmark, European Union, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.) Please note that this event can be held together with a launch event or other partners' event.*

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### *Innovation, learning and sharing*

- In bullet points, list the main highlights regarding your JP's work on innovation and learning. This should be an update on implementation of the JP learning and sharing plan from your JP doc.
- Maximum 0.5 page
- The SRSP prototype leveraged the existing government systems, the unified beneficiary registry (UBR) and improving targeting, service delivery at the same time cost effective, it reduced implementation challenges, increased government implementation, and provided support to the most vulnerable including while ensuring developmental gains.
- Government resource website development ensuring knowledge management and document repository for the public improving access to information and sharing.
- Shared social protection information and JP resources with the broader public online and through social media campaigns, e-newsletters, and radio programming. Despite movement restrictions, the JP conducted communications field visits to gather beneficiary responses to cash transfer interventions. Key information on the JP and social protection in Malawi are available on socialprotection.org and malawi.un.org.
- Two capacity-building initiatives for government officers on adaptive social protection and M&E were conducted in 2021, training 24 people in total.
- Support Government for the first ever provision of mobile money transfers in urban areas through the national social protection system, under the COVID-19 Urban Cash Intervention (CUCI).
- Introducing e-payment mechanisms for Lean Season 2021/22 payments made through the national SCTP in rural areas.
- For CUCI support for targeting through hotspot mapping, undertook a verification exercise using high resolution satellite imagery and this found that the geographical targeting done by the Government was in-line with targeting criteria
- Support for the roll-out of the e-MIS, a system enabling the first ever horizontal expansion of the national SCTP through Government mechanisms. This innovation is expected to increase ownership, efficiency, and sustainability.
- Exploring the use of the CUCI Call Centre for remote data collection (CUCI Post-Distribution Monitoring Survey).
- Support to the Department of Economic Planning and Development and E-Government to develop an online information sharing platform to easily access Malawi-centric social protection resources. The initiative aims to help key stakeholders map out and learn from existing evidence to produce new areas of knowledge, to identify knowledge gaps more easily, and to avoid the duplication of research initiatives.
- Several evidence generation activities took place including the completion of the After-Action Review (AAR), the UBR concept paper, three fiscal analyses, and the consultation processes for the NSSP policy review.
- Learning from the JP and PUNOs helped to inform CUCI and the SERP.
- Development of a joint PUNOs and RCO concept note for strategic advocacy on social protection with the aim of bringing together key GoM actors with their counterparts in other countries, linked by the regional DCO, to share learning and innovative solutions for social protection across the region.
- Support and development and online application of the TRANSFORM in-depth module on SSSP programmes and a blended TRANSFORM Shock Responsive Module training targeting District Civil Protection Committees (DCPCs) and District Social Support Committees (DSSCs) from disaster prone districts.

## II. Final Results

- *In sum, part II should be **maximum 3 pages**.*
- *It should provide specific information on the achievement of expected, overall results as per the JP ProDoc and the programmatic Results Framework, following up on the broader progress presented in part I.*
- *Note that you will also provide a consolidated table in Annex 1.*

### Overall progress

- Provide a self-assessment on the JP's overall progress, including a brief explanation.
  - All expected results achieved
  - Majority of expected results achieved
  - Only some expected results achieved
 Please, explain briefly:

### Contribution to Fund's global results

- In bullet points, provide a brief overview on your JP's contribution to the global outputs and outcomes of the Joint SDG Fund - in reference to specific targets outlined in the Results Framework of your JP document.
  - Note that you will also provide a consolidated table in Annex 1.
- Maximum 0.5 page.
- ⇒ **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 JP supported CUCI, which contributed to a comprehensive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to the use of the social protection system in urban areas and the potential for expanded social protection coverage in the future. The government-led policy review consultations contributed to a policy analysis that will lead to a comprehensive social protection policy

- ⇒ **Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Output 3 (as per targets set by the JP)**
  - Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

The JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the urban crisis cash response to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability which were likely to be the most affected by the economic effects of COVID-19. For the LSR, instead of using the international humanitarian system to target and deliver additional assistance, the national social protection system is being strengthened and leveraged, meeting both chronic and acute needs in the future.

### JP Outputs and Outcomes

- In bullet points, provide information on the implementation of JP results in relation to the JP's specific outputs and outcomes, as per expected targets from JP's Programme Results Framework.
  - Note that you will also provide a consolidated table in Annex 1.
- Maximum 2 pages.

- ⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outputs**

#### **Output 1.1 The Malawi social protection system is reviewed and updated in line with humanitarian response needs:**

- Development of SOPs to leverage the SP system to reach new beneficiaries in times of heightened need. SOPs tested and proved successful in two districts in LSR 21/22 and in progress in a third district.
- Development and finalization of the LSR AARs since 2019, producing recommendations and helping to inform the use of the social protection system as part of LSR from 2020 and beyond.
- Development of a strategy with the GoM to update the UBR more regularly, thereby increasing the accuracy and timeliness of targeting for social protection and humanitarian interventions. An assessment of the latest global and regional lessons learned, and best practices related to updating registries, including during the COVID-19 response, will inform a contextualized, practical, and sustainable solution for Malawi.
- Technical assistance to the GoM included: analyzing data on social assistance coverage adequacy from a shock-perspective; developing evidence to inform improved targeting using the SP system; supporting the re-targeting exercise of the SCTP to enable improved targeting for chronic and acute needs (i.e. when emergency top-ups are provided); developing GoM monitoring frameworks to ensure data collection can be compared across sectors; and drafting technical options for improved coordination across the emergency and SP sectors.



**Output 1.2: The Malawi social protection system, together with the humanitarian sector, contributes to assisting an emergency caseload as identified by the GoM:**

- 6,386 households provided with cash assistance in line with needs as identified by the GoM via the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC).
- Support to the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the urban crisis cash response to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability. Due to the election, the GoM requested support with a verification exercise to measure the accuracy of the targeting approach, and a rigorous verification exercise was conducted using survey data, Google Earth, and high-resolution satellite imagery to independently verify the targeting process using one city of four as an example. The exercise identified no inclusion errors and minimal (less than 5%) exclusion errors.
- Support to the GoM to complete household registration for the UBR of shock-affected households in urban areas. The data collected was added to be used for the crisis intervention as well as future programming.
- Development and dissemination of radio programmes that were widely broadcasted in advance of the lean season to address information gaps on the MVAC, social protection, and the LSR.

**Output 2.1: GoM social protection financing strategy finalized and informing domestic funding**

- Three key deliverables were completed, namely the Financing and Expenditure Brief, the Budget Brief, and the Fiscal Space Analysis. The Finance and Expenditure Brief provides an analysis of the financing trends in SP in Malawi over the past four fiscal years to identify the specific issues affecting social protection financing in the country, looking at both on- and off-budget resources for the four social protection programmes (when data allowed). The Budget Briefs are produced yearly to analyze the sector funding, based on-budget resources, and provide recommendations on key issues of sector financing, budget execution, and sustainability. The Fiscal Space Analysis examined sector financing from the point of view of sustainable financing and the feasibility of increasing own resource coverage for social protection in Malawi, reducing donor dependency.

**Output 2.2: GoM has improved knowledge and commitment to invest in social protection**

- Support the GoM to develop a social protection resource website to be integrated into their existing ICT infrastructure to enable the government, development partners, and the public to easily access Malawi-centric social protection resources, ultimately enhancing knowledge on social protection and helping to enable evidence-based programming via an accessible evidence compendium. In 2020, the website's skeleton was designed, and numerous resources were cataloged and uploaded to the site in 2021.
- An evidence compilation making the case for investing in social protection in Malawi was completed based on this work UNICEF has commissioned a cost of inaction case study to substantiate the qualitative evidence with quantitative analysis based on survey results amongst SCTP beneficiaries.
- The JP supported the Public Expenditure Review Survey led by the MoEPDPSR, with the aim of contributing to improve the capacity of government in monitoring public funds execution.

**Output 2.3: Malawi Government has improved capacity for social protection expenditure:**

Assisted the GoM to increase its share of the social protection budget and undertake measures to improve efficiency and sustainability of spending via progress towards a financing strategy. In the context of a shorter financial year for 2021/22, the GoM has maintained its contribution to the funding of the SCTP, at 0.12% of the 2021/22 total budget, with further increases expected in 2022/23. The continued prioritization of social protection spending by the GoM despite the country's deteriorating fiscal situation and increasing spending pressures is envisaged to significantly contribute to ensure continued support by donors and development partners in the medium to long- term.

**Output 3.1: The National Social Support Policy is reviewed and analyzed**

- Support to broad consultations for the National Social Support Policy review process, focused on an in-depth analysis of lessons learnt, challenges and opportunities from implementation of the NSSP.
- Production of a landscape/situation and gaps analysis: consultations were held with all stakeholders from community level to interested parties, working in social protection to review National Social Support Policy.

**Output 3.2: Malawi has updated the scope and objectives for the Social Protection System**

- Draft of a Policy Framework Document (PFD) and consultative meetings with political actors and relevant stakeholders held (Parliamentary committee on community and social affairs), before submission of the draft to cabinet for review. The PFD defines the comprehensive policy objectives, priorities and scope of an integrated social protection system in Malawi. The reviewed policy framework has expanded the scope of the current social protection system in line with international social protection standards.

**Output 3.3: The Government of Malawi is supported to advance an Old Age Pension Scheme**



- Provision of technical and financial support to the Old Age Pensions Task Force was ensured. The Technical Note on old age pension was developed to support the draft Bill on introduction of the old age pension scheme and the bill is currently under submitted to parliament for approval. Once adopted, the scheme will reflect an increased willingness of the GoM to commit national resources to the development of a national social protection system and address the specific vulnerabilities and needs of the elderly. The scheme is expected to support more than 600,000 people aged 65 and above.

⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outcomes**

**Outcome 1: Malawi Social Protection System is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector**

- Provided a basis for adaptations to the Malawi social protection system via the development of SOPs, AAR, UBR study, targeting verification exercise, and M&E support to the SCTP.
- Leveraging the social protection system to reach heightened food needs over the 2020/2021/2022 lean season.
- Laid the foundations for the roll out of a Grievance Redress Mechanism which will ensure beneficiaries' stronger ownership and understanding of their rights within the SCTP and beyond.
- Technical assistance provided to government through capacity building and harmonize coordination structures
- Supported the development of an operational vision for SSSP and institutionalized best practices.

**Outcome 2: Malawi Government increases its share of the social protection budget and undertakes measures to improve efficiency of spending**

- Developed tools that will support the Government of Malawi to progress towards the development of a sustainable social protection financing strategy. These tools provided a set of concrete recommendations on how the Government can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of social protection spending. This financial information allowed a robust and evidence-based engagement with the Parliamentarians and high-level advocacy with the Ministry of Finance for improved social protection financing in Malawi. All together, these are building blocks that will allow GoM to prepare a financing strategy for social protection.

**Outcome 3: Malawi Social Protection System is more comprehensive and integrated.**

- Advanced a comprehensive, integrated and inclusive social protection policy through a consultative policy review process that will tackle the lifecycle approach, that is shock sensitive and encompasses both social assistance and social insurance programmes.
- Potential increased social protection coverage through support on designing new schemes, such as social insurance schemes and an old age pension, resulting in a promoting extension of coverage to vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those working in the informal economy.
- Social protection advocacy through engagement with civil society organizations, media and parliamentary committees laid the basis to ensure political buy-in of social protection as an investment, as well as promoting the rights-based approach to social protection that will be achieved through development of a legal framework in the medium to long term.

⇒ **Monitoring and data collection:** *briefly explain the monitoring and data collection arrangements and whether the arrangements worked well / what could have been done better*

The JP built upon the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms already established by the national social protection system. The JP has contributed to strengthen these mechanisms, both for regular and Shock-Sensitive Social Protection. By supporting the call centre, the JP contributed to enhance M&E Government capacities, as this Government structure has been used to conduct verifications and remote data collection exercises

### III. JP finalization and evaluation

- *In sum, part III should be **maximum 2 pages**.*
- *Please build upon Parts I and II to describe the plan for the next year as you approach the end of JP implementation.*

### *Final JP evaluation and lessons learned*

The date when the evaluation was launched (month/year): 05/2021

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

The SP4SDG Final Evaluation was submitted to the PUNOs in early February 2022. As per official OECD Evaluation Criteria and Guidelines, the final evaluation must go through several layers of review. The report is not yet finalized, pending to incorporate feedback from one PUNO. The final report should be available prior to the end of March 2022.

- In bullet points, briefly present the main findings, conclusions, recommendation, and lessons learned of the final JP evaluation.
- Maximum 1 page.

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

- Briefly explain any follow-up to JP finalization in terms of continued engagement with the government and local partners, launch of new initiatives related to the JP, contribution of the JP to the Cooperation Framework, and other expected next steps for key policies and reforms that the JP supported.
  - In addition, indicate possibilities for further scaling up of the JP results.
- Maximum 1 page.

Through coordinated efforts, the JP provided a basis for systemic adaptations of the Malawi social protection system, enhanced knowledge management, provided targeted capacity strengthening and leveraged the social protection systems to meet food and nutrition requirements during times of heightened needs including the lean season and COVID-19, while providing technical assistance to the Government of Malawi. This foundation is suitable for continued engagement and continue formalize the long-term agreement in a Cooperation Framework/MOUs with the relevant government departments and ministries.

Since the JP leveraged the ongoing work of the PROSPER project which also has a component on advancing SSSP, there is a possibility for possible scale up of the JP results in the long-term processes such as the operational guidance for SP. For instance, while innovations supported by the JP have significantly increased the capacity of the national social protection system to respond to slow onset covariate shocks, critical gaps remain for the testing of the use of national systems for other types of responses. In addition, evidence generated in food and nutrition government briefs, communication's handbook awaits dissemination, scalability and to be utilized at all levels and stakeholders. The website for knowledge management and document repository forms a permanent structure which will be used and managed going forward at a smaller cost. The testing of categorical targeting approaches with a focus on child-headed households under CUCI provided a footprint for the upcoming SCTP categorical targeting pilot that will be undertaken by UNICEF. Similarly, JP support towards e-payments via Government systems both in urban (CUCI) and rural areas (LSR 21/22) will be scaled-up with the roll-out of the Harmonized e-payments Solution in 2022, with support from UNICEF. The CUCI programme, which was designed and implemented with support from this programme will have a Phase 2 funded by Germany and has also served to re-ignite the conversation on the need to introduce a cash transfer programme for the ultra-poor living in urban areas.

Evidence generated by the Social Protection Budget Briefs, Financial Analysis is being used to feed into ongoing discussions on social protection financing and AIP reforms. In collaboration with other PUNOS, UNICEF is currently supporting the finalization of the SCTP Strategic Plan, including its Shock-Sensitive Social Protection and Financing aspects. This document will lay out the foundations for key donor and Government contributions to the Social Cash Transfer Programme and its expansions over the next 5 years. UNICEF has recently commissioned a Cost of Inaction Study for Social Protection and the production of a catalogue with potential common social

protection funding solutions to support the establishment of a Social Support Fund. These initiatives are building on the financing and national SRSP adaptations work undertaken by the JP and are expected to advance the improvement of crucial financing structures for the SCTP and its expansions, and for the social support sector at large.

The JP supported development of the TRANSFORM course on shock responsive social protection programmes. The training package developed can be leveraged to continue supporting building the capacity of government in designing and implementation of shock responsive social protection programmes in line with the Malawi National Social Support Programme II.

With support from the JP, the current draft policy framework awaits cabinets approval and subsequent adoption. Once the policy is adopted there is a need to support development and implementation of a comprehensive implementation plan for the policy that will define responsibilities and timelines. Further, there will be need to ensure that there is understanding and buy in on the policy among stakeholders and the general public. As such follow up initiatives should include dissemination of the revised policy document to all levels. As such dissemination is critical. The advance drafting a legal framework for the social protection sector in Malawi remains. Adoption of the current draft policy framework will demonstrate governments commitment to having a comprehensive and integrated policy that ensures progressive increase in coverage. As such, development of social protection legal framework following adoption of the policy will be key to provide the legal backing to the social protection policy.

Further, the groundwork laid for adoption of an old age pensions scheme requires further engagements. It is important to leverage of the current momentum and good will from policy makers to set the scheme rolling in the short term.

The partnerships established on advocacy work with civil society organizations are still relevant and provide an opportunity to continue rolling out the communication and advocacy initiatives to support sustainable financing to the social protection sector as a whole.

## Annex 1: Consolidated Final Results

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

➤ Provide data for the Joint SDG Fund global results (as per targets defined in the JP document).

#### 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: 1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable

SDG: 1.a.1 Proportion of resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes;

SDG: 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

#### 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>8</sup>	3	4	The community consultations to support the MNSSP II review was an ad-hoc initiative that was supported with resources from delayed activities due to Covid-19 restrictions i.e TRANSFORM district training.
<i>List the policies:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CUCI</li> <li>• MNSSP II mid-term review</li> <li>• NSSP- Policy Framework Draft</li> <li>• Draft Bill on Old Age Pension</li> </ul>			
1.2: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale <sup>9</sup>	2	2	
<i>List the policies:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National COVID19 Response Plan (CUCI Implementation Plan)</li> <li>• Pillar 3 of the MNSSP II (Shock-Sensitive Social Protection)</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
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<sup>8</sup>Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

<sup>9</sup>Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

			(if any)
3.1 Number of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)	4	4	
3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead	3	3	

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

Yes

No

Explain briefly: the government capacity strengthening initiative began in 2020 and continue in 2021 via a needs-based online learning programme that empowered the GoM to effectively respond to economic and health crises in both urban and rural areas

## 2. Results as per JP Programmatic Results Framework

➤ Present final JP results in the following template as per JP's Programmatic Results Framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected final target	Final result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)
<b>Outcome 1: Malawi Social Protection System is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector</b>				
Outcome 1.1 indicator Percentage of targeted households with borderline to acceptable food consumption (FCS), disaggregated by age, and sex	Male=76% Female=75% Overall=76%	80%	Male=85% Female=85% Overall=85%	
Outcome 1.2 indicator Percentage of targeted households not engaged in negative coping strategies (rCSI), disaggregated by age, and sex	Male=37% Female=26% Overall=32%	70%	Male=47% Female=65% Overall=65%	These figures may be slightly lower, because although the nation experienced an above-average harvest in 2021, there were some knock-on adverse economic effects from the COVID-19 pandemic that led to increased food prices (i.e., cooking oil) and decreased labour opportunities.
Outcome 1.3 indicator Percentage of targeted households not engaged in livelihoods-based coping strategies, disaggregated by age, and sex (Livelihood coping strategy index (ICSI))	Male=39% Female=33% Overall=37%	70%	Male=41% Female=40% Overall=41%	The target for this activity is quite high and not in-line with typical results achieved when targeting ultra-poor households. While some 41% were not resorting to any livelihoods-based coping strategies, an additional 35 % of households were only resorting to mild ( <i>stress</i> ) coping strategies at the time of the endline.

Outcome 1.4 indicator Proportion of households identified to receive emergency food assistance (IPC-based) served via government social protection channels	72%	90%	100%	Across the two targeted districts, the entire lean season caseload (as per MVAC figures) was provided with assistance via Government channels (i.e., by utilizing the UBR). Roughly 53% of beneficiaries were supported by WFP as part of its horizontal expansion while the remaining caseload was served via the Government's SCTP (vertical expansion).
<b>Output 1.1: Social protection system is reviewed and updated in line with humanitarian response needs</b>				
Output 1.1 indicator Percentage completed of operational guidance informing how the social protection system can be used with the humanitarian sector to address emergency needs	30%	100%	100%	
<b>Output 1.2: The Malawi social protection system, together with the humanitarian sector, contributes to assisting an emergency caseload as identified by the Malawi government</b>				
Output 1.2.1 Indicator: Proportion of target beneficiaries to receive emergency food assistance reached through government social protection	n/a	95%	79% (Balaka,69%; while Nsanje 100%) Male (66%)	WFP reached 100% of targeted beneficiaries across both districts as part of the SCTP horizontal expansion. For Nsanje, all beneficiaries were reached with VE + HE. For Balaka, the SCTP caseload for WFP was reached at 100%; however, the Government was unable to reach 100% of its SCTP caseload for the VE.
Output 1.2.2 Indicator: Proportion of cash transferred to targeted beneficiaries disaggregated by age, and sex, as % of planned	n/a	95%	100%	
<b>Outcome 2: Malawi Government increases its share of the social protection budget and undertakes measures to improve efficiency of spending</b>				
Outcome 2.1 Indicator: Percentage Share of Government Contribution to Social Protection Programmes.	7%	10%	10%	In Malawi, agricultural input subsidies are considered social support to an extent. With the reform of the agricultural input subsidies programmes and the creation of the



				Agriculture Input Programme (AIP), the Government of Malawi has markedly increased the level and coverage on subsidies. The WB has calculated that around MK16.5 billion of AIP benefit SCTP beneficiaries, which would bring GOM's contribution to around 10%. Counting those additional SCTP-eligible beneficiaries that only receive the AIP, the contribution would raise at 20%.
<b>Output 2.1: Malawi Government Social Protection Financing Strategy Finalized and Informing Domestic Funding</b>				
Output 2.1.1 Indicator: Social Protection Financing Strategy Finalized.	0	40%	40%	Strategy not finalized due to changing Government priorities, and pending discussion on the reform of the Agricultural Inputs Programme. Building blocks in place produced by JP include the SP Briefs and ongoing work linked to SDG Programme on Financing.
<b>Output 2.2: Malawi Government has Improved Knowledge and Commitment to Invest in Social Protection</b>				
Output 2.2.1 Indicator: Proportion of total transfer value going to beneficiaries in relation to total programme costs	15%	12%	12%	Persistent indirect costs due to investments related to innovations and trainings, and impact of COVID-19
<b>Output 2.3: Malawi Government has Improved Capacity for Social Protection Expenditure</b>				
Output 2.3.1 Indicator: Proportion of Social Protection Payments delivered through Harmonized Payment System by sex	7%	8.3%	8.3%	Delays in the roll-out of the national Harmonized e-payments model. Expected in the first half of 2022.
<b>Outcome 3: Malawi Social Protection System is more comprehensive and integrated.</b>				
Outcome 3.1 Indicator: A comprehensive, inclusive, and adaptable social protection policy is adopted	0	80%	80%	The stakeholders agreed to include contributory schemes in the policy. Further consultations with relevant stakeholders such as workers and employer associations have been conducted. The Ministry of Labor leading the contributory schemes is a priority area.
<b>Output 3.1: The National Social Support Policy is reviewed and analyzed</b>				

Output 3.1.1 Indicator: A consultative process is conducted for the review of the National Social Support Policy	0	100%	90%	The consultative process has reached final stages with stakeholders agreeing on broad policy Framework and priority areas
<b>Output 3.2: Malawi has updated the scope and objectives for the Social Protection System</b>				
Output 3.2.1 Indicator: The National Social Protection Policy is updated	0	90%	90%	Scope and objectives of policy agreed among stakeholders draft policy framework is ready awaiting final consultations and approval by government
<b>Output 3.3: The Government of Malawi is supported to advance an Old Age Pension Scheme</b>				
Output 3.3.1 Indicator: A strategy for an Old Age Pensions Scheme is developed	0	100%	90%	Old age pension scheme bill technical note developed the Bill still in parliament pending consideration. Advocacy meetings held with parliamentarians to support introduction of the old age pension scheme.

## Annex 2: Strategic documents

- Complete the tables below by focusing on documents that are of particular strategic importance for the JP results – primarily **legal acts, strategies, policy documents, methodological guidance (e.g. SOPs) and reports on comprehensive analysis.**

### 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
Targeting verification tools	10/20	Yes		Yes		Yes	
Nationwide radio programmes scripts	11/20	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
2020/21 Financing and Expenditure Brief	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
2019/2020 Budget Brief	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

Fiscal Space Analysis	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
UBR SWOT analysis document	05/20	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
NID advocacy paper	10/21	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	
UBR SWOT analysis document	05/20	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
SOPs for horizontal expansion	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Best Practices for food and nutrition security	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Communication handbook	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
NSSP 2012 Policy Analysis Document	11/20	yes	yes	yes	yes		
NSSP Policy Framework Document	02/22	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
Old Age Pensions Bill Technical Note	08/20	yes	yes	yes	No	Yes	
Investment Case for SP	02/22	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
2020/2021 Budget Brief	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
NID Options Paper for other interventions	11/21	Yes	No	NO	Yes	Yes	

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

<b>Title of the document</b>	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)	<i>If published, provide the hyperlink</i>
2019 Lean Season Response After Action Review	08/20	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
CUCI Implementation Plan	10/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
SRSP SOPs	11/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

District-specific communication and sensitization package	11/20	Yes	No	No	yes	Yes	
2020/21 Lean Season Response After Action Review	10/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Communications Handbook for Shock Sensitive Social Protection	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	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 - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability</b> (Yes/No)
Targeting verification tools	10/20	Yes		Yes		Yes		
Nationwide radio programmes scripts	11/20	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		
NSSP Review Inception Report								
UBR SWOT analysis document	05/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Chronically ill, persons with disabilities	Yes	Yes
NID advocacy paper	10/21	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes		
SOPs for horizontal expansion	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		
Best Practices for food and nutrition security	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Communication handbook	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No		
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
NSSP 2012 Policy Analysis Document	11/20							
NSSP Policy Framework Document	02/22	yes	yes	yes	yes	Focus increasing scope for population		

						across life cycle		
Old Age Pensions Bill Technical Note	08/20	No	No	No	Yes			
Investment Case for SP	02/22	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2020/2021 Budget Brief	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
NID Options Paper for other interventions	11/21	Yes	No	NO	Yes	Yes		

**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 - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability</b> (Yes/No)
2019 Lean Season Response After Action Review	08/20	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		
CUCI Implementation Plan	10/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
SRSP SOPs	11/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
District-specific communication and sensitization package	11/20	Yes	No	No	yes	Yes		
2020/21 Lean Season Response After Action Review	10/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		
Communications Handbook for Shock Sensitive Social Protection	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No		
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		

### Annex 3: Results questionnaire

- Complete online using this [link](#).

### Annex 4: Final report on JP evaluation

- Provide separately.