



DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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UNCT/MCO: Mauritius MCO

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2022

JP title: Building the Resilience of Food Systems in Mauritius and Seychelles by leveraging on sustainable agricultural practices

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

PUNOS: UNDP, FAO, UN Women

Stakeholder partner: National Government; Civil Society Organizations; Private sector;

Gender Marker: Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm)

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Annual Progress

Overall JP self-assessment of 2022 progress:

Not satisfactory (majority of expected annual results not achieved; over 3 months delay in implementation)

Overall Progress

Activities are currently ongoing for all the outputs under this project which are expected to be completed by end of March 2023. In November 2022, a capacity building on mainstreaming gender equality and women empowerment in the agricultural sector was organised for around 34 government officials, civil society organisations and young people.

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

The project is currently being implemented but it is expected to contribute to SDG 2: No Hunger, SDG 5 - gender equality, SDG 12- Sustainable Consumption and Production and SDG 15 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Constraints that were encountered and any adjustments that were made to strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of the JP and the coherence and coordination of UN system support.

There has been significant delays in kickstarting this project. This is namely due to the intensive and lengthy conversation with Government stakeholders in Mauritius and Seychelles to finalise the workplan and the implementation modality.

There is now a strong ownership by Government stakeholders for the project which is helping in accelerating implementation. Two technical committees have been set up to coordinate implementation of the project and they are meeting on a regular basis.

In addition a regional steering committee has been set up with monthly meetings. This has helped to monitor progress and find

solutions to bottlenecks. Furthermore, this acts as a platform for exchange between the countries and has catalysed several areas of collaboration between the two islands.

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

Although the project is still being implemented, the process and the eco-systems that are being established will ensure sustainability. The projects in both Mauritius and Seychelles are key priorities for both Governments and the National Authorities see the project a major milestone to upscale afterwards.

Strategic Partnerships and Communications

Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP

Government stakeholders: Key Government stakeholders were involved in the drafting & finalisation of the workplan and the implementation modality. This has helped to ensure full government ownership. Civil Society: Consultations were made with civil society consultations and also with women associations to ensure that they are involved throughout the whole project implementation. For instance, in the context of seaweed production, awareness raising sessions have been carried out with women groups and women associations. Private sector: Consultations have been made with the private sector and farmers cooperatives to understand their needs and also to address any questions that they have with regards to seaweed fertilisers and also climate smart agricultural practices. This would help address key barriers in their utilisation and thus accelerate intake.

Key meetings and events organized

JP steering committee/ programme board meeting	Strategic partners/ donors event	Kick-off meeting
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Priority Cross-cutting Issues

Cross-cutting results/issues

A capacity building session for government official, civil society and youth on mainstreaming gender equality and women empowerment in the agricultural sector in Mauritius. A similar training is being planned for Seychelles.

In Mauritius, as part of the feasibility for utilisation of seaweed for the production of fertilisers, several awareness raising sessions with women in the coastal areas have been organised on the business opportunity that the seaweed composting may represent.

In Seychelles, it is planned that women and women headed households will trained and provided with the necessary equipment to start the production of fresh vegetables and fruits.

In addition, a gender expert has been hired under this project to ensure that all the deliverables are gender sensitive and take into consideration gender dimensions.

The project is uniquely situated to ensure gender mainstreaming into the agriculture sector. Work with women farmers and cross functionality with existing initiatives have enabled inclusion of a sector that has been neglected so far.

How did the JP apply the Gender Marker

The JP is Gender-sensitive (for example, the JP acknowledged and aimed to address gender to enhance the policy/programme, such as undertaking gender analysis to ensure policies/programmes do no harm). Evidence, data collection and analysis (e.g. gender assessments of programmes; policy briefs, costing for scale-up of social services);Capacity development (e.g. training of social workers, local governments, local communities);

JP address the below cross-cutting issues and principles of leaving no one behind

Human Rights	Persons with disabilities	Youth	Environmental and social standards
No	No	No	No

Contribution to enhancing SDG Financing

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

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