



Annual Progress
Report:
Eastern Region

2022

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World Health Organization

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SPECIAL TRUST FUND FOR AFGHANISTAN (STFA)
 JOINT PROGRAMME FOR THE EASTERN REGION OF AFGHANISTAN:
 ADDRESSING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS THROUGH THE ABADEI^[1] STRATEGY

ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2022

Programme Title & Project Number	Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s)/ Strategic Results
<p>Programme Title: STFA Joint Programme for the Eastern Region of Afghanistan: Addressing Basic Human Needs through the ABADEI Strategy ('JP-Eastern')</p> <p>MPTF Office Project Reference Number:133760-3</p>	<p>Country: Afghanistan Region: Eastern Region</p> <p>Priority area/ strategic results: UN Transitional Engagement Framework (TEF) for Afghanistan: Outcomes 2 and 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2: Essential services are sustained that address basic human needs for the people in Afghanistan. • Outcome 3: Afghanistan will preserve social investments and community-level systems essential to meeting basic human needs, protect gains towards the SDGs, and develop scenarios for future engagement.
Participating Organization(s)	Implementing Partners
<p>Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 2. ILO - International Labour Organization 3. IOM - International Organization for Migration 4. UNCTAD - United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 5. UNDP - United Nations Development Programme 6. UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization 7. UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund 8. UNHABITAT - United Nations Human Settlements Programme 9. UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 10. UNODC - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 11. UNOPS - United Nations Office for Project Services 12. UN Women - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women 13. WHO - World Health Organization 	<p>Please refer to PUNO Specific reports</p>

[1] Area-Based Approach to Development Emergency Initiatives

Programme/Project Cost (US\$)
Total approved budget as per project document: \$150,685,491
Government Contribution: N/A
MPTF /JP Contribution [1]: \$20,500,000
Agency Contribution: N/A
Government Contribution (if applicable): N/A
Other Contributions (donors): N/A
Total Contributions: \$20,500,000
Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.
Assessment/Review - if applicable please attach Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mid-Term Evaluation Report – if applicable please attach Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Programme Duration	
Overall Duration	24 months
Start Date	01.05.2022
Original End Date	30.04.2024
Current End Date	30.04.2024
Report Submitted By	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Name: Hiroko Massey o Title: Trust Fund Manager o Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP o Email address: hiroko.massey@undp.org 	

[1] The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABADEI	Area-Based Approach for Development Emergency Initiative
BHN	Basic Human Needs
CBO	Community-Based Organizations
CfW	Cash for Work
DaO	Delivering as One
DfA	De Facto Authorities
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FHH	Family Health House
GBV	Gender Based Violence
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
JP	Joint Programme
JPIP	Joint Programme Initiation Plan
MHPSS	Mental Health Psychosocial Support
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
OPD	Outpatient Department
PNC	Postnatal Care
PUNO	Participating United Nations Organization
STFA	Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TEF	Transitional Engagement Framework
TFMU	Trust Fund Management Unit
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNSFA	United Nations Strategic Framework for Afghanistan (under development)
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WHO	World Health Organization

I. STFA CONTEXT

The Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan (STFA) was established on 20 October 2021 to help address basic human needs in Afghanistan, at a time when communities across the country, including the Eastern region, were confronting a severe socio-economic crisis. It constitutes an important instrument to enable well-coordinated international assistance through joint UN interventions, while facilitating robust linkages with humanitarian actions on the ground. STFA was established as a Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) to support the implementation of the UN Transitional Engagement Framework (TEF)'s strategic priorities 2[2] and 3[3]. As part of these TEF priorities, STFA seeks to enable the implementation of the ABADEI[4] strategy, which provides the programmatic foundation for the fund's existing portfolio.

The ABADEI Strategy represents one of the first large-scale attempts to operationalize a basic human needs approach within the complex and fast evolving context of Afghanistan. Conceptually, it provides an articulation of investments in essential services, livelihoods and community resilience that complement humanitarian efforts by helping households (including women-headed households), communities, and the private sector cope with the adverse effects of the crisis.

The ABADEI Strategy aims to promote more effective and integrated responses by strengthening the collaboration, coherence, and complementarity of interventions with those covered through the Humanitarian Response Plan. STFA is also being strategically positioned to become part of the One UN Funding Framework from 2023. Future programming of the STFA will be guided by the successor document to the UN Transitional Engagement Framework (TEF), which will serve as the strategic planning framework for the United Nations in Afghanistan.

Activities under the result areas of the four thematic windows of the Fund cover the (i) provision of essential services, (ii) community-based livelihoods and local economies, (iii) protection of farm-based livelihoods from natural disasters, and (iv) the promotion of social cohesion and community resilience. As of December 2022, 17 UN Agencies[5] have signed the memorandum of understanding to participate in the STFA, with an invitation remaining open for any interested UN agencies to join the Trust Fund.

Eight regional joint programmes (JPs) covering the entire country have been developed and approved by the STFA Steering Committee in 2022. These Regional JPs, with other possible joint sectoral programmes, will be rolled out in stages subject to the availability of funds and based on the STFA resource allocation strategy.

[2] "Essential services are sustained that address basic human needs for the people in Afghanistan"

[3] "Afghanistan will preserve social investments and community-level systems essential to meeting basic human needs, protect gains towards the SDGs, and develop scenarios for future engagement."

[4] Area Based Approach to Development Emergency Initiatives

[5] The 17 PUNOs that have joined STFA are: UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNFPA, UNCTAD, ITC, ILO, UNODC, UNIDO, UNHCR, UN Women, IOM, UNESCO, UNOPS, FAO, UNCDF, UNMAS and WHO

II. EASTERN REGIONAL JOINT PROGRAMME CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND



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The Eastern Region comprises Kunar, Laghman, Nuristan, and Nangarhar provinces, and borders Pakistan. The Eastern Region is vulnerable to natural hazards - dominated by seasonal floods, earthquakes, landslides, and droughts. Over the past, the region has also been adversely impacted by conflicts, which have led to significant displacement, destruction of life and property, loss of livelihood and derailment of development initiatives. This has also created a fragile humanitarian situation as access to the population remains a challenge due to the insecurity and remoteness of some rural areas.

The Eastern regional joint programme was approved by the STFA Steering Committee in March 2022. However, funding allocation to the East was only approved in October 2022, when resources were available in STFA to launch Regional JP activities. The region received a total funding allocation of US\$41.5 million, calculated based on the STFA Regional Allocation Strategy which, in turn, is guided by the population adjusted Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI).

In the Eastern Region, Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs) engaged in collaborative efforts to co-design "Delivering as One" (DaO) initiatives under the Regional JP. This exercise aimed to bolster inter-agency complementarities and synergies – whereby the output of one PUNO can contribute to other PUNOs' activities. This strategic approach was designed to optimize cost-effectiveness and capitalize on the unique areas of expertise, capacities and programmatic footprints of each PUNO. A joint working session between the TFMU and PUNOs was held in September 2022 in Jalalabad, initiating discussions on the development of these integrated initiatives as part of a regional resource prioritization exercise. During this session, PUNOs identified key intervention areas and prioritized districts based on the situational analysis of the region and other available information, including the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI), Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration (PARR), White Areas, food security data from the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, and disaster-prone regions. PUNOs actively shared their expertise in specific areas to lead the dialogues on prioritization.

The proposed DaOs and the prioritized districts were presented to the Technical Coordination Working Group (TCWG) on 12 October 2022 and subsequently approved by the Steering Committee (SC) through a silence procedure on 27 October 2022. In total, US\$41.5 million was approved and allocated for the Eastern Region to support a total 11 DaO initiatives.

[2] "Essential services are sustained that address basic human needs for the people in Afghanistan"

[3] "Afghanistan will preserve social investments and community-level systems essential to meeting basic human needs, protect gains towards the SDGs, and develop scenarios for future engagement."

[4] Area Based Approach to Development Emergency Initiatives

III. PURPOSE

The STFA JPs offers a common framework for PUNOs to provide coordinated assistance to address priority issues according to the specific needs of the most vulnerable people of Afghanistan. Based on the four thematic windows of the ABADEI Strategy, this JP intends to deliver four outputs contributing to TEF's Outcomes 2 and 3, namely:

- Output 1 – Essential services and community infrastructure – including for health, agriculture, education, and energy supply - are functional, sustained and expanded to meet different needs of women and men.
- Output 2 – Livelihoods, businesses and the local economy are able recover, more sustainable and more resilient to instability.
- Output 3 – Communities have improved infrastructure, access to water and preparedness mechanisms to protect farm-based livelihoods and cope with climate and environment shocks and natural disasters.
- Output 4 – Social cohesion, respect for human rights , including in particular, the rights of women and girls, and access to justice are progressively strengthened at local level – contributing to greater community resilience.

The STFA JPs builds on the longstanding experience of PUNOs in the country and the early findings and lessons learned during the implementation of the joint programme activities in the Northern and Southern regions, in the post-2021 powershift context. JP interventions were designed with a view to capitalizing on the different mandates and capacities of PUNOs, avoiding duplication of efforts and promoting meaningful collaboration and synergies to ensure tangible impact for target communities.

IV. PROGRESS TOWARDS JOINT PROGRAMME RESULTS AND OUTPUTS



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A total of 10 PUNOs received funding allocations to implement DaO initiatives in the Eastern Region. Table 7 provides a list of DaO initiatives under the STFA Easter Regional JP

#	DaO	Sub DaO	PUNOs
DaO 1	Improved access to Health Services	Drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation services	UNODC
		FHHs	UNFPA, UNDP, IOM
DaO 2	Support Education Sector	Education Data Monitoring	UNESCO
DaO 3	Urban Development and Provision of Basic Urban Services	N/A	UN Habitat
DaO 4	Durable solutions for IDPs and Returnees	Livelihood improvement for IDPs	IOM, UNDP, UN Habitat, FAO
		Provision of Essential services for IDPs	IOM, UNDP, UN Habitat, UNODC
DaO 5	Enabler DaO: Facilitating the importation of Essential and relief consignments	N/A	UNCTAD
DaO 6	Support Rural Livelihood and Agriculture value chains	Livelihood Development	IOM, UNDP, FAO
		Strengthen water management and restoration and rehabilitation of critical irrigation systems (inc. Karez) for improved livelihoods	FAO, UNESCO
		Supporting Soyabean value chain to improve food security and farmers livelihood	FAO

#	DaO	Sub DaO	PUNOs
DaO7	Support to MSMEs and to the economic empowerment of women and youth	Economic empowerment and recovery programme	IOM, UNDP, UN Habitat
		Heritage, resilience, and livelihoods	UNESCO
		Increase capacity of the private sector	UNCTAD
		Provision of access to SRH and GBV information and services through livelihood and income generating activities for women and girls	UNFPA
		Support to women entrepreneurship	IOM, UNFPA, UN Women
DaO 9	Post Earthquake recovery and DRM	Flood disaster response and prevention	IOM, UNDP, UN Habitat, FAO
		Protecting livelihoods from natural disasters	IOM, UNDP, FAO
DaO 10	Community empowerment for locally led solutions	N/A	IOM, UNDP, UN Habitat, FAO
DaO 11	Advocacy and inclusive practice for Human Rights, Women empowerment and gender equality	Support to Media Outlets	UNESCO

Table 7 – List of DaO and PUNOs Eastern region

Joint Programme Outcomes

There are no outcome-level results to present for this reporting period, as the Joint Programme activities in the Eastern region started at the end of the last quarter of 2022; PUNOs were able to start preparatory work for programme implementation. Therefore, no activities have been reported as completed during 2022.

Progress Against STFA Output Areas

By the end of 2022, a total 477 people, including 93 women, received Cash-for-Work assistance under the livelihood support component (Output 2) of the Eastern region JP. As a result of this assistance, a total of 12,220 workdays were created. In terms of outputs, no additional progress is reported by PUNOs under the Eastern region joint programme.

V. RISK ASSESSMENT

During the JP planning stage, a risk management framework was developed that identified risks in several categories including, Contextual (Political, Security), Programmatic, Operations/finance and organisational risks. The JP programme risk status will be reported under the next report.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED

Prioritization of resources: Population-adjusted MPI. The process of prioritization and allocation of resources to the Eastern region JP was developed in line with the Resource Allocation Strategy developed in consultation with STFA stakeholders. The Strategy is informed by the population-adjusted Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) – and takes into account other key parameters, including, inter alia (a) data on PARRs, food insecurity (IPC), disaster-prone locations, and white areas (i.e. extent of remoteness to health services); (b) programmatic footprint (for humanitarian and BHN activities) (c) and local community engagements (e.g. consultations with CDCs, women MSME networks, IDPs, etc.). The exercise has helped STFA prioritize activities across the region, through a needs-based approach; allocate resources to priority districts; and assign funding for each of the PUNOs contributing to a DaO.

Delivering as One. STFA applied a `Delivering as One` (DaO) approach in the Eastern region, building on key lessons learned from the JP implementation in the Northern and Southern regions. The STFA DoA approach serves to facilitate greater coordination and collaboration across PUNOs to collectively contribute to greater results based on their areas of expertise, capacities and experience. The DaO approach also introduced the idea of appointing a Convening Agent, a PUNO which provides coordination and programmatic leadership for each specific DaO, agreed upon by all relevant PUNOs.

VII. QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

A Qualitative Assessment will be included in the next report.

Annex I. Indicator-based Performance Assessment

JP Output Indicators	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target	Source of Verification
Output 1: Essential services and community infrastructure – including for health, agriculture, education, and energy supply - are functional, sustained and expanded to meet different needs of women and men.			
1a. Number of people that have benefited from UN-supported essential services and/or new/rehabilitated infrastructure, disaggregated by type of service and sex. (Unit: People) Baseline: 344,968 Target: 82,215 Female target: 39,381	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports
1c. Number of people that have benefited from drug-treatment, drug rehabilitation services (health). (Unit: People) Baseline: 4,200 Target: Female target:	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports
1d. Number of functional, UN-supported, facilities providing basic health assistance (including basic health assistance services for women and girls). (Unit: Facilities/Infrastructure) Baseline: Target: 32 Female target:	Progress: 5 Female progress: 40		Please see PUNO specific reports
1e. Number of COVID-kits distributed to health centres/clinics. (Unit: Kits) Baseline: 6,040 Target: 1,100 Female target:	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports
1g. Hectares of rehabilitated and/or newly irrigated land for agricultural activities. (Unit: Hectares) Baseline: Target: 200 Female target: 60	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		

[25] The progress under this indicator has already been reported under Indicator 1.a. this is just to mention the overall progress made in 2022.

JP Output Indicators	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target	Source of Verification
Output 2: Livelihoods, businesses and the local economy are able to recover, more sustainable and more resilient to instability.			
<p>2b. Number of people who have benefited from newly created income-generation opportunities, disaggregated by sex, age and province. (Unit: People) Baseline: 802 Target: 387 Female target: 15</p>	<p>Progress: 0 Female progress: 0</p>		<p>Please see PUNO specific reports</p>
<p>2b. Number of people who have benefited from newly created income-generation opportunities, disaggregated by sex, age and province. (Unit: People) Baseline: 469 Target: 535 Female target: 420</p>	<p>Progress: 0 Female progress: 0</p>		<p>Please see PUNO specific reports</p>
<p>2b.1. Number of people who have benefited from productive employment through CfW schemes (at least 30% women; 50% youth). (Unit: People) Baseline: Target: 500 Female target:</p>	<p>Progress: 470 Female progress: 93</p>		<p>Please see PUNO specific reports</p>
<p>2c. No. of worker-days generated with UN-support. (Unit: Workdays) Baseline: Target: 13,000 Female target:</p>	<p>Progress: 12,220 Female progress: 0</p>		<p>Please see PUNO specific reports</p>
<p>2f. Number of MSMEs that benefit through financial capital support, training and/or other forms of asset support, disaggregated by women-led and men-led MSMEs. (Unit: MSMEs) Baseline: 73 Target: 45 Female target: 32</p>	<p>Progress: 0 Female progress: 0</p>		<p>Please see PUNO specific reports</p>

JP Output Indicators	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target	Source of Verification
Output 3: Communities have improved infrastructure, access to water and preparedness mechanisms to protect farm-based livelihoods and cope with climate and environment shocks and natural disasters			
3c. Number of farmers who benefited from training and assets for improved, climate-smart, agriculture (at least 30% women). (Unit: People) Baseline: Target: 25 Female target: 5	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports
3d. Number of people that benefit from rehabilitated and/or newly constructed disaster-resilient community infrastructure and nature-based solutions. (Unit: People) Baseline: 120,875 Target: 71,051 Female target: 28,500	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports
Output 4: Social cohesion, respect for human rights – including, in particular, the rights of women and girls- and access to justice are progressively strengthened at local level – contributing to greater community resilience.			
4a. Number of CBOs/CSOs with improved capacity for participatory and inclusive community planning (at least 20% women-led). (Unit: CSOs) Baseline: Target: 5 Female target:	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports
4b. Number of people with better awareness about human rights , social cohesion and conflict prevention (at least 50% women). (Unit: People) Baseline: Target: 300 Female target: 240	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports
4c: Number of districts with counselling and legal aid services. (Unit: Districts) Baseline: 9 Target: 1 Female target:	Progress: 0 Female progress: 0		Please see PUNO specific reports

Annex III. A Brief Note on Resources

In 2022, based on the population-adjusted Multi-dimensional Poverty Index, it was estimated that US\$318 million would be required to implement priority activities planned across the eight Regional JPs. By December 2022, only US\$176 million was received for STFA to address the dire basic human needs in Afghanistan. The relatively slow pace of resource mobilisation and uncertainty in the availability of resources increases the project management costs and makes it challenging to formulate more effective, multi-year programme and project work plans. Without additional resources, it will not be possible to expand activities in the Northern and Southern regions, and ensure gains achieved to date are preserved over the long term. There is an urgent need for STFA to receive additional contributions to address dire basic human needs and ensure the longer-term sustainability of the joint programmes.



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UNOCA, JALALABAD RD, KABUL AFGHANISTAN
INFO.STFA@UNDP.ORG