

Joint SDG Fund

Template for the Joint Programme Evidence-based Final Narrative Report

SDG FINANCING PORTFOLIO – COMPONENT 1

Cover page

Date of Report: 30 / June / 2023

Programme title and Country
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¹ 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](#).

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

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

⁴ 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](#).

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

Programme Budget (US\$)			
Total Budget (as per Programme Document, without co-funding): USD 999,861.00 Agency/Other Contributions/Co-funding (if applicable): USD 292,000			
Joint SDG Fund Contribution ⁶ and co-funding breakdown, by recipient organization:			
Agency/others	Joint SDG Fund contribution	Co-funding	Total
UNDP	USD 446,671	USD 243,000*	
UNICEF	USD 135,890	USD 30,000	
ILO	USD 144,450	USD 20,000	
UNESCO	-	-	
UN Women	USD 169,060	-	
WHO	USD 103,790	-	
Total	USD 999,861	USD 192,000	

*Within this amount, UNESCO provided USD 50,000.00 for activities. However, since the funds provided by UNESCO were managed by UNDP they are shown together.

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

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Abbreviations

BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
DFA	Development Finance Assistance
ECD	Early Childhood Development
FBIH	Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
INFF	Integrated National Financing Framework
JP	Joint Programme
NCD	Non-communicable Diseases
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
RS	Republika Srpska

Executive Summary

The Joint Programme (JP) in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) has played a pivotal role in fostering vibrant dialogue among various stakeholders in the governments and providing critical support to authorities in establishing a robust ecosystem for systemic financing of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the country. This transformative journey has yielded significant progress and set the stage for sustainable development in BiH.

Under Outcome 1, the JP has been dedicated to the establishment of an SDG Financing Framework that addresses long-term structural policy challenges and provides clear directions for targeted public financing and mobilization of additional resources to fulfill the country's SDG commitments. Through extensive dialogue and cooperation among government entities, the private sector, and non-governmental actors, the development of the SDG Financing Framework has been a remarkable achievement. The framework draft is finalized and currently is undergoing final review by the SDG Financing Working Group prior its submission for government adoption. It will serve as a comprehensive blueprint for integrated sustainable development financing in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Outcome 2 has focused on ensuring that public finance management is SDG-informed and resource planning in selected priority areas is gender-responsive, efficient, and effective. The JP's efforts in this area have yielded remarkable results, with a total number of 11 institutions capacitated, including the entity ministries of health that worked with WHO on health related matters, entity and cantonal ministries of health, social protection and education that worked with UNICEF on early childhood development as well as well state and entity agencies for statistics that worked with ILO and UNESCO. Additionally, significant progress has been made in gender-responsive and SDG-informed public finance management. Institutions have been capacitated to apply gender-responsive and SDG-focused tools and instruments in priority areas such as education, early childhood education, health, and the labor market. These endeavors have led to enhanced resource planning and more effective implementation of the SDGs.

In terms of labor market interventions, just transition, and education-related initiatives, the JP has made substantial strides. Notably, the development of business cases advocating for investments in children and youth, considering the cost of inaction in priority sectors, has been a significant accomplishment. Additionally, the JP has strengthened the capabilities of sectoral ministries to optimize the allocation of public resources in selected sectoral priority areas, including the labor market, just transition, and education. Efforts have also been made to analyze data, design interventions, and present results for evidence-based policy planning and budget allocation in the education sector.

The JP's journey has underscored several key lessons. Inclusive dialogue, evidence generation, and stakeholder engagement have proven to be indispensable in the development of SDG Financing Frameworks. The involvement of diverse stakeholders, such as government entities, the private sector, civil society, and communities, has ensured comprehensive and sustainable solutions. Furthermore, capacity building for institutional partners and experts has played a vital role in promoting gender-responsive budgeting, labor market interventions, just transition approaches, and improved education outcomes.

Moving forward, it is recommended that future interventions prioritize continued support and capacity building in crucial areas such as gender-responsive budgeting, labor market policies, just transition strategies, and comprehensive early childhood education. Robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will be essential for tracking progress, identifying challenges, and making timely adjustments. Close coordination and collaboration among all stakeholders, including government entities, development partners, civil society organizations, and communities, will be crucial for scaling up SDG progress and ensuring its sustainability.

The JP in Bosnia and Herzegovina has achieved remarkable progress in promoting SDG financing strategies, gender-responsive approaches, labor market interventions, just transition, and education-related initiatives. The imminent adoption of the SDG Financing Framework, alongside advancements in gender-responsive budgeting, labor market interventions, just transition approaches, and education-related initiatives, showcases a strong commitment to sustainable development. By sustaining this momentum and providing targeted support in priority areas, BiH can effectively work towards achieving the SDGs, promoting gender equality, ensuring a just transition, and fostering quality education for all its citizens.

Context (max 1 page)

Nestled amidst captivating landscapes, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is an emblematic country steeped in a rich tapestry of history and cultural diversity. Governed by an intricate system established by the 25-year-old Dayton Peace Agreement, BiH accommodates various overriding systems. Apart from the BiH institutions government level, there exist separate administrations for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and Republika Srpska (RS), along with the Brčko District. The FBiH is further divided into 10 cantons and 79 local governments, while the RS comprises 64 local governments. Given the nuanced web of governance structures, it is not surprising that the country grapples with formidable coordination challenges and a paucity of political consensus, resulting in inefficiencies in delivery of public services. Consequently, public trust in the government is waning, and BiH continues to be categorized as a fragile state.

Economically, BiH has experienced a downward trend in growth projections, partly due to the slow economic growth in Europe and partly due to shortcomings of its governance system. The country's high unemployment rate, particularly among young people, coupled with low labour market participation of women, have contributed to alarming emigration trends. Poverty, especially in rural areas and among minorities, remains a concern. It is in the embrace of these challenges that the pursuit of inclusive development strategies becomes all the more urgent.

The Joint Programme (JP) in BiH embarked on a transformative journey, fostering vibrant dialogue among various stakeholders in the governments and providing critical support to authorities in establishing essential elements of the ecosystem for systemic financing of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the country. The key objectives of the JP were to establish an SDGs Financing Framework that provides long-term solutions for more integrated sustainable development financing in the country, and to ensure that public finance management is SDG-informed and resource planning in selected priority areas is gender-responsive, effective, and efficient.

The primary beneficiaries of the JP in BiH are the government authorities and institutions entrusted with policy-making, planning, and budgeting at the BiH, entity, and Brčko District BiH levels. By nurturing their capacities in strategic resource management, the JP aimed to equip these stakeholders with the tools to cost, leverage and allocate resources effectively for the SDGs accelerated implementation. Ultimately, the JP sought to empower the diverse citizens of BiH, particularly vulnerable groups, by enhancing the accessibility and quality of healthcare services, fostering a nurturing environment in education, and unlocking avenues for equal opportunities.

The JP in BiH aligned with the government's priorities and national development plans in several ways. Firstly, it directly contributed to the country's SDG Framework, which defines the sustainable development pathways and priorities based on identified accelerators and drivers. The JP specifically supported the priorities of *"Functional System for Policy Design and Sustainable Development Management"* and *"Efficient Public Finance Management"* under the development pathway of *"Good Governance and Public Sector Management"*. It also aligned with the *"Society of Equal Opportunities"* pathway, by focusing on reducing disparities and improving the quality of public services, including healthcare and education.

Additionally, the JP addressed concerns raised in the *"European Commission's Opinion on BiH's EU Membership Application"*. By improving strategic and policy planning, enhancing capabilities to provide better healthcare services and education quality, and promoting inclusive development, the JP contributed to the necessary reforms and preparations for the country's EU accession process.

Overall, the JP's interventions in BiH contributed to the country's sustainable development agenda, the EU accession process, and the improvement of socio-economic conditions. By helping the governments in BiH aligning financing with the SDGs, optimizing public funds, and engaging stakeholders, the JP played a vital role in establishing an effective and comprehensive SDG financing infrastructure in BiH.

Joint Programme Results

1. Overview of Strategic Final Results

1.1. Overall assessment (max 100 words)

- ☐ Above expectations (fully achieved expected JP results and made additional progress)
☒ In line with expectations (achieved expected JP results)
☐ Satisfactory (majority of expected JP results achieved, but with some limitations/adjustments)
☐ Not-satisfactory (majority of expected JP results not achieved due to unforeseen risks/challenges)

The JP has achieved results that align with expectations, despite the unique challenges it faced. Working with different governments in BiH posed complexities due to varying priorities and coordination issues. Additionally, the adverse impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as challenges arising from the war in Ukraine, including food and energy crises and inflation, have posed significant constraints on the JP's implementation due to the governments' primary focus on addressing immediate crises-related priorities. However, the JP demonstrated resilience and adaptability in overcoming these challenges.

The quality of the JP's output and the impact it generated outweigh any concerns related to delays. The establishment of an SDGs Financing Framework, addressing long-term structural policy challenges and providing directions for targeted public financing, is a significant achievement. The comprehensive SDG financing framework developed by government working structure with help of the JP have the potential to transform the country's sustainable development financing landscape. The positive outcomes achieved thus far demonstrate the JP's ability to navigate complex contexts and deliver tangible results.

1.2 Key results achieved (max 500 words)

Three key transformative and catalytic results produced by the JP that have fostered systematic change in the country are as following:

(1) Development of an SDG Financing Framework:

The JP played a crucial role in supporting the development of an SDG Financing Framework in BiH. This framework addresses long-term structural policy challenges and provides guidance for targeted public financing and mobilization of additional resources to implement the country's SDG commitments. By defining the critical set of reform policies and financial instruments, such as fostering private investments and engaging international financing institutions, the framework promotes sustainable development in priority areas like digitalization, decarbonization (energy and infrastructure), and research and development. This systemic change in financing policies contributes to advancing the 2030 Agenda across multiple sectors in BiH.

(2) Facilitation of Evidence-based Policy Making:

The JP facilitated SDG-informed public finance management and evidence-based policy making in selected priority areas. Several initiatives have contributed to this transformative result. For example,

- The JP supported the piloting of SDG budget tagging in Canton Sarajevo, the richest region in the country. Budget tagging against SDGs was conducted in 12 key ministries and institutions, allowing for better optimization and targeting of public finance toward the SDGs. This pilot case is currently being reviewed for possible upscaling in the SDG Financing Framework.
- Investment cases for early childhood development (ECD) were prepared at key government levels, highlighting the costs, benefits, and cost-of-inaction of scaling up quality, equitable, and adequate investments in ECD interventions. Additionally, policy briefs and feasibility studies on early childhood education at the local level were completed.
- Financial protection studies were conducted in the entities of the Federation of BiH and the Republika Srpska. These studies provided evidence to inform health planning and financing policies, particularly towards achieving universal health coverage. Investment cases for prevention and control of non-

communicable diseases (NCDs) were also finalized, offering insights into the economic burden of NCDs and the benefits of investing in NCD prevention and control programs.

- Through the creation of Supply and Use Tables, Input-Output Tables, and an analytical report on the impact of government policies on the labor market and skill demand, the JP facilitated the development of evidence-based labour policies. This comprehensive analysis focused on the potential employment impacts of decarbonization and the energy transition, ensuring that relevant policies and programs consider the needs of affected regions and vulnerable populations. By promoting a just transition, maximizing employment opportunities, and minimizing labor market disruptions, the JP fostered systemic change in labor policies, contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in BiH.
- Finally, the JP strengthened the capacities of statistical and educational institutions at all levels of government. This support has enabled the creation of more reliable and quality statistical information and information management systems, facilitating better and evidence-based policy planning and budget allocation across the education sector. These tools have enhanced the availability of reliable and quality statistical information for improved policy planning and budget allocation in the education sector.

(3) Creation of Local Capacity for Sustainable Development:

In addition to the aforementioned results, the JP prioritized government capacity building as a means to foster sustainability. A total number of 11 institutions were capacitated by the JP, including the entity ministries of health that worked with WHO on health related matters, entity and cantonal ministries of health, social protection and education that worked with UNICEF on early childhood development as well as well state and entity agencies for statistics that worked with ILO and UNESCO.

By investing in capacity development and knowledge sharing, the JP empowered institutions to undertake further active role in driving sustainable development. Through the acquisition of new capabilities and expertise, government actors were better equipped to address the challenges and opportunities related to the SDGs. This not only ensured the longevity of the transformative changes initiated by the JP but also laid the foundation for continued progress towards the 2030 Agenda in a sustainable and self-reliant manner.

[1.3. Results achieved on Integrated National Financing Framework/SDG financing building blocks \(max 2 pages\)](#)

Implementation stages	Planned (0%)	Emerging (1-49% progress)	Advancing (50-99% progress)	Complete (100% progress)	Previously completed	Not applicable
1. Inception phase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Assessment & diagnostics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Financing strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Monitoring & review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Governance & coordination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Results achieved in the Inception Phase:

The SDG Financing Road Map for Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) was prepared under the guidance of the SDG Financing Working Group. This group consists of representatives from the BiH SDG Council, Ministries of Finance, and other relevant ministries at various levels of government, including the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH), Republika Srpska (RS), and Brčko District of BiH. The Road Map was officially adopted by the governments of FBiH and RS.

Aligned with the BiH SDG Framework and the requirements arising from BiH's EU accession process, the Road Map holds significant importance in terms of aligning with EU sustainable financing taxonomies and standards. This alignment became crucial when BiH was recognized as an official candidate country by the EU. The Road Map aims to address the financing gap for achieving the SDGs and outlines key policy measures, investment

processes, financial instruments, and reforms to be implemented both in the short term (2023-2025) and the longer term (2026-2030).

With a focus on the country's priorities, the Road Map places particular emphasis on three sectors: digitalization, infrastructure and energy, and research and development. These sectors demonstrate a strong potential for accelerating SDG progress within their domains and have the capacity to generate additional fiscal space for other SDGs. Supported by incentive policies and innovative financing instruments, these sectors offer significant opportunities for private sector investments.

At the core of the Road Map lies the development and establishment of financial instruments that will facilitate the accelerated attainment of SDGs. The Road Map outlines a range of priority short-term, complementary, and longer-term financial instruments. The short-term instruments include the Sustainable Infrastructure Fund (SIF), Syndicate loans, SME Apex Financing Structure, and SDG bonds. As the financial markets evolve, complementary and longer-term instruments will be expanded, encouraging increased private sector contributions towards achieving SDG outcomes.

Results achieved under Assessment and Diagnostic:

The primary approach used in the process was the Development Finance Assessment (DFA), which served as the main tool and methodology. In conjunction with the DFA, Rapid SDG Public Expenditure Reviews were conducted at multiple government levels, including BiH, FBiH, RS, the 10 Cantons in FBiH, and Brcko District BiH. Additionally, a global review of SDG financing instruments was undertaken to identify applicable financing solutions that align with the complex socio-economic and regulatory context of BiH. These assessments provided valuable diagnostics and recommendations.

The comprehensive DFA followed the two-phase approach of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) methodology, which includes the DFA and Road Map. The DFA assessment was carried out by a team of international and domestic SDG finance experts, with consultative support from the BiH SDG finance working group. This working group consisted of representatives from the BiH SDG Councils, ministries of finance, and sectoral ministries at various government levels, including BiH, FBiH, RS, and Brcko District BiH. The DFA Report encompassed an evaluation of the macro and financial context in BiH, the development finance landscape, policy and macro-level SDG financing, prioritization for SDG attainment, and specific financing needs and gaps within priority sectors. It also proposed a concrete set of financing instruments and mechanisms to address the SDG financing needs and gaps across these sectors. This included major, complementary, and longer-term financial instruments to be developed, piloted, and scaled up over a short-term (3-year) and longer-term (5-year) period.

The derived Road Map, based on the DFA and consultation process with the SDG finance working group, provided a specific set of key policies and financial instruments for the BiH government. These were utilized during phase 2 as the government's common entry platform for the preparation of the BiH SDG Financing Framework, also known as the BiH SDG Financing Strategy.

Results achieved under Financing Strategy:

The SDG financing strategy for BiH was formulated based on the comprehensive DFA and the Road Map. The resulting document, known as the "*BiH SDG Financing Framework*", has been drafted and is presently undergoing evaluation by the government SDG finance working group. Once this review process is complete, the framework will be shared with the state and sub-national governments for their final approval and adoption.

The SDG Financing Framework in BiH provides a set of policies and financing instruments to accelerate progress towards Agenda 2030 and sustainable socio-economic development. To achieve this, it is necessary to increase investments in the SDGs. The framework focuses on three priority sectors: digitalization, infrastructure and energy, and research and development. These sectors have the potential for significant SDG acceleration and generating fiscal space for sustainable development.

Financing mechanisms and instruments based on international policies and standards are needed to generate the necessary funds. The development of the SDG Financing Framework takes into account global platforms such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and EU sustainable development financing policies, including the EU Green Deal and European regulations on sustainability and climate change.

Key financing instruments identified for the priority sectors include strategic investment funds, syndicated loans, SDG thematic bonds, and an Apex financial structure for SMEs. Complementary financing instruments such as digital transition schemes and social impact bonds are also proposed. The implementation of long-term financing instruments, including public-private partnerships, is crucial for SDG achievement, especially in addressing the infrastructure gap.

Results achieved/expected under Monitoring and Review:

The SDG Financing Framework for BiH has designated the Council for the implementation of the SDGs in BiH as responsible for monitoring and reporting on the overall implementation of the framework, including the progress made in implementing the SDG Financing Framework. To ensure effective monitoring, the framework proposes activities to integrate it into the BiH SDG Web Dashboard, facilitating systematic tracking of progress in mobilizing the identified resources.

The framework also emphasizes the importance of annual reporting and mid-term reviews to assess the implementation of the SDG Financing Framework, enabling the identification of lessons learned and areas for improvement. Strategic budgeting for the SDGs should be integrated into public finance management strategies, ensuring a cohesive approach.

Moreover, reporting on progress will be conducted through annual reports and the Voluntary National Review, providing transparency and accountability. Collaboration with domestic and international institutions, particularly the EU Delegation and EU Member States, is emphasized to align priorities with the European integration process, thereby supporting the realization of the SDGs in BiH.

Results achieved/expected under Governance and Coordination:

The responsibility of overseeing and reporting on the implementation of the SDGs Framework in BiH, as well as monitoring the progress of SDG Financing Framework implementation, lies with the Council for the implementation of the SDGs in BiH. This council comprises officially designated representatives from all levels of government in BiH, including the national level (BiH), the entities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and Republika Srpska (RS), and the Brčko District.

1.4. Contribution to SDG acceleration

SDGs indicators	Baseline	Expected target	Actual results achieved/to be achieved in the near future	Reasons for deviation from targets, if any
Indicator 3.4.1: Premature mortality from non-communicable diseases	Baseline (2015): total 18.2% (men 23.6%; women 13.2%)	Target (2030): total 12,1% (men 15,7%; women 8,8%)	While the direct influence of the JP on the target value is not anticipated, it has made a significant contribution through the presentation of investment cases. These cases highlight the economic burden and benefits associated with increased investment in promotion, prevention, and control of non-communicable disease (NCD) programs.	N/A
Indicator 3.8.2: Proportion of population with large household expenditures on	Baseline (2015): 8,56%	Target (2030): 4%	While the JP is not anticipated to directly impact the target value, it has made a significant contribution. Efforts to achieve the target are expected to be	N/A

health as a share of total household expenditure or income (10%)			accelerated through the implementation of the Health Protection study, which aims to ensure universal health coverage across the country.	
Indicator 4.2.a Gross early childhood education enrolment ratio in pre-primary education disaggregated by sex	Baseline ECE (2019): 25% enrolled in ECE male: (26%, female: 24%);	Target (2025): 50%.	Although the JP's scope is not expected to directly impact the target value, it has made a significant contribution. The investment cases and policy briefs associated with the JP offer compelling evidence and recommendations regarding early childhood development, particularly in the domains of nutrition, social services, and education. Furthermore, these resources highlight the potential consequences of inaction, emphasizing the importance of accelerating progress in these areas.	N/A
4.5.1: Parity indices for all education indicators that can be disaggregated. a) gender parity b) gender parity index for participation rate in formal and non-formal education and training (ratio) c) language test parity index for achievement (ratio) d) rural to urban parity index for achievement (ratio)	a) Baseline (2007): 1.01; b) Baseline (2016): 0.96; c) Baseline (2007): 1.04; d) Baseline (2007): 0.95;	Target (2030): 1,02 Target (2030): 1,03 Target (2030): 1,06 Target (2030): 1,00	While the JP's scope is not anticipated to directly impact the target value, it has made a substantial contribution. The investment cases and policy briefs generated by the JP offer robust evidence and recommendations for advancing early childhood development, particularly in the realms of nutrition, social services, and education. Moreover, they shed light on the potential consequences of failing to take action, underscoring the imperative of accelerating progress in these specific domains.	N/A
17.14.1 Mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development	Baseline (2020): Inadequate	Target (2022): Partial Target (2030): In place and functional	The completion of the DFA and Road Map for SDG Financing Framework preparation has successfully established the fundamental SDG Financing Ecosystem in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This development has paved the way for the implementation of mechanisms aimed at enhancing policy coherence. By adopting the SDG Financing Framework, it is anticipated that collaboration among the public sector, private sector, and financing institutions will be strengthened, thereby facilitating progress towards achieving the SDGs.	N/A

1.5. Contribution to SDG financing flows (max 500 words)

The SDG Financing Strategy, termed the SDG Financing Framework, aims to unleash both public and private financial flows for the SDGs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This framework encompasses a range of policies and financing instruments designed to accelerate reforms and achieve the country's SDG targets. It focuses not only on general SDG financing but also on three priority sectors: digitalization, infrastructure and energy, and research and development. These sectors have significant potential for SDG acceleration and can generate additional fiscal space for other SDGs. The implementation of incentive policies and new financing instruments within these sectors is expected to attract substantial private sector investments.

DFA and Road Map for SDG Financing Framework preparation have laid the foundation for the establishment of the basic SDG Financing Eco-system in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This includes defining critical enabling policies, regulations, and financial instruments that will be integrated into domestic government development planning systems and translated into actionable government initiatives. The envisioned adoption of the SDG Financing Framework by all government levels is expected to create a binding platform for systematic SDG financing and foster collaboration between the public sector, private sector, and financing institutions.

1.6. Results achieved on contributing to UN Development System reform at the (max 500 words)

The JP played a crucial role in enabling the United Nations Development System (UNDS)/Country Teams (CTs) to provide comprehensive support to the SDGs at the country level while fostering UN coherence. Several concrete cases demonstrate how the JP has brought about change and strengthened the UN system's collaboration with the government and other stakeholders, with Resident Coordinator taking the lead. These cases highlight the promotion of policy coherence and the reduction of duplication of efforts:

Design: The JP facilitated a collaborative design process involving various UN agencies, government representatives, and stakeholders. Through joint consultations and partnerships, the program ensured the alignment of activities and strategies with national priorities, promoting policy coherence from the outset.

Implementation: The JP encouraged the UN system to work together in a coordinated manner, leveraging the expertise and resources of multiple agencies. By pooling resources and expertise, the JP reduced duplication of efforts and maximized the impact of interventions. For example, different agencies contributed their specific strengths and capacities to address different aspects of the SDGs, ensuring efficient use of resources.

Monitoring: The JP implemented a unified monitoring and evaluation framework, ensuring consistency and coordination across the UN system. This framework facilitated the tracking of progress, identification of gaps, and shared learning among participating agencies. By harmonizing monitoring efforts, the JP reduced redundant data collection and reporting processes, resulting in streamlined and more efficient monitoring practices.

The JP's multi-agency approach has proven to be more efficient and has reduced transaction costs compared to what could have been achieved through a single agency's intervention. The pooling of resources and expertise enabled the JP to tackle complex and interconnected challenges more effectively. By leveraging the diverse capabilities of multiple agencies, the JP avoided duplication of efforts and optimized the use of available resources.

Moreover, the JP has made significant contributions to strategic UN planning frameworks such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) or the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). The program aligned its activities and interventions with these strategic documents to ensure coherence and complementarity. By integrating with existing planning frameworks, the JP enhanced synergy among UN agencies, government entities, and other stakeholders, creating a more unified and strategic approach to sustainable development.

The JP's contributed to the UNSDCF as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: JP's Contribution to the UNSDCF

UNSDCF Outcome	Output of the JP Which Will Contribute to the Outcome
Outcome 1. By 2025, people benefit from resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth ensured by the convergence of economic development, and management of environment and cultural resources	SDG Financing Framework, Assessment of Labor Market Impacts of Energy Transition in BiH
Outcome 2. By 2025, people benefit from more inclusive and higher quality educational programmes focused on 21st century skills for enhanced employability, well-being and active participation in society	Enhancement of statistical capacity related to educational data collection and dissemination to support evidence-based policy making
Outcome 3. By 2025, people have access to better quality and inclusive health and social protection systems	Studies produced by the JP on financial protection measures and investment cases for NCDs
Outcome 4. By 2025, people contribute to, and benefit from more accountable and transparent governance systems that deliver quality public services, and ensure rule of law	Initiatives to implement gender-responsive SDG budget tagging

1.7. Results achieved on cross-cutting issues (max 200 words)

In the process of conducting the Development Finance Assessment (DFA) and developing the Road Map for the SDG Financing Framework, efforts were made to ensure a gender-sensitive approach with direct engagement and support of UN Women . Emphasizing gender equality and the principle of leaving no one behind, the Road Map incorporated overarching policies, regulations, and priority areas from a gender perspective. It also proposed specific financing instruments, such as SDG strategic investment funds, SDG bonds, and gender bonds, to address horizontal issues related to gender equality and inclusivity.

The Road Map further outlined targeted actions to strengthen strategic budgeting, including aligning government budget preparation circulars with the SDGs, implementing SDG budget tagging, and introducing SDG-related indicators. These measures aimed to ensure that budget decisions and resource allocation align with the SDGs and contribute to gender equality and inclusive development.

Throughout all activities and processes, a gender lens was applied, with a focus on key sectors such as early childhood development, healthcare, and labor policy, particularly in the context of a just transition. By incorporating a gender perspective and prioritizing inclusivity, evidence-based policy-making and financing were promoted to advance gender equality and address the needs of all individuals.

1.8. Results achieved on COVID-19 recovery (max 200 words)

The JP did not have any direct relevance to COVID-19 recovery.

1.9. Strategic Partnerships (max 500 words)

BiH's political and administrative structure is characterized by its complexity, featuring multiple tiers of government, including the BiH institutions, Federation of BiH, Republika Srpska, 10 cantons in the Federation of BiH, and Brčko District BiH. The absence of robust central coordination bodies at the state level poses a persistent challenge in achieving sustainable development convergence. Within this intricate governmental landscape, a crucial strategic partnership was established through the creation of a common inter-governmental working structure. This collaborative entity comprises key representatives from ministries of finance, sectoral ministries, and the BiH SDG Council. Their joint effort focuses on the preparation of the SDG Financing Framework, which aims to provide unified strategic directions for all government levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina, thereby accelerating SDG achievements by 2030.

The significance of this partnership is particularly pronounced in light of the country's political divide. The SDG Financing Framework assumes a pivotal role as a reference document for sustainable development financing and partnerships. Its value lies in offering a common framework that guides sustainable development initiatives and fosters collaboration among stakeholders. Despite the challenges stemming from political divisions, this framework serves as a crucial tool for promoting sustainable development and forging partnerships in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Furthermore, the JP's alignment with the broader UN Country Team's partnership approach has further strengthened its impact. By leveraging the UN's collective expertise and resources, the JP has gained additional support to advance SDG Financing initiatives in the country. This collaborative approach has enabled the JP to tap into a wide range of resources and knowledge, ensuring a comprehensive and effective implementation of SDG Financing strategies.

1.10. Additional financing mobilized (max 300 words)

Source of funding	Yes	No	Type of co-funding/co-financing	Name of organization	Amount (USD)	Comments
Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Donors/IFIs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
PUNOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Other partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

2. Results by JP Outcome and Output

2.1. Results achieved by Fund's global results (max 500 words)

The JP has made progress in achieving the Joint SDG Fund's global outcome no. 2 related to additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement and the implementation of integrated financing strategies for SDG progress. As mentioned before, the development of an SDG Financing Framework in BiH was initiated, coordinated and technically supported by the JP. Once this framework is officially endorsed by the governments, it will enable the measurement of financing leveraged in terms of public and private sector funds.

The JP has also made significant contributions to the Joint SDG Fund's global output no. 4 related to implementation of integrated financing strategies for progressing the SDGs. In terms of Indicator 4.1, which measures the number of tested, integrated financing strategies or instruments, the baseline was zero in 2019. However, by the end of the JP, one instrument had been tested successfully. Specifically, SDG budget tagging was piloted in Canton Sarajevo, demonstrating its potential for scalability and wider adoption.

Indicator 4.2 focuses on the number of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in the lead. Again, the baseline was zero, but by the end of the JP, four strategies had been successfully formulated for implementation. The JP's duration was insufficient to fully implement the supported financing strategies. Nevertheless, the government exhibits strong ownership of the SDG Financing Framework prepared with the leadership of UNDP, which is anticipated to bring about transformative outcomes in the country. Additionally, collaborations of UNICEF and WHO with the governments have resulted in the development of investment cases to enhance financing for education and health outcomes. Furthermore, under the leadership of the ILO, significant evidence has been generated to ensure a just transition pathway for BiH's development and decarbonization efforts.

Indicator 4.3 evaluates the number of functioning partnership frameworks for integrated financing strategies to accelerate SDG progress. The baseline was zero, but by the end of the JP, six functioning partnership frameworks had been established in the sense that each PUNO participating in the JP has actively formed strong partnerships with governments, leveraging these partnerships to accelerate SDG progress within their respective areas of expertise. These partnerships have facilitated knowledge exchange, resource mobilization, and capacity building activities, enabling governments to strengthen their understanding of sustainable development principles and financing mechanisms.

2.2. Results achieved by Joint Programme Outcome (max 500 words)

The JP has achieved significant results, particularly in the areas of SDG financing and public finance management. Under Outcome 1, the development of the SDGs Financing Framework stands out as a notable achievement. The framework, resulting from a comprehensive and inclusive dialogue, addresses long-term structural policy challenges and provides directions for targeted public financing and mobilization of additional resources to support the country's SDGs commitments. After the baseline phase, progress was reported in Year II, with the framework being developed and finalized. It is currently in the formal adoption procedure, indicating a positive step towards more integrated sustainable development financing in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This achievement demonstrates the commitment of the responsible partner, UNDP, in facilitating the development of a strategic framework to guide SDG financing efforts.

The JP has also achieved significant results against Outcome 2 of the results framework, which focuses on public finance management being SDG-informed and resource planning in selected priority areas being gender-responsive, more efficient, and effective.

Under Indicator 2.1, the baseline indicated that PFM was not gender-responsive and SDG-informed at the beginning of the JP. However, through the JP's efforts, progress has been made towards reforming PFM to be gender-responsive and SDG-informed. Although the outcome is marked as partially achieved, given the complexities of governance systems in BiH this is a significant achievement in this area. The JP has played a crucial role in contributing to the development of capacities and instruments that will support the long-term objective of gender-responsive and SDG-informed PFM. The reforms initiated by the JP will have a lasting impact on aligning financial management practices with gender equality and the SDGs. This achievement is attributed to the diligent work of the responsible partner, UN Women, in promoting gender-responsive PFM and aligning it with SDGs.

Moving on to Indicator 2.2, the baseline indicated that no institutions were capable of applying gender-responsive and SDG-focused PFM tools and instruments in selected priority areas (education incl. pre-school, health, labour market). However, by the end of the JP, significant progress has been made, with 11 institutions demonstrating the capability to do so. These institutions include entity ministries of health, entity ministries of social protection, entity ministries for education, cantonal ministries for social protection, cantonal ministries for education, and municipalities of Ljubuški and Bijeljina. Additionally, state and entity agencies for statistics have also developed the capacity to apply gender-responsive and SDG-focused PFM tools and instruments. The involvement and support of organizations such as ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO, and WHO have been instrumental in providing guidance, developing guidelines, and offering support to these institutions. Through collaborative efforts, these organizations have worked closely with the institutions to enhance their capabilities in applying gender-responsive and SDG-focused PFM practices in priority areas of education, health, and the labour market.

2.3. Results achieved by Joint Programme Output (max 500 words)

The JP has made significant progress in achieving its outputs, particularly in the areas of instigating meaningful dialogue, developing the SDGs Financing Framework, and enhancing the capabilities of ministries of finance and other relevant sectoral ministries in BiH (BiH institutions, FBiH, RS and Brčko District BiH). These achievements contribute to the promotion of SDG financing strategies and the optimization of public resources for accelerated achievement of SDG commitments in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Under Output 1.1, the JP successfully established mechanisms for dialogue and cooperation among governments, the private sector, and other non-government actors on sustainable development financing. This dialogue platform facilitated collaboration and knowledge sharing, creating an enabling environment for the development of the SDGs Financing Framework. Furthermore, the generation of evidence through DFA and gender-responsive assessments helped identify sustainable development financing gaps and inform policy decisions. The completion of two assessments in Year II indicates progress in this area, contributing to evidence-based decision-making.

Output 1.2 showcases significant accomplishments in the development of the SDGs Financing Framework. Through capacity-building initiatives, 20 institutional partners and stakeholders were equipped with the knowledge and skills to actively participate in the inclusive design of the framework. The successful implementation of the framework resulted in a gender-responsive SDGs Financing Framework being put in

place, marking a crucial step towards aligning financing solutions with sustainable development objectives. Additionally, the engagement of institutional and private investors in defining the long-term directions of the framework demonstrates the commitment of various stakeholders to mobilize resources for SDG implementation. In Output 2.1, efforts were made to embed SDG commitments in budgets and enable targeted planning and monitoring for SDG financing. Capacity-building initiatives supported the linkage of public financing with SDGs through budget tagging, strengthening the integration of sustainable development considerations in budgetary processes. The development of gender-responsive and SDGs-linked government budget tagging instruments further enhanced the alignment of budget allocations with SDG priorities. Additionally, the completion of SDGs financing impact assessments at the cantonal level provided valuable insights for local-level decision-making and resource allocation.

The capabilities of sectoral ministries were significantly enhanced under Output 2.2, facilitating the optimization and strategic re-channelling of public resources in selected priority areas for accelerated SDG achievement. Notably, the production of nine business cases for investing in children and youth, as well as the development of business cases for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), showcased evidence-based approaches to SDG financing. These business cases provided a compelling rationale for investments and helped prioritize resources accordingly. Moreover, the completion of financial protection analysis and statistical reporting forms/tools contributed to informed policy planning and budget allocation in the education and health sectors.

3. Challenges and Changes

3.1. Challenges faced by JP (max 300 words)

The implementation of the JP in BiH faced several challenges, including delays and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. One major challenge was ensuring policy coherence among the different government levels in the country, given the complex governance structure and weak "whole of government" mechanisms. To mitigate this challenge, the SDG Financing Road Map was adopted, and key officials from the relevant prime ministers' offices facilitated coordination among stakeholders. This helped to ensure smoother collaboration, with political buy-in and support being essential.

The COVID-19 pandemic and other global challenges, such as the war in Ukraine and subsequent food and energy crises, had adverse effects on the overall economy of the country. The governments' primary focus shifted to addressing immediate crisis-related priorities, which affected the timeliness of dialogue and decision-making processes related to the JP.

Delays in formal approvals were also experienced due to the fragmented governance of the public finance system. The Ministry of Finance at the state level requested approval from the entities (Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina), the Brcko District, and the ten cantons within the Federation. This formal approval process took a considerable amount of time. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic further contributed to delays as public institutions focused their efforts on pandemic response, limiting their availability for other activities. Furthermore, the virus affected many civil servants, further impeding progress.

These challenges and delays had an impact on the overall achievements of results. They hindered the timely initiation of the programme and affected the availability of key stakeholders. However, despite these challenges, efforts were made to adapt and mitigate the impacts. The adoption of the SDG Financing Road Map and coordination by key officials helped to address policy coherence issues. While delays occurred, the program eventually gained formal approvals and moved forward. The JP's overall achievements may have been affected by the delays, but the actions taken to mitigate challenges aimed to ensure progress towards the SDGs despite the obstacles faced.

3.2. Changes made to JP (if applicable) (max 200 words)

The JP did not undergo any changes except for time extension for reasons beyond its control.

4. Sustainability and Country Ownership

4.1. Sustainability and country ownership (max 500 words)

The SDG Financing Framework, which encompasses short-term and long-term policies and measures, has been developed to accelerate SDG achievements in priority areas. It establishes clear roles and responsibilities for institutional stakeholders, ensuring a coordinated and collaborative approach. The formal adoption of the framework by all government levels is a crucial step towards sustainability, as it signifies the commitment of these entities to implementing the defined policies and measures.

In addition to the formal adoption, ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders, including International Financial Institutions (IFIs), is a critical aspect of sustaining the SDG financing strategy. The UN system, in collaboration with relevant ministries and institutions, will continue to engage in discussions and advocate for coherent support from IFIs to ensure the implementation of the defined solutions. This ongoing collaboration and support will contribute to the long-term sustainability of the strategy.

Furthermore, the integration of the SDG financing strategy into existing national plans, policies, processes, and governance arrangements enhances its sustainability. By embedding the strategy within the country's development agenda, it becomes an integral part of the government's long-term planning and decision-making processes. This alignment facilitates the continuous prioritization and allocation of resources to the SDGs, even after the closure of the JP.

Capacity building has been a fundamental component of the JP, aiming to enhance the technical capacity of authorities and institutions involved in the SDG financing strategy. The training and support provided during the JP have equipped them with the necessary skills and knowledge to sustain and build upon the reforms. A total number of 11 institutions were capacitated, including the entity ministries of health that worked with WHO on health related matters, entity and cantonal ministries of health, social protection and education that worked with UNICEF on early childhood development as well as well state and entity agencies for statistics that worked with ILO and UNESCO. The JP's such focus on strengthening capacities ensures that the government and key counterparts have the expertise to continue championing the SDG financing strategy.

Looking ahead, the UN system in BiH, supported by Sida, has allocated funding to prepare relevant pre-feasibility and feasibility studies for key financing instruments. This proactive approach will facilitate the implementation and scaling up of the proposed models, contributing to the sustainability and impact of the SDG financing strategy.

Additionally, the country's process of accession to the EU acts as a catalyst for the implementation, sustainability, and upscaling of the JP results. The alignment of the reforms defined in the SDG Financing Framework with EU requirements strengthens their integration into national policies and regulations. This alignment provides further support and resources for sustainable development initiatives beyond the closure of the JP.

5. Communications

5.1 Communication products (max 300 words)

The JP has produced multiple communication products in the forms of policy briefs, media reports, social media campaign, and stakeholder consultation events to raise awareness about the activities of the JP.

5.2 Events

Type of event	Yes	No	Number of events	Brief description and any highlights
JP launch event (mandatory)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Considering the restrictions imposed due to Covid-19 pandemic, the launch event was conducted online in March 2021. Under the leadership of the RC, the event gathered key institutional stakeholders, including ministries of finance, relevant line ministries, the SDG Council and the UN agencies.
Annual donors' event* (mandatory)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Partners' event ** *(optional)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		An event dedicated to SDG Financing and the SDG Financing Road Map was organized as an opening event of the SDG Week in BIH in October 2022. The event helped instigate a dialogue on the Road Map and wider SDG financing related issues, engaging representatives of the governments in BIH, the private sector and the Fund donors (Sweden, EU, Italy) as well as the SDG Fund. The event enabled sharing good practices on SDG Financing from other countries including on gender bonds in Egypt (supported by UN Women) and strategic investment/green financing in Slovenia.
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*the Fund donor countries are 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 partners' event.

** Key advocacy outreach events with high level JP partners.

6. Lessons and Best Practices

6.1. Key lessons learned, best practices, and recommendations on SDG financing (max 300 words)

Key Lessons Learned and Best Practices:

Holistic approach: The JP demonstrated the importance of taking a holistic approach to SDG financing strategies. It is crucial to consider the interconnectedness of the SDGs and design interventions that address multiple goals simultaneously. This approach ensures synergy and maximizes the impact of financing efforts.

Tailored interventions: Recognizing the diverse needs and capacities of different regions and stakeholders within the country is essential. Future interventions should consider local contexts and tailor financing strategies to address specific challenges and opportunities at the regional and local levels.

Strengthening policy coherence: The JP highlighted the need for strong policy coherence among different levels of government. Coordinated efforts, streamlined processes, and clear communication channels among stakeholders are crucial to align policies, programs, and financing instruments towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Knowledge sharing and capacity building: Promoting knowledge sharing and capacity building among stakeholders is crucial for the successful implementation of SDG financing strategies. Providing training, workshops, and learning platforms can enhance understanding, skills, and innovation in financing approaches.

Recommendations:

Enhance stakeholder engagement: Ensure meaningful and inclusive participation of stakeholders, including government, civil society, private sector, and marginalized groups, throughout the entire process of SDG financing strategy development and implementation. This will foster ownership, collaboration, and sustainability.

Strengthen monitoring and evaluation: Develop a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress, measure impact, and identify areas for improvement. Regular monitoring will enable evidence-based decision-making and adaptive management of SDG financing interventions.

Promote innovative financing mechanisms: Explore and promote innovative financing mechanisms, such as impact investing, green bonds, and blended finance, to attract additional resources and mobilize private sector participation. This will diversify funding sources and unlock new opportunities for SDG financing.

Establish coordination mechanisms: Strengthen coordination mechanisms among relevant stakeholders to ensure coherence, collaboration, and efficient implementation of SDG financing strategies. This includes establishing clear roles, responsibilities, and communication channels among different levels of government and institutions.

Foster knowledge exchange and partnerships: Facilitate knowledge sharing, best practice dissemination, and peer learning platforms among stakeholders involved in SDG financing. Encourage partnerships between international organizations, development partners, and national entities to leverage expertise, resources, and experiences.

Promote policy integration: Ensure the integration of SDG financing strategies into national plans, policies, and governance frameworks. Alignment with existing national development strategies and integration of the SDGs into budgeting and resource allocation processes will enhance the sustainability and scalability of the results.

6.2. Key lessons learned and best practices, and recommendations on Joint Programming (max 300 words)

The JP has demonstrated a successful model for Joint Programming. The key success factor has been tactical design of the program from the get-go to ensure each PUNO works in the area of their specialization with almost no risk of conflict of interests and duplication of efforts. Such design is recommended for future JPs.

Lessons Learned and Best Practices:

Strong coordination mechanisms: The establishment of a common inter-governmental working structure, consisting of key representatives from ministries of finance, sectoral ministries, and the BiH SDG Council, proved to be an effective approach. This collaborative platform facilitated coordination among multiple stakeholders and ensured policy coherence across different government levels.

Political buy-in and support: Engaging key officials, such as economic advisors from relevant prime ministers' offices, played a crucial role in fostering smoother coordination and securing political commitment to the SDG Financing Framework. This highlights the importance of gaining support from high-level decision-makers to drive the implementation process.

Adaptation to external challenges: The JP encountered delays in formal approvals due to the fragmented governance of the public finance system. The COVID-19 pandemic further complicated the initiation of the programme, as public institutions prioritized pandemic response efforts. The ability to adapt and adjust to external challenges is essential for the successful implementation of future programmes.

Recommendations:

Enhanced communication and information sharing: It is recommended to strengthen communication channels and promote regular information sharing among all stakeholders involved in Joint Programming. This will ensure a shared understanding of objectives, activities, and progress, fostering a more efficient and coordinated approach.

Streamlined approval processes: Efforts should be made to simplify and streamline approval processes for future Joint Programmes. Establishing clear timelines and responsibilities for obtaining approvals will help prevent unnecessary delays and facilitate timely implementation.

Comprehensive risk assessment and mitigation: Conducting a thorough risk assessment at the outset of the programme and developing a comprehensive risk mitigation strategy is essential. This will enable proactive identification and management of potential challenges, ensuring smoother implementation.

Continuity and long-term planning: To ensure sustainability, it is crucial to embed the SDG financing strategy into existing national plans, policies, processes, and governance arrangements. This integration will facilitate the alignment of funding priorities and foster a long-term commitment to achieving the SDGs.

Robust monitoring and evaluation: Implementing a robust monitoring and evaluation framework throughout the programme lifecycle is recommended. Regular monitoring and evaluation will provide valuable insights into progress, identify bottlenecks, and inform evidence-based decision-making for future interventions.

Stakeholder engagement and inclusivity: Actively engaging stakeholders throughout the programme, including civil society organizations, private sector entities, and marginalized communities, will foster

ownership, inclusivity, and a sense of shared responsibility. This will contribute to the sustainability and effectiveness of future Joint Programmes.

Annex 1: Consolidated results framework

1. JP contribution to global programmatic results (full programme duration)

Joint SDG Fund Global Outcome 2: Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement (Complete table below)

Indicators	Baseline 2019	Target (end of JP)	Result (end of JP)	Notes
2.1: US\$ & Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged disaggregated in terms of public and private sector funds	N/A	N/A	N/A	The JP aims at supporting the governments in BiH in designing an SDG Financing Framework. It will be possible to measure this indicator once the SDG Financing Framework is adopted and governments start its implementation, which will be upon completion of the JP.

Joint SDG Fund Global Output 4: Integrated financing strategies for accelerating SDG progress implemented (Complete table below and provide details as requested)

Indicators	Baseline 2019	Targets (end of JP)	Results (end of JP)	Notes
4.1: #of integrated financing strategies/instruments that were tested	0	1	1	SDG budget tagging piloted in Canton Sarajevo with prospects for scalability
4.2: #of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in lead	0	1	4	The JP's duration was insufficient to fully implement the supported financing strategies. Nevertheless, the government exhibits strong ownership of the SDG Financing Framework prepared with the leadership of UNDP, which is anticipated to bring about transformative outcomes in the country. Furthermore, the JP, in collaboration with UNICEF and WHO, has developed investment cases to enhance financing for education and health outcomes. Additionally, under ILO's leadership, significant evidence has been generated to ensure a just transition pathway for BiH's development and decarbonization endeavors.

4.3: # of functioning partnership frameworks for integrated financing strategies to accelerate SDG progress	0	1	6	Each PUNO participating in the JP has formed strong partnerships with governments, leveraging these partnerships to accelerate SDG progress within their respective areas of expertise.
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2. Selected global operational effectiveness indicators (full programme duration)

2.1. Did your Joint Programme contribute to the improvement of the overall UNCT coherence?

☒ Yes, considerably contributed

☐ Yes, contributed

☐ No

Explain briefly: Please refer to the answer to 1.6

2.2. Did your Joint Programme contribute to avoiding duplication of efforts for the participating UN agencies in interaction with national/regional and local authorities and/or public entities?

☒ Yes,

☐ No

☐ N/A (if there are no other joint programmes in the country)

Explain briefly: Please refer to the answer to 1.6

3. Results as per JP Results Framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Year I	Year II (cumulative)	Achieved	Comments or reasons for deviation, if any	Means of Verification	Responsible partner
Outcome 1: SDGs Financing Framework, resulting from a broad-based dialogue, provides long term solutions for more integrated sustainable development financing in BiH							
1.1 SDGs financing framework in place addressing long term structural policy challenges and providing directions for targeted public financing and mobilization of additional resources for implementation of country's SDGs commitments	No	No	Yes	Yes	To be finalised by the SDG Financing Working Group and submitted into formal adoption procedure	JP reports, official governments' reports	UNDP
Output 1.1. Meaningful dialogue instigated and evidence for SDG Financing Framework generated							

1.1.1. # of mechanisms in place enabling dialogue and cooperation among governments, private sector and other and non-government actors on sustainable development financings (dialogue platform)	0	1	1	1	SDG Financing Working Group	JP reports, official governments' reports	UNDP
1.1.2. # of DFA and other types of gender-responsive assessments and diagnostics enabling understanding of sustainable development financing gaps	0	1	2	2	DFA, rapid SDG public expenditure reviews, overview of SDGs financing instruments	JP reports, national reports on implementation of SDGs	UNDP
Output 1.2: SDGs Financing Framework developed, offering key financing solutions for accelerated sustainable development							
1.2.1. # of institutional partners and other stakeholders capacitated to conduct inclusive design of an SDGs financing framework	0	20	20	20	SDG-Fin WG members (PPP, Agenda, signed participant lists)	JP reports, training evaluation reports	UNDP
1.2.2. A gender-responsive SDGs financing framework in place	No	No	Yes	Yes	Finalised and to be sent into final adoption	JP reports, relevant governments' decision	UNDP
1.2.3. # of institutional and private investors engaged in defining long-term directions of SDGs financing framework	0	20	40	26	Private sector thematic group (PPP, Agenda, signed participants list); IFs thematic meeting (PPP, Agenda, signed participant list)	JP reports, minutes from meetings	UNDP
Outcome 2: Public finance management is SDG-informed and resource planning in selected priority areas is gender-responsive, more efficient and effective							
2.1 PFM is gender responsive and SDGs informed	No	Partially	Yes	Partially	PFM is under reform and is expected to be gender responsive and SDG informed. JP has contributed to development of capacities and instruments to meet this objective in the long-term.	JP reports, official governments' reports	UN Women

2.2. # of institutions capable to apply both gender responsive and SDG-focused PFM tools and instruments in selected priority areas (education incl. pre-school, health, labour market)	0	0	3	11	Institutions include entity ministries of health, entity ministries of social protection, entity ministries for education, cantonal ministries for social protection, cantonal ministries for education, municipalities of Ljubuški and Bijeljina, state and entity agencies for statistics	JP reports, official governments' guidelines / instructions	ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO
Output 2.1. Budgets embed SDG commitments and enable targeted planning and monitoring for SDG financing							
2.1.1. # of institutional partners (ministries of finances/line ministries/parliamentary commissions) capacitated in linking public financing with SDGs through budget tagging	0	20	40	46	Programs of 46 institutions from 12 sectors of Canton Sarajevo tagged against SDGs.	JP reports, training evaluation reports	UN Women
2.1.2. # of gender responsive and SDGs-linked government budget tagging instruments (BIH, FBIH, RS)	0	0	3	1	Piloted in Canton Sarajevo with prospects for scalability	JP reports, relevant governments' decision	UN Women
2.1.3. # of SDGs financing impact assessment at the cantonal level (0, 1, 1)	0	1	1	Yes	Completed for Canton Sarajevo, Strategy for implementation of Agenda 2030 developed	JP reports, relevant governments' decision	UN Women
Output 2.2 Enhanced capabilities of sectoral ministries enable optimization and strategic re-channeling of public resources in selected sectoral priority areas for accelerated achievement of SDG commitments							
2.2.1. # of business cases for investing in children and youth (including the cost of inaction in priority sectors) to support evidence-based SDG financing focused on human capital	0	0	3	9	One report has been produced for each of the 3 BiH administrative units, each containing a separate business case	JP reports, analysis, publications, media reports	UNICEF

					for the 3 sectors most relevant to children, thus resulting in 9 business cases.		
2.2.2. # of institutional experts capacitated to design, develop and present business case/s to support investments in prevention and control of NCDs	0	10	10	8		JP reports, training evaluation reports	WHO
2.2.3. # of business case/s to support and mobilize investments in prevention and control of NCDs	0	0	2	2	JP NCDs prevention and control investment cases reports for the Federation of BIH and the Republika Srpska (governments' verification expected by end-June 2023)	JP reports, official national business case/s reports	WHO
2.2.4. # of institutional experts capacitated to design, develop and present the results of financial protection analysis to monitor progress towards achieving UHC and inform pro-equity UHC investments/policies aimed at increasing financial protection of the citizens most vulnerable to severe financial hardship when using needed health services	0	10	20	20	Policy dialogue with presentation of findings/policy briefs held for 40+ participants from BIH, with strong participation from respective authorities (ministries of health, health insurance funds)	JP reports, training evaluation reports	WHO
2.2.5. # of completed financial protection analysis to monitor progress towards achieving UHC and inform pro-equity UHC investments/ policies aimed at increasing financial protection of the citizens most vulnerable to severe financial hardship when using needed health services	0	0	2	2	JP financial protection analysis reports for the Federation of BIH and the Republika Srpska	JP reports, official financial protection analysis reports	WHO
2.2.6. # of statistical reporting forms and data collection tools needed to analyze data for informed policy planning and	0	4 forms and 1 tool	n/a	19 statistical forms for 4 levels of		JP reports, 4 statistical reporting forms/tools	UNDP lead (responsible party UNESCO)

budget allocation for achievement of the education related SDG's				education, and 1 tool for ministries of education			
2.2.7. PFM reflects considerations on the employment impacts of policies and strategies	No	No	Yes	Yes		JP reports, official government reports, selected reports from statistical institutes	ILO

Annex 2: List of strategic documents

1. Strategic documents that were produced by the JP

Title of the document	Date (month; year) when finalized	Document type (policy/strategy, assessment, guidance, training material, methodology etc.)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
SDG Financing Framework (SDG-FF) in Bosnia and Herzegovina: "From SDG financing context to the conceptual proposal"	April 2021	Methodological guideline	This Concept Proposal outlines the proposed approach for formulating an Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Financing Framework to resource the SDG Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).
Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH): SDG Financing Framework (SDG-FF) Guideline	June 2021	Methodological guideline	Methodological guideline for preparing the SDG Financing Framework
Development Finance Assessment	November 2022	Assessment	DFA of BiH
Review of SDG Financing Instruments	April 2022	Review	Global review of SDG financing instruments
Draft SDG-based PERs (not available in English by in Bosnian/Serbian/Croatian only)	November 2022	Review	Rapid public expenditure reviews
Statistical reporting forms for pre-primary, primary, secondary levels of education	March 2021	Statistical reporting forms	New reporting forms for all levels of education have been developed, both entities, can be found on the following links: Републички завод за статистику - Република Српска (rs.ba) http://fzs.ba/index.php/statisticke-oblasti-stanovnistvo-i-drustvene-statistike-obrazovanje-obraci/
Prioritizing Children - The case for Investing in Early Childhood Development in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	March 2023	Investment Case (policy document)	This report is designed to promote better investment in young children between the ages of 0 and 6 in FBiH.
Prioritizing Children - The case for Investing in Early Childhood Development in Republika Srpska	March 2023	Investment Case (policy document)	This report is designed to promote better investment in young children between the ages of 0 and 6 in RS.
Prioritizing Children - The case for Investing in Early Childhood Development in Brcko District	March 2023	Investment Case (policy document)	This report is designed to promote better investment in young children between the ages of 0 and 6 in BD.
Policy Brief - Cost-Benefit Analysis of investments in ECD in FBiH	March 2023	Policy Brief (policy document)	This policy brief provides a summary for a detailed investment case of

			early childhood development in the FBiH.
Policy Brief - Cost-Benefit Analysis of investments in ECD in RS	March 2023	Policy Brief (policy document)	This policy brief provides a summary for a detailed investment case of early childhood development in the RS.
Policy Brief - Cost-Benefit Analysis of investments in ECD in BD	March 2023	Policy Brief (policy document)	This policy brief provides a summary for a detailed investment case of early childhood development in the Brčko District (BD).
SAM Bosnia	February 2023	Econometric tool for policy modelling	Social Accounting Matrix for CGE Modelling
SAM Bosnia addendum	February 2023	Econometric tool for policy modelling	Social Accounting Matrix for CGE Modelling specially labor market impacts
Booklet for Supply and Use Tables (SUT/IOT)		Instructional Booklets	Instruction manual for using the SUT/IOT tables
Report on Employment Impact of Energy Transition in Bosnia and Herzegovina	June 2023	Policy modelling	Study on analysing the impact of decarbonization on vulnerable segments of population
Road Map for the SDG Financing Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina	March 2023	Roadmap	The purpose of the Road Map is to offer an expert proposal of concrete solutions for the upcoming preparation of the SDG Financing Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the implementation of which would significantly accelerate progress in achieving Agenda 2030, i.e. sustainable socio-economic development of the country.
SDG Financing Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina.	June 2023	Strategy document	The purpose of the SDG Financing Framework (SDG-FF) in Bosnia and Herzegovina is to offer the institutions at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina an agreed set of key policies and financing instruments for significant acceleration of progress in achieving Agenda 2030, i.e. sustainable socio-economic development of the country.
Domestic Finance Landscape	December 2021	Review	
Gender Bonds Assessment	May 2023	Assessment	

Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina: The Case for Investment	June 2023	Business case	Final draft, pending government's verification
Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in the Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina: The Case for Investment	June 2023	Business case	Final draft, pending government's verification Investment case for expanding public expenditure on NCD prevention
Can people afford to pay for health care? New evidence on financial protection in the Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina	March 2023 June 2023	Policy brief Policy document	This review assesses the extent to which people in the Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina (entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina) experience financial hardship when they use health services, including medicines, and unmet need caused by financial barriers to access (whenever data are available).
Can people afford to pay for health care? New evidence on financial protection in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina	March 2023 June 2023	Policy brief Policy document	This review assesses the extent to which people in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina (entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina) experience financial hardship when they use health services, including medicines, and unmet need caused by financial barriers to access (whenever data are available).

2. Strategic documents to which the JP directly contributed to

Title of the document	Date (month; year) when finalized	Document type (policy/strategy, assessment, guidance, training material, methodology etc.)	Brief description of the document and the role of the JP in finalizing it
The review of the SDG Financing Instruments applicable in BiH			These two entry reports were prepared/financed by the BiH UNDP PFM project in close/ direct collaboration with the JP as part of the preparatory activities for the DFA in BiH.
Rapid review of SDG public expenditures in BiH			

Annex 3. Communications materials

1. [Human interest story](#)
2. [Communication products](#)

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
A path towards the SDG Financing Eco System in Bosnia and Herzegovina	March 2021	UNDP web: https://www.undp.org/bosnia-herzegovina/news/time-smart-choices-now
Conference on SDG Financing	October 2022	<p>Zamisli 2030 web: https://zamisli2030.ba/the-time-for-smart-choices/ United nations in BiH web: https://bosniaherzegovina.un.org/en/203965-second-sdg-week-places-focus-smart-choices-sustainable-future-period-crisis UNDP Facebook objave: https://www.facebook.com/zamisli2030/posts/pfbid02xeabq9XHPUXd7d6Nc3Wu5eDk6PU3iL5YGAMDbC5QzACqHyNNddCq3tgQqK6As4tyl https://www.facebook.com/UNDPBiH/posts/pfbid02nBhZ2A6nH2uEm6GCV5EkUU5avPsb2DpqU12ZuGJGoLkaYJjv5sCGbWKuaJmK9PG7I Video snimak konferencije: https://www.facebook.com/zamisli2030/posts/pfbid02ac4JmkUpobdoeHfYNBaRZLbvLiA7wFiwxmu6qfcLeL1rhkHUM65NgBG9YNyjhFESl Joint SDG Fund retweet: https://twitter.com/UN_BiH/status/1578335495519510530?s=20&t=BOSAN-jqbeaSkthWZaQH8Q</p>
Visibility of UNESCO's Work	Different dates	<p>https://en.unesco.org/news/improving-statistical-systems-education-bosnia-and-herzegovina Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina Facebook https://twitter.com/UN_BiH/status/1451199211123347474 https://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsBiH/videos/441404767348058 https://bhas.gov.ba/News/Read/52 2021 PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (office.com)</p>

Annex 4: Stakeholder feedback

No	Name of entity	Name of Representative	Title	Contact information	Role in the programme	Summary of feedback
1	UNDP	Aida Lakovic-Hoso	SDGs Governance & Policy Portfolio Lead	aida.lakovic-hoso@undp.org	JP Project Manager	Provided overview of the JP activities, background, and implementation challenges
2	UNDP	Muamer Obarcanin	Capacity Development Specialist	muamer.obarcanin@undp.org	Co-focal point for the JP from UNDP	Discussed the steps involved in developing the SDG Financing Roadmap and SDG Financing Framework
3	ILO	Lejla Tanovic	ILO National Coordinator for BiH	tanovic@ilo.org	National Coordinator for ILO	Provided an overview of the activities of ILO as part of the JP, and the unique perspective added to the intervention by ILO's work on Just Transition
4	WHO	Boris Rebac	Public Health Officer	rebac@who.int	WHO Focal Point	Discussed the country context and the unique challenges of delivering successful intervention in BiH
5	UNICEF	Nicola Scarrone	Specialist on Public Finance for Children	nscarrone@unicef.org	UNICEF Focal Point	Discussed the challenges UNICEF had to face to developing the investment cases and strategies to overcome them
6	UNESCO	Alma Mrgan-Slipičević	Project Officer, Antenna in Sarajevo, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe	a.mrgan-slipicevic@unesco.org	UNESCO Focal Point	Discussed the success story of UNESCO's activities as part of the JP, and how UNESCO has received interest from the government to develop similar statistical measures for culture as has been developed for education as part of the JP
7	UN Women	Amna Muharemovic	Head of Programme	amna.muharemovic@unwomen.org	UN Women Focal Point	Discussed the critical role played by UN Women in embedding a gender lens through all activities of the JP

8	UN Women	Edita Miftari	Governance and Leadership Coordinator	edita.miftari@unwomen.org	UN Women Focal Point	Discussed the critical role played by UN Women in embedding a gender lens through all activities of the JP
9	Government Stakeholder	Goran Mirascic	Advisor to the Prime Minister of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	mirascija1977@hotmail.com	Liaison between PUNOs and Prime Minister's Office	Discussed how the JP facilitated streamlined collaboration with multiple UN agencies through a seamless process
10	Government Stakeholder	Dalibor Tomas	Advisor to the Prime Minister of Republika Srpska	dalibor238@gmail.com	Liaison between PUNOs and Prime Minister's Office	Discussed how the JP facilitated streamlined collaboration with multiple UN agencies through a seamless process