

**Joint SDG Fund**  
 Template for the Joint Programme  
 Evidence-based Final Narrative Report  
**SDG FINANCING PORTFOLIO – COMPONENT 1**

## Cover page

**Date of Report:** 8 September 2023

<i>Programme title and Country</i>
<b>Country:</b> Azerbaijan <b>Joint Programme (JP) title:</b> Sustainable, Integrated and Gender Inclusive Finance Framework for Azerbaijan, Beyond Oil <b>MPTF Office Project Reference Number<sup>1</sup>:</b> 00124261
<i>Programme Duration</i>
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<i>Participating Organizations / Partners</i>
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<sup>1</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as "Project ID" on the project's factsheet page on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

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

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

<sup>4</sup> If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see [MPTF Office Closure Guidelines](#).

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

<b>Programme Budget (US\$)</b>			
<b>Total Budget</b> (as per Programme Document, without co-funding): <b>999,990 USD</b>			
<b>Agency/Other Contributions/Co-funding</b> (if applicable): N/A			
<b>Joint SDG Fund Contribution<sup>6</sup> and co-funding breakdown, by recipient organization:</b>			
<b>Agency/others</b>	<b>Joint SDG Fund contribution</b>	<b>Co-funding</b>	<b>Total</b>
PUNO1 - UNDP	799,990	300,000 (in-kind)	799,990
PUNO2 - UNFPA	200,000		200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>999,990</b>		<b>999,990</b>

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

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## Abbreviations

- **DFA:** Development Finance Assessment
- **ESG:** Environmental, Social, and Governance
- **EU:** European Union
- **IMF:** International Monetary Fund
- **INFF:** Integrated National Financing Framework
- **JP:** Joint Programme
- **MTEF:** Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
- **NCCSD:** National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development
- **NDC:** Nationally Determined Contributions
- **PUNOs:** Participating United Nations Organizations
- **RC:** Resident Coordinator
- **SDG:** Sustainable Development Goals
- **TOR:** Terms of Reference
- **VNR:** Voluntary National Review
- **UN:** United Nations
- **UNDP:** United Nations Development Programme
- **UNFPA:** United Nations Population Fund
- **UNSDCF:** United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

## Executive Summary

Through the Joint Programme (JP), “Sustainable, Integrated and Gender Inclusive Finance Framework for Azerbaijan, Beyond Oil,” the UN jointly supported the Government to undertake concrete actions to strengthen the financing components of the national development strategy, *Socio-Economic Development Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2022-2026)*, and the vision set forth in the *Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development*.

The most important achievements of the JP are:

- **Support to Government-led Development Finance Assessment (DFA):** As a first step towards an integrated national financing framework (INFF), the DFA process was undertaken with the support of UNDP. Informed by analysis, the DFA process succeeded in mobilizing stakeholders from key public and private sector actors on SDG financing through dialogue and consultations. A number of the recommendations for the INFF Roadmap contained in the DFA report have already started to be implemented by the Government.
- **Support for implementation of the key DFA recommendations:** The JP supported the Government to start implementing the key recommendations in the DFA report through offering tools, namely **SDG Investor Map** and **Impact Investing Ecosystem Study**. The findings and recommendations from the SDG Investor Map and Impact Investing Ecosystem Study will inform the upcoming **regional SDG financing forum** – Second Baku Forum – being organized by the Government with the support of UNDP in November 2023, as a regional follow-up to the SDG financing related discussions and commitments to be made at the SDG Summit in 18-19 September 2023. Furthermore, the JP supported changes in public policy related to private finance, notably in developing the **Mainstreaming Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Framework**, which includes a roadmap on ESG mainstreaming for the Entrepreneurship Development Fund under the Ministry of Economy.
- **Galvanizing high-level political commitment to SDG financing:** Through capacity development and empowerment of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development (NCCSD), which functions as the de-facto INFF secretariat, the JP supported to galvanize high-level political commitment to the SDG financing agenda. This also led to a key agreement with the Government to adopt the **SDG tagging of the state budget**, which is expected to start in 2024. The JP is supporting to develop the methodology of the tagging. In order to monitor progress and measure impact going forward, the JP supported the development of the **SDG Financing Dashboard**, which is an online platform to track SDG investment through public financing and other sources of financing. The SDG Financing Dashboard is expected to go live shortly and is expected to inform the 2024 Voluntary National Review (VNR) of Azerbaijan, which would be the country’s 4<sup>th</sup> report.
- **Generation of data and evidence to inform SDG investment that leaves no one behind:** In accordance with the 2030 Agenda’s promise to Leave No One Behind (LNOB), the JP – with support of UNFPA – conducted research to track emerging population dynamics, focusing on the elderly – in particular, older women – and on young education, gender and employment in Azerbaijan. The findings and recommendations of these research are being disseminated widely with governmental and non-governmental actors, including the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development (NCCSD) and through the multi-stakeholder SDG Dialogue platform, to inform policy decision-making and grassroots actions.

## Context

Azerbaijan’s economy has seen a notable transformation in the three decades since independence in 1991. A sharp increase in oil production and exports starting in the late 1990s, coinciding with the global commodity price super-cycle, pushed growth to unprecedented double-digit levels in 2005-2008. Together with high levels of investment, particularly public investment, this led to a nearly five-fold increase of real per capita incomes from 1995 to 2022, moving Azerbaijan from a lower middle-income to an upper middle-income country (UMIC). However, growth has slowed since the end of the commodity boom. Following a sharp decline in oil prices in 2014, growth has averaged only 0.4% in the 2015-2019 period, with Azerbaijan experiencing its first major

recession since its independence in 2016. In 2020, the economy contracted by 4.2%, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the collapse in energy prices and the Second Karabakh War.

The economy has since rebounded from the shock, surpassing pre-COVID-19 output with 5.9% growth in 2021 and with the recovery continuing in 2022 at 4.6%, and Azerbaijan has been making steady progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, some key development challenges remain including persistent income inequality and regional disparities: rural communities, women, young people, and persons with disabilities are some of the vulnerable groups. The root causes of their vulnerabilities include low public spending on education and health, poor enforcement of legislation, and socio-cultural norms. There is a recognized need for economic diversification away from the oil and gas sector.

To sustain growth in the longer term, there is a broad understanding of the importance of using the growing fiscal buffers for investments in enhancing the economy's competitiveness and resilience to future shocks, inter-alia by promoting structural transformation of the economy, including green transformation, developing the human capital and improving governance efficiency. It is also important to further improve business climate in the economy to harness the creativity of the private sector for economic diversification and sustainable job creation.

Recognizing the challenges, the Government of Azerbaijan adopted the *Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development* - a ten-year vision that aligns with Azerbaijan's commitment to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and it sets out five areas of national priorities: "steadily growing competitive economy; society based on dynamic, inclusive and social justice; competitive human capital and space for modern innovations; great return to the liberated territories; and clean environment and green growth country." To operationalize the strategic vision, the *Socio-Economic Development Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2022-2026)* was launched in 2022. Furthermore, the Government has set priorities for post-conflict recovery and reconstruction in the regained territories, including mine action, infrastructure, economic and social development, environmental sustainability.

In order to support Azerbaijan to shift from a volatile oil-based economy to a more inclusive and green economy, the JP has supported to strengthen the financing components of the national development strategy through the application of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) approach. The objectives of the JP were to support the Government to start the INFF process, targeting private sector growth and green transition financial strategies, coordinating public and private sector efforts to attract and retain SDG-aligned investments that will be used to finance green assets and businesses, and scaling up Azerbaijan's future economic model, which is private sector led and green.

Contribution of the JP to impactful changes include: improving SDG data collection that will be used to assess the performance of the INFF and SDG-aligned initiatives; integrating the SDGs into Azerbaijan's national development plans and budget, focusing on green energy, sustainable agriculture, and sustainable businesses; supporting green policies that will help scale up investments in renewable energy, sustainable innovation, and sustainable SME, including agriculture; improving state budget allocation and helping the Government to support scalable and impactful programmes and investments; streamlining communication and engagement with the private sector, including the mainstreaming of ESG standards in business models of financial institutions lending to the private sector, the investment community, and civil society, and launching a public-private partnership platform to discuss government strategies and define projects to collaborate; and, attracting national and foreign investments in new and renewable energy and green businesses.

## 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 successfully established a strong foundation for the Government to take forward the INFF process in Azerbaijan, as evidenced in the Government's agreement to adopt SDG tagging of the state budget, the development of the SDG Financing Dashboard, and key policy changes recommended in the Development Finance Assessment (DFA). The JP empowered the Secretariat of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development (NCCSD) and other key stakeholders – including the private sector, youth, and academia - with tools, knowledge, and skills on SDG financing. The research conducted have generated data and evidence to inform SDG investment that leaves no one behind.

### 1.2 Key results achieved (max 500 words)

1. The JP supported to galvanize high-level political commitment to the SDG financing agenda, including implementation of key recommendations for the INFF Roadmap contained in the Development Finance Assessment (DFA) report. This led to the agreement with the Government to adopt the SDG tagging of the state budget, which is expected to start in 2024. In addition, with JP support, a significant step towards transparency and accountability by developing the SDG Financing Dashboard. The dashboard aims to support informed decision-making by policy makers through providing real-time data on SDG investment through public financing and other sources to financing.
2. The JP developed the Mainstreaming Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Framework, which includes a roadmap on ESG mainstreaming for the Entrepreneurial Development Fund under the Ministry of Economy. The roadmap led to a commitment by various stakeholders, including the banking sector, insurance, asset managers, and private enterprises, to implement ESG. The JP also supported to outline an action plan to operationalize the commitment.
3. The JP developed the capacity of the Government and other key stakeholders, including the private sector, youth, and academia, through providing them with tools, knowledge and skills on SDG financing. Multi-stakeholder dialogues on SDG financing organized by the JP, as well as tools and research developed under the JP – including the SDG Investor Map and Impact Investing Ecosystem Study - are expected to inform policy changes and decision-making, including in the areas of SDG investment, social inclusion and Leave No One Behind (LNOB).

### 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
<b>1. Inception phase</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2. Assessment &amp; diagnostics</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>3. Financing strategy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>4. Monitoring &amp; review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>5. Governance &amp; coordination</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### **1. Inception phase:**

As a soft launch, UNDP and the Government of Azerbaijan co-hosted a strategic webinar to raise awareness about sustainable investments to senior public officials and representatives of State Oil Fund of the Republic of Azerbaijan (SOFAZ). UNDP invited global investment banks, such as JP Morgan, PNC Bank, and experts of sustainable investments from SPTF and Herbert Smith Freehills, to share their impressions, opportunities, and challenges regarding sustainable investing Azerbaijan. The JP inception coincided with the high-level event on "Development Financing: Post-COVID Sustainable and Green Recovery" organized together with the National Coordination Council on Sustainable Development and attended by a broad range of stakeholders including development partners. The event enhanced the high-level dialogue around green sustainable

development financing in Azerbaijan and brought public and private sector stakeholders together to share perspectives and discuss potential terms for partnership around sustainable development and its financing.

## **2. Assessment & diagnostics:**

UNDP mobilized stakeholders in preparation of the DFA. UNDP with the support of the National Coordination Council on Sustainable Development and participation of the Government counterparts prepared the DFA report, including recommendations for the INFF Roadmap. The DFA report outlined the current status quo and legislative framework of the financial ecosystem, incorporating international best practices. It also provided recommendations for the INFF Roadmap, to catalyse impactful policies that would facilitate essential improvements in the national financial framework, effectively contributing to the achievement of the SDGs.

## **3. Financing strategy:**

While the JP implemented some activities related to financing strategy, financing strategy was not developed under the JP. The SDG Investor Map and Impact Investing Ecosystem Study were developed as tools to implement the key recommendations in the DFA report, and support were provided to implement reforms such as Results-Based Budgeting, Tax Revenue Optimization, Digital Finance, and others. The SDG tagging of the state budget was introduced to enable the alignment of budget allocations with specific SDGs, ensuring that financial resources are directed towards achieving these goals.

## **4. Monitoring review:**

The JP paved the way for a paradigm shift in how the Government monitors financial commitments and their impact. UNDP supported the Government to design the SDG Dashboard, and its web-based iteration signifies a monumental leap towards robust tracking and accountability. These platforms will introduce real-time, accessible data that will empower decision-makers to make informed choices, steering budget allocations towards impactful SDG projects. The SDG Dashboard will inform evidence-based SDG monitoring and review and is expected to contribute to the preparation for the country 4<sup>th</sup> Voluntary National Review (VNR) report in 2024.

## **5. Governance & Coordination:**

The Secretariat of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development (NCCSD), chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and located within the Ministry of Economy, is responsible for coordinating the SDG implementation in line with the country's Socio-Economic Development Strategy (2022-2026). Despite its significant role in designing and coordinating the implementation process, its role in the active shaping of public and private sustainable development financing policies had been limited. Under the JP, the NCCSD Secretariat has been closely partnering with the UN in implementing the JP by orchestrating collaboration among line ministries and the Government at large. The members of the NCCSD Secretariat participated in a number of capacity building activities - including the SDG Finance Academy - along with other key stakeholders. The NCCSD took further commitment to build upon the results of the JP by assuming the role of INFF Oversight Committee.

### 1.4. Contribution to SDG acceleration

<b>SDGs indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Expected target</b>	<b>Actual results achieved/ to be achieved in the near future</b>	<b>Reasons for deviation from targets, if any</b>



Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on proper and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions	0	20%	20%	
Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	0	15%	15%	

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

UNDP together with the government counterparts created a conducive enabling environment to leverage both public and private financial resources towards the fulfilment of the SDGs. This harmonious interplay is driving early indications of increased financial mobilisation, setting the stage for transformative change.

By introducing international best practices through the SDG Finance Academy training, government officials, private sector representatives, and academia have been equipped with essential financial tools to unleash financial resources. This enhanced proficiency in financial management is steering resources towards SDG-aligned priorities. Moreover, the extensive deliberation on the SDG Finance Strategy within public policies is a testament to its integration into national agendas.

In collaboration with academia, the JP engaged young people through the Youth SDG and Finance Academy, fortifying their understanding of the role finance plays to implement the SDGs. The JP helped to instil in future leaders of Azerbaijan the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and specifically financing as a means to implement the SDGs.

The upcoming Second Baku Forum to promote SDG investment holds immense potential. The Forum will bring together international and regional investors, funders, and local private sector representatives, and it will be a regional follow-up to the SDG financing related discussions and commitments to be made at the upcoming SDG Summit in 18-19 September 2023. The Forum is also a unique opportunity to showcase Azerbaijan's investment prospects across five pivotal sectors of the economy. The call to action to invest in these sectors that advances the SDGs is reinforced by evidence-based presentations, incorporating legislative insights, market potential, and existing demand.

UNDP in collaboration with the partners underscored achievement of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Through comprehensive Finance Academy training, the Government and private sector stakeholders are embracing financial tools that fortify NDC-aligned financial strategies. Furthermore, the importance of mobilising financial resources towards NDC has been highlighted through mainstreaming ESG for medium enterprises and capacity building on sustainability reporting for the public and private sector.

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

The JP has contributed to strengthen the UNCT in Azerbaijan to work together in support of the Government's high-level political commitment towards SDGs.

The RC/RCO provided guidance so that the JP is strategically positioned and linked to other SDG-related initiatives at the country, regional and global levels. For example, the existing high-level multi-stakeholder platform, the SDG Dialogue series, was capitalized to engage with senior Government leadership and other stakeholders on issues related to economic and social inclusion and LNOB. A joint UN analysis by RCO, UNFPA

and UNICEF was prepared and presented during the SDG Dialogue, and it subsequently informed the Government's national commitments to the upcoming SDG Summit. Furthermore, the upcoming Second Baku Forum on SDG investment is being positioned as a follow-up to the SDG Summit, in particular to take forward the global and national commitments related to SDG financing.

The relationship of confidence and trust between the Secretariat of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development and UNDP and RCO has enabled other UN agencies to collaborate with the Secretariat on SDGs related to their respective mandates.

The JP is fully aligned with Outcome 1 of the UNSCDF 2021-2025.

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

The JP, in partnership with stakeholders, has yielded results in addressing cross-cutting UN priorities, underscoring the values of gender equality, women's empowerment, human rights, decent work, and social inclusion. These principles, mainstreamed throughout the project's fabric, implementation of the activities, have invigorated its impact, ensuring that no one is left behind.

The JP has consistently championed social inclusion as a mainstream theme across various initiatives, exemplified by documents like the Development Finance Assessment, Investor Mapping, Ecosystem Studies, ESG Standards Implementation, and the creation of a Sustainability Reporting guidelines. By infusing these documents with inclusivity, the program resonates with the essence of the SDGs, leaving an indelible mark on national agendas.

On top of that about 22% of the overall budget was dedicated to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

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

Under the technical leadership of UNDP, UNCT together with the Government conducted the Social-Economic Assessment of COVID-19 in Azerbaijan (SERP) in August 2020. The report identified recovery strategies and building back greener efforts, aligned with the country's national development priorities and UNSDCF 2021-2025. Promoting green recovery and strengthening climate action was highlighted, which was in line with the focus of the JP. COVID-19 recovery was incorporated into Development Financing Assessment.

### *1.9. Strategic Partnerships (max 500 words)*

In addition to the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Economy, the JP worked with the following stakeholders in the Government: Parliament Committee for the Natural Resources, Energy and Ecology; Parliament Committee for Economic Policy, Industries, and Enterprising; Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources; Ministry of Energy; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population; Ministry of Youth and Sports; Small and Medium Business Development Agency; Entrepreneurship Development Fund; State Tax Services; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Digital Development and Transport; State Statistical Committee; State Committee for Affairs of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons; State Oil Company; State Insurance Commerce Company; State Oil Fund; and, Central Bank. Additionally, the JP collaborated with the international and local universities such as Hacettepe University, Institute of Population Studies, Turkiye, Institute for Demography and Social Studies of the National Academy of Sciences in Ukraine, Baku State University, Baku Oil School, Economic University, ADA University and others to engage youth on sustainable financing topics.

Central to the JP's success is the mobilization of the private sector, reshaping their role as partners in SDG Financing. In collaboration with the UNDP International Centre for Private Sector Development, UNDP together

with the partners explored innovative financial tools, laying the foundation for private sector engagement that is instrumental in driving sustainable progress.

The JP's proactive engagement with IFIs such as the World Bank, EBRD, ADB, and IMF signifies its commitment to harnessing global expertise. Through numerous bilateral consultations, the JP tapped into these financial institutions' knowledge and experiences. These exchanges were mutually enriching, with the JP also sharing its distinctive insights, thus contributing to the broader discourse on SDG Financing. During the JP implementation, UNDP has engaged with the European Union consulting about the development aid and sustainable financing in the country and in the regions.

#### 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"/>	X				
Donors/IFIs	<input type="checkbox"/>	X				
Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	X				
PUNOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	X				
Other partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	X				

## **2. Results by JP Outcome and Output**

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

UNDP together with the partners has been exploring integrated financing instruments and additional multisectoral solutions leverages in terms of the additional funds. On the outcome level, UNDP has not mobilized financial resources to accelerate SDG achievements; however, set the stage to do so through SDG Investor Mapping. On the output level, UNDP, primarily with the Ministry of Economy and the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development, is implementing financing solutions outlined on Development Financing Assessment, the Impact Investing Ecosystem Study, Azerbaijan SDG Investor Map, capacity building on Sustainable Building around Sustainability Reporting for Private Sector, Mainstreaming Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Framework.

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

The results under each Outcome were identified through a rigorous monitoring and data collection methodology. A combination of quantitative and qualitative data, interviews, surveys, and document analysis facilitated the evaluation process. This multidimensional approach ensured accuracy and a holistic understanding of achievements, deviations, and unintended effects.

On the outcome 1, UNDP together with the key counterparts built a wide-ranging dialogue amongst diverse stakeholders on INFF has taken root, symbolizing the collective effort to drive transformative change. This included a number of consultations on high and technical levels with the representatives of the government, private sector, academia, and civil society. At this outcome, UNDP was exploring the existing gaps and opportunities on the available data, methodologies, and potential stakeholders to implement JP. Furthermore, UNDP has formalized the National Council on Sustainable Development as INFF Secretariat by building the capacity of the Council and relevant government partners. This Outcome met its targets, substantiating the program's commitment to sustainable development advocacy within governmental spheres.

On the outcome 2, UNDP mobilized the stakeholders to design INFF Roadmap and Development Financing Assessment. JP has succeeded in positioning the INFF as a pivotal element of the country's financial strategy and budgeting process. The INFF's integration served as a steppingstone towards fostering comprehensive sustainable development. With a few deviations from planned targets, the Outcome remains a beacon of

progress, reinforcing the program's commitment to effective financial strategy. This outcome has been marked with a number of bilateral consultations and discussions on development financing in Azerbaijan.

On the outcome 3, UNDP together with the key stakeholders operationalize INFF and explored the avenues of attracting of foreign investments as well as engaging with the private and banking sectors. One of the key successes under this outcome was organizing a series of the capacity building for the private sector and government counterparts the integration of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles into governmental policies has achieved significant traction, forming a robust foundation for sustainable practices.

Under the outcome 4, UNFPA contributed to strengthening the country's capacity to improve availability and reliability of population data disaggregated by sex, age and region as well as generating knowledge for evidence-based advocacy and policy making. Along with that, UNFPA strengthened partnership with specialized agencies to ensure that the needs of the elderly especially those in need of social protection services, are effectively incorporated into the available public service schemes. A series of meetings were held with the Government partners to understand and analyze the implications of population growth and changing population age structure for the economic growth, gender and generational equity, consumption, public finances, taxes, savings and other important features of macro-economy.

### [232. Results achieved by Joint Programme Output \(max 500 words\)](#)

Under the output 1, JP established a broad dialogue amongst diverse stakeholders, yielding an enriching platform for inclusive development and built the capacity of the key stakeholders. The Output attained its targets, fostering a landscape of shared knowledge. As highlighted above, the capacity of the NCCSD's skills and knowledge on SDG Financing were strengthened. The UNDP CO with the support of the regional hub identified guidelines to assess SDG progress and SDG portfolio system and risks as well as mapped private and public financial flows towards sustainable development in the country. 3<sup>rd</sup> National Voluntary Review has been conducted with the participation of the government counterparts, members of parliament, and the representatives of the private sector. Some other studies have been initiated at this stage.

Under the output 2, UNDP together with the government counterparts complemented the INFF process with over 16 technical meetings, built capacity of 250 on green economy, INFF implementation, fintech solutions, and green investments. In addition to outlining the overall financing landscape, Azerbaijan's DFA focused on four areas such as territorial integration, inclusive growth, digital transformation, and green economy. Moreover, thematic meetings on SDG financing, green growth, and foreign direct investments have been organized for the relevant stakeholders. On top of it, the UNDP CO together with the UNDP International Center on Development of Private Sector designed three days national capacity building programme, called SDG Finance Academy. Furthermore, the ESG standards implementation roadmap and policy recommendations for Entrepreneurship Development Fund showcased the convergence of public and private sector engagement that was complemented with the Sustainability reporting for the private and banking sectors.

On the output 3, UNDP operationalized the coordination of INFF and looked for the opportunities to ensure the sustainability of the JP. To deliver a control system to collect, track, and measure relevant SDG data, UNDP is designing the SDG Tracking web-based platform. The system will integrate the risk management tools, KPIs and relevant metrics. Additionally, UNDP together with the NCCSD and Ministry of Economy and the support of the UNDP International Center on Private Sector will be organizing an international Forum on SDG Investing that will finalize and present the overall results of the JP to the relevant stakeholders and public in general.

Under the output 4, two major research studies were undertaken by UNFPA in partnership with international experts: a survey on the situation of older people with particular focus on older women in Azerbaijan to draw a comprehensive and insightful portrait of elderly, their social well-being, lifestyles, and quality of life; and the analysis on some aspects of youth education, gender and employment in Azerbaijan to provide additional evidence for informed policy formulation and decision-making addressing young people's needs and rights in the country. In addition, the project increased public awareness on the issue of ageing, and piloted relevant

interventions aimed at supporting the elderly to live healthier, more independent lives using a participatory approach. By targeting the local community members, the project raised public awareness about the issues and challenges experienced by older people, such as ageism, stereotypes and other common misconceptions surrounding aging. A series of meetings were held with government officials to discuss the benefits of demographic dividend and economic implications of population changes. Furthermore, UNFPA provided financial and organisational support to the UN Azerbaijan's flagship Second SDG Dialogue, which focused on the topic of Azerbaijan's progress towards social and economic inclusiveness and LNOB. The event brought together over 100 representatives from government agencies, the United Nations (UN), international financial institutions (IFIs), the diplomatic community, the private sector, civil society and academia. The discussions and the recommendations from the Second SDG Dialogue will inform the Government's national commitments to the SDG Summit on 18-19 September 2023.

### **3. Challenges and Changes**

#### *3.1. Challenges faced by JP (max 300 words)*

The JP experienced some challenges, which were addressed through resilience and diplomacy. There were delays in implementation, a testament to the intricate nature of management arrangements and external factors. The ever-evolving global scenario, most notably the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, cast an unforeseen shadow over the pace of execution. In addition, the Second Karabakh War (September-November 2020) and the shift in Government priorities for post-conflict recovery and reconstruction also led to challenges in JP implementation.

The ongoing war in Ukraine has had a significant impact on implementation of the UNFPA-led research on the situation of older people with particular focus on older women in Azerbaijan. The international expert hired from the Ukrainian Institute for Demography and Social Studies of the National Academy of Sciences was unable to deliver on time due to the war, which in turn significantly affected the initially agreed timeline.

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

Throughout its implementation, the JP remained agile, making modifications that align with the evolving context. Recognizing the need for continuity and enhanced outcomes, the JP's lifetime was judiciously extended to the end of June 2023. Due to a special request from the Government counterpart, a few of the activities are continuing.

Each time the JP implementation faced challenges, the activities were recalibrated to find strategic entry-points and partnerships to continue the JP. The JP's adaptive measures aptly responded to external dynamics, fortifying the commitment to deliver the best outcomes. The extended timeline underscores an unwavering dedication to comprehensive execution.

### **4. Sustainability and Country Ownership**

#### *4.1. Sustainability and country ownership (max 500 words)*

The legislative reforms in the fiscal policy set in motion through the JP are poised to transcend the lifespan of the JP, fortified by strong ownership and strategic mechanisms. The enduring impact of the ongoing and completed reforms will be sustained through a multi-faceted approach that includes robust stakeholder engagement, policy integration, capacity building, sustained dialogue, and the empowerment of institutional structures.

The resolute commitment and ownership demonstrated by key counterparts and stakeholders pave the way for the continuation of financial reforms beyond the JP's closure. The integration of the key recommendations in the DFA into national plans, policies, processes, and governance arrangements serves as a testament to the

Government's dedication to sustained progress. Notably, the Government's recognition and active consideration of policy recommendations coming from the DFA and other documents underscore the tangible steps taken to ensure the reforms' ongoing implementation.

Integral to the sustainability of these reforms is the institutional empowerment achieved within the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development. This pivotal institution is poised to advocate and promote the INFF agenda further by building coordination mechanisms within the Government. This institutional capacity-building not only bolsters the government's commitment to the reforms but also strengthens the collaborative governance structure that drives the INFF approach.

Sustainability is firmly anchored through dialogue and engagement platforms that span a diverse range of stakeholders. The active involvement of multiple stakeholders, representing a wide array of perspectives, underscores the inclusive nature of the implementation process. Notably, the Government's efforts to promote insights gleaned from the SDG Investor Mapping process exemplify a tangible commitment to aligning policies with the needs and aspirations of various stakeholders. Furthermore, the role of the upcoming SDG Finance Dashboard emerges as a pivotal element in ensuring the sustainability of the financial reforms. This robust tool, designed to monitor results and provide critical insights, holds the potential to guide policy decisions and signal necessary budgetary amendments.

The JP's successful capacity building initiatives have empowered beneficiaries and institutions at the national level, fostering a workforce that is well-equipped to continue implementing the SDG financing strategy. The strengthened technical capacity within these institutions ensures the seamless continuation of the reforms beyond the JP's conclusion.

While substantial progress has been made, the Government and key counterparts may still require transitional UN support as the JP concludes. This support might encompass fine-tuning the implementation process, targeted technical assistance, and facilitating stakeholder engagement to integrate the strategy seamlessly into the national development framework.

## 5. Communications

### 5.1 Communication products (max 300 words)

The JP implemented an array of communications and visibility activities. Information about SDGs, development financing, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards, SDG Impact Measurement and Management (IMM), and innovative financing tools were disseminated widely to stakeholders across different platforms, reaching diverse audiences and contributing to a broader understanding of the significance of SDGs and related themes.

In close collaboration with partners, UNDP developed and translated a range of materials dedicated to promoting awareness and understanding of the aforementioned topics. These materials encompassed various formats, such as booklets, posters, and informative documents, including 130 informative materials on SDGs. Furthermore, UNDP created 11 videos designed to provide a comprehensive and accessible explanation of the importance of SDGs. These videos featured senior Government officials, including the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Economy.

Additionally, relevant activities have been widely advertised on the UN, UNDP, UNFPA and partners' social media accounts and national news agencies.

### 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 type="checkbox"/>	1	<i>The first webinar on "Sustainable Investments: Trends and Opportunities in the Economy of Azerbaijan" has been organized on January 21, 2021. It was a plenary session between experts</i>



				<i>from the investment community and the representatives of the government institutions, academia, and within the framework of the JP, UNDP has supported the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development, the main partner, in preparation for the third Voluntary National Review, which also includes provisions on SDG financing in Azerbaijan.</i>
Annual donors' event* (mandatory)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<i>UNDP together with its partners with the participation of development partners, including the Fund donors, organized "Development Financing: Post-COVID Sustainable and Green Recovery" to promote a high-level dialogue on the financing for development in Azerbaijan on 6 October 2021. The event brought together public and private sector stakeholders to share perspectives and discuss potential terms for partnership around sustainable development and its financing.</i>
Partners' event ** *(optional)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Event on Establishment of Integrated National Financial Framework (INFF) on SDGs – 19.04.2022</li> <li>- Training on the "First Steps towards ESG and Sustainability" – 28.02.2023</li> <li>- Training on the "Moving forward to Transparency with Sustainability reporting" – 20.06.2023</li> <li>- Opening Ceremony of "Youth SDG and Finance Academy" – 30.03.2023</li> <li>- Closing Ceremony of "Youth SDG and Finance Academy" – 22.05.2023</li> <li>- SDG Finance Academy for Republic of Azerbaijan – 30.05.2023-01.06.2023</li> <li>- Stakeholder Workshop for Azerbaijan SDG Financing – 09.03.2023</li> <li>- "Development Financing: Post-Covid Green and Sustainable Recovery" – 06.10.2022</li> <li>- meeting with the Minister of Labor and Social Protection of Population held with participation of 2 international experts from the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute and Prague University of Economics and Business to discuss the benefits of demographic dividend and economic implications of population changes - 05 May 2022;</li> <li>- Second SDG Dialogue on "Inclusive economic growth and social inclusion in Azerbaijan, halfway towards 2030" - 14 June 2023</li> <li>- Community-based actions to promote the active engagement and participation of elderly, with special focus of older women - August-October 2023</li> </ul>

\*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 from the Joint Programming (JP) experience that would facilitate future program design and implementation, specifically in terms of promoting SDG financing instruments, are as follows:

- The support provided by the UNDP Regional Hub to UNDP country offices played a crucial role in facilitating the sharing of experiences and best practices across diverse regional contexts. This sharing of knowledge enriched the JP's approach and provided valuable insights into lessons learned from similar activities in different regions. Collaborating with various UNDP country offices enabled the JP to benefit from a wider range of expertise and perspectives. For example, the expertise of the UNDP Colombia country office in developing the SDG Dashboard methodology and web-based platform was particularly influential in promoting effective SDG financing strategies. This successful example showcases the importance of leveraging specific country office strengths and innovations for broader programmatic impact.
- Engaging stakeholders extensively through events, knowledge-sharing initiatives, and the demonstration of positive outcomes from similar efforts in other countries is pivotal. This engagement helps garner support for necessary changes and fosters a sense of ownership among stakeholders.

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

The first lesson learned from the JP experience is that collaborating with various UNDP country offices significantly enriches the implementation of programs and enhances the overall efficiency. By leveraging the expertise and resources of different country offices, the JP approach becomes more robust and capable of addressing diverse challenges. The UNDP CO has benefitted from the experience from the countries in the region and Latin America during the implementation of the project.

Another important lesson is the need to adapt to external political challenges that might arise during implementation. Fostering strong relationships with decision-makers in the countries where JPs are being implemented can aid in navigating such challenges and ensuring the progress of collaborative efforts. It is crucial to recognize and acknowledge the unique contexts of each country and the varying paces of change they undergo. This understanding helps set realistic expectations and timelines for program implementation. By doing so, the JP approach can ensure that interventions are tailored to each country's specific needs, leading to more effective outcomes.

In order to effectively engage the private sector for SDG financing, it is necessary for the UN to learn to speak their "language." Through the JP, the UN learned to communicate in a way that resonates with the private sector's priorities and interests, which generated greater interests amongst the private sector to participate and contribute to SDG implementation. This underscores the importance of effective communication and finding common ground when collaborating with various stakeholders.

Previous experience shows that backing up any advocacy action with research evidence is crucial. Alongside this, the data should also be extensively used to enrich the content of the project communication products and tailored to the target groups.

More direct engagement and partnership strategies with the local community members is needed to secure sustainability of the efforts including inter alia through participatory intervention strategies. The participatory process and institutionalization of the knowledge and skills are the most crucial factors for success.



## Annex 1: Consolidated results framework

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

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

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	0	0	0	

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	0	0	
4.2: #of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in lead	0	1	1	Azerbaijan's Development Finance Assessment report
4.3: # of functioning partnership frameworks for integrated financing strategies to accelerate SDG progress	0	1	5	1. Development Financing Assessment Report 2. The Impact Investing Ecosystem Study 3. Azerbaijan SDG Investor Map 4. Capacity Building on Sustainable Building around Sustainability Reporting for Private Sector 5. Mainstreaming Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Framework

### 2. Selected global operational effectiveness indicators (full programme duration)

- Provide data for aggregation at the global level of the Joint SDG Fund.

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

- ☐ Yes, considerably contributed
- ☐ Yes, contributed ☒
- ☐ No

Explain briefly: The Strategic Joint Program resonates profoundly with the UNCT partnership approach. This approach, founded on leveraging the UN's capacity, resources, and assets, has enabled the program to scale up its SDG Financing endeavors. By synergizing with the broader UN family, the program has exemplified the principle that collective efforts yield exponential outcomes.

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: By bringing UNDP and UNFPA together, the program reduces the risk of duplication and aligns interventions, harnessing synergy. This approach significantly curtails transaction costs that would have inevitably arisen from multiple parallel initiatives. The streamlined coordination under the Resident Coordinator's office amplifies efficiency, ensuring optimal utilization of resources.

### 3. Results as per JP Results Framework

- Present JP results in the following template

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Original Target (as per ProDoc)	Revised Target (if applicable)	Result (end of JP)	Reasons for variance from original target (if any)
<b>Outcome 1:</b> Developing a public-private partnership platform (a governance mechanism of the INFF) to improve knowledge on SDG finance, and centralise institutional components for the INFF strategy					
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Designing and launch a public-private partnership platform with key stakeholders to centralise information and enable technical discussions on green economy and INFF formulation.					
INFF Secretariat formalised	0	1		1	
<b>Output 1.2:</b> Designing a methodology to collect relevant information (both financial and non-financial – ESG) for the development of Azerbaijan's INFF					

Guideline to assess SDG conditions delivered - methodologies and metrics to evaluate SDG and green economy conditions	0	1		1	
<b>Output 1.3:</b> Developing an effective system to track SDG contributions (both financial flows and social commitments) for public and private entities					
SDG portfolio system delivered	0	1		1	
<b>Output 1.4:</b> Mapping all financial flows (public, private, internal and external), as well as mapping social programmes aligned with the green economy					
Number of researches conducted	0	5		5	
Report on risks and opportunities to implement Azerbaijan's INFF	0	1		1	
<b>Outcome 2:</b> Developing of Azerbaijan's INFF strategy					
<b>Output 2.1:</b> Developing and launching feasibility studies to assess key requirements to integrate green economic strategies into Azerbaijan's INFF					
Feasibility study on green economy (both financial and corporate	0	1		0	
<b>Output 2.2:</b> Organising thematic meetings and working groups with key stakeholders to discuss and test future INFF strategy					

Number of technical materials to be used for strategic meetings between INFF Secretariat and project stakeholders to evaluate SDG and green economy conditions	0	5		3	
Number of technical meetings to discuss relevant data, and define potential strategies and plans to design the country's INFF	0	5		16	
<b>Output 2.3:</b> Developing a set of national capacity building programmes related to green economy, INFF development, best practices and lessons learned in green investments and the green growth					
Number of participants trained	0	150		250	
<b>Output 2.4:</b> Designing and launch of Azerbaijan's INFF					
Number of technical meetings between green investment experts and INFF Secretariat and project members	0	10		98	
Number of INFF pilot proposals to be presented to INFF Secretariat and project partners	0	2		4	
Final INFF Strategy	0	1		1	
<b>Outcome 3:</b> INFF coordination and programme sustainability					

<b>Output 3.1:</b> Developing control systems to collect, track, measure relevant SDG data and assess the INFF performance, focusing on the green economy					
Deliver a control system to collect, track, measure relevant SDG data and assess the INFF performance, focus on green growth	0	1		1	
<b>Output 3.2:</b> Designing a risk and compliance mechanisms to manage, mitigate and avoid potential risks related to INFF implementation					
Integrate risk management tools and controls into the INFF portfolio system	0	5		5	
<b>Output 3.3:</b> Developing capacity building programmes related to SDG and INFF risk management					
Development of capacity building materials related to risk management and performance standards for Azerbaijan's INFF	0	5		5	
<b>Output 3.4:</b> Designing and maintain a system to track and evaluate green investments and businesses aligned with the INFF strategy					
Integrate investment KPIs and green investment metrics into the INFF portfolio system	0	1		1	
<b>Output 3.5:</b> Showcase and promotion of Azerbaijan's INFF and green strategy to institutional investors					

Deliver a communication plan to inform about INFF strategy and opportunities to responsible and sustainable investors	0	1		0	
Launch an international conference to investors and sustainable corporations	0	0		1	
Report on the main impacts and lessons learned					
<b>Outcome 4:</b> The knowledge base with particular focus on those furthest behind is built for informed programming, planning and monitoring of sustainable development progress					
<b>Output 4.1:</b> Developing control systems to collect, track, measure relevant SDG data and assess the INFF performance, focusing on the green economy					
Qualitative survey on situation of older people is held with particular focus on older women	0	1		1	
National capacities for conduction of survey on situation of older people are strengthened	0	yes		yes	
In-depth analysis on young people's educational attainment and labour market performance is conducted	0	1		1	
<b>Output 4.2:</b> Policy dialogue with government and non-government partners strengthened for improved understanding of inter-linkages between population trends and sustainable development.					

Number of advocacy and awareness raising activities held on the implications of population growth and changing population age structure for the economic growth	0	20		30	
Research findings held in the framework of this project are disseminated among stakeholders, particularly duty bearers such as relevant government bodies and other development partners	0	yes		yes	

## Annex 2: List of strategic documents

### 1. Strategic documents that were produced by the JP

Available. Due to the exceeding filesize, we have uploaded on Google drive:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pIhRB0W\\_x1UnFx1pSAd\\_y7ERZzsporZO/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105009221184668059109&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pIhRB0W_x1UnFx1pSAd_y7ERZzsporZO/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105009221184668059109&rtpof=true&sd=true)

### 2. Strategic documents to which the JP directly contributed to

Available. Due to the exceeding filesize, we have uploaded on Google drive:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pIhRB0W\\_x1UnFx1pSAd\\_y7ERZzsporZO/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105009221184668059109&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pIhRB0W_x1UnFx1pSAd_y7ERZzsporZO/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105009221184668059109&rtpof=true&sd=true)



## Annex 3. Communications materials

### 1. Human interest story

- **Attach at least 1 human interest story** that summarizes the background, results achieved, impact made, and beneficiaries reached by the joint programme in line with the objective of the portfolio to support increased SDG financing flows and policy reforms.
- The "Youth SDG and Finance Academy" offered training to 60 university students, educating them about the SDG framework as well as approaches to sustainable financing, its significance, and associated instruments. The curriculum encompassed diverse subjects such as investments in human capital, green cities, and energy, among others. Following the principles of the 5Ps, the students were divided into three groups: (1) people and partnership; (2) peace and prosperity; and (3) planet. The closing ceremony of Youth SDG and Finance Academy occurred on May 22, 2023, at ADA University. The concluding event was divided into two segments: a panel session offering insights about the initiative and delivering welcoming remarks, and parallel sessions comprising relevant group discussions. During these parallel sessions, students presented their projects and engaged in discussions with government representatives and the facilitator. Subsequently, these projects were presented to the respective ministries by the National Coordination Council for further evaluation. Exceptional performers among the students during the training, Sama Mirzazade, Tamerlan Mammadzade, Ilaha Hajiyeve and Agshin Mammadov were awarded with certificates and these 4 students will have the opportunity to do an internship at NCCSD.

### 2. Communication products

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Brief description and hyperlink (if it exists)
SDG Promo Materials	July 2023	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1CCimXuTj7toiXwbp8vG69_sowA_MC-S">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1CCimXuTj7toiXwbp8vG69_sowA_MC-S</a>
Youth SDG and Finance Academy	May 2023	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/UNDP Azerbaijan/posts/pfbid02QYmZq38ud5hTQuzSzGaoXfviHWMcdpfwEGqnakJfTX6nZrUY6rcx6DSZqGZPWa7nl">https://www.facebook.com/UNDP Azerbaijan/posts/pfbid02QYmZq38ud5hTQuzSzGaoXfviHWMcdpfwEGqnakJfTX6nZrUY6rcx6DSZqGZPWa7nl</a> <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OIBRRRGoFN9KJ0Zv3EBkotzDIy-FdIEO/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OIBRRRGoFN9KJ0Zv3EBkotzDIy-FdIEO/view</a> <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UBn3ik0QW7ahtpQ7a1XjLND-YkJVeeMC">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UBn3ik0QW7ahtpQ7a1XjLND-YkJVeeMC</a> <a href="https://www.undp.org/az/azerbaijan/press-releases/qncrlin-dim-v-maliyy-akademiyasi-faliyyt-baslayib">https://www.undp.org/az/azerbaijan/press-releases/qncrlin-dim-v-maliyy-akademiyasi-faliyyt-baslayib</a> <a href="https://economy.gov.az/az/post/1396/qencler-ucun-dayaniqli-inkisaf-meqsedleri-ve-maliyye-akademiyasi-movzusunda-telim-proqrami-basa-catib">https://economy.gov.az/az/post/1396/qencler-ucun-dayaniqli-inkisaf-meqsedleri-ve-maliyye-akademiyasi-movzusunda-telim-proqrami-basa-catib</a> <a href="https://report.az/biznes-xeberleri/azerbaycanda-dayaniqli-inkisaf-meqsedleri-uzre-investisiya-xeritesi-hazirlanir/">https://report.az/biznes-xeberleri/azerbaycanda-dayaniqli-inkisaf-meqsedleri-uzre-investisiya-xeritesi-hazirlanir/</a>
SDG Finance Academy	May 2023	<a href="https://shorturl.at/IAJKS">https://shorturl.at/IAJKS</a> <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SXPmDE5-va69M8xEwfozokjhQFBp5t0k">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SXPmDE5-va69M8xEwfozokjhQFBp5t0k</a>
Capacity Building on Sustainability Reporting	June 2023	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Wh8pE_SyKybbKbOtpP360_9nVA6KOIv8">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Wh8pE_SyKybbKbOtpP360_9nVA6KOIv8</a>
Mainstreaming ESG Framework	February 2023	<a href="https://www.undp.org/azerbaijan/news/training-first-steps-towards-environmental-social-and-governance-esg-sustainability-was-held-within-undp-project">https://www.undp.org/azerbaijan/news/training-first-steps-towards-environmental-social-and-governance-esg-sustainability-was-held-within-undp-project</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/UNDP Azerbaijan/posts/pfbid02LVrhys4arr9wdepfG88JTh3UzPbSBAPVHy6VnhLjzq76GiSKRpMxZ5iWVRouiea7l">https://www.facebook.com/UNDP Azerbaijan/posts/pfbid02LVrhys4arr9wdepfG88JTh3UzPbSBAPVHy6VnhLjzq76GiSKRpMxZ5iWVRouiea7l</a> <a href="https://economy.gov.az/az/post/1240/etraf-muhit-sosial-ve-idareetme-esg-prinsiplerinin-tetbiqi-ve-dayaniqliliq-hesabatina-dair-telim-kecirilib">https://economy.gov.az/az/post/1240/etraf-muhit-sosial-ve-idareetme-esg-prinsiplerinin-tetbiqi-ve-dayaniqliliq-hesabatina-dair-telim-kecirilib</a> <a href="https://azertag.az/xeber/Atraf_muhit_sosial_ve_idareetme_prinsiplerinin_tetbiqi_ve_Dayaniqliliq_Hesabatina_dair_telim_kechirilib-2509856">https://azertag.az/xeber/Atraf_muhit_sosial_ve_idareetme_prinsiplerinin_tetbiqi_ve_Dayaniqliliq_Hesabatina_dair_telim_kechirilib-2509856</a>

Stakeholder Workshop for Azerbaijan SDG Financing	March 2023	<a href="https://report.az/maliyye-xeberleri/osman-xaliyev-azerbaycanda-esq-giymetlendirme-modeli-hazirlanib/">https://report.az/maliyye-xeberleri/osman-xaliyev-azerbaycanda-esq-giymetlendirme-modeli-hazirlanib/</a> <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1h0JBwldUw-XXDmOzXqIyyTS8AZ4azGn8">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1h0JBwldUw-XXDmOzXqIyyTS8AZ4azGn8</a> <a href="https://az.trend.az/business/3720454.html">https://az.trend.az/business/3720454.html</a> <a href="https://www.undp.org/az/azerbaijan/press-releases/dim-investor-xritsi-uzr-maraqli-trflr-ucun-tdbir-til-olunub">https://www.undp.org/az/azerbaijan/press-releases/dim-investor-xritsi-uzr-maraqli-trflr-ucun-tdbir-til-olunub</a> <a href="https://economy.gov.az/az/post/1294/dim-investor-xeritesi-hazirlanir">https://economy.gov.az/az/post/1294/dim-investor-xeritesi-hazirlanir</a>
Event on Establishment of Integrated National Financial Framework (INFF) on SDGs	April 2022	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/UNDPAzerbaijan/posts/pfbid02nNQRiX7xf3ev5JeNDsvC3m76PQp5AHtsqVPQ1FwQ6dyeTH7nvPMxX9qusEgcDDUnl">https://www.facebook.com/UNDPAzerbaijan/posts/pfbid02nNQRiX7xf3ev5JeNDsvC3m76PQp5AHtsqVPQ1FwQ6dyeTH7nvPMxX9qusEgcDDUnl</a>
Second SDG Dialogue on "Inclusive economic growth and social inclusion in Azerbaijan, halfway towards 2030"	June 2023	<a href="https://shorturl.at/qyQU5">https://shorturl.at/qyQU5</a> <a href="https://azerbaijan.un.org/en/236326-second%C2%A0sdg-dialogue-reviews-azerbaijan%E2%80%99s%C2%A0progress-towards%C2%A0social-and-economic-inclusiveness">https://azerbaijan.un.org/en/236326-second%C2%A0sdg-dialogue-reviews-azerbaijan%E2%80%99s%C2%A0progress-towards%C2%A0social-and-economic-inclusiveness</a> <a href="https://www.economy.gov.az/en/post/1448/2030-cu-ile-dogru-azerbaycanda-sosial-iqtisadi-inkluzivlik-movzusunda-ikinci-dayaniqli-inkisaf-meqsedleri-dialogu-kecirilib">https://www.economy.gov.az/en/post/1448/2030-cu-ile-dogru-azerbaycanda-sosial-iqtisadi-inkluzivlik-movzusunda-ikinci-dayaniqli-inkisaf-meqsedleri-dialogu-kecirilib</a> <a href="https://report.az/en/business/ali-ahmadov-azerbaijan-taken-serious-steps-towards-un-global-project/">https://report.az/en/business/ali-ahmadov-azerbaijan-taken-serious-steps-towards-un-global-project/</a> <a href="https://apa.az/en/foreign-policy/un-resident-coordinator-azerbaijan-demonstrates-strong-economic-results-405722">https://apa.az/en/foreign-policy/un-resident-coordinator-azerbaijan-demonstrates-strong-economic-results-405722</a>
Meeting with the Minister of Labor and Social Protection of Population held with participation of 2 international experts from the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute and Prague University of Economics and Business to discuss the	05 May 2022	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/sosial.gov.az/posts/pfbid0FFVgo5C4ztgWDomLJdxF4Kq73aEFqXQZWqWrjNWqv2nQ8ZdQAS9UZPyw9Wg2LAq6l">https://www.facebook.com/sosial.gov.az/posts/pfbid0FFVgo5C4ztgWDomLJdxF4Kq73aEFqXQZWqWrjNWqv2nQ8ZdQAS9UZPyw9Wg2LAq6l</a>

benefits of demographic dividend and economic implications of population changes		
Community-based advocacy action to promote the active engagement and participation of elderly	August 2023	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid0EDKiv3oxLvNbXRDOAZfBV06C4VMYhncRhmscsdJD5au12dtxUFs9xsbkSLAj6YF1I">https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid0EDKiv3oxLvNbXRDOAZfBV06C4VMYhncRhmscsdJD5au12dtxUFs9xsbkSLAj6YF1I</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid035X6fZtQBCUxeXEu9UiGcpHNxoKeuxpjDiXGdV6kym86yH1vgW4cgeaG2nQxDGdmQI">https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid035X6fZtQBCUxeXEu9UiGcpHNxoKeuxpjDiXGdV6kym86yH1vgW4cgeaG2nQxDGdmQI</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid0Kd5pH5XMiLBWmWesutxX7upSrWsiY6YBDh746WceEaBcrJqVULtbD43DUqLUoDKI">https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid0Kd5pH5XMiLBWmWesutxX7upSrWsiY6YBDh746WceEaBcrJqVULtbD43DUqLUoDKI</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid04T4wdysQudvif6RnQQRHGqpRnv4yMS9qHGvZRxmoHfvybGhAF8yjG3bUxtywDM1ywl">https://www.facebook.com/uchuncubahar/posts/pfbid04T4wdysQudvif6RnQQRHGqpRnv4yMS9qHGvZRxmoHfvybGhAF8yjG3bUxtywDM1ywl</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/impactagency.az/posts/pfbid02aTDon4vA7wEYcujuDqdBdh1h7dZCpkXks5iKerpWJGyFifCurCzpGwBhGHJYLcqqI">https://www.facebook.com/impactagency.az/posts/pfbid02aTDon4vA7wEYcujuDqdBdh1h7dZCpkXks5iKerpWJGyFifCurCzpGwBhGHJYLcqqI</a>

## Annex 4: Stakeholder feedback

If applicable, include a list of all stakeholders interviewed during the final report preparation and summarize their feedback.

No	Name of entity	Name of Representative	Title	Contact information	Role in the programme	Summary of feedback
1	National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development	Huseyn Huseynov	Secretary	Huseyn.huseynov@economy.gov.az	Main government partner	The <b>National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development (NCCSD)</b> under the leadership of the Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan Republic was created by the Presidential Decree as the principal institutional and policy-making body to ensure implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development in Azerbaijan. The NCCSD is chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and includes representatives from 13 ministries and state committees. The work of the NCCSD is supported by three thematic working groups (economic, social and environmental) and a cross-cutting group on SDG monitoring. In this context, through

						support to the NCCSD in strengthening its institutional capacity to fulfil its mandates as the lead agency, the current JP ultimately contributed to financing SDGs and the formulation of comprehensive policy interventions and action plans.
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