

**Accelerating Progress Towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women (RWEE)  
MPTF OFFICE CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE  
PROGRESS REPORT  
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<p><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p>	<p><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results<sup>2</sup></b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme Title: Accelerating Progress Towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women</li> <li>• Programme Number (<i>if applicable</i>) N/A</li> <li>• MPTF Office Project Reference Number:<sup>3</sup> 00132318, 00132319, 00132613, 00132320, 00132777, 00130803</li> </ul>	<p>Nepal, Niger, Pacific Islands, Tanzania, Tunisia</p> <p><i>Priority area/ strategic results</i></p> <p>The overall goal of the programme is to secure the livelihoods, rights and resilience of rural women to advance sustainable develop, Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.</p> <p>Beneficiaries Reached 2023:</p> <p><b>Direct Beneficiaries:</b> 19,544 (16,269 women, 3,275 men)</p> <p><b>Indirect Beneficiaries:</b> 138,692</p>
<p><b>Participating Organization(s)</b> FAO, IFAD, UN Women, WFP</p>	<p><b>Implementing Partners</b> National counterparts (government, NGO/CSOs)</p>
<p><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b> Total approved budget as per project document (2023): MPTF /JP Contribution<sup>4</sup>:</p>	<p><b>Programme Duration</b> Overall Duration 9.5 years</p>

<sup>1</sup> The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

<sup>2</sup> Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document.

<sup>3</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 the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

<sup>4</sup> The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

**USD 3,630,381**

- *by Agency (if applicable)*  
N/A

Agency Contribution

- *by Agency (if applicable)*  
N/A

Government Contribution  
*(if applicable)*

Other Contributions  
(donors)  
*(if applicable)*

**TOTAL: USD 42,399,748**

**Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.**

Assessment/Review - if applicable *please attach*

Yes  No Date: *N/A*

Mid-Term Evaluation Report – *if applicable please attach*

Yes  No Date: *N/A*

Start Date<sup>5</sup> *15.10.2014*

Original End Date<sup>6</sup>  
*24.05.2027*

Current End  
date<sup>7</sup>(*dd.mm.yyyy*)

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<sup>5</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

<sup>6</sup> As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

<sup>7</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.

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CCROs	Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy
CFM	Community Feedback Mechanism
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
CBBP	Community-Based Participatory Planning
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
CHSC	Custom Hiring Service Centres
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEBL	Financial Education and Business Literacy
FFS	Farmer Field School Approach
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GCU	Global Coordination Unit
GDA	<i>Groupements de Développement Agricole</i>
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting
GTAs	Gender Transformative Approaches
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
ISC	International Steering Committee
JP	Joint Programme
KM	Knowledge Management
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
NSC	National Steering Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PUNOs	Participating UN Organizations
RWEE	Rural Women's Economic Empowerment
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SBC	Social Behaviour Change
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SMSA	<i>Sociétés Mutuelles de Services Agricoles</i>
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TWG	Technical Working Group
VSLAs	Village Savings and Loan Associations
WFP	World Food Programme
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WEAI	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Joint Programme ‘Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women’ (JP RWEE) is a global initiative that aims to secure rural women’s livelihoods, rights and resilience to advance sustainable development, Agenda 2030 and the SDGs. The programme is a partnership initiative between FAO, IFAD, UN Women and WFP and is being implemented in Nepal, Niger, the Pacific Islands, Tanzania, Tunisia and Rwanda<sup>8</sup> (2022 – 2027). This was the first full year of implementation of Phase Two<sup>9</sup> of the JP RWEE, with activities starting in all participating countries. A comprehensive beneficiary targeting process was carried out in Nepal, Niger and Tunisia, resulting in the identification of an additional 24,000 beneficiaries<sup>10</sup>. Community driven targeting approaches were adopted, which included the consideration of intersectionality and the validation of selected beneficiaries by communities and local authorities. Baseline surveys were completed in the same countries, involving key informant interviews with 2,923 households (1,720 in control groups and 1,203 in treatment groups). Findings related to the programme outcomes were used to inform the design of programme activities and establish both annual and five-year targets.

This report provides an overview of progress in 2023. Key achievements in the reporting period include increased access to land, financial services, and markets for women beneficiaries. Women’s participation in community structures and decision-making bodies has also increased. A total of 357 Dimitra Clubs and 432 cooperatives, VSLAs and women’s groups were established and/or supported in four countries. Implementing partner data, coupled with monitoring visits, indicate that these groups have already started to generate results and impact, with increased household production, improved nutrition and increased income being reported. Monitoring visits have also indicated that women’s confidence and agency has considerably increased as a result of the programme’s approaches, including the engagement of men to address deep rooted discriminatory social norms. Results are not reported at outcome level as a full twelve-month cycle of programme activities required for outcome monitoring was not completed. Output level results are reported to a limited extent, reflecting the progress of activity implementation at country level. Delays were experienced in the implementation of activities in all participating countries, primarily due to prolonged implementing partner contracting processes during this early stage of the programme. Consequently, a number of activities from the 2023 workplans were carried over to 2024. This most severely impacted implementation in the Pacific Islands, while elsewhere implementation was affected as a result of external and internal factors.

Governance and coordination mechanisms were effectively implemented during the year, with a particular focus on establishing coordination mechanisms at country level. Joint working was further strengthened during the year, with regular coordination meetings held between the UN agencies at global and country level, as well as country level multi-actor coordination meetings, thereby contributing to greater efficiency and effectiveness. In addition, country teams worked together to identify opportunities for synergy building to maximise the impact of the partnership.

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<sup>8</sup> Rwanda is also participating in the global programme through funding provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

<sup>9</sup> Phase One was implemented in Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nepal, Niger and Rwanda (2014 – 2021).

<sup>10</sup> 8000 beneficiaries were selected in Tanzania in 2022.

## I. Purpose

The overall goal and outcomes for the programme are as follows:

**Overall Goal:** Rural women's livelihoods, rights and resilience secured to advance sustainable development, Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.

**Outcome One:** Improved food security and nutrition for rural women and their households that contribute to equitable and sustainable food systems.

**Outcome Two:** Rural women's income, decent work and economic autonomy increased to secure their livelihoods and build resilience.

**Outcome Three:** Rural women's voice and agency increased for full and equal participation and leadership in their households, communities, organizations and governance systems.

**Outcome Four:** Gender responsive legal frameworks, policies and institutions strengthened to create an enabling environment for rural women to secure their livelihoods, rights and resilience.

## II. Results

### i) Narrative Reporting on Results

This section details the results achieved during the year across each of the four programme outcomes in Nepal, Niger, the Pacific Islands, Tanzania, and Tunisia. It's important to highlight that the output figures presented as percentage increases may not be statistically representative due to the limited duration of programme implementation during the reporting period. Quantitative and qualitative surveys to measure changes against the baseline are carried out once the programme has achieved a minimum full twelve-month cycle of implementation, as per the global M&E plan. This was not the case during the reporting year. Additionally, considering the reduced cycle of implementation, some annual targets had been set as 0% increase over the baseline, as no changes were expected to occur within this timeframe. Despite these limitations, the estimated figures provided at the outcome level in the narrative below aim to offer an indication of the potential impact of implemented activities within the reporting period. It should also be noted that Niger, the Pacific Islands and Tunisia faced challenges in the achievement of the workplan targets, as detailed in the indicator performance table and outlined in the section on challenges. As a result, a significant number of activities were carried over for implementation in 2024, these are detailed in the table. For further details on the reported figures and calculation methods, please refer to section II) Indicator-Based Performance Assessment and Annex One.

**Outcome 1: Improved food security and nutrition for rural women and their households that contribute to equitable and sustainable food systems.**

Initial progress was made under this outcome for 12,962 beneficiaries (8,723 women and 4,539 men), most notably in Nepal and Tanzania, where agricultural productivity and household consumption improved. Security of land tenure was achieved for a number of beneficiaries in Tanzania, while in Niger, the inclusion of women in community land commissions, comprising 27% women's members, represents significant progress in women's participation in decision-making processes in the management of land and natural resources at local level. Interventions

aimed at increasing agricultural production and improving nutritional practices have positively impacted 8%<sup>11</sup> of JP RWEE participants. Beneficiary contact visits<sup>12</sup> indicate that women's vegetable production is increasing, enabling increased dietary diversity and improved nutrition for households, as well as surplus produce for sale leading to greater income.

***Output 1.1. Increased access to resources, assets, and technologies critical for climate-resilient agricultural production, food security and nutrition.***

In Niger and Tanzania, progress was made in addressing one of the main barriers for rural women, that of access to land and security of land tenure. In Tanzania, 204 beneficiaries secured access to land after the programme sensitized and trained local land administration authorities who subsequently allocated Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCROs) to farmers (98 women, 54 men and 52 CCROs for joint ownership). A further 150 CCROs were identified for allocation in early 2024. This represents a significant step towards systemic change at local level on women's right to land and security of land tenure. CCROs were also allocated for community members outside of the JP RWEE. In Niger, women's rights to land and their participation and decision making in issues relating to land and natural resource management were also strengthened. Women represent 27.5% (110 out of 400) of members of 40 land commissions newly created by the JP RWEE in collaboration with local government and communal authorities in 2023. This represents a significant percentage in an area where stringent social norms restrict women's participation in community life, and the figure is above the minimum 18% required by government. The JP RWEE will support the committees to play a role in preventing natural resources disputes and improving access to land for women. This will be supported by leadership training provided under other components of the JP RWEE, thereby building synergies between the contributions of the participating agencies. Women's involvement in land committees has elevated their voices in community decision making and promoted gender equality within local land administration thereby supporting the implementation of gender responsive land policies and advancing change at a systemic level. This has been achieved through the combined expertise of the participating UN organisations (PUNOs). In Tanzania, under the outcome 4 component of the programme, UN Women trained 106 Gender Champions on gender equality and women's rights who then sensitized the community, including traditional leaders, on topics including women's right to land ownership. This laid a foundation for FAO's initiatives working with government to secure women's right to own land and meant that the community was accepting and supportive of the initiative to award women CCROs.

There was a 6.31% increase in the number of rural women with access to climate-smart inputs, assets and natural resources for agricultural production and a 7.58% average increase in the number of rural women adopting improved value chain specific, climate-smart and indigenous agricultural production techniques. FAO's Farmer Field School approach<sup>13</sup> (FFS) was used, reaching 12,962 farmers, and using demonstration plots to train farmers on topics including climate and weather information, the use of compost manure and organic fertilizers, and enabling reflection on the role

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<sup>11</sup> Aggregated percentage is calculated summing up the total number of women and men out of the total targeted across the 5 participating countries who have been reached with programme interventions directly linked to output 1.1 and 1.2. Source of verifications of these data as well as details in aggregated data calculations are found in the Result Table.

<sup>12</sup> Beneficiary contact visits is the term used to refer to feedback provided by beneficiaries during agency monitoring visits at implementation level, rather than monitoring visits which use formal surveys, KIIs and FGDs etc.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.fao.org/farmer-field-schools/home/en/>

of men and women in household farming, in line with the programme's cross cutting lens of gender transformative approaches. Farmers ability to withstand climate related adversity was further strengthened as a result of the provision of 62.8 metric tons of seeds including drought and disease tolerant seeds and improved seed varieties (Nepal, Niger, Tanzania), with an emphasis on supporting local seed systems. In Tanzania, for example, 15 farmers became Quality Declared Seed Farmers. This resulted in the purchase of 2.1 metric tons of local sunflower seeds and 3.13 metric tons of local sorghum seeds by local farmers, thereby contributing to the development and promotion of local sustainable seed systems. Becoming a Quality Declared Seed Farmer is a significant achievement. It means that farmers are certified to sell guaranteed quality seeds in the area, enhancing their livelihoods while also contributing to the development of local sustainable seed systems. It also means that the farmer is recognised as a trainer of trainers on good agronomy and related agricultural practices, thereby increasing local technical know-how and expertise.

***Output 1.2: Skills and capacities of rural women strengthened to increase agricultural production, food quality and local food stocks for food security, reduce food loss and waste and improve household nutrition.***

There was an 8.57% increase achieved in the number of rural women and men with improved skills and capacity for nutrition, health and food safety and a 10.5%<sup>14</sup> increase in the number of rural women accessing extension services, including weather information. A total of 9,992 beneficiaries in Nepal, Niger and Tanzania improved their productive capacity as a result of skills and knowledge gained on climate smart agriculture (CSA) and good agriculture practices (GAP). Local government capacity was also enhanced with 32 extension officers trained and able to provide improved support to JP RWEE beneficiaries and the wider community. There was also increased knowledge and understanding of nutrition among 3,272 beneficiaries in Nepal and Tanzania, as well as enhanced capacity of 113 Community Health Workers/Nutrition Promoters who are now educating the wider community on healthy nutrition practices. In both countries, households are now using home plots and kitchen gardens for the production and consumption of a variety of nutritious foods, whilst beneficiary contact visits indicate that the nutritional intake of household diets has improved. A Social Behaviour Change (SBC) approach to nutrition was used in both countries, while in Tunisia a study was carried out to inform the development of SBC nutrition activities (see 'Assessments' section). The SBC approach enables gender inequitable social norms and behaviours on household consumption to be addressed. In Nepal, Niger and Tanzania 6,327 beneficiaries have improved their practices in post-harvest management (handling, preserving, storing and processing of dry produce) as a result of training. Beneficiary contact visits indicate improved practices such as raised storage platforms and the use of hermetic bags (Tanzania), which can increase shelf life of cereals for up to three years.

**Outcome 2: Rural women's income, decent work and economic autonomy are increased to secure their livelihoods and build resilience.**

Under Outcome 2, progress has been achieved in enabling approximately 7,000 farmers from 200 women's groups to increase their income and move towards economic autonomy. Additionally, 2.8%<sup>15</sup> rural women out of the total participants targeted by the programme can now access credit through 260 women's Village Savings and Loan Associations established in Tanzania and Niger.

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<sup>14</sup> Both figures had a baseline of zero

<sup>15</sup> See the Performance Indicator Table for an explanation of how aggregated figures have been calculated.

Beneficiary contact visits have shown women reporting additional income from crop production and community gardens. Beneficiaries report using income from sales for reinvestment, such as community gardens and expanding seasonal crop production, purchasing food, health insurance and paying school fees for their children.

***Output 2.1: Rural women have enhanced capacities, skills and time for entrepreneurship and access to markets and value chains.***

Under this output, a number of surveys and assessments were carried out to inform activity design and implementation. In Niger, a gender sensitive value chain assessment was undertaken, whilst in Tunisia a supply chain analysis of local supply chains, markets and distribution networks was carried out to identify opportunities for women small-scale farmers. Both assessments will be finalized in the first quarter of 2024. In Tunisia, eleven Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP)<sup>16</sup> workshops were conducted for 24 Agricultural Development Groups (*Groupements de Développement Agricole*, GDA) and Mutual Societies of Agriculture Services (*Sociétés Mutuelles de Services Agricoles SMSA*) involving 423 participants (383 women). Value chain preferences selected include processing of cereal products and vegetable and fruits, essential oils, olive oil, poultry, eggs and beekeeping. These workshops were also attended by local government representatives, including agricultural and gender equality focal points, enabling mutual exchanges of local knowledge and insights and enhancing understanding of beneficiary needs.

A total of 6,972 women in Nepal, Niger and Tanzania now have basic literacy and financial literacy skills following training provided by the programme. Training included business development and laid a critical foundation for engagement in entrepreneurship, enabling women to make appropriate financial and business choices relating to credit, investments and planning. Women also have enhanced abilities in collective bargaining and have significantly improved their communication and negotiation skills. In Nepal, the Financial Education and Business Literacy (FEBL) approach was used as part of the Gender Action Learning System (GALS 'lite'), with 27 women from diverse ethnic groups trained as facilitators. These women have testified to the empowering nature of the FEBL approach. To promote synergy building, JP RWEE implementing partners from all PUNOs participated in the FEBL training, enabling them to build on the methodology in their respective activities.

In Tanzania, the programme collaborated with the government's Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) in Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for women's groups. A total of 1,475 beneficiaries now have skills in a range of areas from value addition and processing of fruits and grains to fabric production, cake decoration and soap making. WFP supported the strengthening of income generation activities, with UN Women subsequently providing training on value addition, including packaging, and branding which enabled the women to develop more marketable products and generate a higher profit. The programme further supported women's access to markets by linking them to selected agribusiness and other commodity off-takers. Of note, 32 rural women from mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar showcased and sold their products at national events held in Arusha and Dodoma. They reported doubling their daily income and establishing contacts with potential buyers. Three women travelled to

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<sup>16</sup> The Community-Based Participatory Planning process (CBPP) is a participatory approach to decision-making involving community members, stakeholders, and local authorities. It empowers communities by giving them a central role in identifying, prioritizing, and planning development projects.



Bujumbura, Burundi, to participate in the 23<sup>rd</sup> East Africa Community MSMEs Trade Fair, resulting in them achieving six months' worth of sales, and contracts to export anchovies (see the Specific Story section).

Women's access to markets was also enhanced through the development of partnerships with schools and local authorities for the sale of home grown produce to schools for school meal provision. Initial preparation and discussion took place with stakeholders in Niger, whilst in Nepal 37 schools agreed to procure locally produced grains, cereals, and fresh vegetables from the JP RWEE supported women farmers' groups, following training of local government and school leaders on nutritious home-grown school meal provision. This partnership initiative not only expands local market opportunities for women farmers, but also serves to bring about a change in how women are perceived and valued as local economic actors.

***Output 2.2 Increased access to decent work, including off-farm work, and social protection.***

In Nepal, steps were taken for the alleviation of women's drudgery with the programme successfully securing a commitment of public land and financial resources from local government for the construction of two Custom Hiring Service Centres<sup>17</sup> (CHSC). These centres will provide access to farm machinery and tools at low hire rates, thereby enhancing productivity and promoting decent work. The CHSC construction will be overseen by FAO, while WFP will oversee the construction of a collection centre at the same location to optimize access to agriculture extension and marketing services for beneficiaries. To enhance synergy, FAO will concentrate on promoting the production of cereals and vegetables in the community (outcome one), while WFP will spearhead the marketing of these commodities by establishing collection centres, irrigation channels and storage facilities, and linking women farmer's groups to markets.

In Tunisia, a comprehensive study on the transportation of women seasonal agricultural workers was carried out, a major barrier to rural women's access to decent work in the country. The study included analysis of research, regulations, and interviews with rural women seasonal agricultural labourers. It will serve as a key source for the national multi-stakeholder consultation platform tasked with bringing about change on this issue. The JP RWEE is participating in this platform and will pilot solutions identified by the platform actors. Also in Tunisia, through the Community Based Participatory Planning process, and in consultation with local women's professional organisations, NGOs and local experts in development and forestry, Food for Assets (FFA) initiatives aimed at protecting agro-forestry resources from climate change induced forest fires and improving the livelihoods of local women were identified. This will involve creating fire trenches in the forest, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries, to build resilience and protect both the environment and women's livelihoods.

***Output 2.3: Rural women have increased access to gender-responsive financial and business development services, ICTs and other products and services.***

Significant change has been brought to the lives of women's farmers as a result of increased access to ICT and digital agriculture facilitated by the JP RWEE. Following training provided by the programme, a total of 3,164 farmers (2,369 women and 795 men) in Nepal and Tanzania are now

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<sup>17</sup> A Custom Hiring Service Centre (CHSC) is a unit comprising a variety of farm machineries, which are provided to small, marginal, and poor farmers at subsidized rates and in a timely manner for hire in order to reduce their workload and drudgery in agriculture sector. One municipality has committed to the purchase of a 4WD tractor and allocated public land for the construction of the CHSC. Another municipality has committed to land allocation.

using apps on mobile phones to improve their productive activity and market engagement. These government and private sector mobile apps enable women to access information on weather, agriculture, real-time market prices and other services such as access to affordable quality inputs and financing. Being members of groups also enabled women who do not own a mobile phone to access the information and services through group members. In Nepal, none of the women had previously used mobile apps for their farming activities.

There was a 2.8% increase in the number of rural women using gender responsive financial services and products as a result of partnerships developed with the private sector. In Nepal, the programme engaged 50 insurance facilitators from various insurance agencies to provide hands-on guidance to 1,990 farmers (1,930 women and 60 men) on agriculture and livestock insurance services. Many women in the programme have now taken out government subsidised insurance for their livestock. In Tanzania, 1,086 beneficiaries (950 women and 136 men) now understand how to open a bank account, engage in savings and lending, and take out business insurance following training provided by public and private financial service providers<sup>18</sup>. As a direct result of the financial literacy and business development training, 108 bank accounts have been opened with national commercial banks. A total of 60 VSLA groups (900 members) working in the horticulture value chain and 11 individual women have secured loans totaling USD 2,000.00 to support economic activities such as cake production and soap making following the programme's support.

In Tunisia, an FAO-led mapping of financial services and microfinance available for women in the target regions revealed significant constraints for women which hinder the growth of the agricultural financing sector. This includes limited cooperation between microfinance institutions and farmer organizations, with the microfinance sector not being effectively harnessed by development support structures. There is also a lack of integration of climate change and sustainability and appropriate adaptation within microfinance mechanisms. A workshop was held with government actors to disseminate the findings and engage stakeholders in discussion on required action. Following the mapping, UN Women will develop an advocacy campaign targeted at financial institutions and other providers to better meet the needs of rural women and their organizations. FAO and UN Women are collaborating closely to ensure effective coherence between the study findings and the development of the advocacy campaign.

### **Outcome 3: Rural women's voice and agency increased for full and equal participation and leadership in their household, communities, organisations, and governance systems (4,500 women and market vendors).**

Under this outcome, progress was made towards increasing the proportion of rural women with empowerment in the leadership domain with over 300 women's groups formed, 80% of which are led by women. Efforts targeting women representatives of Market Vendor Associations, women leadership networks, and farmers groups have enhanced instrumental agency to make decisions and take actions. Women's participation in community decision-making structures has been

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<sup>18</sup> including Vodacom (Mkoba Services), CRDB, NMB, and TCB bank, the Zanzibar Business Technology Incubation, Zanzibar Economic Empowerment Agency, and Savings and Credit Co-operatives (SACCOs) under the Ministry of Community Development Gender, Elderly and Children in Zanzibar, SIDO, Tanzania Bureau of Standards - TBS under the Ministry of Industry and Trade in Tanzania Mainland, and UTT Amis (Unit Trust Investment) under the Ministry of Finance

fostered, engaging over 19,000 community members through awareness campaigns on positive masculinity (Tanzania), while the establishment of 337 Dimitra Clubs (Niger) has empowered women to participate actively in decision-making forums among community members, chaired by local authorities. Furthermore, 3,858 women, along with their household members, are in the process of reflecting on household gender roles and decision making through their participation in the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology<sup>19</sup>.

***Output 3.1: Increased Skills and Capacity to Participate in Local Governance and Decision-Making Structures.***

Women's leadership was enhanced through training and initiatives reaching 507 beneficiaries (341 women and 166 men) in Nepal, Tanzania and the Pacific Islands. This included women representatives of Market Vendor Associations in the Pacific Islands, members of women leadership networks and Gender Clubs in Tanzania, through dialogue sessions on women's leadership between women farmers and local government, and male stakeholders in Nepal.

As a direct result of the programme's efforts, women market vendors in the Pacific Islands were better able to assert their rights and foster stronger representation and support for rural women within the marketplace. This included the participation of 110 market vendors (86 women and 35 men) at market vendor association forums in Fiji and the Solomon Islands, which also involved 30 stakeholders from municipal councils, government ministries, banks and the private sector. As testified by one participant "*This is a great platform to share knowledge and support other women, in escalating issues to the relevant authorities for appropriate actions and grab training opportunities you come across for your empowerment and exposure into leadership opportunities*". Lia Saqacala, Nadi Market Vendors Association in Fiji.

Women's leadership networks in Tanzania were able to mobilize fellow women to engage in community decision-making structures and encourage participation in the country's upcoming local and national level elections. Local government in Nepal demonstrated their commitment to support gender equality in governance structures by pledging to ensure the meaningful participation of women in various local committees. This was a direct result of the advocacy carried out by 112 farmers participating in the JP RWEE during dialogue meetings with local government. In Tanzania, the engagement of men in women's empowerment process was fostered through meetings and dialogues on positive masculinity between women influential leaders, religious and traditional leaders, and community members. A total of 19,075 (12,418 females and 6,657 males) community members were reached. Participants reflected on discriminatory social norms and attitudes which restrict women's participation in leadership. As a result of the awareness raising activities of the programme, three communities in Zanzibar successfully lobbied the government to install clean running water, thereby reducing women's time spent collecting water, and potentially enabling them to engage in other activities.

In Niger, there was evidence of improved women's leadership as a result of the establishment of 357 Dimitra Clubs gathering a total of 8,485 participants (6,019 women and 2,466 men). Although the Dimitra Clubs are still in their first full year of implementation, several observations have

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<sup>19</sup> GALS is a community empowerment methodology that addresses power relationships at the root of inequality to advance gender equity and women's empowerment: <https://gender.cgiar.org/tools-methods-manuals/gender-action-learning-system-gals>

already been made during beneficiary contact visits, including women taking the floor in village decision-making assemblies and their contributions being valued by male members. This represents a clear indication of transformative change taking place. Women were virtually absent from such public meetings prior to the establishment of the Dimitra Clubs. Achievements by the clubs in 2023 included one community agreeing to halt grass cutting, the establishment of agreed rules around the use of water points to eliminate ongoing conflict on water access, and the elimination of conflicts over damage to land caused by livestock animals in one commune. Women were central to these decisions. The Dimitra Clubs also set up networks at the commune level to create an interface between communal authorities and the communities. Each commune network has an office which is made up of 5 members, 3 of whom are women, and the village chief. This progress suggests that systemic change is starting to take place at community level.

***Output 3.2 Strengthened organizational capacities and social capital to form, participate in and sustain producer organizations, cooperatives and unions, savings groups and self-help groups.***

A total of 357 Dimitra Clubs, 44 women's cooperatives, 83 women farmers' groups and, 305 VSLAs were established and/or supported during 2023. A mapping of farmers' organisations in the intervention areas was also carried out in Niger, which will lead to the creation of 20 Producer Organisations involving 600 women. A total of 305 VSLAs and women's groups (3,858 beneficiaries) were strengthened in organisational development and have increased capacity, meeting regularly, planning and organising themselves. Once they have sufficient capacity, the groups will be formally registered as cooperatives and will be able to access services including securing loans. Also of note, in the programme intervention area of Madhesh province in Nepal, there is almost no precedent of women farmers' groups. However, initial feedback from local government, has indicated that the success of these groups in such a short period of time is remarkable and contributing to a change in mindset regarding women forming collectives and being respected as economic actors at household and community levels. There is strong potential for the scale-up of these groups within the area.

Change was also evidenced in relation to unequal household gender roles and discriminatory social norms owing to activities involving the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology. A total of 37 (34 women and 3 men) local people were trained as GALS facilitators in Nepal and Tunisia and have since mentored 177 women members of farmers' groups (Nepal). Local government representatives in Nepal and Tunisia were involved in the training, which is particularly important given that GALS is a potential tool for scale-up in the communities. GALS is being applied in Tunisia for the first time. Leveraging the JP RWEE global experience, knowledge exchange sessions were held with a GALS expert and IFAD JP RWEE teams in Nepal and Rwanda who implemented GALS under the JP RWEE phase one. FAO staff also participated in the GALS facilitator training programme to enable them to have an in-depth understanding of the methodology and approaches and identify opportunities for incorporating approaches into the Farmer Field School approach, creating synergies between FFS and GALS. IFAD will continue GALS training in Nepal, Tanzania, Tunisia and the Pacific Islands, as well as in Rwanda. The transformative nature of GALS has already been evidenced by testimonials from women beneficiaries, citing change in relation to social norms within traditionally conservative communities.

*“Initially, caring for my 2-year-old son was my sole responsibility, and I couldn't leave the house. However, as I started facilitating group sessions on GALS, my father-in-law recognized my education and encouraged me to voice my opinions at home. This boosted my confidence, and my family began supporting my aspirations, even taking care of my son while I conducted GALS sessions. Now, they encourage me to engage in group activities and explore opportunities outside the village”.*

- Rekha Kumari Khang, Sashiya Maharaj Women's Farmer Group, Chinnamasta, Nepal.

#### **Outcome 4: Gender- responsive legal frameworks, policies and institutions strengthened to create an enabling environment for rural women to secure their livelihoods, rights and resilience (PUNOs).**

Under this outcome, several policy initiatives to advance a gender responsive policy environment within the participating countries were supported. The programme supported the launch of gender strategies in two countries (Tanzania and Tunisia) and the evaluation of a National Strategy for Women's Economic Empowerment in a third (Niger). The ability of government ministries to implement gender policies was also enhanced following capacity building on gender responsive budgeting, whilst at global level the JP RWEE contributed to policy dialogue on women's economic empowerment through different forums.

##### ***Output 4.1 Enhanced capacities of policy makers and other relevant stakeholders to design, implement and track gender-responsive policies, strategies, legal frameworks and budgets.***

Six government policies and strategies relating to rural women's economic empowerment were strengthened as result of technical support provided by the JP RWEE:

- i. **National Strategy for Women's Economic Empowerment, Niger** – the JP RWEE contributed to the evaluation of this key national strategy, which is now being reviewed by the line Ministry<sup>20</sup> and will inform the development of a new WEE strategy.
- ii. **Blue Economy Gender Strategy and Action Plan, Tanzania** –the development, finalization and launch of the first Blue Economy Gender Strategy and Action Plan by the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries in Zanzibar was supported. The strategy addresses key issues including women's access to resources, finance, and markets. The JP RWEE will provide technical support to the implementation of the Action Plan in the subsequent years of the programme.

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<sup>20</sup> The previous Ministry, the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Protection of Children, was merged with the Ministry of Health following the military coup in Niger in July 2023.

- iii. **National Clean Cooking Strategy, Tanzania** – technical support was provided to the implementation of the clean cooking initiative, along with participation in the review of the National Clean Cooking Vision and its implementation strategy.
- iv. **National Strategy for The Economic and Social Empowerment of Women and Girls in Rural Areas (2024-20235), Tunisia** – the Ministry of the Family, Women, Children and the Elderly (MFWCE) launched this strategy on the International Day of Rural Women (IDRW) as part of a workshop facilitated by the JP RWEE. Technical support will be provided to the operationalization of the strategy.
- v. **National Action Plan for the Integration and Institutionalization of the Gender Approach<sup>21</sup>, Tunisia** – the action plan was supported through training on gender responsive budgeting, in collaboration with the MFWCE and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MSA).
- vi. **Analysis of the Social Protection System, Tunisia** - discussions were initiated with the Ministry of Social Affairs to conduct an in-depth analysis of the social protection system available to rural women. The study will now take place in 2024.

The programme supported further initiatives enhancing capacities of policy makers and relevant stakeholders to design, implement and track gender-responsive policies.

In Nepal, the JP RWEE carried out a comprehensive policy scoping study to assess gender-responsive agriculture policies, identify gaps, and determine entry points for policy level engagement within all three tiers of government, although with a primary focus on local government. This involved policy reviews and consultations with federal, regional and local government, and private sector stakeholders. Findings included limited understanding of gender equality and social inclusion issues among local government officials and lack of harmonisation and overlapping on women’s economic empowerment across government Ministries. The comprehensive findings will inform the shaping of JP RWEE interventions to support systemic change at policy level. In the Pacific Islands, the JP RWEE facilitated a national consultation with the government to identify pathways of support for gender mainstreaming in national legislation and policies.

There is now increased capacity to implement Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) within participating government Ministries<sup>22</sup> (Tanzania and Tunisia) following training for 168 stakeholders (110 policymakers and 58 leaders) which included topics such as the gender-differentiated impact of budget and fiscal reforms and the role of GRB within development plans. All regional rural women’s support offices from the Ministry of Agriculture in Tunisia participated in training, while in Tanzania support was provided to five government Ministries<sup>23</sup> to identify priority sectors for gender-responsive budgeting in 2024/25. Of note, the training was held as part of the buildup to the government’s Generation Equality Forum<sup>24</sup> (GEF) high-level dialogue and

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<sup>21</sup> Plan d’Action National pour Intégration et l’Institutionnalisation de l’Approche Genre (PANIIG)

<sup>22</sup> Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Ministry of Constitutional Affairs and Fisheries, Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Agriculture

<sup>23</sup> Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Ministry of Constitutional Affairs and Fisheries

<sup>24</sup> <https://forum.generationequality.org/>

capacity-building event on Financing for Gender Equality, which was held in collaboration with the UN and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Dar es Salaam. The event focused on ensuring GRB at the centre of public policy, aligning with Action Area 4 of the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights, which aims to increase the focus of national budgets on gender equality in line with SDG 5.c.1.

The capacity of 44 district planners and traditional leaders in understanding the importance of recognizing, reducing, and redistributing unpaid care work (3Rs) associated with meal preparation and cooking were strengthened through local-level policy dialogues, and the dissemination of brochures and policy briefs in Tanzania. This resulted in District Planning Officers agreeing to integrate issues of unpaid care and clean cooking into the new five-year district strategic plan to be developed in 2024, demonstrating real progress in systemic change at local level.

***Output 4.2: Capacity of rural women and their organizations increased to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national, regional and global levels.***

In Nepal and Tanzania, women's access to legal services and understanding of women's legal rights in relation to gender-based violence were significantly increased, with beneficiary contact visits revealing that women now feel confident to raise the issue of gender-based violence. The 895 people (795 women and 100 men) who were sensitized are cascading this knowledge within communities and advocating for change regarding attitudes and responses to GBV. In Tanzania, using the SASA methodology, 106 JP RWEE trained Gender Champions (54 females and 52 males including religious and community leaders) reached 19,075 (12,418 females and 6,657 males) community members through community sensitization meetings. This activity supported the local government's existing efforts at improving their capacity to address GBV, whilst women were linked to the national Mama Samia Legal Aid programme for access to legal support.

Also in Tanzania, women's voices within policy dialogues were elevated through participation in a national women and youth forum organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Tanzania Women's Chamber of Commerce (TWCC). Attended by 130 women engaged in cross-border trade, along with key government policymakers and regulators, the forum also enhanced women's knowledge by providing insights into the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) market requirements and trading procedures.

In Tunisia, the JP RWEE used the opportunity of the International Day of Rural Women to hold a workshop involving 93 government representatives from a number of Ministries. The workshop, facilitated by UN Women, provided an opportunity for IFAD to facilitate discussions on leveraging the national concertation platform for the economic and social rights of rural women to improve the circumstances of rural women, with a specific focus on ensuring improved and decent transportation options.

***Output 4.3: Rural women's economic empowerment strengthened through regional and global policy dialogues and processes.***

The following global policy briefs were published and disseminated through the JP RWEE newsletter, internal agency networks and on the JP RWEE website.

- i. Technology and Innovation for Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment: <https://www.jprwee.org/library/technology-and-innovation-rural-womens-economic-empowerment>
- ii. Sustainable Livelihoods for Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment: <https://www.jprwee.org/library/sustainable-livelihoods-rural-womens-economic-empowerment>

A journal article was co-authored by IFPRI and the JP RWEE and published in the Global Security Journal. The paper, entitled ‘Assessing multi-country programs through a Reach, Benefit, Empower, Transform Lens’<sup>25</sup> analyzed the empowerment impacts of the JP RWEE in Ethiopia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Niger.

At the 67<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67), the JP RWEE held an online side event titled ‘Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Access to Markets for Rural Women’<sup>26</sup>. The event involved speakers including the government of Norway, the Secretary General of the Ministry for the Advancement of Women and the Protection of Children in Niger, the National Coordinator of the JP RWEE in Nepal, and an implementing partner representative from Rwanda. They shared and discussed experiences of the programme’s holistic strategies and approaches, drawing attention to measures required at policy and programme level to accelerate rural women’s economic empowerment (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hivsdoLx5Ow>).

At the Committee on World Food Security (CFS51) in Rome, the JP RWEE co-hosted a hybrid event on the occasion of the approval of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition<sup>27</sup>. This included high level speakers from Sweden (the State Secretary for Rural Development) and the CFS Ambassador/Chair. The JP RWEE was showcased as a good practice for the operationalization of the guidelines, with speakers from Nepal and Rwanda sharing practical examples from country level, along with beneficiary video testimony of transformative change. These events attracted participants from many countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and Latin America and included representatives of UN Member States, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, academics and civil society (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOrvrVtAnZ4> and <https://www.jprwee.org/news/cfs-51-un-joint-side-event-achieving-gender-equality-food-security-and-nutrition-multi>).

- **Describe any (i) delays in implementation (ii) challenges (iii) lessons learned (iv) good practices:**

**(i) Delays in Implementation**

There were significant delays in implementation across the programme, as a result of both internal and external factors.

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<sup>25</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2211912423000159?via%3Dihub>

<sup>26</sup> [CONCEPT NOTE: CSW 67: Virtual Side Event \(unwlobstorage.blob.core.windows.net\)](#) and [CSW 67 Virtual Side Event: Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods & Access to Markets for Rural Women \(youtube.com\)](#)

<sup>27</sup> [https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs2223/Gender/Guidelines\\_Final\\_Agreed\\_Version\\_June\\_2023\\_CLEAN/GEWGE\\_Guidelines\\_Final\\_Agreed\\_Version\\_June\\_2023\\_CLEAN.pdf](https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs2223/Gender/Guidelines_Final_Agreed_Version_June_2023_CLEAN/GEWGE_Guidelines_Final_Agreed_Version_June_2023_CLEAN.pdf)



**Delays in contracting implementing partners:** these delays particularly impacted IFAD led activities. IFAD is a financing institution, rather than an operational agency. Due to the five-year nature of the programme, the budget involved, and the level of technical detail required, the procurement process took much longer than originally planned. The prolonged contracting of service providers resulted in delays to IFAD activities in all countries, particularly the start-up of activities related to GALS. However, it most impacted implementation in the Pacific Islands, where IFAD implementing partners are responsible for the targeting and baseline survey. This was further complicated by a lack of bids for Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tonga which resulted in the tender having to be readvertised. Partners were contracted in the final quarter of 2023. Without the completion of the targeting process, most of the activities could not be started. All IFAD partners are now onboarded for the duration of the programme, meaning there will be no further contracting issues.

In addition, UN Women underwent a change to their finance system as part of a UN system change involving several UN agencies. This delayed the signature of contracts with implementing partners, particularly in Nepal. In Tanzania, there were challenges in identifying a suitable partner for WFP in Zanzibar whilst required government approval of FAO activities took some time. There were also administrative delays relating to the contracting of the FAO partner in Tunisia, which meant that outcome one activities involving production were postponed, having a knock-on effect on activities planned by other agencies.

**External Challenges:** In Niger, the programme was majorly impacted by a military coup in July which plunged the country into crisis and led to a temporary suspension of programme activities. Subsequent economic sanctions imposed on Niger by the regional body ECOWAS restricted financial transactions within the country, meaning that implementing partners could not operate to the extent planned. Consequently, although most activities were started, they were not carried out to the extent planned and had to be carried over to 2024. The risk assessment for Niger was updated in response to the changed context and is being reviewed on a regular basis.

## (ii) Challenges

In addition to the delays outlined in the preceding paragraph, the following challenges were encountered:

**Government:** In Niger, whilst collaboration with local government continued at the field level, collaboration with national government was restricted for UN agencies following the military coup in July. The annual National Steering Committee meeting did not take place. Furthermore, the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Advancement of Children, with whom the JP RWEE has a very well-established partnership, was incorporated into the Ministry of Health and the longstanding JP RWEE focal points were reassigned. This impacted the policy related work of the programme, which was put on hold pending the government restructuring. In Nepal, formalizing the programme and establishing coordination mechanisms with the local municipalities took some time, particularly as there was a transition period for newly elected officials following local elections in 2022. This affected the timely formation of farmer's groups, which is a prerequisite for much of the activity implementation. However, the time taken was necessary given the need to promote a sense of ownership and accountability within the municipality administration and to

increase the likelihood of the approach being embedded into government ways of working. A change in representatives at national government meant that the JP RWEE had to establish relations with the new focal points and work to familiarize them with the JP RWEE.

**Climate:** In Tanzania, some agricultural activities, including the establishment of demonstration plots, had to be postponed as a result of heavy rains and flooding in the project area.

### (iii) Lessons Learned

**Programme Start-Up Planning:** There were a number of learnings related to the extensive delays and challenges experienced during the first year of the programme. Country teams did not adequately estimate the time taken for start-up, resulting in implementation delays. This included taking into consideration government approval processes and PUNO procedures. In the future, this should be more accurately planned, and steps put in place to minimize delays as far as possible.

**Leveraging Comparative Advantage in PUNO Operational Expertise:** It was reflected during this start-up phase that PUNO comparative advantage should be leveraged from an operational perspective, not just a programmatic perspective. For example, as a humanitarian mandated agency, WFP often has a strong capacity to get off the ground quickly. By contrast, IFAD is a financing institution with very strong technical expertise in areas such as gender transformative approaches, but it has a much smaller operational capacity. This should be considered in allocating roles in the future.

### (iv) Good Practices

**Community Driven Targeting Process:** Comprehensive beneficiary targeting was carried out in Nepal, Niger and Tunisia. This process was guided by Targeting Guidelines developed by the Global Coordination Unit (GCU). The community-driven targeting process proved to be an excellent learning opportunity for the participating agencies, the implementing partners and the local government. Emphasis was placed on intersectionality, ensuring that the most vulnerable groups were effectively engaged in the process and that intersectionality was considered in beneficiary selection, in line with the principles of Leave No One Behind. Collaboration with local organizations and community networks significantly increased the outreach, especially in remote areas. Selection was verified and any targeting errors addressed, following which the local community and authorities validated the selection. In Nepal, the programme prioritized the inclusion of minority and marginalized groups, including 400 Dalit and 650 Janajati women, 50 LGBTQI+ individuals, and 350 survivors of gender-based violence. An overview of the JP RWEE targeting good practices can be found in the following knowledge product published on the JP RWEE website <https://www.jpree.org/library/jp-rwee-targeting-good-practices>.

**Community Feedback Mechanism (Nepal):** Guidelines were developed by the GCU to guide the country teams in establishing a joint Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) for the programme. Nepal developed and put in place a comprehensive CFM Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). This provides different avenues for participants, community members and stakeholders to provide feedback and includes a toll-free hotline (“*Namaste*”). The SOP has established an effective feedback handling, reporting and management process while ensuring project participants data protection, privacy, and confidentiality are respected. Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) has been integrated into the SOP, linking it with the existing reporting and case handling mechanism of each PUNO and the overall UN Country Team. The CFM strengthens the programme’s communication and accountability with the beneficiary

community and stakeholders. In turn, this will help to enhance the overall quality of programme delivery. Joint CFMs will be established in the remaining countries in 2024.

**Participatory Approaches (Tunisia):** The extensive community based participatory planning process (CBPP) carried out by WFP with agricultural groups represents a good practice in participatory needs assessment and planning. As outlined in the report, the process involved extensive consultation and participation of beneficiaries. Furthermore, alongside local partners, local government representatives participated in the process which enabled them to contribute knowledge and information and was also helpful for them in increasing understanding of local needs and issues. The collaborative and inclusive process also strengthened women's peer to peer support and fostered networking and collaboration.

**Leveraging Other Programmes (Tanzania):** the JP RWEE leveraged existing agency programmes to increase the scope of the programme. For example, in Tanzania, the JP RWEE leveraged an existing programme being implemented by UN Women, to promote women's access to decent work and a reduction in the burden of unpaid care work. In line with the programme's advocacy efforts, local government and communities in the two districts of implementation in Zanzibar provided and repurposed three buildings as district childcare centres. As part of the JP RWEE's objectives to promote access to decent work and reduce unpaid care work, eight women in the programme were identified as caregivers and trained under the vocational training component of the programme to work in the childcare centres. By alleviating the burden of unpaid care work, rural women will have the opportunity to engage in other income-generating activities. The programme also leveraged a government programme, the Mama Samia Legal Aid Programme. This government initiative aims to provide legal assistance across the country for three years, particularly focusing on improving access to rights for women and children. Aligned with the JP RWEE, the campaign addresses issues such as inheritance management, land law, property rights, and conflict resolution especially for local leaders. Building on sensitisation carried out through the JP RWEE, the programme was able to leverage the Legal Aid programme and women accessed legal support.

- **Qualitative assessment**

A number of partnerships were built with key stakeholders that have enriched programme quality, most notably with local government. Agricultural extension workers, technical experts, health extension workers and community development officers have supported activity implementation in Nepal, Niger, Tanzania and Tunisia, and also participated in training to enhance their technical capacity. This collaboration has helped to ensure that women's economic empowerment is accelerated through access to government structures, services and expertise. It has also served to deepen local government understanding of gender equality, as well as strengthen technical areas of expertise, thereby benefiting the wider community beyond the JP RWEE. Over the course of the programme, this partnership should increase the likelihood of systemic change being realised, with gender transformative approaches being taken up by government on a wider scale. Additional examples of how partnership with government has been leveraged for greater impact include the following:

- i. Commitment of Resources – local government in Nepal allocated land and committed budget for the establishment of Custom Hiring Centres. Such an initiative enhances co-ownership and has potential for replication.
- ii. In Tanzania, linkages with local government authorities created opportunities for women to participate in national and international exhibitions and enhance their access to markets under efforts by government to enhance meaningful participation of women farmers and entrepreneurs in national and local exhibitions.
- iii. Local government in Tanzania also agreed to incorporate an agricultural forum initiated by women farmers in the JP RWEE into a district leadership network. Such initiatives have potential for future replication and scalability.

Relationships with the private sector were also developed, often as a result of the government's engagement in the programme. Partnerships with private sector service providers (banks and insurance companies) resulted in women in Nepal and Tanzania purchasing insurance to protect against crop and livestock damage, as well as opening bank accounts and gaining access to formal credit and financial services. This was supported by facilitating direct engagement and awareness raising between representatives of the providers and rural women's groups. In Tanzania, the programme's partnership with the Ministry of Energy, Water and Irrigation and the Oryx Gas Company resulted in 575 JP RWEE beneficiaries receiving stoves. This partnership was developed following the Generation Equality Forum, where the company committed to supporting women's economic justice and access to clean cooking as part of the government's Clean Cooking strategy. This has reduced women's time spent on cooking, and enabled more time for engagement in farming, trade activities, and leadership platforms.

Joint working and synergy building between the four UN agencies also contributed to strengthening the quality of the programme. Specific examples of how agencies worked together and built synergies are included in the Narrative Reporting on Results section. To achieve this, monthly PUNO technical working groups were held, with additional meetings taking place on an ad hoc basis. Multi-actor coordination platforms were initiated in Nepal, Niger and Tanzania, a recommendation from the Phase One Evaluation. These platforms, held on a quarterly or bi-annual basis enabled PUNO representatives, implementing partners and local government focal points to discuss implementation progress, challenges, and find solutions. For example, in Niger, data collection and management among partners was improved following discussions held during the platform, while in Nepal community engagement was strengthened. It also helped implementation to be aligned, prevent duplication, build cohesion and maximise efficiency, supporting accountability and ownership among stakeholders. Joint review meetings and monitoring visits involving PUNOs and local government representatives also took place.

At global level, all countries participated in online learning exchange sessions, facilitated by the GCU, during which JP RWEE teams from Nepal, Niger and Rwanda shared experiences and learning from JP RWEE Phase One. This included how to optimize coordination mechanisms, build joint working, develop synergies, and create a conducive PUNO partnership environment, and ways to create cohesion and collaboration amongst PUNO implementing partners. The GCU developed guidance and tools to support the teams in identifying opportunities for joint working, collaboration and synergy building. This will be supported by the development of indicators to

measure the effectiveness of joint programming, which in turn will enable the programme to document how this example of a UN joint programme can add value and result in greater impact.

The programme's two cross cutting lenses (gender transformative approaches and resilience building) also contributed to the achievement of results. Activities such as training on CSA approaches, the provision of drought resistant seeds, support of local seed systems, and income generation activities such as those related to value addition, will provide women with a greater capacity to prepare for and respond to shocks. Regarding gender transformative approaches, the approaches used have facilitated the examination of gender roles, norms and behaviours among men and women, including male leaders, in relation to women's access to land, resources, participation and decision making. Clear change was notable during beneficiary contact visits. Testimonies provided by women illustrate how the collective nature of women's groups and the knowledge and learning acquired helps to significantly bolster women's confidence. Key to this is the sequencing and layering of interventions by the respective PUNOs which contributes to developing women's agency on different levels and building their confidence to sensitize others and assert their rights. This significantly contributes to realizing systemic change for rural women at household and community level, bolstered by efforts to achieve more gender responsive policy implementation within government.

Whilst not part of the Multi Partner Trust Fund, the JP RWEE is also being implemented in Rwanda, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The programme in Rwanda is fully part of the global programme, using the logical framework and established programme approaches, and the country team participates in global learning exchanges. During 2023 in Rwanda, 8,000 beneficiaries were reached, 75 Farmer Field and Life Schools (FFLS) were established and 299 Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs) were formed. These groups collectively saved USD 71,305.36. Additionally, progress was made towards Outcome 4 through strategic engagements and policy dialogues including high-level dialogues to shape the Strategic Plan for Agriculture Transformation (PSTA5) with the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), as well as discussions on the dissemination and implementation of the new National Gender Policy with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF).

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Further efforts were made to enhance the JP RWEE's M&E system, led by the Global MEAL Specialist. This included the development of a Management Information System (MIS) to improve the efficiency and accuracy of data management across the programme. A Programme Management Toolkit (PMT) was developed and is being used by all country teams. This is a comprehensive tool for programme planning, implementation and monitoring, facilitating quarterly and annual performance result tracking. The adoption of Open Data Kit (ODK) software has significantly streamlined planning and monitoring processes and enhanced the accuracy and efficiency of data collection and supported programmatic decision making. It has also helped to strengthen activity planning and monitoring capabilities, enabling more detailed data disaggregation and easier visualization of progress against targeted indicators. Data analysis guidelines were also developed, and the data quality review processes for key reports and planning

documents were further strengthened. Going forward, it is anticipated to use dashboard software to enable real-time illustration and analysis of programme data.

In response to identified capacity gaps and a training needs assessment, a capacity strengthening plan was developed by the MEAL Specialist and is in the process of being rolled out for country level MEAL Coordinators through virtual training sessions. The MEAL Specialist also undertook missions to Niger, Tunisia and Rwanda to provide baseline training and data collection support.

Guidance materials were developed by the MEAL Specialist to support the development and implementation of community feedback mechanisms, leading to a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) being developed by the Nepal country team, with the remaining participating countries in the process of developing CFM SOPs.

PUNOs participated in joint monitoring and supervision missions, including with government and implementing partners. The first in-depth outcome and output monitoring process will take place in 2024.

## **Knowledge Management and Learning**

The Global Coordination Unit (GCU) facilitated learning exchanges across the participating countries and supported the enhancement of technical understanding and good practice on programme approaches, in collaboration with technical specialists at HQ level. This included:

- (i) Knowledge Exchange and Learning on Gender Transformative Approaches: the GCU with the Rome-Based Agencies Joint Programme on Gender Transformative Approaches (JP GTA) to organise two online workshops for the country teams to deepen understanding of the concept of gender transformative approaches and to exchange learning on the methodologies and approaches used by both programmes. In addition to the JP RWEE country teams, participants included teams from the JP GTA in Ecuador and Malawi, along with HQ experts from the JP GTA. Learning shared by the JP RWEE included learnings from Nepal and Rwanda on the use of GALS and Dimitra Clubs, while learnings shared by the JP GTA team included the use of social norms diagnostic tool and GTA methodologies such as the Theatre of the Oppressed. The GCU subsequently developed an internal brief on the programme's cross cutting GTA lens, along with tools to support the JP RWEE teams to map out their gender transformative approaches and develop strategies for engaging men and boys and using GTAs. These materials will contribute towards the development of learning, knowledge generation and sharing as the programme progresses.
- (ii) Technical learning workshop on Digital Financial Inclusion: the workshop was facilitated by technical experts from FAO and WFP HQ who shared guidance and insights into digitalization in the context of gender equality and women's empowerment, with a focus on digital financial services. This enabled country participants to better understand the gender digital divide and identify barriers around women's access to ICT in their country context, including those relating to social norms. Country teams also exchanged on programming approaches they are using.

- (iii) Developing Country Exit Strategies: drawing on guidance materials from the PUNOs at HQ level, the GCU developed guidelines and held a workshop for country teams to support the development of exit strategies at country level. Each of the subsequently developed exit strategies have been validated by government stakeholders and will be reviewed during the annual review process. Following the mid-term review, a detailed action plan with KPIs will be developed to support programme sustainability and ownership by national and local actors.
- (iv) Joint Working and Synergy Building: as outlined above, a workshop was held on joint working and synergy building, where JP RWEE teams who participated in Phase One of the JP RWEE shared experiences with all Phase Two participating countries, presenting challenges and successes and discussing good practices.
- (v) Monthly National Coordinator meetings facilitated by the Global Coordinator and monthly MEAL Coordinator meetings facilitated by the MEAL Specialist have also enabled sharing of experiences and provided a platform for discussion and exchange between the leadership of the country teams.
- (vi) The JP RWEE KM Teams Platform, which is managed by the GCU and enables exchanges between the country teams, was also used by JP RWEE focal points in all countries and updated with guidelines and good practice materials.
- (vii) Knowledge and learning from the programme were shared with diverse global audiences through two external events and a number of publications, as outlined in the narrative reporting on results section. As implementation picks up pace, additional focus will be placed on knowledge generation and sharing for internal and external audiences.

## **Communications**

To support the profile and visibility of the RWEE Fund, a website was developed and launched in July 2023 ([www.jprwee.org](http://www.jprwee.org)). The website provides an overview of the JP RWEE and contains human interest stories, event recordings, publications and other resources. The website was accessed by 1500 users in the first six months. In addition, three newsletters containing a variety of knowledge management products, were circulated to external audiences, reaching 1250 people. Examples of human-interest stories shared include the following story about how the RWEE brings transformative change to the lives of individual women through the holistic and complimentary approaches of the four participating agencies:

<https://www.jprwee.org/news/working-together-build-synergies-and-bring-about-change>

An overview of communications activities in 2023 can be found here: [https://wfp.sharepoint.com/sites/GenderOfficeHQ/Shared%20Documents/W\\_OMG/Projects/JP-RWEE/Phase%20II/Communications/COMMS%20REPORTS/JP%20RWEE%20Communications%20Report%202023.pdf.pdf](https://wfp.sharepoint.com/sites/GenderOfficeHQ/Shared%20Documents/W_OMG/Projects/JP-RWEE/Phase%20II/Communications/COMMS%20REPORTS/JP%20RWEE%20Communications%20Report%202023.pdf.pdf)

### **iii) A Specific Story**

## **Story One: Harnessing the Intra-Africa Regional Market for Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment in Tanzania**

*In Tanzania, limited access to resources and markets hinders the economic empowerment of rural women engaged in the blue economy. The JP RWEE provided targeted support to women engaged in seaweed farming and other blue economy activities in the South Unguja region of Zanzibar to enhance their capacity and improve their access to markets. As part of these efforts, beneficiaries participated in the 23<sup>rd</sup> East Africa Community (EAC) Trade Fair for Micro Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) known as “Nguvu Kazi Jua Kali” Trade Fair in Bujumbura, capital of Burundi. The theme of the event was “Connecting East African MSMEs to enhance intra-EAC trade”, The Trade Fair took place over 10 days and attracted more than 1,500 entrepreneurs from all the seven EAC member states.*



*Photo credits: UN Women Tanzania*

*JP RWEE beneficiaries who participated in this fair include Maryam Makame (38) and Ramia Moh'd Ali (57). Both women are engaged in seaweed farming and selling anchovies. For the fair, Maryam Makame and Ramia Moh'd Ali displayed Zanzibar anchovies, seaweed powder and dry seaweed, value added horticulture products like tomato sauce and pepper mix. Not only did they succeed in selling their entire 300 kg stock of anchovies, but they were also declared the second-best entrepreneurs with the best anchovies at the Fair. Much to*

*their delight, they also secured a contract to sell anchovies in Burundi and DR Congo and have been invited to expand their businesses by attending the next EAC Trade Fair in South Sudan in December 2024.*

*Participation in regional trade platforms not only enhances market access for women, but also helps to foster wider societal shifts towards gender equality and the empowerment of women within rural communities, challenging traditional social norms.*

## **Story Two: Challenging Gender Norms to Transform the Lives of Widows in Rural Niger**

In December 2023, a group of Dimitra Club members participating in the JP RWEE in Niger visited communities who had been part of the first phase of the programme (2015 – 2021). One of the outstanding testimonies of transformative change that left a lasting impression on the men and women was the story of the widow Fati Idé. From a marginalized young widow yesterday, she has now become the President of the cooperative union in her village. She



recounted how, as a member of the JP RWEE Dimitra Club, she developed agency to take control of her life and challenge long standing restrictive social norms. Here is the story as told by Fati Idé:

*“My name is Fati Idé, and I live in Baziga, the village where I was born and got married at the age of 16. After 32 years of marriage, my husband died in my arms after a long illness. In my widowhood, I fell victim to the customs of the village and this region, which carry a multitude of traditions that make it impossible for a widow like me to hope to remarry in her own village. Indeed, men from the village who feel the need to court a widow are suspected of being of low moral character and secretly courting the widow long before the death of their husband. This tarnishes a woman’s morality, self-esteem and respect. In addition, many believe that when a woman is unfortunate enough to lose her husband, she might also kill her second husband if she remarries. In my case, there was also the hostility of my in-laws and that of my children and grandchildren, who implicitly stood against me, disapproving of the idea of a second marriage. Customs even go as far as denying me the rightful title of head of the household, even though my boys have a certain level of maturity. Very often it is my eldest son [21 years old] who is given the role of speaking on my behalf, because the community assigns him this responsibility in various decision-making processes in the village and even within the family.*



Photo credits: FAO Niger

*I even stubbornly told myself in my thoughts: never again remarriage. Like the other widows, I felt stigmatised and kept in the shackles of tradition until the arrival of JP RWEE in the village in 2015. The programme began its activities with the establishment of the Dimitra Clubs. With courage, I joined the club of young women in the village known as "young adults", despite the gossip I was subjected to, like other widows of my age. I seized the opportunity of the creation of the Dimitra Clubs in Baziga to become one of the village's female leaders. I have forged a respectable course of conduct through the relevance of the advice I give, which even convinces men during village assemblies. Over time, I've discovered talents and a potential that have given me self-confidence and kept me constantly on my toes in discussions with the people of my community, during the reflections and decisions taken concerning community life.*

One topic of these reflections and discussions in the village related to attitudes to widowhood and the stigma attached to remarriage. As Fati explains,

*“During the village assembly's summary of the clubs' reflections on the subject, all arguments based on ethics and religion to keep widows in the same situation were dismantled. Publicly, the marginalisation of widows in Baziga was seen as a retrograde practice to be abandoned immediately. It was a great relief to see the world opening up before us.*

Fati remarried shortly after and five other young widows from the village have since followed in her footsteps. *“The news of the change in mindset in our village spread like dew to the other villages, and they followed in our wake. Several widows remarried, and now regard themselves with pride and dignity, on a par with other married women in the village. Our status as widows, which we thought was sealed forever, had just changed! My life had unexpectedly changed for the better. I systematically see myself in a status that provides a reassuring foundation that values the skills and commitment that drive me. A new version of myself had been born.”*

Fati has since led the creation of a women's cooperative which then joined forces with another seven cooperatives to create a Union of over 80 members, of which she is President. Three years after the end of the JP RWEE, they have just signed a contract with a project run by an international institution to supply a large quantity of groundnut oil to establishments in the commune.

### III. Other Assessments or Evaluations

**Baseline Surveys in Nepal, Niger, and Tunisia.** Baseline surveys were carried out in Nepal, Niger and Tunisia. In Nepal and Tunisia, as in Tanzania and Rwanda, both treatment and control groups were included to enable an impact evaluation at the end of the programme. A stratified sample of 1,740 individuals in treated groups and 1,203 in control groups were interviewed. Spouses were interviewed in dual households to allow the measurement of women's economic empowerment using the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index as measured by the pro-WEAI<sup>28</sup>. The Global Coordination Unit (GCU), through the Global MEAL Specialist, played a pivotal role, providing support ranging from in-country enumerator training to survey tool adaptation and analysis support, ensuring contextual relevance and data quality. Once finalized, the dissemination of baseline data to national stakeholders, along with annual and endline target setting, facilitated informed decision-making with regards to programme activities. The baseline data collected from Nepal, Niger, Tanzania, and Tunisia provide a foundational understanding of the initial conditions against which the JP RWEE's impact will be measured. Across these countries, the prevalence of households with moderate to severe food insecurity as identified in the baseline studies averages 58%, indicating the extent of the challenge that the programme aims to address. In terms of women's empowerment, an average of 19% of rural women currently reach empowerment as per the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI), with an index between 0.4 (Tunisia) to 0.8 (Niger), highlighting the potential for growth and the critical need for targeted empowerment programmes. In relation to climate resilience, the baseline shows that 33%

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.ifpri.org/project/weai>

of the communities targeted on average are presently equipped with improved capacity to manage climate shocks and risks (moderate capacity), with Niger’s notably high baseline of 79% suggesting a strong starting point for the implementation of climate resilience measures, while in Nepal, it was particularly low at 6%, as calculated by the CCS (Climate Capacity Resilience Score). These figures will serve as benchmarks for the JP RWEE's ongoing efforts to strengthen community capacities and empower rural women, setting a clear path for targeted interventions and future assessments.

**Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs):** all countries carried out a simple Environmental Impact Assessment, with activities screened by each UN agency against their respective agency’s Environment and Social Framework. Each PUNO assessed the programme activities based on its own Framework, guided by SIDA’s Guide on “How to Conduct an Environmental Assessment,” identifying both positive impacts and potential negative impacts of the programme, along with the identification of mitigation measures. Overall, programme was considered low risk in terms of environmental and social impact, with established good practices among the PUNOs and within the country, being drawn on to address potential minimal impacts. ESIA monitoring will be part of the annual review process going forward.

**Assessment and Mapping of Adaptation Status and Capacity Gaps of Rural Women, Nepal (WFP).** The purpose of the assessment was two-fold: i. to evaluate rural women’s vulnerabilities to climate variability and extreme weather phenomena and examine their current coping strategies ii. to assess the capacities and strategic priorities of local governments in relation to climate resilience. The findings of the assessment, which will be available in early 2024, will inform and guide local governments in the formulation of targeted adaptation pathways to advance climate-resilient and sustainable food systems within the project communities.

**Assessment of Gender Social Care Infrastructure, Nepal (UN Women).** A comprehensive analysis of the current situation for women farmers in the programme areas was undertaken. The findings will be available in the first quarter of 2024 and will inform the design of interventions relating to rural women’s decent work and social protection.

**Review and Study on the Challenges, Opportunities and Recommendations Regarding the Safe and Decent Transportation of Seasonal Female Workers in Rural Areas of Tunisia (COSPE/IFAD).** This evidence-based research incorporated a literature review, analysis of research reports, examination of existing regulations, and interviews with rural women working as seasonal agricultural labourers. Various tools were used, including action research<sup>29</sup> involving 60 women, a closed-question survey focusing on the food component with 91 women, a semi-open-ended survey targeting farmers and transporters (31 farmers and 7 transporters), and both generic and thematic focus groups with 60 women farm workers, totaling 249 participants. The findings identified multiple challenges and their causes and will help to form the basis of the identification of solutions by the multi-actor platform working on this issue to overcome this structural barrier faced by rural women in Tunisia.

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<sup>29</sup> Action research is an approach that combines academic research and practical action to solve concrete problems. It involves collaboration among researchers, practitioners, and stakeholders, aiming to produce actionable knowledge to directly influence practices and policies. This iterative process includes planning, action, reflection, and adjustment, with the goal of concrete and immediate changes on the ground.

**Report on the Mapping of Microfinance Institutions (Public and Private) with a Focus on the Distribution of Microcredits by Amount, Gender and Regions, Tunisia (FAO).** This mapping of financial services and microfinance available for women revealed a number of constraints, such as limited cooperation between microfinance institutions and farmer organizations. The findings will form the basis of a UN women advocacy campaign targeting financial institutions.

**Nutritional Behavioural Study among Rural Women in Jendouba and Kairouan, Tunisia (WFP/CAWTAR).** This qualitative study, carried out in partnership with the Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) identified healthy and unhealthy practices, current perceptions, beliefs and social norms with regards to nutrition and household food consumption practices. Identified "healthy practices" include effective management of domestic space through the cultivation of vegetable gardens and raising farm animals, preservation of food for self-sufficiency and security, reduction of food loss and waste, promotion of food diversity, and preservation of traditional culinary techniques. Conversely, "unhealthy practices" present opportunities for social and behavioural change and include gender inequitable household consumption practices (e.g., men eat first and eat more) inefficient utilization of local resources such as water and aromatic herbs, consumption of food outside the home leading to hygiene-related risks, use of containers and utensils made from harmful materials, and improper handling of chemicals like fertilizers and pesticides. The study findings will be used to develop the programme's nutrition SBCC approach.

#### **IV. Programmatic Revisions (if applicable)**

- Owing to the challenges encountered, a number of activities were carried over to 2024. In the case of the Pacific Islands, the majority of the workplan had to be revised and carried over.

## ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

- The table below reports targets (increase and decrease) expected **as a result of 12 months implementation cycle**<sup>30</sup> of the first intervention over the baseline and against global programme indicators at **Outcome and Output level** as per the approved Country’s Performance Result Framework.
- **Baseline figures** are representative of the global targeted population across 5 years and therefore they appear in % as per the JPRWEE M&E guidelines (percentage over the total population).
- **Yearly targets** also appear in % (in most cases and as per the indicator requirement to calculate changes overtime) and are established by the country team during the Annual planning exercise. The aggregated figures of the baseline have been calculated using the weighted figures of the total program population across all countries.
- **Endline targets** are established and validated internally right after the finalization of the baseline and weighted over the total targeted population. Endline targets are also mentioned in this table to understand the progresses against the final expected change. The aggregated figures have been calculated using the weighted figures of the total program population across all countries.
- **Achievements:** To provide an aggregated figure at the global level of the achievements, the median across the achievement of the different countries has been calculated, with weighted figures based on the total population targeted up to date and as reported by the country team. Therefore, the population of outstanding countries such as Solomon Islands, Kiribati, and Tonga has not been included in the weighted calculation.
- **The achievement** is marked as: **NA**, **NOT ACHIEVED**, **PARTIALLY ACHIEVED**, **ACHIEVED**, **OVERACHIEVED**. **NA:** When the indicator is “optional” as per the Country’s PRF and the country did choose to report against across the programme cycle because not relevant to the country context, or when the indicator is measured every 4/5 years or at mid-term, not annually. **0%:** When no changes could mature for that particular output due to short span implementation (example: Activities directed to distribute seeds are planned in August, but harvest season and market season would not allow the generation of changes before the reporting period).

Baselines and targets	Achieved	Reason for Variance	Source of Verification
<b>OUTCOME 1</b>			
<b>OUTCOME 1.1. Percentage increase in production of nutritious crops by rural women (% change in production volume, kg/ha), disaggregated by food crop</b>			
Baseline: 168 kg/ha	0%	This table only accounts for outcomes calculated after completing the full harvesting cycle for supported crops. By the time of this report, most countries had not finished the necessary 12-month cycle to achieve planned production increases, resulting in a preliminary indicator value set at “0% increase” over the baseline	SAMS survey (Agriculture production module administered at individual level)
Planned Yearly Target: 0%*			
Endline Target: +34.53%			
*2023 target has been set to 0 because this indicator is measured only after agriculture production cycle is concluded.			
<b>OUTCOME 1.2. Increase in the proportion of rural women who reach minimum dietary diversity (MDD-W) (% increase from baseline)</b>			
Baseline: 41%		No increase/change has been foreseen under this outcome indicator in 2023 as	MDDW light module (Individual Interview with women aged 15-49)
Planned Yearly Target: +0%*			

<sup>30</sup> IMPORTANT NOTE: For all countries, 2023 activities began to gain momentum after the mid-year mark, resulting in less than 12 months of implementation for some of them. Therefore, individual and household surveys to monitor increase over the baseline for outcome indicators and some of the output indicators will be conducted when a more mature cycle of implementation has been completed. Outcome monitoring reporting results will be shown in Annual Report 2024.

<b>Endline Target:</b> +14.5%	0%	there was not a 12-month cycle to enable data generation	
<i>*2023 target for this indicator was set as +0% increase of the baseline</i>			
<b>OUTCOME 1.3. Decrease in the proportion of households spending 65% or more of their monthly budget on food (Household Food Expenditure Share)</b>			
<b>Baseline:</b> 50.48%	NA	NA	Household Food Expenditure Share (Household Survey)
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> NA*			
<b>Endline Target:</b> -12.25%			
<i>*This indicator is measured every 2 years from implementation and at endline</i>			
<b>OUTCOME 1.4. Optional: Decrease in rate of rural women farmers' post-harvest losses over time (disaggregated by crops)</b>			
<b>Baseline:</b> 0%	-0%	No change foreseen as crop production cycle was less than the required 12 months for data collection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IP reports and distribution lists, training</li> <li>▪ Attendance list,</li> <li>▪ Women's group production report.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> +0%*			
<b>Endline Target:</b> -35%			
<i>*2023 target has been set to 0 because this indicator is measured only after agriculture production cycle is concluded.</i>			
<b>OUTPUT 1.1: Rural women have increased access to resources, assets and technologies critical for climate-resilient agricultural production, food security, and nutrition</b>			
<b>Output Indicator 1.1.1.</b> Increase in the proportion of rural women with access to productive resources as measured by the relevant WEAI (% increase over baseline)			
<b>Baseline:</b> 71.13%	NA	NA: Measured at baseline and endline only as part of the pro-WEAI index.	Por-WEAI module (Control over resources and assets).
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> NA*			
<b>Endline Target:</b> +10.58%			
<b>Output Indicator 1.1.2</b> Increase in the number of rural women with access to climate-smart inputs, assets and natural resources for agricultural production such as high-quality drought resistant seeds, tools and machinery, water and irrigation, land, greenhouses/ polytunnels (% increase over baseline)			
<b>Baseline:</b> 0	6.31%*	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b> The variance in achieving the 2023 targets for increased access to climate-smart inputs and resources is primarily due to progress in Nepal, while other countries reported no expected changes due to various operational challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementing partner's report, Distribution list,</li> <li>▪ Individual interview with rural women (SAMS survey)</li> </ul>
<b>Planned yearly Target:</b> +10%			
<b>Weighted average Endline Target:</b> +43.75%			
	<i>*Weighted Increase      Average      Achieved</i>		
<b>Output Indicator 1.1.3</b> Increase in the number of rural women adopting improved value -chain specific, climate-smart and indigenous agricultural production techniques (% increase over baseline).			
<b>Baseline:</b> 0	7.58%*	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementing partner's report</li> <li>▪ Distribution list.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned yearly Target:</b> +11.25%			

<p><b>Endline Target: +45%</b></p>	<p>* <i>Weighted Average Achieved Increase</i></p>	<p>In Nepal, the achievement matches the ambitious yearly target due to effective training and resource distribution. However, in Niger, the implementation period was too short to produce any observable change, resulting in no increase for 2023. Tanzania reported a modest achievement aligned with its more conservative yearly target, while Tunisia faced significant delays preventing any progress in the reporting year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Triangulation of individual interview with Rural women</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output indicator 1.1.4:</b> Increase in the number of rural women with access to time- and labour-saving technologies (% increase over baseline)</p>			
<p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p>	<p>+0%</p>	<p>The variance in achieving the 2023 targets for Output 1.1.4 across all countries is primarily due to the implementation phases not completing the required 12-month cycle by the reporting period. Nepal, Niger, and Tanzania all reported delays in activities linked to this indicator, resulting in no significant changes for the year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementing partner's report, Distribution list,</li> <li>▪ Individual interview with rural women.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> +0%</p>			
<p><b>Endline Target:</b> +33.75%</p>			
<p><b>Output 1.2: Rural women have enhanced skills and capacities to increase nutritious food production, food quality and local food security reserves; reduce food losses and waste; and improve household diets.</b></p>			
<p><b>1.2.1</b> Increase in the number of rural women and men with improved skills and capacity for nutrition, health and food safety disaggregated by sex (% increase over baseline)</p>			
<p><b>Baseline:</b>0</p>	<p>+8.57%</p>	<p><b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b> -12.43%. The variance between the planned and achieved percentages (+21% as increased versus 8.57% achieved) can be attributed to several factors. Two countries, Tunisia and Tanzania, set their yearly targets to 0 due to delayed implementation of activities. Niger's did not implement planned activities, leading to a lower aggregated achievement percentage than initially anticipated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementing partner's report,</li> <li>▪ Distribution list,</li> <li>▪ Individual interview with rural women</li> </ul>
<p><b>Planned Yearly Target:</b>21%</p>			
<p><b>Endline Target:</b> +69%</p>			
<p><b>1.2.2</b> Increase in the number of rural women accessing extension services, including weather information (% increase over baseline).</p>			

Baseline: 2%	+10.5%	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b> -4 % Nepal exceeded its planned yearly target with a 40% increase, Niger only partially reached its target with a 5% increase due to incomplete coverage of participants =. Tunisia failed to achieve its target, = because of delays in implementing farmer school training activities. Tanzania had set target of 0%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementing partner's report,</li> <li>▪ Distribution list,</li> <li>▪ Individual interview with rural women</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: +14.5%			
Endline target: +41.5%			
<b>1.2.3 Increase in the number of rural women utilizing improved and value-chain specific post-harvest handling and storage practices (% increase over baseline)</b>			
Baseline: 31.46%	4%	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b> -3% Nepal's implemented activities directly linked to this indicator have not completed the 12-month cycle and could not produce a change at outcome level. Niger's partial progress resulted from incomplete intervention coverage. Tanzania exceeded its target Tunisia's delay in farmer training hindered achieving the 5% target.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IP's report</li> <li>▪ Agency's report</li> <li>▪ Individual interview with rural women (SAMS Module) and FGD reports</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: +8%			
Endline Target: +45%			
<b>1.2.4 (optional) Number of local food security reserves in target groups disaggregated by household and cooperative level (% increase from baseline)<sup>31</sup></b>			
Baseline: 0	NA	NA No activities have been planned by Niger in 2023 directly influencing changes against this indicator. The remaining PCs did not adopt this optional indicator.	IP Report
Planned Yearly Target: NA			
Endline Target: TBD			
<b>OUTCOME 2: Rural women's income, decent work and economic autonomy increased to secure their livelihoods and build resilience</b>			
<b>Outcome 2.1 Percentage increase in rural women's average annual farm incomes</b>			
Baseline: USD 95	0%	No increase/change has been foreseen under this outcome indicator in 2023 as the activities directly linked to this indicator have not completed the 12-month cycle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Individual interview with rural women (SAMS survey during outcome monitoring)</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: +0%			
Endline Target: +23% increase (USD 117)			
<b>Outcome 2.2 Percentage increase in rural women's average annual off-farm incomes (including from micro-enterprises and wage employment promoted by the project), disaggregated by employment type.</b>			
Baseline: USD 131	0%		

<sup>31</sup> This optional indicator is adopted only by Niger.



<b>Planned yearly Target:</b> 0%		No increase/change has been foreseen under this outcome indicator in 2023 as the activities directly linked to this indicator have not completed the 12-month cycle..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual interview with rural women (Off-farm and self-employment survey module)</li> </ul>
<b>Endline target:</b> +20% (USD 157)			
<b>Outcome 2.3</b> Increase in the proportion of rural women with control over the use of their income and expenditures as measured by the relevant WEAI			
<b>Baseline:</b> 76.3%	NA	NA - Measured every 5 years (baseline and endline)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pro-WEAI module (Control over income)</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> NA*			
<b>Endline Target:</b> 16%			
<b>Outcome 2.4:</b> Household redistribution in the average number of daily hours spent on unpaid care and domestic work, by sex and age (adapted from SDG 5.4.1) as measured by the relevant WEAI			
<b>Baseline:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Men:</b> Approximately 1.5 hours</li> <li><b>Women in Dual HH:</b> Approximately 5.8 hours</li> <li><b>Women in Single/FHH:</b> Approximately 3.9 hours</li> </ul>	NA	NA - Measured every 5 years (baseline and endline)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pro-WEAI module (Time allocation module)</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> NA*			
<b>Endline Target:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Men:</b> Approximately 2.5 hours</li> <li><b>Women in Dual HH:</b> Approximately 3.9 hours</li> <li><b>Women in Single/FHH:</b> Approximately 2.8 hours</li> </ul>			
<b>Output 2.1: Rural women have enhanced capacities, skills and time for entrepreneurship and access to markets and value chains</b>			
<b>Indicator 2.1.1</b> Increase in the number of rural women with improved financial literacy and/or entrepreneurship skills (% of increase over baseline)			
<b>Baseline:</b> 3%	+2%	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b> -4% The variance between the aggregated yearly target and achieved results is due to implementation delays. . Tanzania and Nepal have fully achieved the targets under this output.	§ Implementing partners progress reports (monthly/quarterly), § Women's group production report § *Triangulation of individual interview with Rural women
<b>Planned yearly Target:</b> +6%			
<b>Endline Target:</b> +77%			
<b>Indicator 2.1.2</b> Increase in the number of rural women who initiate new agribusiness and/or self-employment activities, disaggregated by sector (% increase over baseline)			
<b>Baseline:</b> 9%	+0.8%	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b> Tanzania fully achieved its intended increase from the baseline, while Niger underachieved related to the military coup. r. Nepal did not foresee any increase or change under this indicator in 2023,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing partners progress reports (monthly/quarterly),</li> <li>Women's group production report</li> <li>Triangulation of individual interview with Rural women</li> </ul>
<b>Planned yearly Target:</b> +2%			
<b>Endline Target:</b> +17%			

<b>Indicator 2.1.3</b> Increase in the number of rural women with improved physical access to markets, processing and/or storage facilities (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 0.1%	0.5%	<b>ACHIEVED</b> While most countries did not plan or achieve significant changes within the year, Tanzania's contributions were enough to meet the minimal overall yearly expectations set for the indicator.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing partners progress reports (monthly/quarterly),</li> <li>Triangulation of individual interview with Rural women</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: +0.5%			
Endline Target: +20%			
<b>Indicator 2.1.4</b> Optional: Increase in the number of rural women-owned micro-enterprises or producer organizations engaged in formal partnership, agreements and/or contracts with public and private entities (% increase over baseline), by sector			
Baseline: 0%	NA	This optional indicator is adopted only by Tunisia and Niger. No activities directly or indirectly supporting this output were planned in 2023.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing partners progress reports (monthly/quarterly),</li> <li>Triangulation of individual interview with Rural women</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: NA			
Endline Target: 3%			
<b>Output 2.2:</b> Rural women have increased access to decent work, including off-farm work and social protection			
<b>Indicator 2.2.1</b> Increase in the number of rural women who enter employment in the formal labour market (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 0%	0%	Changes over the baseline have not been planned for this indicator in 2023. y.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IP report</li> <li>Individual interview with rural women</li> </ul>
Planned yearly Target: +0%			
Endline target: +10%			
<b>Indicator 2.2.2</b> Increase in number of rural women covered by social protection systems (% change over baseline)			
Baseline: 17%	+0 %	<b>NOT ACHIEVED</b> Only Tunisia has set positive increase under this outcome- however delay in implementing sensitization campaign on social protection schemes and dignified work have been delayed the progresses.	Individual interview with rural women
Planned Yearly Target: +0.2%			
Endline target: +7.5%			
<b>(optional) Indicator 2.2.3:</b> Increase in number of government entities and/or companies that develop and/or implement gender-responsive procurement and employment policies.			
Baseline: 0	NA	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KII with national stakeholders and government entities,</li> <li>UNWOMEN's and IFAD's reports</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: NA			
Planned endline: TBD			
<b>Output 2.3:</b> Rural women have increased access to gender-responsive financial and business development services; ICTs and other products and services.			
<b>Indicator 2.3.1</b> Increase in the number of rural women using gender-responsive financial services and products (including savings, credit, and insurance), disaggregated by type and total amount (USD).			
Baseline: 0		<b>ACHIEVED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IP reports</li> </ul>

Planned Year Target: +2.8%	+2.8%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FGD with women's group.</li> </ul>
Endline target: +5%			
<b>Indicator 2.3.2</b> Increase in the number of rural women who access and use new business knowledge, products, services and technologies for improved market access			
Baseline: 1%	+2.6%	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIVED</b> -7% Achieved by Nepal and Tanzania. Contextual challenges delayed activity implementation=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IP's report</li> <li>Agency's report</li> </ul>
Planned yearly Target: +9.6%			
Endline Target: +32%			
<b>OUTCOME 3:</b> Rural women's voice and agency increased for full and equal participation and leadership in their households, communities, organizations and governance systems.			
<b>OUTCOME 3.1</b> Increase in the proportion of rural women with decision-making power over production and productive assets as measured by the WEAI ('Instrumental Agency' in Pro-WEAI).			
Baseline: 48%	NA	NA; Measured every 5 years (baseline and endline)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual interview with rural women (Pro-WEAI Module – Access to Productive Capital)</li> </ul>
Planned Year target: NA			
Planned endline Target: +13%			
<b>OUTCOME 3.2</b> Increase in the proportion of rural women with empowerment in the leadership domain as measured by the WEAI ('Collective Agency' in Pro-WEAI)			
Baseline: 12.5%	NA	NA: Measured every 5 years (baseline and endline)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual interview with rural women (Pro-WEAI Module – Autonomy in Decision-making)</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: NA			
Endline Target; +25%			
<b>OUTCOME 3.3</b> Increase in proportion of women in elected local governance structures (increase in % as measured by the pro-WEAI module on membership)			
Baseline: 14%	0%	NA: Measured every 5 years (baseline and endline)	Secondary data (Election Commission Nepal)
Planned Yearly Target: 0%			
Endline Target: +45%			
<b>OUTCOME 3.4.</b> (Optional) Increase in the proportion of participating women who are empowered or whose achievements are at least as high as men in their households according to the WEAI Gender Parity Index			
Baseline: 28.4%	NA	NA: Measured every 5 years (baseline and endline)	Individual interview with rural women (Pro-WEAI Module)
Planned yearly target: NA			
Endline target: +27%			
<b>Output 3.1:</b> Rural women have increased skills and capacity to participate in local governance and decision-making structures			
<b>3.1.1</b> Increase in the proportion of women members in community decision-making structures, including producer organizations, cooperatives			
Baseline: 47%	0	No increase/change has been foreseen under this indicator in 2023.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IP's report</li> <li>Agency's report</li> </ul>
Planned yearly Target: +0%			
Endline target: +23%			

<b>3.1.2</b> Increase in the proportion of women leaders in community decision-making bodies, producer organizations, cooperatives, unions and local food security reserves.			
Baseline: 5%	0	No increase/change has been foreseen under this indicator in 2023.	Agency's report
Planned yearly Target: +0%			
Endline Target: +29.7%			
<b>Output 3.2</b> Organizational capacities and social capital strengthened to form, participate in and sustain gender-responsive producer organizations, cooperatives and unions, savings groups and self-help groups			
<b>3.2.1</b> Increase in the number of informal rural women's groups which become formally registered producer organizations, cooperatives and unions			
Baseline: 18%	305 (between VSLA, productive groups)	<b>ACHIEVED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IP's report</li> <li>▪ Agency's report</li> <li>▪ FGD with rural women's group</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: +0%*			
Endline Target: +35%			
<b>3.2.2</b> Increase in the number of producer organizations, cooperatives and unions that adopt a gender policy/ strategy/ training/ women's quota for their board, etc.			
Baseline: 0.8%	0%	No increase/change has been foreseen under this indicator in 2023.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IP's report</li> <li>▪ Agency's report</li> <li>▪ FGD with rural women's group</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: +0%			
Endline target: +34%			
<b>OUTCOME 4</b> Gender-responsive legal frameworks, policies and institutions strengthened to create an enabling environment for rural women to secure their livelihoods, rights and resilience			
<b>OUTCOME 4.1</b> Number and type of revised or adopted national or regional legal frameworks, policies, or strategies that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality in agriculture, national food security and nutrition, social protection, emergency preparedness, and economic and labour systems			
Baseline: 0	NA	NA: Measured every 2 years from implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feedback from government officials, policymakers, and representatives of civil society organizations involved in the development or revision of legal frameworks, policies, or strategies.</li> <li>▪ Reports documenting UNWOMEN's advocacy efforts</li> <li>▪ Studies, evaluations, or assessments conducted by independent organizations or research institutions,</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: NA			
Endline target: 6 national policies and strategies			
<b>OUTCOME 4.2</b> Increase in the number of programme countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment in the agricultural sector (adapted from SDG 5.c.1)			
Baseline: 0	NA	NA: Measured every 2 years from implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ UNWOMEN's Annual country reports</li> <li>▪ National Government Reports related to the National strategy of economic and social</li> </ul>
Planned Yearly Target: NA			
Endline target: 4 countries			

			empowerment for women and girls in rural area, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ KII with national stakeholders</li> </ul>
<b>Output 4.1.1 Number of national mechanisms for the advancement of women and policy-makers able to advocate for gender-sensitive policies and budgets</b>			
<b>4.1.1 Increase in the number of national women’s machineries and policymakers with capacities to advocate for gender-responsive policies and budgets</b>			
<b>Baseline:</b> 0	10 policymakers 58 stakeholders	<b>OVERACHIEVED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IP’s report</li> <li>▪ Agency’s report</li> <li>▪ Interview with policymakers including the representatives from national women’s machineries</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> 15 (Tunisia)			
<b>Endline target:</b> 150 policy makers			
<b>4.1.2 Increase in the number of rural women engaged in local and national-level government meetings on policy formulation, budget allocation and monitoring for gender commitments</b>			
<b>Baseline:</b> 0	44 (30 W and 14 M)	<b>PARTIALLY ACHIEVED</b> Tanzania contributed to the achievement of the target, while the rest of the country set the year target as 0 since no activity planned could directly or indirectly influence the change against this indicator.	Interview with policymakers including the representatives from national women’s machineries
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> 100 (90 W and 10 M Planned in Tanzania)			
<b>Endline target:</b> 500 rural women			
<b>Output 4.2 Capacity of rural women and their organizations increased to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national and regional levels</b>			
<b>4.2.1 Increase in the number of rural women who demonstrate increased awareness and understanding of legal rights and relevant policy mechanisms.</b>			
<b>Baseline:</b> 17.5	2.7%	<b>OVERACHIEVED</b> Activities linked to this output have been fully implemented with Nepal and Tanzania delivering the expected activities. While Tunisia did not reach the expected target, Niger has not planned any change against this indicator at this level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pre-and Post training or sensitization campaign</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> +0.7%			
<b>Endline target:</b> +34.6%			
<b>4.2.2 Increase in the proportion of women's groups linked to advocacy networks and alliances, by network focus (e.g., gender, climate action, etc.)</b>			
<b>Baseline:</b> 0%	0%	<b>NOT ACHIEVED</b> Activities linked to this output have not been fully implemented due to delays in IP onboarding in Tunisia, Nepal and while Niger has not planned any change against these indicators at this level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agency reports</li> <li>▪ FGD with cooperatives</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Yearly Target:</b> +1.7%			
<b>Endline Target:</b> +40%:			
<b>Output 4.3: Rural women’s economic empowerment strengthened through regional and global policy dialogues and processes</b>			
3 policy briefs 1 Global side event	3 policy briefs Two global side events	<b>OVERACHIEVED</b>	

## Annex One – Additional Explanations on the Calculation of Aggregated Data

**General Note:** Aggregated figures were calculated by weighting each country's contribution based on its population size. For each indicator (yearly target and achieved percentage increase over baseline), the percentage values were multiplied by the respective population size of each country. The weighted values were then summed across all countries and divided by the total population to obtain the weighted average. This calculation excludes data from the Pacific Island group due to the absence of finalized baseline figures, ensuring aggregate figures accurately represent only the available and applicable data.

**Outcome 1.1** reflects the median production per hectare across various crops from Nepal, Niger, Tunisia and Tanzania excluding any data reported as 'TBD.' This median value mitigates distortion from extreme values, providing a more typical figure across the sampled environments. This calculation excludes data from the Pacific Island group due to the absence of finalized baseline figures, ensuring our aggregate figures accurately represent only the available and applicable data.

**Outcome 1.2** was computed using the average of baseline percentages and the expected endline increases for rural women achieving minimum dietary diversity. Data from the Pacific Island group was not included due to the absence of finalized baseline figures.

**Outcome 1.3** is calculated as the average proportion of households spending 65% or more of their monthly budget on food. Data from the Pacific Island group is not included due to the absence of finalized baseline figures.

**Outcome 1.4:** data is only available from Niger and Tanzania, as Tunisia has not specified endline targets and Nepal does not measure this indicator due to its lack of relevance to their activities. Responsible agencies might still be in the process of reviewing policies or strategies related to agricultural practices, post-harvest management, and rural development. Tunisia has set the target as TBD because they are in the process of reviewing implementing strategies related to post-harvest management before setting concrete targets. The baseline has been set to 0.

**Output 1.1.1** is calculated from baseline percentages and planned endline increases across Nepal, Niger, Tanzania, and Tunisia. Averages were computed by including individual and averaged data from multiple categories in Niger and Tunisia. Data from the Pacific Islands is excluded as they are not yet finalized, and yearly targets for 2023 were set as 'N/A' since this indicator is measured only at baseline and endline using the pro-WEAI index."

**Output 1.1.2** This aggregation excludes data from the Pacific Islands, where implementation has not yet begun and the baseline is not yet finalized. The average reflects that while Nepal aims for a significant increase of 40% in access to climate-smart inputs and resources, the other participating countries (Niger, Tanzania, and Tunisia) have set their targets at 0% for this year.

**Output 1.1.3** Aggregated targets were calculated by averaging the yearly and endline targets set by Nepal, Niger, Tanzania, and Tunisia, with each country's specific achievements in 2023 weighted by their yearly target beneficiary numbers. All countries started from a baseline of 0%. Data from the Pacific regions are excluded due to unavailable baseline and target figures."

**Output 1.1.4:** was computed by determining a common baseline of 0% for all participating countries, reflecting no initial access to technologies. The average yearly target for 2023 and the weighted average achievement were both calculated as 0% based on uniform data from each country reporting no changes planned or achieved this year. The average endline target was derived by averaging the specific endline targets. Data from the Pacific region are not included due to the absence of both baseline and planned activities. Nepal is not computed since this indicator has not been selected by the country team (optional indicator).

**Indicator 2.1.4:** This target at endline is calculated with the target established by Tunisia and Niger only, which have adopted this indicator. The aggregated figure has been calculated taking the mean of the two countries and weighed with the total number of beneficiaries targeted at present globally.

**Indicator 2.2.1:** The aggregated values for each country were calculated based on the weighted beneficiary population. For Nepal, the baseline remained at 0, as did the achieved value, with no planned yearly target. The endline target showed a 4% increase from the baseline. In Niger, the baseline stood at 6%, with no available yearly target. The endline target aimed for a 30% increase from the baseline, yet activities in 2023 were not planned to directly or indirectly influence this change. Tunisia had a baseline of 0%, with no planned yearly target. The endline target aimed for a 10% increase from the baseline, with changes over the baseline planned for this indicator during the reporting year.

**Indicator 2.2.2** The weighted aggregated data for each country were calculated by considering the population figures provided. Each country's baseline, yearly target, endline target, and achieved values were multiplied by their respective population figures, and then summed up across all countries. Finally, each sum was divided by the total population to obtain the weighted aggregated figures.

**Indicator 2.2.3** Only Tunisia adopted this indicator and set an 80% increase on the entities targeted to be increased that reported using gender-responsive procurement. Aggregated number will be available when Tunisia determines the number targeted.

**Output 2.3.1:** The calculation entailed weighting each country's data based on its population size to ensure fair representation. Then, the weighted values for baseline, yearly target, endline target, and achievement across all countries were aggregated to derive the overall figures. This approach provided a comprehensive view while accounting for population discrepancies among countries. Only Tanzania foresaw changes against this indicator in the current year.

**Outcome 3.1.** Baseline and endline aggregated values have been calculated by weighting the average with the country's targeted population across the 5 years and finally with the total population across the 4 countries who reported this year. Pacific Island have not been included in this calculation.

**Outcome 4.1.:** For the indicator on tracking allocations for gender equality in agriculture, Nepal is establishing a budget information system within the Federal Ministry of Finance to enhance transparency in gender equality funding. Niger is implementing a Gender Strategy by the Ministry of Agriculture to integrate gender considerations into agricultural policies. Tanzania is developing a Climate Change Gender Action Plan to address the impacts of climate change on women in agriculture. Tunisia is supporting three policy initiatives under different ministries to support gender equality and women's empowerment.

**Outcome 4.2:** Nepal, Niger, Tanzania and Tunisia (3 for Tunisia).

**Output 4.2.1** Nepal and Niger did not plan activities under this output.