

Migration MPTF Annual / Final Report

PROJECT INFORMATION

Joint Programme Title:	Empowerment of ‘Families Left Behind’ for Improved Migration Outcomes in Khatlon, Tajikistan
Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):	Two districts in Khatlon region, Republic of Tajikistan
Project Identification Number:	00124506
Start and Planned End Dates	Start: 28 October 2020 End: 28 November 2023
Convening Agent (Lead PUNO):	IOM
PUNO(s) (PUNOs):	FAO, IOM, UNICEF, UN Women
Key Partners: <i>(include Implementing Partner)</i>	The Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment of Population (MoLMEP), Committee on Women and Family Affairs under the Government of Republic of Tajikistan (CoWFA), Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population (MoHSPP), Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Migration Services (MS), Department of Women and Family Affairs (DoWFA), and Department of Health and Social Protection (DoHSP). College on Disabilities, Local Authorities, Media Partners, National Association of Small and Medium Business, Selected Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
Project Period (Start – End Dates):	28 October 2020 - 28 November 2023
Reporting Period:	28 October 2020 - 28 November 2023
Total Approved Migration MPTF Budget: <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	PUNO 1: FAO USD 600,000 PUNO 2: IOM USD 600,000 PUNO 3: UNICEF 500,000 PUNO 4: UN Women 500,000 Total: USD 2,200,000
Total Funds Received To Date: <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	PUNO 1: FAO USD 600,000 PUNO 2: IOM USD 600,000 PUNO 3: UNICEF 500,000 PUNO 4: UN Women 500,000 Total: USD 2,200,000
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Executive Summary

The project “*Empowering of Vulnerable families of Migrant Workers for Improved Migration Outcomes in Khatlon, Tajikistan*” was designed to support the reduction of the vulnerabilities faced by families adversely affected by migration in Tajikistan. It was implemented from October 2020 to November 2023 in the target districts of Dusti and Kulob.

Particularly, the project aimed to reduce the vulnerability of families adversely affected by migration through the following main components:

+ **Improving the wellbeing** of vulnerable families of migrant workers by enhancing provision of psychosocial services for women and children left behind, to allow for more opportunities for their empowerment and economic inclusion;

+ **Increasing the economic resilience** of vulnerable families of migrant workers and **addressing gender related barriers** to their economic inclusion by improving utilization of land and water resources; value chains through farming, small scale processing initiatives, retail, and marketing; vocational skills and livelihoods; and financial inclusion, skills, and knowledge; and;

+ **Protecting and empowering vulnerable families** of migrant workers to seek their rights by improving service provision; individual and community support and knowledge; and adolescent life competencies, and supporting national, regional, and local government to implement evidence-based responses to the challenges faced by vulnerable families of migrant workers by ensuring evidence and policy guidance is available and used, to facilitate policy and implementation planning at national and district levels.

This was achieved by aiming for the following four outcomes:

Outcome 1: Families left behind enjoy improved wellbeing. UN agencies ensure access to coordinated psychosocial services for women and children left behind. This involves supporting mental health research, advocacy events for government commitment, and collaboration with field-level workers to address mental health impacts on child abandonment.

Outcome 2: Families left behind increase economic resilience and address gender barriers to inclusion. Empowerment efforts from UN agencies include utilizing land and water resources effectively, improving access to value chains, and advocating for gender equity in unpaid care work. Financial literacy integrated with agricultural training equips women with skills for managing finances and advocating for appropriate financial products.

Outcome 3: Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights. UN Agencies work to enhance access to legal services for vulnerable families and strengthen referral mechanisms for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence. Advocacy efforts, thematic events, and support for adolescents aim to raise awareness and prevent involvement in harmful systems.

Outcome 4: Governments plan evidence-based responses to families left behind. All four UN Agencies facilitate government engagement and utilize project data to guide policy planning. Capacity-building and awareness efforts at national and district levels ensure implementation of gender-responsive policies and the inclusion of family-focused considerations in migration strategies.

The key results which contributed towards improving the wellbeing and economic resilience of vulnerable women, adolescents, and families left behind by migrant workers are as follows. Through evidence-based responses and capacity building, access to services for vulnerable families improved significantly, with an emphasis on healthcare, social care, and business support with particular strides being made in child protection through enhancing capacity of staff from maternity wards across Tajikistan and the Comprehensive Family and Child Support Unit. Improved access to services is measured as part of the project's baseline and endline assessments. Under Output 1.1, Indicators 1.1a and 1.1b measure the # of women and the # of children who have received social services. Under Outcome 3, Indicator 3.c measures the % of service users reporting satisfactory access to services. The baseline study (which included surveying target groups in both districts) noted that for 1.1a and 1.1b 80 women and 17 adolescents had received social services. In addition, the baseline found that only 49% of women reported a satisfactory access to services. The figure for both of these indicators had increased in the endline assessment.



When surveyed, 83% of the respondents reported receiving satisfactory access to services – an increase of 69% (Indicator 3.c) and 185 women (1.1a) and 18 adolescents (1.1b) had received social services. Notably, initiatives such as field farmer schools, legal services, and the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) program empowered women economically and socially. Despite challenges in accessing credit and generating income, the project fostered economic inclusion and addressed gender-related barriers to financial inclusion through financial literacy sessions and support for agricultural initiatives. Additionally, efforts focused on enhancing awareness, building capacity, and fostering collaboration among stakeholders to safeguard the rights of women and children left behind which had far-reaching impacts. Through extensive research and advocacy, the project contributed to the integration of 'Families Left Behind' considerations into national policies and strategies, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

End-of Project Progress

1. Summary and Context

The IOM in Tajikistan, in partnership with the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment of Population (MoLME) and in collaboration with UNICEF, FAO and UN Women and with the financial support of the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MMPTF) implemented the project “Empowering of Vulnerable families of migrant workers for Improved Migration Outcomes in Khatlon of Tajikistan”.

The Joint Programme aimed to build on the strengths of four UN agencies with diverse mandates and expertise to comprehensively address the multifaceted challenges associated with migration in Tajikistan. Leveraging this, UN agencies sought inter-agency collaboration and synergies to ensure coherence and a holistic response under all Outcomes and Outputs. **The wellbeing of vulnerable families of migrant workers was improved** (growth in 7% between baseline and endline assessments) by the provision of psychosocial services for women and children left behind, allowing for more opportunities for their empowerment and economic inclusion. Extensive research was conducted, including situation analyses and needs assessments, to ensure the interventions were evidence-based. This was well-aligned with the capacity building initiative where roughly 500 stakeholders across various sectors were capacitated to better support vulnerable families. This significantly contributed to vulnerable families' access to these services. The proportion of women and adolescent respondents who reported receiving social services increased - almost 70% of the endline survey respondents reported receiving at least one the social services provided in their respective districts.

Through UN interventions, the **economic resilience of vulnerable families of migrant workers has increased and gender-related barriers to their economic inclusion have been addressed** by improving utilization of land and water resources; value chains through farming, small scale processing initiatives, retail, and marketing; vocational skills and livelihoods; and financial inclusion, skills, and knowledge. Based on the endline survey results, household income was reported higher since the women respondents selecting income below 500 TJS decreased from 42% to 18% and those reporting income between 1001-3000 TJS increased from 4% to 41%. The project significantly enhanced financial literacy among women.

The proportion of women without a monthly budget decreased from 95% at baseline to 64% at endline. Additionally, the percentage of women saving or setting aside money for business or farm growth increased from 1.2% at baseline to 10.8% at endline.

310 women received vocational trainings to strengthen their access to the labour market, 16 Farmer Field schools were developed that enhanced the agricultural capacity of 619 women and 1,049 students from 50 secondary schools benefited from access to the Junior Farmer Schools initiative. The Gender Action Learning System (GALS) was introduced; this empowering methodology led to positive changes in the mindset of beneficiaries, fostering self-reliance and confidence among women. 70 women and girls were identified as GALS champions. Of these,

22 trained larger groups of 35 women and girls in each district. Significant transformations were observed in the participant's mindsets and perceptions throughout the training.

Finally, as a result of a comprehensive 'one UN approach', **vulnerable families of migrant workers were protected and empowered to seek their rights** by improving service provision, individual and community support and knowledge; and adolescent life competencies, and supporting national, regional, and local government to implement evidence-based responses to the challenges faced by vulnerable families of migrant workers by ensuring evidence and policy guidance is available and used, to facilitate policy and implementation planning at national and district levels. The project led to improved awareness among women regarding their rights, particularly in areas such as women's rights, access to credit, and land and property. Compared to the baseline assessment, there was a significant increase in the awareness of women's rights from 40% to 65% in the endline survey. Moreover, perceptions of physical violence against women shifted, with most respondents indicating that such violence was not acceptable in certain situations. Although overall awareness of rights remains low, 75% of women expressed willingness to take action if their rights were violated, compared to 65% at baseline.

Several information sessions, advocacy events, and capacity building efforts contributed to improved knowledge of target beneficiaries' rights and local government and enhanced capacity to facilitate access to rights and services for the beneficiaries. The Local Response and Referral Meetings Mechanism (LRRM) identified, enhanced, protected, and assisted vulnerable migrants facing challenges such as violence, exploitation, and abuse by involving existing service networks, relevant government agencies, and civil society at the local level. In addition, referral mechanism for sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) was established to help the service providers. Twenty-three state and non-state service providers and CSOs were trained in its use and provision of services. Around 1200 women have applied to the local Department of the CoWFA and were referred. Finally, through a consolidated effort from all UN agencies vulnerable women and their families of migrant workers were included in the National Migration Strategy for 2030 and spearheaded Gender-Responsive Budgeting initiatives at National Level. 94 individuals from targeted ministries were trained on Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in the socio-economic aspects of migration. The project developed two key products: a comprehensive report on gender budget analysis focusing on Tajikistan and the Khatlon region, with specific attention to vulnerable groups like wives of labor migrants and returning women migrants, and an algorithm for data collection for gender budget analysis.

The strength of a 'one UN approach' in achieving these key results cannot be understated. Building on diverse Agencies strengths and expertise allowed for stronger, more comprehensive programme which tackles the multi-faceted challenges of migration in Tajikistan. Collaborating closely with a diverse range of external partners, including governmental and non-governmental entities, is essential for staying attuned to on-the-ground developments and adapting effectively as circumstances evolve. Monthly coordination meetings, involvement of local government, and the utilization of implementing partners, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), underscore the holistic nature of the programme's strategy.

The project encountered several challenges that resulted in delays. Initially, there were issues with obtaining necessary approvals due to internal matters, causing setbacks. These were eventually resolved through focused efforts, highlighting the complexity of such processes. Delays also occurred in the initial stages such as contracting service providers and recruiting staff, further pushing back the project's launch. Additionally, disagreements between different stakeholders on the choice of research partners led to delays, showcasing the complexities of coordination. Furthermore, large-scale events required government endorsements and navigating internal UN processes, involving formal requests and permissions that led to activity delays. Despite these hurdles, the project eventually progressed, underscoring the importance of collaborative efforts for successful outcomes.

¹ For the final evaluation, KIIs were conducted with several key stakeholders under the project; these included, amongst many others, CSO members, government counterparts both from national and local levels, trainers and experts from the field, and religious and women group leaders.

To account for initial delays and allow more time to complete project activities, the project was provided three no-cost extensions, particularly to address delays with equipment provision and seed-dissemination, which in turn led required more time so that beneficiaries could be trained after the equipment was delivered. Despite these challenges, strong collaboration among the partner UN agencies made it possible to resolve some of the challenges in a timely manner. Monthly coordination meetings were found to be very helpful in fostering collaboration among the PUNOs. The agencies shared achievements, discussed project activities, and engaged with local stakeholders to resolve evolving challenges.

2. Results

Outcome 1: Families left behind enjoy improved wellbeing.

Working towards the achievement of SDG 3, this outcome aimed to improve the health of families left behind through various interventions. This included conducting a situation analysis on families' psychosocial health, hosting advocacy events for the inclusion of families left behind in national health policies and facilitating capacity-building workshops for relevant government bodies. Maternity ward staff received training on preventing child abandonment, while para-social workers were equipped with tools and training for outreach services and case management. Additionally, caregivers and children received counselling and emotional support to address distress. These efforts collectively enhanced the overall health and well-being of families left behind.

Links to the SDGs:

The relevant Sustainable Development Goal for this activity is Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being. Specifically, the target is 3.8: Achieve Universal Health Coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable medicines and vaccines for all. The activity aligns with target 3.8 by supporting country situation analysis on health status of abandoned families and supporting national health policy advocacy and dialogue to improve health care provision to abandoned families in selected areas, particularly with regards to psychosocial health. In addition, the activity contributes to the achievement of the Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities by addressing the health needs of a vulnerable group (abandoned families).

Improved access to healthcare services was measured as part of the project's baseline and endline assessments, as well as an increase in overall wellbeing.

Wellbeing

To accurately compare an improvement in wellbeing a baseline and endline assessment were conducted. Under Outcome 1, indicator 1a and 1b (% of targeted women and targeted children left behind who report improved wellbeing as a result of receiving psychosocial support) show in the baseline that women and children score 58.1 and 69.4 consecutively on the Personal Wellbeing Index (PWI). Through the endline assessment, we see an increase in wellbeing scores with 64.8 and 83.2 on the PWI.

Access to healthcare

In addition, access to healthcare services and satisfaction with these services was measured through the baseline and endline assessments. In the baseline, 32 women out of the 146 who reported accessing services had accessed healthcare services in the six months prior. In the endline, this number had increased to 135 women having accessed healthcare services in the past six months with 47 noting they were "very satisfied" with the service, and 70 noting they were "satisfied" with the service. Out of all services, the most sought services were healthcare (48%), social care (31%), and business and/or agricultural support (24%).

While specific health outcomes like disease prevalence or nutritional status are not directly addressed in the provided information, the improvements in overall wellbeing scores, perceived children's wellbeing, and access to essential services suggest positive trends in the health and wellbeing of families left behind during the program's implementation. However, for a comprehensive assessment of health improvements, additional data

and analysis focusing explicitly on health indicators would be necessary.

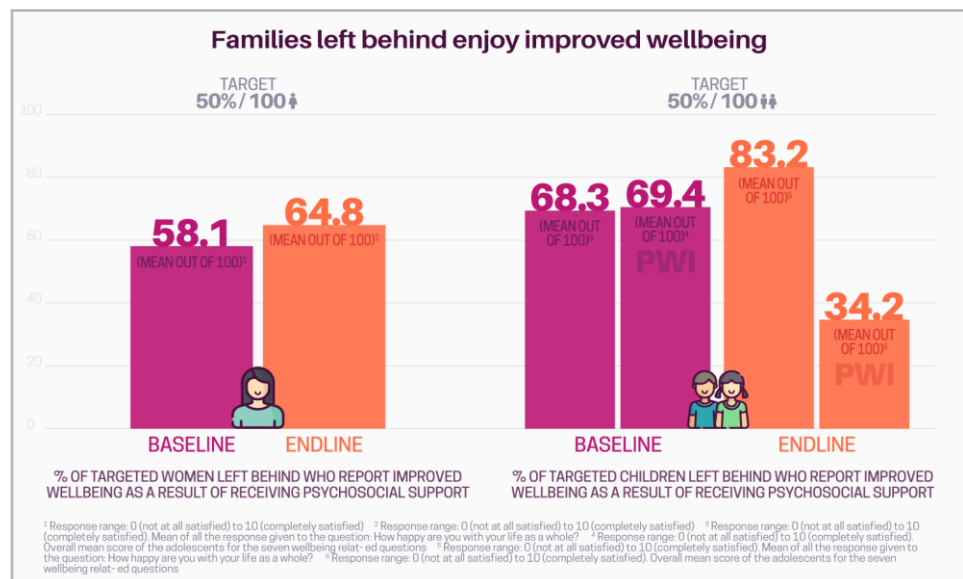
Summary of results from Output 1.1 Service providers at local level have enhanced capacity to provide continuum of psychosocial services for women and children left behind.

- **A full assessment was conducted on the psychological and economic situation of women and children** left behind bringing together 385 interviews with women, 20 in-depth interviews with men, and four focus group discussions (two groups of each sex) which revealed several critical findings that provided clear guidance for expanding and adjusting project activities.
- **Comprehensive mapping conducted of social workforce for child protection.** The overall goal of the functional assessment and the mapping was to facilitate a deeper understanding of the current landscape of the social service workforce and the systems that support the workforce in order to ensure that the workforce is well planned, developed and supported to provide the highest quality services to children and families. The resulting knowledge will help the Government of Tajikistan to establish a baseline which will facilitate the measurement of change over time and inform strategic planning and decision-making for policies and programmes focused on strengthening the workforce.
- **104 staff of the maternity wards** and the **staff of the Comprehensive Family and Child Support Unit** have been trained on the importance of raising children in a safe and protective family environment.
- The overall wellbeing of women improved, with a mean score of 64.8 compared to 58.1 in the baseline survey. Remittance recipients had the highest wellbeing scores, while those with no contact or deceased migrant family members had lower scores.
- **80 para-social workers, nurses, education specialists, migration specialists, and local authority representatives** were trained to provide outreach services and case management and referral for families in difficulty.
- **266 caregivers from targeted communities, comprising of 12 male and 254 female participants** attended a series of workshops on creating a harmonious family environment, raising children.

Summary of results from Outcome 1:

- **Overall wellbeing and self-esteem scores of the women beneficiaries increased but the project target was not achieved for wellbeing of adolescents (please see diagram 1)**

Overall, the wellbeing of the vulnerable women (WLB) increased from 58.1 (the wellbeing mean score, out of 100) to 64.8, comparing the



baseline and endline surveys. Several key informants stated that they observed positive changes in the lives of the beneficiaries, including indications of increased self-esteem. As one said, "the beneficiaries changed in front of us. In the beginning, they were closed. After the information sessions, they changed their mindset



and became brave". Similarly, the overall self-esteem score of the women respondents also slightly increased from a baseline figure of 68.5 to the endline score of 71.3, indicating a positive change how the beneficiaries considered themselves.

- **Adolescents feel happier with their lives as a whole but consider their overall wellbeing very low compared to the findings of the baseline study.**

Based on the indicative findings of the baseline and endline assessments, more adolescents said they feel happy with their lives as a whole (83%), whereas 68% of the respondents reported feeling happy before the project implementation. The adolescents also rated their self-esteem higher, with a mean score of 75.5 (out of 100) compared to the baseline figure of 70.2 (out of 100).

- **The project conducted several assessments for evidence-based response and enhanced capacity of service providers contributing, to increased access to services.**

The project undertook a comprehensive approach to enhance the wellbeing of vulnerable families affected by migration, focusing on evidence-based responses and capacity building for service providers. Various studies were conducted, including a situation analysis and needs assessments, to inform decision-making processes. Studies also targeted children at risk of institutionalization. Following these assessments, the project collaborated closely with government agencies and local authorities to provide support to families left behind.

In addition, the project conducted information sessions and advocacy events to raise awareness of families left behind (FLB) issues, reaching caregivers, children, and participants. Reportedly, 490 beneficiaries, including children and women, received social services during the project. Endline assessments revealed an increase in the proportion of women and adolescents receiving social services compared to baseline. Nearly 70% of endline survey respondents reported accessing social services, primarily healthcare, social care, and business/agricultural support. However, only 30% of adolescents received such services, with lack of awareness cited as the main barrier.

In conclusion, the project's focus on evidence-based responses and capacity building significantly contributed to increased access to services for vulnerable families affected by migration. Collaborative efforts with government agencies and local authorities strengthened service provision and prevention strategies. Despite progress, challenges remain, particularly in reaching adolescents with social services. Continued awareness-raising and targeted interventions are necessary to address these gaps and ensure the holistic wellbeing of FLB.

The only target not achieved under outcome 1 was the output indicator regarding the level of awareness, response, and coordination of available services between officials dealing with women and children's issues at the local level, which received 2 points instead of 3 as envisioned. In this case, the scale was from 0-3: Officials are aware about issues, Officials respond to issues – 1 point, 1 point; there is a functional coordination mechanism – 1 point;). Two pieces of research were produced and shared with Government partners, so officials are aware of the issues, in addition a round table was conducted on this research implementing a functioning coordination mechanism. However, officials fully responding to these issues was not witnessed.

Outcome 2: Families left behind have increased economic resilience and address gender related barriers to economic inclusion.

Contributing to the achievement of SDGs 5 and 8, this Outcome aimed to empower women left behind in agriculture, by training Farmers Field Facilitators (FFFs) for farming activities and establish Farmers Field Schools (FFS). Additionally, Junior Farmers Field Schools (JFFS) will be set up to engage schoolchildren in agriculture and nutrition. Small plot agricultural production models will be implemented, with rainwater harvesting and irrigation systems. Home-based processing activities will be enhanced, and best practices disseminated through fairs and awareness campaigns. Vocational skills training for women, GALS implementation, and financial literacy workshops are also part of the project's holistic approach to empower families left behind.

Links to the SDGs:

This activity aligns with several SDGs, including Goal 5: Gender Equality – this activity aims to empower women

by providing them with vocational training, enabling them to become self-sufficient and contribute to the local economy. Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth – by providing vocational training, this activity helps women acquire the skills needed to secure employment or start their own businesses, leading to economic growth. Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities – this activity helps reduce inequalities by providing vocational training to women who are left behind and may not have access to the same opportunities as others. Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production – vocational training in areas such as agriculture and gardening promotes sustainable practices and responsible production.

- **A total of 537 women left behind have developed their capacities to carry out farming activities.** The beneficiaries were organized into **19 women's groups: 9 in Dusti district and 10 in the Kulob area.** Based on assessments of these beneficiaries, the team gained an understanding of their training needs and ensured appropriate and effective responses.
- **A total of 16 Farmers Field Schools (FFS) were established,** Training was provided to 537 women farmers, across the 19 groups. The training covered topics identified in the FFS Curriculum and Manual developed by the team. Additionally, focal points from line ministries participated in field activities.
- **Eight (8) demonstration plots, inclusive of equipment, materials, and seeds for demonstration, were established among the most active women farmers in the two target districts, and cross-visits were organized between the women beneficiaries.** Some successful instances of Farmers Field Schools (FFS) and demonstration plots included the establishment and equipping of a mushroom production facility, involving over 30 women in adopting new potato cultivation techniques, setting up backyard nurseries, and implementing initiatives like rooftop rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation in homesteads. Additionally, cross-visits were organized for abandoned women across both districts to learn from these experiences and others alike.
- **A cohort of 20 Farmers Field Facilitators (FFF)/Master Trainers was selected from the most active women farmers and underwent Training of Trainers sessions in both districts,** covering ten different topics of best agricultural practices. These FFFs will play a vital role in ensuring the sustainability of the women groups, FFS and demonstration plots.
- **50 Junior Field Schools (JFS) were established in selected secondary schools, in collaboration with two District Education Offices, and comprehensive agricultural inputs, including four (4) greenhouses** were procured and distributed to schools and agricultural colleges in Kulob and Ziraki at the end of 2023.
- **A total of 1,049 young students and 451 teachers (523 in Dusti and 526 in Kulob)** underwent theoretical and practical training sessions on innovative farming approaches, water conservation techniques, mushroom breeding, greenhouses, nutrition of schoolchildren, etc, through the 50 JFS.

Summary of results from Output 2.2: Families left behind have access to increased/improved local value chains (VC) through farming, small-scale processing initiatives, retail, and marketing.

- **A total of 222 women directly benefited from agricultural inputs, equipment, and training to establish small agricultural plots and 255 women benefitted from agri-processing goods and training to start up added value activities.** Beneficiaries were selected competitively through a Call for Proposals/Applications

(CfP) launched at the beginning of 2023 in Kulyab and Dusti districts. The following inputs and goods were distributed in Dusti and Kulob:

1) For small-plots production & models of self-sufficient farming - only individual supported as follow:

- 200 women received seeds (corn seeds, white bean, etc) and fertilizers (100 per each district)
- 22 women received greenhouses (13 in Dusti and 9 in Kulob district)

2) For agri-processing - value addition activities (both individual and group grants).

Individual support:

- 16 women received milk cream separators (8 women from Kulob and 8 women from Dusti)
- 12 women received apricot stone breaker/apricot kernel cracking machine (6 women from Kulob and 6 women from Dusti)
- 12 women received grain crusher/separating grain from the maize cob (6 women from Kulob and 6 women from Dusti)

Group support:

- 5 women groups received 20 solar dryers (4pcs to each group of about 22 members/group)
- 3 women groups received sets of equipment and tools to preserve the fruits and vegetables (2 groups in Kulob and 1 set in Dust of about 22 members / group)

The distribution of seeds and fertilizer was completed at the beginning of 2023, resulting in beneficiaries experiencing increased production, productivity, and incomes. The greenhouses and all the processing equipment were predominantly distributed at the end of 2023 and from 15 to 17 of January 2024. As a result, the anticipated increase in women's incomes and reduction in post-harvest losses will likely be realized during the upcoming agricultural season.

- **40 women, split evenly between Kulob and Dusti, have enhanced their skills in wool felting practices. They were provided with inputs to develop their own felt designs and were assisted in accessing markets.** Under a Letter of Agreement (LoA) between the UN and the Public Organization Creative Development of Tajikistan, these women received training, and their resulting products were designed, promoted, and sold to various customers including businesses, hotels, interior designers, and intermediary companies.
- **Approximately 2,000 individuals were engaged in awareness-raising activities promoting best practices.** Project beneficiaries actively participated and showcased their accomplishments in various events, including EXPO 2022 - Development of Women's Entrepreneurship "International Women's Entrepreneurship Day" in Dushanbe and Bokhtar (November 2022), World Food Days in 2022 and on October 21, 2023, in Dushanbe, and the International Day of Rural Women on October 25, 2023, in Bokhtar. These events served as platforms for presenting and disseminating the project's results, alongside other fairs and awareness campaigns, collectively reaching over 2,000 participants from diverse stakeholders, partners, the private and public sectors, civil society, schools, universities, and beyond.

Summary of results from Output 2.3 Women left behind have improved vocational skills to better access alternative employment

- **310 women successfully completed vocational development and skill building workshops.** These included national tailoring methods like chakanduzi (embroidery), gardening, carpet weaving, sewing, confectionery, fruit and vegetables preserving, baking, and agricultural professions and received state-recognized diplomas.

Summary of results from Output 2.4 A government engaged gender assessment and mobilization process supports women to plan for livelihoods and dedicate more time to economic activity and community projects.



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- **70 GALS Champions trained** to use and facilitate the 5 basic GALS tools.
- **28 2-days workshops conducted** and attended by **350 participants** including abandoned wives of migrants, local activists, representatives of public organizations and representatives of mahalla committees capacitated.
- **14 active GALS community groups established** to ensure that the lessons learned through the GALS training would continue to work towards social and behavioral change in communities.
- **Five civil society organizations participated in the analysis and priority setting training on unpaid care work.** Community and local government priorities to address the issue were jointly developed, new skills acquired, enhanced knowledge, learning, and expertise related to gender equality in access, use, and provision of essential services, goods and/or resources. CSOs are equipped with practical tools, such as implementation guidance and knowledge products on unpaid care work. Also, staff of CSOs strengthened their capacity to exercise their leadership role towards the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment including on governance and participation in public life, economic empowerment, ending violence against women, community resilience.

Output 2.5 Families left behind have improved financial inclusion and increased skills and knowledge to manage debt.

- **Financial education manual developed:** "Tajikistan: Understanding the Relationship Between Migration, Gender, Climate Change and Agriculture."
- **Two-day training of trainers on financial literacy conducted with 16 staff** of two Non-Governmental Organisations.
- **36 two-days trainings on financial literacy for 720 women left behind** in the two regions. Each training was attended by 20 women left behind in target districts. The training covered effective use of remittances, saving plans, income, expenses and budgeting.
- **3 meetings organised between IOM, the National Bank of Tajikistan and micro-finance organisations** to address challenges with provision of financial services to families left behind as a result of migration.
- **32 stakeholders attended community workshops in the target districts** (representatives of local commercial banks, families left behind and community leaders). The banks presented their available products to community and face to face communication brought to answers to the beneficiaries' questions.
- **Three community events** were organised under the theme of World Savings Day. They presented information to FLB about world-saving day and to participate in quizzes and trainings on financial literacy topics such as finance, budgeting, revenue, expenditure.
- **Consultant hired provided 3 training of trainers' sessions** for National Bank of Tajikistan Staff on financial literacy and supporting FLB access financial institutions.

Summary of results from Outcome 2:

One of the project objectives was to increase the income of women smallholder farmers by expanding the capacity of target families to utilize their land and water resources and access improved value chains.

The endline assessment revealed positive changes regarding financial literacy. The proportion of women who said that they do not have a (family) budget where they plan their monthly spending and saving decreased considerably from 95% (baseline assessment) to 64% (endline assessment). The percentage of female respondents reporting saving or setting aside money to start or grow a business increased from 1.2% to 10.8% between baseline and endline assessment.

Despite indications of positive results, access to credit remains limited for those vulnerable women as they are considered high-risk by the banks, as reported by several informants of the endline assessment and final evaluation. Only 23% of the endline survey respondents benefited from a loan from a bank. Almost 15%, reported accessing microcredit loans and 10% received loans from peer-to-peer lending in the last 12 months. Of those who received

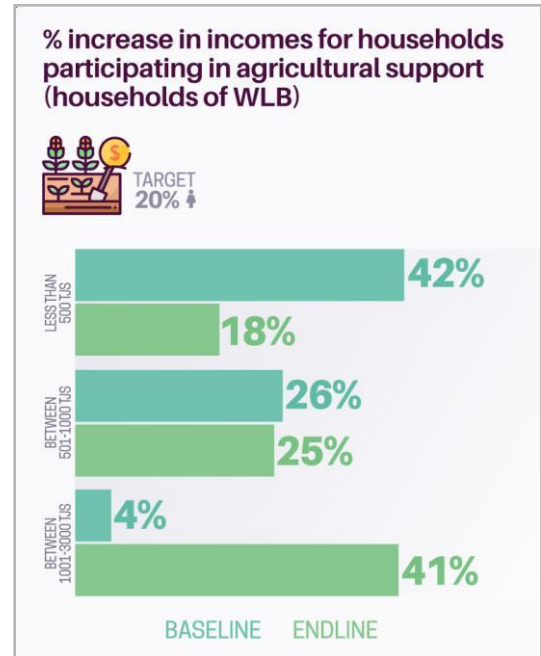
loans, almost all used the loan for funding costs associated with living or migration expenses, with only a few using it to invest in their ongoing business or start a new one.

One noteworthy accomplishment was the introduction of mushroom cultivation under artificial conditions, an innovative venture that proved to be a successful cash crop. The distribution of mushroom spores, and the training provided generated excitement among women beneficiaries, offering them a new source of income that was not season-specific. Out of those trained, 68% (or 204) women beneficiaries reported implementing new techniques learned.

As a result of these interventions focussing on financial literacy, agricultural support, and skills training, the recent endline assessment showed that the proportion of target beneficiaries with paid jobs increased slightly from 26% (baseline) to 31% (endline). Out of those who have a paid job, half have a full-time job, one-third have seasonal work (i.e. cotton picking), and 16% have part-time jobs.

Complementing these results, the GALS program promoted self-reliance and confidence, with 70 champions identified and trained. Guidelines addressing unpaid care work and violence against women were developed, supporting 28 mini-projects. Workshops engaged 350-400 individuals per region, facilitating project implementation.

In sum, the project significantly enhanced economic resilience among families left behind. It diversified income sources, improved financial literacy, and empowered women through vocational training and GALS initiatives. Despite challenges in credit access, the project fostered economic inclusion by increasing the number of women in the target regions who are financially literate, supporting them to enter the labour market especially through independent start-ups in agriculture and skills-based vocational trainings.



Outcome 3: Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights.

Government and NGO services have increased capacity to provide access to information and legal services on issues of family violence, access to land, civil status, migration and family tracing (output 3.1). Women and girls left behind have increased individual and community support and knowledge of their rights (output 3.2). Adolescents left behind have support and knowledge of life competencies (output 3.3)

Links to the SDGs

This activity aligns with several SDGs. First, it aligns with SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions, as it aims to provide access to legal and support services related to civil status, migration, family tracing, and birth registration. This helps to ensure that people have a legal identity and are able to access their rights under the law. Second, it aligns with SDG 10: Reduced inequalities, as it aims to prevent the placement of children into institutions and ensure that all children have access to birth registration. This helps to ensure that all children have the same opportunities in life and are not discriminated against based on their legal status. Finally, it aligns with SDG 1: No poverty, as ensuring that people have legal identities and access to their basic rights can help break the cycle of poverty and improve their economic prospects.

Summary of results from Output 3.1 Government and NGO services have increased capacity to provide access to information and legal services on issues of family violence, access to land, civil status, migration and family tracing.

- **23 state and non-state institutions acquired** advanced knowledge on gender equality in accessing essential services, goods, and resources.
- **A referral mechanism for SGBV cases was successfully localized and widely disseminated** ensuring accessibility for all women and girls to an effective, confidential, and gender-sensitive complaint system.
- **1200 women/girls** (an average of 90 per month) were referred appropriately through the referral mechanism by the local Department of the CoWFA.
- **47 staff from public institutions, services, and local civil society organizations** were trained on interagency cooperation and how to expand access to services for those affected by gender violence.
- **30 children with disabilities** in Dusti (12 children) and Kulob (18 children) **received wheelchairs**.
- **Four dedicated lawyers** were engaged to support families and children to access legal services and claim their rights.
- As a result, **872 children obtained birth certificates and passports** – many of these children faced significant barriers in accessing basic services, such as education and healthcare, due to not having proper documentation.
- In addition, **1510 women (including 71 receiving assistance through the courts) received free legal aid**. Most of the legal issues were related to assistance in obtaining birth certificates for children, alimony issues, residency registration, divorce registration, official registration of house/apartment documents, registration of children at the current address, assistance in completing documents for pension payments, and issues of domestic violence and other family conflicts.

Summary of results from Output 3.2 Women and girls left behind have increased individual and community support and knowledge of their rights.

- **1400 individuals benefitted from awareness campaigns** on rights, protections, social inclusion, and SGBV.
- **400 community members** actively participated in HeForShe campaigns, Public Thematic Fairs, and 16 days of activism, fostering increased individual and community support and knowledge of their rights., receiving free consultations and educational materials, contributing to increased awareness.
- **At least 50% of fair participants (families left behind)** received free consultations from local government specialists on legal, social, and economic issues. **Around 1000 people** received booklets, leaflets, and publications through mass media channels.
- **Four self-help groups made of leaders of mahallas and jamoats and FLB were established** in the two target districts. These groups provided trainings to community members on identifying and prioritizing challenges within the communities, and collectively implementing solutions. Throughout the reporting period, **each group held four meetings** to discuss and select the most pressing challenges and mitigate them.
- Through exchange experiences between these groups, **over 2,600 participants reported an increased sense of belonging and of community**.
- **More than 300 women and children** from FLB participated in a bike parade under the thematic of "We are stronger together." Participants were introduced to essential psychological and social services and the event sought to foster a stronger sense of cohesion and participation for women and children in the community.
- **Over 200 children from project target school in Kulob** took part in a mural painting event dedicated to International Migrant's Day and Human Rights Day. The children painted a 150-metre-long mural, incorporating themes of sports and inclusivity.
- **Development of a practical child protection tool for Mother's groups** in the two target districts which places a child at the centre of the protection and offers guidance to parents.



- **16 Local Referral and Response Mechanism meetings were held** involving representatives from civil society organizations, schools, community leaders, and local government. These meetings focused on planning and providing health, education, social care services, and benefits.
- **290 women and their children received social and psychosocial support** demonstrating the positive impact of the LRRM in addressing the needs of vulnerable migrants and their families in the targeted areas.
- **Formal inclusion of the LRRM meetings in the annual plan of action by the Mayor of Kulob city.** This commendable step signifies progress towards the localization of the LRRM, demonstrating a commitment to sustaining and integrating the mechanism into local governance structures.

Summary of results from Output 3.3 Adolescents left behind have support and knowledge of life competencies.

- **266 caregivers (12 men and 254 women) benefitted from a series of workshops on "Positive Parenting"** - were designed to help caregivers to enhance their parenting skills and to provide them with necessary tools for dealing with various situations in a positive and constructive manner.
- Strengthened through a **3-day training, Student Council members in 15 targeted schools** enhanced their skills, fostering discussions and engagement. This initiative aimed at empowering children with knowledge on family violence, civil status, and migration.
- **902 (337 boys and 565 girls) students from 15 schools exhibited improved communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.** Vital for violence prevention, gender-based violence, and conflict mitigation, the project prioritized inclusivity, covering diverse socio-ethnic backgrounds and students with disabilities.
- **705 school children in the two target districts were reached by community activities.** Thematic discussions, quizzes, and celebrations on International Child Rights Day created a joyous atmosphere, fostering community participation.
- **269 student council members (196 boys and 73 boys) attended two summer camps** which provided in-depth training and exchange of experiences on the prevention of violence, including SGBV, in community, family, and school settings across different regions and schools. Thematic games, sports, and entertainment activities enriched their understanding of child rights and competencies.
- **A training in 15 schools was provided on how to implement a comprehensive complaint mechanism.** The primary goal of the training was to introduce participants to the fundamental concept of the complaint mechanism, equipping them with the necessary knowledge regarding its methods and tools for effectively addressing related authorities. The initiative deepened understanding of different violence types, empowering children to address violations effectively.
- **400 school children (248 girls and 152 boys) took part in events for International Child Rights Day in Kulob, and 305 school children (245 girls and 60 boys) participated in the same event in Dusti** which provided an excellent platform for Student Council members to share the knowledge and insights they gained through the training programmes and summer camps. This sharing of knowledge not only enriched the event but also instilled a deep sense of belonging and empowerment among the Student Council members.

Summary of results from Outcome 3:

Under this outcome, it was intended to ensure that i) the government and NGO services will increase their capacity to provide access to information and legal services, ii) target women and girls will increase their individual and community support and knowledge of their rights, and iii) adolescents in target families will have support and knowledge of life competencies.

Initially, assessments highlighted a significant gap in knowledge among target beneficiaries regarding their rights and available services. Many women were not adequately informed about their rights, including crucial aspects such as access to property, remuneration, and social protection. However, baseline assessments also provided a starting point for understanding the specific areas where awareness needed to be improved.

To address this gap, a series of initiatives was implemented to enhance awareness and understanding. Information sessions, advocacy events, and capacity-building efforts played a pivotal role in empowering beneficiaries and equipping them with the knowledge to navigate their rights effectively. These sessions were instrumental in fostering openness among beneficiaries, encouraging them to voice their concerns, and seek assistance when needed. Notably, the creation of mechanisms such as the Local Response and Referral Meetings Mechanism (LRRM) and the referral mechanism for sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) provided tangible pathways for accessing vital services.

Furthermore, efforts were made to strengthen the capacity of local service providers and media professionals to support vulnerable individuals and raise awareness of pertinent issues. Training sessions were conducted to equip service providers with the skills and knowledge necessary to address the unique needs of women and children left behind. Similarly, comprehensive media training sessions engaged journalists, video bloggers, and social media influencers to amplify the voices of marginalized communities and draw attention to pressing issues.

The collective impact of these initiatives resulted in a notable shift in perception and behavior among beneficiaries. While challenges persist, such as the lingering low awareness of certain rights, there has been a marked improvement in the willingness of women to seek support and protect their rights. Moreover, the perception of community support has strengthened significantly, indicating a broader societal commitment to ensuring the well-being and protection of vulnerable individuals.

In conclusion, Outcome 3 was achieved through a concerted effort to raise awareness, build capacity, and foster collaboration among stakeholders. While there is still work to be done, the progress made underscores the transformative power of targeted interventions in safeguarding the rights of women and children left behind.

Outcome 4: National and regional and local government identify and plan to implement evidence-based responses to ‘families left behind’.

National, regional and local government identify and plan to implement evidence-based responses to ‘families left behind’. Ensuring that evidence on ‘Families Left Behind’ is available to guide policy planning (Output 4.1), Fora are available to facilitate policy and implementation planning at National and district levels (4.2) Policy guidance on families left behind is available (4.3).

Links to the SDGs

Outcome 4, which focuses on ensuring evidence-based responses to families left behind, aligns with SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by addressing economic hardships and social exclusion. Output 4.2, which establishes fora for policy and implementation planning, contributes to SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by promoting participatory decision-making and strengthening institutions. Finally, Output 4.3, which aims to provide policy guidance on families left behind, supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by improving access to healthcare, promoting gender equality, and fostering economic opportunities for all members of society. Together, these outputs demonstrate the strategy’s alignment with multiple SDGs, reflecting its comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of families left behind.

Summary of results from Output 4.1

- **Baseline and endline assessments conducted** to assess the situation of vulnerable women and families of migrant workers in the two target districts.
- **Study conducted on the conditions and behaviors of the phenomenon of “families left behind” by migrant workers.** Targeting diverse stakeholders, the study identified stress on family environments due to arranged marriages and labor migration. Results, findings, and recommendations were presented to government officials in October 2022.

- **Monthly Coordination Meetings:** Facilitating collaboration, these meetings engage diverse stakeholders, sharing project progress, addressing challenges, and adjusting implementation strategies. Periodic involvement of high-level authorities enhances project awareness and responsiveness.
- **Establishment of Working Group under MoHSPP:** The UN's advocacy led to the creation of a working group focusing on child welfare in the social service workforce. The group, mandated by an internal decree, analyzes legal acts, maps the workforce, assesses service quality, supporting evidence-based decision-making and policy formulation until 2030.
- **Birth Registration Initiative:** Acknowledging challenges in birth registration, especially for migrant families, the UN addressed barriers like document unavailability and potential fines. This initiative reflects commitment to overcoming legislative obstacles for timely birth registrations, vital for children and families affected by migration.
- The UN and the Re-training Institute collaborated to **implement a training programme conducted on State Registration of Births** in Kulyab and Dusti. **45 local government officials attended benefitting** from sessions on state registration of births, adoption, guardianship, and juvenile justice. The collaborative effort fosters interagency cooperation, aiming to improve support systems for children left behind by migrant family members.

Summary of results from Output 4.2:

- **The UN successfully mainstreamed gender into the National Migration Strategy 2030.** The Government of Tajikistan increased its commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment through policy development, coordination efforts, and practical initiatives to promote women's rights.
- **Contributed to the development of the draft Law on the State Budget of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2024 and instructions on State Budget indicators for 2023-2025,** working with the national working group at the Ministry of Finance.
- **Two permanent District Task Forces were established in Kulyab and Dusti.** Throughout the project implementation, **a series of 14 national Government capacity-building workshops and meetings were conducted** in Kulyab city and Dusti district. The primary focus of these sessions was to address the unique needs of families left behind, providing targeted support mechanisms to facilitate their active engagement.

Summary of results from Output 4.3:

- **600 respondents** were surveyed as part of a Rapid Assessment exposing gender disparities, education challenges, and financial struggles within migrant families affected by the Ukrainian crisis and pandemic. The insights garnered proved pivotal, shaping government decisions and strategies to support affected individuals.
- **UN spearheaded Gender-Responsive Budgeting in Tajikistan and** the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan has, as a result, committed itself to roll-out GRB in Tajikistan in 2023-2024.
- In total, **20 civil servants from the relevant ministries and local governments** increased their knowledge, skills and competencies in the development and implementation of GRB using UN piloted products: get sector analysis, training module, guide on practical GRB implementation.
- **20 individuals from targeted ministries** were empowered to fortify gender mainstreaming in policy development. The collaborative effort not only ensured sustainable impact but also strengthened partnerships among stakeholders.
- PUNOs played a crucial role in **shaping Tajikistan's National Migration Strategy 2030**, transforming it from a gender-neutral draft to a comprehensive document that addresses the multifaceted nature of women's vulnerability. This involved restructuring, gender analysis, introducing gender-specific indicators, and incorporating gender-sensitive language and actions.

Summary of results from Outcome 4:



Several key contributions led to the achievement of Outcome 4. **Assessments and situation analyses conducted under the project provided essential data for evidence-based policy-making at national and local levels**, mainly focusing on the beneficiaries and less on stakeholders' capacity and needs. This included extensive research initiatives focusing on the needs and priorities of beneficiaries, such as wellbeing, economic inclusion, and access to rights. By providing reliable information on the families affected by migration, the project facilitated the creation of beneficiary lists, enabling authorities to identify vulnerable communities and provide necessary services.

National and local capacities for designing and implementing enabling policies and services addressing vulnerabilities improved through technical support, awareness raising, and training initiatives. This involved engaging with stakeholders, including national and local authorities, financial institutions, and other actors, to enhance their capacity and willingness to address the challenges faced by families left behind.

The project actively engaged with government entities to advocate for the integration of 'Families Left Behind' considerations into national policies and strategies. For example, collaboration with the Ministry of Labor, Migration, and Employment of Population (MoLMEP) led to contributions to the National Migration Strategy 2030, where women's needs addressing protection, support, employment, and economic activities were integrated. The project also provided assistance to enhance social protection and gender considerations in the strategy, ensuring that the needs of families left behind were adequately addressed. UN Women contributed significantly to gender-responsive budgeting initiatives, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. This included offering training sessions, developing training modules and materials, and training key stakeholders on GRB in socio-economic aspects of migration. The project also developed a comprehensive report on gender budget analysis and supported the development of an algorithm for collecting data and information for gender budget analysis, further advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in Tajikistan.

Significant efforts were made for advocacy on vulnerable families left behind by migrant workers. The launch of a migration multimedia portal aimed to raise awareness about the impacts of migration, particularly on families, women, and children left behind, further contributing to evidence-based responses. Overall, these interventions and collaborations led to the identification and planning of evidence-based responses to 'Families Left Behind' at the national, regional, and local levels, aligning with Outcome 4 objectives.

Results Reporting Framework						
INDICATORS	Target	Results achieved for the reporting period (only provide data for the specified year)			Cumulative Results <i>Note: For Y1 report, this will be the same; For Y2 report, it will be Y1+Y2; and for Y3 report, it will be Y1+Y2+Y3</i>	Notes
		Y1	Y2	Y3		
OUTCOME 1 Families left behind enjoy improved wellbeing						
Indicator 1a: % of targeted women and children left behind who report improved wellbeing as a result of receiving psychosocial support, disaggregated by sex and age.	50% (100 out of 200 women left behind)	-	58.1%	69.5%	69.5%	Baseline assessment concluded that 58.1% of women received psychosocial support, whereas the endline showed 64.8% of women reported improved wellbeing as a result of accessing these support services. An increase of 12%.
Indicator 1b: % of children at risk of being placed in Residential childcare institutions found alternative family-based solutions and were prevented from institutionalization	50% (100 out of 200 children of women left behind)	-	100 children (100%)	104 children (104%)	208 children - 208%	The project planned to support 100 children out of 200 that were identified as at risk. However, by the end of Y3, the project was able to support a total of 208 children with additional support through social accompany, legal, medical, and educational support to children with disabilities and other children at risk of being placed in the residential childcare institutions.
OUTPUT 1.1: Service providers at local level have enhanced capacity to provide continuum of psychosocial services for women and children left behind						

<p>Indicator 1.1a: # of women and children who have received social services, disaggregated by sex and age</p>	<p>400 (200 women, 200 children)</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>100 children 100 women</p>	<p>100 children 190 women</p>	<p>490 (200 children [115 girls and 85 boys] 290 women)</p>	<p>A total of 200 children and 290 women received social support services in two target districts.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1b: # of training participants sensitized on issues of women and children left behind during advocacy events, disaggregated by sex</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>161 (101 caregivers and 60 children)</p>	<p>161 (101 caregivers [84 women and 17 men] and 60 children [28 boys and 32 girls])</p>	<p>A total of 25 participants sensitized on issues of women and children left behind during advocacy events, disaggregated by sex in two target districts.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1c: Level of awareness, response and coordination of available services between officials dealing with women and children issues at local level (Scale from 0-3: Officials are aware about issues – 1 point; there is a functional coordination mechanism – 1 point; Officials respond to issues – 1 point)</p>	<p>3 points</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>2 points</p>	<p>2 points</p>	<p>1. Presented two research studies to partners and involved Government Agencies: conditions and behaviours associated with families left behind by IOM and impact of the Ukraine crisis on the households with labour Migrants by UN Women (research = awareness, 1 point) 2. Roundtable on presentation of situational analysis of WLB on psychosocial and economic situation (Roundtable = coordination mechanism, 1 point)</p>

<p>Indicator 1.1d: # of maternity ward staff (in targeted districts) with knowledge and skills to provide family counselling and support to prevent child abandonment and relinquishment, disaggregated by sex</p>	100	0	104 (101 women and 3 men)	0	104 (101 women and 3 men)	The number of participants exceeds the project target, which was 100.
<p>Indicator 1.1e: # of para-social workers trained who demonstrate increased knowledge on modern methods and techniques of social services, disaggregated by sex</p>	50	0	30	50	80 (60 women and 20 men)	A total of 8 training courses were conducted for social workers in Kulob and Dusti. The training program was tailored based on training needs assessment and includes topics related to Child Rights, Case Management, and Psychosocial support.
<p>Indicator 1.1f: # of participants at advocacy events, disaggregated by sex</p>	120	0	70	80	150	Sex disaggregation not available.
OUTCOME 2 Families left behind have increased economic resilience and address gender related barriers to economic inclusion						
<p>Indicator 2a: % of target families with increased savings</p>	75%	-	-	11%	11%	10.8% (30 respondents) reported they had saved or set aside money to start or grow a business or farm

Indicator 2b: % increase in incomes for households participating in agricultural support	20% increase	42%	Less than 500 TJS	-	18%	Less than 500 TJS	15%	Almost 25% of the respondents indicated that the main source of their household comes from the following sources: in their own farming and raising animals, family business/freelancer activity and work for someone else for pay
		26%	Between 501 – 1000 TJS		25%	Between 501 – 1000 TJS		
		4%	Between 1001-3000 TJS		41%	Between 1001-3000 TJS		
Indicator 2c: % Post-harvest losses of projects beneficiaries due to better land and water management, improved farming capacities, access to technology, etc	30%	No data could be collected at the baseline as there were insufficient survey responses on harvest losses.		-	30%	8.7%	The post-harvest losses could not be calculated due to missing data. Only 19 reported quantities ranging from 15 to 1500 kg including quantities in different units i.e. bags. No data on the second part of the question: approximate quantity of crop(s) that was lost i.e. kilos of rice.	
Indicator 2d: % of trained women earning income in the area of vocational training	30%	-	26%	31%	30%			
Indicator 2e: % of target women reporting additional time free from unpaid/care work for other activity or education	15%	-	15%	28%	41%	375 women		
Indicator 2f: # of financial providers offering new tailored	3	-	-	3	3	Partnership was built with National Bank of Tajikistan to support		

products for 'families left behind or families of migrants'						these interventions. Additional financial literacy trainings were provided for reinforcing the targeted indicator
OUTPUT 2.1 Families left behind have increased capacity to utilize their land and water resources						
Indicator 2.1a: # women farmers trained	300	0	387	232	619	In total 619 women farmers were trained in Kulob city and Dusti district within the last two years of the project.
Indicator 2.1b: % trained women farmers reporting implementing learnt techniques	75%	0	0	68%	68% (204 beneficiaries)	From the initially planned 300 beneficiaries 204 women farmers reported implementing learnt techniques.
Indicator 2.1c: # of children trained, disaggregated by sex	1000	0	990	59	1049 [546 girls and 503 boys]	A total of 1,049 schoolchildren (506 in Dusti and 509 in Kulob) from 50 secondary schools benefited from the trainings.
OUTPUT 2.2 Families left behind have access to increased/improved local value chains (VC) through farming, small-scale processing initiatives, retail and marketing						
Indicator 2.2a: # of small plots established	320	0	115	200	315	
Indicator 2.2b: # of farmers and families benefitting from processing activities	250 (200 farmers / 50 families)	0	100	155	255	
Indicator 2.2c: # of person reached with awareness raising of best practices	1000	0	1000	1000	2000	Under the project PUNOs organized a series of awareness raising campaigns of best

						practices in the agriculture sphere.
OUTPUT 2.3 Women left behind have improved vocational skills to better access alternative employment						
Indicator 2.3a: # of women trained and acquired vocational skills	200	0	62	248	310	Vocational courses in two targeted areas were conducted in cooperation with the Centre for Elders' Education under the Ministry of Labour, Migration, and Employment of the Population.
OUTPUT 2.4 A government engaged gender assessment and mobilization process supports women to plan for livelihoods and dedicate more time to economic activity and community projects						
Indicator 2.4a: # of community mobilizers trained	20	0	0	22	22	
Indicator 2.4b: % of mobilizers with increased knowledge	85%	0	0	85%	85%	

Indicator 2.4c: # of self-help group participants	280 (individuals)	0	0	350	350	
Indicator 2.4d: # of families benefited from micro-projects and Community actions on the economy of care/unpaid work	500	0	0	600	600	
OUTPUT 2.5 Families left behind have improved financial inclusion and increased skills and knowledge to manage debt.						
Indicator 2.5a: # of beneficiaries trained	700	0	720	77	797	The project conducted 36 two-days trainings on financial literacy for 720 beneficiaries (20 WLB involved) in the last quarter of 2022 in 2 districts, the 77-figure linked to the trainings for Gov.
Indicator 2.5b: % of trainees improving their financial literacy (knowledge)	85%	0	85%	0	85%	As per pre and post training evaluation
Indicator 2.5c: # of financial providers (participants) attending workshops	60	0	67	0	67	Conducted capacity events in each target district

OUTCOME 3 Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights						
Indicator 3a: % of target women and children reporting increased intention to seek access to rights	75% Baseline 700	0	0	525 out of 700 women 75 %	75 %	In comparison with the baseline assessment the endline assessment shows that intention of women increased for 15 % and children increased for 24 % to seek access to rights
Indicator 3b: % of service users reporting satisfactory access to services	75% Baseline 1300	0	0	1020 out of 1300 children 78.8 %	78.8%	The endline assessment indicates 69% increase satisfactory access to services
Indicator 3c: % of target beneficiaries who report (i) increased knowledge of rights and (ii) community support for rights	95 % (I) 70 % (II) Baseline 2000	0	0	740 women/ family members (I) 1400 women/ family members (II)	37% women/ family members 70% women/ family members	During the project realization were disseminated all relevant information to increase their knowledge to more than 2000 beneficiaries. However, the information was not absorbed as we expected.
Indicator 3d: % of adolescents acquired skills and competencies to transition to work life	20 %	17%	17%	18%	18%	
Indicator 3e: % of targeted women seeking psychosocial and emotional support services disaggregated by age.	80 %	0.4%	0.4%	9%	9%	For people in Tajikistan is not common to use the psychosocial and emotional support services as this is not aligned with social comprehension.
OUTPUT 3.1 Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights						
Indicator 3.1a: # of women and children who received legal, social and protection	2000	0	2100	1512	3612	

support service /referrals, including birth registration						
Indicator 3.1b: # of women and girls who received integrated community based sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) services	200	0	680	520	1200	This number includes cases from both Kulob city and Dusti district
Indicator 3.1c: # of service providers who are aware of legal issues faced by women left behind	100	0	32	115	147	Conducted trainings on care work, SGBV referral mechanism, and service providers
OUTPUT 3.2 Women and girls left behind have increased individual and community support and knowledge of their rights						
Indicator 3.2a: # of people reached through awareness campaigns on [rights and protections, social inclusion, SGBV]	102,000	0	88025	37725	125,750	PUNOs jointly conducted advocacy and awareness campaigns to ensure women and girls left behind have increased individual and community support and knowledge of their rights
Indicator 3.2b: # of activists/advocates active, disaggregated by sex.	20	0	-	40	40 (10 men, 30 women)	
Indicator 3.2.c: # of CSOs capacitated	20	0	23	22	45	The preparatory steps are made on GALS

						approaches to work with the beneficiaries
Indicator 3.2.d: # of individuals benefited from micro-projects and community activities on Elimination of Violence Against Women	600 (each activity affects at least 100 inhabitants)	0	0	600	600	
OUTPUT 3.3 Adolescents left behind have support and knowledge of life competencies						
Indicator 3.3a: # of female caregivers trained on parenting, psychosocial and emotional support	200 direct 400 indirect	0	Direct 114 Indirect 500	Direct 152 Indirect 700	266 (254 women, 12 men) 1200 Indirect beneficiaries	112 parents and guardians (12 men, 100 women) took part in the training in Dusti. 154 parents and guardians took part in the training in Kulab (all were women). Indirect beneficiaries 1200
Indicator 3.3b: # of adolescents from the grade 8 to 11 from targeted schools will participate in life skills/competencies programme	900 (in 15 schools)	0	563	339	902 (337 boys and 565 girls)	902 Student Council members from 15 targeted schools attended two-day trainings on life skills and competencies to be resources for their schools.

<p>Indicator 3.3c: # of adolescents to participate in competency-based education for outdoor learning</p>	<p>240 (in 3 camps)</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>269</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>269 adolescents (196 boys and 73 girls)</p>	<p>Summer camps were arranged for children in Varzob, Romit, and the Shirkent gorge.</p>
<p>Indicator 3.3d: # of adolescents supported with psychosocial support, community-based rehabilitation and diverted from justice processes</p>	<p>80</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>40</p>	<p>40</p>	<p>80</p>	
<p>Indicator 3.3e: % increase in perceptions and attitudes of adolescents who took part in competency-based and skills development programme (Scale from 0-3: Adolescents are aware about competency-based and skills development programme – 1 point; adolescents took part in competency-based and skills development programme – 1 point; adolescents use acquired skills – 1 point)</p>	<p>20% increase among targeted group out of 900 adolescents</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>296</p>	<p>200</p>	<p>55% 3-points</p>	<p>496 adolescents took part in the competency and skills development programme.</p>

OUTCOME 4 National and regional and local government identify and plan to implement evidence-based responses to 'Families left Behind'						
<p>Indicator 4a: Existence of policy guidance on families left behind, in line with international standards, developed, approved and implemented.</p> <p>[Developed = 1, submitted =2, approved = 3, implemented =4]</p>	2	-	-	3	3	
<p>Indicator 4b: District Task Forces are functional in 2 districts.</p> <p>[1= include gender responsive activities in Local development Plans, 2= Activities are budgeted, 3 = Activities are implemented.]</p>	2	-	-	2	2	
OUTPUT 4.1 Evidence on 'Families left behind' is available to guide policy planning						
<p>Indicator 4.1a: # of assessment/ research reports disseminated</p>	3	-	3	0	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Impact of the Ukraine Crisis on the Households with Labour Migrants UN Women. 2. The study on the conditions and behaviors associated with

						<p>families left behind of Tajik labor migrants.</p> <p>3. Assessment of psychosocial and economic status of women affected by migration in Dusti and Kulob UNICEF</p>
<p>Indicator 4.1b: # of individuals of related ministries, whose technical and managerial capacities on prioritization for Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in socio-economic aspects of migration and diagnostics of systemic GRB financing bottlenecks are <u>supported</u> by knowledge and data</p>	<p>20 staff of 3 ministries (MoF, MEDT, MoLEMP)</p>	-	20	5	25	<p>More than 20 individuals from 3 targeted ministries (MEDT, MoF, MoLMEP & line-ministries), increased technical and managerial capacities on prioritizations for GRB in socio-economic aspects during the project implementation.</p>
<p>Indicator 4.1c: # of knowledge products introduced to the officials of MoF, MoLE, MEDT.</p>	2	1	1	-	2	<p>1. Assessment of psychosocial and economic status of women affected by migration in Dusti and Kulob.</p> <p>2. The study on the conditions and behaviours associated with families left behind of Tajik labour migrants</p>

OUTPUT 4.2 Fora are available to facilitate policy and implementation planning at National and district levels						
Indicator 4.2a: # of District Task Force meetings held	7 (quarterly after trainings)	-	12	3	15	Monthly coordination meetings in Dusti and Kulob with local authorities IOM/UNICEF
Indicator 4.2b: # of senior officials participating in consultation and learning visits [Deputy Minister or above)	45 (25 on GRB)	-	9	25 (on GRB)	34	Participation of the Minister of Labor, Migration and Employment in high level event in UN HQ and St. Petersburg
Indicator 4.2c: # of District Task Forces capacitated on GRB, with focus on migration sector.	2	-	2 (permanent DTF)	2 (permanent DTF)	4	9 training were provided for the District Task Forces in Kulyab and Dusti
OUTPUT 4.3 Policy guidance on families left behind is available						
Indicator 4.3a: # of stakeholders [orgs/departments] participating in development and review of policy input	20	-	42	-	42	PUNOs met with MoLMEP to provide their support with integrating of families left behind in the National Migration Strategy.

						<p>The draft of the National Migration Strategy 2030 has been gender mainstreamed.</p> <p>20 individuals from 3 targeted ministries (MEDT, MoF, MoLMEP), will increase technical and managerial capacities on prioritizations for GRB in socio-economic aspects of migration and diagnostic of systemic GRB financing bottleneck</p>
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3. Partnerships

Implementation Agreements			
Name & Type of Partner	Type of implementation agreement (please specify if any MOU or agreement was formally entered)	Relevant outcome and/or output; PUNO counterpart	Financial value (if any)
Local government and/or related entities			
<i>Name of partner</i> <i>Type of partner</i>	Technical support for the Youth committee of the Dusti district was provided by IOM	<p>Technical equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desktop Computer – 10 • Monitor – 10 • UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) - 10 • Voltage stabilizer – 1 • Expansion cord – 1 • Multifunction LaserJet Printer (3 in 1) - 1 • Projector – 1 • Laptop – 1 • Solar system • Water system <p>Outcome 2: Families left behind have increased economic resilience and address gender related barriers to economic inclusion</p> <p>Output 2.5 Families left behind have improved financial inclusion and increased skills and knowledge to manage debt.</p> <p>Outcome 3 Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights</p> <p>Output 3.1 Government and NGO services have increased capacity to provide access to information and legal services on issues of family violence, access to land, civil status, migration and family tracing.</p>	USD 23,054
<i>Name of partner</i> <i>Type of partner</i>	Technical support for 2 District Task Forces (in Dusti and Kulyab) was provided by UN WOMEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 laptops with bags • 2 overhead projectors • 2 laptop software • 2 Screens (apprx. I-VIEW 150x150 M) • 2 Printers <p>Outcome 4 National and regional and local government identify and plan to implement</p>	USD 8.640

		evidence-based responses to 'Families left Behind'.	
Non-governmental stakeholders			
<i>Public Organization "Akhtari Bakht"</i>	Project Implementation Agreement	<p>Outcome 2: Families left behind have increased economic resilience and address gender related barriers to economic inclusion</p> <p>Output 2.5 Families left behind have improved financial inclusion and increased skills and knowledge to manage debt.</p> <p>Outcome 3 Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights</p> <p>Output 3.1 Government and NGO services have increased capacity to provide access to information and legal services on issues of family violence, access to land, civil status, migration and family tracing.</p> <p>Outcome 4 National and regional and local government identify and plan to implement evidence-based responses to 'Families left Behind'</p> <p>Output 4.2a # of District Task Force meetings held</p>	USD 33,603.94
<i>Public Organization "Mayram"</i>	Project Implementation Agreement	<p>Outcome 2: Families left behind have increased economic resilience and address gender related barriers to economic inclusion</p> <p>Output 2.5 Families left behind have improved financial inclusion and increased skills and knowledge to manage debt.</p> <p>Outcome 3 Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights</p> <p>Output 3.1 Government and NGO services have increased capacity to provide access to information and legal services on issues of family violence, access to land, civil status, migration and family tracing.</p> <p>Outcome 4 National and regional and local government identify and plan to implement evidence-based responses to 'Families left Behind'</p> <p>Output 4.2a # of District Task Force meetings held</p>	USD 33,603.94
<i>The Branch of Good Neighbors International in Tajikistan</i>	Program Document for the implementation of the Program	<p>Outcome 1 Families left behind enjoy improved wellbeing</p> <p>Output 1.1 Service providers at local level have enhanced capacity to provide continuum of</p>	USD 190,415,00

	<p>“Empowering women and children left behind by migrants in Kulob and Dusti”</p>	<p>psychosocial services for women and children left behind</p> <p>Outcome 2 Families left behind have increased economic resilience and address gender related barriers to economic inclusion</p> <p>Output 2.3 Women left behind have improved vocational skills to better access alternative employment</p> <p>Outcome 3 Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights</p> <p>Output 3.1 Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights</p> <p>Output 3.3 Adolescents left behind have support and knowledge of life competencies</p>	
<p><i>PO “Gender and Development”</i></p>	<p>Partner Agreement Signed: 20/04/2022 Expires: 30/04/2023</p>	<p>Outcome 2: Families left behind have increased economic resilience and address gender related barriers to economic inclusion</p> <p>Output 2.4. A government engaged gender assessment and mobilization process supports women to plan for livelihoods and dedicate more time to economic activity and community projects</p> <p>Outcome 3: Women and children left behind are protected and seek to protect their rights</p> <p>Output 3.2. Women and girls left behind have increased individual and community support and knowledge of their rights</p>	<p>USD 160.963,00</p>

4. Cross-Cutting Issues

The project effectively took into consideration the vulnerabilities of women and children affected by migration, drawing from gender responsive and child-sensitive approaches. Developed in collaboration with UN partner agencies, the project integrated strategies such as UN Women's GALS and GRB, FAO's market for the poor approach, disability inclusion, and activities targeting challenges related to women's livelihoods, encompassing access to rights, wellbeing, and economic inclusion. Collaborative efforts with the key stakeholders, such as the Committee on Women and Family Affairs (CoWFA), further enhanced the project's integration of cross-cutting issues. In some cases, the beneficiaries were more actively engaged in the implementation, playing a role in decision-making processes and tailoring activities, promoting ownership and sustainability.

Engagement of beneficiaries in the project implementation as well as in appropriate decision-making processes contributed to sustainability and more effective project implementation

The beneficiaries were active participants in the project activities and, in some cases, were involved in making decisions on the direction of the interventions. FAO supported establishing 19 informal women beneficiary groups that selected their leader to facilitate collaboration with the project team. This approach enabled the project to engage with the beneficiaries living in remote locations. These groups also contributed to peer-to-peer support among those women suffering from similar vulnerabilities. Several informants reported consulting with the beneficiaries throughout the implementation processes to tailor activities and adapt to changing needs. Following the vocational training on wool processing, the beneficiaries decided where to establish the workshops in their respective districts and expressed their commitment to continue collaborating as a group to create their small businesses in Kulob and Dusti.

Human Rights Integration

The JP consciously embedded human rights principles within its design and execution. The project was developed with a people-centered approach, emphasizing the rights of women and children affected by migration. This integration fostered an environment where the rights of the beneficiaries were at the forefront. For instance, activities related to access to rights, children's rights, and participation in decision-making directly addressed the human rights dimensions of the vulnerable groups, leading to tangible improvements in their well-being.

Gender-Responsive Approaches:

Gender responsiveness was a cornerstone of the JP's strategy, evident in the incorporation of gender-sensitive approaches and methodologies such as the UN Women Gender Action Learning System (GALS), Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB), and other gender-sensitive financial services.

The deliberate focus on gender-responsive approaches contributed significantly to empowering women beneficiaries. Through targeted interventions like vocational training and financial literacy, the JP not only addressed gender disparities but also facilitated economic inclusion, thereby realizing tangible benefits for women affected by migration.

Child-Sensitive Approaches:

In collaboration with the UN partner agencies, the project was developed to address the vulnerabilities of the target beneficiaries, integrating gender and child-sensitive approaches into the design and implementation processes. The

planned activities were directly related to responding to issues faced by women and children beneficiaries, including access to rights, children's rights and participation in decision-making, supporting children with disabilities, unpaid care work, and economic inclusion of women. The project document also refers to the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) objectives, human rights, and people-centered approaches. In this regard, the project emphasized different approaches in its design, including UN Women Gender Action Learning System, GRB methods, FAO Market for poor approach, gender-sensitive financial services, IOM vulnerability, and resilience frameworks, and the 'do no harm' principle to ensure integration of cross-cutting perspectives in project implementation. As part of the whole-of-government approach, the Committee on Women and Family Affairs (CoWFA) was involved, given their strong engagement on gender and network in the field. Moreover, it was planned to involve activists and women's self-help groups to provide ongoing feedback and contribute to project implementation. The project assessments and monitoring documents particularly integrated gender and child-responsive perspectives, although gender-disaggregated information was unavailable for some data. For example, the child sensitivity marker report needed to be submitted with the project reports. The project contributions to address vulnerabilities are outlined in the effectiveness section of this report, including improvement in well-being, economic inclusion, and access to rights.

5. Overall Impact on Results

The integration of these cross-cutting principles has substantially contributed to the overall success of the Joint Programme in several ways:

1. Inclusive and Sustainable Impact:

The integration of human rights principles ensured that the project outcomes were inclusive and aligned with the fundamental rights of the beneficiaries. This approach fostered a sense of ownership and sustainability among the targeted communities.

2. Empowerment of Women:

Gender-responsive approaches led to the empowerment of women beneficiaries, as reflected in improved economic inclusion, enhanced vocational skills, and increased awareness of women's rights. This, in turn, contributed to broader gender equality objectives.

3. Enhanced Child Well-being:

Child-sensitive approaches, particularly in response to challenges faced by children, resulted in improved outcomes related to their well-being. The adaptability demonstrated in addressing specific issues contributed to the positive impact on children affected by migration.

4. Community Engagement and Ownership:

The integration of cross-cutting principles facilitated community engagement and ownership. By recognizing and addressing the diverse needs and vulnerabilities of community members, the JP ensured that its interventions were relevant and impactful.

5. Policy Influence:

The commitment to human rights and gender equality principles was reflected in policy outcomes. The inclusion of gender equality commitments in the National Migration Strategy 2030 and other legislative initiatives showcased the broader influence of the JP beyond the immediate project outcomes.

6. Constraints, Adjustments, Lessons and Good Practices

The Joint Programme (JP) faced various constraints during its implementation, prompting strategic adjustments to enhance relevance, effectiveness, coherence, and coordination within the UN system. These challenges and corresponding adjustments are outlined below:

1. Staff retention and short project duration:

- High turnover of staff within UN agencies, implementing partners, and government offices was identified as a significant challenge. The short project duration compounded this issue, impacting the adaptability and efficiency of the project teams.

2. Incomplete monitoring data and lengthy approval processes:

- The PI/monitoring budget was lacking when compared to the sizeable PI/monitoring requirements. As a result, the Monitoring and Communications consultants were shared between the UN agencies. Due to the Agencies diverse hiring and on-boarding protocols, there were often periods where the consultant was not hired by the following agency on time and as a result the monitoring data for the project was frequently incomplete, limiting the availability of information on completed activities. Additionally, the internal approval processes for organizing events were lengthy, affecting the timeliness of project activities.

3. Global crises impacted timely delivery:

- The global crises, specifically the impact of COVID-19 and the Ukraine crisis, posed unforeseen challenges, affecting the timely delivery of project objectives. This particularly impacted the procurement of agricultural assets due to impacts on the global supply chain to Central Asia.
- In response to the crises, the project teams demonstrated flexibility and adaptability. Adjustments were made in project timelines and activities to accommodate the external challenges, showcasing the ability to respond effectively to unexpected constraints.

4. Overly ambitious goals and unrealistic targets:

- The project's goals and targets were unrealistic and were not aligned with the local context, scope, and duration of the project presented significant challenges.
- To address this constraint, adjustments were made where possible to realign project goals and targets with the local context, ensuring that objectives were both achievable and impactful. This involved a reassessment of project scope and a refinement of targets to enhance the feasibility of implementation.

5. Lack of human and financial capacity within local institutions:

- Weaknesses in capacity, both human and financial, within local institutions, including local authorities and NGOs, were identified as a challenge to sustaining project activities and outcomes past the project duration.
- To overcome this constraint, the project emphasized capacity building for local authorities and implementing partners. Recommendations were made to consider longer-term employment and competitive salaries to enhance staff retention, addressing human capacity constraints at the local level.

6. Unavailability of gender-disaggregated information:

- In general, data collection and analysis in Tajikistan by Government Agencies is low and is rarely shared with UN agencies. The unavailability of gender-disaggregated information in some data sets hindered a comprehensive assessment of certain project aspects.
- Efforts were made to enhance data collection mechanisms, with a specific focus on gender-disaggregated information. This adjustment aimed to improve the accuracy of reporting and ensure a more nuanced understanding of the project's impact on different beneficiary groups.

Lessons Learned:

These lessons learned are based on the evaluation findings and a workshop discussion with UN partners.

1. The term “left behind” perpetuates the existing stigma in the communities, causes discomfort among target beneficiaries, and does not sufficiently describe the intended beneficiary group.
2. A synergistic, multi-sectoral strategy coordinated among UN agencies leads to a stronger, holistic response.
3. Engaging relevant ministries, local authorities and local partners is key for ensuring smooth implementation, local ownership, and sustainability.
4. Overly ambitious goals and unrealistic targets that are not aligned with the local context, scope and duration of the project can cause significant challenges in implementation.
5. Integrating vulnerable families affected by migration into the process beyond their role as recipient (similar to the FAO beneficiary groups with a leader or women beneficiaries deciding where to host the workshops) will offer experiential opportunities to reinforce participants’ skills that will enhance their autonomy, self-esteem, and wellbeing.
6. One training or piece of equipment is not sufficient without support over time to practice applying learnings and utilizing tools.
7. Flexibility and adaptability are crucial when facing unexpected challenges, particularly when they significantly impact procurement and budget constraints.

Conclusion and Next Steps

Conclusions:

The project was fairly aligned with the beneficiaries' needs, and well aligned with government priorities, and the UN development agenda in Tajikistan. Close collaboration among the UN agencies with relevant mandates and expertise was effective in addressing complex migration issues through multi-sectoral and holistic approaches. The challenges related to ensuring government approvals, staff retention, and contracting service providers caused delays in project implementation. The global crises also affected the timely delivery, requiring the project teams to achieve maximum results in a short implementation period.

The project achieved substantial results, although some of its targets were not fully accomplished as envisioned. The project was well received by beneficiaries, particularly since it was one of the key initiatives supporting the vulnerable target families in those two districts. The women beneficiaries assessed themselves with a higher level of well-being and self-esteem, while even more reported receiving psychosocial and emotional support. The adolescent respondents felt happier with increased self-esteem but considered their overall wellbeing lower than before the intervention. The project also contributed to improved economic inclusion through enhanced vocational skills, improved income, an increase in paid work, and a better balance between the time invested in unpaid work and other activities for women. Their awareness of women’s rights and willingness to seek access to their rights increased considerably. Similar to women beneficiaries, more adolescents expressed their intention to ask for support in case of abuse.

The project's sustainability is underscored by its alignment with national and local policy and planning processes, and the enhanced capacity of service providers and beneficiaries. Challenges to the likely continuation of project benefits relate to limited financial resources, lack of needed follow-up support to beneficiaries and service providers, and engagement of key stakeholders (i.e., financial institutions). The vulnerable families would benefit from a follow-up initiative.

The project produced critical research and activities that laid the groundwork from which continued holistic support can be built to meaningfully improve the lives of vulnerable families most affected by migration.

Recommendations:

1. **UN agencies should continue collaboration to address migration issues through multi-sectoral, holistic approaches.** The project created an important base that began to address a complex, chronic and critical issue in Tajikistan. PUNOs involved in this project are well placed to continue building on the relationships and efforts created through this project. Continued coordinated implementation across the PUNOs will deepen its impact.
2. **Project partners and donors should commit to a longer-term investment.** The short project cycle limited the project team's ability to be nimble in response to major challenges. Therefore, the project cycle should be no less than 3 years. and possibly expanding to include other districts where concentrated groups of target beneficiaries reside.
 - a. Agricultural activities have seasonalities, and planning should account for these cycles.
 - b. Strengthening local institutional capacity
 - c. Providing financial support for those women beneficiaries who were trained, provide equipment to initiate their business, given that they don't have access to credit.
 - d. Provide grants/Help the beneficiaries to apply for grants (proposal writing), funding opportunities.
 - e. Further training on how to start and manage a business.
 - f. Psychosocial specialists to address mental health issues among beneficiaries.
 - g. Strengthening social service workforce.
 - h. Training events not only for a short duration. Continue with the vocational training, but consider assessing capacity prior to the training, adding new types of skills: different set of skills, especially digital, to enhance their capacity and open up more avenues for professions going forward, Language classes.
 - i. Building on existing national efforts: i.e. GRB initiated at the national level, through the project it was localized.
 - j. Provide childcare facilities to support women's participation in economic activities.
3. **Government involvement should be expanded by linking project efforts with government actions.** UN efforts are not sufficient for addressing these long-standing, complex issues. As mentioned by some partners, by expanding the specific roles and responsibilities of the government in policy and implementation efforts, stakeholders will have a vehicle to advocate for systemic changes to tackle the underlying causes of these issues, as well as improve the project's impact and sustainability.

Suggested activities that might be included in future projects:

 - a. Create a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder working group the focuses on reflections and recommendations to improve key policy and its implementation.

- b. Project activities conducted in the communities should directly involve local authorities with the intention of building the capacity and commitment by local authorities to continue those efforts as the project is phased out.
4. **Project management should be streamlined, consistent and locally based and include a strong monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) plan.** Coordinating multi-agency, multi-location projects can be complex. Streamlined and appropriately resourced staffing and systems will facilitate smooth, high-quality implementation. In addition, MEAL efforts should be streamlined across the agencies to ensure data is easily available for all stakeholders. A meaningful, well aligned MEAL plan will support evidence-based decision-making, planning, and communications.

Suggestions that might be included in future efforts:

 - a. Implementing partners and key expertise should be based in the target regions.
 - b. Enhance local staff retention by offering competitive salaries and longer-term employment aligned with the recommended longer project cycle.
 - c. Allocate sufficient time for their related project responsibilities to communications and evaluation staff based in each PUNO.
 - d. Streamline reporting process to reduce burden on the partners and project staff.
 - e. Create one beneficiary list for all PUNOs.
 - f. Involve the beneficiaries in decision-making processes, designing and implementing activities to strengthen relevance and sustainability.
 - g. Ensure sufficient time during the design phase to develop SMART indicators with realistic goals, targets and assumptions, so that the results reflect the change the project is expecting to demonstrate.
5. **The criteria for those included in this project should be expanded to better include those families most vulnerable due to migrant family members.** Family contexts are fluid, including the location and behavior of migrants. Target migrant groups exist across the country. Therefore, the criteria should be revised to be more inclusive of both the makeup of the family and where they reside. As part of the new criteria, new terminology should be developed to describe the new target beneficiary group in a way that is sensitive to their understanding.

Annex 1: Baseline Assessment

Annex 2: Endline Assessment

Annex 3: Final Evaluation

Annex 4: Study on the Conditions and Behaviours Associated with Families Left Behind by Tajik Labour Migrants

Annex 5: Communication and Visibility Plan

Annex 6: Success Stories from Families Left Behind Project

Annex 7: Rapid Care Analysis on Care Work/Gender Responsive Services and Care Solutions [UN Women]

Annex 8: Assessment of Families Whose Children are Placed in Residential Childcare Institutions. [UNICEF]

Annex 9: Referral Mechanism for Improving Migration Outcomes [All UN Agencies - *Tajik*]

Annex 10: Financial literacy workbook [IOM]

Annex 11: Financial literacy trainer's manual [IOM]

Annex 12: Impact of the Ukraine Crisis on the Households with Labour Migrants [UN Women]

Annex 13: Situation Analysis of Families Left Without Care to Improve Migration Outcomes in Khatlon Oblast [UNICEF]

Annex 14.1: Press release of bike parade [All UN Agencies]

Annex 14.2: Press release of roundtable [All UN Agencies]

Annex 14.3: Press release of PSCM [All UN Agencies]

Annex 14.4: Press release of journalist awareness raising [All UN Agencies]

Annex 15: Rapid Training Needs Analysis of Social Workers in Kulob and Dusti [UNICEF]

Annex 16: Report on One-Day Training on Rapid Assessment for Social Workers and Government Agencies [UNICEF]

