Annual Progress Report 2025:
Joint Programme in the High Impact Track

Reporting period: From the start date of the joint programme (JP) until 31 December 2025.

- *Please be succinct and to the point, focusing on the most important accomplishments and issues that you want to bring to the attention of the Joint SDG Fund at the global level.*
- *Please do not exceed the word limit for each narrative question.*
- *Please feel free to contact your main focal point in the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat for questions and support:*
    - *Food systems: Vittoria.Gemelli@un.org*
    - *Digital and Global Accelerator: Maya.Marquez@un.org*
    - *SDG Localization and SDG Investments (C2): Maria.Berenguer@un.org*

Submission deadline from RCOs on behalf of RCs and the JP team: 31 January 2026. Please submit this document through this link: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/ZQ8AFTeUr1

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COVER PAGE

JOINT PROGRAMME (JP) PROFILE:	
Country	Zimbabwe
JP title	Catalysing Investment into Renewable Energy for the Acceleration of the Attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals in Zimbabwe
Funding Round	
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Rate the overall performance of the JP:
Did the JP deliver its key results as planned in the ProDoc?

☐ **Unsatisfactory, Marginal Achievement**: Less than 50% of expected results delivered.
☐ **Satisfactory Achievement**: 50-75% of expected results delivered.
☐ **Very Good, Solid Achievement**: 100% of expected results delivered; implementation completed on schedule.
☐ **Exceptional, Outstanding Achievement**: 100% of expected results delivered ahead of schedule, with additional results or improvements delivered.

A. Results Narrative

The narrative section provides a succinct description of the progress and results achieved during this reporting period, as per the JP document, including the theory of change and results framework. Please be specific and focus on results, not process or activities, and use bullet points whenever possible.

1. Systems-level Transformation:

What overarching systems-level changes under your key transition area is the JP catalyzing? Please show the relationship between your JP's interventions and its longer-term strategic intent. Provide descriptions of emerging change in relevant areas of behavior, relationships, power dynamics and institutions, resources and mindsets as described below:

- *Behaviors: How are key stakeholders (government, private sector, civil society, communities) acting differently to accelerate the progress on SDGs and produce transformative impact?*
- *Relationships: What new forms of collaboration, coordination, or engagement have emerged among actors who previously worked in silos, with evidence that it has catalytic effect on the domain of change the JP is involved in?*
- *Power dynamics: How has decision-making authority or influence shifted towards more systemic impact across individual sectors, industries and policy issues? Who has gained voice or agency in processes that affect them?*
- *Resources: How does your JP influence change in the way financial resources are allocated, mobilized, or utilized more efficiently than before?*
- *Mindsets: What shifts in understanding, framing, or values are emerging about the challenges and solutions your JP addresses?*

(max 600 words)

In 2025, the Joint Programme (JP) shifted decisively from system design to system activation, demonstrating how targeted catalytic interventions can transform Zimbabwe's renewable energy ecosystem. By combining actual capital deployment, market-based investment governance, policy influence, and ecosystem-wide capacity building, the JP is changing how decisions are made, how capital flows, and how value is defined—accelerating SDG delivery beyond individual projects.

In 2025, the Programme shifted from activity-driven delivery to investment-led SDG acceleration. Through the Renewable Energy Fund, the JP supported direct investment in two solar projects: the Guruve Solar Park (USD 4 million) and the Mater Dei Hospital Solar Project (USD 785,000). These investments demonstrate that renewable energy projects in Zimbabwe can be both commercially viable and development oriented. Government institutions are increasingly engaging as strategic market stewards, shaping investment priorities rather than operating solely as regulators. Private developers and EPCs have responded by restructuring projects to meet bankability, ESG, and SDG impact requirements, while financial actors are applying renewable energy–specific risk assessment and blended finance approaches, accelerating capital deployment.

The JP catalysed new governance and coordination dynamics through the establishment of an Impact Committee in 2025 to support the Fund Manager, Old Mutual. Old Mutual retains full fiduciary responsibility and final authority for project selection, ensuring commercial discipline and investor confidence. The Impact Committee—comprising Government, UN, and private sector representatives—operates at an advisory level, providing structured guidance on alignment with the JP's SDG, climate, and inclusion objectives. This arrangement is catalytic: it preserves market-based decision-making while embedding public value considerations into private investment processes. It has improved transparency, strengthened trust among stakeholders, and created a replicable model for aligning private capital with national development priorities.

These arrangements are shifting power dynamics within the renewable energy sector. Investment influence is increasingly exercised through nationally anchored, multi-actor mechanisms, rather than externally driven or fragmented decision-making. At the same time, the JP expanded agency for underrepresented groups through the development of a Women in Energy Strategy in 2025. The Strategy embeds gender considerations into financing criteria, project pipelines, and institutional processes, positioning women not only as beneficiaries but as economic actors and leaders within the energy transition.

The JP's catalytic effect on resource flows is evidenced by the mobilisation of USD 11 million in actual capital in 2025, achieving a leverage ratio of approximately 1:2.75. Public and donor resources are used strategically to de-risk investments and crowd in private capital, shifting financing away from fragmented, project-based support toward portfolio-level investment aligned with national energy and climate priorities. This approach improves capital efficiency and strengthens sustainability beyond the Programme lifecycle.

The social, economic, and environmental impacts of the financed projects demonstrate how these system shifts translate into SDG outcomes. Socially, the Mater Dei Hospital solar installation improves energy reliability for essential health services, reducing vulnerability to power outages and enhancing service continuity for communities. The JP's ESG requirements and Women in Energy Strategy ensure that employment, skills development, and enterprise opportunities—particularly for women and youth—are embedded in project implementation. Economically, the projects reduce energy costs, improve institutional productivity, create local jobs during construction and operation, and strengthen domestic renewable energy value chains. Environmentally, the solar investments contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions, lower reliance on fossil fuels, and progress toward Zimbabwe's Nationally Determined Contributions.

These impacts are reinforced by ecosystem-wide ESG and SDG Impact Measurement Training delivered in 2025, reaching 68 participants (56% women) across government, finance, private

sector, academia, and civil society. The training has accelerated adoption of common standards and improved how impacts are measured, valued, and integrated into investment decisions. Complementing this, the JP produced a policy brief on renewable energy finance, translating policy intent into actionable recommendations that align regulation, financing instruments, and investment practice.

Taken together, the JP's 2025 investments, advisory governance, policy influence, and capacity-building efforts demonstrate a clear catalytic pathway: by aligning capital deployment, investment governance, and impact accountability, the Programme is enabling a self-reinforcing renewable energy system capable of sustaining and scaling SDG impact well beyond the Programme period.

2. Policy, regulatory, and capacity shifts :

What policy, regulatory, and capacity shifts has the JP contributed to achieving? Provide a narrative that includes:

- New or revised policies, regulations, or institutional frameworks developed and adopted at national or sub-national levels as result of the JP;
- Evidence of the broader impact of capacity-building initiatives introduced at scale (including new methodologies, training modules, or standard operating procedures);
- Describe how these changes align with national priorities;
- Describe how these changes support Cooperation Framework results, the Leaving No One Behind principle, and their catalytic effect for JP outcomes and for sustainability prospects.

(max 500 words)

In 2025, the Joint Programme (JP) contributed to a marked shift in Zimbabwe's renewable energy policy, regulatory posture, and institutional capacity by strengthening the enabling environment for private investment and aligning it to national development priorities. The JP's influence is evidenced through three interconnected pathways: policy and regulatory reform, institutional capacity strengthening at scale, and the adoption of standardized ESG and impact measurement practices that reinforce sustainability and accountability.

A key policy contribution in 2025 was the production and dissemination of a policy brief on renewable energy finance, which translated existing policy intent into actionable recommendations for financing instruments, risk mitigation, and investment governance. The brief has supported national dialogue on how to better align regulation, financing instruments, and investment practice, reinforcing Zimbabwe's energy transition objectives under the National Development Strategy and the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Although the JP does not directly legislate, the brief has catalysed policy coherence by creating a shared roadmap for public and private actors to mobilise finance and unlock bankable renewable energy projects.

Institutionally, the JP strengthened governance and coordination by establishing an Impact Committee to support the Fund Manager, Old Mutual. The Committee's multi-stakeholder composition (government, UN, and private sector) embeds public value considerations into private investment decision-making. While Old Mutual retains final authority and fiduciary responsibility, the advisory committee provides structured alignment to SDG, climate, and

inclusion objectives, creating a replicable governance model that can be adopted by other investment vehicles and government institutions. This shift strengthens institutional frameworks for blended finance and aligns investment practice with national priorities for energy security, economic growth, and climate resilience.

The JP's capacity-building initiatives in 2025 were implemented at scale and produced measurable institutional effects. A flagship ESG and SDG Impact Measurement Training reached 68 participants, of whom 56% were women, representing government, financial institutions, private developers, academia, and civil society. The training introduced standardized methodologies for ESG screening, safeguards, and impact measurement, supporting common standards across the renewable energy ecosystem. This has led to more consistent project appraisal, improved investor confidence, and stronger integration of social and environmental safeguards in investment decisions.

These capacity shifts directly support Cooperation Framework results by strengthening national institutions' ability to mobilise climate finance and deliver sustainable energy access, thereby accelerating SDG7 and SDG13 outcomes. The Women in Energy Strategy further reinforces the Leaving No One Behind principle by embedding gender considerations into financing criteria, project pipelines, and institutional processes, expanding women's agency as economic actors in the energy transition.

Overall, the JP's policy and regulatory influence, governance innovations, and standardized capacity-building have catalysed a more coherent, investment-ready renewable energy ecosystem. These shifts enhance sustainability prospects by aligning public and private action with national priorities, improving institutional effectiveness, and creating replicable models for future investment and policy reform.

3. Financing solutions and resource flows:

3.1. Complete the table below providing only actual US$ amount mobilized. Do not list potential resources expected to be mobilized in the future.

Source of Financing	Type of Source (e.g. PUNO, PPP, DFI, donors, private sector, etc.)	Planned amount in the ProDoc	Actual amount mobilized as of reporting date
Old Mutual Investment Group	Private Sector	$20M	$6M
		$	$
		$	$
TOTAL		**$**	**$**

3.2. What financing channels and pathways has the JP developed or influenced? Provide a narrative describing: the "deal room" or financing mix created; how the JP has influenced government budgets and/or broader financing flows; financial instruments, solutions, or processes developed; and any pipeline of investment-ready projects or initiatives established with public and private partners. Detail the financial leverage achieved and explain how these financing mechanisms and partnerships align with national and JP priorities.

(max 500 words)

In 2025, the Joint Programme (JP) catalysed a shift from conventional grant-based support to structured investment pathways that mobilise private capital for renewable energy. The central financing channel established is the Renewable Energy Fund (REF), a blended finance vehicle managed by Old Mutual. The REF functions as a "deal room" where catalytic public and donor resources are deployed to de-risk projects, strengthen bankability, and attract private sector investment.

The JP's catalytic influence is visible through the REF's investment governance and project selection ecosystem. In 2025, the JP established an Impact Committee comprising Government, UN, and private sector representatives. The Committee provides advisory oversight to the Fund Manager, ensuring investments align with SDG, climate, and inclusion objectives. Old Mutual retains final selection authority and full fiduciary responsibility, ensuring commercial discipline and investor confidence. This arrangement is catalytic because it embeds public value considerations into private investment decision-making without compromising market-based governance, creating a replicable model for SDG-aligned investment.

In 2025, the REF deployed USD 4,785,000 in confirmed capital through two solar projects: the Guruve Solar Park (USD 4,000,000) and the Mater Dei Hospital Solar Project (USD 785,000). These investments demonstrate that renewable energy projects in Zimbabwe can deliver both commercial returns and development impact. The JP's financing pathway has strengthened investor confidence and expanded the pool of bankable renewable energy projects by demonstrating the viability of blended finance structures in Zimbabwe.

A major financing pathway under development is the REF's Prescribed Asset (PA) application, now in its final approval stage. Once approved, the PA status will enable pension funds to allocate a mandatory share of their portfolios—by law, up to 20%—into prescribed assets. This would open a substantial, long-term source of domestic institutional capital for renewable energy and climate investments. The PA approval therefore represents a systemic financing lever that can scale the REF's impact beyond donor-supported catalytic capital.

The JP has also influenced broader financing flows by improving the enabling environment for renewable energy investment. The JP's policy brief on renewable energy finance translated policy intent into practical recommendations that align regulation, financing instruments, and investment practice. This supports government priorities for energy security, climate mitigation, and economic recovery, aligning with Zimbabwe's Nationally Determined Contributions and national development strategies.

At the ecosystem level, the JP strengthened capacity for ESG and SDG impact measurement, delivering training to 68 stakeholders (56% women) from government, finance, private sector, academia, and civil society. Importantly, participants included key decision-makers and technical leaders from institutions that directly shape investment processes and project approval standards. This means the training is positioned to drive institutional shifts in how organizations assess risk, integrate ESG safeguards, and measure impact—strengthening the credibility and scalability of blended finance across the sector.

Overall, the JP's financing channels and pathways align directly with national priorities for renewable energy, climate resilience, and inclusive economic growth. By activating a blended finance mechanism with robust governance, impact accountability, and an emerging pension fund investment pathway, the JP is creating a sustainable financing ecosystem capable of mobilising additional investment beyond the Programme's lifespan.

4. Strategic Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement

4.1. What type of partnerships has your JP established or is in the process of establishing? (Select all that apply)

☒ National Government Institutions (Please specify): Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority National Training Centre
☐ Sub-national Government Institutions (Please specify):
☐ International Financial Institutions & Development Finance Institutions (Please specify):
☒ Private Sector Companies or Industry Associations (Please specify): Old Mutual Investment Group, Renewable Energy Association of Zimbabwe
☐ Civil Society Organizations, Philanthropic Organizations and Foundations (Please specify):
☐ Academic/Research Institutions (Please specify):
☐ Bilateral Development Partners (Please specify):
☐ European Union (Please specify):
☐ Labour Unions or Organizations (Please specify):
☐ Others (Please specify):

4.2. Describe the strategic partnerships you have established focusing on the impact regarding financing and/or policy and systems change. Provide a narrative that: identifies the key partners selected above and explains the nature of engagement with each; and notes any formal partnership arrangements established (such as MOU or similar agreements). Explain how these partnerships have expanded the JP's reach, leveraged additional resources or expertise, and contributed to achieving results at scale.

(max 500 words)

The Joint Programme (JP) has established strategic partnerships that have been central to shifting Zimbabwe's renewable energy sector from fragmented project support to a coherent, investment-led system. These partnerships mobilise capital, strengthen policy coherence, and institutionalise SDG-aligned investment practices.

The REF is the JP's primary financing channel and the main mechanism for mobilising private capital into renewable energy. Old Mutual serves as Fund Manager with full fiduciary responsibility and commercial authority over project selection. The JP's partnership with Old Mutual has created a scalable investment platform capable of deploying capital at portfolio level, demonstrating that renewable energy investments can be both commercially viable and development oriented. This partnership delivered two confirmed investments in 2025—Guruve Solar Park and Mater Dei Hospital Solar Project—totaling USD 4.785 million.

In 2025, the JP established an Impact Committee to provide structured advisory oversight on investment alignment with SDG, climate, and inclusion objectives. The Committee includes representatives from government, UN, and the private sector. While Old Mutual retains final decision-making authority, the Impact Committee embeds public value into private investment decisions, strengthening transparency and stakeholder trust. This governance model is catalytic, creating a replicable mechanism for aligning private capital with national development priorities.

Government partners have engaged beyond regulatory roles to act as strategic market stewards. The JP has strengthened collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Power Development, ZERA, and the Ministry of Finance through policy dialogue, alignment of investment priorities, and institutional capacity building. These partnerships supported an enabling environment for blended finance, including the JP's policy brief on renewable energy finance and targeted engagement to advance the Fund's Prescribed Asset (PA) application. These institutional relationships are essential for embedding renewable energy finance within national planning and budgeting systems.

The JP partnered with REAZ to strengthen market coordination, improve private sector engagement, and support pipeline development for bankable renewable energy projects. REAZ has mobilised developer and EPC participation in the REF ecosystem, facilitated industry feedback on policy recommendations, and promoted adoption of ESG and impact measurement practices. This partnership expanded the JP's reach into the broader renewable energy industry, strengthening collective capacity and market readiness for investment.

The JP partnered with key institutions to deliver ESG and impact measurement training to 68 participants (56% women) from government, finance, private sector, academia, and civil society. The training targeted senior decision-makers and technical leaders who can institutionalise ESG and impact measurement within their organisations. This has accelerated adoption of standardized ESG practices, improved investment readiness, and strengthened the credibility of renewable energy projects.

The JP's Women in Energy Strategy was developed through partnerships with gender-focused organisations and institutions to integrate gender inclusion into financing criteria, project pipelines, and investment governance. This ensures women's participation is central to the energy transition, supporting economic empowerment and social inclusion.
Collectively, these strategic partnerships have expanded the JP's reach beyond individual projects by enabling systemic change in financing mechanisms, policy coherence, and institutional capacity. They have leveraged private capital, enhanced governance and transparency, and strengthened the enabling environment for sustainable renewable energy investment, creating a pathway for continued scale-up beyond the JP's lifecycle.

4.3. Describe the nature and outcomes of your joint programme's engagement with the EU to date. What specific actions are planned to strengthen EU involvement in 2026? Please highlight concrete opportunities to expand or diversify EU partnerships and investments in support of the JP's objectives, including any new areas for collaboration or co-financing.

(max 300 words)

To date, the Joint Programme (JP) has not engaged the European Union (EU) directly as a unified programme entity. However, individual UN participating agencies (PUNOs) have engaged the EU through policy dialogue and technical cooperation, sharing the JP's investment-led model and demonstrating its relevance to EU priorities on climate finance, energy transition, and sustainable development. These PUNO-level interactions have positioned the JP's Renewable Energy Fund (REF) as a credible example of blended finance that mobilises private capital for SDG-aligned renewable energy investment in Zimbabwe.

Although no formal EU co-financing arrangement exists at the JP level, the JP's 2025 results—particularly the confirmed investment of USD 4.785 million in two solar projects (Guruve Solar Park and Mater Dei Hospital)—have created a strong basis for deeper engagement. The JP's emerging Prescribed Asset (PA) pathway, which will enable pension funds to allocate mandated capital to renewable energy, offers a strategic entry point for EU support in mobilising long-term domestic institutional investment.

Planned actions for 2026 to strengthen EU involvement:

- Initiate formal JP-level engagement with the EU Delegation to present the REF's investment results and seek partnership opportunities for co-financing and technical assistance.
- Explore EU support for blended finance instruments, including guarantees, risk-sharing facilities, and first-loss structures to scale REF investment capacity and attract institutional investors.
- Leverage EU technical expertise to operationalise the renewable energy finance policy brief, supporting regulatory reforms and incentives for institutional capital mobilisation.
- Scale ESG and impact measurement capacity through EU-funded programmes, embedding international best practices into national standards.
- Broaden collaboration into new impact areas, including renewable energy for health and education facilities, green industrialisation, and women-led energy enterprises.

5. Constraints, Adjustments and Lessons Learned:

What key constraints or risks has the JP encountered during the reporting period, and how has the JP team responded? Provide a narrative describing: significant contextual, strategic, operational, or technical challenges faced; adjustments made or mitigation actions taken to strengthen the JP's relevance, effectiveness, and coordination; any measures introduced to enhance JP efficiency and reduce transaction costs (such as joint procurement, management arrangements, or monitoring mechanisms); and lessons learned—both positive and negative—about what worked well and what could have been done differently.

(max 500 words)

A key technical risk was uncertainty around the Prescribed Asset (PA) approval, which is critical for unlocking institutional pension fund capital. The JP has actively engaged government and regulatory stakeholders to support the PA process, recognising that PA status would significantly expand long-term domestic capital mobilisation. The led to the PA application being expedited reaching the final approval level of the regulating body by Q4 2025. Recognising that PA approval is critical for unlocking pension fund capital, the JP has implemented a dual-track mitigation approach to maintain momentum and continue mobilising private investment in the interim. While PA status is progressing through final regulatory approval, the JP is intentionally not targeting pension fund investors in its current outreach to avoid misaligned expectations and ensure compliance with existing investment rules.

Instead, the JP has intensified targeted marketing and investor engagement through a revised marketing strategy and expanded roadshow activities. This approach focuses on investors who can deploy capital under current regulatory conditions, including:

- Local and regional institutional investors operating within existing asset classes
- Private equity and impact investors with renewable energy mandates

- Commercial banks and DFIs seeking green investment opportunities
- Strategic corporate investors aligned to energy security and sustainability goals

The revised marketing strategy includes:

- A refreshed investor pitch and value proposition emphasizing bankability, ESG, and SDG impact
- Increased roadshows and investor forums to showcase the REF pipeline and confirmed investments
- Targeted engagement with developer networks and industry associations to strengthen deal flow
- Active alignment with existing regulatory frameworks to demonstrate readiness for pension fund participation once PA is approved.

This mitigation approach maintains investment momentum, strengthens the pipeline of bankable projects, and ensures that the REF remains investment-ready. It also positions the JP to rapidly scale pension fund participation immediately upon PA approval, thereby accelerating long-term domestic capital mobilisation.

Lesson Learnt: Regulatory approvals can take time, but proactive engagement and parallel mitigation can sustain investment momentum. While the PA application progressed to the final approval stage in Q4 2025, the JP maintained outreach to investors eligible under current regulations, strengthened the pipeline through targeted roadshows, and ensured the Fund remained investment ready. This dual-track approach positioned the JP to rapidly scale pension fund participation once PA status is granted, without disrupting progress in the interim.

6. 2026 Plans and Exit Strategy:

What are the JP's priorities for 2026 and beyond, to ensure sustained impact? Provide a narrative describing: 1) **key priorities for 2026** focused on financing and financial leverage, strategic partnerships, and transformative impact; 2) **the exit strategy** developed and how it is being mainstreamed throughout implementation to sustain transformative impact in the mid-to long-term, including mechanisms for resource mobilization, capacity strengthening, transfer of assets when applicable, phase-over of activities/services to local stakeholders and pathways for government and partner-led scaling after JP completion.

(max 500 words)

Priorities for 2026 and Beyond (Financing, Partnerships, and Sustained Impact)
In 2026, the Joint Programme (JP) will consolidate its investment-led approach to renewable energy financing, scaling catalytic capital deployment while strengthening the enabling environment for long-term institutional investment. Priority actions will focus on expanding the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) pipeline, enhancing financial leverage, and strengthening governance and market readiness through strategic partnerships.

1. Financing and Financial Leverage:
The JP will prioritise scaling the REF's capital base and accelerating investment deployment by:

- Securing Prescribed Asset (PA) approval and leveraging this status to unlock institutional pension fund capital, a major source of long-term domestic finance.

- Diversifying the investor mix by attracting domestic institutional investors, impact investors, DFIs, and strategic corporates through an expanded deal pipeline and targeted investor roadshows.
- Strengthening project readiness through standardized ESG and SDG impact requirements, ensuring projects meet investor expectations and national priorities. Initiate formal JP-level engagement with the EU Delegation to present the REF's investment results and seek partnership opportunities for co-financing and technical assistance.
- Explore EU support for blended finance instruments, including guarantees, risk-sharing facilities, and first-loss structures to scale REF investment capacity and attract institutional investors.

These actions will accelerate capital mobilisation while reinforcing the REF's role as a scalable, sustainable financing platform for renewable energy.

2. Strategic Partnerships and Transformative Impact:
The JP will deepen partnerships with government, regulators, and private sector actors to institutionalise investment practices and policy reforms. Key priorities include:

- **Government and regulator engagement** to operationalise policy recommendations and embed renewable energy finance into national planning and budgeting.
- **Private sector and industry partnerships** (including the Renewable Energy Association of Zimbabwe) to strengthen pipeline development, ESG adoption, and investment readiness.
- **Strengthening gender inclusion** through the Women in Energy Strategy by supporting women-led enterprises, skills development, and gender-responsive financing criteria.

These partnerships will accelerate systemic change by aligning incentives, strengthening coordination, and ensuring that renewable energy investment contributes to sustainable development outcomes.

Exit Strategy and Sustainability Pathways
The JP's exit strategy is designed to ensure that catalytic impacts are sustained beyond the programme lifecycle through institutionalisation, capacity strengthening, and resource mobilisation. Key elements include:

- Mainstreaming the REF as a national financing platform: The REF is structured as a self-sustaining investment vehicle with strong governance, allowing it to continue mobilising capital beyond the JP.
- Institutionalising investment governance: The Impact Committee model is being embedded as a replicable advisory mechanism to align private investment with national development objectives.
- Capacity strengthening and standards adoption: ESG and impact measurement practices are being mainstreamed within government, financial institutions, and project developers through training, SOPs, and standardized reporting frameworks.
- Scaling through government and private sector leadership: By strengthening policy frameworks, institutional capacity, and market readiness, the JP enables government and private actors to continue financing renewable energy projects independently.
- Resource mobilisation mechanisms: The PA pathway, blended finance instruments, and expanded investor engagement will create sustainable channels for domestic and international capital.

Together, these elements ensure the JP's transformative impact is sustained, scalable, and fully owned by national institutions and the private sector after the programme concludes.

B. Indicator-based Performance Assessment

B.1. The JP results framework and workplan (Excel)

Please assess the JP performance against the indicators identified in you JP's Prodoc annex: Integrated results framework and workplan, including 1) JP outcomes and outputs, and 2) JP workplan.

Please upload the completed excel file via the Microsoft online form (question 8).

B.2. Leaving No One Behind

Please indicate the number of direct beneficiaries from your JP to date. Direct beneficiaries are individuals, groups or organizations who actively participate in JP activities and directly benefit from its interventions, such as civil servants attending workshops, small business owners receiving training, or households accessing services provided by the JP.

Type of engagement	Total Number of People	Number of Women and Girls*	Number of Children (0-14)*	Number of youth (ages 15-24)*
Training/workshops for targeted groups	68	38		20
Awareness raising campaign for broad audience	0	0	0	0
Dialogues/consultations with relevant stakeholders	45	18	0	0
Coordination meetings with key partners	30	12	0	0
Access to expanded services	0	0	0	0
Others (Please specify): ____				

** Note that it is allowed to have overlaps in the reporting of women/girls and children/youth columns.*

B.2.a. Has the JP demonstrated positive results and influence for youth (age 15-24 years) in accordance with the principles in Youth2030 Strategy. If yes, please describe your contributions to the Youth2030 Strategy.

(max 200 words)

The Joint Programme (JP) has demonstrated clear and positive results for youth aged 15–24 years, in alignment with the UN Youth2030 Strategy, particularly in the areas of skills development, economic empowerment, inclusion, and meaningful participation in sustainable development. Through the Programme, IN 2025 over 200 students—approximately 50 percent women—were trained at the ZESA National Training Centre using upgraded equipment and strengthened institutional capacity developed with JP support, enhancing youth employability and technical readiness for the renewable energy and power sectors. The JP also delivered ESG and SDG impact measurement training to young professionals and entrepreneurs, strengthening their ability to develop bankable, high-impact renewable energy projects aligned with international sustainability standards. In addition, the Women in Energy Initiative integrates youth perspectives, supports young women's leadership, and addresses structural

barriers to participation in the energy sector. Collectively, these interventions position youth as skilled contributors and emerging leaders in Zimbabwe's just and inclusive energy transition.

B.2.b. In bullet points, please provide a summary of how the JP is benefiting the marginalized and vulnerable groups identified in the ProDoc. Include results to which you have contributed at both institutional/policy and local/human levels. Please find the 20 standard LNOB groups in footnote 28 on page 17 of the UNSDG Output Indicator Framework's Implementation Guide. You can also consult the human rights checklists on digital transformation, food systems transformation, and social protection and jobs to inform your responses. (NB: PUNOs may need to request access first).

(max 200 words)

The Joint Programme has financed inclusive renewable energy projects that deliver both system-level and human-level benefits for marginalised and vulnerable groups. The Guruve Solar Park (Upgrade to10 MW) is a women-owned, grid-connected project with strong youth participation and a Community Share Ownership Trust (CSOT) that reinvests dividends into local clinics, schools, irrigation, and productive uses. The Mater Dei Hospital Solar Project (720 kW) provides reliable clean energy to Zimbabwe's largest private hospital, safeguarding critical health services, training functions, and employment.

- Women and girls: Women-owned and women-led governance at Guruve; improved access to uninterrupted maternal, paediatric, and women's health services at Mater Dei.
- Youth (15–24): High youth participation and decent jobs at Guruve; technical, ESG, and impact-measurement skills pathways through technical and non-technical training.
- People living in poverty & rural populations: CSOT dividends, rural job creation, solar-powered clinics, irrigation, and productive-use infrastructure.
- Children: Electrified schools and reliable paediatric and emergency healthcare services.
- People with health vulnerabilities: Reliable power for diagnostics, dialysis, surgery, and rehabilitation services.
- Women-headed households: Income security and leadership opportunities through women-led renewable energy enterprises.
- Climate-vulnerable populations: Emissions reductions and resilient energy supply for health, water, and food systems, supporting adaptation and continuity of essential services.

B.3. Reporting against JSDGF global indicators
Kindly provide progress made against the following Fund-level indicators.

Enabling Action areas:

Indicators	Progress in 2025
Number of integrated policies/regulatory frameworks that have been both adopted and show early evidence of systems change (e.g., increased cross-sector coordination, enhanced resource allocation, improved service delivery integration) with Joint SDG Fund support	Progress: 1 integrated framework adopted and operationalised • Renewable

	Energy Fund (REF) established and operationalised (Sept 2024) and rolled out in 2025. • REF is being actively promoted by the Ministry of Energy as the financing mechanism under the Renewable Energy Policy, demonstrating integration between policy and financing. • Early systems change is evidenced through coordinated investment decisions and structured financing approvals for renewable energy projects, enabling private sector participation aligned to SDG 7, 9 and 11.
Number of policy innovations or regulatory reforms that have been replicated or scaled beyond initial target areas/sectors with Joint SDG Fund support	• Women in Energy Strategy originated as an innovation strategy proposed by the Ministry of Energy and Power Development through a steering committee to capture the needs of women in renewable energy beyond the activities of the programme. • ZimREF scaled

	this innovation into a national Women in Energy Strategy, expanding its scope and institutional reach. • The strategy is positioned to inform policy and regulatory approaches, including gender-responsive renewable energy planning, financing, and project implementation. • As part of supporting market readiness and enabling frameworks, the programme completed the development of the policy brief on Blended Finance for Renewable Energy Investment in Zimbabwe, which will help mobilize new financing flows and attract investors.
Number of new or strengthened institutional mechanisms (e.g., coordination bodies, implementation units, multi-stakeholder platforms) that demonstrate improved cross-sector integration in SDG implementation	• Establishment and operationalization of the Development Partner Renewable Energy Group (DevPREG) as a national coordination and resource mobilisation

	platform to develop a market-ready renewable energy project pipeline.
Number of government entities, both at the central and sub-national levels, that have restructured their planning, budgeting or implementation processes to enable integrated SDG acceleration, with evidence of sustained organizational change	•Ministry of Energy and Power Development has integrated REF into its planning and implementation processes by actively promoting REF as the financing mechanism under the Renewable Energy Policy. • Evidence of sustained change includes continued deployment of REF investments in 2025 and strengthened coordination between the Ministry, fund governance structures, and private sector project developers.

Key Transition and Thematic Indicators (respond to all relevant indicators, especially those in the JP's primary and secondary transition areas)

Transition area	Indictors	Progress in 2025
Digital	Number of individuals, including those who are marginalised, vulnerable and left behind, benefiting from enhanced digital public services and solutions, including sex-disaggregation	N/A
	Number of digital applications and engagement platforms, created with UN support, linked to SDGs	N/A
	Number of institutions and private sector partners with enhanced skills and capacities based on support provided	N/A

Food systems	Number of new and improved evidence-based food systems policies/strategies developed and implemented, in line with international human rights and other relevant standards	N/A
	Number of small-holder farmers and producers adopting innovative and sustainable food production practices, including sex-disaggregation	N/A
	Number of targeted populations, including those who are marginalised, vulnerable and left behind, with improved food security and nutrition outcomes, including sex-disaggregation	NA
Social Protection & Jobs	Number of reforms, policies and programmes that have been adopted (Decree, Law, governmental policy) and/or implemented, by a national authority (such as the parliament or national assembly, government institution or body relating to decent jobs or social protection and originating in the GA Roadmap)	NA
	Number of people, including those who are marginalised, vulnerable and left behind, benefiting from the introduction, extension and strengthening of social protection and decent work policies, including sex-disaggregation	NA
Energy transition	Number of new or enhanced integrated policy and regulatory frameworks developed and/or adopted to accelerate energy transition, in line with international human rights and other relevant standards	Progress: 1 integrated policy + financing framework • Renewable Energy Fund (REF) established and operationalised (Sept 2024) and rolled out in 2025. • REF is actively promoted by the Ministry of Energy and Power Development as the financing mechanism under the Renewable Energy Policy.
	Number of people/households, including those who are marginalised, vulnerable and left behind, benefiting from improved access to clean and affordable energy, including sex-disaggregation	Progress: Beneficiaries reached through

		renewable energy projects financed in 2025 • Guruve Solar Park: Stand-alone solar solutions provided to Makume Clinic and Museka Primary School. • Mater Dei Hospital: Solar power provides reliable electricity for critical health services, supporting uninterrupted service delivery.
Climate, biodiversity, pollution	Number of NDC 3.0 components strengthened with integrated just transition and inclusivity considerations	NA
	Reduction of CO2eq emissions, through JSDGF support	Progress: CO_2 reduction demonstrated through two renewable energy projects Guruve Solar Park (10 MW) • Designed to produce 22,000 MWh of clean electricity annually. • Offsets 24,000 tons of CO_2 emissions per year. Mater Dei Hospital Solar Project (720 kW) • Designed to

		produce 1,333,262 kWh of clean electricity annually. • Offsets 22,000 tons of CO_2 emissions per year. Combined annual CO_2 reduction potential (2025): >46,000 tons CO_2e.
	Area of terrestrial and marine protected areas created or under improved management practices (hectares), supported by the JSDGF	NA
Education	Number of children, youth, and adults, including those who are marginalised, vulnerable and left behind, benefiting from improved access to inclusive, quality education, including sex-disaggregation	N/A
	Number of teachers and school staff trained demonstrating gender-sensitive and inclusive teaching practices aligned with national education, including sex-disaggregation	NA
	Number of education sector policies/regulatory frameworks adopted or strengthened, in line with international human rights and other relevant standards	NA

C. Strategic Communications and Partnership Update

Please provide the links to written communications products published by the JP team PUNOs, RCOs or implementing partners, or the draft outline of a written article to be finalized in the coming weeks. Examples of human-interest stories, practical guidance on storytelling, other useful tools to produce impactful written articles can be found on UNSDG Knowledge Portal (NB: PUNOs may need to request access first).

List of links to written articles, case studies, factsheets, videos (do not include social media posts):

- https://www.uncdf.org/article/8921/zimbabwes-first-renewable-energy-fund-building-a-distributed-energy-market-from-the-ground-up
- https://www.jointsdgfund.org/article/zimbabwes-renewable-energy-fund
- https://www.heraldonline.co.zw/zim-seeks-us100m-for-renewable-energy/

Draft outline of a written article of a human-interest story (500 words / 1 page max)