

Joint Programme Document

A. COVER PAGE

1. Fund Name: Joint SDG Fund

2. MPTFO Project Reference Number

3. Joint programme title: Strengthening national food systems and promoting disaster risk reduction (DRR)

4. Short title: Strengthening national food systems and promoting disaster risk reduction (DRR)

5. Country and region: Timor-Leste, Asia Pacific region

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9. Short description:

The challenges of malnutrition, food insecurity and unsustainable agriculture are among the most pressing issues facing Timor-Leste. The rates of malnutrition and food insecurity in the country are among the highest in the world, affecting the most vulnerable groups. Although agriculture is the backbone of Timorese non-oil economy - employing over 70 % of the population- productivity is very low. There is pressing need to strengthen food systems that particularly benefit the most vulnerable producers and consumers, including women and girls. These challenges have been compounded by recent socio-economic and health calamities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The disproportionate vulnerability of the Small Island Developing State (SIDS) to climate change was also exposed in April 2021, when Timor-Leste experienced the most devastating natural disaster in its recent history, when flash flooding and landslides resulting from Cyclone Seroja, affected thousands of people and agricultural land across the country.

To address these challenges and needs, the Joint Programme will strengthen food systems and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by leveraging on affirmed high-level political commitments. Guided by principles of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) and a human rights-based approach, existing partnerships with multiple stakeholders will be enhanced to make catalytic investments in People, Prosperity and Planet. The Joint Programme aims to create secure and sustainable food markets by reducing food waste, enhancing local procurement, and ensuring a healthy food environment. The programme will promote breastfeeding and the consumption of locally grown nutritious foods, particularly for vulnerable groups. The Joint Programme would strengthen resilience to climate change by implementing national forecasting of food crises through acute food security and nutrition monitoring systems. The combined results would improve nutrition levels, food security and promote sustainable agricultural development.

10. Keywords: food, disaster, forecast, health, breastfeeding, environment, consumer behaviour, Post-Harvest Loss (PHL), Timor-Leste, food environment

11. Overview of budget

Joint SDG Fund contribution	USD 951,400.00
Co-funding 1	0
TOTAL	USD 951,400.00

12. Timeframe:

Start date	End date	Duration (in months)
01-01-22	31-12-23	24

13. Gender Marker:

The overall Gender Marker score of the Joint Programme is **3**, based on the Gender Marker Matrix in the Annex.

14. Target groups (including groups left behind or at risk of being left behind)

List of marginalized and vulnerable groups	Direct influence	Indirect influence
Women	X	
Children (under 5)	X	
Girls	X	
Youth	X	
Persons with disabilities	X	
Older persons	X	
Rural workers	X	

15. Human Rights Mechanisms related to the Joint Programme

Universal Periodic Review (UPR)	Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council	ILO Committees of Experts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Cycle <p>Human Rights Treaty Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) Committee on Civil and Political Rights aka Human Rights Committee (CCPR) Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises Special Rapporteur on the right to development Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment Special Rapporteur on the right to food Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C100 - Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) C111 - Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right to an adequate standard of living, including food, water and housing

16. PUNO and Partners:

16.1 PUNO

- Convening agency:
 - o World Food Programme (WFP), Representative Dageng Liu, E-mail: dageng.liu@wfp.org, Tel:+670 77231310
- Other PUNOs:
 - o Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Representative Rajendra Aryal, E-mail Rajendra.Aryal@fao.org, Tel: +62 811 8066 205
 - o World Health Organization (WHO), Representative Dr Arvind Mathur, E-mail: mathura@who.int, Tel: +670 7838 5065; +91 95992 21549 (WA)

16.2 Partners

- National authorities:
 - o Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)
 - o Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MNEC)
 - o Ministry of Finance (MoF)
 - o National Logistics Centre (NLC)
 - o Ministry of Health (MoH)
 - o Prime Minister's Office (SUN Movement Secretariat)
 - o National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition in Timor-Leste (KOSSANTIL)
 - o Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry (MTCI)
 - o Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs (MCEA)
 - o Inspection and Supervision Authority for Economic, Health and Food Activities (AIFAESA)
 - o Civil society organizations:
 - o Rede Feto (Women's Network of Timor-Leste)
- Private sector:
 - o Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI Camara Comersiu no Industria)
 - o Cooperativa Camponezes Maubere Soberania Aihan (CCM)
- Other partners:
 - o USAID
 - o Tomak
 - o Universidade National Timor Loresa'e (UNTL) - academics
 - o Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
 - o European Union (EU)
 - o Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP)
 - o Saude na Familia (Health in the Family Programme)
 - o Implementation of integrated health systems at the community level (SISCA)
 - o World Bank
 - o International Financial Institutions (IFI)

SIGNATURE PAGE

<p>Resident Coordinator Dageng Liu</p>   <p><i>25 August 2021, (RC a.i.)</i></p>	<p>National Coordinating Authority Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) Ms. Maria Odete do Céu Guterres</p>   <p><i>26 August 2021</i></p>
<p>Participating UN Organization (lead/convening) World Food Programme (WFP) Dageng Liu</p>   <p><i>25 August 2021</i></p>	
<p>Participating UN Organization Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Rajendra Aryal</p>   <p><i>25 August 2021</i> TIMOR-LESTE</p>	
<p>Participating UN Organization World Health Organization (WHO) Dr Arvind Mathur</p>   <p><i>25 August 2021</i></p>	

B. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

1. Call for Proposal: Building Resilience and Ending Vulnerability in Small Island Developing States (3/2021)

2. Relevant Joint SDG Fund Outcomes

- Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale.

3. Overview of the Joint Programme Results

3.1 Outcomes

- Nutrition, food security and agricultural productivity have improved for all, irrespective of individual ability, gender, age, socio-economic status and geographical location (*fully aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025, Outcome 1*)
- Outcome 1: By 2023, the supply side of the national food system is strengthened
- Outcome 2: By 2023, the demand side of the food systems is strengthened
- Outcome 3: By 2023, the resilience and protection of national food systems has strengthened

3.2 Outputs

- Output 1.1: The agricultural Post-Harvest Loss (PHL) is reduced
- Output 1.2 -By 2023, local food sustainability has increased, and reliance on global food systems has decreased
- Output 1.3 National capacity on food safety and surveillance system strengthened
- Output 2.1 Healthy consumer behaviour is fostered
- Output 3.1 Food crisis forecasting has been implemented through acute food security and nutrition monitoring systems

4. SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint Programme

4.1 List of targets

SDG Goal	SDG Targets
	SDG Target 2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment
	SDG Target 2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)
	SDG Target 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)
	SDG Target 3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services and promoting of safe breast feeding.
	SDG Target 5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex
	SDG Target 12.1.1 Timor-Leste has developed, adopted or implemented policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production
	SDG Target 12.3.1 Reduce food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses a) food loss index and b) food waste index
	SDG Target 13.1.2 Timor-Leste adopts and implements national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
	SDG Target 17.16.1 Timor-Leste reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the SDGs

Note. For more details on baselines, targets and means of verification, refer to Section 1.3 SDG Targets and/or the Results Matrix in the Annex.

4.2 Expected SDG impact

The strengthening of the national food systems and the enhancing DRR, will catalyze SDG targets relating to nutrition, food security and sustainable agricultural productivity in Timor-Leste. Vulnerable groups most at-risk to malnutrition, particularly pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls and children under 5 would benefit through this Joint Programme . The strong commitment to multi-stakeholder partnership will ensure the long-term sustainability of the programme results **(SDG Target 17.16.1)**.

- Reducing agricultural PHL will contribute to the reduction of food loss and wastage along production and supply chains **(SDG Target 12.1.1)**.
- Fostering a healthier food environment and consumer behavior will reduce the prevalence of malnutrition and undernourishment **(SDG Targets 2.1.1 and 2.2.2)**, particularly for the most at-risk groups, including pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls and children under 5 **(SDG 5.1.1)**.
- Increasing local food sustainability and reducing the reliance to global food systems will support the shift to sustainable consumption and production **(SDG Targets 12.1.1 and 12.3.1)**.
- Implementation of food crisis forecasting will be a key step to implementing national DRR strategies, particularly in strengthening disaster mitigation and preparedness **(SDG 13.1.2)**

5. Relevant objective/s from the national SDG framework

The Joint SDG Fund Programme is aligned with the priorities of the Government of Timor-Leste’s national SDG framework. The country’s primary vehicle for achieving the SDGs is the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) 2011-2030¹. The SDP outlines Timor-Leste’s vision to transition from a least developed country (LDC) to an upper-middle income country by 2030, with a healthy, well-educated, and safe population. The SDP defines the goals of the agricultural sector, which includes the improvement of national food security, the reduction of rural poverty, supporting the transition from subsistence to commercial farming and promoting sustainability and the conservation of Timor-Leste’s natural resources (RDTL, 2011).

Joint SDG Fund	Relevant KPIs from the Government of Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan (2011-2030)
Overarching principle	SDP Target 1: By 2030, Timor-Leste will be a gender-fair society where human dignity and women’s rights are valued, protected and promoted by our laws and culture
Output 1: Boost Post-Harvest Loss (PHL) reduction	SDP Target 2: By 2030, improve the efficiency of post-harvest storage and milling of maize, roots and tubers by supporting village-based milling - By 2030, on-farm rice storage losses will have reduced from 20% to about 5%
Output 2: Healthy food	SDP Target 3: [The] enormous nutritional challenges facing Timor-Leste require strategies to promote the diversity and consumption of

¹ [Government of Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan \(SDP\) \(2011-2030\)](#) 1

environment and consumer behaviour	locally produced food...strategies include improved mother and child nutrition care practices through nutrition behaviour change programs, improved access to and quality of nutrition services at health facilities and in the community
Output 3: Policy shift in local procurement	SDP Target 4: By 2030, the private sector will be the primary source of growth in incomes and employment in rural areas of Timor-Leste
Output 4: Forecasting food crisis	SDP Target 5: Improving cooperation between government agencies to make sure that vulnerable families get the support they need when they are hit by natural or human-made disaster

6. Brief overview of the Theory of Change of the Joint programme

6.1 Summary:

To prevent and decrease the high levels of malnutrition and food insecurity, national food systems need to be enhanced on both the supply and demand side, and resilience of the food system needs to be strengthened. On the **supply** side, it is important to reduce the wastage of edible foods by reducing PHL, which would increase availability and access of food, and protect the ecosystems. Also, by ensuring that local producers can enter a secure market, through policy advocacy, this would incentivize sustainable food value chains (FVCs) ². Another vital component in the supply of food is the promotion of a safe and healthy food policy and environment. On the **demand** side, behavioural change in consumption needs to take place as a means of breaking the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition, particularly for vulnerable groups, including women and children. Strengthening the supply and demand of foods would contribute to increased sustainable and safe local production and consumption, aiming to improve nutrition status and tackle food insecurity. Finally, **resilience** of the food systems will be enhanced as forecasting tools would inform strategic decision-making to minimize the impact of food crises. The interconnected issues of malnutrition, food security and the sustainability in the agricultural sector will be addressed through mutually complementary interventions, that sustainably strengthen national capacity and ensure that no one is left behind. The Joint Programme will take a health and food systems approach, it directly addresses 6 of the seventeen SDGs (SDG 2, 3, 5, 12, 13 and 17), and would indirectly have positive spills over effects on the rest of the SDGS.

6.2 List of main Theory of Change assumptions to be monitored:

² Such chains would be economically viable for the producer, socially sustainable for the consumer, and environmentally sustainable.

Three assumptions in the UNSDCF 2021-2025 Theory of Change for Outcome 1 on Nutrition, Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture are well-aligned with the assumptions in the Joint Programme Theory of Change (see Diagram 1).

1. Cross-sectoral policy coherence and partnership between health, agriculture, social protection and trade sectors

Strengthening coordination, multi-stakeholder partnerships and developing inclusive policy frameworks is needed to reduce food insecurity and increase resilience in the face of climate change and economic shocks

2. Value-added to smallholder crop, livestock, forestry production

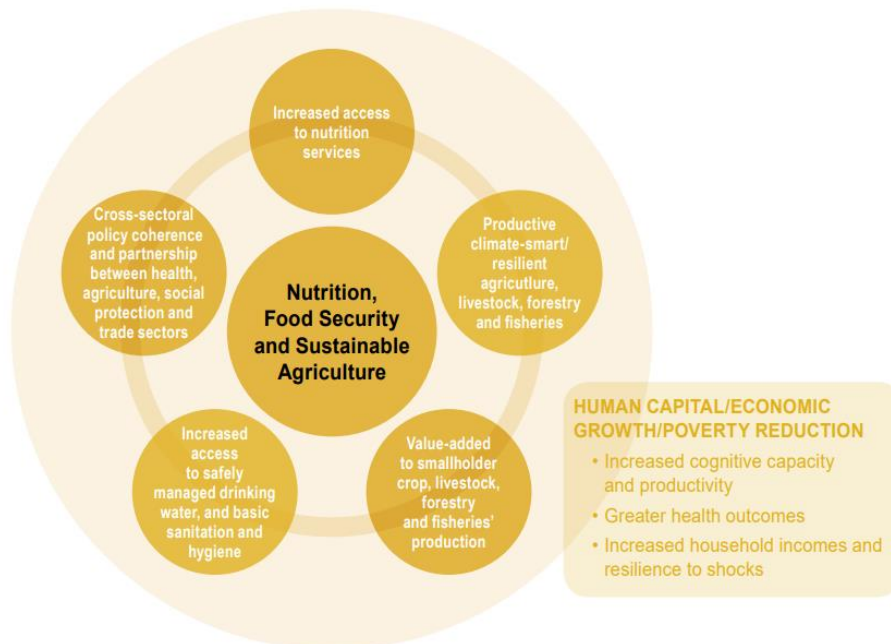
Increasing and diversifying the production and productivity of smallholder farmers and agri-food producers will increase food security and resilience to shocks, particularly for female farmers and rural youth, and protect land resources

3. Increased access to nutrition services.

Improved access to nutrition services and better nutrition education for families is an important transformation required in achieving sustainable and climate-resilient agri-food chains

Diagram 1: UNSDCF Theory of change underpinning Outcome 1

Theory of change underpinning Outcome 1



7. Trans-boundary and/or regional issues

- The Government affirmed Timor-Leste’s commitment to reduce malnutrition and food insecurity by joining the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement in 2020. This political

engagement unites civil society, donors, businesses and researchers in a collective effort to improve nutrition.

- National and sub-national food systems dialogues are ongoing ahead of the UN Food Systems Summit on 23 September 2021. The Joint Programme provides practical solutions and financing to address some of the key issues highlighted in the dialogues. The multi-stakeholder partners involved provide a strong platform on joint activities for implementation and solutions beyond the Food Systems Summit.
- Timor-Leste’s engagement in the CPLP provides platform for an exchange of knowledge, trainings and technical capacity between Portuguese speaking countries. This Joint Programme could leverage on this membership to gain access to global technical knowledge

C. JOINT PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

1. Baseline and Situation Analysis

1.1 Problem statement

The high rates of malnutrition and food insecurity and unsustainable agriculture are among the most pressing issues facing Timor-Leste. One-third of the country’s total population is chronically food insecure, which is one of the highest rates in the Southeast Asia region. The levels of stunting (47.1%) and wasting (8.6%) are high amongst children under five, and 32.1% of children under 5 years of age are underweight. The prevalence of malnutrition among adolescents (15-19 years), women of reproductive age and children under 5³, point to the an inter-generational approach to break the cycle of malnutrition. Additionally, the prevalence of anaemia is higher amongst the most vulnerable, especially women of reproductive age (15-49 years) (38.9%) and children (62.7%).

Inappropriate post-harvest practices lead to food loss

Timor-Leste is a food deficit country, where up to 40 percent of food needs are met through imports. Subsistence agricultural production is the backbone of Timor-Leste’s non-oil economy, employing 70% of the population. However, productivity remains low, compounded by that a significant amount of the country’s food production does not reach the consumer, due to inappropriate post-harvest practices of not only fresh produce, but also grains and processed food. Paddy rice and maize critical loss points (CLP) is 21 % and 15.4 % of annual production respectively; and tomato and banana PHL 15.4 % and 2.5 %, respectively. Inadequate storage, packaging and transportation facilities also adds to the risk of food being lost along the value chain due to damage. These losses come in both quality (loss of freshness leads to loss of nutritional value of the food) and quantity loss. Means of transportation for fresh produce in the country is currently public buses and rural transports in the form of small and big trucks. Most of the fresh produce are loaded on top of buses or trucks that also transport passengers, and normally move around during daylight, exposing the produce to direct sunlight. Main packaging materials used are rice bags, non-stackable plastic crates wrapped in plastics or banana leaves. These practices cause a lot of mechanical damage when they are transported on bad roads. Targeted awareness-raising programmes, training of value chain actors on improved post-harvest management, and the introduction of appropriate packaging material have proven effective in reducing food loss and waste.

³ Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey, 2013.

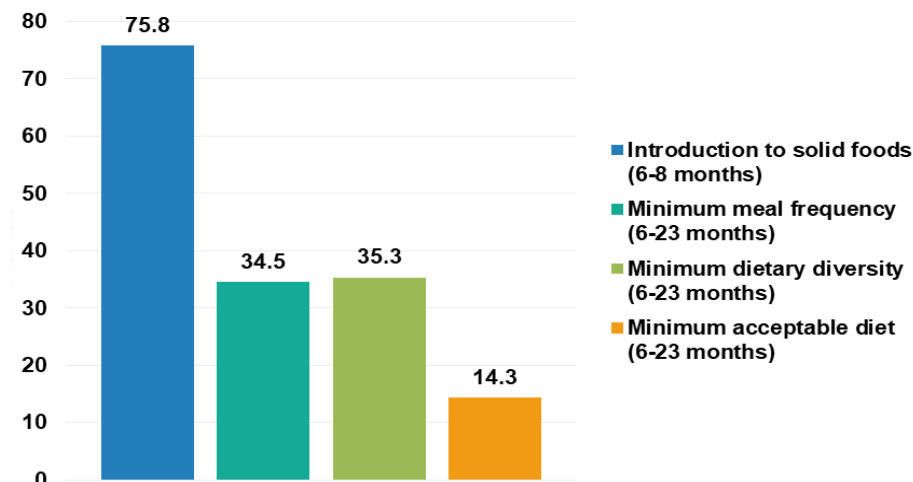
Lack of food safety leads to unsafe consumption of foods

Unhealthy food storage and other environmental aspects lead to unsafe foods being consumed especially by poorer households. The consumption of unsafe foods led to approximately 629 food poisoning cases in the country between 2014-2021, with some cases leading to death. This figure, however, is likely highly underreported due to poor awareness of food safety and food poisoning. There are currently limited national policies to incentivize local production and procurement in the local market. The lack of food safety in terms of quality and safety throughout the whole food value chain is essential to prevent food borne diseases.

Lack of knowledge on healthy eating practices adversely affects nutrition

The recent Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey (TLFNS) showed that poor dietary diversity in children under 5 years old is directly influenced by parent and caretaker knowledge on healthy eating practices. According to the TLFNS 2020, only 35.4 % of children aged 6-23 months received nutritionally adequate and diversified food (see Diagram 2). There is likely a strong link between mother/caretaker knowledge on healthy eating practices and child eating habits and dietary diversity. Mothers and caretakers lack knowledge on feeding frequency, type and variety of food, and there is also a lack of consistency of responsive feeding and hygiene. Therefore, as access to proper counselling on breastfeeding, healthy diets and practices is still low, there is a need to strengthen healthy diet counselling for caretakers and parents. Modifying poor health behaviours such as poor diet has a significant impact on health. Improving and sustaining behaviour change at the individual level is a required adaptation to ensure better health and nutrition. At the individual level, the interplay between beliefs, behaviours and biology affects nutrition status. There is evidence across the globe that dietary behaviours and other health practice, such as Water and Sanitation (WASH), need to change to support better nutrition of individuals and families. Behaviours are influenced by the environment and therefore, any behavioural change must be supported by an enabling environment, in this case, access to healthy and safe foods, health care and nutrition.

Diagram 2: IYCF, Complementary feeding indicators (%)



Source: TLFNS 2020

COVID-19 pandemic and humanitarian crisis exacerbates fragilities

The COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters exacerbated further the fragility of the country’s food system and illustrated its vulnerability to sudden shocks. The pandemic has

contributed to delays in supply chains, leading to increased food prices for some commodities. The most recent Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA 2.0), carried out between July 2021 and August 2021, notes that due to effects of COVID-19, about 41.4 % of the households were affected by moderate or severe food insecurity, 9 % were using emergency coping strategies and another 22 % of the household were using crisis coping strategies. Monitoring systems to forecast food security crises are weak and nationwide nutrition surveillance is inadequate. The lack of such a monitoring system, including weather forecasts, was clear after Timor-Leste was impacted in April 2021 by the most devastating natural disaster in the country's recent history, when flash flooding and landslides from Cyclone Seroja affected thousands of households and agricultural land across the country.

These interconnected challenges regarding nutrition, food security and agriculture are some of the most pressing and urgent issues facing Timor-Leste today. It is essential that these problems are addressed to accelerate progress on the SDGs and to support the key priorities outlined by the Government in its national SDP framework. Addressing these issues would contribute to breaking the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition, which would particularly benefit groups most at-risk of malnutrition including, women of reproductive age, pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls, girls, children under 5, Persons with Disabilities (PwD) and the elderly.

1.2 Target groups

The principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) is a well-embedded in this Joint Programme. Nutrition, food security and agricultural productivity needs to increase and improve for all, irrespective of individual ability, gender, age, socio-economic status and geographical location. Strengthening food systems would benefit both producers and consumers, including those most at-risk of being left behind.

Producers would benefit directly from strengthened food systems. In particular, rural families would benefit as reduced food losses would mean avoiding lost (underutilized) land, productivity, water, fertilizer, and income for those who can least afford it. Producers such as smallholder farmers, and small and medium-sized enterprises in the value chains would also benefit from gaining greater access to food systems. Particularly, incentives to invest in strengthening the food systems would benefit rural workers, female farmers, rural youth, older persons and Persons with disabilities (PWDs).

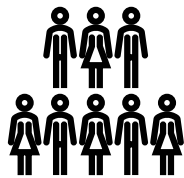
Consumers would benefit directly from the social and behaviour change communications (SBCC) interventions aimed to enhance their knowledge and behaviour on optimal nutrition practices and healthy diet, as well as by strengthened food systems that will particularly benefit those groups that are most at-risk of suffering from all forms of malnutrition and undernourishment. To break the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition, and improve the wellbeing of people, this Joint Programme would ensure that women of reproductive age, pregnant and lactating women, female headed households, adolescent girls, girls, children, older persons, and people in remote rural areas gain greater access to services and information on the production and consumption of healthy diets.

Finally, the forecasting of food crises would benefit both consumers and producers, by measuring acute and chronic food security and nutrition. Producers would be more informed and therefore better able to prepare for and respond to a food crisis. Additionally, policy makers and key stakeholders would be better able to make decisions to mitigate and prepare for emerging food security crises by identifying and supporting groups that are most at-risk

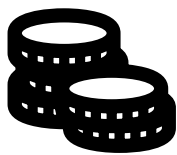
of suffering from malnutrition (women of reproductive age, pregnant and lactating women, girls, children) through the forecasting of food insecurity situations.

1.3 SDG targets

This Joint Programme intends to contribute to **9 out of the 231 SDG targets across 6 SDGs** (see Diagram SDG Targets). There are several interlinkages between the SDGs that the Joint Programme is contributing to, and they all aim to investment in People, Prosperity and Planet. **People** will benefit from improved nutrition and food security; **Prosperity** of the local producers in the agricultural sector and food market will increase; and the **Planet** will prosper from increased sustainable practices in the agriculture sector.



Strengthening national food systems will invest in the **People** of Timor-Leste, ensuring the principle of LNOB, particularly for vulnerable groups including women, children and rural families and workers (**SDG 5.1.1**). Reduced food loss (**SDG Target 12.3.1**) and policies (**SDG Target 12.1.1**) that foster a healthy food environment (**SDG Target 3.8.1**) and incentivize market transformation - would reduce food insecurity (**SDG Target 2.1.2**) and increase the healthy, local food supply. This would be coupled with enhancing knowledge and fostering behaviour change for consumers, particularly those most at-risk to suffer from malnutrition (**SDG Targets 2.1.1 and 2.2.2 and 5.1.1**). An increase in healthy, local food production and improved knowledge at the consumer-level would create opportunity for the country to break out of the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition (**SDG Target 3.8.1**). In times of crisis, such as during a pandemic or climate crisis, enhanced DRR (**SDG Target 13.1.2**) and preparedness would provide national stakeholders with the tools and data needed (**SDG Target 17.16.1**) to protect the most vulnerable people.






Enhancing the national food system will invest in the **Prosperity** of the country. Agriculture is the second largest economic sector in Timor-Leste, after oil, providing 70% of total employment. The agriculture sector is therefore fundamental in building sustainable livelihoods. Higher productivity in the agricultural sector however remains substantially low compared to neighbouring countries with similar agro-economies. Reducing food waste (**SDG Target 12.3.1**) and promoting a secure local market (**SDG Target 12.1.1**) would create the systemic change needed to increase prosperity and sustainable incomes for smallholder farmers and small and medium-sized enterprises. This would be enhanced by the multiplier effect where the reliance on imports is reduced and the volatility of food prices decreases. This programme would benefit the most vulnerable producers (**SDG 5.1.1**) that are on the brink of poverty. Forecasting and foresight would enhance the implementation of the national DRR strategies, contributing to reduce the impact and losses attributed to extreme weather events and other disasters (**SDG Target 13.1.2**).



Strengthening the sustainability of the local food systems and increasing resilience to climate change is an investment in the **Planet**. The low agricultural productivity in the country is attributed to unsustainable agricultural practices and patterns (slash and burn, deforestation etc...). Extreme weather events (heavy rainfall, flooding, drought and increased temperatures) increase the risk of damaged or destroyed agricultural land, food insecurity and undernutrition. Sustainable food systems (**SDG Targets 12.3.1 and 12.1.1**) ensure that all actors in the value chain have greater incentive to have a neutral or positive impact on the natural environment (**SDG Target 13.1.2**).

Diagram: SDG Targets

SDG Goal	SDG Targets	Baseline	Trends/ expected progress by 2023	Means of verification
<p>2 ZERO HUNGER</p>	<p>SDG Target 2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment (<i>UNSDCF Outcome 1 indicator</i>)</p>	23 nationally %	< 17.75 % <i>(targets based on linear trends and UNSDCF target 2025, <12.5%)</i>	SOFI 2021, SOFI 2022 and SOFI 2023
	<p>SDG Target 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) (<i>UNSDCF Outcome 1 indicator</i>)</p>	<p>50 % food secure/mild food insecure</p> <p>16 % severe food insecure</p> <p>35 % moderate food insecure</p>	<p>< 11.75 % severe food insecure</p> <p><22.75 % moderate food insecure</p> <p><i>(targets based on linear trends & UNSDCF target 2025 <7.5% and <10.5% respectively)</i></p>	Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey (TLFNS) 2020 and SOFI 2021, SOFI 2022, SOFI 2023
	<p>SDG Target 2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting) (<i>UNSDCF Outcome 1 indicator</i>)</p>	8.6 % wasting	< 6.8 % wasting Targets as per national Health Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan 2025. <i>(Targets based on linear trends for wasting, <5 %)</i>	Demographic Health Survey (DHS), TLFNS 2020
<p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p>	<p>SDG Target 3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services</p>	52 (Universal Health Coverage index 2017)	61 <i>(targets based on linear trends and UNSDCF 2025, 70%)</i>	SDG Profile
<p>5 GENDER EQUALITY</p>	<p>SDG Target 5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex</p>	Policies and legal frameworks on local procurement and healthy food environment promoting gender equality do not exist	2 draft policies; on local procurement and healthy food environment promoting gender equality developed	Official policy documents and programme monitoring documentation

	<p>SDG Target 12.1.1 Timor-Leste has developed, adopted or implemented policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production</p>	<p>No policy on local food procurement incentivizing value chain transformation that is gender-sensitive and supports local production for local consumption exists; no policy on healthy food environment exists</p>	<p>Policy advocacy and gender-sensitive draft policy on local food procurement; policy on healthy food environment developed</p>	<p>Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL)</p>
	<p>SDG Target 12.3.1 Reduce food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses a) food loss index and b) food waste index</p>	<p>Paddy rice, critical loss points (CLP): 47 tons or 21 % of total annual production of 224.4 tonnes (economic loss USD 10,900); Maize total estimated loss is 21.7 tonnes or 15.4 % of total annual production of 140.8 tonnes (economic loss of USD 9,800 or USD 98 by farmer); Banana PHL is 2.5%; tomato is 15.4%</p>	<p>2 % reduction from the baseline</p>	<p>FAO, MAF</p>
	<p>SDG Target 13.1.2 Timor-Leste adopts and implements national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (<i>UNSDCF Outcome 6 indicator</i>)</p>	<p>No food crisis forecasting tool exists</p>	<p>Food crisis forecasting tool implemented. Consideration to CEDAW recommendations on gender-related dimensions of DRR</p>	<p>WFP, GoTL</p>
	<p>SDG Target 17.16.1 Timor-Leste reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the SDGs</p>	<p>Engagement and high priority commitment in regional and bilateral platforms with focus on the food security agenda, including Asia-Pacific region, KOSSANTIL, CPLP, SUN Movement and its networks</p>	<p>Continued and enhanced engagement in regional and bilateral platforms, through Technical Working Groups and Steering Committees</p>	<p>IPC reports GoTL</p>

Note. Refer also to the SDGs in the Results Matrix in the Annex. SDG targets listed here are SDGs which the Joint Programme contributes to.

1.4 Stakeholder mapping

The Government, private sector, civil society, and other partners will be key stakeholders in this Joint Programme. In 2020, the Government affirmed Timor-Leste’s commitment to

reduce malnutrition and food insecurity by joining the SUN movement. The Consolidated National Action Plan for Food Security and Nutrition (CNAP) which strategically outlines the main priorities to be met in this area by relevant ministries, CSOs and partners was launched in July 2021 and is currently being disseminated.

Timor-Leste is also currently conducting national and sub-national Food Systems Dialogues in preparation for the UN Food Systems Summit 2021. The national and sub-national dialogues are providing a unique opportunity for the country to discuss, collaborate and coordinate within and among ministries, local authorities, private enterprises, cooperatives, civil society and the general population on the challenges and opportunities that Timor-Leste is facing with regards to food security and nutrition. This Joint Programme would leverage on the active political commitment and engagement, providing practical and innovative solutions for food systems transformation.

Government

The **Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)** has accorded high priority for reducing PHL. A current policy priority of the Government is to continue to improve domestic market infrastructure and post-harvest management for both grains and perishables to improve food security and nutrition in the country. The MAF will also be direct beneficiary of the Joint Programme. Extension agents and managers of the *Loja dos Agricultures* from MAF will be trained as trainers in good post-harvest management practices to assure safety and quality in horticultural chains and to add value through processing. They will then be mobilized to train other food value chain actors.

The **Ministry of Health (MOH)** oversees the implementation of quality health care to the population. MoH will be a key stakeholder in strengthening a healthy food environment, ensuring food safety and promoting healthy diet consumer behaviour. The national, strategic framework in the health sector on nutrition plans to increase access to quality maternal, infant, young children and adolescent health and nutrition services. It also highlighted the commitment to address determinant factors of unhealthy and unsafe diet. Also, as a member of the Codex Alimentarius commissions, MOH also oversees and addresses gaps in policy implementation of the national food safety program. MOH as the leading entity will foster training of health workers including community health workers (PSF/MSG) and food inspectors to ensure quality nutrition counselling services and assure safe food for consumption. To ensure sustainability of the programme, MON engagement will be essential particularly on the promotion of healthy diets at both the national and municipality level. Collaborating with other relevant ministries, MOH would ensure

availability of healthy food standards and guidelines. They would also play an important role in strengthening the monitoring and surveillance of food-borne disease outbreaks⁴.

The **Prime Minister's Office (PMO)** in its role chairing the SUN Movement Secretariat, is leading and coordinating nutrition and food systems initiatives and practices at high level, and is preparing for the UN Food Systems Summit. PMO engagement is therefore important in the Joint Programme implementation

National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition in Timor-Leste (KOSSANTIL) has membership from key ministers that are the policy holders in terms of food security and nutrition. KONSSANTIL is chaired by MAF . This partner would be essential as this council is the policy holder of the legal framework in relation to nutrition and food security. The technical team under KONSSANTIL will be trained on how to use integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) processes and protocols for food crisis forecasting. The IPC will be institutionalised within Ministry of Agriculture as the lead government institution for sustainability.

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MNEC)** oversees the Government's diplomacy, bilateral and multilateral relations affairs. As such it is responsible for all the agreements on country strategic plans with the PUNOs.

The **Ministry of Finance (MOF)** oversees the drafting, coordinating and assessing policies related to annual planning, budget and finance. MOF also plays a key role in development partner coordination.

⁴ Training food inspectors as Trainer of Trainers, the programme would aim to include refresher training programmes in the MOH annual budget, leading to sustainably improved national food inspection monitoring and surveillance capacity.

The **National Logistics Center (NLC)** provides strategic grain reserves and food market interventions to ensure food security, especially food access. NLC will remain key in the implementation of the local food procurement policies, food supply chains and food loss reduction. Warehouse management remains a challenge as such the Joint Programme will support with pest control and related infestations to reduce post-harvest warehouse PHL. With the Government's own move towards "strategic grain reserves", it is envisaged that the pest control services will be imbedded in the Government budget to ensure sustainability.

The **Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry (MTCI)** is responsible for the development, regulation, coordination and evaluation of policies related to tourism, trade and industry. The ministry oversees the internal food trade activities including the management of local markets. It will be an important partner for the Joint Programme in launching the awareness campaign targeting private traders, importers and consumer rights protection in these markets.

The Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs (MCEA) oversees policy formulation related to economic governance and trade. Ministries and agents such as MAF, MTCI and NLC are under MCEA coordination

Civil Society

Rede Feto (the Women's Network) is the national constituency with 18 women's organizations and CSOs. This partner would be help to ensure that key groups are targeted and that a gender-lens is applied to trainings, policy advocacy and other activities.

Private Sector

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Camara Comersiu no Industria, CCCI) aims to develop a sustainable and prosperous private business sector in Timor-Leste. CCCI has strong skills in advocacy, training, networking, facilitating and developing growth with, and for the private sector.

Other partnerships

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is a partner that aims to transform families and communities to prosper, including in the agriculture and food security sector.

To'os ba Moris Di'ak or Farming For Prosperity (TOMAK) is an agricultural livelihoods programme supported by the Australian Government in Timor-Leste. TOMAK aims to help farming families live more prosperous and sustainable lives.

European Union (EU)

The EU is financing the UN Joint Programme "Stepping up the engagement of the Global Network against Food Crises" under which the Timor-Leste Pro-Resilience II project is financed with the aim to enhanced food security and livelihood resilience of vulnerable farm families in areas prone to climate risks. One of the expected outputs of this project is to enlarge Climate Smart Agriculture Value Chain and to improve farmers access to the market.

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) aims to support sustainable socioeconomic growth in Timor-Leste. In another initiative, KOICA, together with the Government, WFP and WHO, is investing on improving the health and nutrition of school aged children (by saying NO TO five 'S' Starvation, Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis, Skin diseases, Smoking and Sugary/alcoholic drinks).. KOICA would be a partner in exchanging experiences and knowledge.

Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e (UNTL) will be an important source of local experts that can be contracted to support specific activities of the Joint Programme particularly to design and conduct data collection as well as to deliver training to value chain actors. They will also benefit from training of trainers and hands-on exposure and practical approaches introduced by the joint programme to help increase human resource capacity that can contribute to value addition and the reduction of PHL.

2. Programme Strategy

2.1. Overall strategy

This Joint Programme focuses on transformative change to address malnutrition, food security and low agricultural productivity in Timor-Leste. The Joint Programme outcome is directly aligned with the joint commitment of the UNSDCF 2021-2025 Outcome 1. With the leadership of the Government, the Joint Programme would sustain and scale its results beyond the initiative. The programme aims to contribute to and accelerate progress on SDGs 2 (Nutrition), SDG 3 (Health), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 12 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). The Joint Programme will be conducted in alignment with the principles of LNOB and follow a human rights approach.

2.2 Theory of Change

Timor-Leste faces challenges of high levels of malnutrition, food insecurity and low agricultural productivity. These issues particularly affect the most vulnerable groups in society, including women, girls, female-headed households, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, elderly people, rural workers and PWDs. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and climate related disasters have aggravated the already fragile national food systems. The fragility in the food systems have been associated with food waste and loss, lack of food regulation, poor diets, market inefficiencies, lack of enabling policies and climate change. One key problem in the face of current and future crises is how to reduce risks, vulnerabilities and impacts, and how to build capacities to manage risks across and within sectors, and to build resilience of national agri-food systems to ensure food security and nutrition for all. As such, these overlapping structural problems call for transformative solutions for the agriculture and food systems.

It is envisaged that if the interconnected risks can be managed, starting from production all the way to consumption, and if DRR is strengthened, then the food systems can be strengthened and resilience can be built. Management of risks requires investing in a suite of mutually complementary interventions, food waste and loss management, regulations (policy shift) that enhances local production for local consumption, and DRR including acute food security and nutrition monitoring systems that would ensure mitigation measures are put in place against predicted future shocks.

To ensure that by 2023 nutrition, food security and sustainable agriculture has improved for all (Goal 1), firstly, the **local food system needs to be strengthened** on both the **supply** and **demand** side and secondly, the **resilience** and protection of the food systems needs to be enhanced. Continuing with business as usual (BAU), would imply that: markets are inefficient as local producers lack incentive to enter the market; food wastage continues to increase; there is a continued risk of an unhealthy and unsafe food environment; unhealthy food consumption behaviour continues; and the food system lacks resilience. This Joint Programme invests in mutually complementary interventions which would jointly accelerate the SDG progress related to undernourishment, (**SDG Target 2.1.1**), malnutrition (**SDG Target 2.2.2**) and food insecurity (**SDG Target 2.1.2**). Further, the Joint Programme leverages on high-level political commitment (**SDG Target 17.16.1**) and provides sustainable, long-term solutions to issues raised during the national food systems dialogues, to ensure that the most vulnerable, including women and girls, are not left behind (**SDG Target 5.1.1**).

To strengthen the food system on the **supply side** (Outcome 1) three key issues need to be addressed. The first is to reduce the wastage of edible foods (**SDG Target 12.3.1**) by preventing PHL. Reducing PHL is essential in enhancing availability and access to food, increasing incomes, and ultimately protecting the ecosystems. The second is to create a

secure market for producers which would incentivize sustainable FVCs⁵. To achieve this, a policy shift on local procurement would support the establishment of a secure local market that would boost local production and stimulate the market economy along the value chain **(SDG Target 12.1.1)**. The third is to ensure a healthy food environment. Strengthening the safety of foods through a policy change would contribute to increased sustainable local production **(SDG Target 12.1.1)**. Without reducing PHL and these policy shifts, the fundamentals of a secure food system and ensuring a safe and healthy food environment would be lacking. Increased local production of healthy and safe food are essential components in tackling the high levels of malnutrition **(SDG Target 2.2.2)**, food insecurity **(SDG Target 2.1.2)** and lack of sustainable agriculture. Leveraging on multi-stakeholder commitment and collaboration at local and national level as well as amongst different partners **(SDG Target 17.16.1)** would be required, with a focus on ensuring that vulnerable groups, in particular women and children, are not left behind **(SDG Target 5.1.1)**.

To strengthen the food system on the **demand side** (Outcome 2), behavioural change at the consumer level needs to take place, particularly for vulnerable groups such as women of reproductive age, young children and adolescent girls. Behaviour changed coupled with a healthy and safe food environment, would drive demand to seek care and well as improve the quality of health and nutrition services. Coupled with the training of health workers, this would in turn contribute to increase access to Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Primary Health Coverage (PHC) **(SDG 3.8.1)**. Enhanced consumer awareness and knowledge would foster healthier eating behaviors to contribute to break the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition **(SDG Target 2.2.2)**. Behavioural change at the consumer level would need to be achieved through a multi-stakeholder approach **(SDG Target 17.16.1)**, particularly ensuring that women, children, and other vulnerable groups are not left behind **(SDG Target 5.1.1)**.

Finally, the food system, and any gains being made to strengthen it, would need to be **resilient** and protected (Outcome 3) against the threats of disasters, such as climate-change related events, as well as pandemics **(SDG Target 13.1.2)**. Disasters can damage agricultural land, negatively impact value chains and lead to displacement of people, exacerbating risks of food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly for the most vulnerable **(SDG Target 5.1.1)**. The impacts of disasters can be minimized, with increased foresight, weather forecasting, early action and preparedness through food crisis forecasting. Additionally, this would foster greater partnerships as mitigation measures are multifaceted requiring multi-sector intervention **(SDG Target 17.16.1)**.

The mutually complementary interventions in this Joint Programme will strengthen the supply, demand and resilience of the national food systems. The various assessments in this Joint Programme will generate context specific evidence that will further inform the design/planning, implementation and follow up national food security, nutrition and other development programs, contributing to sustainable development in the local context.

2.3 Expected results and impact

Goal 1 - By 2023, nutrition, food security and agricultural productivity have improved for all, irrespective of individual ability, gender, age, socio-economic status and geographical location

⁵ Such chains would be economically viable for the producer, socially sustainable for the consumer, and environmentally sustainable.

This Joint SDG Fund aims to ensure that nutrition, food security and agricultural productivity improves for all, particularly for the most vulnerable groups (aligned with UNSDCF Outcome 1).

Through the strengthening of food systems and DRR, the prevalence of malnutrition and undernourishment would decrease (**SDG 2.2.2** and **SDG 2.1.1**). Multi-stakeholder cooperation would be enhanced as food systems are strengthened and forecasting and monitoring frameworks (**SDG 17.161**) are implemented. New policies, innovative solutions and technological advancements will also forge multi-stakeholder cooperation, creating preconditions for the Government to sustain the results (see all accountable partners under 16.2 Partners.) beyond the JP lifespan.

The beneficiaries to this programme include both producers and consumers. Producers would benefit from strengthened food systems, in particular vulnerable groups, such as women, older farmers and rural workers in remote areas. Consumers would additionally benefit from this programme, in particular women, adolescent women, pregnant and lactating women, female-headed households, children, girls, youth, PwDs and older persons (**SDG 5.1.1**) who are at higher risk from suffering from malnutrition and food insecurity.

Outcome 1: By 2023, the supply side of the national food system is strengthened

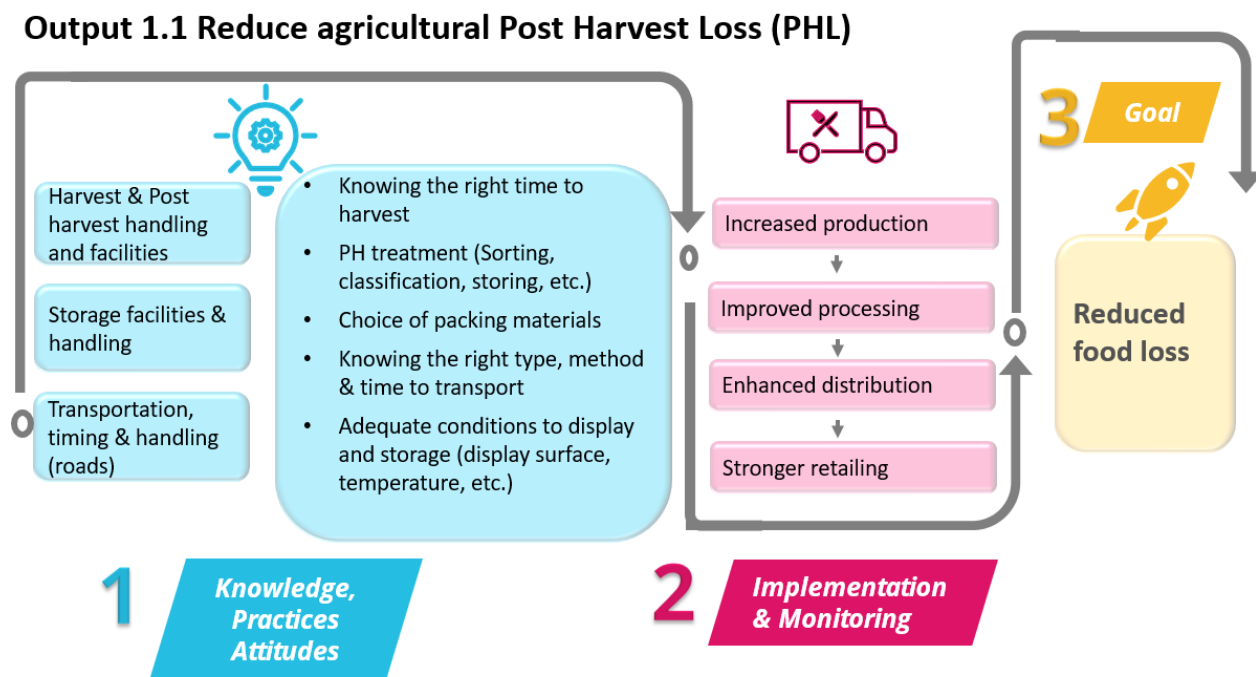
Output 1.1 The agricultural Post-Harvest Loss (PHL) is reduced

Firstly, the Joint Program aims to reduce PHL through strengthened supply chains and logistics practices (see Diagram 3). In Timor-Leste, food losses happen at every stage of the supply chain, as commodities become damaged, spoiled, or lost while harvested, handled, processed, stored, and transported. Globally, the **SDG Target 12.3** calls for halving per capital global food waste at retail and consumer levels by 2030 and reducing food loss (including PHL) within production and supply chains, which currently stands at 14 percent⁶. Annual food losses in Timor-Leste are estimated to be 15% for maize, 21% for rice 8 % for root crops and up to 40% for fruits and vegetable. The main causes of losses for staple crops are lack of labour as processes are done manually, lack of equipment, rain during harvesting, inadequate and inefficient harvesting or production practices, lack of appropriate drying and storage facilities, poor management of these facilities, lack of transport equipment and poor road conditions. Additional losses occur because of moulds, damage by rodents and chickens, spillage and germination. Whereas a major bottleneck faced in the fruit and vegetable are largely the result of a limited knowledge base, which results in improper agricultural practice, additional factors alsoacerbate the issue including: poor harvesting practice, temperature abuse, careless and excessive handling, poor bulk packing and packaging, poor transportation practice, the multi-layering of supply chains and poor logistics. These losses negatively impact food availability and overall food security. This project will seek to raise awareness about post-harvest losses and their impacts on food security, through development and dissemination of behaviour change communication materials focusing on maize, rice, fruits & vegetable crops. In addition, targeted training will be provided to some selected food VC actors such as collectors, ambulant and wet market vendors. A core of technical capacity in good post-harvest handling management will be built through training of trainers of MAF officers and related food trade actors to ensure long-term support in this area. Implementation of pilot activities will be carried out to introduce simple, practical, and appropriate post-harvest technologies to enhance the quality maintenance and shelf-life of fresh produce, to improve safety, reduce post-harvest losses, and to add value.

⁶ Global average of PHL – ‘up to, but not including, the retail level’

With agriculture accounting for the main economic activity for 70% of the population in Timor-Leste, PHL can have a significant impact on food security for vulnerable households and the economy. A significant proportion of rural families experience food shortages and household food insecurity at least 4 months annually during the country’s lean season, from October to February. Food shortages occur especially in upland areas, partly because this period coincides with both the rainy season and the new planting season. At the same time, PHL in fruits and vegetables are high owing to a limited knowledge base on post-harvest handling, and processing. Food losses therefore pose greater risks to those already vulnerable families. For rural families - many of whom already live on the edge of hunger - lost food means lost (underutilized) land, productivity, water, fertilizer, and income for those who can least afford it. By preventing PHL in food systems through the strengthening of supply chains of those key ministries involved in both food procurement and management, as well as DRR, the Joint Program would increase both the availability of food nationally without requiring additional resources or placing additional burden on the environment, as well as increasing the resilience of those affected.

Diagram 3: Process diagram for Output 1.1



Partners: UN: FAO, WFP **Government:** MAF, MTCI **Other:** UNTL

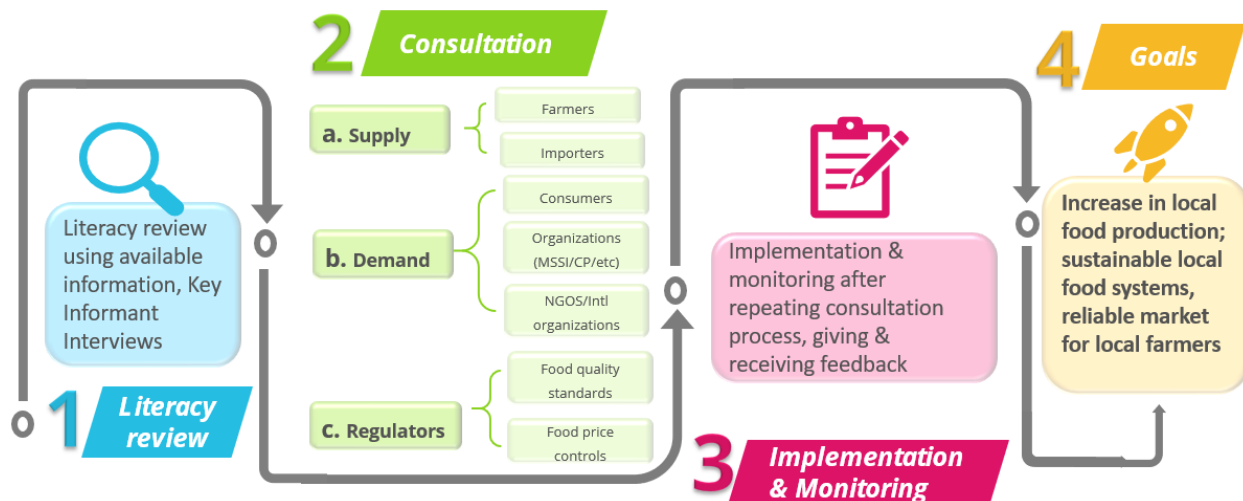
Output 1.2 - By 2023, local food sustainability has increased, and reliance on global food systems has decreased

Secondly, the Joint Programme will increase the sustainability of the local food market and minimize the reliance on global food systems through policy advocacy (see Diagram 4). A secure market needs to be established for smallholder farmers, and small and medium-sized enterprises in the value chains. Local food value chains are key for sustainable food systems. Increased local procurement by public and private actors would incentivize value chain food transformation by providing a secure market to smallholder farmers, and small and medium-sized enterprises in the value chain. In particular, the policy change would benefit vulnerable farmers, including women, the elderly and those in remote rural areas (**SDG 5.1.1**). This will

be achieved through advocacy for a policy shift to promote local procurement by public and private actors. An Implementation Roadmap would be developed to provide guidance on timelines and milestones. This policy shift in procurement would enhance the sustainability of the local food systems, reduce vulnerabilities to global food systems (**SDG Target 12.1.1**) and provide increased incomes for nearly 70 percent of the local farmers. This is envisaged to culminate in procurement strategies and 'value chain interventions' that support effective sustainable food systems. The policy shift will focus on already existing food purchase programmes such school meals, social protection programmes, and the upcoming rice fortification programmes. The aim is to provide a gateway to increase local food access and encourage local producers.

Diagram 4: Process diagram for Output 1.2

Output 1.2 Increase local food sustainability through policy shift in procurement



Partners: UN: WFP, FAO. **Government:** National Logistics Center (NLC) **Other:** Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI – Camara Comersium no Industria), CSOs

Output 1.3 National capacity on food safety and surveillance system strengthened

Thirdly, the Joint Programme aims to foster a healthy food environment. Policy measures to ensure a healthy and safe diet need to be implemented for the population (**SDG Target 12.1.1**), along with consumer education and behavior change. The consumption of unsafe foods led to approximately 629 food poisoning cases in the country between 2014-2021, with some cases leading to death. This figure, however, is likely highly underreported due to poor awareness of food safety and food poisoning. COVID-19 has additionally changed people's eating and dietary patterns, possibly causing deterioration of nutritional and health status.

Ensuring a healthy food environment through regulatory policies, coupled with creation of demand for healthy diets through consumer awareness and changing consumption patterns (Output 2.1) would be a vital component in addressing malnutrition (**SDG Target 2.1.1 and SDG Target 2.2.2 and SDG 3.8.1**). Food should also be safe – in terms of the quality and

safety throughout the whole food chain - and the implementation of food safety policies and standards are essential to prevent food borne diseases. A National Food Assessment would be conducted to identify the status, gaps and opportunities related to policy and regulatory frameworks on food safety and quality management mechanisms. Recommendations from the assessment would support the establishment of a functioning food risk inspection mechanism and development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), with technical assistance to Government and other stakeholders.

Outcome 2: By 2023, the demand side of the food systems is strengthened

Output 2.1 Healthy consumer behaviour is fostered

The Joint Programme aims to foster healthy consumer behaviour, breastfeeding and healthy consumption patterns (see Diagram 5). Behaviour change can be achieved through intensive communication and promotion activities, with particular focus on providing information on healthier diet, safe food handling, effective food storage practices in households and understanding “best before” dates to prevent and reduce food waste, as well as promotion of optimal child-feeding practices. Engaging with civil society, including those representing women groups and faith-based organizations, would support in promoting healthy food habits and addressing socio-cultural barriers for optimal nutrition practices. Community volunteers such as Mother Support Groups (MSG) would be trained to conduct house-to-house visits and community-based nutrition promotion. Special attention would be provided to the needs of women headed households, adolescent mothers, people in remote rural areas, and women requiring special support, such as those with children suffering from malnutrition (**SDG Target 2.1.1** and **SDG Target 2.2.2**). It is important that consumers change their individual attitudes, behaviours, consumption, and shopping habits related to food. To prevent and break the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition in Timor-Leste, the Joint Programme would ensure that vulnerable groups most at-risk for malnutrition - pregnant and lactating women, and young children (**SDG 5.1.1**) - would gain greater access to information and counselling on healthy diets.

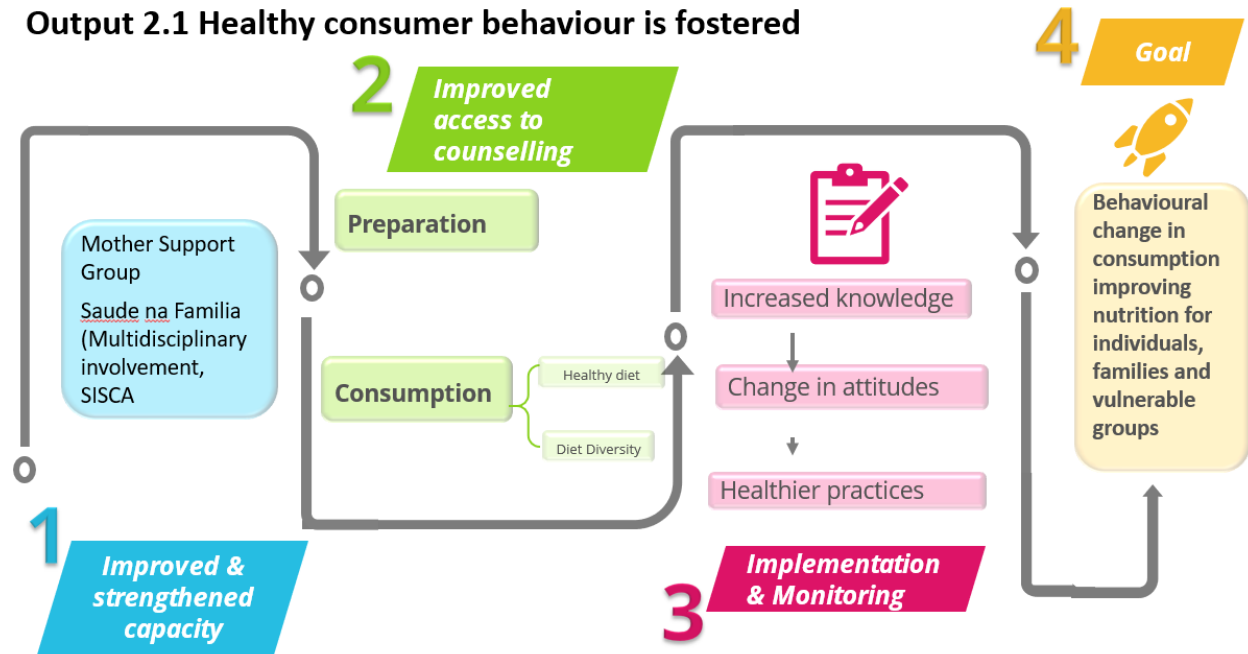
Ensuring a healthy food environment through regulatory policies, coupled with creation of demand for healthy diets through consumer awareness and changing consumption patterns would be a vital component in addressing malnutrition (**SDG Target 2.1.1** and **SDG Target 2.2.2**). Food should also be safe – in terms of the quality and safety throughout the whole food chain - and the implementation of food safety policies and standards are essential to prevent food borne diseases (**SDG Target 12.1.1**). A National Food Assessment would be conducted to identify the status, gaps and opportunities related to policy and regulatory frameworks on food safety and quality management mechanisms. Recommendations from the assessment would support the establishment of a functioning food risk inspection mechanism and development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), with technical assistance to Government and other stakeholders.

The behaviour change of the community and policy advocacy would strengthen health and food systems⁷. Investment in the community to create behaviour change to seek care and strengthening surveillance systems, monitoring of disease outbreaks would improve health management information system (MIS) of the Government. These developments would drive demand to seek care and well as improve the quality of child and nutrition services. This

⁷ The behavior change would include a component of WASH in community trainings (i.e. 5 keys to Food Safety Training).

would in turn contribute to increase coverage of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Primary Health Coverage (PHC) (SDG 3.8.1).

Diagram 5: Process diagram for Output 2.1



Partners: UN: WHO **Government:** MOH, **Other:** MAF, AIEAESA, MTCI, ACADEMIC, CSOs

Outcome 3: By 2023, the resilience and protection of national food systems has strengthened

Output 3.1 Food crisis forecasting has been implemented through acute food security and nutrition monitoring systems

Finally, the Joint Program will improve the forecasting of food crises through acute food security and nutrition monitoring systems (see Diagram 6). Timor-Leste does not have a single trusted source to measure acute and chronic food security or nutrition information. In the face of current and future crises, to reduce risks, vulnerabilities and impacts, there is a need to improve and expand acute and chronic food security monitoring, based on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) methodology⁸.

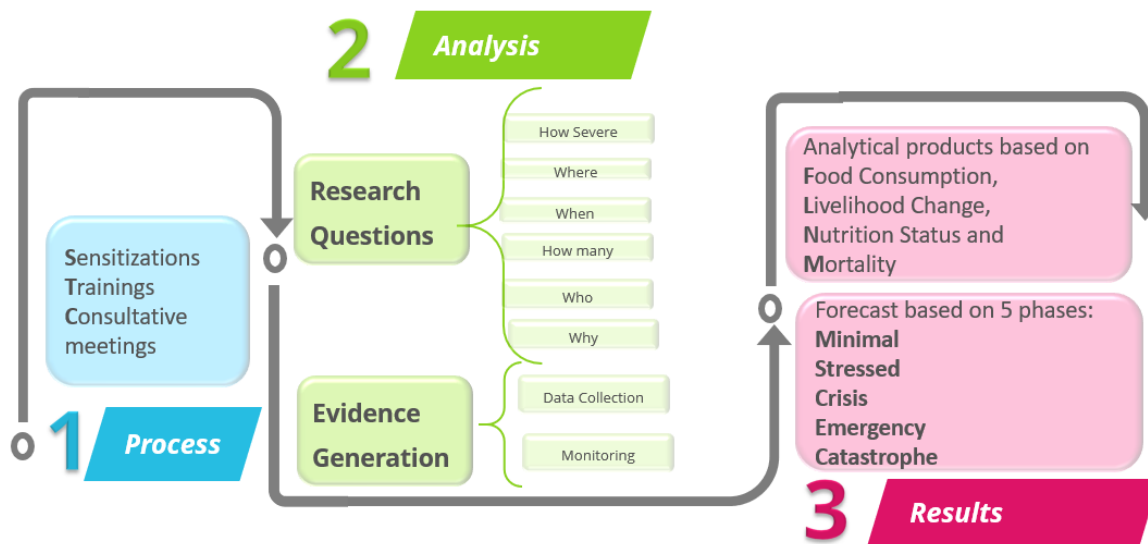
This will be developed with the latest digital technologies, innovation, and use of the indicators (food security, nutrition, and climate related indicators) (SDG Target 13.1.2). The approach

⁸ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a set of protocols to classify the severity of food insecurity situations and provide actionable knowledge to facilitate response decision-making processes. The IPC consolidates wide-ranging evidence on food insecurity to provide core answers to the questions of: How severe? Where? When? How Many? Who? Why? Given the inherent complexity of food security analysis, the IPC protocols include practical tools and processes to ensure these questions are answered—as best as possible—in a comparable, transparent, reliable, relevant, and consensus-based manner. The IPC is designed around the needs of decision makers¹ and contributes to making food security actions more effective, needs-based, strategic and timely.

provides opportunities for multi-stakeholder partnerships and governance which supports evidence-based interventions and serves the needs of decision makers at national, as well as regional, and global levels. Advocacy and communications would promote the adoption and use of IPC products. National weather forecasting products would be explored to support disaster prevention measures. The approach will strengthen institutional partnerships and commitments for data sharing and joint analysis among climate agencies, leading food security and nutrition agencies. This approach would additionally be aligned with the CEDAW recommendations on the gender-related dimensions of DRR (**SDG 5.1.1**).

Diagram 6: Process diagram for Outcome 3.1

Output 3.1 Strengthening food crisis forecasting based on IPC methodology



Partners: UN: WFP, FAO, UNICEF. **Government:** Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior (Civil Protection Department). **NGOs:** Oxfam, CARE, Plan International and Mercy Corps, CSOs.

2.4 Financing

This Joint Programme will invest in SDG acceleration that provides “value for money”. Investments will be made in the agricultural sector, which is the largest contributor to GDP, apart from oil. This Joint Programme invests in the sector that would have the broadest impact on livelihoods, as the agriculture sector employs 70% of the population. Investments would also be made in one of the highest priority areas for the Government of Timor-Leste, namely high levels of malnutrition and food insecurity, which in particular affects women and girls. To accelerate change, capacities and existing networks of key stakeholders including Government, development partners, private and public sector would be leveraged. The investments made in this Joint Programme will multiply beyond the length of the programme itself, through its focus on sustainability and longevity (via systems strengthening, policy advocacy, behavioural change and DRR).

2.5 Partnerships and stakeholder engagement

Strong partnership with the Government, development partners, public and private sector would be important for this Joint Programme. The leadership of the Government, through key ministries such as MAF, MOH, PMO and the SUN Movement Secretariat would be key players in the successful implementation of the Joint Programme. The partners would bring strategic contributions and would be involved with tools/methods for participatory dialogue, co-design and co-delivery. The UN, and in particular FAO, WFP and WHO are well-positioned to support the Government and partners in the areas of nutrition, sustainable agriculture and health. The UN is well-placed to increase its provision of expertise through nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions. A key comparative advantage of the UN is the long experience in agricultural mechanism, household grain and seed drying and storage, value chain development and food standards. Finally, the UN brings experience and networks (at national, regional and global levels) on early warning systems.

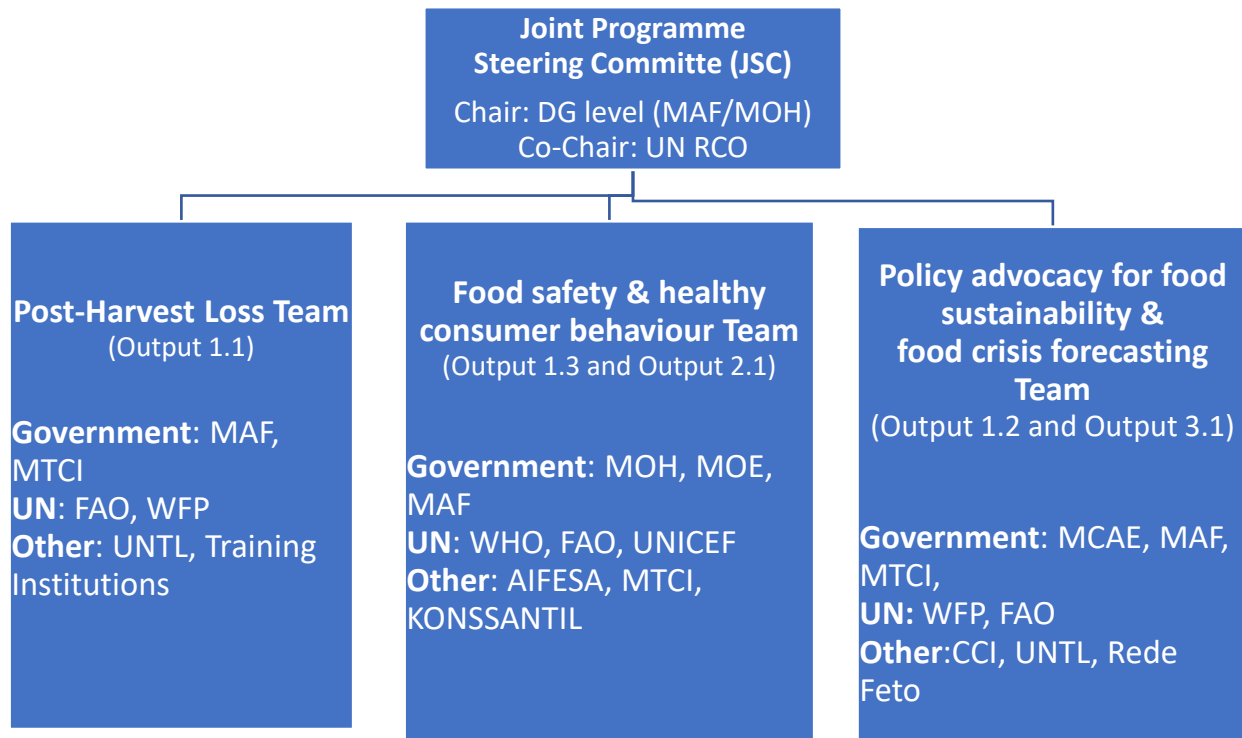
3. Programme implementation

3.1 Governance and implementation arrangements

The Joint Programme activities will be implemented with the leadership of the Government of Timor-Leste, and particularly MAF and MOH. A Steering Committee would be established, chaired by a high-level Government member at Directorate General (DG) level and co-chaired by the RC, with PUNO Heads of Agencies as members and relevant counterparts, meeting twice a year (see Diagram 6).

The leadership and engagement of the Government would draw on the existing partnerships and networks with the private and public sector, civil society organizations and development partners. These networks continue to strengthen as the Government joined the SUN Movement and are conducting national Food Systems dialogues. The high-level engagement of Government would ensure absorption and the sustained progress of the initiative beyond the life of the Joint Programme. The PUNOs, FAO, WFP and WHO are well-placed to provide strategic guidance, technical assistance and knowledge on the areas of nutrition, food security, agriculture and health. The RC/Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) would provide overall strategic guidance as well as enhance the coherence and efficiency of the Joint Programme implementation.

Diagram 6: Governance Structure



3.2 Monitoring, reporting, and evaluation

Reporting on the Joint SDG Fund will be results-oriented, and evidence based. Each PUNO will provide the Convening/Lead Agent with the following narrative reports prepared in accordance with instructions and templates developed by the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat:

- *Annual narrative progress reports*, to be provided no later than one (1) month (31 January) after the end of the calendar year, and must include the result matrix, updated risk log, and anticipated expenditures and results for the next 12-month funding period;
- *Final consolidated narrative report*, after the completion of the joint programme, to be provided no later than two (2) months after the operational closure of the activities of the joint programme.

The Convening/Lead Agent will compile the narrative reports of PUNOs and submit a consolidated report to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, through the Resident Coordinator.

The Resident Coordinator will be required to monitor the implementation of the joint programme, with the involvement of Joint SDG Fund Secretariat to which it must submit data and information when requested. As a minimum, joint programmes will prepare, and submit to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, 6-month monitoring updates. Additional insights (such as policy papers, value for money analysis, case studies, infographics, blogs) might need to be provided, per request of the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat. The joint programme will adequately allocate resources for monitoring and evaluation in the budget.

Data for all indicators of the results framework will be shared with the Fund Secretariat on a regular basis, in order to allow the Fund Secretariat to aggregate results at the global level and integrate findings into reporting on progress of the Joint SDG Fund.

PUNOs will be required to include information on complementary funding received from other sources (both UN cost sharing, and external sources of funding) for the activities supported by the Fund, including in kind contributions and/or South-South Cooperation initiatives, in the reporting done throughout the year.

PUNOs at Headquarters level shall provide the Administrative Agent with the following statements and reports prepared in accordance with its accounting and reporting procedures, consolidate the financial reports, as follows:

- Annual financial reports as of 31st December each year with respect to the funds disbursed to it from the Joint SDG Fund Account, to be provided no later than four months after the end of the applicable reporting period; and
- A final financial report, after the completion of the activities financed by the Joint SDG Fund and including the final year of the activities, to be provided no later than 30 April of the year following the operational closing of the project activities.

In addition, regular updates on financial delivery might need to be provided, per request of the Fund Secretariat.

After competition of a joint programmes, a final, *independent and gender-responsive*⁹ *evaluation* will be organized by the Resident Coordinator. The cost needs to be budgeted, and in case there are no remaining funds at the end of the joint programme, it will be the responsibility of PUNOs to pay for the final, independent evaluation from their own resources.

The programme will be subject to a joint final independent evaluation with an established arrangement for managing the joint evaluation. The final evaluation will be managed jointly by the PUNOs as per established process for independent evaluations, including use of a joint evaluation steering group and dedicated evaluation managers not involved in the implementation of the joint programme. The evaluations will follow the United Nations Evaluation Group's (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN System, using the guidance on Joint Evaluation and relevant UNDG guidance on evaluations. The management and implementation of the joint evaluation will have due regard to the evaluation policies of the PUNOs to ensure the requirements of those policies are met; and with use of appropriate guidance from PUNOs on joint evaluation. The evaluation process will be participative and will involve all relevant programme's stakeholders and partners. Evaluation results will be disseminated amongst governments, donors, academic institutions and stakeholders of civil society (including workers' and employers' organizations) and a joint management response will be produced upon completion of the evaluation process to be made publicly available on the evaluation platforms or similar of the PUNOs and through the UNEG database.

3.3 Accountability, financial management, and public disclosure

The Joint Programme will be using a pass-through fund management modality where UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office will act as the Administrative Agent (AA) under which the funds will be channelled for the Joint Programme through the AA. Each Participating UN

⁹ [How to manage a gender responsive evaluation, Evaluation handbook](#), UN Women, 2015

Organization receiving funds through the pass-through has signed a standard Memorandum of Understanding with the AA.

Each Participating UN Organization (PUNO) shall assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent of the Joint SDG Fund (Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office). Such funds will be administered by each UN Agency, Fund, and Programme in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures. Each PUNO shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent.

Indirect costs of the Participating Organizations recovered through programme support costs will be 7%. All other costs incurred by each PUNO in carrying out the activities for which it is responsible under the Fund will be recovered as direct costs.

Funding by the Joint SDG Fund will be provided on annual basis, upon successful performance of the joint programme.

Procedures on financial transfers, extensions, financial and operational closure, and related administrative issues are stipulated in the Operational Guidance of the Joint SDG Fund.

PUNOs and partners must comply with Joint SDG Fund brand guidelines, which includes information on donor visibility requirements.

Each PUNO will take appropriate measures to publicize the Joint SDG Fund and give due credit to the other PUNOs. All related publicity material, official notices, reports and publications, provided to the press or Fund beneficiaries, will acknowledge the role of the host Government, donors, PUNOs, the Administrative Agent, and any other relevant entities. In particular, the Administrative Agent will include and ensure due recognition of the role of each Participating Organization and partners in all external communications related to the Joint SDG Fund.

3.4 Legal context

Agency name: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Timor-Leste

Agreement title: Representation was established in Timor-Leste as a response to a request by the Government to focus more on developmental activities for furthering food security interventions.

Agreement date: 20 October 2011

Agency name: World Food Programme (WFP) Timor-Leste

Agreement title: Basic Agreement concerning assistance

Agreement date: 7 August 2006

Agency name: World Health Organization (WHO) Timor-Leste

Agreement title: Basic Agreement between the WHO and the Government for establishment of technical advisory cooperation relations

Agreement date: 8 August 2021

D. ANNEXES

Annex 1. List of related initiatives

Name of initiative/ project	Key expected results	Links to the joint programme	Lead organization	Other partners	Budget and funding source	Contract person (name and email)
Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcome: Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement Output: Holistic and integrated system of financing for SDGs is strengthened Output: Enhanced domestic resources to finance health investments Output: Enhanced diaspora engagement & remittance mobilization for financing SDGs Output: Financing for climate-related SDGs channelled into sectoral development plans and budgets 	Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) and Financial Diversification in Timor-Leste Joint SDG Fund	UNDP	International Organization for Migration (IOM), WHO	Joint SDG Fund	Representative, United Nations Munkhtuya Altangerel, Resident UNDP Email: tuya.altangerel@undp.org
Global UNJP on Stepping up the engagement of the Global Network against Food Crises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate smart, gender-responsive, agriculture technologies practiced by 3 000 resource-poor smallholder farm families. Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) implemented to reduce climate risks in 30 communities/Sucos (villages) and national DRM system reinforced. Inclusive, gender-responsive, CSA value-chains are enlarged and farmers are better linked to market and service providers. 	Stepping up the engagement of the Global Network Against Food Crises :	FAO	WFP	EU	FAO Representative Rajendra Aryal Rajendra.Aryal@fao.org
KOICA-supported WFP-WHO Joint Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the health and nutrition of school aged children (SAY NO TO five 'S' Starvation, Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis, Skin diseases, Smoking and Sugary/alcoholic drinks) 	NA	WFP	WHO	Republic of Korea	WFP Representative Dageng Liu dageng.liu@wfp.org

Annex 2. Overall Results Framework

2.2. Joint programme Results framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	2022 Target	2023 Target	Means of Verification	Responsible partner
Goal 1 By 2023, nutrition, food security and agricultural productivity have improved for all, irrespective of individual ability, gender, age, socio-economic status and geographical location					
Goal 1.1 indicator Prevalence of undernourishment (SDG Target 2.1.1)	23% nationally	< 20.38%	< 17.75% <i>(targets based on linear trends and UNSDCF target 2025, <12.5%)</i>	SOFI 2021 SOFI 2022 SOFI 2023	MAF, WFP
Goal 1.2 indicator Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) (SDG Target 2.1.2)	50% food secure/mild food insecure 16% severe food insecure 35% moderate food insecure	< 13.9% severe food insecure <28.9% moderate food insecure	< 11.75% severe food insecure <22.75% moderate food insecure <i>(targets based on linear trends and UNSDCF target 2025, <7.5% and <10.5% respectively)</i>	Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey (TLFNS) 2020 and SOFI 2021, SOFI 2022, SOFI 2023	MOH, MAF
Goal 1.3 indicator Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth	8% wasting	< 7. % wasting	< 6.8% wasting	Demographic Health Survey (DHS) 2023, TLFNS 2020	MOH, WHO

Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting) (SDG Target 2.2.2)			Targets as per national Health Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan 2025. <i>(targets based on linear trend and 2025 target, <5 %)</i>		
Goal 1.4 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex (SDG Target 5.1.1)	Policies and legal frameworks on local procurement and healthy food environment promoting gender equality not developed	2 draft policies on local procurement and healthy environment under development promoting gender equality	2 draft policies; on local procurement and healthy environment developed promoting gender equality	Official policy documents and programme monitoring documentation	Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL), WFP, WHO
Goal 1.5 indicator Timor-Leste reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG Target 17.16.1)	Engagement and high priority commitment in regional and bilateral platforms with focus on the food security agenda, including Asia-Pacific region, KOSSANTIL, CPLP, SUN Movement and its networks	Continued and enhanced engagement in regional and bilateral platforms, through Technical Working Groups and Steering Committees	Continued and enhanced engagement in regional and bilateral platforms, through Technical Working Groups and Steering Committees	Government documents, internal reporting documents	GoTL
Outcome 1 – By 2023, the supply side of the national food system is strengthened					
Outcome 1.1 indicator Reduce food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses a) food loss index and b) food	Paddy rice, critical loss points (CLP): 47 tons or 21 % of total annual production of 224.4 tonnes (economic loss of USD 10,900)(study in Baucau)	1% reduction from the baseline	2% reduction from the baseline	FAO Food loss analysis: causes and solutions – Case study on the rice value chain FAO Food loss analysis: causes	MAF, FAO

waste index (SDG Target 12.3.1)	Maize total estimated loss is 21.7 tonnes or 15.4 % of total annual production of 140.8 tonnes (economic loss of USD 9,800 or USD 98 by farmer) (field survey in Lautem); Banana PHL is 2.5%; tomato is 15.4% (Liquica & Baucau)			and solutions – Case study on the maize value chain UNTL Baseline Survey on Stakeholders’ Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) to Reduce Post-Harvest Losses for Banana and Tomato in Liquica and Baucau	
Outcome 1.2 indicator Timor-Leste has developed, adopted and/or implemented policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production (SDG Target 12.1.1)	No policy on local food procurement incentivizing value chain transformation that is gender-sensitive and supports local production for local consumption exists; no policy on healthy food environment exists	Policy advocacy and gender-sensitive draft policy on local food procurement; draft policy on healthy food environment under development	Continued policy advocacy and draft gender-sensitive policy on local food procurement; draft policy on healthy food environment developed	Official Government draft policy and communication and advocacy	MAF, WFP
Output 1.1 By 2023, the agricultural Post-Harvest Loss (PHL) is reduced					
Output 1.1.1 indicator Improved supply chain and logistics practices	0	Value chain actors increase awareness on improved practices to	Improved practices to reduce food loss and waste are adopted by value chain actors	Internal monitoring data and reports	MAF, FAO

		reduce food loss and waste			
Output 1.1.2 indicator Reduction of food grain wastage	Paddy rice, critical loss points (CLP): 47 tons or 21 % of total annual production of 224.4 tonnes (economic loss of USD 10,900)(study in Baucau); Maize total estimated loss is 21.7 tonnes or 15.4 % of total annual production of 140.8 tonnes (economic loss of USD 9,800 or USD 98 by farmer) (in-depth field survey in Lautem); Banana PHL is 2.5%; tomato is 15.4% (Liquica & Baucau)	Reduction of food waste by 1%	Reduction of food waste by 2%	Internal monitoring and reporting	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, FAO
Output 1.1.3 indicator Increase of food availability and quality in local markets	50 % food secure/mild food insecure 16% severe food insecure	< 13.9% severe food insecure	< 11.75 % severe food insecure <22.75 % moderate food insecure	Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey (TLFNS) 2020 and SOFI 2021, SOFI 2022, SOFI 2023	MOH, MAF

	35% moderate food insecure	<28.9 % moderate food insecure	<i>(targets based on linear trends and UNSDCF target 2025)</i>		
Output 1.1.4 indicator Groups of different food value chain actors (producers, collectors, processors) trained on improved post-harvest handling, including female actors	0 groups trained	10 groups trained	15 groups trained	Internal Joint Programme monitoring and reporting	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, FAO
Output 1.2 - Local food sustainability has increased and reliance on global food systems has decreased					
Output 1.2.1 indicator Policy advocacy on local food procurement incentivizing value chain transformation	GoTL programme Cesta Basica 2020-2021 advocated to procure local products, however formal, continued policy advocacy is needed	Political advocacy material and Implementation Roadmap for draft gender-sensitive policy on local food procurement developed	Political advocacy material published and disseminated via various channels including media; and Implementation Roadmap for draft gender-sensitive policy on local food procurement finalized	Internal Joint Programme monitoring and reporting and communications materials published	MCEA, MAF, MTCI, WFP
Output 1.2.2 indicator Policy on local food procurement incentivizing value chain transformation	No gender-sensitive policy on local food procurement incentivizing value chain transformation exists and supports local production for local consumption.	Draft gender-sensitive policy developed for local food procurement	Draft gender-sensitive policy exists for local food procurement	Official Government draft policy and communication and advocacy	MAF, WFP
Output 1.3 - National capacity on food safety and surveillance system strengthened					

Output 1.3.1 indicator Comprehensive assessment of National Food control system completed for establishment of national food safety programme	Ministry of Health had developed the food safety strategy	Comprehensive assessment conducted (team established, tools finalized, data collected and final reported generated)	Management actions developed and endorsed by relevant stakeholder and government based on the Recommendations from the comprehensive assessment	Internal progress report Assessment report	WHO
Output 1.3.2 indicator Presence of functioning risk-based food inspection mechanisms with well-defined standard operating procedures	National matrix exists but not as a SOP	Functioning food risk inspection mechanism established & SOPs on food inspections established, endorsed by relevant stakeholder & Gov't	SOP developed and endorsed	Internal report-government report	MoH, MAF, AIFAESA, WHO
Output 1.3.3 indicator Number of food inspectors trained on food control/food safety and quality	77 food inspectors were trained in 2019 on food inspections and quality	100 food inspectors trained on food safety and quality 20 food inspectors trained as trainer of trainers on food safety and quality	100 food inspectors received refresher training 80 food inspectors trained as food safety quality controllers	Training report	MoH,MAF, AIFAESA INS, WHO
Output 1.3.4 indicator Surveillance on foodborne diseases strengthened	Monthly report of foodborne incident available	Incident on outbreak report included in the national health information system, and	Incident on outbreak report included in the national health information system and coordination, and information sharing improved	Internal Report Coordination meeting minutes	MoH, WHO

		coordination and information sharing improved among key stakeholders and government ministries			
Outcome 2 – By 2023, increased demand for essential health and nutrition services utilization, and healthy diet					
Outcome 2.1 indicator Coverage of essential health services (SDG Target 3.8.1)	52 (Universal Health Coverage Index 2017)	56.5	61 (targets based on linear trends and UNSDCF 2025 target, 70%)	SDG Profile	MOH, WHO
Output 2.1 – Healthy consumer behaviour is fostered					
Output 2.1.1 indicator Percentage of Pregnant and lactating women & caretaker of young children who remember key nutrition messages on healthy diet and practices ¹⁰	Baseline assessment will be done in 6 municipalities with high prevalence of malnutrition rates: Ermera(63.4%), Ainaro(60.3%), Oecusse(57.1%), Aileu(53.9%), Covalima(49.0%) Baucau(48.8%)	10% increase from the baseline	20% of increase from the baseline	Survey (TLFNS)	MOH, WHO
Output 2.1.2 indicator Percent of pregnant and lactating woman and caretaker of young children reached with Social Behaviour Change	0	5% of pregnant and lactating women and caretakers of young children (nationally)	30% of pregnant and lactating women and caretakes of young children (nationally) reached through enhanced delivery platform	Survey (TLFNS)	MoH, WHO

¹⁰ MOH Strategy recommends to hire a nutritionist to be placed in each health post under Saude na familia platform.

Communication (SBCC) intervention through different platform		reached through enhanced delivery platform (Saude na Familia, Mother Support Group and SISCA)			
Output 2.1.3 indicator Percent of health workers trained on nutrition SBCC and Food-Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs)	0	10% of health workers (nationally) trained on nutrition SBCC and FBDG	40% of health workers (nationally) trained on nutrition SBCC and FBDG	Internal reports & surveys Training reports	MoH, WHO
Outcome 3 – By 2023, the resilience and protection of national food systems has strengthened					
Outcome 3.1 indicator Timor-Leste adopts and implements national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SDG Target 13.1.2)	No food crisis forecasting tool exists (Note. Currently there is a draft agricultural Disaster Risk Management (DRM) plan/strategy)	Food crisis forecasting tool under development, with consideration of CEDAW recommendations on the gender-related dimension of disaster risk reduction	Food crisis forecasting tool implemented. During implementation, consideration is given to CEDAW recommendations on the gender-related dimensions of DRR (Note. As per UNSDCF 2025 target: Development and implementation of National DRM Strategy, Basic Civil Protection Law and National DRM Policy aligned to Sendai)	NDRMD, MAF	GoTL, WFP
Output 3.1 Food crisis forecasting has been implemented through acute food security and nutrition monitoring systems					
Output 3.1.1 indicator Tools or products developed or revised to enhance national food security,	No IPC protocols/tools exist for food crises that emanate due to	IPC protocol/tools adapted to forecasting food crises that	IPC protocol institutionalized as a tool for national food security forecasting	Acute Integrated Food Security Phase Classification reports	MAF, WFP, FAO

nutrition systems, including advanced weather forecasting	factors such climate variability	emanate due to factors such climate variability			
Output 3.1.2 indicator Capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated to enhance national food security and nutrition stakeholder capacities	0 acute IPC trainings. Training has been done for chronic IPC but not for acute IPC, for relevant stakeholders.	1 acute IPC training session for relevant stakeholders held	1 acute IPC training session for relevant stakeholders held (i.e. 2 trainings cumulatively over 2 years)	Acute Integrated Food Security Phase Classification reports	MAF, WFP, FAO

2.1. Targets for Joint SDG Fund Results Framework

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

Indicators	Targets	
	2022	2023
1.1: integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope ¹¹	0	2
1.2: integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale ¹²	0	2

Note. This Joint Programme would develop 2 policies relating to healthy food environment (Output 1.2) and local procurement on the agricultural value chain (Output 1.3) which would accelerate SDG progress in terms of scope and scale. The official adoption of policies would be dependent on legislative processes and Government approval, which could take some time and may be done beyond the Joint Programme timeline.

Joint SDG Fund Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Indicators	Targets	
	2022	2023
3.1: # of innovative solutions that were tested ¹³ (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)	2	2
3.2: # of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead	0	2
3.3: # and share of countries where national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has been strengthened	1	1

Note. Firstly, one innovative solution (3.1) would be the use of mobile technologies for data collection to strengthen food crisis monitoring (Output 1.4). The Joint Programme will also support MOH in exploring innovative solutions regarding healthy food environment (such solutions would be tested in both 2022 and 2023). Secondly, the number of integrated policy solutions with national partners in lead (Output 3.2) would be 2 policies (equivalent to information provided under Indicator 1.1 and 1.2 in the Table above) – however as legislative process and Government approval may take time; the policy implementation may take place after the Joint Programme timeline. Thirdly, Timor-Leste would increase national capacity at various levels within Government (Indicator 3.3) during both 2022 and 2023.

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 2: Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement

Indicators	Targets	
	2022	2023
2.1: Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scope ¹⁴ (disaggregated by source)	NA	NA

¹¹Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

¹²Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

¹³Each Joint programme in the Implementation phase will test at least 2 approaches.

¹⁴Additional resources mobilized for other / additional sector/s

2.2: Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scale ¹⁵ (disaggregated by source)	NA	NA
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Joint SDG Fund Output 4: Integrated financing strategies for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Indicators	Targets	
	2022	2023
4.1: # of integrated financing instruments/strategies that were tested (disaggregated by % successful / unsuccessful)	NA	NA
4.2: # of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in lead ¹⁶	NA	NA
4.3: # of functioning partnership/governance frameworks for integrated financing strategies to accelerate progress on SDGs made operational	NA	NA

Joint SDG Fund Operational Performance Indicators

- Level of coherence of UN in implementing programme country¹⁷
- Reduced transaction costs for the participating UN agencies in interaction with national/regional and local authorities and/or public entities compared to other joint programmes in the country in question

- Annual % of financial delivery
- Joint programme operationally closed within original end date
- Joint programme financially closed 18 months after their operational closure

- Joint programme facilitated engagement with diverse stakeholders (e.g. parliamentarians, civil society, IFIs, bilateral/multilateral actor, private sector).
- Joint programme included addressing inequalities and the principle of “Leaving No One Behind”.
- Joint programme featured gender results at the outcome level.
- Joint programme undertook or draw upon relevant human rights analysis, and have developed or implemented a strategy to address human rights issues.
- Joint programme planned for and can demonstrate positive results/effects for youth.
- Joint programme considered the needs of persons with disabilities.
- Joint programme made use of risk analysis in programme planning.
- Joint programme conducted do-no-harm / due diligence and were designed to take into consideration opportunities in the areas of the environment and climate change.

¹⁵Additional resources mobilized for the same multi-sectoral solution.

¹⁶ This will be disaggregated by (1) government/public partners (2) civil society partners and (3) private sector partners

¹⁷ Annual survey will provide qualitative information towards this indicator.

Annex 3. Theory of Change graphic

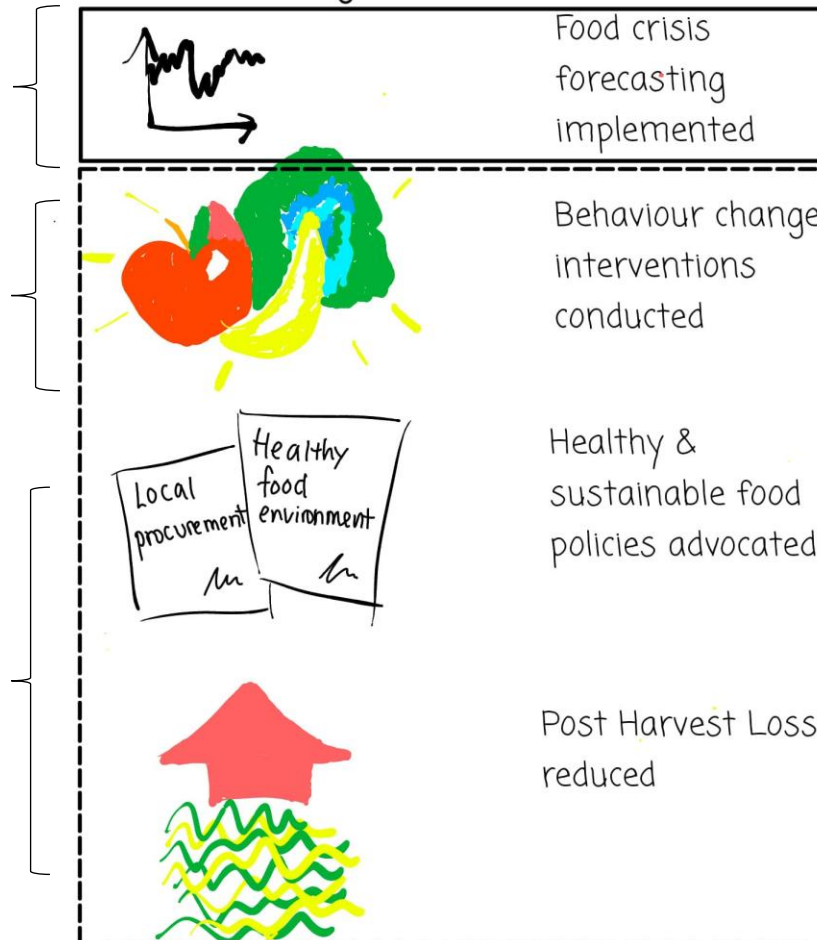
Strengthening national food systems and promoting DRR

Goal 1- Improved Nutrition, Food Security and Agriculture for all

Outcome 3 - The resilience and protection of national food systems has strengthened

Outcome 2 - The demand-side of the food systems is strengthened

Outcome 1 - The supply side of the national food system is strengthened



Annex 4. Gender marker matrix

Indicator		Score	Findings and Explanation	Evidence or Means of Verification
<i>N°</i>	<i>Formulation</i>			
1.1	Context analysis integrate gender analysis	3	The context analysis fully integrates a gender analysis from both the consumer and producer perspective. The context analysis highlights the impact of malnutrition and food insecurity on vulnerable groups in particular women, adolescents, women of reproductive age, pregnant and lactating women, girls and children under 5. The context analysis highlights impact of unsustainable agriculture on, for example, female farmers and female headed households.	Common Country Analysis (CCA), UNSDCF 2021-2025
1.2	Gender Equality mainstreamed in proposed outputs	3	All the four outputs have adopted a Do No Harm (DNH) approach and include gender equality components	Annual Monitoring reports
1.3	Programme output indicators measure changes on gender equality	2	All of the four outputs include indicator measurements of changes on gender equality	Annual Monitoring reports
2.1	PUNO collaborate and engage with Government on gender equality and the empowerment of women	3	Policy formulation will deliberately make emphasis on the role of women in local procurement. Similarly, for the reduction of food waste and loss, women groups will be deliberately targeted for the trainings.	Annual Monitoring reports
2.2	PUNO collaborate and engages with women's/gender equality CSOs	3	Coordination and engagement with civil society groups promoting women's/gender quality, for example through Rede Feto, a national constituency representing 18 women's organizations. CSOs would be consulted regarding trainings; for policy advocacy and other activities.	Annual Monitoring reports and meeting notes with CSOs
3.1	Program proposes a gender-responsive budget	2	The programme proposes a gender-responsive budget, as finances for all four outputs contribute to support those most at risk, including women and girls. SDG 2 or 35 % of the budget corresponds to nutrition issues that disproportionately affect women and girls and 20 % of the budget would support SDG 5 explicitly.	Annual Monitoring reports
Total scoring		3		

Annex 5. Budget and Work Plan

The total Joint SDG Fund budget would be divided between WFP, FAO and WHO. The budget is divided evenly between the 4 outputs of the Results Matrix. FAO’s budget focuses on Output 1.1, WHO’s budget focuses on Output 1.2, and WFP’s budget focuses on Output 1.3 and Output 1.4. The largest cost in terms of the UNSDG categories would be attributed to contractual services, followed by staff and other personnel costs.







5.1 Budget per UNSDG categories

UNDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	PUNO 1 (WFP)		PUNO 2 (FAO)		PUNO 3 (WHO)		TOTAL	
	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)
1. Staff and other personnel	69,231	0	50,000	0	76,400	0	195,631	
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	2,959		15,000		1,400		19,359	
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	5,040		10,000		1,500		16,540	
4. Contractual services	189,255		65,000		128,400		382,655	
5. Travel	100,360		10,000		2,650		113,010	
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	0		61,540		8,500		70,040	
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	79,822		10,750		3,440		94,012	
Total Direct Costs	446,667		222,290		222,290		891,247	
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	29,033	15,560	15,560	60,153				
TOTAL Costs	475,700	237,850	237,850	951,400	-			
1st year	237,850	95,140	118,925	451,915	0			
2nd year	237,850	142,710	118,925	499,485	0			

5.2 Budget per SDG targets

This Joint Programme intends to contribute directly to 9 out of the 231 SDG targets across 6 SDGs. This would strengthen national food systems and DRR to ensure that nutrition, food security and agriculture improves for all. Through multi-stakeholder cooperation (SDG 17), this Joint Programme would invest in People (SDG 2 and SDG 5), Prosperity (SDG 2, SDG 5 and SDG 12) and Planet (SDG 13).

The largest portion of the financial investment would contribute to SDG 2 (35 %) as the outcome focus aims at enhanced nutrition and food security. The second major budget investment is the agricultural sector which would be strengthened through policy advocacy and reducing PHL through SDG 12 (20 %). The focus on strengthening healthy food consumption behaviours and sustainable food environment through SDG 3 is also a key component (5 %) contributing further to SDG 2 and SDG 5. Increasing resilience to climate change and investment in DRR contributes to SDG 13 (10 %) which contributes to reducing malnutrition and supporting most vulnerable groups such as women (SDG 5). The investments contribute to SDG 5 by supporting the most vulnerable people especially women, pregnant and lactating women, adolescent women, rural workers, mothers with children suffering from malnutrition and PwDs (20%). Finally, leveraging on existing partnerships and the affirmed high-level political commitment is essential in ensuring transformational and sustainable change, SDG 17 (10 %).

SDG TARGETS		%	USD
	SDG Indicator 2.1.1	5%	47,570
	SDG Indicator 2.1.2	15%	142,710
	SDG Indicator 2.2.2	15%	142,710
	SDG Indicator 3.8.1	5%	47,570
	SDG Indicator 5.1.1	20%	190,280
	SDG Indicator 12.1.1	10%	95,140
	SDG Indicator 12.3.1	10%	95,140
	SDG Indicator 13.1.2	10%	95,140
	SDG Indicator 17.16.1	10%	95,140
TOTAL			951,400

5.3 Work plan

The Work plan below outlines the Joint Programme’s four outputs and respective activities to be conducted between Year 1 and Year 2, as well as corresponding financial figures. The early part of Year 1 would focus on preparatory work including the training preparation, advocacy, conducting of assessments and drafting policy documents. In the latter quarters of Year 1 and during Year 2, activities would include completing assessments, finalizing draft policies and key resources, and conducting training. Technical assistance would be provided by the PUNOs throughout the Joint Programme.

In terms of monitoring, reporting and strategic communications, this component of the budget is estimated to amount to 7 % of the total budget (2 % of which would be attributed to the preparation of the final evaluation report). The Joint Programme would leverage existing UNSDCF 2021-2021 strategic communication planning to promote activities. Joint communication and advocacy efforts would be amplified, with focus on the SDGs and Decade of Action. To ensure that the UN speaks with One Voice, global communications material and resources would be availed of for dissemination. The monitoring, reporting and communication costs would be accrued from already existing M&E and communications resources and mechanisms at PUNO and RCO level.

Outcome 1																					
Output	Annual target/s		List of activities	Time frame								PLANNED BUDGET			PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved					
	2022	2023		Q 1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)			Total Cost (USD)				
Output 1.1	BCC and training materials developed, awareness raising campaigns conducted and training of trainers (TOT) conducted	Training of value chain actors on good post-harvest management practices; improved practices are adopted	Develop BCC materials and training manual																		
			Awareness raising campaign on the magnitude, causes and impacts of post-harvest losses in Timor-Leste																		
			Training of at least 20 trainers (extension specialists, academics, researchers, NGO technical and extension agents, farmers’ organization leaders; women’s groups) in good post-harvest management practice																		
			Training of at least 25 groups of value chain actors in good post-harvest management practices																		
			Monitoring and documenting the adoption of the improved practices to reduce food loss and waste																		
A slightly larger proportion of funds will be utilized to hire experts to develop BCC material and training manual and to hire services from local training institutions to train different groups of food value chain actors. The remaining funds are to be utilized for printing and broadcasting of the awareness raising campaign materials as well as for monitoring and documenting the adoptions of improved practices											237,850	0	237,850	FAO	MAF MCTI Training Institutions (TBI)						

Output 1.2	Draft gender sensitive policy developed and the related advocacy materials developed	Draft gender sensitive policy exists and implementation roadmap	Policy consultation with various stakeholders at national and municipal level including women groups											The overall budget will cater for the draft policy consultations, technical assistance for the formulation of the policy , implementation roadmap, and advocacy activities.	237,850	0	237,850	WFP, FAO	National Logistics Centre, The Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs (MCAE) and Ministry of Agriculture and fisheries, Ministry of Tourism, Commercen and Industry (MTCI); Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Universade National Timor Loras'a'e (UNTL), Rede Feto (The Women's Network)	
			Technical assistance for drafting the policy and implementation roadmap																	
			Draft Policy implementation on pilot basis and monitoring																	
			Advocacy activities that including lobbying, campaigns, targeting key decision makers from both the public and private sector																	
Output 1.3	Technical assessment conducted	Recommendation from the technical assessment actioned, and national capacity on food safety and quality strengthened.	Technical assistance to conduct a comprehensive assessment on the national food safety program											The overall budget will cover hiring of expert to conduct the assessment and training.	71,355	0	71,355	WHO	MoH, MAF, AIFAESA, MTCL, KONSSANTIL	
			Support establishment and/or strengthening of national functioning risk-based food inspection mechanisms with well-defined standard operating procedures																	
			Provide capacity strengthening to relevant government authorities/agencies and food inspectors on food safety and quality																	
			Monitoring or surveillance of foodborne diseases related outbreak																	
Outcome 2																				
Output	Annual target/s		List of activities	Time frame								PLANNED BUDGET				PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved			
	2022	2023		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)					
Output 2.1	SBCC tools developed and/or adopted on healthy diet	Training and awarness campaign conducted	Develop or adopt relevant SBCC materials tools on MIYCN, adolescent and young children and disseminate to all health facility												The overall budget will cover the development of BCC materials and training and dissemination	166,495	0	166,495	WHO	MoH, MOE/UNICEF
			Revise or updates Interpersonal communication (IPC) materials for community health workers (PSF/MSG) on counseling and promotion of maternal, infant, young children and adolescent feeding practices and relevant training manuals for pre-service and in-service on nutrition topics for midwives, nurses and nutritionist																	
			Support Ministry of health on awareness raising campaing on the importance of healthy diet through advocacy, conducting public education campaigns and educational programmes																	
			Training of health worker including community health worker (PSF/MSG) on the FBDGs and nutrition SBCC																	

Outcome 3																			
Output	Annual target/s		List of activities	Time frame								PLANNED BUDGET			PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved			
	2022	2023		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)			Total Cost (USD)		
Output 3.1	IPC Trainings Conducted, Four rounds of data collection conducted	IPC Institutionalised as a tool for national food security forecasting	IPC Training 2 Weeks											The significant proportion of the funds will go towards trainings of national experts who are in the food security and nutrition security sector in IPC protocols and analysis. This is envisaged to support in the institutionalisation of IPC with Ministry of Agriculture as the lead. The other components will be actual data collection of food and nutrition indicators, using mobile technology under the current COVID-19 environment.	237,850	0	237,850	WFP and with some technical support from the IPC Regional Office (FAO)	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion; Departem of Civil Protection under Ministry of Interior
			Technical Assistance (short-term from IPC Regional Office)-once per year																
			IPC Analysis workshop (Twice per year)																
			Food and Nutrition Data Collection and Analysis (once per quarter)																
			Technical Assistance Climate forecasting and Analysis																
Joint programme management			List of activities	Time frame								PLANNED BUDGET			PUNO/s involved	Implementing partner/s involved			
Q1	Q2	Q3		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Overall budget description	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contributions (USD)	Total Cost (USD)							
Output 4.1	Monitoring, reporting and strategic communications		Monitoring, reporting, and strategic communications, including advocacy											0	66, 598	0	WFP, FAO, WHO and RCO	GoTL	

Annex 6. Risk Management Plan

The Risk Management Plan is summarized in the table below. There are potential risks in terms of contextual, programmatic, institutional and fiduciary risks. There are three risks that received the highest risk level (Risk Level 9) (i.e. likelihood x impact). These are: a surge in COVID-19 cases restricting movement in the country, political risks or impasse, and limitations in human resources due to limited capacities or travel restrictions. The Joint Programme has also identified one risk relating to the occurrence of a humanitarian disaster (Risk Level 6).

In terms of contextual risks, a surge in COVID-19 cases and restrictions in movement for example due to a State of Emergency would pose a risk (Risk Level 9). At the time of writing, the Government of Timor-Leste imposed a lockdown in the capital due to a surge in COVID-19 cases connected to the spread of the delta variant. However, as the PUNOs have been operating for several months through a global pandemic, the Joint Programme would consolidate this knowledge and is well placed to differ such adverse effects. This includes availing of mobile technologies, digital meetings and other innovative mechanisms to ensure the smooth running of the Joint Programme.

Another contextual risk would pertain to the occurrence of a humanitarian and natural disaster due to climate change and extreme weather events (Risk Level 6). After Cyclone Seroja in April 2021, cyclones, heavy rainfall and landslides may occur with greater frequency. This could affect the Programme, as stakeholders could shift their focus to the humanitarian response. At such a time, it would be important to enhance and create linkages with existing disaster risk management activities and programmes and tap into the DRR component of the Joint Programme. To adapt to the situation, it would be essential to review and adjust the implementation plan of the programme together with the Government.

Contextual risks such as political risks or impasse (Risk Level 9) could affect programme implementation (Risk Level 9). There have in more recent times been periods of political impasse, for example when the state budget has not been passed, and where Governments and ministries turned their attention to the political situation. In such a situation, it would be particularly important to continue engagement with the higher-level political leadership, as well as the other partners involved in the Joint Programme.

Programmatic risks related to limited resources due to difficulties in recruiting staff (Risk Level 9) could be an issue. It can sometimes be difficult to identify and locate available human resources, particularly if the position requires a highly technical or specific skill set. This can be addressed through international staff providing support to staff on the ground.

Other programmatic risks are related to the risk of limited human resources due to limitations in travel and entering the country because of COVID-19 travel restrictions (Risk Level 9). For most of 2020, travel restrictions to Timor-Leste were imposed by the Government, and commercial flights were discontinued. There were monthly or fortnightly humanitarian flights for much of the year, however now commercial flights have started operating again. This challenge could be addressed by innovatively using technological systems to remotely support local staff on the ground.

Finally, there are additionally institutional and fiduciary risks which could affect programme implementation that received the Risk Level score between 1 and 6. These include a medium risk of staff turnover and low risk that stakeholders are not performing in best interest. For more information refer to the Risk Management table below.

Risks	Risk Level: (Likelihood x Impact)	Likelihood: Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1	Impact: Essential - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Org./Person
Contextual risks					
Surge in COVID-19 cases and restrictions in movement due to continued State of Emergency	9	3	3	Use of mobile technologies and other innovative ways to ensure smooth running of the project	WFP, FAO, WHO
Humanitarian/natural disaster related to climate change and extreme weather events that could impact project operations	6	3	2	Linking with existing disaster risk management projects to ensure lack of divergence to core outputs of the project. Use of mobile technologies and other innovative ways to ensure smooth running of the project and continue to review and adjust of implementation plan in consultation with GoTL	RCO, WFP, WHO
Political risks or impasse	9	3	3	Continued engagement with the political leadership throughout the project implementation	RCO
Programmatic risks					
Delays in implementation, schedule overrun due to delays in payment and organizational changes	6	3	2	Close collaboration, regular contacts with National Government Authority to ensure timely deliverables. Develop tools to monitor progress	WFP, FAO, WHO, RCO
Limited human resources and difficulty to recruit staff due to limited capacities	9	3	3	Use of International Consultants to mentor and build capacity of national staff	PUNOs
Limited human resources and difficulty to recruit staff due to travel restrictions	9	3	3	Use of remote support using innovative ways to support local staff on the ground	PUNOs

Institutional risks					
Staff turn-over during the project implementation	6	3	2	The project will have two alternates to ensure smooth running	Heads of PUNOs
Low participation from Government counterparts	6	2	3	Considerable roles and responsibilities to be placed under the Government as key duty bearers for the project beneficiaries	Heads of PUNOs
Fiduciary risks					
The risk that stakeholders are not optimally performing in best interest and guaranteeing best value for money	1	1	1	Anticipated to be very low as resource from the Joint SDG Fund will be managed using the systems of the participating agencies. PUNOs have internal monitoring and financial systems to prevent fiduciary risks	PUNOs