

Joint SDG Fund
PORTOFLIO ON INTEGRATED POLICY AND LNOB

Joint Programme 2021 Annual Progress Report

Template

Cover page

Country: Malawi

Joint Programme title: Social Protection for the Sustainable Development Goals

Short title: SP4SDG

Start date (day/month/year): 1 January 2020

End date (day/month/year): 28 February 2022

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Budget (Joint SDG Fund contribution): **USD 1,999,937**

Overall budget (with co-funding): **USD 1,999,937**

Total estimated expenditure (in USD, for the whole JP by 31 Dec 2021): 1,715,509

Total estimated commitments (in USD, for the whole JP by 31 Dec 2021): 260,602

Short description of the Joint Programme (max 1 paragraph):

The United Nations Joint Programme: Social Protection for the Sustainable Development Goals (SP4SDG) aims to support the Government of Malawi (GoM) to adapt the national social protection system to meet emergency food needs and reduce the vulnerability of those most at risk of food insecurity by 2022, while strengthening the social protection system for all vulnerable households across the lifecycle. The programme combines advancing an innovative Shock-Sensitive Social Protection (SSSP) prototype with reinforced financial structures and the review of the existing policy framework to enhance the social protection system to be more robust, comprehensive, and sustainable, leaving no one behind.

Executive summary

Through coordinated efforts, the JP provided a basis for systemic adaptations to the Malawi social protection system, enhanced knowledge management, provided targeted capacity strengthening, and leveraged the social protection system to meet heightened food needs during the annual lean season, while providing technical assistance to the GoM. The JP completed several crucial analyses of social protection financing that will serve as foundational tools and evidence for the GoM to increase spending efficiency and sustainability of spending for social protection programmes. In addition, the multisectoral participatory consultative process for the government-led review of the National Social Support Policy (NSSP) has been translated into a Policy Framework Document (PFD), leading to an updated policy. This latter, in addition to the design of new social protection schemes, and specifically an Old Age Pension scheme, resulted in advancing a more comprehensive and integrated social protection system in Malawi with potential leads to increase in social protection coverage.

The JP, in line with the One UN- action, has built and strengthened systems and tested innovations, by linking up humanitarian and social protection processes, actors, and systems while reinforcing the financial and policy framework of social protection. Considering its short timeframe, the JP has been working on paving the way to ensure adequate resources are allocated and efficiently used, to streamline policies, implementation and operational mechanisms, and enhance coordination and governance arrangements. The JP aimed to provide the blueprint for a domestically financed, comprehensive and integrated social protection system which if implemented will enhance quality of life and improve the resilience of vulnerable populations in Malawi. In sum, the JP proposed a model to holistically address operational, financial, and policy framework gaps through its three interlinked components and to provide the GoM with the evidence base to shape and influence policy and programmatic processes.

Result 1: The Malawi Social Protection System is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector, embracing a humanitarian-development nexus' approach. This will be measured, in part, by reducing the impact of crisis and vulnerabilities on 6386 households.

Estimated rate of completion as of 31 Dec 2021:

100%

Result 2: Malawi has moved towards evidence-based financing for its Social Protection System, starting from the Social Cash Transfers Programme

Estimated rate of completion as of 31 Dec 2021:

90%

Result 3: Ensuring adoption of a comprehensive and integrated policy framework

Estimated rate of completion as of 31 Dec 2021:

80%

I. Overall progress and priority, cross-cutting issues

I.1 Context and the overall approach

Ensuring an adaptive and strategic JP

- While the overall approach, Theory of Change (TOC), and expected results of the JP have not changed in 2020, the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in necessary adaptations to programme activities including the decision to reprogramme a percentage of funding towards supporting the Government of Malawi's (GoM) COVID-19 Urban Cash Initiative (CUCI). As the JP was designed to address the shock of the annual Lean Season Response (LSR), the TOC was tested with the unexpected and unprecedented shock of COVID-19, proving to be responsive, reactive and adaptive to the needs created by the pandemic.
- The TOC has remained valid while the programme's scope has somewhat expanded to ensure the JP remains strategic and address the needs of the Malawi national social protection system. The expanded scope has included the support towards adaptations of the national social protection system to increase its shock-

responsiveness, such as supporting the roll-out of the national Management Information System for Emergencies (e-MIS) and its links to the Unified Beneficiary Registry (UBR). In relation to COVID-19, support to CUCI in that beneficiary in urban areas were targeted for the first time in Malawi, opening the potential for a catalytic change in the existing social protection system. Support was provided in relation to the management of the response through the national Management Information System for the CUCI (CUCI MIS), the CUCI Call Centre and mobile money payments in urban areas. In addition, the pandemic revealed new knowledge gaps for responding to economic and health crises in both urban and rural areas; as such the planned government capacity strengthening initiative was redesigned to fill these gaps to enable government social protection actors to respond effectively to both economic and health emergencies. The lessons from implementation of the CUCI provide valuable inputs for replication in future implementation of shock sensitive social protection models.

- In addition, with the change of government in Malawi in June 2020, the new government's policy priorities emphasized the aspiration to introduce a universal Old Age Social Pension scheme. As such the JP supported stakeholders' technical discussions that culminated in development of scenarios and designs options for introducing a universal old age pensions scheme. The technical note has continued to support stakeholder's advocacy and policy discussions on the review of the targeting approach for Social Cash Transfers including introduction of the Old Age pension scheme.

To this end, in 2021, to strategically respond to the current needs and aspirations of the new Government, changes to the programme were made. Specifically, Outcome 3 shifted its focus from legal frameworks to focusing on policy support. Corresponding changes were then made to the Theory of Change and Results Framework, resulting in changes to the indicators and output-level results, while remaining aligned to the overall outcome-level result. These changes were signed off on by PUNOs and Government and were approved by the Joint SDG Fund Operational Steering Committee on 28 June 2021.

Link with UNDAF/ UNSD Cooperation Framework

- The results framework of the JP is aligned and feed into the Malawi's 2019-2023 UNDAF Outcome 7 (By 2023, households have increased food and nutrition security, equitable access to healthy ecosystems and WASH, and resilient livelihoods), and its two intermediate outcomes: Expanded and strengthened social protection systems and capacities to meet basic needs in line with the MNSSP II; and Strengthened capacity of the social protection system to become responsive to shocks.
- Through coordinated efforts, the JP provided a basis for systemic adaptations to the Malawi social protection system, enhanced knowledge management, provided targeted capacity strengthening, and leveraged the social protection system to meet heightened food needs during the annual lean season, while providing technical assistance to the GoM.
- The JP completed several crucial analyses of social protection financing that will serve as foundational tools and evidence for the GoM to increase spending efficiency and sustainability of spending for social protection programmes.
- Multisectoral consultation processes were completed and resulted in the draft of a Policy Framework Document, which is an update and review of the existing social protection policy framework (2012 National Social Support Policy-NSSP) aimed to support a more comprehensive and integrated social protection system in Malawi.

COVID-19 impact

- To remain strategically aligned to government priorities, the work plan was adapted to support the GoM's COVID-19 response plan. The JP supported data collection for the national social registry (UBR) to be used for the crisis intervention and for future programming; beneficiaries in urban areas were targeted for the first time in Malawi, opening the potential for a catalytic change in the existing social protection system. The JP supported the government to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines to enable the GoM to identify new geographical hotspots of vulnerability likely be most affected by the economic effects of the pandemic, and as the response was rolled out by the social protection sector, this support laid the foundations for routine assistance to be provided following the emergency. Beyond supporting the response to COVID-19, the innovative use of new targeting and verification processes has opened the discussion around targeting and verification for routine social assistance in Malawi.
- In addition, as part of the COVID-19 response, Grievance & Redress Mechanisms and a call centre for the management of complaints were established. In line with the humanitarian-development nexus, these

emergency structures developed for the COVID-19 response are being supported to transition into permanent features of the national social protection system, thus strengthening it. New functionalities such as the broadcasting of SMS to beneficiaries and remote data collection for surveys, as well as new programmes (SCTP, Emergency MIS, Child Protection) are being gradually integrated in support of the Government of Malawi and in close collaboration with GIZ. Further, in collaboration with the private sector, the UN has supported *Know-Your-Customer* validation exercises with mobile phones and the National ID. The JP has also contributed to the exploration of categorical approaches for effective and inclusive targeting under CUCI. These experiences on targeting for the COVID-19 response are also feeding into ongoing discussions for the testing of categorical targeting approaches for regular social protection programmes, thus constituting another example of the humanitarian-development nexus.

- The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed gaps in social protection coverage, financing and adequacy of benefits as well as comprehensiveness of social protection systems globally. The policy review process undertaken by the JP provided an opportunity to define, design and craft a comprehensive social protection framework that is not only responsive to shocks but also accommodates the needs of people throughout the lifecycle.

I.2 Update on priority cross-cutting issues

UN Development System reform - UN coherence at the country level

- The JP has enabled the UN agencies leading on social protection initiatives in Malawi to work together in a very collaborative manner in a programme targeting systems-level changes. The programme blends shock-responsive social protection interventions and enhanced essential components of a robust, comprehensive, and sustainable social protection system.
- Building on previous interaction each of the three PUNOs bring relevant experiences of effectively engaging with GoM at a strategic level. WFP and UNICEF co-chair key working groups with GoM including social protection and emergency food security. ILO offers regional and global experience in developing comprehensive national social protection systems including in financing and costing analysis of social protection measures, all of which have been instrumental in leading the coherent debate with GoM on the legal basis for a universal old age pension and a more comprehensive social protection system in Malawi. Given this close connection with GoM, PUNOs have a comparative advantage to engage and coordinate JP implementation interventions at various levels of government.
- The PUNOs perform a technical advisory role to the Learning Taskforce on Coordination of Social Protection. This is an initiative led by the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) and Ministry of Economic Planning and Development and Public Sector Reforms (MoEPDPSR) that aims to integrate implementation of the MNSSP II through harmonized SP and humanitarian action.
- An MoU between the UN Country Team and Parliament allows for the JP to engage with three parliamentary committees, legal, social welfare, budget and finance. The JP has played a key role in supporting social protection advocacy by enhancing engagement between government line ministries and the parliamentary committees. Participation in these crucial committees and various task forces provided the political traction to underpin the JPs three outcome areas. The JP has played a critical role in enhancing the coordination among key stakeholders responsible for implementing social protection interventions. This is in line with the National Social Support Policy (NSSP), and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) which calls for strong coordination within the social protection sector and is a critical means of improving the livelihoods and welfare of vulnerable people.

Going beyond "business as usual" to produce catalytic results at scale

- The JP built on previous investments to fast-track the development of an SRSP prototype with a focus on one district, reaching 6,368 households, therefore significantly contributing to providing the GoM with a model to be replicated at scale.
- The JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools and guidelines for the urban cash transfer response. In fact, through its critical support to the CUCI established in response to the COVID-19 crisis, beneficiaries in urban areas were targeted for support for the first time in Malawi, opening the potential for a catalytic change to enhance expansion of social protection coverage in the existing social protection system.

- Beyond supporting the COVID-19 response, the programme innovatively used new targeting and verification processes that have opened the discussion around targeting and verification for routine social assistance in Malawi. This was the first time that a geographical approach with universal registration to targeting has been undertaken for such an intervention in Malawi. Specifically, as part of innovation, the targeting and hotspot verification was conducted through satellite imagery, igniting the discussions of and laying the foundation for scaling up social protection by targeting new geographical areas and by addressing urban vulnerabilities beyond the pandemic. This innovative use of targeting and verification processes presents potential scope to apply to other social assistance interventions going forward.
- The JP also assisted the Government of Malawi to explore categorical targeting approaches for 8,000 households under CUCI, ensuring that vulnerable groups are targeted through linkages with lists provided by social services (child-headed households, households headed by persons with disabilities, etc.). This exercise has fed into the ongoing conversation on categorical targeting approaches for social programmes and was aimed at ensuring that emergency responses are not leaving relevant vulnerable groups behind.
- The JP also supported the Government with the implementation of the CUCI response through the national CUCI Management Information System (CUCI MIS) and by facilitating the safe provision of this cash support through mobile money payments.
- In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic the JP has supported the Government on the exploration of the use of the CUCI Call centre for Monitoring & Evaluation of Shock-Sensitive Social Protection interventions (e.g. remote data collection). This work undertaken as part of the COVID-19 emergency response has the potential to benefit other established programmes in the future (humanitarian-development nexus).
- In the context of the Lean Season 21/22 the JP has supported the roll-out of innovations that have enabled the national social protection system to be expanded both vertically and horizontally for the first time in four districts. These include support for the roll-out of the national Management Information System for Emergencies (e-MIS), which is managed by the Government of Malawi. The e-MIS reduces the need to resort to the establishment of temporary emergency structures to respond to predictable and recurrent shocks, thus constituting a tangible example of how through this JP the UN has supported innovative approaches going beyond business as usual. Moreover, the JP has supported the provision of cash transfers through e-payments in rural areas with access to mobile money agents (e.g. Ntcheu).
- The JP supported the development of the Training package on developing shock responsive social protection programmes. This innovative training package is contributing to ensuring sustained capacity strengthening in developing and rolling out shock sensitive social protection programmes models in Malawi.
- Through the policy review process, the JP has contributed to the process of expanding the current social protection framework in Malawi led to broaden the scope of the social support policy by including other critical priority areas such as contributory schemes. This will subsequently see an increase in coverage of social protection schemes to include other social protection benefits including for people operating in the informal sector. The Covid-19 pandemic unearthed the vulnerability that these people face and as such inclusion of these priority areas is timely in the updated social protection policy.

SDG acceleration

- All components/Outcomes in the JP contribute directly or indirectly to SDG Target 1.3, by leveraging and strengthening the social protection system capacity (Outcome 1) and by enhancing two key elements of a comprehensive and appropriate social protection system – adequate funding to ensure timely and regular delivery of protection measures (Outcome 2); and a robust policy framework to nationally define the social protection system and ensure all enjoy equal rights to social protection (Outcome 3).
- Component 1 (SSSP) seeks to strengthen the social protection system’s delivery capacity so it can be leveraged and expanded to better deliver emergency assistance. Using the SSSP prototype, the JP has helped to adapt the social protection system to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector (SDG 2.1) by leveraging and strengthening the system, reaching 6,386 shock-affected and vulnerable households with emergency food assistance. Moreover, the JP facilitated the coordination and innovations that allowed traditional Social Cash Transfers Programme contributors to finance not only vertical but also horizontal expansions of the national social protection system in response to the Lean Season 21/22, meaning that resources could be mobilized for assisting more than 114,000 households through cash transfers via the national

social protection system. In addition, over 30,000 of those Shock-Sensitive Social Protection cash transfers are being delivered via innovative e-payment mechanisms.

- Through component 2 (financial architecture) the JP has contributed to assisting the GoM to increase its share of the social protection budget and undertake measures to improve efficiency and sustainability of spending (SDG 1.a, 17.1) via progress towards a financing strategy. It is foreseen that increases in domestic resources allocation for social protection will greatly contribute to ensure continued support by donors and development partners in the medium to long- term.
- Component 3 (Policy review) contributed to the achievement of SDG Target 1.b, ensuring that the Malawi social protection system is more comprehensive and integrated through the review, update and strengthening of the existing policy framework that will define and streamline the essential measures to enhance protection throughout all stages of life, with due attention to women and marginalized groups, and advances the right to social protection in the medium to long term (1.3). This includes also the support on designing new schemes, specifically an old age pension scheme that -when adopted- will translate in an increased coverage of vulnerable populations, specifically the elderly. This will also contribute to the achievement of SDG target 8.3 as the comprehensive policy framework will contribute to providing social security for the working age population, will promote productive activities, decent job creation and potentially formalization of the informal economy.

Policy integration and systems change

- The JP technical assistance enabled the Government to leverage the Social Protection system to reach heightened food needs over the 2020/2021 lean season, igniting linkages and coordination between humanitarian and Social Protection sectors and ensuring that future emergency food assistance is provided by leveraging the social protection system, where applicable and appropriate.
- The JP enabled the Government and implementing partners to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for implementing Horizontal Expansion by leveraging on the Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) under a SSSP approach, allowing future investments to be catalyzed behind one integrated and coherent operational vision with appropriate mechanisms embedded within to ensure transparency, accountability and meaningful participation of the beneficiaries.
- In order to ensure the JP remains strategic, it expanded the scope of its support towards adaptations of the national social protection system for increased shock-responsiveness. This includes supporting the roll-out of the national Management Information System for Emergencies (e-MIS) and its links to the UBR, as well as e-payments for the Lean Season Response 21/22 in rural areas, where relevant (e.g. Ntcheu).
- In relation to COVID, support was provided in relation to the management of the response through the national Management Information System for the CUCI (CUCI MIS), the CUCI Call Centre and by supporting mechanisms for Government to provide mobile money payments in urban areas.
- The JP provided technical assistance to support the GoM efforts to finalize its social protection financing strategy. The JP has produced three critical documents that combined provide an operational analysis of the financing trends in social protection in Malawi and examine both on and off budget allocations resources and explore the feasibility of increasing domestic resource coverage for the financial sustainability of the sector. Lessons from this component can be applied to other sectors for improved financing for a whole-of-society approach.
- The JP contributed towards enhancement of Malawi's social protection interventions and broader institutional capacity. In this regard, the policy review process in Malawi provided an opportunity to define, design and craft a comprehensive social protection system that is not only responsive to shocks but also accommodates the needs of people throughout the lifecycle moving beyond non-contributory to contributory schemes.

Contribution to improvement of the situation of vulnerable groups

- At the community level in the target district, the JP provided unconditional cash assistance and helped food insecure and vulnerable households meet immediate food needs, ensuring that there was zero hunger during the lean season. As a result, vulnerable communities could afford nutritious food and reduced the use of negative coping strategies, while having an economic multiplier effect on the local economy. Beneficiaries included households that were female headed, chronically ill, persons with disability, child headed. The JP approach ensured that the most vulnerable not only receive temporary assistance in times of shocks, but that the social protection system can better provide routine entitlements to the poorest of the poor.

- In addition, the cash provided has enabled 87.6% of boys and girls from beneficiary households to remain in school throughout the lean season period, which has the potential to break intergenerational cycle of poverty and ensure resilient livelihoods and long-term pathways for graduation out of poverty.
- Under CUCI, the JP supported the Government to explore categorical targeting approaches. This refers to the selection of vulnerable households such as child-headed households and households headed by persons living with disabilities. This work was done in collaboration with social services and the MoGCDSW and has fed into the ongoing conversations on categorical approaches for national social protection programmes. This approach aimed at ensuring that under the emergency response extremely vulnerable groups were not left behind.
- The review and updating of the existing Nssp seek to ensure inclusion of comprehensive pillars/priority areas that lead to progressively increasing in coverage of marginalized and most vulnerable groups thereby ensuring that no one is left behind. Specifically, it aims to respond to the needs of all people, children, youth, the elderly, women and girls, men and boys, persons with disabilities, as well as workers in the informal sector. In relation to these latter, contributory schemes/social insurance are earmarked to be incorporated in the new Social Protection policy including extension of the schemes to the informal sector.
- In addition, under the same outcome, critical work has paved the way for the adoption of an old age pensions scheme. Once adopted, the scheme will reflect an increased willingness of the Government of Malawi to commit national resources to the development of a national social protection system and address the specific vulnerabilities and needs of the elderly. The scheme is expected to support more than 800,000 people aged 65 and above.
 - Estimated number of individuals that were reached through JP efforts in 2020-2021:
 Total number: 161,370
 Percentage of women and girls: 78%

Mainstreaming Gender equality and women empowerment

- Programme outputs are focused on system strengthening elements that follow the principles of gender equality, but do not make visible reference to them. As part of the Nssp review process, a gender analysis has been included in the Policy Analysis Document (PAD) via an equality assessment including an examination on how the previous policy helped to empower women. Additionally, the policy review work takes into account the principles of gender equality and women empowerment to ensure equality of treatment in the right to access social protection through measures accounting for the unique needs of both men and women.
- Gender sensitive indicators are present in Outputs 1.2 and 2.3. None of the output indicators under Outcome 3 includes disaggregation by sex or gender specific definition, as they are all mostly policy development outputs. It is envisaged that the effective review of the policy framework will provide for a conducive policy environment for provision of social protection all across the life cycle taking into account the needs for both women and men.
- The JP actively coordinates with the Ministry of Gender, as the ministry with the mandate over gender issues in Malawi, it is one of the key implementers in the social protection sector, being responsible for the Sctp and as Pillar Lead on Consumption Support of the MNSSP II.
- The JP responds directly to MNSSP II Strategic Action 5.8: Mainstream Gender across MNSSP II, which was developed together with Malawian CSOs.
- Women are the majority (estimated that around 75% of them are female-headed) of the recipients of the proposed cash transfers (31.4% of the total budget) - representing 23.6% of the total budget directed to promote women economic empowerment.
- Activities geared towards grievance and redress mechanisms, social accountability, and individual agency strengthening represent about 8.9% of the total budget to ensure girls and women's rights to social protection are respected and empower them to hold service providers accountable to high standards of service quality.

Estimated % of overall disbursed funds spent on Gender equality and Women empowerment by the end of 2021: 23.6%

Human rights

- The framework for this JP remains the legal and normative human rights obligations that bind the GoM, including treaty obligations under the ICESCR, CEDAW and CRC, particularly:
 - o ICESCR - general comment No. 19 (2007) on right to social security (art. 9)
 - o CEDAW, Concluding Observations on the 7th periodic report of Malawi

- The 3rd cycle of UPR of Malawi was held on 3 November 2020; out of the 232 recommendations received, 192 recommendations enjoy the support of Malawi, among them all the recommendations related to strengthen its efforts in continuing to promote economic and social development, advance poverty reduction and improve the living standards of its people, including by strengthening and ensuring adequate social protection and safeguards to improve the human and social situation of vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- Progress has been made toward the critical outcome of developing and adopting a comprehensive, inclusive, and adaptable social protection policy, through a consultative process for the NSSP review. In addition, under the same outcome, critical work has paved the way for the adoption of an old age pensions scheme. Once adopted, the scheme will reflect an increased willingness of the GoM to commit national resources to the development of a national social protection system and address the specific vulnerabilities and needs of the elderly. The scheme is expected to support more than 600,000 people aged 65 and above.
- The cash transfers under Outcome 1 targeted approximately 6,386 households identified as the most vulnerable using a human rights and gender-sensitive approach to data.

Partnerships

- Building on the UNSDCF, the UNCT continues to maintain a strong dialogue and partnership with GoM and International Financial Institutions (IFIs).
- The JP partnered with GIZ to leverage resources for the government capacity strengthening initiative, enabling the inclusion of more stakeholders in the training, thus increasing input and buy-in to the resulting policy documents that will be produced during the training.
- The JP leveraged on the ongoing work of the UNICEF-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support the implementation of the SCTP, including its expansions, in Balaka and Ntcheu.
- The JP also played a critical role in institutionalizing the SCTP as the reference programme for cash transfers in the country, and in creating a partnership with key donors under this programme to support SSSP expansions of the national system through innovations introduced via a partnership between UNICEF and KfW for the provision of technical assistance and shock-sensitive cash transfers with EU, German and Irish funds.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support the development of the SCTP Strategy to contribute to defining a policy framework for the social protection system in Malawi.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work with the Civil society organizations under the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support strengthening of governance of social protection programmes through increased awareness and advocacy initiatives and engagement with key policy makers and other stakeholders.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the PROSPER project which also has a component on advancing SSSP.
- The work under outcome 3 is a sector-specific and expenditure-side complement to the wider financing-side work being laid out under a sister Joint Programme on Financing Architecture, centered on the Integrated National Financing Framework.

Mobilizing additional funding and/or financing

- The JP partnered with GIZ to leverage resources for the government capacity strengthening initiative, enabling the inclusion of more stakeholders in the training, thus increasing input and buy-in to the resulting policy documents that will be produced during the training.
- The JP leveraged the ongoing work of the ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Project to support the development of the Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP) Strategy to contribute to defining a reviewed policy framework for the social protection system in Malawi.
- The technical assistance from the JP has enabled donors to fund the national social protection system directly to address heightened emergency needs, while enabling additional resources to be contributed to the COVID-19 Response, and Lean Season Food Insecurity Response.
- The JP key pieces of analysis on the financing of social protection in Malawi, will support the GoM to strengthen, rationalize, and increase the sustainability of the national financing infrastructure for social protection. They will also support in exploring the viability of different options for increasing the budgetary allocations to social protection programmes in the long run, making the sector less dependent on donor support.

Strategic meetings

Type of event	Yes	No	Description/Comments
Annual JP development partners'/donors' event*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	On 15 September 2021, the SP4SDG organized a high-level partner/donor event to highlight gains achieved by the programme. The event was presided by the Minister of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare (MGCDWS) and Government representatives at the Principal Secretary level from the Economic Planning and Development (EPD) and MGCDWS among others, in-country donor partners working in the social protection sector in Malawi, the UN Resident Coordinator and Heads of the UN agencies implementing the programme took part. The second part of the event was led by an interactive discussion about the critical next steps and key strategic areas for strengthening social protection in Malawi and high-level panelists discussed the potential way forward for future investments. The EPD PS reinforced the Government's commitment to progressively increase its efforts in investing resources in the sector, with focus on the Social Cash Transfer Programme.
Other strategic events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The JP also organized a meeting with the Parliamentary Committee on Community and Social Affairs on 24th November 2021. The meeting, held in collaboration with the GoM through line ministries, aimed at updating the parliamentary Committee on key developments in the social protection sector in Malawi and lobbying for adoption of the Old Age Pensions Bill, social protection budget Analysis and support to the priority areas featured in the new Social Protection Policy. The meeting was presided by the Chairperson of the Parliamentary committee on Community and Social Affairs. The presentations on key thematic areas were led by the government line ministries. The Committee raised the issue of the need for increasing the target group of social protection programmes, the need to increase awareness on targeting approaches and effective monitoring of social protection programmes among others. The Committee requested more engagement on social protection to ensure effective advocacy.</p> <p>On 7 June 2021, the JP engaged the Parliamentary Cluster on Social, Community Affairs and Rural Development to present analysis of the social protection budget and recommendations on how the Government can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of social protection spending. This was followed by a highly interactive post-budget public hearing, that involved a roundtable discussion, that was organized on 9th June 2021, bringing together different members of Parliament and CSOs, to discuss issues around how to improve social protection financing in Malawi, among other key social sector areas.</p>

Innovation, learning and sharing

- Social protection information and programme resources have been shared with the broader public online and through social media campaigns, e-newsletters, and radio programming. Despite movement restrictions, the JP conducted communications field visits to gather beneficiary responses to cash transfer interventions. Key information on the JP and social protection in Malawi are available on socialprotection.org and malawi.un.org.
- Two capacity-building initiatives for government officers on adaptive social protection and M&E were conducted in 2021, training 24 people in total.
- Exploration of e-payment mechanisms for Lean Season 2021/22 payments made through the national SCTP.
- Support for the roll-out of the Emergency Management Information System (e-MIS), a system managed by the MoGCDSW that enables the first ever horizontal expansion of the national SCTP through Government mechanisms. This SSSP innovation is expected to increase ownership, efficiency and sustainability.
- The JP supported the Department of Economic Planning and Development and E-Government to develop an online information sharing platform to easily access Malawi-centric social protection resources. The initiative aims to help key stakeholders map out and learn from existing evidence to produce new areas of knowledge, to more easily identify knowledge gaps, and to avoid the duplication of research initiatives.
- Several evidence generation activities took place including the completion of the After-Action Review (AAR), the UBR concept paper, three fiscal analyses, and the consultation processes for the NSSP policy review.
- Learning from the JP and PUNOs helped to inform CUCI and the SERP.

- PUNOs and RCO worked jointly on a concept note for strategic advocacy on social protection with the aim of bringing together key GoM actors with their counterparts in other countries, linked by the regional DCO, to share learning and innovative solutions for social protection across the region.
- JP supported development and online application of the TRANSFORM in-depth module on shock responsive social protection programmes.

II. Annual Results

Overall progress

- On track (expected annual results achieved)
- Satisfactory (majority of expected annual results achieved)
- Not-satisfactory (majority of expected annual results not yet achieved)

Please, explain briefly:

Contribution to Fund's global results

⇒ Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1 (as per annual targets set by the JP)

- Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale

The JP supported CUCI, which contributed to a comprehensive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to the use of the social protection system in urban areas and the potential for expanded social protection coverage in the future. The government-led policy review consultations contributed to a policy analysis that will lead to a comprehensive social protection policy.

⇒ Contribution to Joint SDG Fund Output 3 (as per annual targets set by the JP)

- Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

The JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the urban crisis cash response to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability which were likely to be the most affected by the economic effects of COVID-19. For the LSR, instead of using the international humanitarian system to target and deliver additional assistance, the national social protection system is being strengthened and leveraged, meeting both chronic and acute needs in the future.

JP Outputs and Outcomes

⇒ Achievement of expected JP outputs

Output 1.1 The Malawi social protection system is reviewed and updated in line with humanitarian response needs:

- The JP has met the 2020 goal of developing SOPs to enable the GoM to leverage the social protection system to reach new beneficiaries in times of heightened need. These SOPs are being tested in real time, having been successful in two districts in the current lean season response (LSR), and are in progress in a third district. Instead of using the humanitarian system to target and deliver additional assistance, the national social protection system is being strengthened and leveraged, benefiting both chronic and acute needs in the future.
- The JP supported the development and finalization of the LSR AAR since 2019 to date which tested the use of social protection systems as part of the LSR for the first time, producing recommendations and helping to inform the use of the social protection system to reach heightened need as part of LSR from 2020 and beyond.
- A strategy was developed with the GoM to update the UBR more regularly, thereby increasing the accuracy and timeliness of targeting for social protection and humanitarian interventions. An assessment of the latest global and regional lessons learned, and best practices related to updating registries, including during the COVID-19 response, will inform a contextualized, practical, and sustainable solution for Malawi.
- Technical assistance to the GoM included: analyzing data on social assistance coverage adequacy from a shock-perspective; developing evidence to inform improved targeting using the social protection system; supporting

the re-targeting exercise of the SCTP to enable improved targeting for chronic and acute needs (i.e. when emergency top-ups are provided); developing GoM monitoring frameworks to ensure data collection can be compared across sectors; and drafting technical options for improved coordination across the emergency and social protection sectors.

Output 1.2: The Malawi social protection system, together with the humanitarian sector, contributes to assisting an emergency caseload as identified by the GoM:

- The JP provided 5,000 households with cash assistance in line with needs as identified by the GoM via the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC).
- With emerging priorities due to COVID-19, the JP supported the GoM to produce targeting tools, processes, and guidelines for the urban crisis cash response to identify geographical hotspots of vulnerability which were likely to be most affected by the economic effects of the pandemic. This was the first time that a geographical approach with universal registration to targeting has been undertaken for such an intervention in Malawi. Due to the election, the GoM requested support with a verification exercise to measure the accuracy of the targeting approach, thus a rigorous verification exercise was conducted using survey data, Google Earth, and high-resolution satellite imagery to independently verify the targeting process using one city (Blantyre) of four as an example. The exercise identified no inclusion errors and minimal (less than 5%) exclusion errors. The JP helped the GoM develop processes for targeting new geographical areas, and as it is being rolled out by the social protection sector will leave behind the foundations to provide routine assistance following the emergency transfer.
- With support of the JP, the GoM completed household registration for the UBR of shock-affected households in urban areas. The data collected was added to be used for the crisis intervention as well as future programming.
- To ensure the efficient use of the social protection system in times of heightened need, the JP enabled the development and dissemination of radio programmes that were widely broadcast in advance of the lean season to address information gaps on the MVAC, social protection, and the LSR.

Output 2.1: GoM social protection financing strategy finalized and informing domestic funding

- Three key deliverables were completed, namely the Financing and Expenditure Brief, the Budget Brief, and the Fiscal Space Analysis. The Finance and Expenditure Brief provides an analysis of the financing trends in social protection in Malawi over the past four fiscal years to identify the specific issues affecting social protection financing in the country, looking at both on- and off-budget resources for the four social protection programmes (when data allowed). The Budget Briefs are produced yearly to analyze the sector funding, based on on-budget resources, and provide recommendations on key issues pertaining to sector financing, budget execution, and sustainability. The Fiscal Space Analysis examined sector financing from the point of view of sustainable financing and the feasibility of increasing own resource coverage for social protection in Malawi, reducing donor dependency.

Output 2.2: GoM has improved knowledge and commitment to invest in social protection

- As part of the programme's adaptation to the pandemic, the PUNOs repurposed a small amount of funding to support the GoM to develop a social protection resource website to be integrated into their existing ICT infrastructure to enable the government, development partners, and the public to easily access Malawi-centric social protection resources, ultimately enhancing knowledge on social protection and helping to enable evidence-based programming via an accessible evidence compendium. In 2020, the website's skeleton was designed, and numerous resources were cataloged to be uploaded to the site in 2021, including those produced by this JP.
- An evidence compilation making the case for investing in social protection in Malawi is currently under preparation. Estimated completion: February 2021.
- The JP supported the Public Expenditure Review Survey led by the MoEPDPSR. The Report was circulated to stakeholders for and is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022. This deliverable has potential to contribute to improve the capacity of government in monitoring public funds execution.

Output 2.3: Malawi Government has improved capacity for social protection expenditure:

The JP has contributed to assisting the GoM to increase its share of the social protection budget and undertake measures to improve efficiency and sustainability of spending via progress towards a financing strategy. In the context of a shorter financial year for 2021/22, the GoM has maintained its contribution to the funding of the SCTP, at 0.12% of the 2021/22 total budget, with further increases expected in 2022/23. The continued prioritization of social protection spending by the GoM despite the country's deteriorating fiscal situation and increasing spending pressures is envisaged to significantly contribute to ensure continued support by donors and development partners in the medium to long- term.

Output 3.1: The National Social Support Policy is reviewed and analyzed

- The JP supported broader consultations for the National Social Support Policy review process. The first part focused on an in-depth analysis of lessons learnt, challenges and opportunities from implementation of the NSSP.
- A Landscape/situation and gaps analysis was conducted: consultations were held with all stakeholders from community level to interested parties, e.g non-governmental organizations working in social protection to review National Social Support Policy of 2012.

Output 3.2: Malawi has updated the scope and objectives for the Social Protection System

- In line with the approved government format, a Policy Framework Document (PFD) has been drafted and consultative meetings with political actors and relevant stakeholders have been held (Parliamentary committee on community and social affairs), before submission of the draft to cabinet for review to ensure that all needs and aspirations are captured in the policy relevant stakeholders are underway. The PFD defines the comprehensive policy objectives, priorities and scope of an integrated social protection system in Malawi in line with international social protection standards.

Output 3.3: The Government of Malawi is supported to advance an Old Age Pension Scheme

- Provision of technical and financial support to the Old Age Pensions Task Force was ensured. Discussions on adoption of an old age pensions scheme are at an advanced stage. The draft bill Technical Note and draft Bill on introduction of the old age pension scheme were submitted to parliament for approval. Once adopted, the scheme will reflect an increased willingness of the Government of Malawi to commit national resources to the development of a national social protection system and address the specific vulnerabilities and needs of the elderly. The scheme is expected to support more than 600,000 people aged 65 and above.

⇒ **Achievement of expected JP outcomes**

Outcome 1: Malawi Social Protection System is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector

- Provided a basis for adaptations to the Malawi social protection system via the development of SOPs, AAR, UBR study, targeting verification exercise, and M&E support to the SCTP;
- Leveraging the social protection system to reach heightened food needs over the 2020/2021 lean season; and providing significant technical assistance in line with the needs of the GoM.
- Laid the foundations for the roll out of a Grievance Redress Mechanism which will ensure beneficiaries' stronger ownership and understanding of their rights within the SCTP.
- Technical assistance provided to government through capacity building
- Supported the development of an operational vision for SSSP and institutionalized best practices.

Outcome 2: Malawi Government increases its share of the social protection budget and undertakes measures to improve efficiency of spending

- Developed tools that will support the Government of Malawi to progress towards the development of a sustainable social protection financing strategy. The Social Protection Financing and Expenditure Report for 2020/21 and the Social Protection Budget Briefs for 2019/2020 and 2020/21, provided a set of concrete recommendations on how the Government can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of social protection spending. This financial information as well as the Evidence Compilation on social protection results allowed a robust and evidence-based engagement with the Parliamentarians and high-level advocacy with the Ministry of Finance for improved social protection financing in Malawi. All together, these are building blocks that will allow GoM to prepare a financing strategy for social protection.

Outcome 3: Malawi Social Protection System is more comprehensive and integrated.

- Advanced towards a comprehensive, integrated and inclusive social protection policy through a consultative policy review process with the aim of updating and defining the scope of the 2012 NSSP, that will tackle the lifecycle approach, that is shock sensitive and encompasses both social assistance and social insurance programmes.
- Potential increased social protection coverage through support on designing new schemes, such as social insurance schemes and an old age pension, resulting in a promoting extension of coverage to vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those working in the informal economy.
- Social protection advocacy through media and parliamentary committees' engagement is laying the basis to ensure political buy-in of social protection as an investment, as well as promoting the rights-based social protection approach through the development of a legal framework in the medium to long term.

⇒ **Monitoring and data collection:**

The JP built upon the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms already established by the national social protection system. The JP has contributed to strengthen these mechanisms, both for regular and Shock-Sensitive Social Protection. By supporting the call centre, the JP contributed to enhance M&E Government capacities, as this Government structure has been used to conduct verifications and remote data collection exercises.

Lessons learned and sustainability of results

- The JP holistically addressed operational, financial, and policy framework gaps through its three interlinked components. Challenges cannot be addressed in silos: transforming the SP system so that it delivers fast and efficient results towards nationally set objectives and the SDGs requires a buy-in from a range of different stakeholders. Firstly, the Government of Malawi as lead, but also development partners, the financial service providers, the private sector and CSOs. Thanks to the way the JP was designed, this contributed to provide a platform whereby the government, UN agencies and relevant stakeholders worked together in a coordinated, collaborative manner, leveraging on existing structures and investments, avoiding duplications of efforts, thereby highlighting the value-added aspect to the PUNOs coordinated approach.
- The JP has provided technical assistance in supporting GoM's commitments for reforming the SP sector, however structural changes require a longer period to produce effective results. Despite the achievements in paving the way to ensure adequate resources are allocated and efficiently used, to streamline policies, implementation and operational mechanisms, and enhance coordination and governance arrangements, the JP would have benefitted from a longer life span for more tangible results. This is further emphasized considering that the COVID-19 pandemic contributed to reducing time for programme implementation due to restrictions and part of the JP budget allocation was re-purposed to respond to the pandemic.

III. Plan for the final phase of implementation

Towards the end of JP implementation

- The website development activity will be finalized by February, after final clearance by the Government.
- The joint ILO and WFP TRANSFORM application activity will be implemented in early Q1.
- UBR study is co-funded by this programme and other initiatives. The first deliverable of the consultant will be finalized and shared by the end of the programme.
- SSSP video- this activity has experienced some delays related to the COVID-19 pandemic, considerable rains in the region and travel restrictions. Nevertheless, if the video will be not entirely finalized by the end of February, a shorter version will be ready as a deliverable by the end of the programme.
- In relation with the NSSP review process, validation, finalization and dissemination of the new Policy will be conducted in Q1 (Jan & Feb) of 2022.
- Continued engagement on OAP with relevant government agencies (parliament and ministries) will continue in Q1 with massive advocacy work through engagement with media houses.

Risks and mitigation measures

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be having negative effects in Malawi both in urban and rural areas, with cost of lives and socio-economic effects. Regular SCTP implementation and Lean Season Response transfers are being implemented with COVID-19 prevention measures to the extent possible. The restrictions on physical meetings due to COVID 19 guidelines have potential to delay the finalization and validation of the reviewed national social protection policy. In order to mitigate this risk, virtual approaches will be explored to facilitate implementation of the remaining activities. The financing of social protection by the government is very low in comparison to the needs, insufficient resources have the potential to hinder operations and may subsequently negatively affect the impact of programme gains, as a mitigation measure consideration will be given to co-finance the project activities to facilitate continuity in dissemination of the output following project end. In addition, project advocacy tools will continue to be leveraged to support awareness and advocacy interventions for social protection. Virtual approaches will be used for the remaining activities.

Annex 1: Consolidated Annual Results

1. JP contribution to global Fund's programmatic results

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

Global Impact: Progress towards SDGs

Select up to 3 SDG *indicators* that your Joint Programme primarily contributed to (in relation to SDG targets listed in your JP ProDoc)

SDG: 1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable

SDG: 1.a.1 Proportion of resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes;

SDG: 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

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

Outcome indicators	Expected 2021 target	2021 result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
1.1: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope ¹	2	3		3
<i>List the policies:</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CUCI • NSSP- Policy Framework Draft • Draft Bill on Old Age Pension 				
1.2: Number of integrated multi-sectoral policies that accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale ²	0	2		2
<i>List the policies:</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National COVID19 Response Plan (CUCI Implementation Plan) • Pillar 3 of the MNSSP II (Shock-Sensitive Social Protection) 				

Global Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

Output indicators	Expected 2021 target	2021 result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
3.1 Number of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful)	3	4	CUCI intervention CUCI Hotspot mapping Call centre HE SCTP	4

¹Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

²Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

3.2: Number of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead	3	3	CUCI Implementation Plan HE SOPs Lean Season response Plan 2020/2021	3
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Did your Joint Programme contribute to strengthening of national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators in 2020-2021?

Yes

No

Explain briefly: the government capacity strengthening initiative began in 2020 and continue in 2021 via a needs-based online learning programme that empowered the GoM to effectively respond to economic and health crises in both urban and rural areas.

2. Results as per JP Programmatic Results Framework

Result / Indicators	Baseline	Expected 2021 target	2021 Result	Reasons for variance from planned target (if any)	Expected final target
Outcome 1: Malawi Social Protection System is adapted to meet emergency food needs together with the humanitarian sector					
Outcome 1.1 indicator Percentage of targeted households with borderline to acceptable food consumption (FCS), disaggregated by age, and sex	Male=76% Female=75% Overall=76%	80%	Male=85% Female=85% Overall=85%		80%
Outcome 1.2 indicator Percentage of targeted households not engaged in negative coping strategies (rCSI), disaggregated by age, and sex	Male=37% Female=26% Overall=32%	70%	Male=47% Female=65% Overall=65%	These figures may be slightly lower, because although the nation experienced an above-average harvest in 2021, there were some knock-on adverse economic effects from the COVID-19 pandemic that led to increased food prices (i.e., cooking oil) and decreased labour opportunities.	70%
Outcome 1.3 indicator Percentage of targeted households not engaged in livelihoods-based coping strategies, disaggregated	Male=39% Female=33% Overall=37%	70%	Male=41% Female=40% Overall=41%	The target for this activity is quite high and not in-line with typical results achieved when	70%

by age, and sex (Livelihood coping strategy index (ICSI))				targeting ultra-poor households. While some 41% were not resorting to any livelihoods-based coping strategies, an additional 35 % of households were only resorting to mild (<i>stress</i>) coping strategies at the time of the endline.	
Outcome 1.4 indicator Proportion of households identified to receive emergency food assistance (IPC-based) served via government social protection channels	72%	90%	100%	Across the two targeted districts, the entire lean season caseload (as per MVAC figures) was provided with assistance via Government channels (i.e., by utilizing the UBR). Roughly 53% of beneficiaries were supported by WFP as part of its horizontal expansion while the remaining caseload was served via the Government's SCTP (vertical expansion).	90%
Output 1.1: Social protection system is reviewed and updated in line with humanitarian response needs					
Output 1.1.1 indicator Percentage completed of operational guidance informing how the social protection system can be used with the humanitarian sector to address emergency needs	30%	100%	100%		100%
Output 1.2: The Malawi social protection system, together with the humanitarian sector, contributes to assisting an emergency caseload as identified by the Malawi government					
1.2.1 Proportion of target beneficiaries to receive emergency food assistance reached through government social protection	n/a	95%	79% (Balaka,69%; while Nsanje 100%)	WFP reached 100% of targeted beneficiaries across both districts as part of the SCTP	95%

channels disaggregated by age, and sex, as a % of planned			Male (66%) Female (84%)	horizontal expansion. For Nsanje, all beneficiaries were reached with VE + HE. For Balaka, the SCTP caseload for WFP was reached at 100%; however, the Government was unable to reach 100% of its SCTP caseload for the VE.	
1.2.2 Proportion of cash transferred to targeted beneficiaries disaggregated by age, and sex, as % of planned	n/a	95%	100%		95%
Outcome 2: Malawi Government increases its share of the social protection budget and undertakes measures to improve efficiency of spending					
2.1: Percentage Share of Government Contribution to Social Protection Programmes.	7%	10%	10%		10%
Output 2.1: Malawi Government Social Protection Financing Strategy Finalized and Informing Domestic Funding					
2.1.1 Social Protection Financing Strategy Finalized.	0	100%	40%	Strategy not finalized due to changing Government priorities, and pending discussion on the reform of the Agricultural Inputs Programme. Building blocks in place produced by JP include the SP Briefs and ongoing work linked to SDG Programme on Financing.	40%
Output 2.2: Malawi Government has Improved Knowledge and Commitment to Invest in Social Protection					
2.2.1: Proportion of total transfer value going to beneficiaries in relation to total programme costs	15%	8%	12%	Persistent indirect costs due to investments related to innovations and trainings, and impact of COVID-19	12%
Output 2.3: Malawi Government has Improved Capacity for Social Protection Expenditure					

2.3.1: Proportion of Social Protection Payments delivered through Harmonized Payment System by sex	7%	50%	8.3%	Delays in the roll-out of the national Harmonized e-payments model. Expected in the first half of 2022.	8.3%
Outcome 3: Malawi Social Protection System is more comprehensive and integrated.					
3.1: A comprehensive, inclusive, and adaptable social protection policy is adopted.	0	100%	80%	The agreement to include contributory schemes in the policy necessitated further consultations with relevant stakeholders such workers and employer associations. The Ministry of Labour leading the contributory schemes priority area.	80%
Output 3.1: The National Social Support Policy is reviewed and analyzed					
3.1.1: A consultative process is conducted for the review of the National Social Support Policy	0	100%	90%	The consultative process has reached advanced stage with stakeholders agreeing in principle on broad policy Framework	100%
Output 3.2: Malawi has updated the scope and objectives for the Social Protection System					
3.2.1: The National Social Protection Policy is updated	0	100%	80%	Scope and objectives of policy agreed among stakeholders awaiting final consultations	90%
Output 3.3: The Government of Malawi is supported to advance an Old Age Pension Scheme					
3.3.1: A strategy for an Old Age Pensions Scheme is developed	0	100%	90%	Concept note developed that supported development of the Draft Bill already in parliament pending consideration	100%

Annex 2: Strategic documents

2.1. Contribution to social protection strategies, policies and legal frameworks

Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	If published, provide the hyperlink
Targeting verification tools	10/20	Yes		Yes		Yes	
Nationwide radio programmes scripts	11/20	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
2020/21 Financing and Expenditure Brief	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
2019/2020 Budget Brief	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Fiscal Space Analysis	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
UBR SWOT analysis document	05/20	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
NID advocacy paper	10/21	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	
UBR SWOT analysis document	05/20	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
SOPs for horizontal expansion	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Best Practices for food and nutrition security	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Communication handbook	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
NSSP 2012 Policy Analysis Document	11/20	yes	yes	yes	yes		
NSSP Policy Framework Document	02/22	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	

Old Age Pensions Technical Note	08/20	yes	yes	yes	No	Yes	
Old Age Pension Draft Bill		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Investment Case for SP	02/22	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
2020/2021 Budget Brief		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
NID Options Paper for other interventions	11/21	Yes	No	NO	Yes	Yes	

Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on extending social protection coverage (Yes/No)	Focus on improved comprehensiveness of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on enhancing adequacy of social protection benefits (Yes/No)	Focus on improving governance, administration and/or implementation of social protection system (Yes/No)	Focus on cross-sectoral integration with healthcare, childcare, education, employment, food security, etc. (Yes/No)	If published, provide the hyperlink
2019 Lean Season Response After Action Review	08/20	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
CUCI Implementation Plan	10/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
SRSP SOPs	11/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
District-specific communication and sensitization package	11/20	Yes	No	No	yes	Yes	
2020/21 Lean Season Response After Action Review	10/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Communications Handbook for Shock Sensitive Social Protection	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

2.2. Focus on vulnerable populations

Strategic documents developed or adapted by JP

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on gender equality and women empowerment (Yes/No)	Focus on children (Yes/No)	Focus on youth (Yes/No)	Focus on older persons (Yes/No)	Focus on other group/s (List the group/s)	Focus on PwDs (Yes/No)	Included disaggregated data by disability - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability (Yes/No)
Targeting verification tools	10/20	Yes		Yes		Yes		
Nationwide radio programmes scripts	11/20	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		
NSSP Review Inception Report								
UBR SWOT analysis document	05/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Chronically ill, persons with disabilities	Yes	Yes
NID advocacy paper	10/21	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes		
SOPs for horizontal expansion	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		
Best Practices for food and nutrition security	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Communication handbook	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No		
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
NSSP 2012 Policy Analysis Document	11/20							
NSSP Policy Framework Document	02/22	yes	yes	yes	yes	Focus increasing scope for population across life cycle		
Old Age Pensions Technical Note	08/20	No	No	No	Yes			
Old Age Pension Draft Bill		No	NO	No	Yes			
Investment Case for SP	02/22	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2020/2021 Budget Brief	12/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
NID Options Paper for other interventions	11/21	Yes	No	NO	Yes	Yes		

Strategic documents for which JP provided contribution (but did not produce or lead in producing)

Title of the document	Date when finalized (MM/YY)	Focus on gender equality and women empowerment (Yes/No)	Focus on children (Yes/No)	Focus on youth (Yes/No)	Focus on older persons (Yes/No)	Focus on other group/s (List the group/s)	Focus on PwDs (Yes/No)	Included disaggregated data by disability - and whenever possible by age, gender and/or type of disability (Yes/No)
2019 Lean Season Response After Action Review	08/20	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		
CUCI Implementation Plan	10/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
SRSP SOPs	11/20	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
District-specific communication and sensitization package	11/20	Yes	No	No	yes	Yes		
2020/21 Lean Season Response After Action Review	10/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes		
Communications Handbook for Shock Sensitive Social Protection	11/21	No	Yes	No	Yes	No		
Govt Policy Briefs and roadmap of future training needs	11/21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		

Annex 3: Updated JP Risk Management Matrix

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 (e.g. social, environmental, security and safety risks)					
Socio-economic conditions do not remain in a positive or stable trend over the long term	Medium (6)	Unlikely - 2	Moderate - 3	Continuous support government in innovative financing options and build the investment case for SP in times of crisis	UNICEF/ILO
Discontinued government and political endorsement of social protection, including SRSP	High (5)	Rare - 1	Extreme - 5	Efforts to increase political parties' commitment; Advocacy and engagement with political stakeholders throughout the programme implementation	RCO & PUNOs

Donors lose interest and reduce/stop support for humanitarian and social protection assistance, including SRSP	Medium (4)	Rare - 1	Major - 4	Include DPs and donors in the process and activities of the programme	RCO & PUNOs
Lean season emergency food need is not identified	Low (2)	Rare - 1	Minor - 2	Identify alternative Cash+ interventions that build resilience and preparedness against future shocks	WFP
COVID-19 pandemic severely effects in Malawi	High (5)	Likely (3)	Extreme - 5	Reassess and feasibility of activities; adapt or postpone as needed.	RCO & PUNOs
Rising political tensions result in increased violence	High (5)	Unlikely - 2	Moderate - 3	Adapt programme activities to any movement restrictions and inability to engage the government in certain activities; potential activity postponement.	RCO & PUNOs
Programmatic/Operational risks					
Government does not lead the process and truly own its results and products	High (10)	Unlikely - 2	Extreme - 5	Continuous engagement with political actors in the government and parliament - Leverage in ongoing capacity building efforts for coordination and leadership for government officials in social protection	RCO & PUNOs
Government officials are not available and willing to work with the programme in its implementation	Medium (8)	Unlikely - 2	Major - 4	Ensure programme is reflecting national objectives, priorities, operational capacities	RCO & PUNOs
Underlying social protection systems (e.g. MIS) experience failures or significant constraints, impeding that the systems function as normal	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Strategic engagement with stakeholders and the government to maintain and continue the development of existing systems	RCO & PUNOs
DPs and implementation partners do not support the process of integration of social protection at policy, programmatic, or at operational levels	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Include DPs and donors in the process and activities of the programme	RCO & PUNOs
Donors and development partners reject the programme and do not support its development	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Include DPs and donors in the process and activities of the programme	RCO & PUNOs

There is insufficient or no cooperation from the many different actors in the sector to provide information and inputs to the different stages of the process	Medium (3)	Unlikely - 2	Major - 4	Engage closely with stakeholders to ensure understanding, ownership and support of the process, and plan in advance for delays and challenges in accessing information on implementation of SP - leverage on work on PER and costing of MNSSP II IP	RCO & PUNOs
Institutional risks (e.g. political, regulatory risks)					
The programme's implementation brings reputational damage to the UN and/or PUNOs	Medium (3)	Rare - 1	Moderate - 3	Programme is grounded in UN principles including the principles of non-discrimination (including the principle of gender equality), transparency, accountability and participation, and are closely aligned to international instruments, and with national priorities, such as the MGD III and MNSSP II;	RCO & PUNOs
Fiduciary risks (financial risks, fraud & corruption risks)					
Misuse and abuse of funds of cash transfers, by service providers, local stakeholders, or opportunistic individuals	High (8)	Unlikely - 2	Major - 4	Programme implementation to follow best practices in transparency, accountability and participation; use of robust monitoring mechanisms for delivery of payments; Close cooperation with local authorities and stakeholders to ensure on-the-ground awareness and transparency; Leverage the ongoing work on payment solutions modelling towards better inclusion of the private sector service providers	RCO & PUNOs

Annex 4: Results questionnaire

- *Complete portfolio questionnaire online at: <https://forms.office.com/r/H4eZAkYx9H>*