



## ADDENDUM\* JOINT PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

### **Programme title: FAO-UNDP Joint Project – Emergency support for agri-producers in the context of socio-economic, climate and energy crisis**

#### **Project summary:**

The current FAO-UNDP Joint Project will contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Moldova 2030 SDGs Partnership Fund.

The Goal of the Joint project: Food security of the country is improved, and regional impact of the current socio-economic crisis caused by the military conflict in Ukraine are addressed by supporting the most vulnerable small farmers (particularly women-led farms and young people) in rural areas of Moldova with inputs and improved capacities for resilient production.

The expected results are:

**Result 1: At least 12 000 households and smallholder farmers (30 percent women farmers and/or including 15 percent young people) supported with the following agriculture inputs: seeds, seedlings, and fertilizers for two planting seasons and animal feed along the year. At the same time, they will benefit from information materials and guidelines on resilient and sustainable agriculture production.**

**Result 2: Small farmers increased their capacities to apply climate-smart agriculture and other innovative techniques to increase resilience to climate change, including resilient crop production, conservative agriculture, and integrated plant protection through establishing Farmers Field Schools (FFS) and conducting specific trainings.**

**Result 3: 1 000 (400 women and young people) small agricultural producers increased their capacities to access markets and income-generating activities with sustainable and green aspects mainstreamed.**

**Result 4:**

- a) 10 smallholder farms and 20 households benefited from implementation of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies (biomass boilers in greenhouses, photovoltaic, among others).
- b) Provision of non-cash assistance for 15 sub-projects for the small and medium agri-producers led by women and for 30 sub-projects for micro agri-producers led by women.

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\* This addendum is to amend the ongoing Joint Project implemented by FAO and UNDP to reflect the additional scope and funding from Swiss Development Cooperation Agency

Programme Duration: **28** months

Anticipated start/end dates: Aug 2022/ **Dec 2024**

Managing or Administrative Agent: MPTF

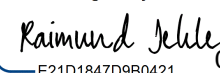
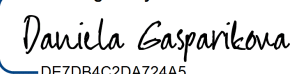
Total estimated budget\*: **USD 4,150,139**  
 Out of which:

Funded Budget:  
 FAO – USD **2,702,549**  
 UNDP – USD **1,447,590**  
 \* Total estimated budget includes both programme costs and indirect support costs and varies based on UN exchange rates

Sources of funded budget:  
 Moldova 2030 SDGs Partnership MPTF by:

- Austrian Development Cooperation - EUR 2,000,000
- Swiss Development Cooperation – USD **2,188,184**

**Signatures**

UN organizations	Name, title
<i>Food and Agriculture Organization</i>	<p><i>Raimund Jehle, FAO Moldova Representative</i></p> <p>DocuSigned by:                        E21D1847D9B0421... 02-Nov-2023                      Signature</p>
<i>United Nations Development Programme</i>	<p>Daniela Gasparikova                      UNDP Moldova Resident Representative</p> <p>DocuSigned by:                        DE7DB4C2DA724A5... 02-Nov-2023                      Signature</p>

## **Joint Programme Document Outline**

### **1. Executive Summary**

The contribution will help mitigate the socio-economic impact of rising prices caused by decreased crop production in Ukraine as a result of the military conflict, and the decrease in production in Moldova, as well as the disruptions to supply chains in the region. The rural population – particularly rural women – households with three children and more, and women-headed households are among the highly vulnerable groups most exposed to the negative impact of ongoing events. The initiative will thus mitigate the drawbacks caused by the current context by: 1) supporting small farmers with agricultural inputs through seeds and seedlings of cereals, vegetables and other early maturing crops (e.g., corn, sunflower, peas, spring barley, sugar beet and soybean), fertilizers and feed /s for animals; 2) building the capacity of small farmers (particularly women-led farms) to apply climate-resilient energy-efficient technologies and 3) integrating smallholder farms into local markets and facilitating their association.

This will contribute to food security and climate resilience by building the capacities of vulnerable groups in rural areas, promoting sustainable, inclusive and resilient communities, and empowering women from rural areas to practice alternative livelihoods in the context of the energy crisis, increased environmental degradation and vulnerabilities to extreme weather patterns.

The implementing agencies will work with women's groups to increase their knowledge and skills on sustainable and resilient agriculture and forest practices and to explore alternative income generating activities in the respective sectors.

Additionally, the activity will support women-led farms in the adoption of sustainable land management practices aimed at preserving soil health and fertility (soil erosion leads to average losses in agricultural production exceeding USD 40 million annually). The activity will use synergies with other initiatives currently being implemented by the participating UN organizations (FAO and UNDP).

### **2. Situation Analysis/Background**

Moldova is currently facing a multitude of economic and structural challenges owing to the conflict in neighboring Ukraine. Approximately 30 percent of Moldova's imports are from countries involved in or affected by the conflict. As a result, sharp rises in market prices caused by disruptions to supply chains have significantly impacted the country's import-export market.

Increasingly limited access to a number of essential agriculture inputs is increasing the risk of food insecurity in Moldova, and it is projected that there will be a significant decrease in the yields of key agricultural produce such as corn, wheat and sunflower, as well as vegetables included in the average food basket needed to sustain food security in the country. FAO forecasts a 30 percent decrease in yields owing to dry weather conditions and increasingly expensive inputs. Moreover, high food prices impede the access of the most vulnerable population groups to basic food products.

In Moldova, households consisting of five or more persons face a poverty risk that is 2.2 times higher than single-person households, according to figures published by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in 2020. The lowest poverty rate (10.2 percent in 2018) was recorded among households formed of one member less than 60 years of age, while the highest (42 percent) was in the case of households with three or more children. This group of households represents approximately 8 percent of the population.

Place of residence is an important determinant vis-à-vis the welfare of the population. According to statistics, the rural population is more exposed to poverty risk than the urban population. The poverty rate in rural areas in 2018 was 31.6 percent, as opposed to 10.6 percent in urban areas. Since a significant part of the rural population is engaged in subsistence agricultural activities, the risk of falling below the poverty line is currently even higher, in light of the ongoing energy and security crisis and extreme climate-related events.

The rural population is increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, especially women and women-led households who lack the resources and access to services needed to ensure water, food and energy supply for their families. Moreover, the rural poor have limited knowledge of sustainable and environment-friendly agricultural and forestry practices that would increase the adaptation and resilience capacities of communities and ecosystems.

The agriculture sector in Moldova has one of the highest exposures and vulnerabilities to climate change. The 2007 drought, one of the worst in recent history, caused a 23 percent decline in production compared to the previous year. Wheat and maize, two main staple crops, were significantly impacted: wheat production fell by 40 percent and maize by 73 percent. Moldova's high-value exports, grapes and apples, are also impacted by the increasing incidence and severity of drought, particularly as higher temperatures are increasing their crop water demands.

In 2022, the agriculture sector experienced severe drought with major consequences for the agriculture sector. Maize, sunflower and legumes are the most affected with 40 percent losses in crops in comparison to the last five years. The livestock sector has also suffered the consequences with a decrease of 10 percent. The most affected agriculture producers are the smallholder farmers, who are the most dominated farmer segment, contributing to more than 70% of the total agriculture production.

In 2023 it is expected a continuing decrease of the agriculture production as a consequence of the limited access of agriculture inputs as well as due to a dry winter. It is anticipated a decrease with 15% of winter cereals production comparing to previous harvest period as well as a decrease of number in livestock and subsequently lower volumes of milk production comparing to 2022

It is worth to mention that The Republic of Moldova is almost fully dependent on imports of energy:

- ✓ 75% of country's electricity consumption is ensured from import, mostly from MGRES;
- ✓ 25% of domestic electricity consumption is being generated mainly by local Combined Heat and Power plants including 5.9% from Renewable energy sources;

Since the war in Ukraine, gas prices have increased by a factor of five/six, putting high pressure on national economy, and deepening energy poverty to a level where almost 60 percent of the population is affected.

The increased gas tariff is also affecting SMEs and the key sectors of the country, such as **agriculture**, which provide livelihood opportunities for more than half the population - in a context where rural women are four times more prone to absolute poverty.

The grant support programme is aligned with the Government's efforts to help SMEs to face with the energy crisis by implementing the energy efficiencies measures and integrating new green technologies in their economic activities.

Micro small and medium agri-producers are seriously affected by the energy crisis and the current government supports are limited in this area, due to the limited budget.

Taking this into consideration the additional financial support, are more than expected by the agri-producers, which will help them to face with the economic and energy crisis specific for our country during the last years.

### 3. Joint Programme Strategy

#### Theory of Change:

Theory of Change
<b>Main Goal:</b> Food security in the country is supported, and the negative impacts of the current military conflict in Ukraine are mitigated by supporting the most vulnerable small farmers (particularly women-led farms and young people) in rural areas of Moldova with inputs and improved capacities for resilient production
<b>IF</b>
<b>Outcome:</b> The people of Moldova, in particular the most vulnerable, are equipped with quality agricultural inputs, and benefit from enhanced environmental governance, energy security, sustainable management of natural resources, and climate and disaster resilient development
<b>IF</b>
farmers, including women and youth, are equipped with basic agricultural inputs required for the upcoming agricultural seasons to ensure food security at household level
<b>AND</b>
there is an increased number of small farmers and households with economic activity who implement viable solutions for sustainable management of natural resources
<b>AND</b>
rural populations from selected areas have increased access to information on conservation agriculture and relevant technologies and are able to apply energy efficient and soil-friendly technical approaches to ensure conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services
<b>AND</b>
women smallholders and agricultural producers receive tailored trainings and knowledge building activities for implementation of environment-friendly agricultural conservation practices
<b>AND</b>
capacities of environmental NGOs are fostered in integrating environment-friendly and climate resilient practices in rural agri-businesses
<b>AND</b>
knowledge and skills of households and agricultural enterprises are strengthened in domains related to climate resilient livelihoods, leadership, and sustainable development
<b>AND</b>
income generating activities with sustainable and green aspects are mainstreamed
<b>AND</b>
Women and youth have increased capacities to access market their production through applying food safety and quality standards the same as labeling their products
<b>AND</b>
women smallholder farms have increased resilience through implementation of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies
<b>AND</b>
rural women are empowered as agents of change in integrating environment-friendly and climate resilient practices in rural agri-businesses.

**Sustainability of results will be ensured:**

- Supplying the most vulnerable rural households and small farmers with seeds of critical crops together with information materials and capacity building trainings will create a sustainable approach to production through long-term knowledge building.
- Creating Farmer Field Schools that will ensure sustainability through continuously serving as locations that promote hands-on experience and examples of climate-smart agricultural practices.
- Providing continuous information and knowledge exchange through the network of Women's Agricultural Clubs on climate-smart agriculture and long-term sustainability of project interventions.
- Strengthening the capacities of NGOs to act as facilitators in engaging rural populations in local environmental and climate actions, natural resource management and coaching to ensure that the positive impacts of the project will continue beyond the life of the project.
- Encouraging participants in the capacity-building programmes to share the knowledge gained within their communities.
- Piloting environmental-friendly practices as a result of the capacity-building programme, thereby improving nutrition and livelihoods in the communities
- The continuation of income generating activities after the project implementation period.
- **Building capacity of the beneficiaries in marketing and quality standards**
- Sharing best practices and lessons learned beyond the communities targeted by the project through sharing events, agricultural extension networks, environmental forums, the mass media and other communication tools.
- Adoption of sustainable land management practices by rural households and agri-producers that will preserve soil health and fertility.
- Building the capacity of vulnerable groups to strengthen forest management practices, preserve biodiversity and diversify their incomes.
- Contributing to sustainable food and access to energy by investing in green energy technologies that will ensure security at the household level and income generation for farmers despite high energy costs and changes to rainfall patterns / extreme weather events.

**4. Results Framework**

**Main Goal** Food security in the country is supported, and the negative impacts of the current military conflict in Ukraine are mitigated by supporting the most vulnerable small farmers (particularly women-led farms and young people) in rural areas of Moldova with inputs and improved capacities for resilient production.

**Outcome** The people of Moldova, in particular the most vulnerable, are equipped with quality agricultural inputs and benefit from enhanced environmental governance, energy security, sustainable management of natural resources, and climate and disaster resilient development.

The Outcome will be achieved through the joint contribution of FAO and UNDP that will mitigate the socio-economic impacts of rising prices caused by decreased crop production in Ukraine as a result of the military conflict, the decreased production in Moldova, as well as the disruptions to supply chains in the region. The rural population – particularly rural women – households with three children and more, and women-headed households are among the highly vulnerable groups most exposed to the negative impact of ongoing events. The initiative will thus mitigate the drawbacks caused by the current context by: 1) supporting small farmers with agricultural inputs through seeds and seedlings of cereals, vegetables and other early maturing crops (e.g., corn, sunflower, peas, spring barley, sugar beet and soybean), fertilizers and feed /fodders for animals; 2) building the capacity of small

farmers (particularly women-led farms) to apply climate-resilient energy-efficient technologies and 3) integrating smallholder farms into local markets and facilitating their association.

This will contribute to food security and climate resilience by building the capacities of vulnerable groups in rural areas, promoting sustainable, inclusive and resilient communities, and empowering women from rural areas to practice alternative livelihoods in the context of the energy crisis, increased environmental degradation and vulnerabilities to extreme weather patterns.

The implementing agencies will work with women's groups to increase their knowledge and skills on sustainable and resilient agriculture and forest practices and to explore alternative income generating activities in the respective sectors.

**The implementing agencies will also work with women and youth groups to build their capacities to adopt and apply quality and marketing standards for a better access of local markets.**

Relevant central and local public authorities will be assisted with analytical information and assessments which will guide future policies on supporting rural households and farmers in mitigating the effects of diverse crisis.

Additionally, the activity will support women-led farms in the adoption of sustainable land management practices aimed at preserving soil health and fertility (soil erosion leads to average losses in agricultural production exceeding USD 40 million annually). The activity will use synergies with other initiatives currently being implemented by the participating UN organizations (FAO and UNDP).

Reaching the stated Outcome will be ensured through achieving four main project results and the cumulative impact of all these results as a holistic approach to mitigating the impacts of the current situation.

**Result 1 At least 12 000 households and smallholder farmers (30 percent women farmers and/or including 15 percent young people) supported with the following agriculture inputs. seeds, seedlings and fertilizers for two planting seasons and animal feed along the year. At the same time, they will benefit from information materials and guidelines on resilient and sustainable agriculture production.**

#### Activity 1.1: Creating an enabling environment for implementation at national and local level

During the inception period, the management framework for creating new mechanisms and developing the existing ones related to procurement and distribution of agriculture inputs will be designed. FAO will build on its experience in providing agriculture inputs and will actively involve the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry (MAFI) and other relevant national stakeholders.

At the same time, FAO will develop the monitoring and evaluation plan and progress recording tools to provide rigorous monitoring and tracking of project implementation. Given the sensitive nature of agricultural input distributions, FAO will implement a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) that will ensure a fair and transparent complaint and feedback process and will provide an added value of inclusiveness and equitability to the project.

FAO will support the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry (MAFI) and the created institutional management mechanisms in the elaboration of the criteria and selection approaches based on the Moldova Economic Deprivation and Drought Vulnerability Indexes. During the inception phase, FAO

will identify the rayons, local authorities, national and local partners and will define the criteria for beneficiary selection. As stated in the objectives, smallholder farmers including women and youth led farms will be the primary beneficiaries of the support. For this purpose, FAO will apply the criteria for identification of the smallholder farmers as defined in the latest FAO guidelines as well as using the current national legislative framework. At the same time, FAO will conduct a rapid assessment of vulnerable households affected by the crisis and will identify households for the distribution of fodder for live animals.

To enhance transparency and promote equal access to resources among the most vulnerable households, Local Selection and Monitoring Committees will be created at District Council level and Village Mayoralty level. These committees will be based on multilateral representation and will include representatives of Local Public Authorities (LPAs), cadastral engineers, social assistance, civil society, farmer representatives and other important stakeholders at local level. This will further increase the fairness and transparency of the beneficiary identification process, particularly in relation to micro and small farmers and rural households most vulnerable to the current economic context. The local committees will elaborate the beneficiary lists according to the agreed modality and will facilitate the coordination of the agricultural input distribution process in their respective area.

FAO will perform a market analysis on the availability of the required agriculture inputs and, based on the conclusions and recommendations of the analysis, will select the appropriate tools and modalities for procurement and distribution of the inputs. FAO will make use of all existing opportunities to provide efficient and effective support to farmers. FAO will apply its Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manual sections for procurement, distribution and quality assurance standards for selection of the suppliers.

FAO will sign partnership agreements with agricultural extension service organizations (hereafter "national partner(s)") and will involve national farmers' associations in the implementation and monitoring of the activities.

#### Activity 1.2: Selecting beneficiaries and suppliers, needs assessment and finalization of contracting arrangements

To attain the highest standards of effectiveness and to support the most deprived rural populations, especially women and vulnerable rural households, to cope with the current economic, conflict-related and climate change challenges, FAO will conduct a profiling of beneficiaries according to pre-established criteria. Within the established management framework and in line with the analysis conducted during the inception phase, the local authorities together with the organization's national partner will provide the initial list of beneficiaries. The list will be screened against the established selection criteria and the final beneficiaries will be selected. FAO will identify suppliers and define the contractual modalities for distribution of the agriculture inputs. In the meantime, the experts and the national partner – the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry – will assess the specific needs of the farmers and classify them in line with the sustainable and resilient crop practices. The selected beneficiaries will participate in one training session with the aim of enhancing their preparedness to receive the inputs (e.g. suitable storage places).

The result of the above actions will lead to the elaboration of a final distribution list that will determine the type, quantity, timeline and overall nature of support. Based on the list, context-tailored logistics approaches will be elaborated to ensure effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of the support provided. The distribution lists will also be crucial to inform the type and specifications of agricultural inputs and the time segments when these are required, which will help strategically plan the



procurement processes, identification of potential local or international suppliers, as well as secure logistics and delivery of agricultural inputs.

### Activity 1.3 Distribution of agriculture inputs and connected tools

Given the urgent need for the current support, the specific needs of the most vulnerable households and the nature of agricultural production processes, the input distribution process will be divided in four phases (consulted and validated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry):

- Phase 1. Beneficiary selection and ensuring their preparedness to receive inputs
- Phase 2. Procurement and distribution of wheat seeds to enable beneficiaries enter the autumn seeding season.
- Phase 3. Procurement and distribution of animal fodder to support vulnerable households by ensuring feed for livestock and support food security through the winter season.
- Phase 4. Procurement of agricultural inputs, including seeds/seedlings, fertilizers to enable beneficiaries prepare for the planting season.

The selection, quality assurance and distribution processes will be thoroughly documented and rigorously monitored in accordance with FAO standard procedures, following an agreed methodology. FAO will also promote the application of accountability measures and will evaluate the appropriate utilization by beneficiaries of the received material support. As specified above, FAO will work closely with its national partners to distribute the requested inputs and ensure their proper usage.

FAO and its implementing partners will activate a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The GRM will enable the tracking and addressing of complaints, and ensure an effective feedback mechanism between FAO, implementers and the final beneficiaries of material support. The GRM will be an independent instrument that will enable the population in the selected areas to file complaints and to ensure that these are managed in a timely and appropriate manner. The GRM will also contain a step-by-step guide for potential complainants to identify situations that deviate from the established process of agricultural input distribution delivered by the project. Thus, a brief information leaflet on the functioning of the GRM will be prepared and included in the information package for beneficiaries of seeds and fodder. This will be provided as additional support along with the information on production aspects.

**Result 2: Small farmers increased their capacities to apply climate-smart agriculture and other innovative techniques to increase resilience to climate change, including resilient crop production, conservation agriculture, and integrated plant protection through establishing Farmers Field Schools (FFS) and conducting specific trainings.**

Activity 2.1: Development of technical production sheets and informative material on production of crops from seeds and seedlings in small agricultural households

Vulnerable households and small farmers are population groups that often feel a deficit in terms of information and knowledge with regard to agricultural production, environment-friendly and climate-smart agriculture practices, as well as the subtleties of simple but effective small-scale agricultural production approaches. To close this gap, FAO will elaborate brief and reader-friendly information materials and short guides to help beneficiaries make the best use of the agricultural inputs received.

Materials will contain production sheets, fertilization norms, calculator for timelines for agricultural process implementation, calculation of water needs, sun days, feeding norms for cattle and other details presented in a manner accessible for people with no academic agricultural background. The information materials will be developed in advance and will be handed out to beneficiaries during the agricultural input distribution process. This action will secure theoretical backing for the practical exercises to be implemented at vulnerable household level.

#### Activity 2.2: Conducting training needs assessment and provision of agricultural thematic trainings, including on-farm trainings

In parallel with the theoretical materials, FAO will conduct an assessment of knowledge gaps and will organize a set of training activities at district and village level in the selected mayoralties. Trainings will be held at local level and will include both theoretical and practical sessions and modules. Theoretical trainings will be presented based on a pre-determined list of topics of interest, while practical trainings will be presented as part of knowledge transfer activities within Farmer Field Schools (FFS). A FFS will be established in every participating district and on-site theoretical and practical training sessions will be organized to build knowledge and hands-on experience among farmers of the application of climate-smart agricultural processes tailored to small size agricultural production patterns. The FFS will be adapted according to the results of needs assessments and beneficiaries on the lists elaborated in Output 1; women and youth will be actively targeted and encouraged to participate in the training events. Each FFS will also receive a small grant to increase the demonstration capacity of the location, increase the replication potential and promote modern and cost-efficient climate smart agricultural practices and integrated use of natural resources.

The main topics within the theoretical and practical trainings will focus on climate-smart agriculture. Topics will be tailored to small and micro-scale, which is the niche of the beneficiaries within these emergency support interventions. The main topics will focus on soil management, land management, production management, water management, waste management, landscape management and energy management.

The planning and implementation activities within Result 2 will involve regional, district and local NGOs and other civil society organizations to ensure sustainability and continuous knowledge building and sharing.

The trainings and capacity building will last throughout the entire implementation period. Theoretical sessions will be conducted around the agricultural off-season (November-February), while practical sessions and on-site visits will be conducted during the vegetation period, at different stages of the agricultural season and when deemed relevant for the presented topic of training.

#### Activity 2.3: Capacity building for women farmers on conservation agriculture practices

The capacity development support aims to enable women-headed households, as well as both women and agri-business leaders, to obtain the necessary knowledge and practical skills to apply conservation agriculture practices, while at the same time enabling them to gain a better understanding of environmental sustainability aspects and climate change risks and measures, in the process of exploring alternative income generating opportunities.

The beneficiaries of the capacity development will gain basic skills in climate resilient livelihoods, will acquire knowledge in conservation agriculture and relevant technologies, and how to apply a precautionary approach to conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

**Activity 2.4: Support the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry in monitoring the impact of climate adverse phenomena on agrifood system and building efficient mitigation mechanisms.**

FAO will conduct the assessment of the current policies and measures on mitigating the negative effects of multiple crisis and will provide recommendations on improving the policies on central and local level. During the project, the team will assist the authorities in continuous monitoring of the situation by providing relevant expertise and analysis.

**Result 3: 1,000 (400 women and young people) small agricultural producers increased their capacities in access to markets, income generating activities with sustainable and green aspects mainstreamed.**

#### Activity 3.1: Training of Trainers (ToT) for local NGOs

Considering the important role played by civil society organizations (CSOs) and NGOs in advancing the 'green agenda' and influencing relevant policies, an extensive capacity building programme for environmental NGOs (nationally, but in particular representatives of NGOs located in or adjacent to the targeted rayons) on integrating environment-friendly and climate resilient practices will be conducted as part of the income generating activities led by rural women.

The programme shall be guided by, but not limited to, the following subjects:

- Protection and sustainable management and use of natural resources;
- Environment protection and economic growth;
- Biodiversity conservation actions and nature-based solutions;
- Climate change impacts and its relevance to energy and other sectors;
- Climate change and sustainable development;
- Climate change and resilience building;
- Renewables and energy efficiency;
- Women's empowerment and climate change.

UNDP will strive to support regional NGOs to strengthen their capacities to engage them in organizing a tailor-made capacity building programme for the target groups at local level (rural women, young people).

The NGO partners to be selected under this assignment shall have at least three years of experience implementing environmental and/or local socio-economic development/rural development projects, preferably at the grassroots level.

The 15 representatives of NGOs shall be fully committed to participate in an intensive training programme on the abovementioned topics and to be engaged further as trainers for the capacity building programme for the target groups.

NGO partners will have the possibility to learn and assimilate the practice of providing targeted assistance as well as develop experience and capacity to offer training and coaching to various target groups after the end of implementation of the capacity building programme.

### Activity 3.2: Capacity building programme for households and agricultural enterprises

Households and agricultural enterprises in rural areas face myriad problems accessing and using existing local resources. They typically lack the capacities required to set up or expand a household business or a larger scale nature-based business at community and/or regional level, which is resilient in the face of climate change and does not harm to the environment. These gaps lead to limited access to local natural, human, social, physical and financial resources and/or overexploitation and mismanagement of the natural capital.

In order to increase the capacities of farmers in this area, UNDP will carry out a capacity development programme for at least 1 000 beneficiaries, focusing on young people, women headed households and women agri-producers CSOs to enhance their knowledge and skills in climate resilient livelihoods, leadership and development of income generating activities with sustainable and green aspects mainstreamed.

The capacity development programme will envisage mentoring and coaching activities as well as workshops and trainings intended to enhance the capacity of the target groups to plan and manage their economic activities in a resilient manner.

NGO representatives benefiting from the ToT (ref. Activity 3.1) with extensive experience in environment protection and local development will be engaged as experts and coaches.

The target groups will be guided to work on fostering their resilience that will contribute to food security and income generation regardless of the changes in the rainfall patterns and extreme weather events that may require alternative energy resources.

All these activities aim to lay a solid foundation for subsequent interventions, which envisage provision of technical and financial support to 20 smallholder farms and 10 households that will implement energy-efficient technologies that will help build resilience to the effects of climate variability and change.

In order to prevent potential overlaps with abovementioned trainings, a detailed database of potential beneficiaries/target localities with envisaged support will be elaborated by FAO in close cooperation with UNDP. This will ensure that support will reach the maximum possible number of beneficiaries and avoid duplication of activities.

### Activity 3.3 Study tours, exchange visits and participation

NGO partners will be engaged in organizing five in-country study tours for the beneficiaries of the capacity building programme who are willing to learn from their peers about green and environmental-friendly business and to find out more about energy-efficient technologies and sustainable practices.

### Activity 3.4: Agricultural production and market access trainings as well as creation of Women Agricultural Clubs

Within this activity, FAO will work with LPAs and collaborate with their local partnership networks, including extension services, to create a 'Women in Agriculture' database in the districts supported in Results 1 and 2.

Based on the database (list of women), FAO will conduct a needs assessment among women led enterprises and will identify the beneficiaries with high potential in applying CSA practices and accessing the market with quality agricultural products. The identified women-led enterprises and households will be prepared to host knowledge building events called Agricultural Women's Clubs. For this purpose, small grants will be used to enhance the demonstration capacity of the selected locations, and topics will be elaborated to promote climate smart agriculture and integrated natural resource management (NRM) and access to markets, with increased potential for application and replication by women and youth. FAO will also call upon international and local expertise to promote production of alternative agricultural crops (berries, seedless watermelon, lettuce, flowers, medicinal and aromatic herbs - echinacea, lavender, rosemary, melissa, mint, as well as mix packaging as for example production of aromatic tea mixes). A final list of key training topics of interest will be developed as a result of the needs assessment.

**Additionally, to make their businesses more sustainable and for a more tangible results, the project will provide around 200 grants in value of maximum 1500 USD per women who are members of established Women Agriculture Clubs.**

The basic set of preliminary topics proposed for women's capacity building exercises include, *inter alia*:

- Climate Smart Agricultural Practices tailored to enhance household, micro and small-scale production capacities: soil management, water management, landscape management, production management, waste and energy management;
- Environmentally-friendly production boosting through integrated plant protection;
- Post-harvest handling: storage standards, conditioning, packaging, logistics and marketing;
- Value chains, identification of markets, market niche penetration and product placement.

As a result of the Agricultural Women's Clubs, FAO will promote the establishment of agricultural women's networks to secure sustainability of knowledge transfer and continuous capacity building at local level.

Conducted throughout the entire implementation period (theoretical sessions will be conducted in winter period and practical trainings – from summer to autumn, on different stages of the vegetation period), events conducted by FAO will focus on the organization's key areas of experience: agriculture production, efficient and effective use of natural resources, and food security. FAO's approaches and selection of topics will also aim to complement the main topics of technical focus promoted by UNDP.

#### **Result 4**

- a) 10 smallholder farms and 20 households<sup>1</sup> benefited from the implementation of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies (biomass boilers in greenhouses, photovoltaic, among others) (ADA support).**

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<sup>1</sup> According with the board decision on December 5, 2022 `smallholder farms` means `small and medium women agri-producers` and `households` means `micro women agri-producers`. Here and further, when we refer to the UNDP's grant beneficiaries, to be interpreted in this way.

The grants programmes for implementation of energy-efficient technologies will be launched immediately after conducting the capacity building for the target beneficiaries and will be designed based on existing Calls for Applications from the “Resilient communities through women empowerment project” in 2021.

The programme aims to support the long-term socio-economic recovery, energy security, and energy transition of rural women-led businesses and envisages the following activities:

Activity 4.1 Support small and medium holder farms led by women and women agri-producers (land-owners of 2 ha and more) and post-harvest producers in strengthening their energy resilience capacities

This activity includes the following type of support to be offered during 2022-2023:

4.1.1 Support potential grantees to enable a larger number of potential beneficiaries to submit competitive applications through extensive consulting and other supportive measures.

- Organize and conduct one (1) Call for Applications for non-cash support to select 10 projects submitted by women-led farms in the targeted pilot districts/regions. The 10 green-energy projects will be selected in 2022 and implemented during 2022 and 2023 inclusively. The beneficiaries are expected to be selected, to the possible extent, in a proportional manner from each target area, contingent also upon the number of applications received, i.e. interest expressed. Selection of beneficiaries will be guided by an agreed set of criteria and principles.
- Conduct a minimum of three in-person information and outreach events – one in each of the Development Regions – upon the launch of the Call for Applications. At these sessions, information will be provided to potential women beneficiaries on the overall process including eligibility criteria and the application documents. District authorities, rural and urban LPAs, NGOs from the target districts/regions and other relevant stakeholders will participate in the exercise.
- Organize two 1-day intensive trainings (one in Romanian and one in Russian per round) on how to correctly fill in the application documents for potential women applicants. The respective sessions shall be preceded by an ample dissemination of the announcements and invitation of participants. At a minimum, all potential beneficiaries that took part in the capacity building events have to be invited to the trainings.
- Provide on-demand support to potential applicants during the application period, supporting them to correctly fill in the application forms, participate in the competition and collect the dossiers.

4.1.2 Provision of non-cash support to 10 women-led smallholder farms with a maximum ceiling of EUR 18,000 per project, through the procurement of equipment/goods/works/services to implement energy-efficient technologies for their business.

For the selection of beneficiaries, will be applied a set of objective criteria, including the guarantees of applicant contributions, for the selection of the best project proposals. The project proposals will be conditional on the following considerations: (i) alignment with the development objectives of the project; (ii) financial feasibility of the proposal; (iii) ability of potential beneficiary to ensure the co-financing expressed in the form of works, materials, equipment, money; and (iv) demonstrated

potential for the underlying investments to contribute to creating sustainable and replicable models. The final list of grant beneficiaries must be approved by the Project Board.

Implementation of the grants for women-led smallholder farms:

Following the decision of the Selection Board, the support agreement will be signed with each selected beneficiary. After the award ceremony is organized, the non-cash support amounts are to be directed towards acquisition of the equipment, material, works, services and other goods as necessary, as well as other relevant costs, in conformity with the endorsed project proposals and project budgets submitted by selected beneficiaries.

The project budget shall stipulate the works/services/goods to be covered by the grant – i.e., up to 80 percent of the total cost of the project, but not exceeding EUR 18 000 per project – as well as the contribution of the business of at least 20 percent of the requested grant amount.

Procurement procedures will respect public procurement standards and UNDP rules, including in terms of responsibility and reporting.

#### 4.1.3 Technical assistance on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources

UNDP follows the rationale that selected women-entrepreneurs are to be supported through a non-cash support scheme coupled with extensive training, consulting, coaching and mentorship. Environmental NGOs will be engaged in coaching and mentoring selected beneficiaries and providing soft support to the selected beneficiaries.

Besides the dedicated support offered by the NGOs, technical assistance on strengthening energy efficiency and facilitating renewable energy solutions will be ensured during the entire cycle of the implementation of the project. The grant beneficiaries will be monitored for a period of up to 12 months to ensure proper use and operation of procured goods they have received and will also receive follow-up support to ensure project sustainability.

Activity 4.2 Support 20 household businesses led by women to strengthen their energy resilience capacities through a non-refundable non-cash support mechanism of co-financing local environment-friendly and energy-efficient technologies initiatives/projects

This activity includes the following type of support to be offered during 2022-2023:

4.2.1 Support potential grantees to enable a larger number of potential beneficiaries to submit competitive applications through extensive consulting and other supportive measures.

- Organize and conduct one (1) Call for Applications for Non-cash support to select 20 projects submitted by women from the targeted pilot districts/regions: The 20 clean-energy projects will be selected in 2022 and implemented during 2022 and 2023 inclusively. The beneficiaries are expected to be selected, to the possible extent, in a proportional manner from each target area, contingent also upon the number of applications received, i. e. interest expressed. Selection of beneficiaries will be guided by an agreed set of criteria and principles.
- Conduct a minimum of three in-person information and outreach events - one in each of the Regional Development Regions upon the launch of the Call for Applications: At these sessions, information will be provided to potential women beneficiaries about the eligibility criteria and the application documents and process overall. District authorities, rural and urban LPAs, NGOs from the

target districts/regions and other relevant stakeholders will be invited to attend the sessions and to distribute the Call announcement among their community members and beneficiaries.

- Organize two 1-day intensive trainings (1 in Romanian and 1 in Russian/round) on how to correctly fill in the application documents for potential women applicants: The respective sessions shall be preceded by an ample dissemination of the announcements and invitation of participants. At minimum, all potential beneficiaries that took part in the capacity building events have to be invited at the trainings.
- Provide on-demand support to potential applicants in the application period supporting them to correctly fill in the Application Forms and take part in the competition and collect the dossiers.

4.2.2 Provision of non-cash support to 20 women-led household businesses with a maximum ceiling of EUR 6,000 per project, through the procurement of equipment/goods/works/services to implement green and energy-efficient technologies for their business.

For the selection of beneficiaries, will be applied a set of objective criteria, including the guarantees of applicant contributions, for the selection of the best project proposals. The project budget shall stipulate the works/services/goods to be covered by the grant – i.e., up to 80 percent of the total cost of the project, but not exceeding EUR 6 000 per project – as well as the contribution of the business of at least 20 percent of the requested grant amount. The final list of grant beneficiaries must be approved by the Project Board.

Procurement procedures will respect public procurement standards and UNDP rules, including in terms of responsibility and reporting.

#### 4.2.3 Technical assistance on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources

UNDP follows the idea that selected households are to be supported, through a non-cash support scheme coupled with extensive training, consulting, coaching and mentorship.

Environmental NGOs will be engaged in coaching and mentoring of selected beneficiaries and in providing soft support to the selected rural women. Besides the dedicated support offered by the NGOs, UNDP will ensure technical assistance on strengthening energy efficiency and enabling renewable energy solutions during the entire cycle of the implementation of the projects co-financed by UNDP. The grant beneficiaries will be monitored for proper use and operation of procured goods received. Follow-up support to beneficiaries on their projects' sustainability will be ensured.

#### **b) Provision of non-cash assistance for 15 sub-projects for the small and medium agri-producers led by women and for 30 sub-projects for micro agri-producers led by women (SDC support)**

Taking into consideration that the estimated number of grants beneficiaries with the ADA's support is going to be limited for every district (approx. 5 beneficiaries per district) due to limited budget and due to the fact that the projects applicants from these districts will benefit from the coaching and training during the process of elaboration of the project proposal, the SDC programme support, which is going to be awarded to UNDP, will follow the same methodology/approaches (same target regions, targets group, and selection criteria) with an implementation period of at least 18 months from the moment of receiving of the money by UNDP, but not later than December 2024.

The beneficiaries of the SDC grants programme will be selected within the existing call for applications for women agri-producers launched for implementation of the grants programme with ADA's support, and additional calls for application if needed. The selection will be founded on an evaluation process, based on selection criteria, points awarded and accumulated scoring per each beneficiary.

This activity includes the following type of support to be offered during 2023-2024:



4.3. Provision of non-cash support to 15 small and medium women agri-producers with a maximum ceiling of USD 18,000 per project and to 30 micro women agri-producers with a maximum ceiling of USD 6,000 per project through the procurement of equipment/goods/works/services to implement energy-efficient and RES technologies for their business.

For the selection of beneficiaries, a set of objective criteria will be applied, including the guarantees of applicants' contributions, for the selection of the best project proposals.

The final list of grants beneficiaries must be approved by the Project Board.

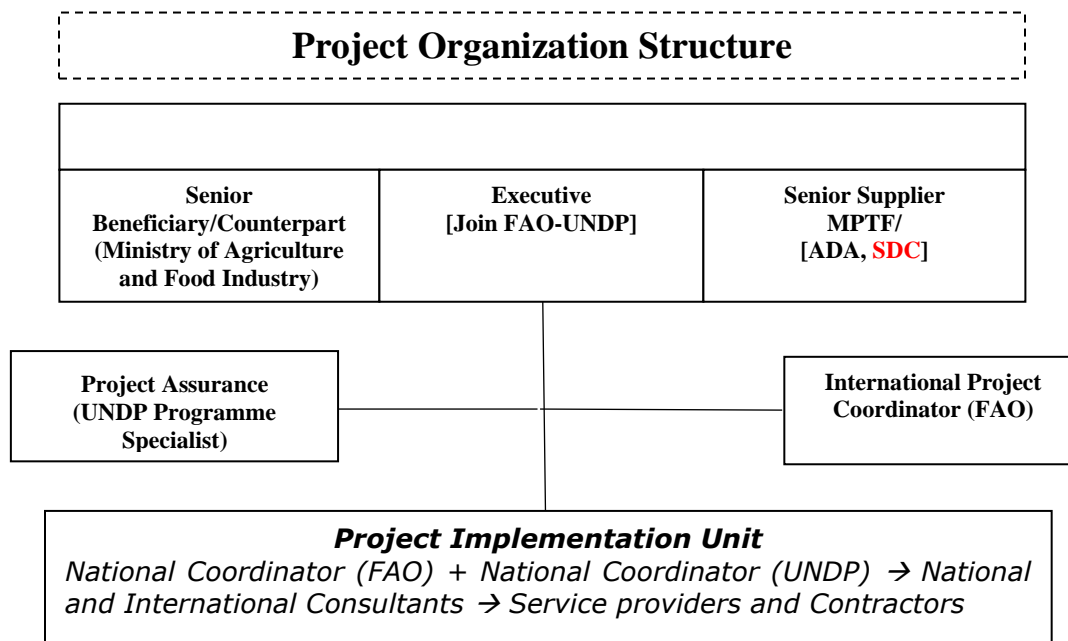
Implementation of the grants for women-led smallholder farms:

Following the decision of the Selection Board, the support agreement will be signed with each selected beneficiary. After the award ceremony is organized, the non-cash support amounts are to be directed towards acquisition of the equipment, material, works, services and other goods as necessary, as well as other relevant costs, in conformity with the endorsed project proposals and project budgets submitted by selected beneficiaries.

The project budget shall stipulate the works/services/goods to be covered by the grant – i.e., up to 80 percent of the total cost of the project, but not exceeding USD 18 000 for small and medium women agri-producers and USD 6,000 micro women agri-producers per project – as well as the contribution of the business of at least 20 percent of the requested grant amount.

Procurement procedures will respect public procurement standards and UNDP rules, including in terms of responsibility and reporting.

## 5. Programme Management



The Joint initiative will be governed by the Project Board, composed of representatives of FAO, UNDP, Austrian Development Cooperation Agency (ADA), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, National Farmers Federation of Moldova (FNFM), Crop Research Institute (Selectia), the Organization for Entrepreneurship Development (ODA), **the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency (SDC)**.

The Board's primary role is to provide guidance and take strategic decisions, through approving the project goals, stages and implementation pace, annual plans and progress reports, any significant changes to the project as well as the evaluation criteria and the selection of grant beneficiaries.

The Board shall fulfil its functions during the Project implementation period, extending its mandate, if the Project implementation period is prolonged.

## **6. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting**

In order to ensure an efficient implementation of the proposed activities, the project and implementation partners will establish a quality monitoring mechanism. This will ensure a rigorous monitoring of project support allocation. A randomized approach will be agreed and conducted to establish a list of beneficiaries amounting circa 5% of the total number of beneficiaries of material support under Result 1. The list will be built based on the distribution lists received from implementation partners/contractors. The lists will include, but not be limited to the following information:

- name/surname of beneficiary,
- area/village
- contact information
- type of material support received,
- area planted using material support (geolocated)

Monitoring field visits will be conducted and the use of materials support at household level will be documented through field reports and photos. The latter will be compiled in a Monitoring Report to inform the impact of project interventions at individual level.

Detailed information on monitoring indicators is presented in Annex 1. Joint Programme Monitoring Framework (JPMF).

The Joint Programme will perform effective and efficient communication at all stages and where deemed relevant by respective agencies. The communication actions will be conducted jointly by PUNOs in cooperation and coordination with RCO. Each PUNO will have dedicated budget lines for communication on results, according to its own internal procedures. Besides communication on results and process of the joint programme, the programme will also prepare and disseminate communication products on the SDGs and promotion of Moldova 2030 SDGs Partnerships MPTF.

### **Reporting:**

The activities are subject to review and reporting in accordance with FAO/UNDP monitoring and evaluation procedures. The activities will be managed and monitored based on qualitative and quantitative progress indicators, set out in the work plan and will indicate the extent of progress towards the completion of activities. FAO/UNDP Moldova will be responsible for preparing the progress reports (substantive and financial) as per its internal programme/project management procedures.

The reporting obligations of the joint programme are towards the Moldova SDG Partnerships MPTF and are based on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) provisions signed between the participating agencies (PUNO) and the MPTF (Administrative Agent) dated February 2019. Specifically, the PUNOs, under the Section IV of the MoU, will have following obligations:

Each Participating UN Organization will provide the required narrative reports prepared in accordance with the reporting procedures applicable to the Fund, as set forth in the TOR and the applicable UNDG policies and guidance for the Fund.

The annual and final reports will be results-oriented, and evidence based. Annual and final narrative reports will compare actual results with expected results at the output and outcome level and explain the reasons for over or underachievement.

The final narrative report will also contain an analysis of how the outputs and outcomes have contributed to the overall impact of the Fund. The financial reports will provide information on the use of financial resources against the outputs and outcomes in the agreed results framework.

According to the MoU, the joint narrative progress and final reports will be provided by PUNOs at country level through and with the support of the RCO and the financial reporting will be conducted by the PUNOs finance departments from HQ/regional levels directly to MPTF.

The annual joint progress reports will be provided by the PUNOs to MPTF no later than 30 April of the following year and the final narrative report no later than 31 May after the end of the calendar year in which the operational closure of the joint programme occurs.

The MPTF will also provide the donors, Steering Committee and Participating UN Organizations with the following reports on its activities as Administrative Agent:

- a) Certified annual financial statement ("Source and Use of Funds" as defined by UNDG guidelines) to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year; and
- b) Certified final financial statement ("Source and Use of Funds") to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closing of the Fund occurs. Consolidated reports and related documents will be posted on the websites of the UN in Moldova [www.un.md] and the Administrative Agent [mptf.undp.org].

## 7. Legal Context or Basis of Relationship

The legal basis Joint Programme implemented by PUNOs- FOA and UNDP is based on this countersigned Programme Document and the United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018- 2022 at which both PUNOs are signatory parties. According to the Management and Accountability Arrangements, the UN Moldova operates under the modality of Delivering as One (DaO) and the operationalization of the PFSD is done through development and implementation of output level joint work plans and programmes. This Joint Programme is liable and duly corresponds to these requirements of the PFSD and therefore this constitutes the legal basis of operationalizing this action.

### Basis of Relationship

Participating organization	UN	Agreement
UNDP		This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Moldova and the United Nations Development Programme.
FAO		The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Government of Moldova signed agreement for the establishment of the FAO Representation in Moldova.

## 8. Annexes

### **Annex 1 Joint Programme Monitoring Framework (JPMF)**

<b>Expected Results (Outcomes &amp; outputs)</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Targets (phase I)</b>	<b>Targets (phase I +phase II)</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Collection methods</b>
Result 1. At least 12 000 households and smallholder farmers (30 percent women farmers and/or including 15 percent young people) supported with the following agriculture inputs. seeds, seedlings and fertilizers for two planting seasons and animal feed along the year.	-National level coordination committee established	0	1	1	Minutes of National committee	List of attendees of the committees
	-National coordination committee regulation developed	0	1	1	Minutes of the NCC	Approved NCC Regulation
	-Regional level committee(s) established	0	TBD	TBD	Minutes of regional and local committees	List of attendees of the committees
	-Local committees established	0	TBD	TBD	List of committee members	List of attendees of the committees
	-Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) in place	0	1	1	Activity regulation	Approved GRM
	-Total Number of households receiving seeds, seedlings and fodder (disaggregate by gender and age)	0	7 000 (of which 30% women)	12 000 (of which 30% women)	Lists of beneficiaries elaborated	List of households receiving material support with signatures
	-Total area of land planted using the provided material support (ha), including disaggregated by sex and age	0	At least ha 7 000	At least 14 000 ha	Register of land planted using the provided material support	Database on Land planted using the provided material support database
	-Number of complains addressed through the Grievance Mechanism	0	TBD	TBD	Complaints record	Register of complaints received and addressed through the Grievance Mechanism
Result 2. Small farmers increased their capacities to	-Number of technical production sheets	0	5	5	Database of info-materials	List of info materials produced

apply climate-smart agriculture and other innovative techniques to increase resilience to climate change, including resilient crop production, conservation agriculture, and integrated plant protection through establishing Farmers Field Schools (FFS) and conducting specific trainings.	(info materials) elaborated					
	-Training needs assessment conducted	0	1	1	Surveys and questionnaires for needs assessment	The capacity and needs assessment report
	-Number of FFS established	0	10	15	FFS database	List of the attendees for the carried-out trainings with signatures, Service Providers Reports, M&E Reports
	-Total number of FFS trainings and capacity building events delivered	0	50	75	Training's calendar	Questionnaires, Service Providers Reports, M&E Reports
	-Number of grants for FFS	0	10	15	Training's calendar	Training's agendas, lists of participants, trainings reports
	-Total number of rural inhabitants receiving capacity building, disaggregated by gender, age, family composition and type of event	0	1000	2000	List of registered participants	List of participants, Service Providers' reports, M&E Reports
Result 3. 1,000 (200 women and young people) small agricultural producers increased their capacities in access to markets, income generating activities with sustainable and	-Number of local NGOs with increased capacities	0	10	10	Call of applications	List of registered NGOs
	-Number of NGO representatives participating at ToT events	0	15	15	Registration forms	List of attendees
	-Number of events conducted by partner NGOs as a result of ToT	0	20	20	List of events	Events agendas
	-Total No. of participants to NGO-lead trainings	0	1000	1000	List of registered participants	List of attendees

green aspects mainstreamed.	-No. of women and young people to NGO-lead trainings	0	200	200	List of registered participants	List of the attendees with disaggregated data for the carried-out trainings with signatures
	-Number of study tours organized	0	5	5	Study visits agendas	Study visits agenda and photos
	-Number of participants to study tours, disaggregated by gender, age and area of activity	0	75	75	List of registered participants	List of the attendees with disaggregated data for the carried-out trainings with signatures
	-Women in agriculture database elaborated	0	1	2	Database	Service provider reports
	-Women's training needs assessment conducted	0	1	2	Report on conducted needs assessment	Report on conducted needs assessment
	- Number of women/youth participants in marketing events	0	-	200	List of the events, list of participants Agendas and activity plans	List of farmers participants gender disaggregated data, Service provider reports. Beneficiary's sales questionnaires
	-Number of women beneficiaries of grants	0	-	200	Reports, Training's calendar	List of beneficiaries, reports
	-Number of Agricultural Women Clubs (AWC) selected and established	0	5	10	List of AWC established	List of AWC established
	-Number of AWC knowledge exchange events hosted	0	15	15	List of events planned	List of events hosted
	-Number of participants to AWC events	0	200	200	List of participants	List of the attendees with disaggregated data for the carried-out trainings with signatures

<p>Result 4. <b>ADA support</b> <b>10</b> smallholder farms and <b>20</b> households benefited from the implementation of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies (biomass boilers in greenhouses, photovoltaic, among others).</p> <p><b>SDC Support</b> - <b>15</b> small and medium agri-producers and <b>30</b> micro women agri-producers benefited from the implementation of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies (biomass boilers in greenhouses, photovoltaic, among others).</p>	-Number of Calls for Application conducted	0	2	2	Links to posts on call announcements	Application packages
	-Total number of applications received	0	40	40	Database of received applications	Database of received applications
	-Number of in-person information and outreach events conducted	0	3	3	Calendar of in-person information and outreach events planned	Events agendas
	-Number of training events organized on application process	0	3	3	Calendar of planned trainings	Training's agendas
	-Number of participants to trainings on application process	0	100	100	List of registered participants	List of attendees
	-Number of training and capacity building events to selected grant beneficiaries conducted	0	2	2	Calendar of trainings	Training's agendas
	-Number of on-field monitoring visits conducted to grant beneficiaries	0	30	45	Field visits calendar	Filed visits reports
	-Number of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies practices put in place by the project;	0	30	45	List of selected projects	Business Projects reports
-Number of women agri-producers who increase their income due to green energy technologies	0	30	45	List of selected beneficiaries	List of women beneficiaries	

## **Annex 2. FAO-UNDP Joint Initiative Gantt Chart**

Activities/Milestones	Implementing agency	2022	2023				2024			
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Result 1: At least 12 000 households and smallholder farmers (30 percent women farmers and/or including 15 percent young people) supported with the following agriculture inputs. seeds, seedlings and fertilizers for two planting seasons and animal feed along the year</b>										
Activity 1.1 Creating an enabling environment for implementation at national and local level	FAO	X	X	X		X	X			
Activity 1.2 Selecting beneficiaries and suppliers, needs assessment and finalization of contracting arrangements	FAO		X	X	X	X	X			
Activity 1.3 Distribution of agriculture inputs and connected tools	FAO		X	X	X		X	X		
<b>Result 2: Small farmers increased their capacities to apply climate-smart agriculture and other innovative techniques to increase resilience to climate change, including resilient crop production, conservative agriculture, and integrated plant protection through establishing Farmers Field Schools (FFS) and conducting specific trainings</b>										
Activity 2.1 Development of technical production sheets and informative material on production of crops from seeds and seedlings in micro and small agricultural households	FAO	X	X	X	X					
Activity 2.2 Conducting training needs assessment and provision of agricultural thematic trainings, including on-farm trainings	FAO		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 2.3 Capacity building for women farmers on conservation agriculture practices	UNDP		X							
Activity 2.4 Support the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry in monitoring the impact of climate adverse phenomena on agrifood system and building efficient mitigation mechanisms	FAO			X	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Result 3: 1,000 (200 women and young people) small agricultural producers increased their capacities in access to markets, income generating activities with sustainable and green aspects mainstreamed</b>										
Activity 3.1 Training for local NGOs Program (ToT)	UNDP	X								
Activity 3.2 Capacity building program for households and agricultural enterprises	UNDP		X	X	X					
Activity 3.3 Study tours, exchange visits and participation	UNDP	X	X	X	X	X				



Activities/Milestones	Implementing agency	2022	2023				2024			
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Activity 3.4: Agricultural production and market access trainings as well as creation of Women Agricultural Clubs	FAO			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Result 4:</b> <b>a) 10 smallholder farms and 20 households benefited from the implementation of energy-efficient technologies (ADA)</b> <b>b) Provision of non-cash assistance for 15 sub-projects for the small and medium agri-producers led by women and for 30 sub-projects for micro agri-producers led by women (SDC)</b>										
Activity 4.1 Support small and medium holder farms led by women and women agri-producers (land-owners of 2 ha and more) and post-harvest producers in strengthening their energy resilience capacities	UNDP	X	X	X	X	X				
Activity 4.1.1. Support potential grantees to enable a larger number of potential beneficiaries to submit competitive applications through extensive consulting and other supportive measures	UNDP		X	X						
Activity 4.1.2. Provision of non-cash support to 10 women	UNDP					X	X			
Activity 4.1.3. Technical assistance on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources	UNDP					X	X			
Activity 4.2 Support 20 household businesses led by women in strengthening their energy resilience capacities -through a non-refundable non-cash support mechanism	UNDP			X	X	X	X			
Activity 4.2.1. Support potential grantees to enable a larger number of potential beneficiaries to submit competitive applications through extensive consulting and other supportive measures	UNDP		X	X						
Activity 4.2.2. Provision of non-cash support to 20 women	UNDP				X	X				
Activity 4.2.3. Technical assistance on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources	UNDP					X	X			

Activities/Milestones	Implementing agency	2022	2023				2024			
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
4.3. Provision of non-cash assistance for 15 sub-projects for the small and medium agri-producers led by women and for 30 sub-projects for micro agri-producers led by women					X	X	X	X	X	X

### **Annex 3. Risks Log**

	Risks	Mitigation measures
<b>Result 1: At least 12,000 farmers (30% women farmers and/or including 15% young people) supported with the following agriculture inputs – seeds, seedlings, fertilizers for two planting seasons and animal feed along the year</b>		
Activity 1.1 Creating an enabling environment for implementation at national and local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited capacities of the public authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A multi-disciplinary Steering Committee will secure objective and timely decision making</li> <li>- Strengthening the capacities of the MAFI on coordinating project's activities</li> </ul>
Activity 1.2 Selecting beneficiaries and suppliers, needs assessment and finalization of contracting arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is not sufficient information and data on households and nominal beneficiaries at local level</li> <li>- Possible deficit of domestic seeds and producers and risk of need to import seeds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multi-disciplinary district and local committees (including local public authorities and village councils, representatives of employment office, social services, local cadaster office) will be created to secure fair selection processes</li> <li>- A Grievance Mechanism will be in place to monitor and secure fair selection and distribution</li> <li>- During the inception phase, types of seeds and local distributors will be assessed</li> <li>- Collaboration with the research institutes and seeds suppliers intensified to make sure sufficient quantities of desired crop seeds are available</li> </ul>
Activity 1.3 Distribution of agriculture inputs and connected tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distribution process is logistically complicated by scattered locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The National Coordination Committee will adopt a district/community selection approach based on criteria such as drought impact, economic and social deprivation and other, to collectively ensure interventions are not scattered, but concentrated in most vulnerable areas and their most affected inhabitants</li> </ul>
<b>Result 2: Small farmers increased their capacities to apply climate-smart agriculture and other innovative techniques to increase resilience to climate change, including resilient crop production, conservative agriculture, and integrated plant protection through establishing Farmers Field Schools FFS and conduction specific trainings</b>		
Activity 2.1 Development of technical production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The changing weather conditions and agricultural</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project will elaborate tailored written information and will consider</li> </ul>

sheets and informative material on production of crops from seeds and seedlings in micro and small agricultural households	climate are at extremes and generic theoretical information alone might be insufficient for beneficiaries' objective decision making	the impacts of the ongoing drought and the overall current state of climate conditions when recommending particular agricultural practices and approaches
Activity 2.2 Conducting training needs assessment and provision of agricultural thematic trainings, including on-farm trainings	- Low interest from farmers to adapt climate-smart agricultural practices and green agriculture, while choosing to disregard mid- and long-term impacts, and focus on short term financial gains	- The project will choose demonstration plots, topics and knowledge building themes based on exiting examples that factor-in the current regional and local circumstances, but are also oriented towards high-yields, homogeneous quality of produce and are guided by cost-benefit principles
Activity 2.3 Capacity building for women farmers on conservation agriculture practices	- The restrictions/ limitations imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic over the organization of in-person activities may affect their quality and timeliness	- Use interactive and creative on-line training delivery methods and tools, adjusting the schedule of training sessions and breaks, adapting training materials for on-line delivery and create space for virtual engagement and communication among participants (e.g. break-out rooms) - Exercise constant monitoring by the Project Staff of each on-line activity delivered by the partners to ensure quality is observed
Activity 2.4. Support the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry in monitoring the impact of climate adverse phenomena on agrifood system and building efficient mitigation mechanisms	- Limited capacities of public authorities - No sufficient data of the impact on agrifood system - No sufficient mechanism on mitigation the impact of climate adverse phenomena	- Conduct the assessment of the current policies and measures on mitigating the negative effects of multiple crisis and will provide recommendations on improving the policies on central and local level. - Exercise constant monitoring by the Project Staff and involved experts
<b>Result 3: 1,000 (400 women and young people) small agricultural producers increased their capacities in access to markets, income generating activities with sustainable and green aspects mainstreamed</b>		
Activity 3.1 Training for local NGOs Program (ToT)	- Limited number of NGOs identified	- Extensive promotion of the call for NGOs within NGOs networks with relevant expertise - Promotion of the ToT among NGOs previously involved in similar programs
Activity 3.2 Capacity building program for households and agricultural enterprises	- Lack of culture of participation	- The project will use best practices and lessons learned to show tangible benefits from other similar contexts for communities, agri-business and household level, and will be working on changing the attitudes and behavior as well as will empower target group to fully participate in all capacity building program activities
Activity 3.3 Study tours, exchange visits and participation	- Low interest and participation of rural women in study tours	- The visit's agenda will be tailored to the women's needs thus motivating them to participate

<p>Activity 3.4 Agricultural production and access to markets trainings as well as creation of Women Agricultural Clubs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Low interest and implication of rural women in agriculture and conservation agriculture in particular</li> <li>- Low capacities of women to access markets</li> <li>- Limited knowledge of women in agricultural production – quality management</li> <li>- No institutional and implementation capacities of AWC</li> <li>- Low level of association and cooperation of women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project will create an enabling environment and the Agricultural Women Clubs 's network that will serve as real examples of attainable success and secure sustainability through long term exchange of information and knowledge that will inspire new women and youth.</li> <li>- This risk will be addressed by providing on-going training, coaching and mentoring.</li> <li>- Memorandum of Understanding among potential beneficiaries</li> </ul>
<p><b>Result 4: a) 10 smallholder farms and 20 households benefited from the implementation of energy-efficient technologies</b></p>		
<p>Activity 4.1 Support small and medium holder farms led by women and women agri-producers (land-owners of 2 ha and more) and post-harvest producers in strengthening their energy resilience capacities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weak capacity of implementing partners</li> <li>- Co-financing failure from grant beneficiaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This risk will be addressed by providing on-going training, coaching and mentoring.</li> <li>- In order to qualify for Grant, potential beneficiaries will be asked to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and by this guaranty the project co-financing</li> </ul>
<p>Activity 4.2 Support 20 household businesses led by women in strengthening their energy resilience capacities -through a non-refundable non-cash support mechanism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 20 households will not be identified</li> <li>- Agri-producers' and women's head households writing skills to fill-in complex application forms are poor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project will run an outreach campaign at the district level to present the grants conditions.</li> <li>- The potential beneficiaries are to be supported in filling-in the required information and dedicated assistance will be provided by the Contractor team to all interested women entrepreneurs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>b) 15 small and medium agri-producers and 30 micro women agri-producers benefited from the implementation of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies</b></p>		
<p>4.3. Provision of non-cash assistance for 15 sub-projects for the small and medium agri-producers led by women and for 30 sub-projects for micro agri-producers led by women</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weak capacity of implementing partners</li> <li>- Co-financing failure from grant beneficiaries</li> <li>- Contract implementation delays</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This risk will be addressed by providing on-going support for grant beneficiaries on behalf of the project team and contracted company which will be engaged in implementing the projects for the final beneficiaries.</li> <li>- To qualify for grants, potential beneficiaries will be asked to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and by this guaranty the project co-financing.</li> <li>- The implementation of the activities will be planned and approached with the necessary caution, including timing, visibility, inclusion, participation, and presentation issues. Regular communication with the Contractor, which will be engaged in implementation of the projects for final beneficiaries, will be made to check any shortages/limitations/issues that may occur during the implementation period. For the monitoring at all stages, the</li> </ul>

		Project team will involve the energy efficiency consultant and representative of the Beneficiary who will be responsible for this assignment.
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## **Annex. 4 Budget**

### **Joint Budget distribution by Agency and donor**

Agency	ADA, USD			SDC		
	Total Programme	MPTF Fee	Total contribution	Total Programme, USD	MPTF Fee, USD	Total contribution, USD
UNDP	689,308	6,963	696,271	758,282	7,583	765,865
FAO	1,294,313	13,074	1,307,387	1,408,237	14,082	1,422,319
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,983,621</b>	<b>20,037</b>	<b>2,003,658</b>	<b>2,166,519</b>	<b>21,665</b>	<b>2,188,184</b>

### **FAO Budget**

UNDG	Description	Original FAO budget, USD	FAO Revised Budget, USD
1	Staff and other personnel costs	148,771	220,094
2	Supplies, Commodities, Materials	635,528	1,271,946
3	Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture	30,044	293,064
5	Travel	48,363	66,508
6	Transfers & Grants Counterparts	270,732	476,832
7	Gen Operating & Other direct costs	76,201	197,303
8	Indirect costs	84,675	176,802
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1,294,313</b>	<b>2,702,549</b>

Budget Lines	Description	ADA			SDC		
		units	price per unit, USD	Total USD	units	price per unit, USD	Total USD
<b>1. Staff and other personnel</b>							
International Consultants	Coordination, design management framework and distribution modalities, gender assessment; monitoring and evaluation (1 Consultant - 35 days Total; 350 USD/day)	35	350	12,250		0	-
International Consultants	International specialist on gender (1 Consultant; 35 days Total; 350 USD/day)	35	350	12,250		0	-
International consultants	Agriculture officers: Plant production and protection; climate-smart agriculture, livestock (1 Consultant; 35 days Total; 350 USD/day)	35	350	12,250		0	-
National consultant	Field officer	55	150	8,250	25	150	3,750
National consultant	Procurement specialist	55	150	8,250	45	150	6,750
National consultants	Local specialists: Plant production and protection;	60	150	9,000		0	-
National consultants	Livestock specialist	50	150	7,500	15	150	2,250
National consultants	Specialist on climate-smart agriculture	50	150	7,500	15	150	2,250
National consultants	Coordinator for the FFS activities and trainings	80	150	12,000	40	150	6,000
National consultants	Expert on environmentally-friendly production approaches	35	150	5,250		0	
National consultants	Marketing specialist	35	150	5,250	15	150	2,250
National consultants	Project coordinator (18 months)	18	1700	30,600	9	1700	15,300
National consultants	Project assistant (18 months)	18	900	16,200	9	900	8,100
<b>National consultants</b>	<b>Drought and climate change specialist (months)</b>				<b>12</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>12,000</b>

Budget Lines	Description	ADA			SDC		
		units	price per unit, USD	Total USD	units	price per unit, USD	Total USD
National consultants	Monitoring and evaluation specialist (months)				12	1000	12,000
Direct support costs				2,220			641
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>148,770</b>			<b>71,291</b>
<b>2. Contractual services</b>							
Letter of Agreement	Conduct rapid assessment of vulnerable households affected by crisis	lumpsum		40,000			-
Letter of Agreement	Provision of support in the identification of beneficiaries and distribution of inputs	lumpsum		43,000			41,000
Letter of Agreement	Conduct multipurpose analysis and impact assessment	lumpsum		29,032			27,000
Letter of Agreement	Provision of services for training for beneficiaries of inputs (30 events)	lumpsum		60,000			-
Letter of Agreement	Establishment of FFS and training of beneficiaries on thematic subjects with a focus on climate-smart agriculture	lumpsum		45,000			45,000
Letter of Agreement	Provision of service for training of the beneficiaries on climate-smart agriculture practices (12 events)	lumpsum		28,000			28,000
Letter of Agreement	Rural women needs assessment and provision of capacity building to Agricultural Womens Clubs	lumpsum		25,000			15,000
Letter of Agreement	LoA on provision of services for agricultural production and market access	lumpsum		-			50,000
Direct support costs (LoA)		7	100	700	7	100	700
Procurement	Procurement of seeds, seedlings, feed and fodder for animals, fertilizers	lumpsum		600,528			600,528
Procurement	Procurement of High Value Furniture, Fixtures and Office Equipment	lumpsum		-			12,800
2.2. Grants	Provision of small grants for AWC	lumpsum		-			250,000
2.3. Grants	Provision of small grants for Farmer Field Schools	10	3,500	35,000	5	3,500	17,500

Budget Lines	Description	ADA			SDC		
		units	price per unit, USD	Total USD	units	price per unit, USD	Total USD
Procurement	Procurement of car for project activities and fieldwork			30,044			
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>936,304</b>			<b>1,087,528</b>
<b>3. Travel</b>							
International travel	International travel (12 mission* 5 days)	12	1,585	19,020	5	1,585	7,925
Local travel	car rent, fuel, lump sum			28,815			10,000
Direct support costs				528	5	44	220
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>48,363</b>			<b>18,145</b>
<b>4. General Operating and other Direct Costs</b>							
General Operating Expenses	Miscellaneous			4,901			11,066
Communication and dissemination	Communication costs			2,000			6,000
<b>Rental of Premises</b>	<b>Rental of Premises</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3112</b>	<b>56,016</b>
Direct support costs (GoE)				1,114			1,113
Technical support costs				41,867			38,647
Other Direct costs				26,319			26,303
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>76,201</b>			<b>139,145</b>
<b>Total direct costs</b>				<b>1,209,638</b>			<b>1,316,109</b>
<b>5. Indirect support costs</b>							
FAO GMS	(7% of direct costs)			84,675			92,128
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>84,675</b>			<b>92,128</b>
<b>Grand Subtotal-programmable amount</b>				<b>1,294,313</b>			<b>1,408,237</b>
MPTF Administrative Agent Fee	(1% of total contribution)			13,074			14,082
<b>TOTAL contribution</b>				<b>1,307,387</b>			<b>1,422,319</b>



**UNDP Budget**

Budget Lines	Description	ADA			SDC		
		units	price per unit, USD	Total USD	units	price per unit, USD	Total USD
<b>1. Staff and other personnel</b>							
National coordinator	full time job (average salary, 30% paid from SDC for the 1st 10 months starting with June 2023 and the remained 8 months paid 100% from SDC)	18	1,762	31,720	18	2,049	36,880
Project Assistant (NPSA5/NPSA6)	full time job (average salary, 30% paid from SDC for the 1st 10 months starting with June 2023 and the remained 8 months paid 100% from SDC)	18	928	16,698	18	992.22	17,860
Quality Assurance (CO staff remuneration)	Cluster Programme Analyst ADA - 30% and SDC - 20%, Programme Associate ADA - 10% and SDC - 15%	18	902	16,230	18	1110	19,980
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>64,648</b>			<b>74,720</b>
<b>2. Contractual services</b>							
Contractual services-companies	Consultancy and logistical costs for the implementation of the capacity development programme for the women farmers o conservation agriculture services	1	20,037	20,037	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contractual services-companies	Consultancy and logistical costs to conduct Call for NGOs selection and training of trainers for local NGOs (ToT)	1	20,037	20,037	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contractual services-companies	Consultancy and logistical costs to conduct Capacity building program for target groups in target regions	1	40,073	40,073	n/a	n/a	n/a
Audio Visual&Print Prod costs	Elaboration of visibility products and info materials for the capacity building programs	1	10,018	10,018	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contractual services-companies	Consultancy and logistical costs for Study tours, exchange visits and participation	5	4,007	20,037	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contractual services-companies	Consultancy for provision of support in preparation of energy-efficient sub-project	1	44,080	44,080	n/a	n/a	n/a

Budget Lines	Description	ADA			SDC		
		units	price per unit, USD	Total USD	units	price per unit, USD	Total USD
	applications and grant management support services						
Trainings, workshops, Conferences	Local and National events for promotion of Grants programs among potential beneficiaries and Award Ceremonies	5	2,004	10,018	6	500	3,000
Contract for services for procurement of goods (10 grants)	Non-cash assistance for 10 sub-projects for smallholder farm led by women	10	18,033	180,329	15	18,000	270,000
Local consultants	Coaching, mentoring services and technical assistance (16 months)	16	1,047	16,751	n/a	n/a	n/a
Local consultants	Local consultants to support grants implementation and dissemination of results (comunication consultant, financial consultant, technical consultant, etc)	1	40,073	40,073	18	1,284	23,113
Contractual services-companies	Consultancy and logistical costs to support to preparation of energy-efficient sub-project applications and grant management support services				1	90,000	90,000
Contract for services for procurement of goods (20 grants)	Non-cash assistance for 20 sub-projects for economic activities within households led by women	20	6,011	120,220	30	6,000	180,000
Local consultants	Coaching, mentoring services and technical assistance (16 months)	16	1,002	16,029	n/a	n/a	n/a
Audio Visual&Print Prod costs	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs (foto, video, visibylity material, translation services)				1	18,000	18,000
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>537,702</b>			<b>584,113</b>
<b>3. Travel</b>							
Contract for services	Travel costs for Activity 3.3 Study tours, exchange visits and participation (5 events)	1	10,030	10,030	n/a	n/a	n/a
Local travel	car rent, fuel etc for the site visits				18	467	8,410
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>10,030</b>			<b>8,410</b>
<b>4. General Operating and other Direct Costs</b>							

Budget Lines	Description	ADA			SDC		
		units	price per unit, USD	Total USD	units	price per unit, USD	Total USD
General Operating Expenses	Miscellaneous ( Office Equipment and Furniture; Procurement of IT equipment and supplies; Rental & Maintenance-Premises ( rent, leased premises alterations, utilities,etc); Maintenance costs for IT equipment; Office consumables; Communication services ( tel/fax, internet, etc); Project management and coordination events etc.);	1	11,797	11,797	1	24,718	24,718
Communication and dissemination	Communication costs	1	2,004	2,004	n/a	n/a	n/a
DPC		18	1,002	18,033	18	929	16,714
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>31,833</b>			<b>41,432</b>
<b>5. Indirect support costs</b>							
UNDP GMS	(7% of direct costs)			45,095			49,607
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>45,095</b>			<b>49,607</b>
<b>Grand Subtotal-programmable amount</b>				<b>689,308</b>			<b>758,282</b>
MPTF Administrative Agent Fee	(1% of total contribution)			<b>6,963</b>			<b>7,583</b>
<b>TOTAL contribution</b>				<b>696,271</b>			<b>765,865</b>

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