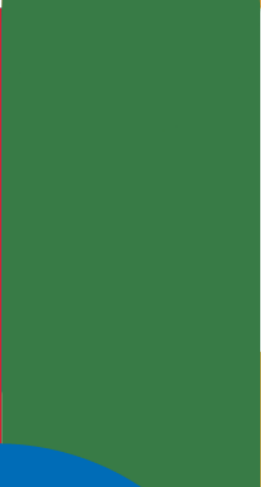




**JOINT
SDG
FUND**

**Joint Programme
Document:**

*Strengthening SDG
localization in Georgia*



Joint Programme Document

Integrated Policy and Capacity Funding Track

Cover-page

MPTFO Project Reference Number	<i>(Leave blank, for automatic population in Quantum)</i>
Country	Georgia
Region	Europe and Central Asia (RBEC)
Joint programme title:	Strengthening SDG localization in Georgia
Duration:	12 months
Anticipated start and end dates:	07/2024 to 07/2025
Short description:	<p><i>Max 250 words – Emphasis on the expected results and their contribution to accelerating the SDGs through SDG transitions and engine room actions.</i></p> <p>Joint programme intends to empower local governments and communities in Georgia to be agents of catalytic changes for achieving global 2030 goals. To this end, the programme is primarily focused on three transformative entry points (key transitions: food systems, social protection & decent jobs and digital connectivity) and engine room actions (shifts across policy and regulatory frameworks and capacity building at scale) rooted in three major intervention areas that are built on the strategic opportunity to unite efforts and collaborate with the government in the pursuit of SDG localization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improved knowledge of local stakeholders and their active engagement in SDG localization. ● Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to ensure evidence-based and participatory policymaking, adopt, implement and monitor SDGs and deliver quality services to all. ● Advanced innovative public services and digital inclusion practices. <p>Joint programme is designed to contribute to accelerating SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 12 as well as to UNSDCF Georgia’s “Outcome 1: By 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy improved good governance, more open, resilient and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision making (output 1.1”;</p> <p>“Outcome 2: By 2025, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive access to quality, resilient and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards (output 2.3.) and “Outcome 3: By 2025, all people without discrimination benefit from a sustainable, inclusive and resilient economy in Georgia (output 3.2).</p>
Joint Programme team:	
Resident Coordinator	Dr. Silviu Domente, UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in Georgia domentes@who.int
Joint Programme RCO focal point	David Mushkudiani, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, david.mushkudiani@un.org
Lead PUNO JP Focal point	George Nanobashvili, UNDP Economic Development Team Leader, george.nanobashvili@undp.org
PUNO 2 JP Focal point	Amy Clancy, UNICEF Deputy Representative, aclancy@unicef.org
PUNO 3 JP Focal point	Mamuka Meskhi, Assistant FAO Representative in Georgia, mamuka.meskhi@fao.org
Total budget:	\$309,954

Source of funds:	
UN Joint SDG Fund	\$249,954 (<i>maximum USD 250,000</i>)
PUNO 1 co-funding (UNDP)	\$25,000
PUNO 2 co-funding (UNICEF)	\$15,000
PUNO 3 co-funding (FAO)	\$20,000
Government co-funding	N/A
International donor co-funding	N/A
Other sources co-funding	N/A
Legal context	<p><i>This section refers to cooperation or assistance agreements that form the legal basis for the relationships between the Government and each of the UN organizations participating in this joint programme.</i></p> <p><i>In countries with a CF: The legal basis for the joint programme is the Legal Annex for the signed United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (20__-20__). It refers to the cooperation or assistance agreements or other agreements that are the existing legal basis for the relationship between the Government of [++] and each Participating UN Organization.</i></p> <p>In countries with a CF: The legal basis for the joint programme is the Legal Annex (page 94) included in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025) signed on 2 October 2020 (https://georgia.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/GEORGIA-UNSDCF-%202021-2025_web_0.pdf).</p> <p>The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) in Georgia sets out the collective vision and response of the UN system to national development priorities. It presents the key shared objectives of the United Nations system, the areas in which UN intends to support the Government of Georgia and its people, and the expected outcomes of this cooperation. The overall objective of the Cooperation Framework is the need to enhance human wellbeing, capabilities and social equality and to make a difference in the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people.</p>

Joint Programme Profile

Contribution to Cooperation Framework Outcome(s) and Output(s)	<p><i>List relevant outcome/s and output(s) from the country's Cooperation Framework that the JP will contribute to: <verbatim from CF></i></p> <p>“Outcome 1: By 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy improved good governance, more open, resilient and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision making (output 1.1)”</p> <p>“Outcome 2: By 2025, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive access to quality, resilient and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards (output 2.3.)”</p> <p>“Outcome 3: By 2025, all people without discrimination benefit from a sustainable, inclusive and resilient economy in Georgia (output 3.2)”</p>
SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint Programme	<p><i>List min 2 and max 6 SDG targets that the JP will address.</i></p> <p>SDG 1 (targets 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6)</p> <p>SDG 2 (target 2.1, 2.3, 2.4)</p> <p>SDG 3 (targets 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.B)</p> <p>SDG 4 (targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8, 4.A)</p> <p>SDG 5 (targets 5.1, 5.5, 5.a, 5.c)</p> <p>SDG 12 (targets 12.3, 12.5, 12.8)</p>
Expected key results of the Joint Programme	<p><i>Include (up to) 3 main expected results.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved knowledge of local stakeholders on SDGs and their active engagement in SDG localization. 2. Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to ensure evidence-based and participatory policy-making, adopt, implement and monitor SDGs, and deliver quality services to all¹. 3. Advanced innovative public services and digital inclusion practices.
Anticipated direct beneficiaries	Up to 250 direct beneficiaries from two target municipalities with over 63,000 population in total ² . Geographic focus of the JP is on the municipalities which are already involved in SDG localization process ³ .
Anticipated financial leverage	<p><i>The total amount in USD (including co-funding and co-financing from diverse sources)</i></p> <p>\$309,954</p>
Localization marker score	<i>The total score: 11</i>

The primary focus on SDG Transitions in the JP. *Select all that are incorporated into the JP strategy and results.*

- Digital Transformation**
- Food Systems**
- Decent Jobs and Universal Social Protection**
- Energy Access and Affordability
- Transforming Education
- Climate, Biodiversity, Pollution

Main engine room actions that the JP supports. *Select all that are incorporated into the JP strategy and results.*

- Shifts across policy and regulatory frameworks**
- Capacity building at scale**
- Deal room (financing mix)
- Pipeline of bankable and market-ready projects

¹ UNSDCF output 1.1 (adapted).

² Calculated based on an average population in the Georgian rural municipalities.

³ By 2025, 64 municipalities should adopt SDGs, in accordance with the action plan for localization of the SDGs (2021-2025).

JOINT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Situation analysis *(maximum of 500 words)*

This section offers a context description and brief rationale for the JP. At a minimum the section will describe the context and challenges/barriers/blockages to be addressed by the JP based on disaggregated data. Apply gender, human rights and leave no one behind lens to the analysis and description of the problem/s to be addressed.

Georgia embraces the SDGs through its "National Document for Sustainable Development Goals." The SDG Inter-Agency Council⁴ has crafted an Action Plan for SDG Localization (2021-2025) aligned with Georgia's Decentralization Strategy, emphasizing the role of municipalities in achieving SDG targets.

UNDP together with local and international development partners have been actively supporting implementation of the Action Plan for SDG Localization (2021-2025), developed by the Administration of the Government of Georgia. UNDP was mostly engaged in awareness raising and capacity building activities for local governments on SDG localization issues. The World Bank has supported integration of SDGs in programme budget methodology, enabling local governments to plan and report on SDGs. By the end of 2025, 64 municipalities in Georgia are expected to have localized SDGs⁵. These matrixes are further incorporated into medium-term strategic and action plans of the local governments. UNDP, UNICEF and FAO are increasingly supporting Georgian municipalities to strengthen their policies, programmes and services to ensure the well-being of different socially vulnerable groups. UN-Habitat has been supporting the City of Tbilisi to develop the first Voluntary Local Review (VLR) of Georgia Tbilisi, in line with the Global Action-Oriented VLR Methodology in line with the ongoing efforts of Georgia on SDG localization.

The successful efforts by the national SDG Council and its partners towards the SDG integration in local development plans (e.g., having SDGs integrated in budget classification) in nearly 32 municipalities and the ongoing SDG localization process in Georgia, needs further support in terms of improving data availability on SDGs achievements⁶ and regular monitoring of progress at the local level. Improved services for vulnerable groups especially children, women and youth - and the promotion of sustainable food systems transformation, remain untapped opportunities. Addressing these challenges necessitate specific actions aimed at bridging these gaps and enhancing municipalities' engagement in SDG localization efforts.

Georgia is committed to key international agreements that set standards for gender equality. Several indices that measure progress towards gender equality indicate that Georgia is a country of very high human development. Despite these commitments and Georgia's significant progress towards achieving gender equality, women—especially those in rural areas—face various and intersecting challenges. Gender inequalities persist in several areas. Women bear a higher share of unpaid work in both rural and urban areas of Georgia. Economic participation are the areas where gender gaps are larger in rural areas. These challenges should be addressed to boost women's productivity. UNDP, FAO, and UNICEF are strongly committed to mainstream gender related issues in all programmes and project activities. Therefore, gender related issues will be considered in every stage of an activity, from planning to implementation and dissemination. UNDP is accountable for ensuring that gender related data is integrated in the activity as part of workplan approval, including data collection and analysis.

⁴ The key coordination body for implementation of the national SDG targets, which was formally adopted through the Ordinance⁷ of the Prime Minister of Georgia. Council is chaired by the Head of the Administration of the Government of Georgia and co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and reports directly to the Prime Minister.

⁵ By 2025, 64 municipalities should adopt SDGs, in accordance with the action plan for localization of the SDGs (2021-2015).

⁶ By highlighting areas of progress and identifying persistent challenges, the Country Gender Equality Profile (CGEP) of Georgia offers a comprehensive and data-driven assessment of the status of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the country. CGEP will provide valuable insights for JP interventions and policy improvements to advance gender equality in target municipalities.

https://georgia.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2024-03/cge_eng_web_3.pdf

Programme Strategy and theory of change *(maximum of 1500 words)*

This section summarizes the JP strategy, describes the expected results and how they relate, complement and are coherent. Including:

- (1) Brief written explanation and simple graphical diagram of the [Theory of Change](#), including major assumptions. This defines the change pathway required to achieve the expected results.*

Programme intends to empower local governments and communities in Georgia to be agents of catalytic changes for achieving the SDGs by accelerating key SDG transitions, with a focus on food systems, social protection and decent jobs and digital connectivity. To this end, the programme is designed to have three major intervention areas that are built on existing progress and strategic opportunity to unite efforts and collaborate with the government in the pursuit of SDG localization.

Theory of Change

If local stakeholders have improved knowledge of the SDGs and actively engage in the acceleration of SDG localization processes for increased societal wellbeing and local food systems transformation; and

If capacities of local governments to understand, adopt, implement and monitor SDGs are strengthened and increasingly serve those who have traditionally been left behind; and

If innovative approaches to the implementation of integrated public services and digital inclusion practices are applied to local social service delivery, especially for youth, and families with children as well as other disadvantaged groups,

Then, local governments and communities, in coordination with national stakeholders, will be empowered catalysts of change, supporting the advancement of SDG localization.

- (2) How JP complement the efforts of other development partners and programmes already working on the same or similar problems. Indicate also what the added value of the UN working jointly on this JP.*

Programme interventions are complementing and contributing to achieving the results of the Action Plan for Localization of the SDGs (2021-2025) of Georgia. Specifically, JP outputs 1 and 2 will contribute to the national goal for SDG localization in all municipalities of Georgia, as well as ongoing trainings on SDG localization for local governments and stakeholders. Awareness and engagement of local stakeholders are also central to UNICEF-supported initiatives in child-centered, needs-based local social programming, which have reinforced the role of local governments in achieving SDGs for children. Additionally, its efforts in public finance for children, including the development of budget assessment methodology from a child's perspective, have been instrumental. The results of both endeavors will be leveraged in this JP, involving capacity-building activities for the municipal workforce on SDGs and adding child-related policy classifier in the eBudget system that enables all state and local agencies to link (tag) their programs-subprograms to the classifier. Information about tagging is presented in the national program budget annex.

Meaningful and equal participation of women and those, who are left behind is crucial for the Joint programme. To ensure inclusiveness and equitable progress, the programme concentrates on those who have traditionally been left behind, especially in rural areas, and aims to empower groups, living in vulnerable situations: children, women and youth. Tailored initiatives, information campaigns, needs-based social programming, youth and women's equal participation and engagement, and local capacity building, digital solutions for quality service delivery seek to holistically address their distinct needs. FAO-supported interventions have been prioritized to promote inclusive rural development and enhance the capacities of local actors, including women and youth on food systems transformation. JP output 1 will build upon these initiatives by enhancing awareness on food systems

transformation, including food waste management, among various local stakeholders, including municipalities, local farmers, women, and youth.

Capacity building interventions will build-up on UNDP's earlier experience with provision of training for local governments on development of SDG localization documents and complement support provided by GIZ in this direction. JP's output 3 will also be in synergy with the World Bank's support to advance public finance management in Georgia.

JP will further strengthen capacities of local governments to practically apply the opportunities of SDG budget alignment and tagging in their medium-term development plans/budgets. JP output 1 will also support the approach to engaging vulnerable groups by conducting informational campaigns about SDGs for wider society, as well as complement the project "Partnerships 4SDGs" that works with businesses to engage in SDG localization processes. Awareness and engagement of local stakeholders is also at the core of UNICEF-supported work on child-centered, needs-based social programming that has contributed to enhance local governments' role in the achievement of SDGs for children. JP's interventions related to improving wider-stakeholders engagement in SDGs localization will also complement the project "Continued Nationalization of SDGs in Georgia", which works to strengthen stakeholders involvement in SDGs implementation and monitoring. JP output 1 and 2 will also support municipalities in incorporating relevant national legislation, supported by FAO's ENPARD IV on Food Safety and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Sector in Georgia, into their municipal development plans, in particular with a focus on food waste, aiming at promoting food systems transformation. This support aligns with municipalities' obligations to reflect the principles of food waste management hierarchy into their waste management plans, as per legislation and provides an excellent example of improving the efficiency and sustainability of urban food systems. An inclusive and participatory approach, consistent with FAO's project "Increased youth engagement in agriculture, food systems and rural development," will be employed. The joint programme will also aim to facilitate local-to-global innovation and expansion. To achieve this, it will identify successful cases and practices, extracting them to translate into comprehensive case studies.

(3) The expected JP outputs, their contribution to accelerating the SDGs and how they are anchored and contribute logically to the country's CF outcome/ outputs and national priorities. Indicate how the JP aligns with different SDG transitions and capacitates engine room actions⁷.

Output 1 envisions boosting local stakeholder awareness of SDG localization and engagement in SDG localization processes through assessments, youth empowerment, awareness campaigns, and multi-stakeholder cooperation. This aligns with UNSDCF Georgia's (2021-2025) "Outcome 1" and "Outcome 3". This output will contribute to accelerating various SDGs, including SDG 1 (1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6), SDG 2 (2.1, 2.3, 2.4), SDG 3 (3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.B), SDG 5 (5.1, 5.5, 5.a), and SDG 12 (12.3, 12.5, 12.8).

Output 2 anticipates enhancing policies and local government capabilities by providing policy support on food systems transformation, with a focus on food waste management, building local capacities in the full cycle of child and family centered social programming, aligning local capacities, and implementing effective SDG progress evaluation for vulnerable populations. This supports UNSDCF Georgia's (2021-2025) "Outcome 1", "Outcome 2", and "Outcome 3". This output will contribute to accelerating various SDGs, including SDG 2(2.1, 2.3, 2.4), SDG 5 (5.1, 5.5, 5.c), SDG 3 (3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.B.), and SDG 12 (12.3, 12.5).

Output 3 foresees local-national SDG alignment. JP outputs 2 and 3 are aligned with UNSDCF Georgia's (2021-2025) "Outcome 1", "Outcome 2", and "Outcome 3", driving SDG 4 (4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8, 4.A). Coupled with Output 1, JP contributes to SDG 17 (target 17H) and "Objective 3.4: Set up local development planning and coordination system" of the Decentralization Strategy 2020-2025. Output 3 will also contribute to accelerating various SDGs, including SDG (3 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.B) and SDG 5 (5.1, 5.5, 5.c).

⁷ (1) shifts in policy and regulatory frameworks; (2) development of market-ready bankable pipelines; (3) devising a financial mix (deal room); and (4) capacity-building at scale.

These outputs align with the national policy priorities, particularly with the Decentralization Strategy 2020-2025's Objectives: 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3. Furthermore, JP outputs are directly intertwined with local medium-term integrated planning and budget alignment of SDGs at the local level. The programme strategically aims to bolster the integration of SDGs within municipal development strategic and action plans, while also capitalizing on opportunities to embed SDGs in local public finance management and implementation.

JP's interventions aim to accelerate three out of six key SDG transitions (Digital Transformation, Food Systems, and Decent Jobs and Universal Social Protection) identified by the UN to maximize efforts towards achieving the 2030 agenda, along with two engine room actions (Shifts across policy and regulatory frameworks and capacity building at scale). While Georgia has been active in contributing to global efforts on food systems transformation, promptly nominating a National Convenor and formulating a National Pathway for Food Systems Transformation with municipal involvement in the participatory process, local stakeholder engagement in discussions and implementation is still limited. FAO will support capacity building for local stakeholders, including municipalities, local farmers, women, and youth, and foster enable environment for local policy integration, focusing on food systems. Capacity building interventions will build-up on UNDP's earlier experience with provision of training for local governments through anchoring VLRs within SDG localization and local decision-making processes with specific, evidence-based suggestions to guide planning, financing, and future policy initiatives. The technical support for VLRs will be also available from FAO, as required.

(4) Include explanation about how people, and especially marginalized and vulnerable groups, will benefit directly from the JP. Please select the groups from the table below that have a dedicated output in the joint programme. Be mindful that the joint programme will be requested to monitor and report on its direct contribution to the selected marginalized and vulnerable groups. Explain also briefly how the project will seek meaningful participation of rightsholders, including marginalized and vulnerable groups, in the implementation of the project.

List of marginalized and vulnerable groups ⁸	Dedicated Output
Women and girls	Output 1,2,3
Children	Output 2,3
Youth	Output 1,2
Persons with disabilities	Output 1,2,3
Other groups: Rural poor	Outputs 1,2,3

The advocacy component emphasizes amplifying the voices of women and youth, ensuring their unique needs are identified, planned and addressed in SDG localization process, and fostering lasting positive change. Involving them in local decision-making would reinforce their confidence and help tackle their isolation and exclusion. Collaboration, coordination and meaningful engagement among stakeholders will promote comprehensive approaches, tailoring solutions to specific challenges and preventing duplication. Coordinated efforts at local levels will lead to holistic interventions that enhance accountability, policy sustainability, and long-term benefits for marginalized women and youth.

⁸ The other marginalized and vulnerable groups include, amongst other, minorities (incl. Ethnic, religious, linguistic...), people of African Descent, persons deprived of their liberty, peasants and rural workers, human rights defenders (incl. NGOs, journalists, union leaders, whistleblowers...), migrants, stateless persons, LGBTQ+ persons (sexual orientation and gender identity), persons living with (HIV/AIDS, leprosy...), persons with albinism, victims or relatives of victims of enforced disappearances, victims of (slavery, torture, trafficking, sexual exploitation and abuse...). List as per the standard 20 LNOB groups according to the Implementation Guide for the Output Indicator Framework for measuring the United Nations contribution towards the Sustainable Development Goals: https://1102656428-files.gitbook.io/~files/v0/b/gitbook-x-prod.appspot.com/o/spaces%2F-MbDdHe_y0zwBb9YTe4W%2Fuploads%2F4114YgYQuQo7qKb5ycyL%2FG%20-%20221031-%20Implementation%20Guide.pdf?alt=media&token=e54c735a-c0a6-4984-8025-2f8b777d1d89.

The action component seeks to streamline support systems for children and families, improving the provision and quality of local social services. Social services are important as children are the poorest group of the society in Georgia. The provision of social services and the achievement of SDGs are interconnected, especially within the decentralization context that can lead to more efficient and responsive service delivery tailored to the specific needs of local communities, especially most vulnerable.

The monitoring component focuses on transparent and inclusive policy making by developing accountability systems. Engaging local communities and vulnerable groups will promote participatory governance, ensuring their perspectives are integrated into decision-making processes.

(5) Identify up to 5 UN Human Rights Mechanisms⁹ that the implementation of the programme will contribute to (eg. from the UPR, treaty bodies, or special procedures; you may want to use the Universal Human Rights Index to identify these). Explain in at least one sentence per recommendation how the programme will contribute to that recommendation.

Universal Periodic Review (The original document - A/HRC/47/15 Report of the working group on the universal periodic review: Georgia, 2021), recommendations:

- 148.97 - linked to the SDG 1 and 12 and JP will contribute by outputs 2 and 3.
- 148.96 - linked to the SDG1 (1.3) and SDG 10 (10.2, 10.4) and JP will contribute by outputs 1 and 3.
- 148.162 - linked to SDG 4 and JP will contribute by outputs 1, 2, and 3.

Convention on the Right of the Child (Concluding observation on the fourth periodic report of Georgia (CRC/C/GEO/CO/4), 9 March 2017 (CRC)), three recommendations that are linked to SDG 3, 4, 10 and 11, and JP will contribute by outputs 1, 2 and 3. Also, three recommendations of Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD/C/GEO/CO/1 (CRPD 2023)) that are linked to SDGs 3, 10, 2, 4 and JP will contribute by outputs 1, 2 and 3. And CEDAW convention article 7 focuses on women's rights to participate in public and political life will contribute to outputs 1,2,3 and is linked with SDG 5 and SDG 10. JP will also contribute to the enhancement of food systems and the realization of the rights relevant to food systems in Georgia, as enunciated in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). This will be supported by Outputs 1 and 2.

Sustainability and Exit Strategy *(maximum 500 words)*

A brief description about how expected JP results from the preparatory seed-funding phase will be built-on and sustained beyond the timeline of the JP with a focus on: (1) Community sustainability, (2) Financial sustainability, and (3) institutional sustainability. If possible, describe expected roles and responsibilities of government, PUNOs, donors and other relevant stakeholders at the country and local levels. The section should provide an outline of the plans to sustain positive impact and catalyze lasting change beyond this initial implementation period.

The JP team will focus on the achievement of development results, rather than merely the delivery of activities. JP will ensure monitoring of project sustainability and planned phase-out and phase-over processes to demonstrate the impact and leave a meaningful programme legacy. Throughout the programme implementation, the JP team will seek high ownership of stakeholders (esp. from local governments) through building close linkages between local actors, as well as with central government. The programme will prioritize participatory and community-based development, firmly integrating the principles of gender mainstreaming and leaving no one behind, consistent with established SDG localization practices. It will operate in harmony with government

⁹ Please consult the full list of human rights mechanisms here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Yu6wJSofqhZV_J5HpC-jlsmUBWtA4Baw/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=102351661986173461034&rtpof=true&sd=true Please, consult this database, as well: <https://uhri.ohchr.org/en/>

delivery systems, encompassing both state and municipal programmes, and align with development assistance provided by other donors. The JP team will actively engage local stakeholders to promote meaningful participation and inclusivity. A primary objective is to further support the localization process through the activities related to monitoring of SDGs implementation and developing VLRs. Enhanced policies and capacity of local governments will also serve as a foundation for further institutional advancement of SDG localization systems and practices in Georgia. Local communities (especially children and youth) will be further empowered with innovative and effective systems of services delivery, designed to be replicated by municipalities. Ultimately, a crucial element in achieving lasting results involves showcasing the public advantages of SDG localization to key stakeholders. This includes gaining the support and commitment of central government officials who maintain close ties with municipalities, as well as engaging local communities and broader society in the process.

Steering and management arrangements *(maximum 500 words)*

This section describes steering and management arrangements for the JP. It does not substitute for organization-specific arrangements required by the respective internal policies of PUNOs. It offers a brief description of key groups, their composition, and major roles and responsibilities. Explain the specific roles and responsibilities of RC/RCO, PUNOs and other partners – to ensure integrated implementation and decision-making as well as effective governance under the RC leadership. Focus on coordination, decision-making, reporting and how transaction costs will be reduced. Explain why this is the best approach including how it avoids introducing parallel structures to those that already exist, and confirm that existing structures and mechanisms of UNCT, government, and related programs/initiatives are leveraged. It includes:

- *The JP Steering Committee: Refer to ToRs in the [UNSDG Guidance Note on Joint Programmes](#). Specify Co-chairs (one of this has to be the RC), members, frequency of meetings and tasks, only if deviating from ToR.*
- *The JP Team: Refer to ToRs in the [UNSDG Guidance Note on Joint Programmes](#). Specify members, frequency of meetings and tasks, only if deviating from ToR.*

The joint programme will be implemented by UNDP, UNICEF and FAO, with UNDP as the lead agency and in close coordination with the UN RC Office. The three PUNOs will be fully responsible for the whole programme and implement it with a ‘one team’ approach. However, the lead agency will also be responsible for the coordination of joint programmatic activities and narrative reporting. All PUNOs will provide inputs to narrative reports, which will be coordinated by the lead agency, and reviewed and approved by the members of the Steering Committee before submission to the Fund through UN RCO.

Strategic guidance for the programme and effective monitoring of its implementation will be provided by the **Programme Steering Committee (PSC)** chaired by the UN RC and comprised of representatives of UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, and UN-Habitat (as advisory member) responsible on implementation of the activities envisaged within the programme. The main functions of the PSC are:

- to analyze the programme progress and guide it strategically.
- to discuss jointly any critical issues or bottlenecks for further project implementation.
- to propose and discuss relevant actions to be taken to address problems.
- to endorse programme reports and other key documentation.

The PSC meetings will be organized once a month during project lifetime and/or upon the request of one of its members. Representatives of Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (MRDI), Ministry of Finance (MOF), Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs (MOILHSA), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (MEPA), Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, SDG Secretariat, Administration of Government of Georgia, as well as representatives of target local governments and National Association of local Authorities of Georgia (NALA) will be invited to the meetings when required.

The PSC will liaise with MRDI representing the central government authority responsible for coordination municipalities and Administration of the Government of Georgia that performs the functions of Secretariat of the Council, especially with working groups of SDG Council on Social Inclusion and Economic Development (the working group co-chaired by UNICEF and UNDP), as well as Sustainable Energy and Environmental Protection (the working group co-chaired by FAO together with the MEPA). Under RC Office leadership, communication and coordination with international partners will be conducted to ensure complementarity and synergy of interventions, and to seek additional support to any follow-up measures. PUNOs will comply with Joint SDG Fund brand guidelines, which includes information on donor visibility requirements. Each PUNO will take appropriate measures to publicize the Joint SDG Fund and give due credit to the other PUNOs. To ensure joint learning and potential UN joint workplan revisions, updates on key findings and overall progress of the joint programme will be a regular agenda item for UNCT monthly meetings, with UN RCO support.

Monitoring, accountability, financial management, and public disclosure

Standard text – do not change

Reporting on the Joint SDG Fund will be focused on concrete results and grounded in evidence. Lead PUNO is responsible for coordinating and drafting a concise annual report (using the Fund Secretariat template/guidance), which is submitted to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat through the RC by January 31st of the following year. All reports are cleared by UN RCO before submission and should reach UN RCO at least one week before the submission date. Additionally, a final narrative report must be prepared and submitted to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat through the RC no later than two (2) months after the operational closure of the Joint Programme activities. UNDP Gender Advisor will work in close collaboration with implementing partners to mainstream gender throughout the operational and project delivery and provide relevant inputs for highlighting gender related issues.

The JP Steering Committee, chaired by the RC, is mandated to oversee and monitor the implementation of the joint programme, with the involvement of Joint SDG Fund Secretariat to which it must submit data and information upon request. Additionally, the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat may request additional insights, such as policy papers, case studies, infographics, or blogs/articles, as needed.

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

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

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

The JP will be using a pass-through fund management modality where UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office will act as the Administrative Agent. The programmatic UN entity of the Facility shall assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent of the Joint SDG Fund (Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office). Such funds will be administered by each UN Agency, Fund, and Project in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures. The entity shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent.

A minimum of 5% of the JP budget is allocated for monitoring, reporting, evaluation, audit and communications. Indirect costs of the Participating Organizations recovered through project support costs will be 7%, with exception



of WFP and UNHCR which should be 6,5%. All other costs incurred by each PUNO in carrying out the activities for which it is responsible under the Fund will be recovered as direct costs. Procedures on financial transfers, extensions, financial and operational closure, and related administrative issues are stipulated in the Operational Guidance of the Joint SDG Fund. PUNOs and partners must comply with Joint SDG Fund brand guidelines, which includes information on donor visibility requirements.

Annex 1: Integrated results framework and workplan

Remarks:

- *TO BE ATTACHED TO THE ONLINE APPLICATION AND ALSO FILLED OUT BELOW*
- *The link with CF should be reflected through at least one CF outcome indicated in the Joint Programme profile, but not a part of the JP Results Framework, as well as through CF outputs.*
- *There should be a maximum of 4 outputs in total, with at least one from the CF.*
- *Add one additional output that integrates joint programme management, monitoring and reporting, and communications.*
- *All results and related budgets under a JP are tagged as 'joint' in UN Info and UNO ERP systems for reporting on the QCPR and Funding Compact.*
- *A minimum of 5% percent of the JP budget is allocated for monitoring, reporting, evaluation, audit and communications.*
- *For [gender equality, human rights, and peace markers \(the latter optional\)](#) as well as [QCPR function](#) the coding is done per output. Further annex provides total scoring and justification*

JP Outputs

Output 1: Improved knowledge of local stakeholders on SDGs and their active engagement in SDG localization.			
<u>Output indicator 1:</u> Assessment of SDG localization and alignment on local level (throughout the country) (Yes/No)	Baseline: No	Target 2024: Yes	Means of verification: Assessment report, project progress reports.
<u>Output indicator 2:</u> Assessment of local stakeholder participation barriers and opportunities in SDG localization (Yes/No)	Baseline: No	Target 2024: Yes	Means of verification: Assessment report, project progress reports.
<u>Output indicator 3:</u> Number of municipalities where systemic multi-stakeholder cooperation frameworks are further used to analyze and recommend actions on SDG localization	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: At least 2	Means of verification: Official multi-stakeholder cooperation framework documents, project progress reports.
<u>Output indicator 4:</u> Number of young people and service provider representatives (disaggregated by age, sex and disability status) who have been trained on SDGs and engagement decision-	Baseline: 0	Target 2024: 30	Means of verification: Documentation of youth-led initiatives, meeting attendance records, or reports on youth involvement in decision-making processes.

making that contribute towards SDG localization agenda			
<u>Output indicator 5:</u> Number of municipalities where assessment of the readiness, capabilities and prospects of local social services providers has been carried out	Baseline: 0	Target 2024: 2	Means of verification: Documented multi-stakeholder partnerships, joint initiatives, and administrative legal acts.
<u>Output indicator 6:</u> Number of beneficiaries/stakeholders (disaggregated by age, sex, and disability status) from communities that are traditionally left behind, who participate in policy dialogues on food systems transformation at the local level contributing to the SDG implementation	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: 50 (Women: 50%)	Means of verification: Documentation of workshop and meeting attendance records or reports on involvement in policy dialogues.
<u>Output indicator 7:</u> Number of beneficiaries/stakeholders disaggregated by age, sex, and disability status) from communities that are traditionally left behind, who participate in awareness raising events on food systems transformation at the local level	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: 50 (Women: 50%)	Means of verification: Documentation of events and attendance records or reports on involvement in awareness-raising events.

Output 2: Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to ensure evidence-based and participatory policymaking, adopt, implement and monitor SDGs and deliver quality services to all.

<u>Output indicator 1:</u> Number of local stakeholder representatives who improved their knowledge and skills in SDG localization process and SDG-aligned policy planning and monitoring frameworks	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: At least 80	Means of verification: Training evaluation reports.
<u>Output indicator 2:</u> Number of municipalities where full cycle of social programming for children and their families was introduced.	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: 2	Means of verification: Documentation of formal agreements, budgets, service expansion data.
<u>Output indicator 3:</u> Number of the municipalities where dialogue and	Baseline: 0	Target 2024: 2	Means of verification: coordination meeting minutes and sign in sheets.

coordination meetings have been carried out to advance SDG agenda			
<u>Output indicator 4:</u> Number of municipalities supported in their municipal waste management plans, with a focus on food waste	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: 2	Means of verification: Updated municipal waste management plans, project progress reports.
<u>Output indicator 5:</u> <u>Number of updated municipal waste management plans that are gender-mainstreamed</u>	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: 2	Means of verification: Updated municipal waste management plans, project progress reports.

Output 3: Advanced innovative integrated public services and digital inclusion practices.

<u>Output indicator 1:</u> Number of Action-oriented, inclusive and gender sensitive VLRs including scalability and replicability analysis to additional municipalities	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: At least 2	Means of verification: Monitoring reports. SDG discussion papers, VLRs.
<u>Output indicator 2:</u> Number of municipalities with expanded digital inclusion systems and tools for enhanced social service delivery to target groups, including improved public finance for children by adding a child-related policy classifier in Georgia's eBudget system.	Baseline: 0	Target 2025: 2	Means of verification: Digital tools on place, project progress report.
<u>Output indicator 3:</u> Existence of service quality assessment tools for child-centered, inclusive and gender sensitive social services delivery to be later applied by all municipalities (Yes/No)	Baseline: No	Target 2025: Yes	Means of verification: Documentation of new/expanded social services introduced, statistical records of service utilization.

JP contribution to Joint SDG Fund global indicators (select only relevant indicators for the JP)

Engine room 1. Shifting policy/regulatory frameworks			
Number of new or enhanced the integrated policy solutions and regulatory changes formulated to accelerate SDGs with Joint SDG Fund support.	Baseline: 0	Target: 8	MOV: Administrative legal acts, formal agreements, localized roadmaps/ pathways, budgets/plans, municipal waste management plans.

Number of targeted municipalities where the integrated policy solutions and regulatory changes are implemented to promote equal access to and use of services, goods and resources by women and girls with Joint SDG Fund support.	Baseline: 0 (Number of municipalities)	Target: 2 (Number of municipalities)	MOV: Documentation of new social services introduced, project progress reports.
Number of individuals benefiting from the integrated policy solutions and regulatory changes implemented with Joint SDG Fund support, disaggregated by population segments (e.g. sex, age, persons with disabilities, etc.) with a focus on Leaving No One Behind.	Baseline: 0	Target: Up to 250 direct beneficiaries and overall population of around 63,000	MOV: Beneficiary data, Statistical records of service utilization.
Engine room 2. Capacity building at scale			
Number of governmental (both at central and sub-central levels) organizations, local actors and stakeholders with enhanced capacity to design, implement and finance integrated policies, regulations and innovative solutions for SDG acceleration, with Joint SDG Fund support.	Baseline: 0	Target: 10	MOV: Ex-/post- knowledge evaluation and training reports, attendance records, documentation of joint initiatives.
Number of tools, procedures and mechanisms (e.g. SOPs, training module, incentive structures) developed or implemented, focused on building capacities for SDG acceleration with Joint SDG Fund support (disaggregated by central and local actors).	Baseline: 0	Target: 6	MOV: Official multi-stakeholder cooperation framework documents, digital tools in place, training modules.
Number of experts identified and deployed to support RCs/UNCTs on SDG acceleration with Joint SDG Fund support.	Baseline: 0	Target: 12	MOV: TORs, Contracts, Reports
Engine room 3. Developing market-ready pipeline of actions.			
Number of integrated multi-sectoral financing solutions or instruments created and launched with Joint SDG Fund support, disaggregated by theme/type.	Baseline: N/A	Target: N/A	MOV: N/A
Number of actions, projects, businesses or organizations identified for inclusion in market-ready pipeline with Joint SDG Fund support.	Baseline: N/A	Target: N/A	MOV: N/A
Ratio of actions, projects, businesses or organizations securing funding and receiving investments, in relations to those identified with Joint SDG Fund support.	Baseline: N/A	Target: N/A	MOV: N/A
Engine room 4. Devising a financing mix (deal room)			
Amount in US\$ of financing leveraged for integrated multi-sectoral solutions, with support from the Joint SDG Fund (disaggregation by type of investors – e.g. Gov, private, PPP, DFIs/IFIs).	Baseline: N/A	Target: N/A	MOV: N/A

Ratio of financing leveraged for integrated multi-sectoral solutions against the committed funds provided by the Joint SDG Fund.	Baseline: N/A	Target: N/A	MOV:
Number of investors providing direct financing to integrated multi-sectoral solutions developed, with support from the Joint SDG Fund (disaggregation by type of investors – e.g. Gov, private, PPP, DFIs/IFIs).	Baseline: N/A	Target: N/A	MOV: N/A

Joint Programme Workplan

Output 1: Improved knowledge of local stakeholders on SDGs and their active engagement in SDG localization	Geographic focus	Start	End	PUNO	SDG Target	Human Rights Marker	Gender Marker	QCPR function	Available Budget (US\$)
Output 1.1. Assessment reports produced on SDG localization and alignment with development plans at local level in selected municipalities incl. assessment of local stakeholder participation and barriers to inclusion of women, as well as opportunities.	Geographic focus of the JP will be on 2 municipalities: Potential municipalities already involved in SDG localization process in Georgia	07.2024	10.2024	UNDP	SDG 1 (targets 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6) SDG 5 (target 5.c)	2	2	2	\$12,506 (Source: Joint SDG Fund)
Output 1.2. Knowledge building programmes for youth, municipal social workforce, and local private social service providers on SDG localization implemented to facilitate their active involvement in processes that impact the well-being of the local citizens.		10.2024	04.2025	UNICEF	SDG 3 (targets 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.B)	2	2	4	\$30,000 (Source: Joint SDG Fund) \$3,000 (Source: UNICEF contribution)
Output 1.3. Awareness raising events on food systems transformation conducted.		10.2024	05.2025	FAO	SDG 2 (targets 2.1, 2.3, 2.4), SDG 5 (targets 5.1, 5.5), and SDG 12	2	2	4	\$27,198 17,198 (Source: Joint SDG Fund) 10,000 (Source: FAO)

					(targets 12.3, 12.5, 12.8)				contribution)
Output 1.4. Systemic multistakeholder cooperation mechanisms operational and used for SDG localization.		09.2024	06.2025	UNDP, UNICEF, FAO	SDG 5 (targets 5.1, 5.5, 5.a) and SDG 17 (target 17H)	2	2	5	\$45,396 40,396 (Source: Joint SDG Fund) 5,000 (Source: FAO contribution)

Output 2: Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to ensure evidence-based and participatory policy-making, adopt, implement and monitor SDGs, and deliver quality services to all.	Geographic focus	Start	End	PUNO	SDG Target	Human Rights Marker	Gender Marker	QCPR function	Available Budget (US\$)
Output 2.1. Local authorities empowered to implement a full cycle of inclusive social programming for children and their families to advance SDG localization process, through intra and inter-municipal dialogue, coordination and resource pooling ensuring quality and cost-effective support to the most vulnerable populations.	Target municipalities	10.2024	05.2025	UNICEF	SDG 3 (targets 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.B)	2	3	2	\$24,000 20,000 (Source: Joint SDG Fund) \$4,000 (Source: UNICEF contribution)
Output 2.2. SDG aligned local policy actions identified and technical support to local stakeholders provided through anchoring VLRs within SDG localization and local decision-making processes with specific, evidence-based suggestions to guide planning,		11.2024	07.2025	UNDP	SDG 8 (targets 8.6), SDG 10 (targets 10.2, 10.4), SDG 17 (targets 17.9, 17E) and SDG 11	2	2	4	\$66,320 41,320 (Source: Joint SDG Fund) 25,000 (Source: UNDP contribution)

financing, and future policy initiatives.					(targets 11.8). SDG 4 (targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8, 4.A)				
Output 2.3. Municipalities supported within the framework of their municipal waste management plans, with a focus on food waste, aiming at promoting food systems transformation.		11.2024	07.2025	FAO	SDG 2 (targets 2.1, 2.3, 2.4), SDG 5 (targets 5.5, 5.c), and SDG 12 (targets 12.3, 12.5, 12.8)	2	2	2	\$20,102 15,102 (Source: Joint SDG Fund) 5,000 (Source: FAO contribution)

Output 3: Advanced innovative public services and digital inclusion practices.	Geographic focus	Start	End	PUNO	SDG Target	Human Rights Marker	Gender Marker	QCPR function	Available Budget (US\$)
Output 3.1. Innovative, digital inclusion systems and tools, including child-related budget classifier to the e-budget system for increased access to inclusive and gender sensitive social service delivery for children, youth and vulnerable families, including women, developed.	Target municipalities:	10.2024	06.2025	UNICEF	SDG 3 (targets 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.B)	2	2	7	\$38,400 \$30,400 (Source: Joint SDG Fund) \$8,000 (Source: UNICEF contribution)
Output 3.2. SDG localization and achievements monitored by developing Action-Oriented Voluntary Local Reviews.		03.2025	07.2025	UNDP (FAO – technical support)	SDG 8 (targets 8.6), SDG 10 (targets 10.2, 10.4), SDG 17 (targets 17.9, 17E) and SDG 11 (targets 11.8)	2	2	2	\$15,000 (Source: Joint SDG Fund)

Output 3.3. Monitoring, reporting, evaluation, and communications incl. final conference on lessons learnt from the JP for scaling up and replication to additional municipalities.				UNDP, UNICEF, FAO	SDG 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 17	0	2	Other	\$11,680 (Source: Joint SDG Fund)
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Annex 2: Risk Matrix

Assess the main risks related to implementation of the JP in the simplified risk matrix below. Risk level should be determined by multiplying the likelihood by the impact. Risk level should be described as Very High, High, Medium, or Low based on the image below. See further instruction below (delete the instructions before finalizing the ProDoc)

Risks	Categories	Risk Level: (Likelihood x Impact, as per instructions)	Likelihood:	Impact:	Mitigation measures	Risk owner
			Very likely - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1	Extreme - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1		
Social and Environmental risks						
Inadequate stakeholder involvement, will lead to unrepresentative decisions and diminished support for localized SDG initiatives.	Medium	RL=8	L=2	I=4	Proactively initiate targeted awareness and advocacy activities, to foster robust stakeholder engagement	UNDP, UNICEF, FAO
Financial risks						
Currency rate fluctuations pose a risk to project financials due to potential budget imbalances and financial instability	Medium	RL=4	L=1	I=4	Deploy hedging, monitor rates, consider contingency fund for donor-funded project to address currency risks.	UNDP, UNICEF, FAO
Operational risks						
Competing agendas of local stakeholders	Low	RL=4	L=2	I=2	Fostering an environment of transparency and open dialogue. Clearly defining	UNDP, FAO

					the common objectives of the initiative and align	
Organizational risks						
Data collection challenges on municipal level	Low	RL=3	L=3	I=1	Establishing clear data collection protocols, using technology to streamline data gathering.	UNDP
Regulatory risks						
Government deviating from UN rules may lead to non-compliance, affecting project alignment and success.	Medium	RL=4	L=1	I=4	Clear communication channels with Government will be established, UN rules' importance will be always reminded, and regular compliance checks will be conducted	UNDP, UNICEF, FAO
Strategic risks						
Safety and Security risks						
Civil unrest may lead to a government's change in focus, diverting resources, attention, and project support.	Low	RL=2	L=2	I=3	Engagement in proactive communication with the Government, maintaining flexible project plans, and establishing contingency measures.	UNDP, UNICEF, FAO

Annex 3: Localization, Gender Equality and Human Rights markers

SDG Localisation Marker

Please see refer to the detailed guidance on applying the marker here: <https://www.jointsdgfund.org/publication/sdg-localization-marker>

Dimensions	Criteria or eligibility	Responses	Explanation	Means of verification
Programme Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the programme or initiative explicitly include results and/or expected outcomes directly related to advancing SDG localization? 	Yes	All areas of JP interventions (Advocacy, Actions and Monitoring) include results directly related to advancing SDG localization.	Annex 1: integrated results framework.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is at least 70% or more of the programmatic budget allocated specifically to activities that enhance advocacy, actions or monitoring related to SDG localization? 	Yes	88% of the programmatic budget allocated specifically to activities that enhance Advocacy (increase awareness, enhance inclusive processes and capacity of local governments), Actions (build and support cooperation platforms and frameworks to advance an effective multi-level governance system for SDG localization, innovative actions as well as incorporate SDGs into municipal budgets and plans) and Monitoring (implement SDG localization monitoring and reporting).	Annex 1: integrated results framework, work plan and JP budget.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Were local and regional governments actively engaged and consulted during the programme design phase? 	Yes	<p>Consultations with MRDI representing the government authority for coordination local governments and decision-making processes that contribute towards SDG localization agenda, and SDG Council of Georgia (with Thematic Working Groups co-chaired by UNDP, UNICEF and FAO).</p> <p>Focus Groups with local government representatives to identify challenges and opportunities in localizing SDGs.</p>	Meeting attendance records and report on involvement in the JP design process

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Were local service providers and/or other local actors and stakeholders actively engaged and consulted during the programme design phase? 	Yes	National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia	Meeting attendance record and report on involvement in the JP design process
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the programme or initiative planned to develop new knowledge material, research, publication or relevant resources related to SDG localization, specifically building on local experience? 	Yes	Take appropriate measures within all areas of intervention to document and publicize relevant knowledge and visibility materials related to SDG localization; these include conducting a study/assessment of SDG localization and alignment with development plans at local level in selected municipalities, incl. assessment of barriers and opportunities for local stakeholder engagement.	Assessment report, knowledge and visibility material, progress reports, cooperation frameworks and documented partnerships and administrative legal acts.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the programme or initiative planned to develop specific events, campaigns, communications or capacity-building activities on SDG localization, especially targeted at local or regional governments, local service providers, or other local actors and stakeholders? 	Yes	<p>Conduct awareness-raising events on food systems transformation.</p> <p>Conduct capacity building of young people, local authorities and social services providers to enable them for active participation in the processes that affect the wellbeing of the local community.</p> <p>Map SDG aligned local policies and provide capacity building to local stakeholders SDG aligned local policies identified and support provided anchoring VLRs within for SDG localization and local decision-making processes with specific, evidence-based suggestions to guide planning, financing and future policy initiatives.</p> <p>Support national plans to reach out the vulnerable groups and conduct informational campaigns about SDGs for wider society, as well as</p>	Documentation of awareness raising events, SDG discussion papers, knowledge evaluation reports and attendance records.

			<p>complement the project “Partnerships 4SDGs” that works with businesses to engage in SDG localization processes. Awareness and engagement of local stakeholders is also at the core of UNICEF-supported work in child-centered, needs-based social programming that has contributed to enhance local governments’ role in the achievement of SDGs for children.</p>	
<p>Actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the joint programme or initiative incorporate mechanisms, spaces or activities designed to bolster coherent policies, regulations, plans, programmes, and service-delivery approaches or models by local and regional governments and/or local service providers, facilitating their meaningful contributions to the SDGs and addressing the principles of leaving no one behind? 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Develop capacities of local authorities to implement a full cycle (needs assessment and prioritization, planning on addressing the identified needs with respective social programs, budgeting and costing of the social programs, implementation, and monitoring) of social programming for children and their families to advance SDG localization.</p> <p>Support municipalities with food waste related issues within the framework of municipal waste management plans to promote food systems transformation.</p> <p>Concentrate on those who have traditionally been left behind, especially in rural areas, to ensure inclusivity and equitable progress, and to empower vulnerable groups: children, women and youth. Tailored initiatives, information campaigns, needs-based social programming, youth engagement, and local capacity building, seek to holistically address their distinct needs.</p>	<p>Documentation of formal agreements, budgets, service utilization data.</p> <p>Updated municipal waste management plans, project progress reports.</p> <p>Documentation of new social services introduced. Statistical records of service utilization.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the joint programme or initiative have an inclusive and participatory multi-stakeholder 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Expand innovative inclusion systems and tools for increased access and quality social service delivery for</p>	<p>Reports on involvement of local stakeholders in</p>

	<p>approach, involving civil society, academia, citizens, the private sector and/or others to jointly implement transformative initiatives toward localizing the SDGs? This could include, for example, mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise, technologies and financial resources to support the achievement of the SDGs at the local level.</p>		<p>children, youth and vulnerable families.</p> <p>Conduct multi-stakeholder coordination meetings to apply an inclusive and participatory approach toward updating municipal waste management plans, with a focus on food waste, involving local actors, including municipalities, local farmers, women, and youth.</p> <p>Complement with the project “Continued Nationalization of SDGs in Georgia”.</p>	<p>decision-making processes.</p> <p>Official documents/existence of institutional mechanisms for child-centered integrated social service delivery to be later applied by all municipalities.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the joint programme or initiative include a multi-level governance approach to address the SDG challenges through collaboration between different levels of government, as well as with international organizations, and local communities? This approach recognizes that effective action requires coordinated efforts at various scales, from local and regional to national and global. 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Promote systemic multi-stakeholder cooperation mechanisms for SDG localization.</p> <p>Build-up on UNDP’s earlier experience with provision of trainings for local governments on development of SDG localization plans and complement GIZ’s work for further localization of SDGs in Georgia. It will also benefit from and build on the ongoing UN-Habitat led project aimed at developing Tbilisi’s first VLR. JP’s output 3 will also be in synergy with the World Bank’s support to advance public finance management in Georgia, as well as UNICEF’s public finance for children work, by integrating SDGs in programme budget methodology and budget classification. JP’s interventions related to improving wider-stakeholders engagement in SDGs localization will also complement FAO’s project “Increased youth engagement in agriculture,</p>	<p>Official multi-stakeholder cooperation framework documents and documented partnerships. Progress reports and attendance records.</p>

			food systems and rural development”.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the joint programme or initiative feature mechanisms or activities aimed at improving the transparent and accountable financing of SDG localization? This may include the development of decentralized financing policies, the creation of market-ready pipeline of local actions, expansion of local fiscal space, resource mobilization by local or regional governments, participatory budgeting approaches, etc. 	Yes	Develop capacities of local governments to practically apply the opportunities of SDG aligned budget and tagging in their medium-term development plans/budget.	<p>Municipal plans and budgets. Participatory budgeting approaches and evidenced processes.</p> <p>Monitoring reports.</p>
Accountability & Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the joint programme or initiatives include dedicated results, supported by a robust accountability framework, to systematically collect and report on contributions to SDG localization, both at the outcome and output levels? 	Yes	Support the introduction of municipal-level monitoring and reporting frameworks to track progress on SDG-related targets and indicators by developing Action-Oriented Voluntary Local Reviews.	Progress monitoring reports, SDG discussion papers., VLRs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the joint programme or initiative include a dedicated plan to ensure the sustainability, leveraging of financial resources and replication/expansion of the SDG actions in additional localities, developed in collaboration with local and regional governments, local service providers and other local actors and stakeholders? 	No	The Joint Programme will aim to facilitate local-to-global innovation and expansion. To achieve this, it will identify successful cases and practices, extracting them to translate into comprehensive case studies.	x
Criteria for Scoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marker 3: Between 9 and 12 criteria marked as Yes. Marker 2: Between 4 and 8 criteria marked as Yes. Marker 1: Between 1 and 3 criteria marked as Yes. Marker 0: None of the criteria marked as Yes. 		Total 11 criteria marked as Yes		

Gender Equality Marker

Please copy the output as per in the workplan and add the Gender Equality marker score and justify the scoring. Please refer to the UNSDG guidance here:

<https://help.uninfo.org/un-info/results-framework/results-framework-structure/suboutput-level/guidance-on-applying-tags-and-markers/guidance-on-applying-the-gender-equality-human-rights-and-sustaining-peace-markers>

Joint Programme Outputs	GEM Score	Justification
Output 1: Improved knowledge of local stakeholders on SDGs and their active engagement in SDG localization		
Output 1.1. Assessment reports produced on SDG localization and alignment with development plans at local level in selected municipalities incl. assessment of local stakeholder participation and barriers to inclusion of women, as well as opportunities.	2	JP will collect and analyse of sex-disaggregated data to inform the formulation of expected results accompanied by indicators that will track the progress towards SDGs. JP will ensure the participation of gender professionals from academia, and diverse women. Assessment reports on SDG localization and alignment with development plans at the local level in selected municipalities will be produced by staff with gender expertise.
Output 1.2. Knowledge building programmes for the youth, municipal social workforce, and local private social service providers on SDG localization implemented to facilitate their active involvement in processes that impact the well-being of the local citizens.	2	JP will collect and analyse the sex-disaggregated data to ensure increased representation of rural women and youth in decision-making processes that contribute towards SDG localization. Specifically, A gender analysis of the challenges, difficulties, and opportunities for rural women to participate in decision-making processes will be conducted. To achieve this, JP will implement a participatory process involving both diverse women and men. Tailored initiatives including local capacity building will holistically address their distinct needs.
Output 1.3. Awareness raising events on food systems transformation conducted.	2	JP will collect and analyse sex-disaggregated data to ensure inclusivity of progress and equitable community engagement (men and women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities) in awareness raising events on food systems transformation at local level. JP will support that awareness-raising events which are gender-sensitive and tailored to the different needs of diverse women and men. Furthermore, these events will be designed to avoid reinforcing gender stereotypes. Communication materials associated with these events will use language and images that promote a fair and diverse representation of both men and women, challenging gender stereotypes.
Output 1.4. Systemic multistakeholder cooperation mechanisms for SDG localization operational.	2	JP will collect and analyses sex-disaggregated data to ensure inclusivity of progress and equitable engagement of gender equality councils of the municipalities, as well as multistakeholder cooperation mechanisms for SDG localization at local level.
Output 2: Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to ensure evidence-based and participatory policymaking, adopt, implement and monitor SDGs, and deliver quality services to all.		
Output 2.1. Local authorities empowered to implement a full cycle of inclusive social programing for children and their families to advance SDG localization, through intra and inter-municipal dialogue, coordination and	3	JP focuses on empowering municipalities to implement social programs aimed at strengthening families, with a primary focus on women's empowerment. These programs encompass various initiatives such as positive parenting, care and development for children with disabilities, and more. These type programs will contribute to women's empowerment through promoting work-

resource pooling ensuring quality and cost-effective support to the most vulnerable populations.		life balance of women and improvement of their mental and emotional well-being. Fathers also will be target groups of these activities, especially on positive parenting to prevent reinforcing Gender stereotypes on domestic care work.
Output 2.2. SDG aligned local policy actions identified and technical support to local stakeholders provided through anchoring VLRs within SDG localization and local decision-making processes with specific, evidence-based suggestions to guide planning, financing, and future policy initiatives.	2	Meaningful and equal participation of women will be crucial for this activity. JP will ensure the participation of women's organizations, and diverse women.
Output 2.3. Municipalities supported within the framework of their municipal waste management plans, with a focus on food waste, aiming at promoting food systems transformation	2	JP support focuses on inclusivity and equitable progress by ensuring increased participation of women in the process, and updated municipal waste management plans will be gender mainstreamed ensuring the participation of diverse women. Budget is allocated to staff with gender expertise, who will provide consultation on incorporating a gender mainstreaming perspective into municipal waste management plans. An output indicator will measure the number of updated municipal waste management plans that are gender-mainstreamed
Output 3: Advanced innovative public services and digital inclusion practices.		
Output 3.1. Innovative, digital inclusion systems and tools, including child-related budget classifier to the e-budget system for increased access to inclusive social service delivery for children, youth and vulnerable families, including women, developed.	2	The programme support will concentrate on developing equitable and inclusive access to quality and gender-sensitive services, including rural women and youth. Tailored initiatives such as needs-based social programming and innovative inclusion systems and tools will seek to holistically address their distinct needs. To ensure the adequate design of gender-sensitive services, digital inclusion systems and tools will be developed by staff with gender expertise. JP will take into account the gender digital divide in its efforts for digital inclusion.
Output 3.2. SDG localization and achievements monitored by developing Action-Oriented Voluntary Local Reviews	2	VLRs will include gender equality results accompanied by indicators. Voluntary Local Reviews will be developed by staff with gender expertise to effectively mainstream gender in VLRs.
Output 3.3. Monitoring, reporting, evaluation, and communications incl. final conference on lessons learnt from the JP for scaling up and replication to additional municipalities.	2	JP will ensure inclusivity and equitable progress. The programme will identify successful cases and practices, extracting them to translate into comprehensive case studies for dissemination, It will prioritize marginalized groups, particularly women who have historically been underserved in rural areas, integrating a gender perspective. Moreover, it will actively promote the recognition and visibility of women's contributions to the JP

Human Rights Marker

Please copy the output as per in the workplan and add the Human Rights marker score and justify the scoring. Please refer to the UNSDG guidance here:

<https://help.uninfo.org/un-info/results-framework/results-framework-structure/suboutput-level/guidance-on-applying-tags-and-markers/guidance-on-applying-the-gender-equality-human-rights-and-sustaining-peace-markers>

Joint Programme Outputs	HRM Score	Justification
Output 1: Improved knowledge of local stakeholders on SDGs and their active engagement in SDG localization		
Output 1.1. Assessment reports produced on SDG localization and alignment with development plans at local level in selected municipalities incl. assessment of local stakeholder participation and barriers to inclusion of women, as well as opportunities.	2	HRM elements 1, 3 and 5. (1) Activity is explicitly grounded in the enjoyment or fulfilment of human rights and (3) targets patterns of discrimination, inequality or marginalization; (5) Participation and meaningful engagement of various stakeholders including the beneficiary groups/rights holders incorporated into the activity. The activity will apply statistical and other qualitative tools for human rights compliance assessment, identify gaps in local policy documentation and ongoing local programmes with respect to human rights implementation as well as customary practices and local institutions seen as being relevant to the implementation of human rights as mandated by CRC, UNCRPD and CEDAW.
Output 1.2. Knowledge building programmes for the youth, municipal social workforce, and local private social service providers on SDG localization implemented to facilitate their active involvement in processes that impact the well-being of the local citizens.	2	HRM elements 1, 3, 5 and 6. (1) Activity is explicitly grounded in the enjoyment or fulfilment of human rights and (3) targets patterns of discrimination, inequality, or marginalization; (5) Participation and meaningful engagement of various stakeholder including the beneficiary groups/rights holders. incorporated into the activity; (6) Issues identified through a thorough human rights analysis, including from a gender perspective, and addressed through capacity development. The activity will support the meaningful participation of youth, the municipal social workforce, and local private social service providers by building their knowledge about their rights and participation in the process of SDG localization and its connection to citizen well-being as mandated by CRC, UNCRPD and CEDAW.

Output 1.3. Awareness raising events on food systems transformation conducted.	2	<p>HRM elements 1, 3 and 5.</p> <p>(1) Activity is explicitly grounded in the enjoyment or fulfillment of human rights and (3) targets patterns of discrimination, inequality, or marginalization; (5) Participation and meaningful engagement of various stakeholder including the beneficiary groups/rights holders. incorporated into the activity.</p> <p>The activity will support the meaningful participation of men and women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities by building their knowledge about their rights and participation in the process of SDG localization, and it will contribute to the realization of the rights relevant to food systems as mandated by UDHR, ICESCR, CRC, CEDAW, and CRPD.</p>
Output 1.4. Systemic multistakeholder cooperation mechanisms for SDG localization operational.	2	<p>HRM elements 1, 3 ,5, and 6.</p> <p>(1) Activity is explicitly grounded in the enjoyment or fulfillment of human rights and (3) targets patterns of discrimination, inequality, or marginalization; (5) Participation and meaningful engagement of various stakeholder including the beneficiary groups/rights holders. incorporated into the activity; (6) Issues identified through a thorough human rights analysis, including from a gender perspective, and addressed through capacity development.</p> <p>The activity will support the meaningful participation of rights holders, including women, by ensuring their engagement in the process of SDG localization through the application of a participatory process, addressing the needs of the most marginalized and left-behind populations. The activity will contribute to the complainant to UDHR, ICESCR, CRC, CEDAW, and CRPD.</p>
<p>Output 2: Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to mainstream gender, ensure evidence-based and participatory policymaking, adopt, implement and monitor SDGs, and deliver quality services to all.</p>		
Output 2.1. Local authorities empowered to implement a full cycle of inclusive social programing for children and their families to advance SDG localization, through intra and inter-municipal dialogue, coordination and resource pooling ensuring quality and cost-effective support to the most vulnerable populations.	2	<p>HRM elements 1, 3 and 5, 6</p> <p>(1) Activity is explicitly grounded in the enjoyment or fulfilment of human rights and (3) targets patterns of discrimination, inequality, or marginalization; (5) Participation and meaningful engagement of various stakeholders including the beneficiary groups/rights holders incorporated into the activity. (6) Issues identified through a thorough human rights analysis, including from a gender perspective, and addressed through capacity development.</p> <p>This activity focuses on introducing the cycle of social programming, beginning with a needs assessment of vulnerable groups. It enables the participation of these groups, as well as municipal structures concerned with the social issues of local citizens. The social programs are designed through a participatory process and implemented to address the needs of the most marginalized and left-behind populations, as mandated by the CRC, CRPD, and CEDAW.</p>
Output 2.2. SDG aligned local policy actions identified and technical support to local stakeholders provided through anchoring VLRs within SDG localization and local decision-making processes with specific, evidence-based	2	<p>JP will provide support in applying human rights standards in specific development programmes and public interventions, as well as local budgetary processes for mainstreaming human rights. Support in putting rights-based programming on a more explicit human rights footing and making human rights more concrete and tangible in the eyes of policymakers incorporated into</p>

<p>suggestions to guide planning, financing, and future policy initiatives.</p>		<p>the activity, thereby encouraging local ownership and tracing the institutional requirement for adopting a human rights-based approach to national planning processes that need to be established and monitored as mandated by ICCRP, ICESCR, CRC, CEDAW, and CRPD.</p>
<p>Output 2.3. Municipalities supported within the framework of their municipal waste management plans, with a focus on food waste, aiming at promoting food systems transformation</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>HRM elements 1, 3, 5, and 6. (1) Activity is explicitly grounded in the enjoyment or fulfilment of human rights and (3) targets patterns of discrimination, inequality, or marginalization; (5) Participation and meaningful engagement of various stakeholders including the beneficiary groups/rights holders incorporated into the activity. (6) Issues identified through a thorough human rights analysis, including from a gender perspective, and addressed through capacity development.</p> <p>This activity will reflect the needs of various rights holders in updating the municipal waste management plans, incorporating a gender perspective. It will contribute to the realization of the rights relevant to food systems and rights holders' rights as mandated by UDHR, ICESCR, CRC, CEDAW, and CRPD.</p>
<p>Output 3: Advanced innovative public services and digital inclusion practices.</p>		
<p>Output 3.1. Innovative, digital inclusion systems and tools, including child-related budget classifier to the e-budget system for increased access to inclusive social service delivery for children, youth and vulnerable families, including women, developed.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>The activity has consideration of human rights issues and participation of key stakeholders including rights holders as well as Issues identified through a thorough human rights analysis, including from a gender perspective,</p> <p>The activity focuses on providing digital inclusion systems to facilitate the analysis of needs assessment findings and their translation into social programs and services for children, youth, and vulnerable families, including women, as mandated by the CRC, UNCRPD, and CEDAW.</p> <p>Activity also includes development of child-related budget classifier - a tool within a government's budgeting process that categorizes, and tracks expenditures specifically targeted towards children's services and needs that will contribute to improve the targeted allocations for children.</p>
<p>Output 3.2. SDG localization and achievements monitored by developing Action-Oriented Voluntary Local Reviews</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>JP will integrate a human rights approach within all work carried out and ensure the participation of human rights organizations and target population groups, e.g., ethnic minorities, women, children, migrant workers and persons with disabilities, so that the desired results for realizing human rights can be articulated and pursued. The activity is also meant to facilitate integrated analysis, approaches and efforts to monitor and report on the degree to which there is an enabling and conducive environment for everyone for the full enjoyment of a wide range of human rights as mandated by ICCRP, ICESCR, CRC, CEDAW, ICMW and CRPD.</p>
<p>Output 3.3. Monitoring, reporting, evaluation, and communications incl. final conference on lessons learnt from the JP for scaling up and replication to additional municipalities.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>There is no direct linkage to the results relating to human rights, although information dissemination and upscaling of localization processes to additional municipalities is expected to contribute to realization of human rights.</p>

**Sustaining Peace Marker** *(optional- please only fill out if you added the marker to the workplan above)*

Please copy the output/outcomes as per in the workplan and add the Sustaining Peace marker score justify the scoring. Please refer to the UNSDG guidance here: Please refer to the UNSDG guidance here: <https://help.uninfo.org/un-info/results-framework/results-framework-structure/suboutput-level/guidance-on-applying-tags-and-markers/guidance-on-applying-the-gender-equality-human-rights-and-sustaining-peace-markers>

Joint Programme Outputs	SPM Score	Justification

Annex 4: Budget per UNSDG Categories

UNSDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	PUNO 1 UNDP		PUNO 2 UNICEF		PUNO 3 FAO		TOTAL	
	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)	Joint SDG Fund (USD)	PUNO Contribution (USD)
1. Staff and other personnel	24,000		26,000		28,912		54,912	0
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	0		0		1,848			
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	0		0		0			
4. Contractual services	73,603		55,615		0			
5. Travel	0		2,196		3,900			
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	0		0		0			
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	0		3,589		13,939			
Total Direct Costs	97,603		87,400		48,599			
8. Indirect Support Costs (7% of total direct costs)	6,832	6,118	3,402	16,352				
TOTAL Costs	\$104,435	\$25,000	93,518	15,000	\$52,001	\$20,000	249,954	\$60,000

Declaration of commitment and signatures of Joint Programme

By signing this Joint Programme document, all signatories commit to work together in a spirit of partnership to achieve the results identified in the results framework, work plan and budget.

I hereby confirm that the funds requested are in accordance with the approved Work Plan & Joint Programme Document. I also certify that the copy transmitted to the MPTF Office is a true copy of the original which is secured by the RC Office. I have received documentation from Participating Organizations demonstrating committed amounts where applicable. I also confirm that the PUNOs' indirect cost does not exceed 7%.

GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART	Name of Representative: Zviad Barkaia, Deputy Head of the Administration of the Government of Georgia Date and Signature
Chair of the JP Steering Committee	
RESIDENT COORDINATOR	Name, Title: Dr. Silviu Domete, UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in Georgia Date and Signature
UN Entities	
LEAD PUNO 1: UNDP	Name, Title: Douglas Webb, UNDP in Georgia, Resident Representative Date and Signature
PUNO 2: UNICEF	Name, Title: Jesper Moller, UNICEF Representative in Georgia Date and Signature
PUNO 3: FAO	Name, Title: Raimund Jehle, FAO Representative in Georgia Date and Signature