

ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

ANNUAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2024

Programme Title & Project Number

- Programme Title: Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards Rural Women Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE)
- MPTF Office Project Reference Number:³ 00132320



Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results²

Country: Tanzania

Locations where JP RWEE is implemented:

Region	District
Dodoma	Chamwino
Singida	Ikungi
Zanzibar	Unguja Kusini (South)
	Unguja Kati (Central)

Total annual target (without overlap): 7,000 (6,100 women, 900 men)

Groups: 100

Total end programme targets:

Direct beneficiaries: 8,000 (6,800 women, 1,200 men)

Indirect beneficiaries: 32,000

Groups: 200

Priority area/ strategic results

- improved food security and nutrition.
- increased income, decent work and economic autonomy.
- enhanced participation and leadership in rural life and institutions.
- more gender-responsive policy environment.

Participating Organization(s)

Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme:

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
- United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

Implementing Partners

National counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations:

Government Ministries: Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock (Zanzibar), Ministry of Blue Economy (Zanzibar)

Regional and Local Government Authorities: Regional Secretariat Dodoma, Regional Secretariat Singida, Regional Secretariat Unguja Kusini, Chamwino District Council, Ikungi District Council and Unguja Kusini District Council

Implementing partners (NGOs/CSOs): FARM Africa, Rikolto, Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC), Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA), Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE), Zanzibar Maisha Bora Foundation (ZMBF), Sundry Merchants

Programme/Project Cost (US\$)

Programme Duration

¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

² Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g., UNDAF) or project document.

³ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

Total approved budget as per project document:	USD 5,000,000.00 for 5 years	
MPTF /JP Contribution ⁴ :		
• <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> :		
FAO:	USD 189,860.00	
IFAD	USD 198,576.00	
UN Women:	USD 198,076.00	
WFP:	USD 257,618.00	
Agency Contribution		
• <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> :		
Government Contribution		
<i>(If applicable): N/A</i>		
Other Contributions (donors)		
<i>(if applicable): N/A</i>		
TOTAL:	USD 844,130.00	
Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.		
Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i>		
☐ Yes ☒ No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>		
Mid-Term Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i>		
☐ Yes ☐ No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>		
N/A		
Overall Duration (<i>months</i>):		60 months
Start Date ⁵ :		25.05.2022
Original End Date ⁶ :		25.05.2027
Current End date ⁷ :		25.05.2027
Report Submitted By		
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Participating Organization (Lead): World Food Programme		
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⁴ The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

⁵ The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

⁶ As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

⁷ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities.

List of Acronyms

AWCCSP	African Women Clean Cooking Support Programmes
CCRO	Certificate of Customary Rights of Occupancy
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSO	Civil Society Organization
FAWE	Forum for African Women Educationalists
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
JP RWEE	Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment in Tanzania
KII	Key Informant Interviews
LGA	Local Government Authority
MDD-W	Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NSC	National Steering Committee
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
OFSP	Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potatoes
PRF	Performance Result Framework
PUNOs	Participating United Nations Organizations
SAMS	Smallholder Agricultural Market Support
SBC	Social Behaviour Change
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
TWCC	Tanzania Women's Chamber of Commerce
TZS	Tanzanian Shillings
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WEAI	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index
ZADEP	Zanzibar Development Plan 2021-2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2024, the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress Towards Rural Women Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE Phase II) in Tanzania conducted its first outcome monitoring exercise across all target regions and districts. The outcome monitoring data collection was finalized in November 2024, prior to the preparations for the planting cycle. This timing was critical as it allowed for the collection of smallholder agricultural market support (SAMS) indicators. The survey assessed the programme's progress since its inception in 2022, employing both quantitative and qualitative methods. This included focus group discussions (FGDs) with beneficiaries and key informant interviews (KIIs) with stakeholders, such as Ministry and Local Government Authority (LGA) officials. Some of the key findings are reflected in this report, showcasing the progress made towards achieving each outcome.

In 2024, JP RWEE continued to implement interventions that seek to drive change that empowers rural women, enhance their resilience, and transform the socio-economic landscape and making significant progress across its four (4) key outcomes, positively impacting rural women and their communities. Under outcome 1, on improved food security and nutrition, the programme surpassed its initial target, reaching 36,213 individuals, including 27,843 women. Key achievements include increases in agricultural production and effective post-harvest loss reduction strategies. Women's participation in household decision-making rose to 94%, and off-farm income increased by 33.7%. Initiatives such as securing storage facilities and showcasing products at high-profile events strengthened women's business capabilities and market reach.

Under outcome 3 which aims to increase women's voice and agency is enhanced, the programme empowered 5,504 beneficiaries, including 4,737 women, enhancing their decision-making power, leadership roles, and participation in governance. Women's membership in community decision-making bodies increased by 11%, and 40% of women now occupy leadership roles. For outcome 4, that seeks to strengthen gender-responsive legal frameworks and policies, the programme reached 17,581 beneficiaries (9,552 women) and 13 institutions. Achievements include the approval of Tanzania's National Clean Cooking Strategy and support for gender-sensitive reforms in the review of the 1995 Land Policy (still ongoing). Enhanced capacities of policymakers and stakeholders led to the integration of gender-responsive strategies into planning and budgeting processes.

In 2024, the Tanzania coordination team and Participating United Nations Organizations' (PUNO) focal points participated in a learning visit to Rwanda to understand best practices. Key findings included the importance of close tracking of progress, strengthening local partnerships, and adopting innovative approaches. The PUNOs continued collaboration in developing simplified post-harvest management tools and participating in national dialogues on issues affecting youth and women farmers.

Despite these successes, challenges included delays in acquiring climate-smart inputs, adverse weather conditions, and resistance to change in harmful social norms by some communities. Key lessons learned include the importance of leveraging partnerships, tailored approaches, community involvement, continuous training, and collaboration with stakeholders.

Looking ahead, JP RWEE will continue to focus on enhancing women's economic opportunities, leadership, and resilience. Strengthening partnerships and community engagement will be key to sustaining and expanding the programme's impact, ensuring that rural women can secure their livelihoods, rights, and resilience.

I. Purpose

Through JP RWEE, the four (4) PUNOs contribute to the Tanzanian United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outcomes for people and prosperity, aligned with outcomes 1 and 2. The people's strategic priority aims to enhance the well-being of Tanzanians, fostering a healthy, educated populace with improved capabilities to support the realization of the country's middle-income country aspirations. Simultaneously, the prosperity priority focuses on elevating production, productivity, and incomes, facilitating the creation of quality formal sector jobs and driving structural transformation for heightened economic growth—a core aspect of the Five-Year Development Plan 2021/22-2025/26 (FYDP III) and Zanzibar Development Plan 2021-2026 (ZADEP).

In line with this framework, the JP RWEE seeks to secure rural women's livelihoods, rights and resilience to advance Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The programme has four programme outcomes: (i) improved food security and nutrition for rural women and their households (ii) increased income, decent work and economic autonomy for rural women; (iii) rural women's voice and agency increased for full and equal participation and leadership; (iv) gender responsive legal frameworks, policies, and institutions strengthened to create an enabling environment for rural women to secure their livelihoods, rights and resilience.

II. Results

i) Narrative reporting on results:

This section details the progress in 2024 against the annual workplan. In this reporting cycle, the section highlights activity, output and outcome level results as per the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan and performance results framework. Please refer to section Indicator Based Performance Assessment for details on the figures reported at outcome, output and activity level.

Outcome 1: Improved food security and nutrition for rural women and their households that contribute to equitable and sustainable food systems (Target: 7,000 beneficiaries – 6,100 women and 900 men)⁸

The JP RWEE has made good progress on enhancing food security and nutrition for rural women and their households, laying a solid foundation for lasting improvements. These positive results are attributed to the successful implementation of 16 planned interventions across its two (2) outputs and two (2) activities carried over from the 2023 annual work plan, reaching the planned 7,000 direct beneficiaries (6,100 women and 900 men). The programme has consistently built the capacities of gender champions to advocate for access to productive resources including land, through which they have been able to mobilize community members beyond the programme target, reaching approximately 36,213 individuals (27,843 women).

Agricultural production of supported crops such as sorghum, seaweed, and bananas has increased of 5% the yearly target of 3% sorghum production in Singida reached 1,355.9 kg/ha, while seaweed in Unguja yielded 3,170 kg/ha. These gains not only increase food availability but also strengthen household resilience, contributing to improved food security. Efforts to reduce post-harvest losses, particularly in sorghum, have proven effective, further enhancing food security by minimizing waste and preserving valuable resources. Despite challenges such as climate variability, these results are fostering a more secure and sustainable food environment for rural women.

⁸ The targeted beneficiaries have been receiving interventions in both output under outcome 1. Therefore, any figures related to the beneficiaries mentioned under output 1.1 and 1.2 are within the 7,000 targeted and reached.

Nutrition indicators showed mixed results across the target regions in terms of the proportion of women meeting the minimum dietary diversity for women (MDD-W)⁹ compared to baseline with minimal changes registered. According to the outcome monitoring survey, 42% of respondents met the MDD-W (3,360 women) with regional improvements, particularly in Unguja, highlighting the potential for positive change when women have access to diverse food sources and nutrition programme.

The main challenges for rural women farmers in outcome 1 are linked to climate variability and the lack of infrastructure for effective farming practices. The programme will need to ensure more targeted interventions that address weather resilience, soil fertility, post-harvest management, and pest management, which are crucial to further enhancing food security.

Key achievements in 2024:

- Increased crop yields for sorghum (1,355.9 kg/ha) and seaweed (3,170 kg/ha) value chains.
- Despite MDD-W remaining stable with some increases in certain regions, globally 60% of the women reported better knowledge on nutrition, hygiene and healthy eating habits because of the interventions conducted during the reporting year and more than 60% shared that knowledge with household members with higher results in Dodoma.
- 87% adoption rate of improved post-harvest management practices.

Output 1.1 Increased access to resources, assets, and technologies critical for climate-resilient agricultural production, food security and nutrition

This output focused on equipping women with resources for climate-smart agriculture, reaching 6,100 targeted rural women through nine planned activities. The programme exceeded its target for the proportion of rural women with access to productive resources, with an 8% increase from the baseline; the annual target for 2024 was 5%. This achievement demonstrates the positive impact of the programme on empowering women through greater control over agricultural resources, which directly contributes to improved productivity and food security at the household level.

Coupled with the above, women's land rights were significantly strengthened, with a focus on ensuring their access to ownership, control, and use of land through various interventions including those related to awareness raising on women's land rights to women and local communities in Chamwino and Ikungi Districts, in Dodoma and Singida regions, respectively. Following training sessions and awareness efforts on gender-based violence (GBV) using gender transformative approaches such as the SASA¹⁰ methodology and other trainings, 311 women successfully accessed land and obtained certificates of customary right of occupancy (CCROs)¹¹. Of these 311 accessed in 2024, 271 women secured full ownership, while 40 women attained joint ownership with their spouses, which contributes to women's attainment of land rights and associated benefits and ultimately economic independence.

Women's adoption of good agricultural practices (GAP) and climate-smart agriculture (CSA) was further promoted. For instance, sunflower and orange-fleshed sweet potato (OFSP) production expanded, benefiting multiple villages and reaching 135 women and 28 men with capacity development and introducing ten (10) varieties of OFSP seedlings. Ultimately, some of the beneficiaries reached became key seed suppliers in their

⁹ The Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women (MDD-W) includes food groups used to assess dietary diversity: starchy staples, pulses/legumes/nuts, vegetables, fruits, animal-source foods, dairy products, oils/fats. A woman is considered to meet the MDD-W if she consumes foods from at least five of these groups within a 24-hour period, reflecting the variety and quality of her diet.

¹⁰ SASA is uniquely designed to address a core driver of violence against women and HIV: the imbalance of power between women and men, girls and boys. Documented in a comprehensive and easy-to-use Activist Kit, SASA! inspires and enables communities to rethink and reshape social norms.

¹¹ CCROs (Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy) are legal documents that formalize customary land rights, particularly for rural communities. Introduced to secure land tenure for marginalized groups, including women, CCROs provide legal recognition of land ownership or use under customary law, aiming to reduce land disputes, improve access to credit, and empower local communities in land management.

communities, increasing their income and sustainability. Furthermore, a documentary and communication products (bango kitita¹²) were developed to promote OFSP for dietary diversification.

The programme's focus on agricultural productivity has had positive effects on availability of food, one of the pillars of food security. Through strategic collaboration with the local agriculture department, 4,187 women and 746 men gained access to improved agricultural inputs, including seeds and manure, resulting in substantially higher agricultural yields. The programme has empowered women to become involved in seed production, enabling them to produce and sell quality declared seeds for sunflower and sorghum, which gives them a financial and sales boost, thereby strengthening their economic position and allowing them to reinvest in their farms, to improve their livelihoods further.

Challenges in achieving the annual target of a 10% increase in access to climate-smart inputs (achieved only 7%) stemmed from delayed internal procurement procedures and equipment maintenance issues.

Key achievements in 2024:

- An 8% increase in rural women's access to productive resources, surpassing the 5% annual target.
- A 18% rise in adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices.
- 7% of rural women with access to climate-smart inputs including seeds.
- A 2% improvement in access to time- and labor-saving technologies.

Output 1.2 Enhanced skills and capacities to increase food production, food quality and local food security reserves; reduce food losses and waste; and improve household diets.

In 2024, this output reached 8,507 beneficiaries (5,634 women, 2,873 men) through seven (7) planned activities.¹³ Output 1.2 has demonstrated substantial progress in enhancing the skills and capacities of rural women, particularly in areas related to nutritious food production, food quality, and food security when assessing its progress towards achievement of its indicators. The programme has successfully exceeded its targets, with 71% of rural women reporting enhanced skills in nutrition, health, and food safety. This increase signifies a significant improvement in rural women's ability to manage and produce nutritious food, thereby positively impacting household diets and local food security.

The programme made progress in increasing rural women's access to extension services, including weather information, by 5%, surpassing the annual target of 3%. This positive trend reflects a need for more efforts to bridge knowledge gaps and equip rural women with the resources and information needed to make informed decisions for improved agricultural practices. This is particularly crucial in the context of climate change, where timely weather information can play an important role in food security.

In addition, the programme saw exceptional success in promoting the adoption of improved post-harvest handling and storage practices among rural women, with an impressive 87% utilization rate in 2024. This achievement highlights the effectiveness of the training and support provided to rural women in managing their harvests, reducing food losses, and improving long-term food security. The results of output 1.2 reflect an upward trajectory in the skills, access, and practices of rural women, contributing to improving household diets, reducing food waste, and enhancing overall food security.

The programme remains committed to improving food and nutrition security at the household level. Building on the foundation laid in 2023, the programme expanded its reach by incorporating social and behaviour change (SBC) strategies to foster the adoption of positive nutrition practices. During this 2024 reporting period, some 902 (667 women and 235 men) beneficiaries received nutrition education and counselling

¹² Booklets/Flip charts

¹³ Activities that made a significant contribution to the number of beneficiaries include Activity 1.2.8, which aimed to build the capacity of beneficiaries through training and gender-sensitive social and behaviour change activities on nutrition and hygiene (including nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food safety). This was achieved through various approaches such as mass media (e.g., radio, print materials), group education, and appropriate community platforms, including village savings and loan associations (VSLAs) and village dialogues/meetings.

through community health volunteers and nutrition promoters in Zanzibar. These interventions were delivered through village savings and loans associations (VSLAs) and home visits, with additional reinforcement through mass media channels, including through ten (10) local radio (six (6) sessions in Mainland Tanzania and four (4) in Zanzibar) and television broadcasts in Zanzibar featuring nutrition-focused content, reaching the audience of more than 5,500 people including JP RWEI beneficiaries. Complementing these efforts, group cooking demonstrations were organized to showcase nutritious meal preparation using locally available ingredients, directly benefiting 180 households with children under five years of age.

In line with efforts to enhance dietary diversity, the programme facilitated the establishment of kitchen gardens, providing direct support to 482 households. This initiative has sparked increased interest from other beneficiaries, including five (5) schools, which are now pursuing their own kitchen gardens with technical guidance from the programme. Additionally, the programme distributed small livestock to 68 households with children under five (5), further diversifying sources of protein within household diets, with additional beneficiaries expected in 2025.

Leveraging technical knowledge by the PUNOs, the programme supported the development of user-friendly content for the post-harvest handling and value addition pamphlets, designed for training purposes within the sunflower value chain, in 2024. These resources are expected to serve as key tools in reinforcing learning outcomes post-training, supporting the continued application of knowledge.

Key achievements in 2024:

- Some 71% of rural women reported enhanced skills in nutrition, health, and food safety.
- A 5% increase in women's access to agricultural extension services, surpassing the 3% target.
- An 87% adoption rate of improved post-harvest handling and storage practices, exceeding the 45% target.

Outcome 2: Rural women's income, decent work and economic autonomy increased to secure their livelihoods and build resilience (Target: 6,809 beneficiaries: 6,260 women and 549 men)¹⁴

Under this outcome, the programme has made progress on enhancing the economic autonomy of rural women, as demonstrated by increases in both farm and off-farm income, alongside greater control over household decision-making. These positive results come from the successful implementation of 18 planned interventions across its three outputs and 17 activities having started successfully and on track within the reporting cycle. The programme managed to reach all the targeted beneficiaries for the reporting cycle with various interventions under the outcome. The programme initially aimed to impact 6,809 beneficiaries, including 6,260 women and 549 men. The community sensitization, mentorship and exchange programmes among women's groups reached indirectly a total of 11,751 individuals (10,118 women).

The proportion of rural women participating in household decision-making on income and expenditures has improved, with 94% now involved in decision-making, up from 87% at baseline. This result reflects greater empowerment and agency among rural women¹⁵ but there is still a need to address gender inequality in domestic responsibilities, as evidenced by the disparities in shared household duties as reflected by the annual monitoring report that showed some women can spend up to ten (10) hours per day in domestic work. The

¹⁴The beneficiaries targeted and reached under this outcome include overlaps—meaning the 6,809 are part of the 7,000 beneficiaries already targeted and reached under Outcome 1. In Tanzania, all targeted beneficiaries receive interventions across all outcomes and outputs. Therefore, the figures mentioned at the output level are not additional beneficiaries but are included within the overall outcome target.

¹⁵ Regional differences were observed, with the highest participation in Dodoma (94%) and Singida (94%), and a notable increase in Unguja (92%) from a baseline of 76%. Notably, in Unguja, 92% of women make independent financial decisions, compared to 81% in Singida and 76% in Dodoma.

programme, however, is working closely with communities, government and other stakeholders to address women's unpaid care and domestic work and allow them time in economic interventions.

The percentage of rural women engaging in crop sales has slightly decreased, from 38% in 2022 to 36% in 2024. Sales were highest in Unguja, where 51% of women sold crops, largely due to the focus on cash crops like seaweed. Most sales occurred locally, with 76% of transactions taking place at home. The average household farm income rose marginally from 208,170.78 TZS (approximately 89.6 USD) to 240,157.67 TZS (approximately 91.11 USD). However, regional variations in income levels were evident.¹⁶

Rural women's off-farm income increased by 33.7%, rising from 228,199.58 TZS (98.2 USD) to 305,129.5 TZS (131.35 USD). While 15% of rural women are engaged in paid off-farm work (a significant drop from 48.6% in 2022), those employed in higher-value sectors like food processing and cheese-making report higher wages compared to more traditional roles. Regional disparities have been observed with women in Singida and Dodoma primarily engaging in agriculture and trade, while women in Unguja are involved in artisanal crafts. However, many women still participate in time-intensive, low-paying work, such as petty trade, handicrafts, and domestic labor, which limits their potential for financial stability. Addressing these constraints and promoting stable, year-round employment opportunities, particularly in higher-value industries, is key to furthering women's economic resilience.

Key achievements in 2024:

- Household farm income rose to 91.11 USD.
- Off-farm income increased by 33.7%.
- Women's financial literacy improved (53% reported increased skills).

Output 2.1 Enhanced capacities, skills and time for entrepreneurship and access to markets and value chains

For the 2024 reporting cycle, a total of ten (10) activities were planned, including two (2) carryover¹⁷ activities from 2023, under this output. Of these, all but one¹⁸ activity was successfully initiated within the year¹⁹. Regardless, the programme effectively reached 2,798 women and 1,067 men during the reporting period. All activities progressed as planned, with the majority on track for scaling up in 2025, indicating a solid foundation for continued impact and expansion.

Programme interventions under this output have contributed to enhancing the capacities, skills, and access to markets for rural women, fostering their entrepreneurial spirit and improving their livelihoods. Some 53% of rural women reported enhanced financial skills in 2024, well above the planned annual target of 2% indicating that the programme has achieved its objective in providing rural women with essential knowledge to manage and grow their financial resources, contributing to their entrepreneurial capacities.

While the baseline for women engaging in such economic ventures was 43%, the programme has currently achieved a 24% increase in women-led businesses, far more than the anticipated 2% annual target. This growth was driven by the effective implementation of entrepreneurship training, value chain integration, and access to financial services. Women entrepreneurs have leveraged these opportunities to establish businesses in seaweed processing, value addition in OFSPs, and other profitable ventures. Additionally, financial literacy

¹⁶ Unguja had the highest average income at 151 USD, while Singida and Dodoma reported much lower figures (89 USD and 70.4 USD, respectively). Notably, older women (55 and above) earned more from crop sales (103 USD) compared to younger women (under 35).

¹⁷ Activity 2.1.6 Link women with agro dealers' networks and seed producers to access seaweed-based production, and value addition systems for increased production and Activity 2.1.7 Train rural women to access markets, and link them to selected agribusiness firms and other commodity off-takers (Focusing on seaweed Value Chain)

¹⁸ Activity 2.1.12 Train rural women and men to develop business plans using the Rural Invest (RIV) methodology and tool kits and facilitate access to financial services was not started in 2024.

¹⁹ For the activity not commenced under this output, internal PUNO processes for the recruitment for rural invest (RIV) methodology expertise was cited as a reason for delays

training and business development services have enabled many women to access funding, thereby expanding their economic activities and increasing household incomes.

In terms of physical access to markets, processing, and storage facilities, 71% of rural women reported improved market access, 64% having access to new storage facilities, and 51% benefiting from better transportation, the programme significantly surpassed its endline target of 45%. These results can be attributed to various successful activities, including entrepreneurship and leadership training, which have enhanced the confidence and negotiating power of women, particularly within cooperatives. These gains in market access, combined with strengthened leadership capacities, have provided rural women with more opportunities to expand their businesses and contribute to local economies.

In 2024, the programme made good progress on enhancing livelihoods of rural women by focusing on strengthening their business development skills and market access amongst others. A notable achievement was in Ikungi District, where 18 women cooperative members successfully used business development services and negotiation skills to secure a storage facility for over 615 metric tons of lentils. This facility enabled them to standardize weights, ensure hygiene compliance, and enhance their bargaining power, leading to an increase in the price per kg of lentils from TZS 800 to TZS 2,024. Consequently, their total revenue increased to TZS 1.245 billion (USD 505,588), more than doubling their annual income compared to the informal market rate.

Building on activities under this output, the programme scaled up interventions beyond climate-smart production practices. For the OFSP value chain, training sessions were conducted in Singida and Dodoma regions, equipping 25 farmers' group representatives (22 women and 3 men) with critical knowledge, including processing (e.g., OFSP flour and snacks), food safety, packaging, marketing, and quality assurance. These trainings led participants showcasing their OFSP products (flour and ready-to-eat noodles/snacks) at the 2024 National Agricultural Fair in Dodoma, broadening their market reach.

To enhance women's participation in off-farm activities and improve the quality of their products, the programme has successfully partnered with Chamwino District to secure a building for the establishment of a communal processing centre, which will provide essential facilities and equipment. This will enable rural women entrepreneurs to engage in diverse income-generating activities such as spice production, food processing, baking, tailoring, catering, hospitality, as well as batik and soap making, enhancing product quality in line with Tanzania Bureau of Standards requirements, significantly improving their competitiveness in both local and national markets.

In Zanzibar, ongoing discussions aimed to connect rural women with lucrative markets, particularly linking them to tourist hotels and restaurants. The Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Tourism and the Kusini District Regional Commissioner emphasized the importance of Business-to-Business (B2B) linkages to formalize partnerships between farmers and the hospitality sector.²⁰

Similarly, a survey conducted across 12 Shehias²¹ in Kati and Kusini districts in Zanzibar (Unguja) equipped beneficiaries with critical data on both production and market demand for the 2024 season. The findings highlighted annual production of horticulture crops and banana²² enabling farmers to strategically align their production cycles to market trends, optimize their harvest schedules, and enhance market strategies, leading to improved access to profitable opportunities, driving more efficient business planning and stronger market linkages.

²⁰ This initiative opened new markets for crops from 12 banana plots supported by the programme in 2023 but also benefited horticultural products like tomatoes, green peppers, cucumbers, and leafy greens, strengthening women's access to commercial opportunities.

²¹ A type of administrative area (of one or more villages) in Zanzibar.

²² 3,650 tons of tomatoes, eggplants, and sweet peppers; 1,825 tons of bananas; and 6,390 tons of watermelons produced annually. Market demand was also quantified, revealing daily needs of 4.5 tons for tomatoes, eggplants, and sweet peppers; 1 ton for watermelons; and 1-2 tons for bananas).

The programme also provided opportunities for rural women to showcase their products at various high-profile events.²³ These events allowed 1,370 women and 254 men to promote their products, enhance their skills in branding, packaging, and customer service, and ultimately expand their market networks. Through these events, women entrepreneurs have successfully expanded their networks, connecting with traders and fellow entrepreneurs at both the national and regional levels.

The programme also facilitated contract farming arrangements, linking 66 farmers (16 youth male, 29 adult male, 6 youth female, 15 adult female) with Mbamba MTE for improved sorghum seed access and market opportunities. These farmers were able to access sorghum seeds under a 50% loan arrangement, with Mbamba MTE committing to purchase their harvest, ensuring reliable market access. Additionally, two sorghum off-takers agreed to purchase 20,000 tons of sorghum, further securing market opportunities for farmers.

Some 50 farmers (38 women, 12 men) were trained on using digital tools such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and the M-Kilimo App. These platforms have become vital for accessing real-time agricultural information, connecting with value chain stakeholders, and sharing knowledge, enabling farmers to improve decision-making and productivity. In Ikungi District, efforts to further improve market access for women have also been realized through targeted digital marketing and branding training for 20 young women entrepreneurship leaders. As a result, the young women entrepreneurs are now better equipped to engage with broader markets and grow their businesses with vital skills on branding, packaging and digital market strategies.

Furthermore, the programme has enhanced the entrepreneurship capacities and market access of 287 rural women through mentorship, exchange programmes, and partnerships with public and private institutions. As a result, these women have successfully formalized their businesses, developed branding strategies, opened bank accounts, and improved record-keeping, leading to increased confidence and better market access. Tangible outcomes from these capacity-building efforts include the establishment of 116 women-run VSLAs, accumulating TZS 15,600,000 (USD 6,400) in savings. Additionally, 87 women secured interest-free loans (4-4-2)²⁴ totaling TZS 145,000,000 (USD 58,590) from Ikungi District Council and the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries in Zanzibar, and six (6) women accessed commercial loans amounting to TZS 28,500,000 (USD 11,600), demonstrating enhanced financial literacy and business management skills.

The programme organised exchange visits for 60 rural women leaders, providing them with practical knowledge in industries like maize milling, sunflower processing, and leather production. This knowledge has empowered them and their groups to adopt better production techniques, increase their competitiveness, and improve market access.

Moreover, programme-initiated mentorship initiatives led to the launch of 124 new businesses in value addition, food processing, soap making, tailoring, poultry, and batik production, creating economic resilience and increased household incomes.

Key achievements in 2024:

- Some 2,798 women and 1,067 men capacities enhanced on business development services.
- 24% increase in women-led businesses.
- TZS 145,000,000 (USD 58,590) interest free loans secured by beneficiaries from Ikungi District Council.

²³ International Women's Day, the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), the East Africa Community (EAC) Jua Kali/Nguvu Kazi Trade Fair, International Rural Women's Day, Seaweed Day, and Nane Nane (Farmers Day).

²⁴ Loan facility by government for women, youth and other vulnerable groups.

Output 2.2 Increased access to decent work, including off-farm work, and social protection

Under output 2.2, a total of two (2) activities were planned and successfully initiated in 2024, with no carryovers from 2023. All activities are progressing as planned, with an intention to scale up beneficiary outreach in 2025. A total of 2,124 beneficiaries have been reached, comprising 1,914 women and 203 men.

While there were some challenges in achieving the full targets under this output, important steps were made in enhancing rural women's access to decent work and social protection. Specifically, the number of rural women entering employment in the formal labour market showed a modest increase of 0.7%. The limited progress can be attributed to various factors, including the regional context²⁵ and existing barriers such as limited access to formal job opportunities in rural areas. Despite the efforts, more targeted interventions may be needed to directly support women's access to formal employment in the future.

In South Unguja District in Zanzibar, 63 women and girls who graduated from technical and vocational education and training (TVET) programmes in 2024 have benefited from business start-up kits. These kits, which include seaweed harvesting and processing equipment, maritime safety gear, sewing machines, food mixers, and cookers, have enabled beneficiaries to establish and expand their enterprises. As a result, women have reported a marked increase in productivity, improved product quality, and enhanced self-confidence in managing their businesses independently which ultimately contributes to greater financial independence and economic resilience for the women involved.

The programme has also facilitated increased employment opportunities for rural women. In the 2024 reporting cycle, 48 new self-employment opportunities in sectors like batik making, food processing, value addition, and tailoring have been created. In addition, formal employment of four (4) trained care workers following the establishment of childcare centres in Ikungi and Puma. These women, trained by the District Council in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and Singida Folk Development College, are now providing much-needed childcare services for working mothers. This support enables women to engage in income-generating activities without the added burden of unpaid care work. Since the programme's inception, a total of seven (7) women have secured formal employment, thereby enhanced their economic stability and contributed to the improved livelihoods of their families. Additionally, since the programme's inception, 500 self-employment opportunities have been created, contributing to local economic development and household financial stability.

The programme has provided tailored support to VSLAs with the capacity to initiate income-generating activities. During this reporting period, the programme conducted financial literacy training sessions for 130 VSLAs, benefiting 981 (882 women, 99 men) VSLA members. The training focused on improving individual and collective financial management skills, resource mobilization, and engagement in additional income-generating activities. As a result, there was a 38% increase in savings across groups, a 3% increase in social funds to provide emergency support to group members, and an 83% surge in business profits. This progress was most pronounced in Zanzibar, though a more detailed analysis is required for the mainland. While challenges related to loan repayment persist, the programme continues to work closely with VSLAs to strengthen this critical component, ensuring the sustainability of the groups. The programme also provided toolbox and other relevant support to enabling them to enhance their functionality.

Key achievements in 2024:

- A total of 500 new self-employment opportunities facilitated since programme inception.

²⁵ This includes the fact that prominence of the informal sector differs per region eg. Dodoma. Additional efforts are needed to change behavior and shift towards formalizing in these regions.

Output 2.3 Rural women have increased access to gender-responsive financial and business development services, Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), and other products and services

Four (4) activities were planned under this output and two (2) of them were carryovers²⁶ from 2023. With activities commencing within the implementation cycle, a total of 3,955 beneficiaries (3,644 women and 285 men) have been reached with the interventions.

Since the 2023 baseline, 1,140 rural women (+19%) benefitting from the interventions under this outcome are accessing gender-responsive financial services, particularly savings accounts. This is a noteworthy achievement, although more efforts need to be made to enhance access. This shows the growing confidence and engagement of rural women in financial systems, contributing to their economic empowerment and stability.

Regarding access to business knowledge, products, services, and technologies, more than 55% of rural women reported to have gained access to these resources (surpassing the 3% annual target), reflecting the success of interventions designed to enhance women's entrepreneurial skills and market access. These results suggest that the programme's efforts in providing relevant business knowledge and tools are influencing women's capacity to engage in the market and grow their enterprises.

Through strategic partnerships with both public and private financial institutions²⁷ the programme has made progress in enhancing rural women's financial inclusion and access to business capital. As a result, 287 rural women and girls have reported a marked increase in their knowledge of gender-responsive financial products, significantly improving their ability to make informed financial decisions and engage confidently with formal financial institutions.

Through financial literacy and business development training conducted in partnership with the NMB Foundation, NMB Bank, and CRDB Bank, a total of 312 bank accounts have been opened. This is in addition to 108 bank accounts opened in 2023.²⁸ The training also equipped 120 leaders of women entrepreneurs' groups with knowledge of the 10% (4-4-2) local government loan system, the 'Jasiri Fund' for microfinance, savings mobilization, and loan management. This has empowered them to better navigate financial services and access business capital to scale their enterprises.

Furthermore, financial literacy programmes enabled 116 women to access loans worth TZS 20,688,000 (USD 8,500) from savings cooperatives, while 87 women secured interest-free local government loans as highlighted in output 2.1. Beyond financial access, the programme has played a role in supporting rural women's long-term financial security through enrolment in social protection schemes. Part of the milestones in 2024 include the enrolment of 51 women in the National Social Security Fund (NSSF)²⁹ scheme for the informal sector, ensuring their access to retirement benefits and long-term financial security. This achievement reflects a growing awareness among rural women of the importance of social protection and financial planning for their future well-being.

²⁶ Activity 2.3.2 Partner with financial institutions and other providers to strengthen their financial and business development products and services to meet the needs of women clients and their organizations including microfinance, credit, savings and risk reduction (crop/livestock insurance, microinsurance or health insurance and Activity 2.3.5 Train VSLAs on the VSLA methodology to ensure adherence to its principles and provide them with tools (VICOBA's toolbox that includes ledgers books, registers and boxes,) to make them functional.

²⁷ including Ikungi District Council, Chamwino District Council, South Unguja Region, NMB Bank, TCB Bank, CRDB Bank, TUSONGE, ZEEA, the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, UTT Amis, and the National Social Security Fund (NSSF).

²⁸ This includes 38 NMB Pesa and Chap Chap accounts, 50 individual accounts, and three group accounts, in addition to 45 women opening Embeju accounts at CRDB Bank to support their entrepreneurial ventures. Furthermore, 48 women accessed 'malkia' accounts²⁸, and 31 women established Jasiri accounts at NMB Bank, thereby enhancing their engagement with formal financial institutions and facilitating access to microfinance opportunities

²⁹ The National Social Security Fund (NSSF) was established under the National Social Security Fund Act [Cap. 50 R.E 2018] to provide social security services to members from private and informal sectors.

Additionally, the programme continued to support 136 VSLAs to enhance their functionality and operational efficiency, reaching 3,340 (3,036 women, 304 men). Toolkits containing essential resources such as passbooks and locks were provided to improve record-keeping and accountability. This was complemented by capacity-strengthening sessions on financial record-keeping, credit and repayment management, savings, and group dynamics, including leadership and management. As a result, there has been a gradual yet significant improvement in the VSLAs' ability to manage their finances, leadership, and operations effectively.

Key achievements in 2024:

- 87 women accessed interest-free loans totaling 145,000,000 TZS.
- TZS 20,688,000 (USD 8,500) accessed by rural women from savings cooperatives
- 312 bank accounts opened in 2024.
- 3,955 beneficiaries (3,644 women, 285 men) accessed financial services.

Outcome 3: Rural women's voice and agency increased for full and equal participation and leadership in their households, communities, organizations and governance systems (Target: 7,349 beneficiaries: 6,600 women and 749 men)³⁰

During the 2024 reporting period, the ten (10) planned interventions were successfully implemented under this outcome with all activities starting successfully and on track. The programme initially aimed to reach 7,349 beneficiaries, including 6,600 women and 749 men. However, during implementation, the programme reached a total of 5,504 beneficiaries (short of 1,845 of the planned target), with 4,737 of these being women.

A significant number of rural women are participating in local governance bodies. Some 68% of beneficiaries report the presence of local government bodies in their villages.³¹ Most of these groups are mixed gender, with 66% of respondents reporting this composition. The active membership in these groups is currently at 16%.³²

Furthermore, 15% of beneficiaries now report female leaders in these groups, a significant increase from the baseline (0.05%). This marks an important shift, especially in Dodoma, where 18% of groups have female leaders, but disparities remain, in Unguja and Singida, highlighting the need for targeted interventions such as women-only spaces, leadership training, and mentorship to enhance women's roles in governance.

Key achievements in 2024:

- 5,504 beneficiaries reached (4,737 women).
- 40% of women now hold leadership roles (up from 10%).
- 159 women trained ahead of 2024 elections with 95 women elected.

Output 3.1 Increased skills and capacity to participate in local governance and decision-making structures

Under this output, a total of eight (8) activities were planned, including one (1) carryover³³ activity from 2023, with all activities successfully initiated within the year. The programme effectively reached 1,845 beneficiaries, 1,275 women and 570 men during the reporting period. All activities progressed as planned

³⁰ The beneficiaries targeted and reached under this outcome include overlaps—meaning 7,349 are part of the 7,000 beneficiaries already targeted and reached under Outcome 1 and 2. In Tanzania, all targeted beneficiaries receive interventions across all outcomes and outputs. Therefore, the figures mentioned at the output level are not additional beneficiaries but are included within the overall outcome target.

³¹ Dodoma (76%), Singida (64%), and Unguja (56%) showing the highest to lowest prevalence respectively.

³² Dodoma leading at 18%, followed by Unguja (16%) and Singida (12%). Despite this, only 11% of active members hold leadership positions, with Dodoma at 13%, Unguja at 10%, and Singida at 8%.

³³ Activity 3.1.4 Roll out GALs methodology to promote gender equitable relations at household and group levels for improved livelihood planning.

including the roll-out of the GALS methodology, with the majority on track for scaling up in 2025, indicating a solid foundation for continued impact and expansion.

The proportion of women members in community decision-making bodies, such as producer organizations, cooperatives, unions, and local food security reserves, increased by 11% from the baseline of 63%, surpassing the planned target of 5% increase. This achievement is due to the successful efforts to empower women to take an active role in shaping decisions that affect their communities and livelihoods. The increased participation shows the growing recognition of women's voices in local governance.

The programme has achieved good results in empowering women in leadership and decision-making. The proportion of women in leadership roles has risen from 10% at inception to 40%, with notable representation in farmers' associations (55%), religious groups (46%), and credit and microfinance groups (39%). Despite Tanzania's progressive legal framework on land rights, social and cultural norms continue to hinder women's participation in decision-making. In response, institutional capacity-building initiatives in key districts have promoted gender-sensitive governance, ensuring inclusive local land management practices.

Efforts to promote gender equality have strengthened, with targeted training on promoting positive masculinity engaging 68 men and 44 women as advocates against violence and for women's participation in decision-making. These leaders, including religious figures and government officials, have actively worked to challenge harmful traditional practices and address barriers such as poor communication, lack of education on gender issues, and inadequate reporting infrastructure. Strategies have been developed to enhance gender-responsive governance, including strengthening gender desks, raising awareness through educational materials, and promoting positive masculinity in various community platforms.

The JP RWEE has also enhanced leadership capacity for 159 rural women ahead of the October 2024 local elections. Training sessions, delivered in collaboration with partners, equipped women with decision-making, conflict resolution, and strategic planning skills. Participants identified and tackled barriers such as unpaid care work, access to resources, and gender-based violence. As a result, more women are navigating systemic challenges and engaging in leadership roles. In Ikungi, 165 women contested leadership positions, with 95 successfully elected. In Chamwino, 599 women (36%) are now actively involved in community decision-making structures, with 75 (31%) taking up secretarial leadership roles.

The programme has further strengthened women's involvement in national dialogues, such as International Rural Women's Day, where 279 women gained insights into climate action. Women leaders also participated in the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV, engaging 500 community members in awareness campaigns. Additionally, tree-planting initiatives in Manchali ward saw the planting of 300 trees, reinforcing women's roles in environmental sustainability.

At the household level, the GALS methodology engaged 120 participants (83 women, 37 men) to address gender imbalances in work distribution. Post-training evaluations indicate an increased awareness among men of women's disproportionate workload, fostering a shift in gender role perceptions.

Key achievements in 2024:

- 1,845 rural women's capacities enhanced on leadership and governance.
- 11% increase in women's membership in decision-making bodies.

Output 3.2 Strengthened organizational capacities and social capital to form, participate in and sustain producer organizations, cooperatives and unions, savings groups and self-help groups

Output 3.2 had a total of two (2) activities with no carryovers from 2023. All activities commenced as planned, reaching 3,659 beneficiaries, including 3,462 women and 197 men.

The programme successfully achieved a 34% increase in the registration of farmer associations and a 25% increase in the registration of credit or microfinance groups, surpassing the planned target. This highlights the positive impact of the programme for rural women to formalize their groups and enhance their collective bargaining power. Furthermore, the registration of business associations at 3% reflects continued efforts to diversify the types of formalized groups, strengthening the women's economic participation across various sectors.

The JP RWEE has positively contributed to the formalization of rural women's groups and the integration of gender-responsive policies within these organizations. By strengthening the organizational capacities of women's groups and focusing on gender equality, the programme is not only enhancing women's access to resources and markets but also fostering their leadership and decision-making roles within their communities. These efforts provide a solid foundation for the sustained success of women-led organizations and their long-term impact on rural development.

Following support provided to VSLAs to enhance their group methodology and functionality, the programme facilitated linkages with government structures, resulting in the official registration of ten (10) VSLA groups in Zanzibar. This registration opens opportunities for these groups to access services offered by various financial institutions tailored to small groups, as well as loans provided by local government authorities and other business opportunities that are exclusively available to registered groups³⁴. The programme is actively implementing measures to ensure that group registration on the mainland also proceeds efficiently.

Key achievements in 2024:

- 3,659 rural women linked to self-help groups and cooperatives.
- 34% increase in registered farmer associations.
- Ten (10) VSLA groups officially registered in Zanzibar.

Outcome 4: Gender responsive legal frameworks, policies, and institutions strengthened to create an enabling environment for rural women to secure their livelihoods, rights and resilience (8,000 beneficiaries: 6,200 women and 1,200 men)³⁵

Under outcome 4, the programme planned to reach 8,000 beneficiaries (6,200 women and 1200 men), including LGA and ward leaders, and 10 institutions (including ministries), through eight (8) planned activities. All were successfully started in 2024 and one (1) was fully completed. In the implementation cycle, 17,581 beneficiaries (9,552 women) were reached due through the use of participatory approaches to work with communities and rural women to raise awareness about their rights through legal literacy, community listening clubs and community radios, community conversations and other forums and platforms for communication on policy and legal related matters in activities under output 4.2.

A notable achievement is the approval and launch of Tanzania's National Clean Cooking Strategy in March 2024, aiming for 80% of the population to adopt clean cooking solutions by 2034. This strategy directly contributes to reducing the unpaid care work burden on women, enhancing their economic productivity, and advancing gender equality.

Another contribution to the outcome is on the support provided to the Ministry of Lands in revising the 1995 Land Policy, introducing gender-sensitive reforms that address the critical issue of land tenure security for

³⁴ The programme recognizes the differing dynamics in facilitating group registration across regions: in Zanzibar, the government processes are streamlined and centralized at the ministry level, allowing for relatively straightforward registration. In contrast, the process on the mainland Tanzania is more complex and decentralized, requiring approval at the Local Government Authority level before being submitted for registration at the ministry, which lengthens the duration of the process.

³⁵ The beneficiaries targeted and reached under this outcome include overlaps—part of them have already been targeted and reached under Outcome 1, 2 and 3. In Tanzania, all targeted beneficiaries receive interventions across all outcomes and outputs. Therefore, the figures mentioned at the output level are not additional beneficiaries but are included within the overall outcome target.

women. These reforms, which will be formalised in the 2025 policy, promise to ensure better protection of women's land rights, which are essential for their economic empowerment and long-term security in rural communities.

In Zanzibar, the programme and other stakeholders helped secure TZS 59.5 billion (USD 24.16 million) for gender-responsive initiatives across six key sectors. This allocation ensures that funding is directly targeted at reducing gender disparities, with clear outputs and accountability measures to track progress. This financial commitment marks a significant step towards creating policies and structures that truly address the needs of women, fostering a more inclusive and equitable approach to governance and development.

Key achievements in 2024:

- National Clean Cooking Strategy (2024-2034) approved.
- 13 institutions are capacitated on gender-responsive planning.
- TZS 59.5 billion (USD 24.16 million) for gender-responsive initiatives across six (6) key sectors.

Output 4.1 Enhanced capacities of policy makers and other relevant stakeholders to design, implement and track gender-responsive policies, strategies, legal frameworks and budgets

Three (3) activities were planned and started under this output, with no carry over from 2023. A total of 826 (727 women and 99 men), including government officials/policy makers, were reached.

In 2024, JP RWEE strengthened the capacity of government institutions and stakeholders to advocate for and implement gender-responsive policies and budgets. Thirteen key institutions, including the Ministries of Gender, Finance, Health, Agriculture, and Energy, have been capacitated, contributing to stronger integration of gender considerations at national and local levels. In Zanzibar, sectoral coordination in six (6) key ministries has led to the allocation of TZS 59.5 billion (USD 24.2 million) towards addressing gender disparities, with measurable outputs and accountability mechanisms established. The sectors have also established measurable outputs, baselines, indicators, and defined roles for stakeholders, ensuring accountability and effective implementation.

In addition to fiscal policy interventions, the programme has deepened national-level engagements on climate change and women's land rights to align with JP RWEE programming objectives. The programme played a key role together with other stakeholders in facilitating a stakeholder review of the National Gender and Climate Change Action Plan (2024-2029) in Dodoma. The review focused on aligning Tanzania's commitments with the Lima Gender and Climate Change Action Plan, ensuring that gender considerations are embedded in national climate policies. This has led to increased recognition of women's roles in climate resilience and the integration of gender perspectives in climate action strategies.

Furthermore, the PUNOs have collaborated with the Ministry of Lands and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) to facilitate a national dialogue on women's land rights, bringing together 25 technical staff from government ministries, civil society and women's rights organizations, the media, and academia. A significant outcome of this dialogue was the Ministry of Lands' acknowledgment of recent progress in the 1995 Land Policy review, which now incorporates gender-sensitive reforms. The draft policy, reviewed in 2023 and set for launch in 2025, identifies and addresses gaps in women's land rights and replaces customary laws with formal legal frameworks that mandate adherence to land laws and procedures. These policy reforms represent a crucial advancement toward gender equality in land ownership and tenure security.

Efforts to strengthen local-level capacities in gender-responsive planning and gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) have also shown positive outcomes. In Ikungi District Council, 30 community leaders and 30 council staff, including 13 women councilors, have participated in training sessions that enhanced their capacity to advocate for social protection and GRB for the upcoming financial year 2025/26. Community Development

staff have reported an increase in engagement and advocacy efforts from local leaders, resulting in a stronger push for gender-sensitive policies at the grassroots level. These efforts are expected to contribute to more inclusive and equitable resource allocation in future budget cycles.

Tanzania's commitment to advancing clean cooking solutions as part of its broader climate action and gender empowerment efforts was further reinforced at the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). President Samia Suluhu Hassan's official launch of the African Women Clean Cooking Support Programmes (AWCCSP) at COP28 highlighted Tanzania's proactive stance in addressing climate change while empowering women through clean energy solutions.

At the 2024 Women's Clean Cooking Conference, JP RWEE, in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and other development actors, advanced the clean cooking agenda. The event, attended by Hon. Dr. Philip Isdori Mpango, Vice President of Tanzania, reiterated the government's commitment to promoting clean cooking solutions. During his speech, Vice President Mpango reaffirmed President Samia Suluhu Hassan's leadership as the Champion of the AWCCSP and highlighted the critical role of clean cooking in addressing climate change and improving women's health. The government's efforts to institutionalize clean cooking initiatives have led to the establishment of the National Clean Cooking Committee and the launch of the Clean Cooking Basket Fund. These measures are designed to facilitate the widespread adoption of clean cooking technologies and provide financial support to women entrepreneurs, ensuring their active participation in the clean energy transition. LGAs have also integrated clean cooking into their strategic plans and worked closely with communities to raise awareness and drive adoption at the grassroots level.

At the local level, efforts to mainstream clean cooking into development plans are contributing to positive outcomes because of programme interventions in 2023. Ikungi District Council has incorporated clean cooking initiatives into its District Strategic Development Plan for 2025 and its Medium-Term Expenditure Forecast for 2025-2026. This integration reflects a broader strategy aimed at addressing economic, leadership, and caregiving disparities that disproportionately affect women, further promoting gender equality.

Substantial progress has been made in reducing women's economic vulnerability and addressing disproportionate caregiving responsibilities through the establishment of childcare centres and the distribution of clean cooking stoves cited as challenges in outcome 2. In response to this challenge, targeted training sessions on promoting positive masculinity and male engagement were conducted for local government authorities, ward and village leaders, and community-based gender champions. As a result, men are beginning to recognize their role in sharing the economic burden within households. Women and men alike have demonstrated increased awareness of the importance of supporting women in meeting household financial obligations and have committed to adopting more responsible behavior. Additionally, strategies have been developed to engage men in off-farm activities to contribute to household income and promote economic stability within families.

Key achievements in 2024:

- The capacities of policymakers from 13 institutions were strengthened on gender-responsive policies.
- Tanzania's clean cooking strategy launched.³⁶
- Integration of GRB in six (6) government ministries.

³⁶ [NATIONAL CLEAN COOKING STRATEGY \(2024-2034\) Official Document\(1\)](#) .

Output 4.2: Capacity of rural women and their organizations increased to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national, regional and global levels

This output had a total of six (6) activities, with 16,755 participants (8,525 women and 8,230 men) reached with these interventions. Most beneficiaries were reached through the use of participatory approaches to work with communities and rural women to raise awareness about their rights through legal literacy, community listening clubs and community radios, community conversations and other forums and platforms for communication.

Progress in enhancing the capacity of rural women and their organizations to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national and regional levels was realized and one of the key achievements under this output is the significant increase in the number of rural women demonstrating a heightened awareness and understanding of their legal rights and relevant policy mechanisms. The 2024 reporting cycle reached a 34% increase in awareness, indicating success in empowering rural women with the knowledge and understanding required to advocate for their rights effectively. This achievement can be attributed to the comprehensive awareness campaigns, workshops, and information sessions delivered by the programme, which ensured that rural women had access to critical legal knowledge and policy information.

Another key area of success is the increase in the number of women's groups linked to advocacy networks and alliances, particularly those focused on gender, legal aid, and climate action. At the end of 2024, 15 women's groups were successfully linked to the Tanzania Women's Chamber of Commerce, while 8,050 women were connected to legal aid networks. This result is a testament to the programme's strategic approach in building connections and fostering alliances that can amplify rural women's voices in national and regional policy forums. The significant expansion of these networks highlights will ensure that rural women and their organizations are better positioned to engage with advocacy efforts and influence policy outcomes on issues such as gender equality, climate action, and legal rights. The achievements under this output have been contributed by the following programme initiatives over the course of 2024.

In response to discussions with the Ministry of Land and Human Settlement, the Land Commission, and the programme team, a comprehensive training plan was developed to enable rural women to actively participate in this review process of the land legal framework, providing an opportunity for them to influence the establishment of legal precedents and contribute to reshaping societal norms, ultimately fostering systemic changes toward gender equality. To support this process, communication products, including design layouts and printed materials, were prepared by a service provider to inform and facilitate understanding during the review. These efforts aim to enhance rural women's engagement, ensuring their voices are heard and considered in shaping policies that impact land ownership and legal rights.

An assessment of SDG Indicator 5.a.2 was completed in both mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, with two draft reports submitted to the government for review and approval. In response to the findings, a technical team has been established tasked with developing a policy brief based on the recommendations from both assessments, ensuring that gender-responsive policy recommendations are incorporated into future planning.

As a result of legal rights awareness sessions, beneficiaries have gained a better understanding of their rights related to GBV, land ownership, and inheritance laws. Women and men have taken proactive steps in reporting incidents of GBV within their communities and advocating for fair land ownership practices. Moreover, the training has enabled them to navigate legal processes with greater confidence, ensuring they can seek justice when their rights are violated. Gender champions, linked to the Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign, have acquired critical legal literacy skills and in-depth knowledge of policy frameworks, allowing them to more effectively support their communities in addressing GBV cases and land disputes.

In Ikungi district, the programme has already facilitated tangible legal outcomes, with four rural women successfully receiving legal support to resolve land disputes, marriage conflicts, and inheritance issues. These

women have reported increased confidence in pursuing their claims and advocating for their rights. Since the inception of the programme, a total of 8,050 women and 242 men have benefited from legal literacy interventions, contributing to a shift in community attitudes toward gender equality and justice.

In South Unguja, rural women seaweed farmers have strengthened their engagement in the seaweed value chain through exposure to innovative practices and market opportunities. Their participation in Zanzibar Seaweed Day and a learning visit to Pwani Mchangani provided hands-on experience with modern farming technologies, insights into climate change impacts, and connections with key stakeholders. These interventions enhanced their technical skills, increased awareness of financial and technical support, and facilitated business alliances for sustainable growth. As a result, women have adopted improved farming techniques, expanded market access, and gained confidence in advocating for better working conditions. By integrating into established networks, they are now key contributors to the sustainable management of marine resources and the broader seaweed industry.

Key achievements in 2024:

- 16,755 rural women capacitated on legal rights.
- 15 women's groups linked to national advocacy networks.
- Legal literacy campaigns benefited 8,050 women.

Output 4.3: Rural women's economic empowerment strengthened through regional and global policy dialogues and processes

N/A

Describe any delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & good practices:

Delays in implementation and challenges

1. **Environmental factors:** Despite improved access to weather information and extension services, adverse weather conditions affected agricultural productivity in target districts, reducing the quantity of yields for farmers. This included strong winds and tides because of cyclone Hidaya, which destroyed seaweed demonstration plots resulting to the establishment of a second set of demonstration plots which had an implication on time and cost in reestablishment. Similarly, unpredictable rain patterns in mainland Tanzania hindered some interventions related to good agricultural practices.
2. **Group dynamics and engagement:** Most seaweed farmers are older women with limited literacy skills, which hinders their ability to fully engage in training and apply the knowledge gained. This posed a challenge for value-adding and financial management training, resulting in very low uptake. The programme, in consultation with seaweed stakeholders, is currently exploring innovative ways to enhance the uptake of these interventions.
3. **GALS implementation issues:** GALS field facilitators during peer-to-peer training have faced: i) community resistance to changes in some regions which required additional efforts to ensure the adoption of transformative views, especially on gender issues such as sharing domestic responsibilities, collaborative decision-making in the family, and equal rights to ownership and control of resources; ii) trainees asking for compensation before attending or for attending the training; iii) participants' inconsistency in attending the training as required.
4. **Internal procedures:** Lengthy internal procurement processes for some PUNOs delayed the acquisition of climate-smart inputs, impacting targets achievements.

Lessons learned

1. **Tailored approaches for region-specific challenges:** Addressing region-specific challenges ensures more effective programme implementation. Customized interventions should consider geographical, environmental, and socio-economic factors that influence programme success.
2. **Proactive adaptation measures,** such as diversified training schedules and continuous climate risk assessments, enhance programme resilience and long-term success.

Good Practices

1. **Leveraging partnerships for enhanced results:** Utilizing existing partnerships with government bodies and stakeholders has proven effective in identifying new opportunities and expanding programme impact. A key example is Tanzania's upcoming mandatory fortification law requiring all sunflower oil processors to add vitamin A to their products. Through strategic partnerships, 12 participants (ten (10) rural women group representatives and two (2) District Agriculture, Irrigation, and Cooperative Officers) attended a meeting with the Tanzania Sunflower Oil Processors Association to gain insights into fortification benefits, which will contribute to addressing vitamin A deficiency in target communities.
2. **Community engagement for programme success and sustainability:** Active involvement of local leaders and communities significantly improves programme acceptance and success. Engaging with community influencers fosters trust and enhances participation levels.
3. **Continuous training and capacity building:** Ongoing training supports long-term empowerment and resilience. Regular skill enhancement ensures that rural women and local stakeholders can fully benefit from the interventions and sustain positive outcomes.
4. **Multi-stakeholder collaboration for greater impact:** Partnering with government bodies, private sector actors, and civil society strengthens programme reach and effectiveness. This collaborative approach maximises resource allocation and facilitates policy alignment.

Qualitative assessment:

The JP RWEE is contributing towards systemic change that intends to transform the socio-economic landscape for rural women, ensuring their empowerment and resilience. This transformation is driven by several key factors as cited in the narrative results section. Strengthening gender-responsive legal frameworks and policies, that have contributed to the launch of National Clean Cooking Strategy and support to the review of the 1995 Land Policy, creates an enabling environment where women's rights and needs are prioritized. Furthermore, the programme's efforts to strengthen government capacities to design, implement, and monitor gender-responsive policies ensure inclusive and equitable resource allocation, better protection of women's rights, and supportive environments for women's economic activities. Community engagement and leadership development ensure women have a voice in shaping policies and practices, leading to more gender-sensitive governance and collective decision-making within households and communities. Collaborative partnerships among the four PUNOs and with government bodies, private sector partners, and local communities amplify the programme's impact, ensuring comprehensive and sustainable interventions.

In 2024, the Tanzania coordination team and the PUNO focal points participated in a learning visit to Rwanda, aimed at understanding best practices employed by the JP RWEE in Rwanda in its first and second phases of implementation of the programme. The exchange focused on evaluating coordination and synergies among agencies, identifying opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration, gaining insights into effective monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) practices, and building relationships for ongoing regional cooperation. Key findings from the visit included the recognition that the GALS approach leads to gradual changes and requires close tracking of progress and gaps, and a recommendation was the development of a guide for programme champions to address challenges in community sensitization. The team also noted

the importance of strengthening local partnerships to enhance programme implementation, as demonstrated by the strong knowledge of government counterparts in the visited sites. Additionally, the visit highlighted the value of adopting innovative approaches, such as local cooling systems for horticultural produce and the integration of food for assets interventions to improve productivity. To increase the programme's visibility, the team recommended developing a programme-wide plan to capture beneficiaries' awareness of the programme, alongside supporting VSLAs to evolve into cooperatives, ensuring the programme's sustainability and beneficiaries' long-term self-sufficiency.

The PUNOs have continued collaboration including in the development of simplified post-harvest management tools for the sunflower value chain and all the PUNOs were part of the panelists for the women and youth forum during the 2024 farmers' day celebrations, contributing to national dialogue on issues affecting youth and women farmers in Tanzania. Furthermore, during this reporting cycle, the programme conducted its first outcome monitoring survey, a collaborative effort among all the PUNOs in planning and administering the survey. The results, which informed part of this report, were surveyed in November 2024 and included both quantitative and qualitative assessments across the four (4) programme outcomes and related outputs. Focus group discussions with beneficiaries and KIIs with local government and ministry officials were conducted to gather relevant data and qualitative information.

The PUNOs continued to hold monthly meetings to discuss the programme's progress, challenges, and areas for improvement through the PUNO technical working group. In 2024, the PUNOs and programme coordination team also organized three technical meetings which included government and implementing partners to review the 2024 annual work plan, assess progress, and workplan for 2025. Additionally, a joint mission was conducted to evaluate progress on the ground. The programme also maintained its coordination mechanisms, including the technical committee, which consists of PUNO representatives and technical focal points from government (local governments and ministries), as well as the national steering committee (NSC). The NSC convened in October 2024, where it discussed and endorsed the 2025 annual work plan.

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment



The table below reports changes (increase and decrease) **after 12 12-month implementation cycle³⁷** of the first intervention over the baseline and against global programme indicators at **Goal, Outcome and Output level** as per the approved Country's Performance Result Framework (PRF). Baseline figures are representative of the Country targeted population (total) and therefore they appear in % as per the JP RWEE M&E guidelines. Yearly targets also appear in % (in most cases and as per the indicator requirement to calculate changes overtime) and are established by the country team during the Annual planning exercise, while endline targets are established and validated internally right after the finalization of the baseline. Endline targets are also mentioned in this table to understand the progress against the final expected change.

The achievement is marked as: **NA**, **NOT ACHIEVED**, **PARTIALLY ACHIEVED**, **ACHIEVED**. **NA**: When the indicator is “optional” as per the Country's PRF and the country did choose to report against across the programme cycle because not relevant to the country context, or when the indicator is measured every 4/5 years or at mid-term, not annually. **0%**: When no changes could mature for that particular output due to short span implementation (example: Activities directed to distribute seeds are planned in August, but harvest season and market season would not allow the generation of changes before the reporting period).

Baselines and <u>targets for 2024</u>	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
OUTCOME 1: Improved food security and nutrition for rural women and their households that contribute to equitable and sustainable food systems			
1.1 Percentage increase in production/productivity of nutritious crops by rural women disaggregated by food crop (% change in production volume, kg/ha)			
Baseline: Sorghum: 952 (kg/ha) Banana: 2,782 (kg/ha) Seaweed: 3,170 (kg/ha) Maize: 644 (kg/ha) Millet: 836 (kg/ha) Cassava: 2,711 (kg/ha) Beans & Peas: 2,971 (kg/ha) Planned Yearly Target: +3% (average) Endline Target: +10%	+3%	ACHIEVED*	Individual interview with rural women (SAMS Sub-Module B1)
1.2 Increase in the proportion of rural women who reach minimum dietary diversity (MDD-W) (% increase from baseline)			

Baseline: 2,992 Planned Yearly Target: +2% Endline Target: +6%	0%	NOT ACHIEVED Reason for variance: Mixed results have been registered with annual monitoring, for which regional disparities have been affected the result of this indicator. Despite, FGD and additional interview with women and their household members have revealed better understanding and knowledge of nutrition, hygiene and healthy eating habits as a result of training provided under this outcome.	Individual interview with rural women (MDD-W)
1.3 Decrease in the proportion of households spending 65% or more of their monthly budget on food (Household Food Expenditure Share)			
Baseline: 1062 Planned Yearly Target: 0 Endline Target: -14%	NA	NA: Measured every 2 years	Household survey (Household Food Expenditure Share (FES) module)
1.4. Optional: Decrease in rate of rural women farmers' post-harvest losses over time (disaggregated by crops)¹⁸			
Baseline: Sorghum: 123kg Banana: NA Seaweed: 222kg Maize: 77kg Millet: 66kg Cassava: 54kg Beans & Peas: NA Sunflower: NA Planned Yearly Target: -3% Endline Target: - 10%	-3%	ACHIEVED	Individual interviews with rural women (SAMS Sub-Module B1)
Output 1.1: Rural women have increased access to resources, assets, and technologies critical for climate-resilient agricultural production, food security, and nutrition			
1.1.1: Increase in the proportion of rural women with access to productive resources as measured by the relevant Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 5,780 Planned Yearly Target: 8% Endline Target: +5%	+8%	ACHIEVED	Individual interviews with rural women (Pro-WEAI (control over productive resources module)

1.1.2: Increase in the number of rural women with access to climate-smart inputs, assets, and natural resources for agricultural production such as high-quality drought-resistant seeds, tools and machinery, water and irrigation, land, greenhouses/ polytunnels (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 3,400 Planned yearly Target: +10 % Endline Target: +50%	+7%	PARTIALLY ACHIEVED Reasons for variance: Lengthy internal procurement procedures, impacted the timely acquisition of necessary inputs for agricultural production. Additionally, it was identified that there may be a need to adjust approaches in relation to the approach for providing equipment, particularly for seaweed farmers. On-the-ground challenges regarding the maintenance of equipment have led to the decision to reassess the type of approach of equipment provision /access to ensure sustainability, resulting in reduced access for some participants.	Ad hoc individual interviews/Outcome monitoring survey
1.1.3: Increase in the number of rural women adopting improved value-chain specific, climate-smart, and Indigenous agricultural production techniques (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 1,224 Planned Yearly Target: +5 Endline Target: +20%	+5%	ACHIEVED*	Individual Interviews with rural women (SAMS)
1.1.4: Increase in the number of rural women with access to time- and labor-saving technologies (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 136 Planned Yearly Target: +0% Endline Target: +20%	+ 0%	NOT ACHIEVED Reasons for variance: Target was set as 0% due to the limited scale of activities under this output planned for 2024.	Individual interviews with rural women (SAMS)
Output 1.2: Rural women have enhanced skills and capacities to increase nutritious food production, food quality, and local food security reserves; reduce food losses and waste; and improve household diets			
1.2.1: Increase in the number of rural women and men with improved skills and capacity for nutrition, health, and food safety disaggregated by sex (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 5,000 Planned Yearly Target: +10% Endline Target: +50%	+11%	ACHIEVED	Individual interview with rural women (SAMS Module)

1.2.2: Increase in the number of rural women accessing extension services, including weather information (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 340 Planned Yearly Target: +3% Endline target: +15%	+3%	ACHIEVED	Individual interview with rural women (SAMS Module)
1.2.3: Increase in the number of rural women utilizing improved and value-chain specific post-harvest handling and storage practices (% increase over baseline)			
Baseline: 5,100 Planned Yearly Target: +10% Endline Target: +45%	+12%	ACHIEVED	Individual interview with rural women (SAMS Module)
Outcome 2: Rural women's income, decent work, and economic autonomy increased to secure their livelihoods and build resilience			
2.1: Percentage increase in rural women's average annual farm incomes			
Baseline: 89.6 USD Planned Yearly Target: +2% * Endline Target: +10%	+1.69% (91.11 USD).	ACHIEVED	Individual interview with rural women (SAMS Module)
2.2: Percentage increase in rural women's average annual off-farm incomes (including from micro-enterprises and wage employment promoted by the project), disaggregated by employment type			
Baseline: 98.2 USD Planned yearly Target: +9% Endline target: +35 %	+33.7 (131.35 USD)	ACHIEVED	Individual interviews with rural women (non-farm employment and income survey module)
2.3: Increase in the proportion of rural women with control over the use of their income and expenditures as measured by the relevant WEAI			
Baseline: 5,916 Planned Yearly Target: 5% Endline Target: +4%	+7%	ACHIEVED	Individual interview with rural women (Pro-WEAI Module – Access to productive capital)
2.4: Household redistribution in the average number of daily hours spent on unpaid care and domestic work, by sex and age (adapted from SDG 5.4.1) as measured by the relevant WEAI (Gender gap in hours per day)			
Baseline: Men: 1.6 hours Women: dual HH - 6.85 hours Female-single (FHH): 4.8 hours Planned Yearly Target: <u>NA</u> * Endline Target: Men: 3 hours Women: dual HH - 4 hours	NA	NA: This indicator is measured only at baseline and endline as part of the pro-WEAI index.	Individual interview with rural women (Pro-WEAI Module – Time Allocation)

<i>Female-single (FHH): 3.5 hours</i>			
Output 2.1: Rural women have enhanced capacities, skills, and time for entrepreneurship and access to markets and value chains			
2.1.1 Increase in the number of rural women with improved financial literacy and/or entrepreneurship skills (% of increase over baseline)			
<i>Baseline: 3,400</i> <i>Planned yearly Target: +2%</i> <i>Endline Target: +18%</i>	+3%	ACHIEVED	Ad hoc individual interviews/Annual outcome monitoring survey
2.1.2: Increase in the number of rural women who initiate new agribusiness and/or self-employment activities, disaggregated by sector (% increase over baseline)			
<i>Baseline: 2,924</i> <i>Planned yearly Target: +2%</i> <i>Endline Target: +12%</i>	+24	ACHIEVED Reason for variance: The increase is driven by multiple factors, including successful activity implementation.	Employment and business survey (Individual interview)
2.1.3: Increase in the number of rural women with improved physical access to markets, processing, and/or storage facilities (% increase over baseline)			
<i>Baseline: 3,530</i> <i>Planned Yearly Target: +10%</i> <i>Endline Target: +45%</i>	+11% - Market Access: 71% have access to the market. - New Storage Access: 64% have access to new storage facilities. - Transport Access: 51% have easy transportation access to these facilities.	ACHIEVED Reason for variance: The increase is driven by multiple factors, including successful activity implementation including entrepreneurship trainings and leadership trainings in outcome 3 to members of women cooperatives which have increased their voice and agency and ability to confidently negotiate on behalf of their enterprises.	Ad hoc individual interviews/Annual outcome monitoring survey
Output 2.2: Rural women have increased access to decent work, including off-farm work and social protection			
2.2.1 Increase in the number of rural women who enter employment in the formal labour market (% increase over baseline)			
<i>Baseline: 408</i> <i>Planned yearly Target: +0%</i> <i>Endline target: +4%</i>	1 %	ACHIEVED	- Ad hoc individual interviews/Annual outcome monitoring survey - PUNO/Implementing partner reports
2.2.2: Increase in the number of rural women covered by social protection systems (% change over baseline)			
<i>Baseline: 4,760</i> <i>Planned Yearly Target: +0%</i> <i>Endline target: +10%</i>	0	NOT ACHIEVED	- Individual interview with rural women - PUNO/Implementing partner reports
Output 2.3: Rural women have increased access to gender-responsive financial and business development services; ICTs and other products and services			

2.3.1: Increase in the number of rural women using gender-responsive financial services and products (including savings, credit, and insurance), disaggregated by type and total amount (USD) (% change over baseline)			
<i>Baseline:</i> 0 <i>Planned Year Target:</i> +11% <i>Endline target:</i> +50%	+19	ACHIEVED	Individual interview with rural women
2.3.2: Increase in the number of rural women who access and use new business knowledge, products, services, and technologies for improved market access (% change over baseline)			
<i>Baseline:</i> 3,400 <i>Planned yearly Target:</i> +3% <i>Endline Target:</i> +10%	+5%	ACHIEVED	Ad hoc individual interviews/Annual outcome monitoring survey
Outcome 3: Rural women's voice and agency increased for full and equal participation and leadership in their households, communities, organizations, and governance systems			
3.1 Increase in the proportion of rural women with decision-making power over production and productive assets as measured by the WEAI ('Instrumental Agency' in Pro-WEAI)			
<i>Baseline:</i> 5,848 <i>Planned Year target:</i> NA <i>Planned endline Target:</i> +6%	NA	NA: This indicator is measured only at baseline and endline as part of the pro-WEAI index.	Individual interview with rural women (Pro-WEAI Module – Access to Productive Capital)
3.2 Increase in the proportion of rural women with empowerment in the leadership domain as measured by the WEAI ('Collective Agency' in Pro-WEAI)			
<i>Baseline:</i> 680 <i>Planned Yearly Target:</i> NA <i>Endline Target:</i> +15%	NA	NA: This indicator is measured only at baseline and endline as part of the pro-WEAI index.	Individual interview with rural women (Pro-WEAI Module – Autonomy in Decision-making)
3.3 Increase in proportion of women in elected local governance structures			
<i>Baseline:</i> 0 <i>Planned Yearly Target:</i> 0% <i>Endline Target:</i> +1%	0%	NOT ACHIEVED Reason for variance: the interventions have not reached the momentum to produce changes at this level.	Pro-WEAI (Membership module)
3.4 (Optional) Increase in the proportion of participating women who are empowered or whose achievements are at least as high as men in their households according to the WEAI Gender Parity Index			
<i>Baseline:</i> 4,080 <i>Planned yearly target:</i> NA <i>Endline target:</i> +15%	NA	NA: This indicator is measured only at baseline and endline as part of the pro-WEAI index.	Pro-WEAI gender parity index
Output 3.1: Rural women have increased skills and capacity to participate in local governance and decision-making structures			

3.1.1: Increase in the proportion of women members in community decision-making structures, including producer organizations, cooperatives, unions, and local food security reserves.			
<i>Baseline:</i> 4,284 <i>Planned yearly Target:</i> +5% <i>Endline target:</i> +15%	+11	ACHIEVED	- Ad hoc Individual Interviews/Annual Outcome Monitoring Survey. - FGD with rural women's group
3.1.2: Increase in the proportion of women leaders in community decision-making bodies, producer organizations, cooperatives, unions, and local food security reserves.			
<i>Baseline:</i> 2312 <i>Planned yearly Target:</i> +3% <i>Endline Target:</i> +10%	+6%	ACHIEVED Reasons for variance: Programme interventions focused on enhancing leadership capacities and the efforts of programme gender champions, community and religious leaders in advocating for women leadership within target communities.	- Ad hoc individual interviews/Annual outcome monitoring survey - FGD with rural women's group
Output 3.2: Organizational capacities and social capital strengthened to form, participate in, and sustain gender-responsive producer organizations, cooperatives and unions, savings groups, and self-help groups			
3.2.1: Increase in the number of informal rural women's groups which become formally registered producer organizations, cooperatives, and unions			
<i>Baseline:</i> 86 groups <i>Planned Yearly Target:</i> 0%* <i>Endline Target:</i> +35%	0%	NOT ACHIEVED Activities planned under the reporting year has not reached the momentum to create changes across this output indicator.	Ad hoc individual interviews/Annual outcome monitoring survey
3.2.2: Increase in the number of producer organizations, cooperatives, and unions that adopt a gender policy/ strategy/ training/ women's quota for their board, etc.			
<i>Baseline:</i> 0 <i>Planned Yearly Target:</i> 60 <i>Endline target:</i> 160	28	PARTIALLY ACHIEVED Reasons for variance: Delay in commencement of activities towards this indicator.	- FGD with rural women's group - PUNOs/ Implementing partners' progress reports
Outcome 4: Gender-responsive legal frameworks, policies and institutions strengthened to create an enabling environment for rural women to secure their livelihoods, rights and resilience			
4.1 Number and type of revised or adopted national or regional legal frameworks, policies, or strategies that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality in agriculture, national food security and nutrition, social protection, emergency preparedness, and economic and labour systems (% change from baseline) (adapted from SDG 5.1.1)			
<i>Baseline:</i> 0 <i>Planned Yearly Target:</i> NA	Blue Economy Gender Strategy and Action Plan developed and launched (Link) National Clean Cooking Strategy 2024-2034 approved and	ACHIEVED	- KII with Stakeholders - PUNOs/ Implementing partners' progress reports

Endline target: Blue Economy Gender Strategy and Action Plan (1)	launched (NATIONAL CLEAN COOKING STRATEGY (2024-2034)_Official Document(1))		
4.2 Increase in the number of programme countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment in the agricultural sector (adapted from SDG 5.c.1) (% change from baseline)			
<i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Planned Yearly Target: NA</i> <i>Endline target: 1 Climate change gender Action Plan (1)</i>	NA	This indicator is measured every 2 years (at midterm and endline)	KII with Stakeholders
Output 4.1: Capacities of policymakers and other relevant stakeholders enhanced to design, implement and track gender-responsive policies, strategies, legal frameworks and budgets			
4.1.1: Increase in the number of national women's machineries and policymakers with capacities to advocate for gender-responsive policies and budgets			
<i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Planned Yearly Target: 2</i> <i>Endline target: 10 institutions</i>	13 institutions	ACHIEVED	- FGD with rural women - PUNOs/ Implementing partners' progress reports
4.1.2: Increase in the number of rural women engaged in local and national-level government meetings on policy formulation, budget allocation and monitoring for gender commitments			
<i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Planned Yearly Target: 90 W.</i> <i>Endline target: 200</i>	127 Women	ACHIEVED	- FGD with rural women - PUNOs/ Implementing partners' progress reports
Output 4.2: Capacity of rural women and their organizations increased to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national and regional levels			
4.2.1: Increase in the number of rural women who demonstrate increased awareness and understanding of legal rights and relevant policy mechanisms			
<i>Baseline: 2,992</i> <i>Planned Yearly Target: +2%</i> <i>Endline target: +11%</i>	+34%	ACHIEVED	Ad hoc individual interviews/Annual outcome monitoring survey
4.2.2: Increase in the proportion of women's groups linked to advocacy networks and alliances, by network focus (e.g., gender, climate action, etc.)			
<i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Planned Yearly Target: 10 groups</i> <i>Endline Target: +25%:</i>	Gender -15 Women linked to Tanzania Women's Chamber of Commerce	ACHIEVED	- PUNOs/ Implementing partners' progress reports - FGD with rural women

	Climate action: 65 women (carbon credits and clean cooking solutions)		
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Unlocking women's earning power through early childhood development centers in Zanzibar

Every morning, Munira Abdallah Abdallah wakes up early to prepare breakfast for her family and gets her two-year-old grandchild ready for the day. After dropping him off at a daycare center, she sets out on a three-kilometer walk to the ocean, where she cultivates sea moss.

At age 44, Abdallah from the Mungoni village in the southern region of Zanzibar is a mother of six and the primary caretaker for her grandchild. After hearing about a new childcare center established by the local government, UN Women Tanzania, and the Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE) early in 2024, she decided to enroll her grandchild so she could pursue sea moss farming full-time.

"The childcare center gave me the chance to take him somewhere I can trust, while I earn an income," she explained.

In Zanzibar, the sea moss sector employs over 23,000 people, mostly women, who spend up to six hours daily cultivating. Women with young children must often leave the children with neighbors or bring them to their worksite.

The Muungoni childcare center is one of three established by UN Women in Tanzania under JP RWEE, funded by Sweden and Norway, to support rural women's livelihoods, rights, and resilience.

Housed in a building provided by the Mungoni local government authority, this childcare center is part of UN Women and the Government of Tanzania's joint efforts to create supportive environments for women to pursue their livelihoods. It also addresses women's disproportionate unpaid care and domestic responsibilities, where they currently spend three times as many hours as men on such tasks.

Under JPRWEE, UN Women Tanzania is implementing targeted initiatives in Zanzibar, Dodoma, and Singida to expand women's economic opportunities.

"Our work focuses on increasing women's access to land and agricultural resources, training entrepreneurs to process, package, and market their products, improving access to financing and markets, and strengthening rural women's leadership and agency, particularly through Savings and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOs)," says UN Women Programme Specialist on Women's Economic Empowerment, Lilian Mwamdanga.

As a result of these efforts, in Zanzibar, over 3,000 community members have been reached through awareness campaigns on women's economic empowerment and land rights. Nearly 900 rural women received entrepreneurship and financial literacy training, with 60 village savings and loan associations now supporting over 900 women in starting small businesses.

Looking ahead, Abdalla is looking forward to expanding her sea moss business. *"I want to go beyond farming and selling sea moss to producing sea moss gel, soap, and other products that could fetch me a higher price,"* she said.

For her, she says, the center is more than just a childcare facility—it is a vital resource that empowers her to contribute to her family’s well-being.

Full story link: <https://africa.unwomen.org/en/stories/feature-story/2024/08/investments-in-early-childhood-development-centres-in-zanzibar-are-unlocking-womens-earning-power>

2. How JP RWEE empowers Damankia Women in Tanzania



Photo: WFP/Esther Mngodo

during training that we were introduced to a new idea – why don’t we make our own branded nutritious flour meal. We thought it was brilliant,” explained Lusia Julius Gabriel, 58, Leader of the farming group. Ingredients in the 1 kg pack of nutritious flour meal, *ungalishe* as famously known in Swahili, includes maize, millet, sorghum, sesame seeds, and soya.

Mwanaidi Athumani Shaban, 56, works the mill with great vigour. “I love doing this,” she says with a smile as the whole room is filled with dust. Housed next to the Damankia village government office, the grain milling machine worth TSH 4.5 Mil (USD 1,655) was purchased by her all-women farming group Upendo B, through a local government loan in 2022 that they are still paying. It would eventually help them get an extra income.

Although the women have been farmers their whole lives, education has no end, Mwanaidi acknowledges. Now in their 50s and 60s, the ten (10) women went through various training sessions recently to expand their entrepreneurship skills under JP RWEE. “It was

The JP RWEE Impact

Seated in a circle, each woman’s narration reveals how they have all been personally impacted by JPRWEE. Lucresia explains that through the programme, they were trained on good agricultural practices which she observed in her quarter-acre plot of sunflowers. She would often get one gunny bag of seeds, but on adhering to the training’s instructions, including use of improved quality seeds, she was able to get 4 gunny bags.



District Agriculture Field Officer Ester Simon Bayda speaks to members of Upendo B and Upendo IR farming groups in Singida Region. Photo:WFP/Esther Mngodo

of maize, always made of millet or sorghum. Now, I've started farming maize and sunflower in large quantities for the first time because of JP RWEE," she says.

In the same village is Felista Petro Hoke. At 40 years of age, Felista Petro Hoke has always known that the land in Singida Region was arable for only four crops – millet, sorghum, cassava and potatoes. *"That's what our elders told us,"* she says. They would farm maize in small quantities. When advised on various occasions to grow other crops in large quantities, her family would hesitate. *"Millet! We've always relied on millet. Funny thing is that we hardly get much from it,"* she says.

But recently, that has changed. She enrolled into JP RWEE through Upendo IR farming group. The training sessions on Good Agricultural Practices made her and her family realise that perhaps they were wrong about what their land could yield. *"We never used to eat ugali made*



Felista Petro Hoke, Lead Farmer of Upendo IR group in Damankia village, Ikungi District, Singida Region. Photo:WFP/Esther Mngodo

Launched in 2022, this global initiative is spread in Mainland — Singida, Dodoma — and Zanzibar, seeking to reach 40,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries. *"This programme has opened my eyes to understand new ways of farming. We used local farming practices in the past,"* she says. The training provided her with skills in climate-smart agriculture.

After the training, Felista went on to add a two-acre plot of land to cultivate maize. She was amazed to see the results. *"My income has increased. In the past, I did not get as much yield as I do now. But now, I've started using fertilisers and improved quality seeds. I used to get 1-3 gunny bags in one acre. But now, I managed to get 24 gunny bags of*

maize," she said, adding that she kept three bags to feed her family and sold the rest. She has been able to pay for her children's university.

As the Lead Farmer in her farming group, other farmers visit her farm to learn from her success. She testifies that the training has also changed her view of herself. *"I believe in myself more. I do whatever I put my mind to. I used to be afraid to try new things, thinking that I couldn't do them because I am a woman,"* she said. After the training, Felista contested for the chairperson position of Mlungu Hamlet, which she won.

III. Other Assessments or Evaluations (if applicable)

IV. Programmatic Revisions (if applicable)

- Indicate any major adjustments in strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs that took place.

V. Resources (Optional)

- Provide any information on financial management, procurement and human resources.
- Indicate if the Programme mobilized any additional resources or interventions from other partners.