

JSDF

Japan Social Development Fund

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR FISCAL YEARS
2021-2022**



Government
of Japan



WORLD BANK GROUP
Development Finance

The background features a large, faint watermark of the World Bank logo, which consists of a stylized olive branch held by a hand, surrounded by concentric arcs.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



**MAITREYI
BORDIA DAS**
Director,
Trust Funds and
Partner Relations,
Development Finance

This annual report, covering the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) fiscal years 2021–22, marks the beginning of a new era in the program’s work. Established by the government of Japan (GoJ) and the World Bank Group as the millennium began, JSDF’s multisector grant program has now entered its third decade as an innovator in providing support for development programs aimed at the poorest and most vulnerable in society.

JSDF has remained committed to the principles outlined by its founders at its inception two decades ago: innovation, responsiveness to the disadvantaged, rapid results, capacity development, and flexibility. As fiscal 23 marks a critical juncture for the World Bank with the formalization of the Evolution Roadmap and the update of our vision and mission, the work of JSDF is more relevant than ever; it is a unique instrument that enables partnerships with non-traditional actors, directly contributes to eradicating poverty on a livable planet, and intentionally pilots innovative development solutions for replication at scale.

This longstanding program has been essential in helping marginalized groups to cope with the impact of global crises, and JSDF rose to the occasion during the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). JSDF maintained its record of high-impact programming and novel approaches to community engagement during a period marked with uncertainty and organizational challenges that could not have been anticipated. Even during the worst of the pandemic, hundreds of thousands of people were provided with opportunities to have their voices heard in decisions that affected their lives, and also to assume greater responsibility for their own destiny.

Since its inception in 2000, the GoJ has contributed US\$854.3 million to the JSDF program. The impacts of these contributions speak for themselves. During the two-year period covered by this annual report, JSDF grants reached 2.13 million direct beneficiaries, 70 percent of whom were female. 715,658 people benefited from sustainable livelihood improvement opportunities, 682,896 people benefited from

programs aimed at improved nutrition and early childhood care and development, and projects supporting sustainable agriculture and climate change adaptation reached 660,198 direct beneficiaries. Other projects focused on inclusive education, reaching 12,817 direct beneficiaries; local governance and accountability, reaching 55,574 direct beneficiaries; and basic health and sanitation services, reaching 792 direct beneficiaries.

Importantly, the program places a strong emphasis on the sustainability of its interventions and on leveraging development results at scale. For more than 20 years, the key results and outcomes of JSDF-supported pilot projects have been scaled up or replicated into World Bank Group-financed operations, other development partner-supported projects, or recipient government funding of projects.

JSDF fills a critical gap and offers a unique value proposition compared to other World Bank funding opportunities, by allowing teams to work with local implementing agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to reach vulnerable communities, and by explicitly supporting the piloting of innovative interventions with clear strategies for scale-up. The World Bank Group and its Japanese partners are excited to continue fostering a program that supplies rapid, demonstrable benefits and enhances civil society participation.

The World Bank Group and its clients are deeply grateful to the GoJ for its crucial and ongoing JSDF support. Throughout its tenure of over 20 years, JSDF has been committed to delivering swift, palpable benefits that build ownership, capacity, empowerment, and community participation. JSDF's track record is strong, and its development impacts are clear and compelling. The World Bank Group's commitment to fostering these impacts through JSDF is equally strong and is bolstered by the World Bank's new vision. As such, the Evolution Roadmap positions the World Bank as a driver of development solutions to improve people's lives amid interconnected crises—a role which JSDF is uniquely equipped to support.



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ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

AFE	Africa East Region	GRM	Grievance redress mechanism
AFW	Africa West Region	IC	Indigenous community
BARMM	Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao	ICR	Implementation Completion Results report
CBO	Community-based organization	IDA	International Development Association
CBSG	Community-based savings group	I-SAF	Implementation of Social Accountability Framework
CGIAR	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research	ISHC	Intergenerational Self-Help Club
CPF	Country Partnership Framework	ISR	Implementation Status Report
CSLICP	Cambodia Sustainable Livelihood for Indigenous Communities Project	JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
CSO	Civil society organization	JSDF	Japan Social Development Fund
COVID	Coronavirus Disease	LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
DFTPR	Development Finance Vice Presidency, Trust Funds and Partner Relations Department	LC	Local council
EAP	East Asia and Pacific	LIWG	Land Information Working Group
ECA	Europe and Central Asia	LMIC	Lower-middle-income country
EOJ	Embassy of Japan	M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
FM	Financial management	MIS	Monitoring information system
FY	Fiscal Year	MNA (MENA)	Middle East and North Africa
GDP	Gross domestic product	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
GoJ	Government of Japan	MSMEs	Micro, small, and medium enterprises

NGO	Non-Governmental Organization	SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
PDO	Project Development Objective	TF	Trust Fund
PDR	People's Democratic Republic	TICAD	Tokyo International Conference on African Development
PIU	Project implementing unit	ToT	Training of trainers
RE	Recipient-executed	TTL	Task team leader
SAR	South Asia region	TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal		
SGR	Strategic Grain Resource		



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) is a partnership between the government of Japan (GOJ) and the World Bank Group that supports a broad array of innovative activities that benefit the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in developing countries across the globe.

JSDF fills a critical gap and offers a unique value proposition compared to other World Bank funding. Distinctive features of the program include:



Involvement of Non-Profits and Civil Society as Implementing Agencies:

By collaborating with local governments and NGOs, JSDF is better able to design projects to respond to beneficiary needs, more efficiently reach intended beneficiaries, and strengthen the local capacity for implementation.



Innovation: The program places an explicit focus on piloting innovative solutions as a proof of concept, for subsequent scale-up.



Sustainability: JSDF capacity-building support enables successful project implementation and creates long-term community capacity, which is critical to creating foundations for sustainable results beyond the project duration. Additionally, projects must identify clear exit strategies, and therefore have been very successful in leveraging follow-up funding from local or national authorities, other development partners, or World Bank lending.

As summarized by a recent independent evaluation of the JSDF program¹, “JSDF grants play a powerful role in enabling localized impact and innovation with clear pathways to sustainability.”

¹ Dalberg (January 2023), “JSDF FY 2022 Independent Assessment 2023–2020”.

WHAT IS JSDF?

JSDF grants are focused on reducing poverty and increasing social and livelihood development among beneficiaries. The program's projects employ innovative development approaches and serve as a test bed before being taken to scale, either by beneficiaries themselves or with support from government, the World Bank, or other development partners. As such, JSDF's support is impactful far beyond the grants that it directly funds. Working with recipient governments and other development partners, the World Bank Group frequently replicates JSDF approaches in lending operations across the institution, doing so at a larger scale and over a broader set of development actors. This important multiplier effect allows JSDF to reach vastly larger groups of marginalized and vulnerable people.

JSDF requires all of its grants to have capacity-building components. With community participation as a key pillar of the program, Seed Fund grants of up to US\$75,000 can be extended to World Bank task teams to help strengthen the consultation processes during the design phase of projects, in collaboration with recipient governments, direct beneficiaries, and other stakeholders. JSDF likewise maintains a flexible outlook in its work by offering grants under emergency and special programs.

JSDF grants must be aligned with the program's strategic framework. To qualify, grants must:



Be Innovative:

Projects apply innovative development approaches or ideas that respond directly to the needs of the poorest and most excluded groups in society. Some projects comprise entirely new innovations, while others replicate approaches that have not yet been adopted in a recipient country but have been successfully tested in other countries.



Be Responsive to the Vulnerable and Marginalized:

Marginalized: Projects support community-driven development by empowering vulnerable or marginalized groups at the grassroots level to participate in efforts that improve their livelihoods.



Promote Rapid Response:

Projects provide expeditious and demonstrable results and deliver sustainable benefits to targeted beneficiaries or stakeholders.



Focus on Capacity Development:

Projects build capacity and participation, as well as empower and strengthen local communities, NGOs, civil society organizations (CSOs), and other stakeholders, to improve their organizational and institutional capacity to engage target groups in their development.

JSDF'S CATALYTIC ROLE

JSDF grants are designed to reach the poorest and marginalized groups, those not accessible by mainstream interventions. These projects pilot innovative activities that can be scaled up through World Bank-financed operations and also inform government policies.

The JSDF Results Framework consists of two tiers through which a JSDF grant's results would lead to the attainment of JSDF's higher-level objectives and the World Bank Group's goals. Tier II objectives of the framework endeavor to scale up or replicate projects through World Bank Group-financed operations, other development partner-supported projects, or funding by the recipient governments to sustain development achievements. JSDF grants can also inform national policies that address poverty and vulnerability or test interventions previously implemented in other countries, in order to build an evidence base for their effectiveness and to gain government buy-in for scale-up.

Fiscal 2021–22 Portfolio Overview

Japan's contributions to the JSDF program, from its inception in 2000 to fiscal 2022, amounted to about US\$854.3 million, of which allocations to JSDF grants were US\$798.5 million, or 93 percent of total contributions. As of the end of fiscal 2022, cumulative disbursements amounted to about US\$621 million, or 78 percent of total allocations. The fiscal 2021–22 active grants are on track toward achievement of their development objectives. The grants that closed in fiscal 2021 largely achieved their development objectives.

- The fiscal 2021–22 portfolio covered in this annual report is valued at about US\$118.6 million, including both World Bank-executed and recipient-executed grants. The portfolio consists of all 84 trust fund (TF) grants that were active at any time during the fiscal 2021–22 period, including ongoing activities and newly-approved grants, as well as those grants that closed during the reporting period.
- Grants implemented in fiscal 2021–22 were aligned with the JSDF strategic framework, as well as the relevant areas of focus of World Bank Group instruments in support of the country development strategies embodied in the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) between the World Bank Group and the relevant governments.
- Thirteen newly-approved projects in the fiscal 2021–22 portfolio, amounting to US\$37.8 million, were developed around six of the JSDF program's thematic areas of focus, providing assistance in the areas of: (1) livelihood support; (2) improved nutrition and early childhood care and development; (3) inclusive education; (4) environmentally sustainable agricultural practices; (5) local governance and accountability; and (6) basic health and sanitation services. These projects are listed in annex 1.
- Thirteen projects, amounting to US\$34.5 million, closed during fiscal 2021–22. Key details are presented in section 3.
- At the end of the reporting period, there were 27 ongoing projects worth US\$84 million.
- Three Seed Fund grants were approved in fiscal 2021–22, for a total of US\$197,121. These grants helped strengthen the design and preparation of project proposals.

FISCAL 2021–22 PORTFOLIO:

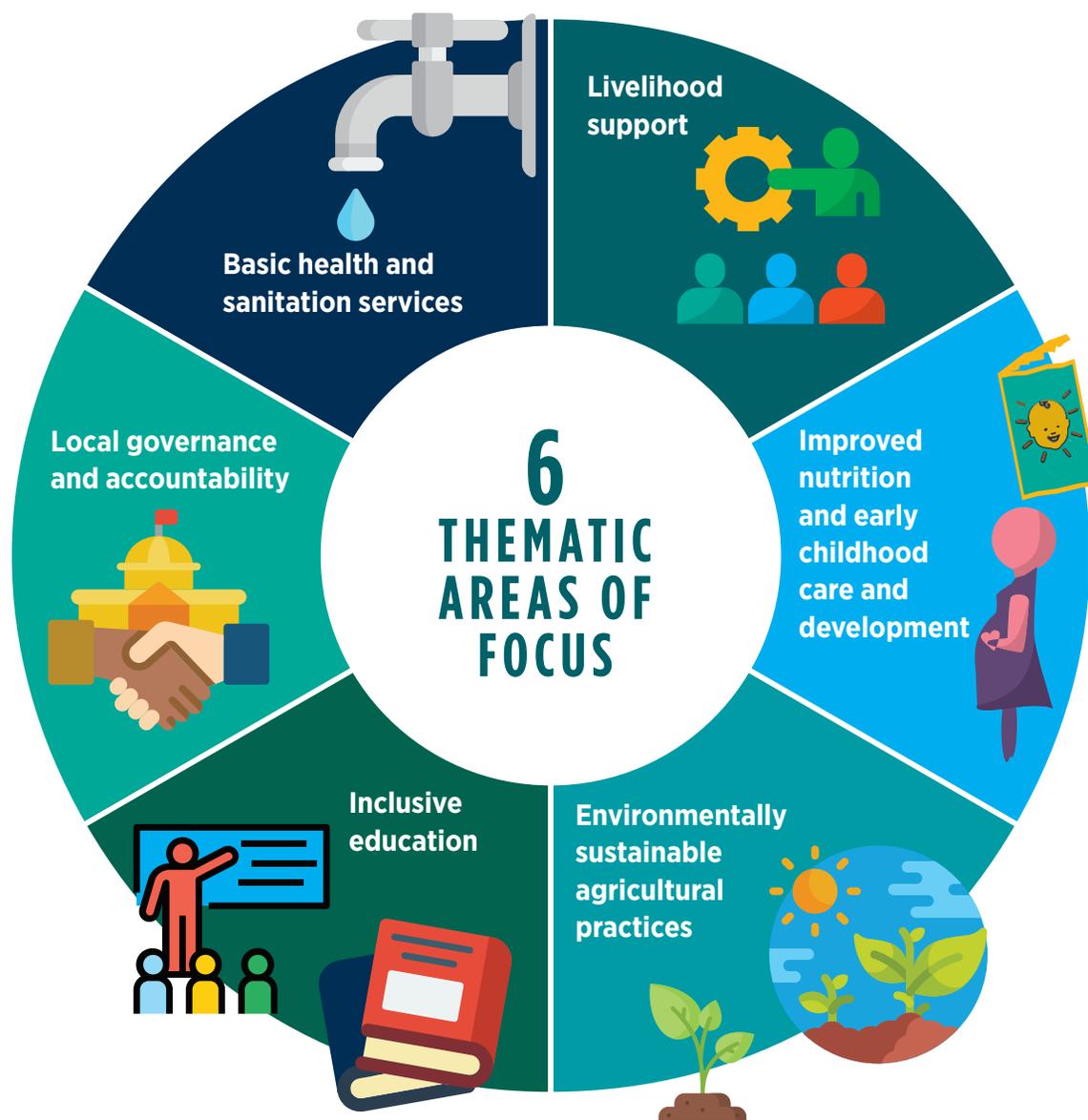
US\$118.6 million (including both World Bank-executed and recipient-executed grants)

consisting of 84 trust fund (TF) grants

13 newly-approved projects in FY2021–22 portfolio, amounting to **US\$37.8 million**

13 projects closed during FY2021–22, amounting to **US\$34.5 million**

27 ongoing projects during FY2021–22, worth **US\$84 million**



External Evaluation Findings Underscore a Highly Relevant, Effective, and Sustainable Portfolio

This fiscal 2021–22 report includes a special section presenting the findings of a 2022 analysis by the development consulting firm, Dalberg Advisors, which independently assessed JSDF’s activities over the preceding seven years. The assessment team used a mixed methods approach to collect and analyze data. The assessment involved key informant interviews; a survey of World Bank task team leaders (TTLs); a desk review of 46 grants; and a deep dive into 10 JSDF grants, including field visits across nine countries: Bolivia, Cambodia, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kenya, and Uganda. It is worth noting that although the analysis was conducted in fiscal 2022, the projects that were sampled also included older projects that were not under implementation in the fiscal 2021–22 period to which this report pertains. The results therefore provide reflections on the program more broadly, rather than reflecting specifically on the projects underway during the current reporting period.

Dalberg Advisors found that, consistently across interviews and supported by 94 percent of World Bank TTL surveys, respondents agreed that JSDF grants filled a gap and addressed development issues that other donors or governments did not. Specifically: (1) JSDF grant enabled TTLs to collaborate with local implementing agencies to reach vulnerable communities and provided tailored and localized support; (2) JSDF grants filled a critical funding gap that enabled TTLs to collaborate with others to pilot new interventions, as the pilot approach and a focus on innovation enabled TTLs to test new interventions on a smaller scale before scaling up, thereby increasing the success of larger projects; and (3) JSDF effectively championed



innovation, as evinced by the plethora of innovative ideas executed across the 46 reviewed grants. Explicitly requiring TTLs to demonstrate how a grant is innovative during the design stage is key to achieving pioneering interventions.

Most grants reviewed in the analysis achieved their project development objectives (PDOs): 92 percent of the projects sampled in the desk analysis reported their PDOs as either moderately satisfactory or satisfactory achieved. Overall, the assessment estimated that the JSDF reached 60.4 million individuals across the grants that were sampled, with beneficiaries heavily concentrated in improved nutrition and early childhood development, and to a lesser degree, basic legal services and livelihood support.

The JSDF's impact is further highlighted by the fact that most of the assessed grants carried clear pathways to sustainability. The assessment found that among projects that were subject to field visits, all achieved sustainability through one of the following four channels: sustainability of results, World Bank adoption and scaling, development partner adoption and scaling, or government adoption and scaling.

The evaluation found some areas in need of improvement and made recommendations to address these, which will be implemented by the World Bank in the coming months. For example, the findings noted that just 68 percent of the reviewed grants included gender indicators, and of those, only 50 percent achieved them. The assessment also identified a selection of operational and strategic challenges for review to ensure JSDF's continued success. The findings and recommendations are under discussion between the World Bank and the government of Japan, with a view to arriving at an action plan for further improvement of the program over the upcoming period.



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE JAPAN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (JSDF) PROGRAM

1.1 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) is a collaborative development effort between the government of Japan (GOJ) and the World Bank Group. It was established in June 2000 to mitigate the far-reaching effects of the global financial crises of the late 1990s on the poorest and most vulnerable groups.

At the outset, the JSDF provided direct grant assistance to the most disadvantaged groups in countries that were the most severely impacted by the global crises. The program was subsequently broadened to support innovative activities that benefit and provide livelihood improvement opportunities to the most excluded groups in eligible developing countries. These modestly-sized projects support initiatives that deliver rapid results to reduce poverty and foster long-term social development and livelihood improvement. Through JSDF support for pilot projects with demonstrable and sustainable outcomes, the program fosters the use of innovative development approaches that can be scaled-up or replicated with funding from recipient governments, the World Bank Group, or other development partners to reach larger groups of marginalized and highly vulnerable people.

JSDF grants are provided to eligible recipients in focus countries. Unlike most World Bank-financed projects executed by governments at the central level, JSDF grants are often executed by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or civil society organizations (CSOs) and local governments, and are subsequently implemented at the community level. The government of Japan is the sole financier of the JSDF program, having contributed US\$854.3 million in funding to date. JSDF primarily implements grants in low-income countries and lower-middle-income countries and focuses on six thematic areas for grants that target poverty reduction and social protection-focused programs.

JSDF Thematic Priorities

JSDF focuses its efforts in the following six thematic priority areas:



1

Livelihood Support:

Improve access to employment and livelihood opportunities for poor and vulnerable people.



2

Improved Nutrition and Early Childhood Care and Development:

Improve access to basic health and nutritional services, particularly for adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and infants and children from 0–5 years old; and improve access to early stimulation and learning programs for young children in the poorest and most disadvantaged communities.



3

Inclusive Education:

Improve basic educational opportunities for children in remote rural areas, those with disabilities, and girls.



4

Environmentally Sustainable Agricultural Practices and Climate Change:

Promote agricultural productivity of small and marginal farmers and increase environmentally sustainable farming methods.



5

Local Governance and Accountability:

Improve information for poor and vulnerable people of their legal rights and ensure access to mechanisms for enforcement of those rights; and improve community engagement and local government capacity.



6

Basic Health and Sanitations Services:

Improve access to better health and sanitation services.

JSDF Grant Approval Process

Community-driven development principles, embracing effective participatory approaches to project design, form the centerpiece of the JSDF. Recognizing that consultations with potential beneficiary communities and other significant stakeholders are critical to ensure project ownership and effectiveness, the JSDF provides grants of up to US\$75,000 to selected World Bank Group task teams to strengthen the consultation processes during the initial design phase.

In keeping with donor harmonization and promotion of synergies, while avoiding duplication of development efforts, World Bank Group task teams also engage with the Embassy of Japan in the recipient country and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) country representatives.

Within the World Bank, JSDF grants are processed using institutional procedures for the Small Recipient Executed Trust Fund Grants. These guidelines follow a two-stage vetting process that requires the review and endorsement of the relevant Global Practice(s) and the country director at each stage. The GoJ also reviews packages at each stage of the approval process to confirm alignment with its strategic priorities.

1.2 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The GoJ's financial commitment to JSDF has been strong since its inception more than two decades ago and has remained so in fiscal 2021–22.

Contributions to the JSDF program since its inception total approximately US\$854.3 million, of which, allocations to JSDF grants as of the end of fiscal 2022 were US\$798.5 million, or 93 percent of total contributions. Cumulative disbursements as of the end of fiscal 2022 were approximately US\$621 million, or 78 percent of total allocations. A significant portion of the unallocated balance has been committed for activities in the preparation pipeline.



1.3 TYPES OF JSDF PROGRAM GRANTS

JSDF grants currently fall into three categories:

1. **Regular Program Grants:** These grants support innovative activities that provide direct benefits to poor and underserved groups, who are not reached by mainstream programs, through innovative approaches that deliver results in the short-term. All grants have capacity-building components that empower and strengthen local communities, NGOs, CSOs and other stakeholders to bolster their organizational and institutional capacities to engage the JSDF target groups in development through learning by doing. Thirty-five of such projects were under implementation during the reporting period, for a total allocation amount of US\$99.2 million, of which the recipient-executed portion was US\$89.8 million.
2. **Seed Fund Grants:** Three Seed Fund grants were under implementation during the reporting period, for a total allocation amount of US\$197,121.
3. **Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) V—Implementation of the Action Plan:** The government of Japan has provided US\$30 million to support the implementation of the TICAD V Action Plan in two priority areas, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) and Support for the Reintegration of Ex-Combatants. Three projects financed by this window were under implementation during the reporting period, for a total allocation of US\$8.7 million.

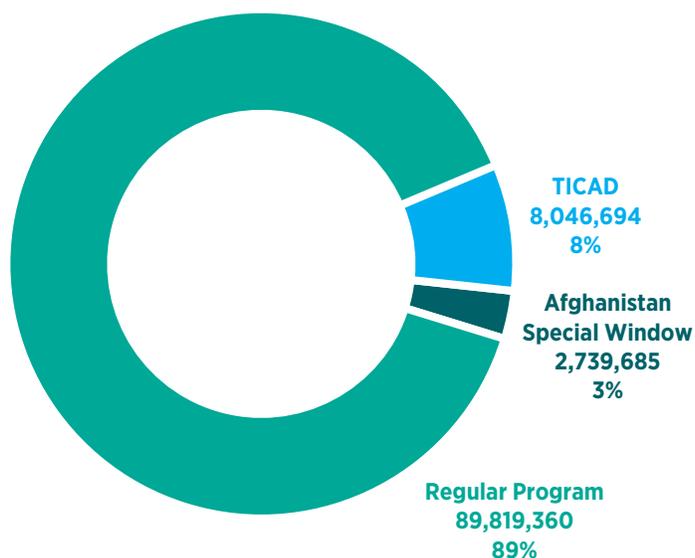
Additionally, two projects with a total allocation of US\$3.19 million were under implementation during the reporting period within the Afghanistan Special Window, established with the objective of supporting reconstruction and laying the foundations of community-level government by providing social services and promoting productive infrastructure projects, fostering community-managed execution and instilling community governance. One of these projects was canceled whereas the other closed in FY21, following which the program has been phased out and no longer accepts applications for new grants.

SECTION 2: PROGRAM ACTIVITIES – FISCAL YEARS 2021 AND 2022

2.1 OVERVIEW OF THE FISCAL 2021–22 PORTFOLIO – RECIPIENT EXECUTED GRANTS

The fiscal 2021–22 portfolio consisted of 40 recipient-executed grants, totaling US\$100.6 million, including grants that closed in this period and those continuing on into the next fiscal year. Thirteen recipient-executed grants with disbursements of US\$31.3 million closed in fiscal 2021–22. Thirty-five grants, valued at 89 percent of the total portfolio, were part of the regular program, of which eight closed during the reporting period. Two grants, accounting for 3 percent of the total portfolio, were under the Afghanistan Window—of which one was cancelled and the other closed during the reporting period—and three grants, representing 8 percent of the portfolio, were under the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) V window, all of which closed during the reporting period (Figure 2.1.1).

Figure 2.1.1
Composition of JSDF Portfolio of
Recipient-Executed Grants by Program
Type, Fiscal 2021–22 Active Portfolio (US\$)



Source: DFTPR

2.2 IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCE AND KEY RESULTS ACHIEVED

Achievement of development objectives: An independent assessment of the JSDF portfolio conducted in fiscal 2022 finds that the majority of projects effectively achieve their development objectives, with 92 percent of projects having a satisfactory or moderately satisfactory rating for project development objective (PDO) achievement and overall outcome assessment at closure. It is worth noting that although the analysis was conducted in fiscal 2022, the projects sampled include older projects, which were not under implementation in the fiscal 2021–22 period covered by this report. The results of the evaluation therefore provide reflections on the program more broadly, rather than reflecting specifically on the projects underway during the current reporting period.

Key results achieved in fiscal 2021–22: During the two-year period covered by this report, JSDF grants reached 2.13 million direct beneficiaries, 70 percent of whom were female. More specifically:

- Through projects in Ghana, Malawi, Afghanistan, Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Congo, Ethiopia, India, Jordan, Iraq, the Solomon Islands, Kyrgyz Republic, and Ukraine, 715,658 people benefited from sustainable livelihood improvement opportunities. In total, these projects created 24,421 new jobs, provided 30,059 people with alternative employment opportunities, and trained 27,504 people in livelihood opportunities.
- In Vietnam, Malawi, Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Ethiopia and Burundi, a total of 682,896 people benefited from programs aimed at improved nutrition and early childhood care and development. These included programs providing pregnant and lactating mothers with basic education and nutrition, as well as monthly monitoring and feeding practices for children under the age of two.
- Projects supporting sustainable agriculture and climate change adaptation reached 660,198 direct beneficiaries in Ghana, Vietnam, Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire and Burundi. Specifically, 14,597 indigenous people in forested areas were provided access to improved opportunities, and 30,122 farmers adopted climate-resilient farming technology.
- Other projects focused on inclusive education in the Solomon Islands and in Ukraine, culminating in 12,817 direct beneficiaries; local governance and accountability in Afghanistan, Jordan, and Sierra Leone, reaching 55,574 direct beneficiaries; and basic health and sanitation services in the Solomon Islands, which benefited 792 direct beneficiaries.

Implementation experience in fiscal 2021–22: More broadly, the implementation experience of the JSDF projects during the reporting period yielded a range of insights and experiences. A recurring theme throughout these projects was the emphasis on women's empowerment and inclusion.

Across the regions and projects, there were concerted efforts to adopt a gender-sensitive approach, as well as to integrate women into various initiatives. This was evident in the gender awareness campaigns, capacity building for women's groups, and coaching on access to capital. Overall, most projects aimed for at least 40–50 percent of beneficiaries to be women, emphasizing gender equality by enhancing young women's employability and entrepreneurship skills.

Another dominant theme was the importance of convergent governance mechanisms at regional, local, and village levels. The success of these projects often hinged on relationship building, which was central to achieving successful multisectoral collaborations. Leveraging existing collaboration mechanisms facilitated open communication, mutual understanding, trust, and accountability, all of which were crucial for achieving common objectives.

Some of the projects were innovative in their multisectoral design and approach, effectively addressing the multidimensional aspects of food insecurity or improving the livelihoods or employability of vulnerable groups. However, the journey was not without its challenges. Many projects experienced delays in implementation due to various reasons, including unstable security situations, recruitment challenges, and a lack of familiarity with World Bank procedures—particularly the financial management and procurement policies and guidelines. Institutional arrangements sometimes posed challenges, especially when multiple units were involved in project management. Such arrangements often led to lengthy procurement processes and unnecessary delays, especially during the initial project phases.

Many projects underwent restructuring during their implementation. Reasons for restructuring ranged from the need to address inconsistencies in agreements to adapting to unforeseen circumstances, such as the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. These restructurings often involved extensions of closing dates, reallocation of funds, and changes in implementing agencies or institutional arrangements. For example, some projects extended their closing dates to accommodate delays or to utilize remaining grant financing for various activities.

Despite the challenges, many projects achieved or even exceeded their outcomes and targets. The gender-focused approach yielded positive results; however, there were areas where improvement was needed. For instance, social norms around women's work required stronger targeting, as gender norms sometimes acted as barriers to women's employment. Strong coordination and engagement among stakeholders continues to be paramount for successful project outcomes, whereas partnering with the private sector for employment capacity-building activities and ensuring a positive approach to women's participation in activities could also enhance project impact. Furthermore, close and frequent supervision was identified as a key factor that could significantly improve project performance.

In conclusion, while challenges arose, the emphasis on women's empowerment, governance, and collaboration led to many successes. The insights gained from these projects can serve as valuable lessons for future initiatives, ensuring an even greater impact.

2.3 DISBURSEMENTS (ACTIVE AND CLOSED GRANTS)

The aggregate cumulative disbursements of the 40 recipient-executed grants in the fiscal 2021–22 portfolio amounted to US\$51.3 million, or 51 percent of the total grant amount of US\$100.6 million, as reflected in table 2.3.1.

The Africa region, with 13 grants, had the largest number and volume of grants by region; cumulatively, the region had disbursed 75 percent of its allocations of US\$34.5 million by the end of fiscal 2022. A regional breakdown of the disbursement performance for active and closed grants for the fiscal 2021–22 portfolio is also presented in table 2.3.1. This is followed by East Asia and Pacific (EAP), in which 10 grants were active during the reporting period, following an average disbursement rate of 30 percent from the US\$24.5 million allocation. This lower average reflects a generally younger portfolio than most of the other regions.

Table 2.3.2 provides a breakdown of cumulative disbursements for all recipient-executed activities within the Regular Program, Afghanistan Window, and the Seed Fund (TICAD) during fiscal 2021–22.

Table 2.3.3 provides the breakdown of cumulative fiscal 2021–22 disbursements by global practice. The World Bank’s designated global practices include: Macroeconomics, Trade, and Investment; Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation; Poverty and Equity; Transport; Digital Development; Energy and Extractives; Environment and Natural Resources; Governance; Water; Education; Social Protection and Jobs; Agriculture; Health, Nutrition and Population; and Urban, Resilience, and Land.

 **Table 2.3.1**
Fiscal 2021–22 Portfolio: Cumulative Disbursement Performance of Recipient-Executed (RE) Grants by Region

Region	# of RE Grants	Total Grant Amount (US\$)	Amount Disbursed at End of FY22 (US\$)	% Disbursed
Africa East (AFE)	6	15,209,891	9,317,578	61%
Africa West (AFW)	7	19,255,258	16,441,653	85%
East Asia and Pacific (EAP)	10	24,540,747	7,258,360	30%
Europe and Central Asia (ECA)	6	16,288,324	6,588,538	40%
Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)	2	5,462,000	983,662	18%
Middle East and North Africa (MNA)	5	13,138,329	4,568,386	35%
South Asia (SAR)	4	6,711,192	6,114,440	91%
Total	40	100,605,740	51,272,616	51%

Source: DFTPR

Table 2.3.2
Fiscal 2021–22 Portfolio: Cumulative Disbursement Performance of Recipient-Executed (RE) Grants by Program

JSDF Program Type	# of RE Grants	Total Grant Amount (US\$)	Amount Disbursed as of End FY22 (US\$)	% Disbursed
Regular Program	35	89,819,360	40,551,804	45%
Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)	3	8,046,694	7,981,127	99%
Afghanistan Special Window	2	2,739,685	2,739,685	100%
Total	40	100,605,740	51,272,616	51%

Source: DFTPR

Table 2.3.3
Fiscal 2021–22 Portfolio: Cumulative Disbursement Performance of Recipient-Executed (RE) Grants by Global Practice

Global Practice	# of RE Grants	Total Grant Amount (US\$)	Amount Disbursed as of End FY22 (US\$)	% Disbursed
Social Sustainability and Inclusion	12	29,824,452	15,346,217	51%
Health, Nutrition, & Population	12	31,423,938	21,139,915	67%
Agriculture and Food	5	9,578,039	4,730,589	49%
Social Protection & Jobs	3	8,289,685	4,913,576	59%
Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation	2	5,130,000	2,439,425	48%
Transport	2	5,600,000	331,173	6%
Education	2	5,504,605	1,485,299	27%
Urban, Resilience, and Land	1	2,505,020	369,050	15%
Governance	1	2,750,000	517,372	19%
Total	40	100,605,740	51,272,616	51%

Source: DFTPR

2.4 REGULAR PROGRAM GRANTS

The regular program approved 13 projects in fiscal 2021–22, amounting to US\$37.8 million. This consisted of interventions across the JSDF’s priority areas, including projects in Cambodia, Uzbekistan, Kenya, Indonesia, and the West Bank and Gaza to support the livelihoods of vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples, rural women, underserved urban groups, or other fragile communities; COVID-19 preparedness projects in Vietnam and Timor-Leste; nutrition and healthcare in Djibouti; public information, accountability, and enhancement of citizen engagement in Rwanda, Zambia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic (PDR), and

Vietnam; and supporting nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Nicaragua. The full list of regular program recipient-executed (RE) grants under implementation during fiscal 2021–22, as well as those approved during the period, is provided in the annex. Section 3 also provides details on the implementation experience of a sample of regular program grants, organized by thematic area.

2.5 SEED FUND GRANTS APPROVED

The JSDF Seed Fund program awards grants to World Bank Group task teams to assist in the stakeholder consultation processes, with a special focus on stakeholders targeting grassroots beneficiaries. The program provides World Bank-executed grants of up to US\$75,000 to World Bank Group task teams to help them develop frameworks that meet JSDF criteria for moving to the project preparation stage.

JSDF encourages stakeholder consultations that will help to ensure project ownership and alignment of the activities with the most important needs and vulnerabilities of the targeted beneficiaries. Reaching such beneficiaries often requires outreach to marginalized groups, who reside in remote or otherwise difficult-to-access areas. JSDF Seed Grant funds allow task teams to better target these populations by facilitating improved participatory approaches that in turn lead to financing investments that have been better informed and are more focused on impacting such beneficiaries.

The collaboration with local NGOs and other community organizations at the design and preparation phases is critical for ensuring project effectiveness and sustainability. Three Seed Fund grants for a total of US\$197,121 were approved during fiscal 2021–22, as presented in table 2.5.1.



Table 2.5.1
Seed Grants Approved During the FY 21–22 Period

Seed Grant Name	Closing Date	Total Grant Amount (US\$)
Philippines Developing Community-Driven Development Approach for Peacebuilding in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao	9/15/2022	55,698
Ensuring Sustainability of Somalia’s Female Health Worker Program through Livelihood Generation	6/30/2021	69,952
Strengthening Capacity of Female-led Community Health Worker Cooperatives in Rwanda	2/28/2021	71,471
Total		197,121

Source: DFTPR

2.6 TOKYO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT (TICAD) V

TICAD V's Action Plan included an allocation of US\$20 million for technical assistance to address infant and maternal mortality rates, as well as malnutrition, in coordination with projects under the World Bank Group-administered Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Trust Fund. The final two projects under the JSDF SUN window, amounting to US\$5.7 million—including both the Bank- and recipient-executed portions—were both completed during the fiscal 2021–22 period (table 2.6.1). Project details are provided in section 3.

Also under TICAD V, an allocation of US\$10 million was provided to address the unemployment issues faced by ex-combatants through training and capacity-building programs that would effectively reintegrate them into communities and civil society. Under this window, the US\$3 million JSDF Republic of Congo Support for Promotion of Sustainable Livelihoods Project in the Pool Department completed implementation in fiscal 2022 (table 2.6.1). This project aimed to improve access to livelihoods in select communities in the Pool Department, and provided direct support to 1,920 beneficiary households and to 9,600 beneficiaries (as further detailed in section 3).

 **Table 2.6.1**
JSDF Grants Active During the Reporting Period under TICAD V
Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Program

Window Type	Trust Fund (TF) Name	Closing Date	Total Grant Amount (US\$)
Recipient-Executed	Support to Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture and Capacity Development of Small and Marginal Farmers Project	2/22/2022	2,705,490
	Senegal JSDF Building Resilience to Food and Nutrition Insecurity Shocks	5/31/2021	2,591,204
Bank-Executed	Senegal JSDF Bank-Executed Trust Fund Building Resilience to Food and Nutrition Insecurity Shocks	5/31/2021	178,119
	Support to Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture and Capacity Development of Small and Marginal farmers	2/28/2022	261,114
Total			5,735,927

Source: DFTPR

**Table 2.6.2****JSDF Grants Active During the Reporting Period under TICAD V Support for the Reintegration of Ex-Combatants Program**

Window Type	Trust Fund (TF) Name	Closing Date	Total Grant Amount (US\$)
Recipient-Executed	Republic of Congo: Support for Sustainable Livelihood in the Pool Department	2/28/2022	2,750,000
Bank-Executed	Republic of Congo-Support for Sustainable Livelihoods Promotion Project in the Pool Department	2/28/2022	250,000
Total			3,000,000

Source: DFTPR

2.7 AFGHANISTAN SPECIAL WINDOW GRANTS

The Special Grants Program was set up to respond to emergency crisis events, such as natural catastrophic events or post-conflict needs, and one special program was under implementation during the reporting period: the Afghanistan Special Window, aimed at supporting reconstruction and laying the foundations of community-level government by providing social services and promoting productive infrastructure projects, fostering community-managed execution, and instilling community governance. Two grants for Afghan Women’s Economic Empowerment, totaling US\$2.74 million; and the Afghanistan Strategic Grain Reserve, totaling US\$10.24 million; were approved in fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2018, respectively and were still active in fiscal 2021. The first of these closed in June 2021 after successful completion, whereas the other was cancelled in August 2020 due to a shift in the spending priorities of the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and a subsequent adjustment of the World Bank lending portfolio (table 2.7.1). The program has since been phased out and is no longer open for new grants.

**Table 2.7.1****JSDF Grants Active During the Reporting Period under Afghanistan Special Window**

Window Type	Trust Fund (TF) Name	Closing Date	Total Grant Amount (US\$)
Recipient-Executed	Afghanistan Women’s Economic Empowerment	6/30/2021	258,736
	Afghanistan Strategic Grain Reserve Project (SGR) - dropped	9/14/2020	[0: returned to JSDF]
Bank-Executed	Afghanistan Women’s Economic Empowerment	6/30/2021	2,739,685
	Afghanistan Strategic Grain Reserve Project (SGR)	12/31/2020	188,429
Total			3,186,850

Source: DFTPR



SECTION 3: OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS BY THEME

This section presents summaries of the implementation experience and outcomes of a sample of JSDF projects that were active during the reporting period, discussing the performance of active and recently closed grants using the World Bank’s approach to assessing the performance of loans, credits, and grants. The information draws on standard implementation reporting prepared by project teams.

The performance of a project toward achieving its project development objective (PDO) is assessed by comparing the actual values of PDO outcome indicators to their respective targets at grant closure. Task teams develop the outcome indicators and determine target values in collaboration with the implementing agencies during the design and preparation stages. In some cases, refinements or revisions to the indicators and target values are carried out during the implementation period—often at midterm review—to address emerging challenges on the ground.

Task teams are responsible for supervising grant implementation. As a part of supervision, task team leaders (TTLs) and teams assess the overall performance of projects toward meeting the PDOs, as well as the implementation progress. They report their assessments formally through the submission of Implementation Status Reports (ISRs) for review by World Bank management. The reporting through ISRs for Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) grants is identical to the process followed for World Bank loans and grants. The TTLs and teams rank the progress relative to PDO achievements, as well as the pace and quality of implementation, in accordance with a six-point scale: highly satisfactory, satisfactory, moderately satisfactory, moderately unsatisfactory, unsatisfactory, and highly unsatisfactory.

At project closure, task teams prepare an Implementation Completion and Results Report, which assesses project performance against a range of criteria. Overall project outcome and World Bank performance are rated against a 6-point scale



ranging from highly satisfactory to highly unsatisfactory, whereas others (such as relevance, efficacy, and efficiency) are rated against a 4-point scale ranging from negligible, modest, substantial to high.

Regular Program Grants

Note: Regular program grants often contribute to multiple thematic areas, in which case they are listed only once, under the main thematic area that is supported.

3.1 LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

The JSDF livelihood support thematic area aligns with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

SDG 1: to end to poverty in all forms, and

SDG 8: to promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.

The JSDF grants in this thematic area are generating employment among the poorest and most vulnerable households, thereby helping to move these groups into sustainable livelihoods and toward economic stability. These grants also seek to provide access to gainful employment for the poorest and most excluded groups in rural and urban communities. The interventions adopted under the grants target women, at-risk youth, ethnic communities, former combatants, poor farmers and fisher groups, and families returning home after the cessation of conflicts. The approaches may take the form of piloting for certain groups or adaptations of interventions that have worked in other developing countries. They encompass microenterprise development, employment facilitation, community-based initiatives, skills and capacity enhancement, and demand-driven livelihood investments.



Livelihoods for Youth Community Support Project – Kyrgyz Republic

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.73 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to support innovative livelihood development and the employability of an estimated 4,000 young women and men in approximately 20 target communities in order to improve socioeconomic opportunity and inclusion.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: PREPARING YOUTH FOR THE LABOR MARKET

This component was designed to support the supply side of the market system by preparing youth for jobs. It included two subcomponents to help youth join the traditional economy or the digital economy. By offering participatory assessments and skills development for employment, it aimed to prepare youth to become active participants in both economies, empowering young people to succeed in their careers and contribute to the growth and development of their communities.

COMPONENT 2: CREATING MARKET OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

Designed to complement the supply-side skills development for youth under component 1, this component focused on demand-side interventions to increase opportunities for youth in the labor force. This included promoting and enhancing youth-centric value chains and livelihood opportunities in traditional sectors, the digital economy, and e-services. This component included activities designed to enhance value chains in agriculture, a key sector for employing youth in the target areas. It also promoted opportunities for youth who were newly trained on skills for information, communications, and technology, and the digital economy, recognizing that new technologies could support the development of the agricultural, service, and industrial sectors in the target areas and bring a competitive advantage to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component supported the project management, administration, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities to track progress and enhance project outcomes.

Changes During Implementation

Significant changes during implementation included a restructuring in July 2022. The restructuring comprised an extension of the closing date, reallocation of funds between expenditure categories,

and changes to the results framework. Additionally, one sub-activity on developing interactive video modules for entrepreneurship skills and identified Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) trades was dropped.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The relevance of the PDO was rated as High, as the project continued to be consistent with the development priorities of the World Bank, the government, and the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) at closing. Efficacy was rated as Substantial, as the combined objectives and the majority of the PDO indicators were exceeded. Efficiency was also rated as Substantial. Based on this assessment, the overall outcome was rated as **Satisfactory**.

The project significantly enhanced TVET centers in the target areas, expanded educational opportunities, and improved curriculum design. The project support also resulted in the adoption of innovative teaching methods, such as interactive and blended learning approaches. Most respondents stated that participation in the project helped them to learn and practice new innovative tools and approaches. A new approach adopted by the project included peer-to-peer learning, whereby participants from different regions and community interest groups, businesses, and start-ups had the unique opportunity, through study tours and joint workshops, to share best practices and create new knowledge.

The project positively influenced the voice and agency of women, especially young women, in the southern provinces. Women in the targeted groups previously had limited access to services, infrastructure, and income generation opportunities because of their lack of education, labor experience, and entrepreneurship skills, as well as restricted access to capital and credit for business ventures. These measures included enhancing staff capacity and awareness of gender equity issues, considering the needs of women and girls for the development of value chains and employment skills development, and setting gender targets for community engagement events. A Gender Action Plan was formulated and strictly followed throughout project implementation. The plan emphasized ensuring that 50 percent of the project beneficiaries were women, encompassing all project interventions. Its primary objective was to promote gender equality by enhancing young women's employability and entrepreneurship skills. According to women who participated in key informant interviews and focus group discussions, the project provided them with a unique opportunity for empowerment, fostering a sense of community, expanding their network of friends and peers, boosting their confidence, and helping them to overcome their fears, achieve financial independence, and make financial contributions to their families.



Promoting the Inclusion of Conflict-Affected Iraqi Youth

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to promote the social and economic inclusion of at least 3,000 conflict-affected Iraqi youth (ages 15–29) through engagement in entrepreneurship and youth-led community development activities.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: YOUTH-LED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, PEACEBUILDING AND MICROENTREPRENEURSHIP

The first activity under this component was to conduct a rapid needs assessment and mapping. The objective of the assessment was to determine municipalities and neighborhoods in Baghdad to conduct activities. It consisted of three subcomponents: (1) soft skills training and psychosocial support: This subcomponent was the entry-point for all participants into the project and provided soft-skills training for at least 3,000 conflict-affected youth and psychosocial support modules as needed. The project aimed to test and tailor soft-skills trainings to diverse groups of conflict-affected youth, to enhance the peacebuilding dimension of the activities, including emotional coping skills—managing stress, feelings, and moods—and social/interpersonal skills, as opposed to a more traditional employability focus. (2) Youth-led community development and peacebuilding: This subcomponent aimed to engage at least 2,000 conflict-affected youth in youth-led community development activities. The eligibility criteria for young participants would require prior participation in soft skills training and residence in the identified communities in line with the rapid needs assessment. (3) Microentrepreneurship: This subcomponent was expected to provide immediate assistance to at least 1,000 conflict-affected youth to set up independent micro-businesses. The implementing agency, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, engaged a non-governmental organization (NGO), which was contracted under a competitive bidding process, to conduct business development training and post-grant mentorship activities under this subcomponent, while the Ministry would be responsible for the provision of business development grants to the selected beneficiaries.

COMPONENT 2: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

The project management team was responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the project, including project coordination, beneficiary outreach, procurement, financial management, safeguards, communication and knowledge management, selection and oversight of a local NGO and service provider, and M&E. Most of these responsibilities were fulfilled by

the implementing agency. The project management team was expected to contract an NGO and service provider to conduct specific project activities. In addition, knowledge dissemination activities were to be carried out regularly.

Changes During Implementation

At the beginning of project implementation, the project encountered delays caused by ministerial changes and the need to build the capacity of a new project management team, which had limited experience with international donor-financed projects. Because the implementing NGOs also had limited experience in similar projects, procurement processes and payment disbursement were slow and required significant support from the Bank. Further delays were imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, which required adapting some of the project activities to a virtual approach, as well as a high TTL turnover; overall, four TTLs worked on the project. Financial management requirements, such as the need for designated bank accounts for beneficiaries, generated additional implementation delays. As a result, the project has undergone two restructurings. The **first restructuring** included the following: (1) an extension of the project closing date by 18 months, from May 28, 2020 to November 30, 2021; (2) adopting coaching and mentoring activities—instead of training—for the pre-grant and business development support phase of the entrepreneurial cycle to support micro-entrepreneurs; (3) changes in PDO level and intermediate indicators; and (4) reallocation between disbursement categories. There were no changes in the PDO and the scope of the project. The **second restructuring** provided an extension of project closing date by seven months, from November 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The extension aimed to ensure that the implementing agency delivered the planned micro-entrepreneurship activities to the project's targeted youth and completed the youth-led community initiatives by the new project closing date.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The outcomes of strengthened capacity were attained in the project to a considerable extent.

The strengthened capacity of project beneficiaries was evident, not just in the exposure to new, relevant content that amplified the beneficiaries' knowledge, but because the trainings included rich and relevant life skills that were absorbed by beneficiaries. These life skills are likely to contribute to social cohesion and productive integration of conflict-affected and marginalized youth in their local communities.

While the positive impact of soft skills and psycho-social support has been widely commended by project stakeholders and beneficiaries, the implementation of community initiatives and microenterprises has encountered hurdles. First, the implementation of these activities began late in the course of the project due to delays induced by ministerial changes, the need to build the project management team capacity, and COVID-19 restrictions. Disbursement of payments and grants were also slow, as the implementing NGOs have had limited prior experience with international donor programs. These delays led to a late disbursement of grants, completed just before the closing date.



Ghana — Peri-Urban Commercial Vegetable Value Chains Project

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.85 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve on the productivity and access to market by the beneficiary vegetable farmers in select peri-urban communities in Ghana.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: FARMER MANAGED IRRIGATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

The objective of this component was to improve existing small-scale riverine irrigation systems for resource-poor farmers in the selected farming communities, which are bounded by perennial water bodies with high potential for irrigation farming. This component aimed to increase vegetable production and empowerment of selected farmers, thereby increasing their earnings by financing: (1) the design and implementation of small-scale irrigation infrastructure; and (2) the establishment of producer associations or water user associations to ensure fair field water distribution, irrigation infrastructure management, and capacity building of such users for irrigation systems management.

COMPONENT 2: FARMER CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT FOR PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT

To support the adoption of modern and improved technologies, this component financed: (1) the design and implementation of an intensive farmer capacity development program to ensure that farmers had the know-how to adopt modern vegetable production and post-harvest handling techniques for improving productivity and output; (2) capacity development for select Agriculture Extension Agents in the beneficiary communities to upgrade their technical know-how in order to effectively provide extension and other support services; and (3) subsidized starter kits, including improved seeds, fertilizer, and herbicides, as sub-grants to the selected beneficiaries to help accelerate technology adoption and increase productivity. Each beneficiary was to receive a starter kit worth approximately US\$70, which would be repaid into a revolving fund managed by the farmers' organization. Both workshop-based and field-based training, including Farmer Field School approaches, were to be adopted for farmer capacity development. Training areas included productivity improvement technologies, appropriate use of chemicals and pesticides, agribusiness management, farm management and farm recordkeeping, accounting and financial management, and post-harvest handling. Relevant themes under the Ghana Good Agricultural Practices were incorporated into the farmer training program.

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING POST-HARVEST HANDLING AND MARKET ACCESS

This component aimed to develop and coordinate the vegetable value chain through support to producers' organizations to enhance their productive capacity and competitiveness, and to develop market linkages. The grant supported vegetable farmers to enter productive partnership arrangements with agriculture entrepreneurs to establish and operate two farmer cooperative vegetable warehousing systems. The systems were expected to improve their access to markets and stabilize prices. The warehousing systems were to be equipped with a refrigerated and cold-chain transport system and were to serve as an essential off-take facility that guarantees ready, high value markets for the farmers' produce. Multi-year supply-purchase agreements between the farmer groups and the warehousing center were to be facilitated, and were expected to be supported with capacity development for farmers' groups for better understanding and adherence to the basic tenets and guiding principles of such systems. Two processing plants were required to be set up, with one plant at the Accra Plains to serve beneficiaries in Greater Accra, Volta, and the Eastern Regions; and the second plant in Anoe, Shama Ahanta Municipality, to serve beneficiaries in the Western Region.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, MONITORING AND EVALUATION, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

This component supported all activities necessary to ensure that the project was implemented in accordance with the project operation manual. This component also financed incremental expenses incurred by the government in implementing the project, as well as monitoring and evaluation costs of the project.

Changes During Implementation

The project went through a level 2 restructuring due to a number of changes, including revisions to the components and activities, reallocation of funds between components and expenditure categories, changes in project locations, and extension of the project by 12 months, from June 30, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The relevance of the project's objectives was rated as High, and the operation's objectives were substantially achieved. Although the project had favorable rates of return at completion, it also experienced inordinate delays in implementation. In view of the above, the overall outcome was rated Moderately Satisfactory.



Promoting Social Inclusion and Self-Reliant Livelihood Activities in Armenia

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.7 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to increase access to social assistance benefits and services and provide self-employment support for about 11,000 extremely vulnerable individuals in select regions in Armenia.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A PILOT COUNSELING PROGRAM

This component aims to support Armenia's efforts to design and implement a structured social case management approach that serves as a tool to enhance the internal cohesion of services and benefits in the country's social protection and labor system. The component was planned in two phases; the first phase focused on revising and improving the available documents that define the methodology and operation of a social case management intervention, specifically the following: (1) a methodological document for social case management intervention, (2) an operational manual for social workers, (3) tools for social workers, (4) referral protocols with key service providers, and (5) an outreach strategy. The second phase activities included the training of 200 state and community social workers to implement the social case management intervention in select areas, based on the prepared methodology and operations manuals. Specific activities included: (1) developing material to train social workers on the social case management methodology and the use of the manuals and tools, (2) conducting one "training of trainers" (ToT), (3) conducting workshop training activities for approximately 200 state and community social workers in the selected areas, and (4) conducting on-the-job training activities to support the day-to-day work of social case managers.

COMPONENT 2: CAPACITY BUILDING AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUPPORT

This component was designed to pilot the program, consisting of business training and advisory services and the provision of small subgrants to promote self-employment and boost business activities. The subsequent aim was to increase incomes and, therefore, the livelihood state for target households within the project. Component 2 consists of two main subcomponents: capacity building and small business grants in the form of subgrants. Under the sub-grant scheme, the following small or microbusiness initiatives have been identified as eligible within the framework of the project: (1) agricultural production; (2) agricultural services; (3) production and processing of food and non-food goods; (4) recreation, accommodation, and food service; (5) arts and culture and entertainment; (6) other types of income generation; and (7) trade, in the form of income generating activities related to running a shop or a mobile business.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E), AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component comprises three subcomponents: (1) project management and administration, (2) M&E, and (3) knowledge dissemination. The project management and administration subcomponent aims to ensure proper implementation and monitoring of the grant activities. This subcomponent also supports the project launch and inputs of the recipient to the midterm review and to the project Implementation Completion and Results Report. The M&E subcomponent includes various M&E activities aimed at assessing project performance and outcomes. Knowledge dissemination activities include workshops for social workers and a final event to disseminate the findings of the results evaluation of the entrepreneurship program and the development and challenges of the counselling program for social case management.

Current Status

The project, P165314, has been under implementation since April 2020 and is fully disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated as Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in June 2023.



Improving the Livelihoods of Miskito Indigenous Peoples in La Moskitia, Honduras

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.7 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to promote socio-economic productive activities to improve the livelihoods of Miskito indigenous people in select territories in Honduras. Specifically, the project will work with Miskito communities, seeking to target at least 1,800 Miskito indigenous persons in the four selected territories.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

This component finances community-based subprojects. It is expected that 1,800 household heads from small-scale Miskito descendant producers of both genders in the pre-selected territories, (Katainasta, Auhya, Yari, and Finzmos, will be benefitted. The target beneficiaries will have about 1 hectare that will be used as part of the subproject. The project will help the beneficiaries walk through the procedures to prepare the subproject proposals and the applications. A preliminary estimated cost per beneficiary is approximately US\$1,000. These subprojects are composed of financial resources provided by the project (80 percent) and in-kind contributions from the subproject beneficiaries (20 percent).

COMPONENT 2: BUILDING THE TECHNICAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY OF ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES

The objective of this component is to build the capacity of the beneficiaries through a community-driven development approach by strengthening the capacity of local communities to develop, implement, and sustain their own technical and managerial solutions to improve their livelihoods. The capacity of the beneficiaries will be built through training and technical assistance to develop the skills and competencies they need to succeed in subproject implementation. These capacities include technical training in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, livestock, and agroforestry, as well as fiduciary and managerial capacities.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component finances the establishment of a project implementation unit in La Moskitia, based in Puerto Lempira, Honduras, and their project management and administration activities. The project will be implemented by the regional NGO, *Asociación Coordinadora Indígena y Campesina de Agroforestería*

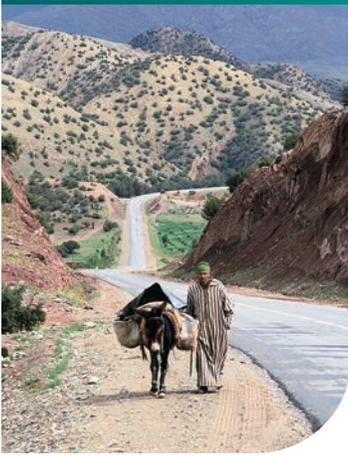
Comunitaria Centroamericana, whose executive director will provide oversight over the project. The project will be audited by an independent external auditor on an annual basis. This component also finances monitoring and evaluation activities, including: (1) a participatory monitoring strategy to engage beneficiaries in routine monitoring of the program, in which a solid participatory M&E system will be established. The foundation of this system was prepared during the JSDF Seed Grant, and data will be transmitted on monthly basis; (2) a baseline study to validate the indicators, based on the readiness M&E assessment that was done during the project preparation; (3) a midterm review to assess the lessons learned and to make necessary revisions to implementation plans; and (4) an end of project review, in the form of an Implementation Completion and Results Report, to assess cumulative project achievements in relation to the established baseline study. The implementing agency will use a detailed M&E system to properly track indicators, with clear responsibilities for data collection and reporting. Finally, this component includes a process for regular documentation and dissemination of project achievements. The results of the consultations and implementation of subprojects will be widely disseminated, as well as the lessons learned. Dissemination will be carried out through different means, including workshops and publications; if possible, bilingual resources will be available in both Spanish and the native language.

Changes During Implementation

The project went through a level 2 restructuring in May 2023. The restructuring took place due to the need for a reallocation of amounts between disbursement categories.

Current Status

The project, P167767, has been under implementation since November 2019 and is 87 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated as Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in February 2024.



Community-Based Rural Roads Maintenance — Morocco

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.85 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to provide livelihood improvement opportunities to disadvantaged rural inhabitants and maintain the accessibility and usability of targeted rural roads in the project area.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: SUBPROJECTS

(1) Labor-intensive road maintenance subprojects: This subcomponent provides financing for 50 labor-intensive rural road maintenance subprojects to be implemented within the project area by cooperatives and microenterprises. The subprojects will consist of preventive maintenance works for roads and road-related infrastructure, specifically debris removal, cleaning of side drains, vegetation control, and/or minor surface repairs. To maximize opportunities for the employment of local labor and resources, all work shall be manually executed, using tools, protective equipment, and small quantities of construction materials that are necessary for the work. The selected microenterprises and cooperatives will have to predominantly employ, as workers, and/or involve, as entrepreneurs, the disadvantaged rural labor force available from the beneficiary communities.

(2) Technical inspections of subprojects: This subcomponent finances consulting services for field technical inspections of road maintenance subprojects for independent quality control purposes.

(3) Complementary subprojects: This subcomponent finances approximately 50 subprojects through a matching funding mechanism, focusing on income-generating activities, such as woodworking, tailoring, making handcrafts, apiculture, and transport services, in the project area. Beneficiaries would receive small loans of US\$6,000 on average per subproject to start or expand income-generating activities that have the potential to yield short-term cash flow. These subprojects would complement the rural road maintenance subprojects, as they would provide more commercially viable revenues to communities and would benefit from the improved and sustained rural road access in terms of general linkages to value chains and markets in particular. These subprojects should result in 500 direct, indirect, and induced jobs that should be sustainable in the midterm.

COMPONENT 2: CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building has the following subcomponents: (1) training on technical aspects, which finances, through the provision of consulting services, capacity-building activities in the form of hands-on trainings for staff of implementing agencies and stakeholders at the regional and local level—around 150 individuals in total to be able to cover the 50 subprojects—to enable them to properly supervise and support the maintenance activities of the project, using agreed-upon criteria for the selection of

participants to ensure training effectiveness; (2) training on entrepreneurial aspects, which includes provision of capacity-building activities in the form of hands-on trainings for key beneficiaries to improve the sustainability of the activities financed by the project. This training will benefit 50 participants from existing, newly formed, or to-be-formed microenterprises and cooperatives with regard to the following topics: (a) proper formation and organization of microenterprises and cooperatives, (b) entrepreneurial skills, and (c) access to finance.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION (PMA), M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

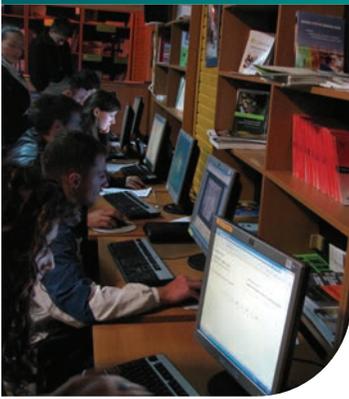
This component has the following subcomponents: (1) project management and administration, which will finance, through the provision of goods, consulting, and non-consulting services, (a) project management costs—namely a project launch activity and recruitment by the implementing agencies—in accordance with criteria to be set forth in the POM; (b) project audit costs; and (c) project operating costs. (2) Monitoring and evaluation finances M&E activities for the project; and (3) knowledge dissemination finances dissemination activities in the form of workshops to share the lessons of this project and raise awareness about this initiative within central, regional, and local levels of government, as well as local communities and civil society, to increase likelihood of replicability and scalability of this concept.

Changes During Implementation

Implementation of the project experienced an initial delay due to several factors that have since been mostly addressed: (1) a significant initial learning curve, particularly at the local level; (2) the innovative nature of the subprojects and the multiplicity of actors involved, including at the subnational level; (3) the recent advanced regionalization process in the country, which led to a substantial increase in administrative and operational tasks at the local level; and (4) operational and logistical constraints caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, upon request from the national authorities, the project went through a restructuring in June 2023, to extend the project closing date by 18 months, from December 31, 2023 to June 30, 2025, to enable the completion of the remaining project activities and achieve the PDO. The restructuring also modified the implementation schedule and disbursement estimates of the project in line with the proposed change in the project closing date.

Current Status

The project, P165411, has been under implementation since May 2019 and is 54 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated as Moderately Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in June 2025.



Municipalities for Youth in Kosovo Project

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.78 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve the socioeconomic inclusion of at least 3,000 marginalized youth in vulnerable communities in Kosovo through youth-driven civic engagement and skill-building activities.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: SUBGRANTS FOR YOUTH-DRIVEN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

This component finances two rounds of subgrants to establish 200 youth-driven initiatives—100 per cycle—that support youth inclusion and livelihoods at the community level.

COMPONENT 2: YOUTH STAKEHOLDER TRAINING

This component finances the mobilization and training of 3,000 youth to be engaged in the subgrants described in Component 1, including provision of work experience opportunities to 500 of these youth.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component supports the project management, administration, and M&E activities to track progress and enhance project outcomes. The project's coordination, planning, monitoring, and reporting functions are being adequately performed. A project-specific monitoring information system (MIS) has been developed to enable stakeholders to view and populate the platform with real-time field data, and thus allows for course correction and adaptive project management.

Changes During Implementation

A level 2 restructuring was approved in January 2023, to process an 18-month extension of the closing date, from January 30, 2023 to July 31, 2024, and to make changes to component costs, as well as reallocation between categories of expenditure. This extension is necessary to complete all planned project activities, including a second round of youth trainings, and the first and second round of subgrants and community initiatives with adequate implementation support and supervision. The restructuring responds to implementation delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected procurement activities; the long process for confirming participating municipalities due to three government changes; and the extensive municipality administrative procedures for issuing co-financing.

Current Status

The project, P165485, has been under implementation since September 2019 and is 39 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated as Moderately Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in July 2024.



Jordan — Integrated Social Services for Vulnerable Youth

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.8 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve the quality of life of vulnerable youth by increasing the provision of services to young people, by increasing the participation of youth in decision-making related to these services, and by empowering local NGOs, service providers, and communities.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS SERVING YOUTH

This component supports capacity building for civil society partners serving youth by enhancing the capacity of NGOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) to provide services to youth through workshops and other learning events and exchanges.

COMPONENT 2: SUPPORT FOR YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

This component supports youth empowerment by providing small grants of up to US\$40,000 to CBOs and service providers to empower youth and to improve the lives of vulnerable young people through civic participation, youth development, positive behavioral-change activities, improved social services, and support to employability.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, MONITORING AND EVALUATION AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component covers project management, including: (1) setting up project implementation arrangements; (2) supporting continuous monitoring; (3) participatory evaluations; (4) knowledge sharing; and (5) a final evaluation report with lessons learned, best practices, and guidance related to scaling up this approach in Jordan.

Changes During Implementation

The project went through **three restructurings**. In November 2021, the grant closing date was extended from November 30, 2021 to May 31, 2023 to enable the remaining activities to be completed, including the second cycle of subgrants and a youth hospitality training, which had been lagging owing to: (1) COVID-19 related restrictions and impacts, which slowed implementation; (2) limited project management unit staff capacity for regular field supervision; and (3) the time required to make changes to accountabilities and payment procedures, following the transfer of project management unit functions from the Ministry of Youth to the Ministry of Planning and

International Cooperation. A second restructuring was completed in February 2023 to reallocate funds within the existing grant categories to cover shortages in funding contracts for goods and training. The last and most recent restructuring was in May 2023, which included the following changes: (a) *extension of the grant closing date* by another six months, (b) *adjustment of disbursement estimates and implementation schedule*, and (c) *adjustment of the end target dates for the results indicators*.

Current Status

The project, P163241, has been under implementation since June 2017 and is 77 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated Moderately Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in November 2023.

3.2 IMPROVED NUTRITION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

Malnutrition is among the world's most serious development challenges. The economic costs of insufficient nutrition, in terms of lost national productivity and economic growth, are significant—ranging from 2–3 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in some countries and up to 11 percent of GDP in Africa and Asia each year. The costs fall hardest on the poor, women, and children. JSDF grants strive to reduce chronic malnutrition in children under the age of five, including those living in poor rural areas, as well as vulnerable young women and households facing food insecurity.

The grants under this thematic area have introduced direct nutrition-specific interventions, as well as broader multisectoral approaches. Grants support enhanced family nutrition practices, such as supplemental foods and micronutrients procured by families through purchases or home production. Broader, multisectoral approaches entail the promotion of household behaviors with a large impact on nutrition—namely, exclusive breastfeeding and improved hygiene practices. Young children in poor families can differ dramatically from those in richer families in their cognitive and noncognitive abilities, resulting in an enormous loss of human potential for both themselves and society.

The JSDF assists in promoting early childhood care and development that can ultimately result in reducing extreme poverty and inequality and boosting productivity. The grants support early childhood care and development projects that entail the development of center-based or home-based early stimulation and learning packages, parenting support programs in collaboration with community-based organizations, and conditional cash transfers, as well as communication campaigns targeting families with young children.

The grants in this thematic area ultimately support SDG 1 on ending poverty and the World Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity.



Burundi Maternal Child Nutrition Enhancement Project

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.72 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to increase production and consumption of micronutrient-rich foods among targeted groups in Gihofi and Makamba, Burundi.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: MOBILIZE COMMUNITIES TO IMPROVE NUTRITION PRACTICES

This component aimed to support community-based nutrition activities delivered through family groups; growth monitoring and promotion for children 0–23 months of age; and positive deviance/hearth for malnourished children. The community-based nutrition activities were implemented by a network of family group leaders, local CBOs, community health workers, and positive deviance/hearth volunteers.

COMPONENT 2: INCREASE PRODUCTION OF MICRONUTRIENT-RICH FOODS

This component aimed to increase year-round production and consumption of micronutrient-rich foods, especially bio-fortified crops, such as high-iron beans, by linking agriculture extension workers and farmers associations with the family groups described in component 1. Family groups received training from agriculture extensionists, and family group leaders increased household fruit and vegetable production through kitchen gardens. Members of family groups also received agriculture and nutrition input packages and were included in village savings and loans associations to reduce financial barriers to production of nutritious crops.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component supported costs related to monitoring and evaluation, coordination and policy advocacy, and project management.

Changes During Implementation

The project was restructured in February 2020 to extend the closing date and revise the results framework. The initial closing date of the project was February 15, 2020, but in view of some start-up delays, the World Bank approved a request for an extension of six months and to change the results framework. This allowed the project to complete implementation of activities and to conduct an end-line survey to measure impact.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The overall achievement of the PDO was rated as **Substantial**, given that two PDO indicators exceeded their targets, whereas one was partially achieved at 62 percent of the target. Seven of the 10 intermediate indicators achieved or exceeded their targets; two were achieved substantially at over 80 percent of the targets, and one was partially achieved at 70 percent of the target. The achievement was assessed for each of the two aspects of the PDO: (1) to increase production of micronutrient-rich foods, and (2) to increase consumption of micronutrient-rich foods. The overall outcome was assessed as **Satisfactory** given the high relevance and substantial efficacy of the project.



Vietnam – Northern Mountain Integrated Child Nutrition Improvement Project

GRANT AMOUNT: \$US2.82 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve the nutrition status of children of ages less than five in the target villages through improving the child feeding practices, maternal care and childcare, and to diversify the sources of nutrition for pregnant women, infants, and young children.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

The objective of this component was to improve the food and nutrition security of children, mothers, and pregnant women in the target villages. The component was designed to carry out the following activities: (1) diversification of agricultural production, adopting low-cash input agriculture techniques utilizing naturally and locally available resources to reduce production cost; (2) introduction of highly nutritional new crops, such as beans, and appropriate farming practices; and (3) promoting the utilization of nutritious natural ingredients readily available in the target villages. In undertaking these activities, this component financed: (a) technical assistance for the demonstration and hands-on training for low-cash inputs and organic agricultural practices using local crop varieties; small scale gardens for women to increase the variety of nutritious vegetables and livestock, such as poultry; and scientific verification of the nutritional value of locally available foods and ingredients; (b) training and awareness workshops; and (c) recurrent costs, such as per diem and travel expenses, goods, and demonstration materials.

COMPONENT 2: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY-BASED NUTRITION CARE AND PRACTICE

The objective of this component was to establish an ethnic minority mother-to-mother network of mothers' and women's groups to overcome the superstitious beliefs of ethnic minority mothers through dialogue among the participants. The component was designed to undertake the following activities: (1) provide group or peer counselling, including on exclusive breast feeding, as well as infant and young child feeding practices; (2) conduct community growth monitoring promotion; (3) provide support to the mother-to-mother network to assist with rehabilitation activities for malnourished children; and (4) promotion of antenatal care. Wherever possible and relevant, training and behavior change communication activities on the use of clean water and sanitation would be conducted.

COMPONENT 3: SUPPORT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICY PLATFORM AT PROVINCIAL LEVEL AND REPLICATION OF THE INTEGRATED RURAL NUTRITION CARE APPROACH

The objective of this component was to support the provincial Department of Health/Reproductive Health Center and the Agriculture and Rural Development Department to establish a platform at

the provincial level to jointly review the progress and outcomes of the project, as well as develop concrete actions to implement existing nutrition-sensitive national policies for the first time on the ground. Periodic consultations were organized at each of the central, provincial, and district levels with participation of the concerned government agencies. The component was designed to undertake the following activities: (1) develop provincial nutrition-sensitive agriculture and forest policy actions; (2) mainstream the improvement of nutrition intake and reduction in stunting rate into the Commune (district) Socio-Economic Development Plan; (3) prepare guidelines for the policy implementation; and (4) provide technical assistance to establish a fund facility.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

The objective of this component was to support the overall management of the project through a project management unit at Save the Children International Vietnam. The component undertook the following activities: (1) project management, including fiduciary management and safeguards; (2) coordination with government counterparts; (3) organization of periodic technical workshops to share project results with the key stakeholders, which included communities, provincial and district governments, and the relevant ministries; (4) preparation of periodic technical and financial project implementation reports and quarterly project monitoring reports, as well as preparation of baseline, midterm review, and end evaluations; (5) overall technical guidance on specific matters encountered during project implementation period; and (6) M&E.

Changes During Implementation

The project underwent two level 2 restructurings: The first restructuring was in June of 2020 to revise the results framework to ensure that (1) the indicators were aligned with the project activities and expected outcomes, and (2) the measurability of each indicator. Some indicators were replaced by more specific and measurable indicators, and new output indicators were added to track the project implementation more regularly and quantitatively. The second restructuring was approved on October 8, 2020, which extended the closing date by nine months, to December 31, 2021, in order to ensure sufficient time to implement key project interventions and to observe and measure the project impact. Save the Children Japan kindly provided the project administrative costs bilaterally during the extension period.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The overall outcome rating of the project was **Highly Satisfactory**. The project fully achieved its PDO with all of the indicators having met or surpassed the end targets. The PDO comprises the two key objectives: *(1) to improve the nutrition status of children of ages less than five in the target villages through improving the child feeding practice, maternal care, and childcare; and (2) to diversify sources of nutrition for pregnant women, infants, and young children*. The two objectives are measured by four PDO indicators and 14 intermediate results indicators that were fully achieved or exceeded the end targets at project completion.



Ethiopia – Promoting Young Women’s Livelihoods and Nutrition Project

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve access to community-based nutrition and livelihood services among select young women in Sasie Tsaeda Emba and Seharty Samre, Tigray.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION TO EMPOWER YOUNG WOMEN AGED 10–24 YEARS THROUGH LIFE SKILLS AND IMPROVED HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Activities supported under this component included: (1) engaging community leaders in Girls Club planning; (2) community events to build awareness about gender issues, such as prevention of early marriage and gender-based violence; (3) selection and training for female mentors; (4) formation of Girls Clubs; (5) delivery of peer education sessions by female mentors based on a curriculum of life skills, livelihoods, reproductive health, and nutrition; (6) promotion of iron folic acid supplementation and biannual deworming for young women aged 15–24; and (7) training on health and nutrition, agriculture, and livelihood opportunities for frontline workers and managers. Key expected outcomes under this component were to improve health and nutrition and girls’ empowerment through peer-led Girls Clubs and strengthen institutional capacity.

COMPONENT 2: SUPPORT TO DEVELOP LIVELIHOODS AND IMPROVE NUTRITION

This component aimed to provide a package of livelihood inputs for young women aged 15–24 years through homestead gardening and other context-specific income-generating activities. The key interventions under this component included: (1) community consultations to identify climate-appropriate micronutrient-rich crops; (2) rehabilitation of farmer training centers to demonstrate gardening and small-animal husbandry techniques; (3) capacity building and livelihood input packages for young women (model farmers) to establish micronutrient-rich gardens and promote nutrition-sensitive agricultural innovations to other women in their community; and (4) cooperatives, in the form of common interest groups, to sustain income-generating activities and facilitate linkages to the market. The key expected project outcomes were to promote diverse food production and consumption and facilitate market linkages, as well as promote economic self-reliance and the empowerment of women and girls.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

Activities supported under this component included: (1) operational costs for project oversight, (2) routine monitoring, (3) midterm review, (4) evaluation framework, (5) coordination of project

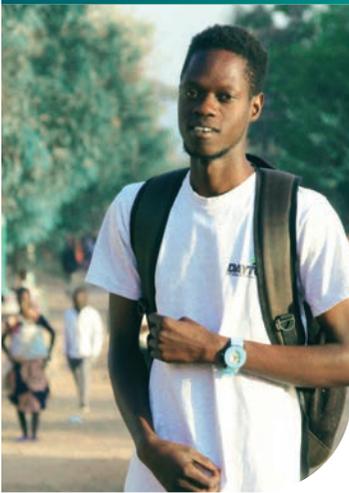
activities with a regional steering committee, and (6) dissemination of lessons learned. The expected outputs included the following: (a) establishment of a participatory monitoring strategy, (b) financial management and audit reports, (c) final evaluation, (d) an overall implementation report, and (e) dissemination workshops.

Changes During Implementation

The project underwent a level 2 restructuring in April 2020. The restructuring was primarily undertaken to align indicator targets with the reality on the ground. Adjustments were made to the results framework to accurately reflect the project's target beneficiaries and to set realistic targets that matched the baseline survey results and aligned with the government of Ethiopia's latest adolescent nutrition priorities. The overall approach and project components remained the same, though with more targeted interventions for the Girls Clubs, which focused on women aged 10–24, and female farmers aged 15–24. Minor changes to the budget followed donor thresholds and cost categories in the grant agreement.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The overall outcome was rated Moderately Unsatisfactory. The project's high-impact livelihood activities helped mitigate the devastating impact of COVID-19 among young women in the targeted food insecure woredas (districts) but were disrupted by the ensuing conflict. Given the security risks in the region, it was not feasible to conduct the planned end line survey.



Adolescent Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Pilot Project — Malawi

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.73 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to increase production and consumption of nutritious foods and to improve access to livelihood opportunities among select female and male youths in targeted project areas in the districts of Mwanza and Ntchisi.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING TO ENHANCE NUTRITION SENSITIVE AGRICULTURE

The objective of this component was to mobilize and build capacity among youth aged 15–19 years to engage in nutrition-sensitive agriculture, improve overall nutrition, and foster the development of life skills, including financial literacy and livelihood development. This component consisted of two subcomponents, (1) community mobilization and (2) capacity building: to mobilize community leaders, parents, and youth—in age-appropriate groups—as delivery platforms for demonstrations and trainings on homestead gardening, agronomy, food processing and utilization, group dynamics, and governance.

COMPONENT 2: STRENGTHENING PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF NUTRITIOUS FOODS

Activities under this component aimed to provide knowledge and skills to adolescents for increased production and consumption of nutritious foods through age-appropriate interventions. The primary target for this component was female and male adolescents aged 15–19 years and pregnant or lactating adolescent women in selected communities. The component included two subcomponents: (1) implementation of nutrition-sensitive agriculture interventions among youth and their households, aimed at increasing and strengthening production of nutritious crops and animal-source food through the provision of inputs, such as the promotion of homestead gardens, small-animal husbandry, and other suitable income generating activities; and (2) nutrition education and communication to improve awareness, knowledge, and practices in processing, consumption, and utilization of nutritious foods, through the demand for and behavioral change regarding diversified diets among youth and their households.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

This component was delivered through three subcomponents as follows: (1) project management and administration, which covered operating and management/administration costs for the project, including personnel, office space and supplies, computers, communications equipment,

and transportation costs for delivering the project; (2) monitoring and evaluation (M&E), which was managed by the implementing agency, the Farmers Union of Malawi, and included a participatory monitoring strategy to engage beneficiaries in routine monitoring of the program; and (3) knowledge dissemination and learning for regular documentation and dissemination of project achievements and lessons learned through workshops at the district and national levels.

Changes During Implementation

The project underwent a level 2 restructuring in April 2019. This was to allow the project to engage with third party institutions—in this case, the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)—to carry out training activities. The restructuring required changes to the grant agreement to accommodate the subgrant execution of training activities, such as the addition of a disbursement category, as well as the reallocation of funds between disbursement categories; the addition of a definition for subgrants; and implementation arrangements for the subgrants. The changes to the grant agreement ensured that a distinction was drawn between client-executed trainings performed by the implementing agency and trainings conducted by a subgrantee.

Overall Outcome Assessment

Overall, the achievement of the PDO and outcome were rated **Satisfactory**; the relevance of the PDO was rated as High at appraisal and remained so at project closure, and efficacy was rated as High, as the project exceeded most of its outcome targets, as confirmed during the end line evaluation.

3.3 INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Today, close to half of primary school-aged children who are not in school are children with disabilities. Even the children with disabilities who do enroll are far less likely to complete school than others. Some estimates suggest that less than 5 percent of children with disabilities will graduate. This has led to a world where only 3 percent of adults with disabilities are literate, and only 1 percent of women with disabilities are literate. Therefore, including children and adults with disabilities in education is a crucial goal in education. Education contributes to human capital formation and is a key determinant of personal well-being and welfare.

Excluding children with disabilities from educational and employment opportunities has high social and economic costs. For example, adults with disabilities tend to be poorer than those without disabilities, but education weakens this association. For children with disabilities, as for all children, education is vital in itself and also instrumental for participating in employment and other areas of social activity.

The United Nations committed to SDG 4 to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” SDG 4 is essential to the well-being of our societies and economies—and to the quality of life of all individuals. To that end, the JSDF supports the provision of education for children with disabilities.



Engaging Communities for Better Schools in the Kyrgyz Republic

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.7 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to develop inclusive approaches to citizen engagement that support improvements in the accountability and responsiveness of teachers and school management in the poorest districts and contribute to enhancing student performance.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESSES AND CAPACITY BUILDING

This component supported communities in developing the mechanisms and skills they need to meaningfully engage with schools. Component 1 was further divided into three subcomponents designed to: (1) develop and strengthen school-level boards of trustees as a platform for citizen engagement; (2) build the capacity of citizens to access, analyze, and make use of timely, comparative, and user-friendly (budget and performance) information in order to engage effectively with schools; and (3) introduce a citizen-led accountability mechanism, community scorecards, for ongoing engagement and joint action at the school level. The activities were interdependent and sequential—from developing capacity and sharing information proactively to assessing, planning, and implementing jointly agreed priority actions in a participatory manner.

COMPONENT 2: MICRO-GRANTS FOR PRIORITY INVESTMENTS IN UNDERPRIVILEGED SCHOOLS

Component 2 provided matching funds to poor communities for the implementation of collectively identified school improvement projects. This component supported: (1) building the capacity of boards of trustees to support, oversee, and mobilize resources for the implementation of priority school improvement actions identified in the Joint Action Plan; (2) supporting schools to prepare a funding proposal; and (3) providing schools with the opportunity to apply for matching funds for the implementation of one priority action through a competitive, community managed micro-grants program, and to support and monitor their implementation.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

The last component helped to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of project activities. It was divided into three subcomponents, which covered regular project management, monitoring and evaluation, and knowledge dissemination activities.

Changes During Implementation

Significant changes to the project during implementation included two rounds of restructuring on June 17, 2020 and March 23, 2021, respectively. Both restructurings included the extension of the project closing date—initially to March 31, 2021 and finally to March 31, 2022. The first, no-cost extension was to allow for the completion of school micro-grants that were planned under component 2 and linked community engagement activities under component 1. This was warranted, as restrictions on bank accounts for boards of trustees led to bottlenecks in the flow of funds, which in turn led to implementation delays. It also provided an opportunity to adapt the project to COVID-19 restrictions. The second, no-cost extension was to allow the project to complete the micro-grants component, to conduct the end line survey thereafter, and to expand the social accountability principles to non-target schools, thereby strengthening the sustainability of the project development objective. The second restructuring also included the reallocation of funds between components and expenditure categories.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The overall outcome was rated **Moderately Satisfactory** based on the project's high relevance, and substantial efficacy and efficiency. The project was somewhat effective in developing inclusive approaches to citizen engagement (outcome 1) and improving the accountability and responsiveness of teachers and school management (outcome 2), whereas it was fully effective in contributing to enhanced student performance (outcome 3). The project exceeded or met 1 out of 5 PDO indicators and 8 out of 11 intermediate indicators. However, COVID-19 restrictions on in-person meetings and the transition to distance learning at the height of project implementation reduced opportunities for community engagement with schools and altered the quality of interaction between schools (service providers) and parents and students (service users).



Entrepreneurship-Focused Socioemotional Skills for the Most Vulnerable Youth in Rural Mongolia

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to train vulnerable, disadvantaged youth in 25 of Mongolia's poorest rural districts, across five provinces, with socioemotional skills for improved performance in school and preparation for entry into self-employment.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INNOVATIVE, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PROGRAM ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP-FOCUSED SOCIOEMOTIONAL SKILLS FOR VULNERABLE RURAL YOUTH

This component undertakes the following activities: (1) develop a hands-on, innovative, entrepreneurship-focused socioemotional learning curriculum and associated package of learning materials for use by youth and teachers in schools and lifelong learning centers in target soums (rural districts); (2) develop materials to train teachers in target schools and lifelong learning centers on implementing the entrepreneurship-focused socioemotional learning course, including counseling and mentoring of students, and deliver the teacher training; (3) design and implement community awareness information campaigns in each year of the project, which include outreach modalities effective for women and ethnic minority groups who reside in project locations; (4) design and implement sensitization trainings for parents and related consultations; (5) establish a multistakeholder networking platform consisting of local councils at the aimag (province) and soum levels to undertake bottom-up design of all project outputs, ensure alignment with local economic conditions, and support implementation of project activities, including design of localized solutions to challenges.

COMPONENT 2: INTRODUCTION OF A SMALL GRANT MECHANISM TO ENABLE TARGET YOUTH TO APPLY THEIR ENTREPRENEURSHIP KNOWLEDGE

This component undertakes the following activities: (1) design and pilot an innovative grant scheme to finance competitively-selected proposals developed by youth teams in target soums, who would receive customized training and personalized coaching and mentoring, and implement their proposals; (2) sensitize stakeholders to and align all project activities with the Children's Rights and Business Principles²; (3) disseminate the most successful ideas implemented under

² The Children's Rights and Business Principles is a guide on how companies can respect and support children's rights in the workplace, marketplace and community, developed by UN agencies and adopted in 2021 by the Government of Mongolia in an amendment to the country's Labour Code.

the grant scheme, including through experience-sharing events for target youth and community-based information campaigns; and (4) conduct a comprehensive economic assessment and market analysis to explore the potential for the creation of school-based enterprises in the project's target soums.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

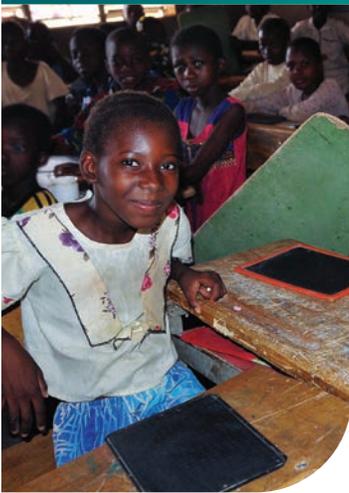
This component undertakes the following activities: (1) support operations of the project management team that will manage day-to-day activities at the project level and conduct M&E of project activities, including regular updating of the project's results framework, management of a project-level grievance redress mechanism (GRM), and monitoring compliance with safeguard policies and implementation of planned environmental and social risk mitigation measures; (2) design and conduct the baseline and end line surveys as part of the project's final evaluation; (3) conduct an annual audit; (4) conduct a midterm review for the project; (5) produce an Implementation Completion Results report (ICR); (6) provide training support for participatory M&E by the project's stakeholders; and (7) undertake capacity-building training and knowledge dissemination activities, including development of communication materials, public outreach campaigns, and consultations at the local and national levels.

Changes During Implementation

The project is currently processing a restructuring, following a request from the implementation agency dated November 2023. The proposed restructuring consists of: (1) a no-cost extension of the project's closing date, from December 31, 2023 to June 30, 2025; (2) revisions of the results framework to improve the alignment of the PDO-level and intermediate results indicators with the project interventions and their desired outcomes; (3) the reallocation of funds between components; and (4) the revision of disbursement forecasts.

Current Status

The project, P165310, has been under implementation since August 2019 and is 72 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO rated Moderately Satisfactory and overall implementation progress rated Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in June 2025.



Burkina Faso — Improving Education of Children with Disabilities

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to increase the access and the quality of education of vulnerable children, with a focus on children with disabilities in the five poorest regions (Eastern, Central-East, South-West, Plateau Central, and North) of the country and the capital, Ouagadougou.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING ACCESS TO PRE-PRIMARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Component 1 aims to increase access to education for all children in preschool and primary education, particularly children with disabilities. To achieve this objective, two outcomes are expected: (1) beneficiaries are provided with inclusive education opportunities; and (2) improved school infrastructure and accessibility is made available in Burkina Faso. With regard to the first envisaged result, the major activities to be implemented are as follows: (a) conduct a baseline study in the areas of intervention to establish data on vulnerable children; (b) identify schools at the preschool and primary levels; (c) carry out information and awareness campaigns targeting parents and the community; (d) provide quality education to children with disabilities; € conduct medical visits; (f) provide disability diagnoses; and (g) acquire small equipment to support the schooling of children with disabilities.

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF TEACHING AND PROVIDING REMEDIAL EDUCATION

Component 2 aims to improve the quality of education received by vulnerable children, particularly those with disabilities, through appropriate pedagogy. To achieve this overarching objective, the following activities will be carried out: (1) design adapted and innovative teaching materials; (2) train primary school teachers and preschool educators on educational and pedagogical approaches that are friendly to children with disabilities; (3) train school principals and pedagogical supervisors on the management and supervision of inclusive education; (4) develop pedagogical monitoring, from supervisors to teachers; (5) organize remedial classes for children at risk of failing or dropping out; (6) provide medical monitoring or specific care; and (7) acquire small medical equipment.

COMPONENT 3: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND REMOVING AFFORDABILITY CONSTRAINTS

Component 3 is expected to strengthen the participation of parents and communities in the education of vulnerable children, with an emphasis on children with disabilities. To achieve this overarching objective, the project will aim to support the following critical activities: (1) set up

school management committees (SMCs) in pre-school and primary education schools in order to promote access, maintenance, and completion of schooling for children with disabilities; (2) train SMCs on inclusive education, knowledge, and management of disability, as well as the rights of children with disabilities and the development and implementation of school improvement plans; (3) develop school improvement plans, including physical maintenance of schools, sanitary infrastructure, school canteens, transport of children with disabilities, physiotherapy activities and recruitment of community teachers for preschools; (4) assess the market at the community level for the implementation of income-generating activities and the development of a related procedures manual; (5) award grants for income-generating activities to SMCs to ensure the enrollment and retention in school of vulnerable children from disadvantaged households; and (6) carry out training at the community level for eligible beneficiaries of income-generating activities to ensure efficient and sustainable management of activities.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

Component 4 aims to ensure the day-to-day management of the project, monitor and evaluate the implementation of field activities, and organize communication and knowledge management. The overall objective of Component 4 is the efficient management and coordination of all project-supported activities.

Current Status

The project, P166596, faced delays in effectiveness until December 2021, following which disbursements were suspended, first in January 2022 and then in September 2022, due to subsequent coups d'états. Project implementation has since resumed but is also impacted by the closure of schools due to insecurity. The project is 28 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated as Moderately Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is scheduled in October 2024, but a restructuring will likely need to be processed to extend the closing date.

3.4 LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The development of capable, efficient, open, inclusive, and accountable institutions is critical for ending extreme poverty and attaining well-shared growth. Countries with strong institutions grow and prosper by creating an environment that reduces poverty, delivers valuable services, facilitates private sector growth, and earns the confidence of its citizens—a relationship of trust that is created when people can participate in government decision-making processes and know that their voices are heard.

The JSDF supports improvements in local governance and service delivery by strengthening community engagement and local government capacities in the planning, implementation and oversight of local development activities. The fiscal 2021–22 grants promote social accountability as an approach to governance that enables citizens and civil society organizations (CSOs) to articulate their needs to governments and service providers. This approach would also help to bring the perspective of citizens and CSOs to government activities, such as policy making, management of public finances and resources, and service delivery. Finally, it allows civil society to participate in monitoring the public expenditures and give feedback on government performance.



Rwanda — Advancing Citizen Engagement Project

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.85 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve livelihoods for 17,750 households, or 76,000 people, and the capacity of communities and national and local government for citizen engagement in 249 villages in Rwanda.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: VILLAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAPACITY BUILDING

This component builds the capacity of local government at the district, sector, and cell levels to facilitate community-driven village development planning to enhance citizen engagement and improve rural livelihoods. It will also build community capacity to participate in village development planning and to manage self-identified subprojects. Component 1 activities will comprise (1) local government capacity development, (2) village-level capacity development, and (3) advocacy.

COMPONENT 2: MICROGRANTS

Component 2 finances priority subprojects identified in the Village Development Plans to improve livelihoods. Each target village will be provided a grant of US\$8,000, disbursed over two

years—60 percent in the first year and the balance of 40 percent in the second year. Communities may use the grant for one subproject with two tranche payments or for two separate subprojects. Participating district governments will contribute 5 percent of the total grant amount, while community members will make in-kind contributions. Microgrant eligibility is guaranteed for every target village that meets eligibility conditions, including election of a village leadership committee, completion of the Village Development Plan, and submission and approval of a subproject proposal. Communities will choose the subproject(s) to be financed by the microgrant to improve the social and/or economic welfare of the village, in support of the Village Development Plan.

COMPONENT 3: NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PARTICIPATORY VILLAGE PLANNING

Component 3 will consolidate lessons from the pilot activities under components 1 and 2 and support the government of Rwanda to prepare a National Framework for Participatory Village Planning. Activities under this component will: (1) integrate the Facilitated Collective Action Process into existing planning systems; (2) promote the effectiveness of community-driven planning methodologies among government stakeholders; and (3) develop a framework for a government-owned, national scale initiative to strengthen participatory, village-led planning and development—the National Framework for Participatory Village Planning.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This subcomponent covers project management and operating costs. This includes the project launch, midterm review, annual audits, an Implementation Completion and Results Report (ICR), associated operating costs—such as office equipment, supplies and utilities—and up to 5 percent of the salaries of the implementing agency staff directly involved in the execution of the project. The project will have a decentralized staffing model, deploying teams to district and sector offices, supervised by management in the Kigali and Musanze offices. This subcomponent will ensure that the project's M&E system engages all stakeholders in a participatory and inclusive way, involving community members, training partners, and local government. The project will prepare a communications and knowledge dissemination strategy to share lessons learned with policy makers and promote project visibility. A key objective of the strategy will be to generate support for and commitment to participatory planning among key decision-makers.

Current Status

The project, P172862, has been under implementation since February 2021 and is 97 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in December 2024.



Public Information and Awareness Services for Vulnerable Communities in Lao People's Democratic Republic

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.51 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve access to legal information and counseling services for 15,000 poor and vulnerable persons, of which 60 percent are women, in select rural districts to enhance protection and fulfilment of their natural resources and livelihood rights.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION (CSO) CAPACITY BUILDING

This component supports capacity building for Land Information Working Group (LIWG) CSO members to deliver counseling service trainings for village-level paralegal volunteers, as well as the dissemination of public information and awareness raising for the most vulnerable and excluded rural communities, including women, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and communities located in remote geographical locations. This component consists of the following subcomponents: (1) awareness raising and capacity building for the LIWG member CSOs, in which the implementing agency, Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, provides capacity building for the local LIWG member CSOs to conduct their subgrant related to awareness raising. Training of trainers for LIWG member CSOs will be held at the district level, focusing on the new land and forestry laws, with an emphasis on communities' natural resource and livelihood rights enshrined in this legislation. In addition, specific training sessions will be developed on the inclusion of women, youth, and disabled people.

(2) Counseling service capacity building for the Land Information Working Group (LIWG) member CSOs will be provided by the implementing agency, with a focus on counseling services to be delivered by village-based paralegal volunteers. The objective is to enhance the capacity of LIWG member CSO staff to train paralegals in providing counseling services related to natural resource and livelihood rights. The capacity building will be tailored and evaluated during the project, through a capacity needs assessment.

COMPONENT 2: SUBGRANTS

Through subgrants allocated to LIWG member CSOs, public information dissemination activities held by trained village-level facilitators will directly engage rural communities. Local community members trained and coached by Helvetas member CSOs will conduct these activities. A limited number (approximately 6) sub-grantee CSOs will be selected at the outset of project implementation

to deliver training and coaching to local facilitators and village focal points providing public awareness raising activities. This component also aims to enhance the capacity of legal counselling service providers.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component will provide capacity building to Helvetas and LIWG for management of the project, including relevant training for staff, such as for implementation of activities, general project management—specifically, financial management and procurement—and monitoring and evaluation. It will also cover (1) development of all relevant assessments and audits required by the Environmental and Social Framework and World Bank procurement and financial management rules, and (2) all relevant monitoring and evaluation reports.

Current Status

The project, P170640, has been under implementation since June 2021 and is 37 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated Moderately Unsatisfactory as of the last ISR, due to a lack of progress under component 2 – Subgrants. The main challenges of the project have been related to delays in the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Helvetas and the government of Lao PDR, which have recently been resolved. Project closing was originally scheduled for July 2024, although a proposed extension to September 2025 is currently under discussion to make up for implementation delays.



Zambia – Voice and Accountability: Community Empowerment for Improved Local Service Delivery Project

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to strengthen community awareness and participation with school management and local authorities for accountable primary and secondary education services in the nine selected districts in Zambia

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: INCREASING COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATION SERVICES

The objective of this component is to increase community awareness of the education services provided through primary and secondary schools and to improve their capacity to engage with school management and local authorities in the targeted districts. This component will provide support to the development of training materials and social accountability tools, the formation of community groups, and capacity development for community representatives and wider community members, as well as building awareness among local authorities and school management. The activities will also strengthen community awareness about the appropriate COVID-19 response measures that the local authorities have put in place related to education services and community gatherings. Training will be offered and will follow the safety protocol provided by the government of Zambia to protect communities, project staff, and other stakeholders.

COMPONENT 2: ENHANCING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE DELIVERY OF EDUCATION SERVICES

The objective of this component is to empower communities to monitor education service delivery and to increase community participation in dialogue with school management and local authorities to improve service delivery. This component aims to pilot innovative social accountability practices in the targeted communities, as well as community-to-community knowledge exchange for empowerment. Activities include monitoring appropriate COVID-19 response measures that the local authorities have put in place related to education services and community, and engaging with local authorities about those response measures.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISEMINATION

The objective of this component is to support the implementing agency's capacity to manage and carry out day-to-day project activities, monitor implementation of activities and results, coordinate with relevant stakeholders, and disseminate project-level knowledge to the public.

Activities include day-to-day project management, implementation of activities, M&E, fiduciary management, environmental and social safeguards, communications with relevant stakeholders, and public outreach.

Current Status

The project, P173472, has been under implementation since July 2021 and is 43 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO rated as Satisfactory and overall implementation progress rated Moderately Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closure is expected in June 2025.

3.5 BASIC HEALTH AND SANITATION SERVICES

This thematic area fosters results-based financing and innovative approaches to improving the psychosocial health and resilience of individuals and communities, as well as enhancing the delivery of health services. These activities are in line with SDG 3, which pertains to ensuring good health and well-being for all.



Strengthening Community Mobilization and Local Council Service Delivery in the Post-Ebola Context

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to respond to the post-Ebola Virus Disease needs at the local level in Sierra Leone by building community resilience through Ebola Virus Disease sensitization efforts and social mobilization activities in the districts most affected by the disease.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: LOCAL COUNCIL (LC) SOCIAL-SENSITIZATION ACTIVITIES

This component sought to promote social cohesion and resilience by strengthening LC capacity and by implementing community-wide sensitization meetings, forums, and health talks in the Bombali, Freetown/Western Area Urban, Port Loko, and Western Area Rural districts, which together represented 70 percent of all Ebola Virus Disease cases in Sierra Leone, to diminish the negative effects of the disease on social trust and to provide much-needed support to the victims.

COMPONENT 2: CREATING SOCIAL-MOBILIZATION MECHANISMS TO IMPROVE LC SERVICE DELIVERY

This component focused on building community resilience in the Freetown/Western Area Urban and Port Loko Districts by: (1) creating social accountability and community-monitoring mechanisms for the effective delivery of social services, (2) promoting direct citizen engagement in the monitoring of LC services, and (3) piloting participatory budgeting.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

This component focused on operations support for project management, procurement, financial management, and monitoring and evaluation.

Changes During Implementation

The project went through a level 2 restructuring, regarding a change in the implementing agency and institutional arrangements. Specifically, the government requested that the role of the Local Government Finance Department, a unit in the Ministry of Finance, be clarified. The restructuring also addressed the reallocation of proceeds by category and by component, and changes in disbursement estimates.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The overall outcome rating for the project was **Highly Satisfactory** based on high relevance of the PDO throughout implementation, the High rating of efficacy demonstrated in the achievements attributable to project activities, innovations, and responsiveness, and the Substantial rating for efficiency as evinced by the notable results achieved in cost effectiveness, administrative, and implementation efficiency.



Reducing Income- and Health-Related Vulnerability of Older Persons in Vietnam

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to increase the participation of older persons in income-generating activities and their use of community-based health and social care services in select communities in six provinces.

STATUS: Active

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: INTERGENERATIONAL SELF-HELP CLUB (ISHC) ESTABLISHMENT AND ON-GOING CAPACITY BUILDING

This component supports key activities, such as: (1) project orientation trainings; (2) ISHC establishment; (3) initial trainings for club management boards and local Association of the Elderly staff; (4) review meetings and additional trainings; (5) development of project manuals and guidelines, training materials and information, education, and communication materials on and for ISHC; (6) regular technical support trips to ISHCs; (7) printing of ISHC manuals and guidelines, training and materials for information, education, and communication; and (8) ISHC monthly meetings and activities, as well as monthly grants for ISHCs.

COMPONENT 2: INCOME SECURITY

This component finances: (1) disburse the Livelihood Revolving Fund Grant to ISHCs; (2) conduct training on income generating activity schemes and techniques for ISHC representatives and local Association of the Elderly staff; (3) form income-generating activity groups within ISHCs to share knowledge and experience across fund participants and ISHC members; (4) conduct training on behalf of ISHCs for ISHC members in income generating activity-related techniques and schemes, to provide on-going technical support in income-generating activities and fund management for ISHCs; and (5) to facilitate access to government entitlements related to income security by ISHC, as well as local fund raising performed by ISHC.

COMPONENT 3: COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

The activities of this component are (1) ongoing training on health and social care for ISHC representatives, local Associations of the Elderly, and health staff; (2) on-going technical support for the development of training materials, undertaking training activities, and regular technical support visits for health and social care at ISHCs; (3) health awareness activities by ISHCs for members and non-members; (4) health promotion through physical exercise, sports, and cultural groups to promote healthy and active lifestyles; and (5) the purchase and distribution of health screening kits, lifelong learning kits, and care kits. (6) ISHCs also (a) conduct basic monthly health

monitoring in collaboration with the local community health services; (b) conduct semiannual health check-ups in collaboration with the local district and/or community health services and/or private health care providers; (c) organize consultation meetings between local Associations of the Elderly, ISHCs, and local health care providers; (d) recruit and manage homecare volunteers and provide home care services by ISHCs and volunteers; and (e) promote access of ISHC members to health insurance benefits and educate members on how to use them.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component supports the project management, administration, and M&E activities to track progress and enhance project outcomes. All assessments and evaluations will be carried out in a participatory manner in order to give voice to beneficiaries' concerns and help create a feedback loop, from the findings to the interventions, in a way that addresses beneficiaries' needs. Additionally, this component will finance costs associated with knowledge dissemination related to the ISHC model.

Changes During Implementation

The project underwent a level 2 restructuring; due to the COVID-19 pandemic and lengthy project approval process at the local level, the project launched and began operations later than scheduled, which impacted the implementation of activities. To address the initial delay in implementation of the project activities and to further enhance the project's efficiency and impacts using digital tools, the restructuring of the project was proposed to (1) increase to six ISHCs in Ninh Thuan province, which had the highest poverty rate among six project provinces, using the accumulated savings of the project; (2) increase the cost of training; (3) finance production of digital training materials; and (4) extend the closing date to December 31, 2024 from September 30, 2024 to ensure the high quality of the established ISHCs, which was attributed to greater sustainability and impact of the project.

Current Status

The project, (P171030, has been under implementation since June 2020 and is 84 percent disbursed, with progress toward achievement of the PDO and overall implementation progress both rated as Satisfactory as of the last ISR. Project closing is expected in December 2024.

3.6 TOKYO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT (TICAD) V GRANTS



Senegal — Building Resilience to Food and Nutrition Insecurity Shocks

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.82 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to provide access to food and nutrition security-enhancing services among vulnerable households through the promotion of appropriate new technologies in selected areas of the recipient's territory.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION AND EMPOWERMENT

This component focused on building the capacity of women to produce, purchase, and supply food for their households. This objective was achieved through the establishment of solidarity networks managed by platforms of existing and/or newly created women's groups. These groups served as community platforms for: (1) promoting and implementing solidarity measures, such as cereal banks for malnourished children; (2) providing access to government-subsidized community disease insurance; (3) providing training and capacity-building activities on new techniques and technologies, as well as financial management (FM) aimed at supporting women's participation in economic life; and (4) promoting essential skills for life, care, and nutrition.

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVED VARIETIES AND APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGIES FOR MICROSCALE APPLICATIONS AT THE HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

This component was geared toward testing and supporting the introduction and dissemination of new technologies, including improved bio-fortified plant varieties and animal breeds; as well as production; irrigation techniques; improved storage, conservation, cooking, and processing technologies; water; and environmental and hygiene technologies within the selected communities. The purpose of this component was to identify, test, and pilot improved varieties and new production and food processing technologies along the "farm to fork" value chain, before dissemination in the selected intervention areas.

COMPONENT 3: COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

This component's objective was the establishment of a governance structure. The structure was to constitute the project's institutional anchorage at the community level to serve a threefold purpose: (1) the establishment of an approach supporting community dialogue in favor of

resilience, (2) the creation of a network of entrepreneurs in the target communities, and (3) the creation of revolving schemes for the provision of production inputs.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

The fourth component was aimed at providing support for successful technical, administrative, and financial management of the project. The knowledge management support dimension of this component was also to be an essential aspect of the implementation and achievement of the PDOs, through the documentation of experiences, the identification of best practices for replication, and in-depth understanding of the initiative's related efficiency aspects.

Changes During Implementation

The project went through a level 2 restructuring. The changes were required to: (1) extend the closing date by six months to May 31, 2021, (2) make an adjustment to the indicator target, and (3) replace an outcome indicator.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The overall outcome of the project was rated **Highly Satisfactory**. It was highly relevant to the government of Senegal's vision to engage in a fight against food and nutrition insecurity and achieve resilience. Strong community participation and ownership, as well as the project's ability to pool existing initiatives to support both technical and programmatic efficacy and efficiency, were strong points. Due to the initial delay observed in the resolution of the administrative bottleneck related to the management of the financial resources of the project, the efficiency was deemed to be lower and was rated as being substantial.



Support to Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture and Capacity Development of Small and Marginal Farmers Project — Côte d'Ivoire

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.73 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve access to nutrient-rich food of plant and animal origins by poor households in selected areas in Côte d'Ivoire.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: SUPPORT TO VILLAGE MODEL FARMS AND HOMESTEAD GARDENS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NUTRIENT-RICH, HIGH-VALUE CROPS AND ANIMAL-SOURCE FOODS

This component aimed to support smallholder women farmers and adapt to an improved and diversified production system centered on nutrient-rich products. The subcomponents included: (1) establishing homestead gardens and village model farms, including the provision of good quality inputs, to produce fruits, nutrient-rich vegetables, and other marketable produce; (2) technical and hands-on support to beneficiaries, through trainings to ensure the right use of agricultural inputs provided by the project, as well as the diffusion of results through the demonstrated effect of the interventions.

COMPONENT 2: CAPACITY IMPROVEMENT AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

The goal of this component was to impact behavioral changes around nutrition, hygiene, water-saving techniques, and gender; and to improve the technical capacity of partners, extension agents, and community health workers to provide up-to-date and relevant advice to women and their households. Activities included: (1) nutrition education and capacity building of community health workers and village leader farmers to effectively deliver Essential Nutrition Actions and Essential Hygiene Actions to women's groups, individual members, and their households; (2) capacity improvement for extension agents in water-saving techniques, composting, and water sanitation and hygiene to improve not only the quality of advice that farmers received, but also the coverage of agricultural extension services that were tailored to women's needs.

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURE

This component aimed to support year-round production and reduce post-harvest losses, therefore improving the production, consumption, and marketing of better-quality, nutrient-rich products. The subcomponents consisted of (1) improving access to water for irrigation, including the construction of wells, and supporting the efficient use of water for irrigation through water-saving techniques and provision of micro-irrigation equipment; and (2) supporting

post-harvest handling and marketing technologies to (a) identify market links and opportunities for traditionally marketed vegetables and potential new value chains; (b) train extension agents on marketing and linking to the relevant value chains; (c) identify constraints on women producer groups when marketing their products and support them to overcome these obstacles; (d) enable groups of women producers to develop a business plan and a proposition for procurement of the selected support that would increase the marketing of their products; (e) provide a matching grant to support access to finance and effective change in smallholder farmers' transition to nutrient-rich production.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This component aimed to support efficient project management and coordination, M&E of project implementation, and dissemination of project outcomes and results for replication in other areas. The project was implemented by Hellen Keller International, which has been responsible for overall coordination, procurement, financial management, and M&E, including preparing and providing periodic report and hiring relevant consultants for provision of services identified under the project, among others. Activities included (1) project management and administration; (2) M&E; (3) knowledge dissemination through workshops and training events organized at different levels and for different audiences to disseminate project outcomes, their policy relevance, and lessons for scaling up to other regions.

Changes During Implementation

At the beginning of the project, a restructuring was undertaken to amend some inconsistencies in the letter of agreement. These were as follows: (1) the grant agreement amount was corrected from US\$2,730,000 to US\$2,728,824, and the table of allocations of the grant proceeds by expenditure category was then revised to be consistent with the total grant amount of US\$2,728,824; (2) the project's closing date was extended from March 31, 2020 to February 22, 2022 to allow completion of the project activities. Disbursement estimates were then revised to be consistent with extended project closing date. Minor changes to results indicators were also made.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The project fully met its development objectives of improving access to nutrient-rich foods of plant and animal origins by poor households in selected areas in Côte d'Ivoire, as evinced by the achievement of the PDO indicators. Diversification of production and an increase in the volume of production of nutrient-rich foods effectively contributed to the achievement of the PDO. This has been achieved by enhancing access to the factors of production through: (1) greater access to land for vegetable production; (2) the provision of input, such as seeds, fertilizers, and phytosanitary products; (3) the training of beneficiaries in terms of supervision and monitoring; and (4) access

to water due to the construction of boreholes and establishment of semi-Californian irrigation systems; and (iii) improved poultry production. Given the high levels of attainment of all PDO indicators and the significant progress toward achievement of the PDO as a whole for providing access to nutrient-rich foods in the project implementation area, the overall outcome was assessed as **Highly Satisfactory**.



Republic of Congo — Support for Sustainable Livelihoods in the Pool Department

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.75 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to improve access to livelihoods in selected communities in the Pool Department.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: STIMULATING IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS

Component 1 focused on improving livelihoods and incomes of targeted households by promoting associative work and improving income generation activities. The component was designed to support 180 women's groups and 12 youth livelihood groups in selected communities in the Pool Department. This component was implemented with a focus on the promotion of associative work and improving the income-generating activities of beneficiary households.

COMPONENT 2: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE USE OF ENERGY WITH AN EMPHASIS ON HOUSEHOLD AND PRODUCTIVE USES

This component was designed as a window for the livelihood support to foster better practices on energy provision and consumption and to test modalities to address energy deficiency in the targeted communities. This component was intended to finance a detailed assessment of practices for energy production and use in the selected communities, including a market assessment of the availability of alternative energy resources and demand for dried or smoked food and vegetables.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

The High Commissioner for the Reintegration of Ex-Combatants was the main government agency responsible for implementing the project. It established a small technical team comprising a project officer, M&E specialist, and a finance and administration assistant to support the coordination and implementation of the project. In addition, the implementing agency accessed and leveraged the services and systems of the already established project implementation unit of the Agricultural Development and Rural Roads Rehabilitation Project under the Ministry of Agriculture.

Changes During Implementation

The project implementation experienced significant delays at the beginning due to violent conflicts in the target locations. The project was launched in June 2019, yet progress in terms of project

implementation was not initiated until February 2020. As a result, the project has undergone two restructurings: (1) to extend the project's closing date to February 28, 2022, an extension of 21 months; and (2) to reallocate funds between expenditure categories.

Overall Outcome Assessment

Most PDO indicators have been achieved and surpassed, and all intermediate outcome indicators have been achieved, except for one. Project activities were designed with realistic assumptions that supported a clearly defined PDO and an outcome-oriented results framework. Given the ratings of high relevance, the Substantial rating for efficacy and efficiency, and the absence of major shortcomings in the results, the overall outcome was rated **Satisfactory**.

The overall project efficiency was rated as **Substantial**. The project struggled at the outset with delayed implementation due to the deteriorating security situation in the Pool department and the prolonged recruitment process of the project implementation unit and implementing partner. This resulted in the extension of the closing date of the project for 21 months. However, the extension did not negatively impact the implementation of the project, as the project used this period to invest in the preparation, and subsequently accelerated efforts to implement all activities prior to the closing date. Another noted setback was the second restructuring, which led to a reallocation of grant proceeds. However, the reallocation allowed the project to reach 3,014 direct beneficiaries, surpassing the planned 1,920 beneficiaries at no additional cost.

3.7 AFGHANISTAN SPECIAL WINDOW GRANTS



Afghan Women's Economic Empowerment

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$2.74 million

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to increase and enhance the participation of women, who are organized in community-based savings groups, in business support services and income-generating activities in pilot areas of Afghanistan.

STATUS: Closed

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: FORMATION OF CLUSTER PLATFORMS FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Under this component, the project organized existing community-based savings groups (CBSGs) into larger clusters. Clusters would be Community Development Council-level platforms, encompassing several CBSGs and villages. These were to act as effective, replicable, and community-owned platforms for women to gain stronger opportunities and support to engage in income-generating activities and obtain better access to services. At project appraisal, such mechanisms were lacking at scale and beyond the small savings group level for the purpose of women's economic empowerment in Afghanistan. In keeping with local and cultural norms, CBSGs were organized as male-only or female-only; the clusters mirrored this structure, either all-male or all-female. The goal of the project was to create 47 clusters, 45 female and two male. Activities included selecting community facilitators who would help to form clusters, training them, and ensuring that the outreach included the most vulnerable women in the community. Clusters would be assisted to form development plans, outline the needs of the members, priorities, and actions, and help members form producer/entrepreneurship groups.

COMPONENT 2: TRAINING, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, AND MARKET ACCESS

The clusters, once formed and functioning, would deliver business trainings, business development services, and market access through component 2. This includes: (1) designing and delivering market-driven training modules on skills that would enable women's empowerment and income generation, in addition to an emphasis on soft skills; (2) establishing Business Development Services Resource Persons at the community level. These would be women paraprofessionals operating out of Community Development Councils or community member homes on a part-time basis to offer ongoing mentoring and business support to members; and (3) efforts to facilitate trade partnerships on behalf of local women producers—for example, through market intermediation assistance and organization of regional trade fairs.

COMPONENT 3: INCREASING ACCESS TO FINANCE

Under this component, clusters offered seed grants to members, to be used as repayable loans to start an income-generating activity. This would overcome liquidity and funding constraints that women faced at the CBSG level, when CBSG funds were insufficient to cover both savings and lending for starting or growing income-generating activities. Specifically, (1) the seed grants, known as Revolving Loan Funds were designed to be Sharia law-compliant³, and would support cluster members' proposals for productive activities (for example, financing productive inputs or additional skilling); and (2) the project would engage in capacity building for clusters to develop a level of maturity required to access and effectively manage Revolving Loan Funds, including ensuring that access was inclusive of poor and vulnerable women, and ensuring repayment so that the Revolving Loan Fund amount was maintained. This was an innovation for Afghanistan—as it involved a completely externally-financed Revolving Loan Fund at the cluster level—the lessons from which would inform approaches and instruments under the Women's Economic Empowerment National Priority Program's Access to Finance pillar.

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, M&E, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

This would involve: (1) project management, comprising a project manager, procurement specialist, financial management specialist, implementation completion report, annual audits, and operating costs; (2) monitoring and evaluation—composed of rapid process feedback to inform the pilot and the Women's Economic Empowerment National Priority Program on a regular basis—baseline and final evaluation surveys, training for participatory monitoring by beneficiaries, a monitoring and evaluation specialist consultant, and final impact evaluation analysis and reporting; and (3) knowledge dissemination, including a knowledge management specialist and at least two knowledge-sharing events.

Changes During Implementation

The project underwent three restructurings: (1) in August 2019, additional funding of US\$150,000 for M&E activities was raised through a successful proposal to the South Asia Gender Innovation Lab; (2) in December 2019, the project was restructured following a request from the recipient, Agha Khan Foundation – Afghanistan, just under two years after the project was declared effective. The restructuring involved a simplification of the implementation arrangements for component 3 of the project, and a no-cost extension of 12 months, from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. This was due to implementation delays and the need to simplify the implementation arrangements. (3) In January 2021, the recipient, Agha Khan Foundation – Afghanistan, submitted a request for a no-cost extension to extend the project closing date by three months, from March 31, 2021 to June 30, 2021. A results indicator was also adjusted. This was due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, which impacted the implementation of activities, delaying the technical and firsthand

³ As part of Sharia-compliant lending, no formal interest rate was charged on loans. Instead, repayments were taken as fees, a percentage of profit, or in-kind.

support to clusters; the project required providing technical support to clusters to help them revolve loan funds at least for 1–2 cycles, to CBSGs members to work on their businesses, and to clusters for their self-functioning, networking, and linkages. The extension of these activities would increase the likelihood of these community structures to sustain themselves after project closure.

Overall Outcome Assessment

The overall outcome rating was **Satisfactory**. This is based on an efficacy rating of **Substantial**, given that the project met or exceeded its targets on all outcome level indicators, with one exception—the overall beneficiary earnings indicator, which increased by 49 percent, just shy of the 50 percent target—and on a PDO relevance rating of High. In fact, the PDO remained highly relevant to Afghanistan’s Country Partnership Framework (CPF) 2017–20, contributing directly to four objectives of the framework, from human development to improved access to finance, to better service delivery through local institutions.



Afghanistan Strategic Grain Reserve

GRANT AMOUNT: US\$29.98 million in total, with US\$20.3 million in International Development Association (IDA) financing, and US\$9.68 million by JSDF, which was administered by the World Bank.

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE: to establish a wheat strategic reserve to be available to Afghan households to meet their needs following emergency situations and improve the efficiency of grain storage management.

STATUS: Cancelled

Project Components

COMPONENT 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

This component was in the form of a US\$3.9 million IDA grant aimed at supporting the start-up activities of the semi-autonomous Strategic Grain Reserve Corporation, which would be in charge of managing the grain reserve. (1) Technical assistance was provided to support grain stock management to respond to emergencies, as well as international grain trade and logistics. (2) Capacity building was designed to support better planning, monitoring, management, maintenance, quality control, and financial management. (3) Activities also included the development of a wheat fortification program to distribute fortified wheat flour in case of emergencies. (4) The development of new wheat forecasting tools based on remote sensing and geographic information systems was also proposed.

COMPONENT 2: PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

A grant for US\$23.6 million, of which US\$14.8 million was financed by IDA, and US\$8.8 million by JSDF, was designed to establish three Greenfield silos in Kabul, Herat, and Kandahar; rehabilitate two existing silos in Mazar-e-Sharif and Pul-e-Khumri; and construct a new warehouse in the northeast in Badakhshan Province.

COMPONENT 3: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

A total of US\$2.46 million, of which US\$1.6 million was drawn from IDA grant funds, and US\$0.8 million from JSDF, aimed at financing activities related to the establishment and operation of a project implementation unit, responsible for all management and implementation activities, including the finalization and development of the required institutional structure that would eventually have the responsibility for managing the grain reserve.

Changes During Implementation

The project was cancelled due to a shift in spending priorities of the government of Afghanistan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and a subsequent adjustment of the World Bank lending portfolio. The COVID-19 pandemic took hold in Afghanistan in February 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic caused major disruptions in food supply chains. Due to lack of IDA funding for Afghanistan, the World Bank could finance the COVID-19 response only by adjusting its portfolio of current projects to make available additional funds that could be immediately deployed as part of the COVID-19 response. The project became a candidate for cancellation because of significant delays in project activities and low disbursement resulting from procurement challenges. Since its inception in November 2017, the project had faced enduring implementation delays, both in constructing and rehabilitating the grain silos, which had been the project's core investment at 79 percent of project financing, and in establishing the state-owned Strategic Grain Reserve Corporation for managing these grain silos. The delays were caused by significant challenges in the procurement of the construction of steel silos in Kabul, Herat, and Kandahar and for the rehabilitation of steel silos in Mazar-e-Sharif and Pul-e-Khumri. More than two years into project implementation after effectiveness, the procurements for silo and warehouse construction, as well as rehabilitation, had still not been finalized. The Strategic Grain Reserve Corporation establishment was also in a very early stage. With little progress having been made, there would have been no compromise with early closing of the project. Resulting from the broader portfolio adjustment discussions for COVID-19 response carried out in June 2020, it was agreed to close the project on August 31, 2020, ahead of the original project closing date of July 1, 2022. As such, all project activities, including civil works procurement packages for silos that were at the bidding stage, were dropped. At the time of closing, the government of Afghanistan did not indicate any future plan for the establishment of strategic grain reserves or the Strategic Grain Reserve Corporation. The project was canceled before any significant implementation could occur, and the JSDF grant was returned.



SECTION 4: OUTREACH, KNOWLEDGE, AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

4.1 JSDF DIALOGUE SERIES

The Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) continued to prioritize stakeholder outreach and knowledge management throughout fiscal 2021–22. The JSDF Dialogue Series is a partnership with the Tokyo Development Learning Center and the World Bank’s Tokyo office. It was launched in fiscal 2012 as a vehicle for disseminating the results and lessons learned from the implementation of JSDF grants among Japanese practitioners, academia, civil service organizations (CSOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholders. The Dialogue Series encourages a better understanding of the JSDF and how it works in practice to Japanese CSOs and NGOs. Bringing the JSDF results and lessons learned within the reach of Japanese practitioners and the general public has expanded the country’s network of development practitioners.

Social Accountability for Improved Service Delivery Project

The 12th Dialogue Seminar was held in April 2021 in Tokyo and featured a discussion of the World Bank Group’s Voice and Action: **Social Accountability for Improved Service Delivery Project**.

The JSDF provided US\$4.90 million to the social accountability project in Cambodia, which aims to improve service delivery in schools, health centers, and communes, serving rural households in selected districts of Cambodia. The project comprised a target population of approximately 2.7 million, including 820,789 community members and 950,844 children, and was implemented by local government and other service providers by engaging with communities through the “Implementation of the Social Accountability Framework” (I-SAF) process.

Through I-SAF, the project aimed to strengthen social accountability in Cambodia by introducing and nurturing a new culture of constructive engagement between citizens and authorities and by ensuring that skilled people and organizations are able to facilitate social accountability processes, aiming to empower citizens, strengthen partnerships between subnational administrations and citizens, and enhance the accountability of subnational administrations and local service providers.

The event speakers included influential officials from the government of Japan, the World Bank Group, and local NGOs:

Masashi Tanabe

Director, Multilateral Development Banks Division, Ministry of Finance

Masato Miyazaki

Special Representative, Japan, World Bank

Dirk Reinermann

Director, Trust Funds and Partner Relations, World Bank

Sadig Aliyev

Acting Country Manager, Cambodia, World Bank

Erik Johnson

Senior Social Development Specialist, World Bank

Sotharith Ry

Senior Project Manager, World Vision International Cambodia

Mathieu Andre

Technical Lead, ISAF, World Vision International Cambodia

Bo Theara

Community Accountability Facilitator, Preah Vihear Province

Sry Piseth

Health Center Chief, Preah Vihear Province

Koichi Omori

Senior External Affairs Officer, World Bank, Tokyo Office



Northern Mountain Integrated Child Nutrition Improvement Project

The 13th Dialogue Seminar was held in June 2022 as one of the side events of the World Bank's annual consultations with the government of Japan (GoJ).

This seminar featured the **Northern Mountain Integrated Child Nutrition Improvement Project**, which targeted approximately 14,000 children under the age of five and over 5,000 pregnant mothers living in disadvantaged villages in the northern region of Vietnam. It was implemented by Save the Children Vietnam with some collaboration with Save the Children Japan. The project introduced an integrated package of feeding, social preparation, training, and outreach with local authorities to oversee the project and sustain its results.

Senior representatives from the government of Japan, World Bank Group, the government of Vietnam, and the implementing NGOs delivered statements and presentations during the event. Participants included:

Masashi Tanabe

Director, Multilateral Development Banks Division, Ministry of Finance

Kosuke Nagino

Program Coordinator, Save the Children Japan

Dirk Reinermann

Director, Trust Funds and Partner Relations, World Bank

Dr. Tran Dang Khoa

Deputy Director, Ministry of Health, Vietnam

Christophe Lemiére

Program Leader for Human Development, Vietnam, World Bank

Dr. Hoang Anh Tuan

Representative of Department of Maternal and Child Health, Vietnam

Huong Lan Dao

Senior Health Specialist, World Bank

Koichi Omori

Senior External Affairs Officer, World Bank, Tokyo Office

Vuong Dinh Giap

Director of Program Implementation, Save the Children Vietnam



4.2 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Development Finance Vice Presidency, Trust Funds and Partner Relations Department (DFTPR) is responsible for managing the JSDF program. Specifically, the JSDF is overseen by a small program management team under the leadership of DFTPR's director. The management functions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Policy and program formulation and business development—specifically, leading the formulation of the strategic priorities of the programs, establishment of sector or thematic windows, and management of the development of proposals and the program level results framework.
- Conducting quality at entry reviews of concept notes and grant proposals submitted by the task team leaders (TTLs) prior to submission to the Ministry of Finance of the government of Japan for approval.
- Management of the flow of funds from the government of Japan.
- Review and clearance of restructuring papers, Implementation Completion Reports (ICRs), and project operations manuals.
- Ensuring the timely submission of the Letters of Representation by TTLs, which confirm the eligible expenses under the project and the undertaking of an audit.
- Carrying out oversight missions to visit project sites to assess implementation performance and interact with stakeholders and project beneficiaries.

In addition, the World Bank submits a report on new grant approvals and the achievement of development results for active and closed grants to the GoJ. These reports are posted on the JSDF website. The World Bank continues to provide annual audited financial statements and quarterly unaudited financial statements to the GoJ.

4.3 JAPAN VISIBILITY STRATEGY

The JSDF Program prioritizes Japan's visibility as a leader in innovative development programming and its generous, large-scale contributions that underscore its commitment to development.

JSDF and Japan logos are used in project-related documents, videos, and press releases. Officials of the Embassy of Japan (EoJ) are invited to participate in project-related ceremonies, including signing and launch events and field visits. The JSDF program management team meets with officials of the EoJ and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) during oversight missions to brief them about the team's observations regarding the implementation progress of JSDF grants. The JSDF team also distributes a guidance note on donor visibility to World Bank Group task teams and implementing agencies.

The GoJ and its citizens have been steadfast and generous in their support to the JSDF for over 20 years. The JSDF values the importance of donor visibility, and the program has strengthened its efforts to make project beneficiaries aware of Japan's financial contributions. Maintaining the strong partnership among the GoJ, World Bank Group task teams, grant implementing agencies, and other stakeholders during implementation is essential to the program's continued success. To that end, the JSDF program management team has prepared a Communications Toolkit that is shared during project implementation and knowledge sharing events. World Bank TTLs and implementing agencies are required to help promote the visibility of Japan's contribution and build local awareness of the JSDF in recipient countries through the following types of activities:

- Publications, training programs, seminars, and workshops financed by JSDF grants should clearly indicate that the activities in question have received funding from JSDF.



- The logo (the Japanese national flag) should be used in publications financed by JSDF, as well as in banners and any other materials distributed at seminars and training programs supported by JSDF.
- All World Bank press releases issued with respect to JSDF grants should refer to the financial contribution by the GoJ.
- Recipients are required to ensure that JSDF-financed activities are well covered by local print and electronic media, and that all related publicity materials, official notices, reports, and publications explicitly acknowledge Japan as the development partner providing funding.
- Project launch activities in the field are required, to the extent possible, and recipients are required to invite Japanese Embassy officials and members of the local and international press to these ceremonies.
- World Bank TTLs are encouraged to invite Japan embassy officials and senior government officials to project launch ceremonies.



SECTION 5: CONCLUSION



5.1 FINDINGS FROM THE FY22 INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT

The World Bank engaged Dalberg Advisors in fiscal 2022 to independently assess the activities of the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) over the preceding seven years. The assessment team used a mixed-methods approach to collect and analyze data. The assessment involved key informant interviews; a survey of World Bank task team leaders (TTLs), a desk review of 46 grants; and a deep dive into 10 JSDF grants, including field visits across nine countries: Bolivia, Cambodia, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kenya, and Uganda. The independent assessment report presented a summary of the development impact and livelihood support activities of the JSDF. It is worth noting that although the analysis was conducted in fiscal 2022, the projects sampled included older projects, which were not under implementation in the fiscal 2021–22 period to which this report pertains. Next steps, including an action plan to implement the recommendations from the independent evaluation, will be agreed upon between the World Bank and the Government of Japan (GoJ) in the upcoming period.

JSDF Impact: An Overview

The independent assessment team found that the majority of grants reviewed were considered relevant to a country's development priorities. As required of all JSDF grants, the reviewed grants were aligned with the country development strategies outlined in the Country Partnership Framework (CPF). The CPF guides the World Bank Group's support for a country's development program, by identifying the key objectives and development results through which the World Bank Group intends to support a member country in its efforts to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity in a sustainable manner.

Reviewed documentation and field visits demonstrated how different grants responded directly to beneficiary needs. The team found that all grants reviewed included a participatory design process, which effectively contributed to project relevance. For instance, a stakeholder from Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport engaged in the field visits highlighted the strong alignment of the Early Childhood Care and Development for Floating Villages Project with the government's priorities to provide children in the country's most remote areas with early childhood education.

Relevance

JSDF fills a critical gap and offers a unique value proposition that other World Bank funding opportunities do not. A consistent message across interviews, supported by 94 percent of World Bank TTL survey respondents, agreed that JSDF grants fill a gap and address development issues that other donors or governments do not. Specifically: (1) JSDF grants enable TTLs to collaborate with local implementing agencies to reach vulnerable communities and provide tailored and localized support; (2) JSDF grants fill a critical funding disparity that enables TTLs to collaborate with others to pilot new interventions, as the pilot approach and a focus on innovation enables TTLs to test new interventions on a smaller scale before scaling up, increasing the success of larger projects; and (3) JSDF effectively champions innovation, as evinced by the plethora of novel ideas executed across the 46 reviewed grants. Explicitly requiring TTLs to demonstrate during the design stage how a grant is innovative is key to achieving pioneering interventions.

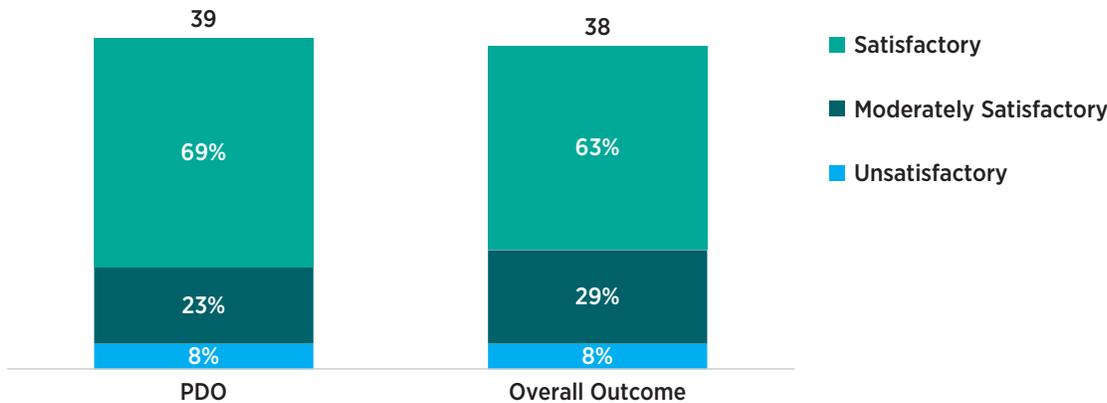
Innovation

JSDF effectively champions innovation, as evinced by the plethora of novel ideas executed across the 46 reviewed grants. For example, the approach taken by the Cambodia Voice and Action Project with the Implementation of Social Accountability Framework (I-SAF) Partnership Steering Committee and its use of locally-based Community Accountability Facilitators had not been previously undertaken in the country. The approach was considered "highly innovative, recognizing the country's history," and has since scaled. Similarly, the Cambodia Early Childhood Care and Development for Floating Villages Project took an innovative approach to construct floating and onshore early childhood development centers to cater to children in remote areas. Likewise, the Integrated Sanitation and Sewerage Infrastructure Project introduced decentralized sanitation technology in Egypt for the first time.

Efficacy

The majority of the grants that were reviewed had achieved their project development objectives (PDOs), as illustrated in figure 6.1.1. This statistic highlights that most JSDF projects are effective and likely to deliver on the impact targets set during grant design. The desk assessment found that 92 percent of the projects sampled reported their PDOs as either moderately or fully satisfactory, reflecting the program's high efficacy. Findings that concerned gender-balanced effectiveness

Figure 5.1.1
Effectiveness Rating Based on 1) PDOs and 2) Overall Outcome,
by Number of Projects



Source: Dalberg 2023

were more complex. Just 68 percent of the grants reviewed included gender indicators and, of those, only 50 percent achieved them. Field visits helped to determine the extent to which the positive impact of gender indicators was impactful for beneficiaries. For example, the Kenya Accelerating Rural Women’s Access to Agricultural Markets and Trade Project helped to reorient women, who were mostly stay-at-home mothers and financially dependent on their husbands, from practicing hand-to-mouth basic agriculture to agribusiness participation, as captured in testimonials from field visits.

Effectiveness

The assessment suggests that by collaborating with local governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or civil service organizations (CSOs), JSDF is better able to design projects to respond to beneficiary needs, more efficiently reach intended beneficiaries, and strengthen local implementing capacity. JSDF supports implementing agency capacity building through subject matter expertise, technical and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) training, data collection support, and procurement and financial management guidance. JSDF’s commitment to capacity building is critical to creating foundations for sustainable results. For instance, one local NGO said that it “learned a lot about how to capture results more scientifically by using simple tools.” By training implementing agencies and supporting the development of essential facilities, such as a vegetable tissue culture lab in Uganda or energy-dense food factories in India, projects build the institutional memory and infrastructure necessary to continue results beyond grant duration. Implementing with NGOs or CSOs and local governments allows JSDF grants to respond to community-specific challenges that central governments may not have the visibility to examine. Since NGOs, CSOs, and local government agencies operate at the community level, they are better placed to identify distinct poverty drivers and provide support to identify novel solutions.

Sustainability

Projects achieved sustainability through one of the following four channels, shown in figure 6.1.2: sustainability of results, World Bank adoption and scaling, development partner adoption and scaling, or government adoption and scaling. Of the projects reviewed in depth, the sustainability of results was often achieved through the continued application of skills, the continued use of infrastructure, or the continued provision of grant-enabled services. For example, based on the training and grants provided, Ghana beneficiaries could set up a business and continue generating income from it after the rural income generation project concluded. While limited information was available to assess the sustainability of results in desk-reviewed projects, many projects included elements that inherently lent themselves to sustainable results. For instance, Mozambique’s Maputo Peri-Urban Sanitation Project improved long-term sanitation in the city through a private sector approach, specifically supplying microenterprises with equipment to develop desludging services and then build profitable businesses that remained sustainable beyond the grant funding period. Additionally, certain projects or concepts were adopted and scaled in World Bank programming. For example, approaches were tested in Uganda’s Integrated Approach to Enhance Smallholder Nutrition and later integrated into the much larger World Bank Multisectoral Nutrition Project. Furthermore, development partner and government adoption and scaling were common sustainability channels, occurring in 50 percent of the grants that were included in field visits. As a further example, in Guatemala, after the completion of the JSDF Pilot to Improve the Development and Nutrition of Young Children in Poor Rural Areas, Child-Fund presented the results to the Lego Foundation and was able to secure funding from the Lego Foundation to expand the JSDF project. Finally, 83 percent of grants that were part of the desk review reported that project interventions were continued or lessons were incorporated into other development work.

 **Figure 5.1.2**
Project Sustainability Channels

Channel	Description
1 Sustainability of results	Project results extend beyond the lifetime of the project; e.g., improved infrastructure enables continued access to better services
2 World Bank adoption and scaling	Project frameworks and approaches adopted and scaled by later World Bank in-country programming
3 Development partner adoption and scaling	Project frameworks and approaches adopted and scaled by later Development Partner programming – often by NGOs seeking to scale JSDF pilots
4 Government adoption and scaling	Project frameworks and approaches adopted and scaled by later government policy and programming

Source: Dalberg 2023

Independent Assessment Report Conclusion

JSDF grants play a powerful role in enabling localized impact and innovation with clear pathways to sustainability. The pilot approach allows for testing new approaches and is based on the premise that working with NGOs, CSOs, and local governments is critical to addressing development issues that meet beneficiary needs. In addition, this mechanism provides TTLs access to funding where lending programs cannot be leveraged. The JSDF's impact is further highlighted by the fact that most of the assessed grants were rated extremely effective and carried clear pathways to sustainability. The assessment also identified a selection of operational and strategic challenges for review to ensure JSDF's continued success.

5.2 LOOKING FORWARD

The generous continuing contributions of the government and people of Japan lie at the center of the program's ability to maintain a strong record of impact as it enters its third decade. JSDF projects have improved the development outcomes of beneficiaries living in lower and lower-middle income World Bank Group countries, and the program's innovative model has influenced the design of dozens of World Bank Group development programs, as well as development programs funded by other multilateral and national donors.

As JSDF enters its third decade, we look forward to applying lessons from our longstanding partnership, and from the recently completed independent evaluation, to our work. The JSDF will continue its focus on piloting innovative responses to poverty reduction, and will help the World Bank to be a driver of development solutions to improve lives in an ever-changing global context. We remain committed to supporting the government of Japan's Overseas Development Assistance goals and the World Bank Group's updated mission of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity on a livable planet.

Sustainability lies at the center of the JSDF's work. The program has a lengthy track record of supporting development projects proven to provide long-term benefits that reach or surpass each individual project's goals. The JSDF's commitment to sustainability extends beyond the halls of government and multilateral development institutions. In many cases, its grants and their focus on capacity building have empowered communities to chart their own development destinations independent of donor institutions. The skills built by these grants are designed to be replicable and scalable. They often expand organically in developing economies long after a development operation has concluded.

Looking ahead, the JSDF will keep scanning the horizon in search of gaps that need to be filled and development challenges that have been insufficiently addressed. The program will continue to pilot new strategies to increase development impact and will maintain its commitment to applying these lessons by working closely with the World Bank Group, individual governments, private donors, and NGO and CSO stakeholders.

The JSDF will also persist in its long-term focus on people-centered development solutions that respond directly to needs articulated at the grassroots level in lower and lower-middle income economies. The JSDF will continue to foster the creation and growth of community-based organizations that improve livelihoods and are directly accountable to the communities they serve. The JSDF likewise looks forward to meeting its mandate of resource mobilization in support of knowledge dissemination and learning, and it will continue to innovate its approaches to this core strategic value.

As the World Bank enters a new era with the adoption of the Evolution Roadmap in fiscal 2023, the JSDF's focus on poverty reduction and innovation is more relevant than ever. JSDF fills a critical gap and offers a unique value proposition, by enabling World Bank teams to work with local implementing agencies and NGOs to reach vulnerable communities, and by explicitly supporting the piloting of unique interventions with clear strategies for scale-up. With a proven track record of efficiency and impact, the JSDF is uniquely positioned to deliver on the World Bank's new vision for development.

ANNEX 1

BACKGROUND TABLES



Table A.1
Regular Program Grants Active during Fiscal 2021–22
(Recipient-Executed)

Country	Trust Fund (TF) Name	Closing Date	Grant Amount (US\$)
Projects Active at the End of the Reporting Period			
Armenia	Promoting Social Inclusion and Self-Reliant Livelihood Activities in Armenia	6/30/2023	2,700,000
Bhutan	Youth Employment and Rural Entrepreneurship Project	12/31/2022	1,241,507
Burkina Faso	Improving Education of Children with Disabilities	10/30/2024	2,752,310
Cambodia	Cambodia – Community-Based Childcare for Garment Factory Workers Project	3/31/2024	2,700,000
Cambodia	Cambodia – Sustainable Livelihood for Indigenous Communities Project	12/31/2025	2,746,732
Djibouti	Empowering Communities for Better Nutrition Project	3/31/2025	2,504,400
Ghana	Ghana – Improved Feeding Practices for First 1,000 Days Project	8/31/2023	2,860,000
Honduras	Improving the Livelihoods of Miskito Indigenous Peoples in La Moskitia	2/28/2024	2,722,200
India	India – Digital Financial Inclusion of Informal Sector Project	4/30/2023	2,730,000
Jordan	Jordan – Integrated Social Services for Vulnerable Youth	11/30/2023	2,800,300
Kenya	Improved Livelihood Opportunities and Accessibility for Underserved Urban Communities in Meru	6/30/2025	2,750,000
Kosovo	Supporting Youth Inclusive Local Development in Kosovo	7/31/2024	2,785,000
Kyrgyz Republic	Kyrgyz Republic – Livelihoods for Youth Community Support Project	1/15/2023	2,601,437
Lao PDR	Public Information and Awareness Services for Vulnerable Communities in Lao PDR	7/31/2024	2,505,020
Mongolia	Entrepreneurship-Focused Socioemotional Skills for the Most Vulnerable Youth in Rural Mongolia	12/31/2023	2,752,295
Morocco	Morocco – Community-Based Rural Roads Maintenance	12/31/2023	2,850,000
Myanmar	Enhancing Community-Driven Development Project	12/31/2023	25,000,000
Nicaragua	Nicaragua Dry Corridor Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Project	3/31/2025	2,739,800
Rwanda	Rwanda – Advancing Citizen Engagement Project	12/31/2024	2,730,000
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands – Community Benefit-Sharing Pilot Project	5/31/2023	2,800,000
Timor-Leste	Timor-Leste COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support Project	4/30/2025	2,750,000
Ukraine	Ukraine: Community-Based Social Service Delivery Project	10/31/2023	2,850,000
Uzbekistan	Enhancing Economic Opportunities for Rural Women	12/31/2024	2,728,800

(continues)



Table A.1
Regular Program Grants Active during Fiscal 2021–22
(Recipient-Executed) (Continued)

Country	Trust Fund (TF) Name	Closing Date	Grant Amount (US\$)
Vietnam	Strengthening Preparedness and Response to COVID-19 at the Grassroots Level in Vietnam	12/31/2024	2,750,000
Vietnam	Vietnam – Reducing Income- and Health-Related Vulnerability of Older Persons Project	12/31/2024	2,750,000
West Bank and Gaza	Palestinian Heritage Trail: Increased Economic Opportunities and Improved Livelihood for Fragile Communities Project	12/31/2025	2,400,000
Zambia	Zambia – Voice and Accountability: Community Empowerment for Improved Local Service Delivery Project	6/30/2025	2,750,000
Projects Closed During the Reporting Period			
Burundi	Burundi Maternal Child Nutrition Enhancement Project	8/15/2020	2,729,401
Ethiopia	Promoting Young Women’s Livelihoods and Nutrition Project	4/30/2021	1,520,490
Ghana	Ghana Peri-Urban Vegetables Value Chain Project	6/30/2021	2,850,000
Iraq	Promoting the Inclusion of Conflict-Affected Iraqi Youth	6/30/2022	2,583,629
Kyrgyz Republic	Engaging Communities for Better Schools in the Kyrgyz Republic	3/31/2022	2,623,087
Malawi	Adolescent Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Pilot Project	12/31/2021	2,730,000
Sierra Leone	Strengthening Community Mobilization and Local Council Service Delivery in the Post-Ebola Context	12/27/2020	2,746,253
Vietnam	VIETNAM – Northern Mountain Integrated Child Nutrition Improvement Project	12/31/2021	2,786,700

Source: DFTPR

Note: Each recipient-executed grant was accompanied by a Bank-executed grant for implementation support, typically amounting to up to 9% of the recipient-executed grant amount, but these are not included in the table data.



Table A.2

Regular Program Grants Approved in Fiscal 2021–22

JSDF PROGRAM GRANTS APPROVED IN FY21

	Project Name	Amount (US\$)	Project Development Objectives
1	Nicaragua Dry Corridor Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Project (P164134)	\$2,999,800	To strengthen agricultural productivity, climate resilience, and nutritional security in select municipalities of the Dry Corridor of Nicaragua.
2	Rwanda: Advancing Citizen Engagement (ACE) Project (P172862)	\$3,000,000	To improve livelihoods for 17,750 households/ 76,000 people and build capacity of communities and national and local government for citizen engagement in 249 villages in Rwanda.
3	Uzbekistan: Support to Local Development and Livelihood Opportunities for Rural Women and Youth in Uzbekistan (P171760)	\$2,998,800	To increase economic opportunities for vulnerable rural women in the project areas through skills development and improved access to finance and markets.
4	Lao PDR: Public Information and Awareness Services for Vulnerable Communities in Lao PDR (P170640)	\$2,730,472	To improve access to legal information and counseling services for 15,000 poor and vulnerable persons (of which 60% are women) in select rural districts to enhance the protection and fulfilment of their natural resources and livelihood rights.
5	Kenya: Improved Livelihood Opportunities and Accessibility for Underserved Urban Communities in Meru, Kenya (P163035)	\$3,000,000	To (1) create employment opportunities and skills in labor-based road maintenance and (2) improve the basic access of the target population of the selected underserved urban communities in Meru Town.
6	Cambodia Sustainable Livelihood for Indigenous Communities Project (CSLICP) (P174951)	\$2,993,938	To improve the incomes of targeted indigenous communities (ICs) in the provinces of Ratanakiri and Mondulkiri, through the implementation of innovative rural livelihood development programs, including farming and off-farm and non-farm activities.
7	Voice and Accountability: Community Empowerment for Improved Local Service Delivery in Zambia (P173472)	\$3,000,000	To strengthen community awareness and participation with school management and local authorities for accountable primary and secondary education services in the nine selected districts in Zambia.
8	Vietnam: Strengthening Preparedness and Response to COVID-19 at the Grassroots Level (P174401)	\$3,000,000	To strengthen the capacity of communities, including community leaders, health and other sectors, civil society organizations (CSOs), and vulnerable populations in their preparedness and response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as other health emergencies in the project's provinces.
9	Timor-Leste COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support Project (P175401)	\$2,997,500	To strengthen the capacity of communities in their preparedness for and response to COVID-19 and other health emergencies.
TOTAL		\$26,720,510	

Source: DFTPR

JSDF PROGRAM GRANTS APPROVED IN FY22

	Project Name	Amount (in \$Million)	Project Development Objectives
1	West Bank and Gaza – Palestine Heritage Trail: Increased Economic Opportunities and Improved Livelihood for Fragile Communities	\$2,600,000	To increase economic opportunities and improve the livelihood of Palestinians in fragile communities along the Palestinian Heritage Trail, across the West Bank, with a special focus on women and youth.
2	Vietnam – Improved Delivery of Legal Aid for the Poor and Vulnerable*	\$2,725,000	To improve the delivery of legal aid and promote legal empowerment of select vulnerable groups in selected provinces in the Northern Mountain Region.
3	Djibouti – Improving Health Sector Performance and Empowering Communities for Better Nutrition	\$2,752,200	To increase access to community-based child and adolescent/youth nutrition services in target areas.
4	Indonesia – Inclusive Livelihoods for Poor Rural Communities in Eastern Indonesia Project*	\$2,975,700	To provide increased access to livelihood opportunities for populations vulnerable to poverty and food insecurity in 80 target villages in Maluku and East Nusa Tenggara provinces in Eastern Indonesia.
TOTAL		\$11,052,900	

Source: DFTPR

Note: * Indicates that these projects were approved by the government of Japan (GoJ) in FY22, but the associated TF grants were activated in FY23, so they are not included in the portfolio under consideration for this report, which consists of the TF grants active during Fiscal 2021–22.

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