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**Productive Sectors Development Programme  
MPTF OFFICE GENERIC ANNUAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT  
REPORTING PERIOD: 20 JULY – 31 DECEMBER 2020**

<p align="center"><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme Title: Productive Sectors Development Programme</li> <li>• Programme Number 00122996</li> <li>• MPTF Office Project Reference Number:<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results<sup>2</sup></b></p> <p><i>Country: Lebanon</i></p>
<p align="center"><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNIDO, FAO, UNDP, ILO, UN WOMEN, and UNICEF</li> </ul>	<p><i>Priority area/ strategic results: Support gender-responsive job creation and economic opportunities in the agriculture and agro-food sectors, prioritizing women and female youth in disadvantaged areas.</i></p>
<p align="center"><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: MPTF /JP Contribution<sup>4</sup>: USD 7,410,611</p>	<p align="center"><b>Implementing Partners</b></p>
<p><b>TOTAL: USD 7,410,611</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration (<i>months</i>) 36</p> <p>Start Date<sup>5</sup> (20.07.2020)</p> <p>Original End Date<sup>6</sup> (31.07.2023)</p> <p>Current End date<sup>7</sup>(31.07.2023)</p>
<p><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b></p> <p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>          Mid-Term Evaluation Report – if applicable <i>please attach</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Report Submitted By</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Name: Christel Hanna</li> <li>○ Title: Senior Programme Coordinator</li> <li>○ Participating Organization (Lead): RCO, UNIDO, FAO</li> <li>○ Email address: christel.hanna@un.org</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.  
<sup>2</sup> Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;  
<sup>3</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)  
<sup>4</sup> The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)  
<sup>5</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)  
<sup>6</sup> As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.  
<sup>7</sup> If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities.

## ACRONYMS

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
IDAL	Investment Development Authority of Lebanon
ILO	International Labor Organization
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoET	Ministry of Economy and Trade
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
TCC	Technical Coordination Committee
PSDP	Productive Sector Development Programme
PUNOs	Participating United Nations Organizations
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
UN	United Nations
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNIDO	UN Industrial Development Organization
UNSF	United Nations Strategic Framework
WEP	Women's Empowerment Principles

## NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Given the long-term structural challenges that Lebanon is facing as well as the profound effects that the subsequent crises are having on its economy, the Syrian crisis since 2011, and more recently the financial and economic crisis, the global pandemic (COVID-19) and the Beirut Port explosion, there is an ongoing need to support job creation and inclusive economic growth especially for the most vulnerable in the most disadvantaged areas. With the aim to support gender-responsive job creation and economic opportunities in the agriculture and agro-food sectors, six UN organizations have joined efforts to develop a three-year joint programme: The Productive Sector Development Programme (PSDP). The PSDP will be jointly implemented by UNIDO, FAO, UNDP, ILO, UN Women, and UNICEF

The PSDP was initiated during the most difficult crisis that Lebanon has ever faced. The Programme started at the end of June 2020, right before the Beirut explosion and amidst a series of lockdowns that had already left thousands of people unemployed across all sectors. Considering the challenging economic, financial, health and security situation, the six participating UN organizations (PUNOs) conducted a series of assessments to capture the changes that Lebanon has been facing in light of these new challenges and vis-à-vis the PSPS original objectives. The results of these assessments (qualitative, quantitative and desk research) showed the importance that the implementation of the PSDP could play in tackling the new challenges faced by farmers, MSMEs and SMEs in country. The PUNOs thus started the inception phase focusing on applying the most efficient methodologies to implement the project while taking into consideration all the challenges facing the private sector.

On the macrolevel, the programme's intervention will focus on legal and policy review aiming at advocating for the ones that improve Women Economic Empowerment environment and increase women's participation in the productive sectors, particularly now that women were hit the most when it comes to layoffs and job loss. On the meso level, the programme will provide capacity building and institutional support to the public sector institutions involved in supporting the access of agro-food products to women and men-led Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to new markets. The meso component will also include partnering with the private sector to achieve the desired outcomes, taking into consideration the disruption in the global supply chain caused by the pandemic, and the devaluation of the national currency, putting extra pressure on this import driven economy. On the micro level, the programme will target farmers, cooperatives, and MSMEs in productive sectors to develop and upskill their technical and business development skills and capacities. This will support the creation of sustainable job opportunities amidst the reduction in labor demand.

Additionally, and to ensure PSDP meets its gender focused targets and objectives, a gender strategy will be produced to act as a guide for the programme partners to mainstream gender in their activities, as well as future PSDP projects. Furthermore, a comprehensive gender analysis will precede the start of implementation and will examine the gender gaps in each of the selected value chains. This gender analysis will be repeated at the completion of the programme, to examine the success of the interventions; with a rapid analysis at mid-point to validate the progress of activities.

### **I. Purpose**

Because of the long-term structural challenges that Lebanon is facing as well as the profound effects that the subsequent crises are having on its economy, the UN in Lebanon undertook a mapping exercise in 2016 and 2017 of aid targeted towards economic opportunities and job creation. This mapping helped provide a better understanding of ongoing and planned efforts in this area, and the identification of gaps and challenges to the development of productive sectors. The initiative produced sector briefs that provide an overview of productive sectors of the Lebanese economy and identify priority short, medium, and long-term development interventions in four productive sectors, namely: agriculture, manufacturing, agro-food, and tourism. Agriculture, manufacturing, agro-food were selected as having the highest potential to stimulate job

creation, economic opportunities and growth especially for the most vulnerable in Lebanon's most disadvantaged areas. After the initial design was developed, the UN Country Team, Prime Minister's Office and the Government (represented by line ministries) endorsed the initial programme in 2017 and two rounds of donor consultations were undertaken. Based on consultation outcomes and changes in the macroeconomic environment (including the announcement of the Government's Vision for Stabilization), the full PSDP programme was reviewed, updated, and endorsed by the Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Agriculture in July 2019.

The main objective of this UN joint Programme is to support gender-responsive job creation and economic opportunities in the agriculture and agro-food sectors. The PSDP is being jointly implemented by UNIDO, FAO, UNDP, ILO, UN Women, and UNICEF in a three-year programme.

The PSDP falls within the United Nations Strategic Framework's (UNSF) Outcome 3.1, which stipulates that the Government of Lebanon shall be assisted in "strengthening Lebanon productive sectors of the economy to promote inclusive growth and local development especially in most disadvantaged areas".

It aligns with national priorities and complements the Government's Vision for Growth, Stabilization and Employment that was announced during the CEDRE Conference in April 2018, as well as relevant government strategies. In particular, the PSDP aligns with Lebanon's Economic Vision published in January 2019 by the Ministry of Economy and Trade which sets Agriculture and Industry (including agro-food) as priority sectors for government interventions. It is also in line with the government's three years development priorities identified back in 2020 following the economic deterioration. The programme also aims to complement other UN agencies and partners' initiatives targeting women and youth economic empowerment in productive sectors.

The current phase of the PSDP aims to support gender-responsive job creation and economic opportunities in the agriculture and agro-food sectors, prioritizing women and female youth in disadvantaged areas. It includes interventions on three levels: the macro (national policy), meso (institutional), and micro (direct beneficiary support) levels. These building blocks aim to tackle a range of challenges to maximize the impact of the programme on focus sectors and communities, support gender-responsive job creation especially for women and female youth and promote inclusive and long-term economic growth. The PSDP was designed to include interlinked activities on these three levels and present a flagship example for joint service delivery and for promoting the "Delivering as One" approach between the implementing UN agencies.

The identified intermediate outcomes on each of those levels is outlined below:

- **Macro** - Improved enabling policy environment for Women Economic Empowerment and participation in productive sectors.
- **Meso** - Improved access to markets for women and men-led Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in productive sectors.
- **Micro** - Improved capacity of women and men farmers, women and men-led cooperatives, and women-led micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in productive sectors to create and sustain gender-equitable job opportunities and adopt environmentally sustainable practices.

## II. Results

The PSDP is currently finalizing the inception phase and plans to kick-off implementation in the second quarter of 2021. Originally, the inception phase was planned for a period of six months. However due to the restrictions imposed by the series of lockdowns and the August blast, the phase was delayed by at least two months. At the time of this report writing, the inception plans were being drafted while considering the new impact of the COVID 19 and the financial/economic crisis on the most vulnerable Lebanese.

### i) Narrative reporting on results:

- **The macro component, Outcome 1**, will result in an improved understanding of the reforms needed to address key barriers for women's economic participation in productive sectors. UN Women will develop in the first quarter of 2021 the methodology that will be implemented to support the development of gender-responsive policy and legislative reforms. This methodology will be comprised of secondary research and primary data collection and will include interviews and discussions with legal experts on legislations that hinder women's full and equitable participation in the productive sectors. It will also include research on prevailing policies and practices that are prejudiced and obstructive towards women. The culmination of this research will be a series of roundtable discussions with government, academia, civil society organizations, sector experts, and UN agencies that aim at creating a lobbying momentum to advocate for policy and legislative reform at the parliamentary level. Ultimately, this component aims at promoting an enabling, equitable, and protective environment for women to actively participate in the agriculture and agro-food workforce. Furthermore, during this reporting period, UN Women launched the recruitment process of the Gender Advisor who would be providing support to the RCO and UN partners on gender mainstreaming of the PSDP activities and leading on the activities of this component. Additionally, UN Women initiated a consultancy to prepare the first draft of the gender strategy, which would be further refined once the Gender Advisor is on board and value chains selected.
- **On the meso level, outcome 2** in the programme aims to improve access to markets for women and men-led Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises in productive sectors. Outcome 2.1 states the objective of an enhanced capacity of national institutions to support exports in productive sectors and promote women entrepreneurship. Therefore, an assessment was conducted to inform the type of services needed and the export support organizations that would benefit from support through this programme. The assessment consisted of a stakeholder analysis that provided an overview of the status of the agro-food sector following the multiple shocks that Lebanon has been witnessing since 2019 to capture the MSMEs needs and challenges, especially in the context of the current financial crisis, COVID-19 crisis and the Port of Beirut blast. Following consultations, an institutional mapping was conducted for all trade support organizations in Lebanon that provide general and/or specialized trade and export support services to MSMEs with a benchmarking analysis of international best practices in export promotion and support. A detailed needs assessment through focus group meetings with established and emerging exporters in the agro-food sector was also conducted to validate the findings from the baseline analysis as well as the stakeholder consultations. The obstacles identified through consultations are very much linked to long-standing development challenges, however, some have been exacerbated and new ones emerged highlighting the dramatic situation of the sector. These include high transport cost, especially for exporters of fresh fruits and vegetables products that rely on air shipping, cumbersome export regulations and custom procedures, difficulty to access finance and credit facilities amongst others. From the assessment, it was clear that exporters are in dire need of support to ensure their survival and sustainability. Their most pressing needs include: (1) access to new financing schemes in the absence of commercial bank lending; (2) faster, leaner, and cheaper logistical channels, (3) support access to international buyers and opening of new markets, (4) expanded access to market information to identify real potential entry channels. While access to finance and streamlining custom procedures were identified as priority interventions, access to market intelligence and information was also considered equally important to exporters and critical for them to expand and grow.

While export promotion services are usually provided by one centralized entity which is the investment/export promotion agency, in the case of Lebanon, many entities are involved in trade promotion services. Based on the assessment conducted, the PSDP will focus on strengthening the

export value chain through partnering with stakeholders on existing initiatives that foster access to markets. This will include:

- Providing institutional support to IDAL to streamline the access of SMEs to new markets. Following the assessment, the PSDP will provide support to IDAL through promoting ready-to-export Lebanese companies and products to international buyers through facilitating access to trade fairs. This will take place through the creation of an export portal that will centralize all the legal/administrative and market intelligence information needed by international buyers to access Lebanese SMEs. In terms of progress, the export web portal functional design was finalized, the content of the portal is almost final and a virtual fair in France that will enable 15 SME to access buyers was identified for Q2 of 2021. The project finalized a web portal functional design and identified Buyers to Buyers' meetings. These results represent partial achievements of the second output in supporting IDAL.
- Provide capacity building to MSME through a training center and online academy. The programme will equip Lebanese companies with the knowledge and skills to be ready to export, in partnership with the private sector. This will consist of the development of an online academy and at a later stage of a training center that will provide cutting-edge training courses geared towards business management and marketing knowledge. An innovative training curriculum will be delivered with different target beneficiaries, including beginners in export, more advanced courses for established SMEs, and programs dedicated for women in export. The ultimate objective is to help MSMEs overcome various structural and non-structural challenges and access new markets. Progress on that front: The training curricula are being developed, partners are being identified and the online academy portal ToR finalized.
- Provide market intelligence support and capacity building to the MoET national trade portal (LEBTRADE) that will centralize all requirements needed by agriculture and agro-food companies to export
- Provide institutional support for government counterparts
- **On the micro level, outcome 3** aims to improve the capacity of women farmers, women-led cooperatives and women-led micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), as well as men-led entities in productive sectors to create and sustain gender equitable job opportunities and adopt environmentally sustainable practices. Based on desk research, literature review and previous UN efforts and available Value Chains (VC) assessments, 13 potential VCs were selected and assessed further. This took into consideration potential for growth and industrial export, high potential for the participation of women, and area where agro-industrial linkages can be strengthened. The selection also takes into consideration the latest crises, such as the risk to food insecurity. Following the in-depth scanning of up to 40 products or product groups, and a qualitative analysis 13 VCs were shortlisted. This took into account the most inclusive VCs for women and have the highest potential for enhancing women's full and equitable participation and growth.

As a second step, a second qualitative assessment was conducted, based on stakeholders' consultations, analysis of the 13 VCs based on a selection matrix, in addition to a series of interviews with SMEs. This methodology led to a further shortlisting of 6 VCs for potential intervention through PSDP.

As a third step, a survey of 250 SMEs and cooperatives was conducted developing key quantitative indicators based this primary data.

This mainly captured the changes that have emerged in both the agriculture and agro-industry sectors in 2020. The inception report includes the selection of priority agro-food VC to be targeted by the programme through two agro-food service centers (in close collaboration with the MoA) to implement the project activities. Thus, under this component, there are two main outcomes:

- **Outcome 3.1:** Improved productive capacity and skills of women and men farmers, women-led cooperatives, and women and men-led MSMEs in targeted value chains while becoming more knowledgeable of environmentally sound business practices, efficient energy measures,

and environmentally sustainable agriculture. Based on the quantitative findings, a qualitative in-depth analysis of the VCs selected including a detailed gender assessment will be conducted in 2021. The overall assessment will focus on the role of the farmers, cooperatives, and SMEs in their respective value chains, as well as the different challenges and needs to better understand the gaps and how to best intervene to reach the programme's objectives. This will lead to the final selection of the VC of intervention under PSDP. Under this outcome the programme will be providing technical support for the development of targeted agriculture and agro-food VC that have a high potential of job generation for women, promoting businesses practices that are efficient in terms of energy, material, and resource use. Low environmental footprint, and potential for increasing economic empowerment of women will also be prioritized.

- **Outcome 3.2:** Improved skills of female and male youth in targeted value chains strengthening their employability and entrepreneurship capacities. To ensure a coherent approach to UN support and service delivery, the PSDP will provide direct services to women and men farmers, women-led cooperatives and women, and men-led MSMEs. To analyze the services provided by potential host service centers, the centers were assessed based on:

- The status of their infrastructure
- Previous trainings and work related to the project
- Existing activity in the area
- High potential for sustainability and possibility to be hosted and maintained by a governmental or non-governmental institution
- Previous experience in managing project and implementing training
- Access to a large number of women beneficiaries and women-led SMEs
- Target the most vulnerable communities and villages
- Accommodate and train beneficiaries on multiple technical and management topics,
- Area has good potential for growth in target value chains.

A mapping of existing service centers was conducted, which includes information from institutional partners, self-assessment of interested services centers through an open call, and Self-assessment of relevant counterparts. Based on the results, 4 service centers were shortlisted and will be assessed further through field visits and interviews in 2021. The service center selection process will be finalized in collaboration with PSDP partners. The final recommendations will be presented during the first TCC meeting for endorsement. Under this component, PSDP will roll out gender-sensitive business support services and coaching to existing and newly created MSMEs prioritizing women and youth starts-ups in priority value chains and conduct apprenticeship and paid on-the-job training to vulnerable female and male youth in focus sectors.

- The Gender Equality Strategy of the programme will be developed in 2021 applying an intersectional feminist lens to the analysis of gender in the PSDP and focusing on structural barriers as well as the multiplicity of challenges faced by women from different communities. The strategy will examine the challenges that exist within the agricultural and agro-food sector and will guide the PSDP partners to optimally mainstream gender within their activities; and will set the gender-sensitive monitoring framework, including indicators that capture the impact on the identified gender barriers. The strategy will be updated following project milestones, taking into account all successes and challenges, and ultimately act as guidance for all future PSDP phases.
- **Delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned, and best practices**

The inception phase that was initially planned for 6 months, incurred a 3-months delay, and will be finalized by the end of April instead of the end of January due to the challenges mentioned above. Also, the series of lockdown restrictions and the Beirut port blast that put all PUNOs in emergency mode to provide urgent assistance to affected population which has also delayed the inception phase.

During the inception phase, special considerations were also placed to analyze and address crosscutting mandates in export promotion amongst different government entities/ministries. A comprehensive plan of collaboration between all government entities was proposed to streamline end-user experience.

- **Qualitative assessment:**

Following the crisis in Lebanon, internal assessments were conducted by PUNOs to evaluate whether the project outcomes and outputs still apply taking into consideration the COVID-19 pandemic, August blast, and economic crisis. The main challenges facing the productive sector were related to the depreciation of the currency and thus the increase in import cost simultaneously with the difficult access to financing. The temporary lockdown and further reductions in consumer demand due to COVID-19 have deprived businesses of much-needed income and further exacerbated adverse financial conditions. Business closures and employees' layoffs are being reported across all sectors, with women being disproportionately affected. Particularly in the agro-food sector, yields are likely to decrease as farmers are moving towards low input agriculture and choosing substitution for cheaper alternatives or decreasing quantities of inputs used, raising food security concerns in the country. Thus, the assessments concluded that PSDP's outcomes are a priority in Lebanon to reduce the negative repercussions of the ongoing crisis and respond to the agro-food sector's needs.



**ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:**

	<b><u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
<p><b>Outcome 1.</b> Improved enabling policy environment for women economic empowerment and participation in productive sectors <b>Indicator:</b> # of laws/regulations that address women’s participation in the informal sector and promote women economic empowerment, specifically agriculture and food/home-based businesses revised and submitted for adoption to parliament <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 5</p>	<p>The legislative review has already been initiated internally by UN Women, with the full review and advocacy tasks to start incrementally, followed by the lobbying efforts with parliamentarians to advocate for legislative change.</p>		-
<p><b>Outcome 1.1</b> Improved enabling policy environment for women economic empowerment and participation in productive sectors <b>Indicator:</b> of key government/parliament members who have increased awareness of the needed reforms and have participated in key dialogue initiatives <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b>30</p>			
<p><b>Output 1.1.1</b> Conduct gender analysis (using feminist and participatory approaches) and generate gender analysis reports on intervention areas <b>Indicator</b> # of Gender Analysis reports developed <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 2</p>			
<b>Output 1.1.2</b>	This output will follow the		

<p>Develop gender responsive policy and legislative reforms related to agriculture/food/home-based business sectors which address key barriers for women’s economic participation in order to facilitate policy dialogue and reform amongst national stakeholders, government bodies, and the private sector</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of comprehensive gender audits developed</p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 1</b></p>	<p>legislative and policy review and lobbying efforts by the PSDP team and relevant stakeholders. Key to this output will be the validation consultations UN Women will conduct with national stakeholders, to build momentum and a strong advocacy group to lobby with parliamentarians and the private sector; which will determine the success level of the policy reform at national level.</p>		
<p><b>Outcome 2.</b></p> <p>Improved access to markets for women and men-led Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in productive sectors</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> % of supported women/men lead MSMEs/agricultural cooperatives that register an increase in their exports within 1 year of the intervention</p> <p><b>Baseline:0</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: 30%</b></p>			
<p><b>Outcome 2.1</b></p> <p><b>Enhanced capacity of national institutions to support exports in productive sectors and promote women entrepreneurship</b></p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> % of supported women/men lead MSMEs/agricultural cooperatives that register an increase in their exports within 1 year of the intervention</p> <p><b>Baseline: TBD</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target: TBD</b></p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> % of women and men trained by the programme that report an increased knowledge of the quality standards required for exports based on post training assessment</p>	<p>The inception report was finalized, and feedback is being discussed with all stakeholders to be subsequently integrated. The inception report included consultations with women and men led SMEs as well as public and private sector stakeholders involved in the export value chain. International best practices study on export support services was also completed.</p>		

<p><b>Baseline: 0</b>  <b>Planned Target: 80%</b>  <b>Indicator:</b> % of women and men led MSMEs establishing B2B contacts with buyers</p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b>  <b>Planned Target: 30 SME</b>  <b>Indicator:</b> % of women and men led MSMEs benefiting from access to trade intelligence</p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b>  <b>Planned Target: 70 SME</b></p>			
<p><b>Output 2.1.1</b>  Establish an online export academy and export training center</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of online portal developed  # of centers set up</p> <p><b>Baseline:0</b>  <b>Planned Target:1</b></p> <p><b>Baseline:0</b>  <b>Planned Target:1</b></p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of technical training programmes developed by the center</p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b>  <b>Planned Target: 10</b></p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of MSMEs/agriculture cooperatives supported by the center (at least 50% women-led)</p> <p><b>Baseline:0</b>  <b>Planned Target: 25-30</b></p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of women and men trained that report a high level of satisfaction with the training based on post training evaluation</p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b>  <b>Planned Target: 70%</b></p>	<p>An assessment of the host institution for the training center was completed using the ITC methodology, and included consultations with potential candidates. Recommendation for the host entity will be validated with steering committee members in 2021.</p> <p>A benchmark study was conducted to understand type of training packages offered to exporters, modality of training provision and experts involved in delivering these courses.</p> <p>A proposal for a comprehensive training curriculum was developed based on a stakeholders' assessment and mapping of existing training provided to SMEs. The proposal will be reviewed with the host institution once selected in 2021.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference of the</p>		

	Online Academy was completed, and content of the portal was initiated.		
<p><b>Output 2.1.2</b> Support IDAL to implement its export promotion strategy for the agriculture and agro-food sectors.</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of export portal developed # of MSMEs supported with better market access (at least 50% women-led)</p> <p><b>Baseline: 0</b> <b>Planned Target: 1</b> <b>Baseline: TBD</b> <b>Planned Target: +40 SME supported</b></p>	<p>The Terms of Reference of IDAL export portal, including wireframe and structure was completed and content of the portal was initiated and is 50% complete.</p> <p>The Agro Food exporter directory, which is one of the main components of the portal has been populated and plan is to validate entries with exporters in 2021</p> <p>One Agro Food fair has been identified and a proposal for outreach and B2B meetings has been developed and will be implemented in 2021</p>		
<p><b>Output 2.1.3</b> Support the national trade portal LEBTRADE implementation</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # market studies developed and published <b>Baseline: 0</b> <b>Planned Target: 8</b></p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # women and men led SME benefiting from trade intelligence services <b>Baseline: 0</b> <b>Planned Target: +70 SME</b></p>	<p>Terms of Reference for the section of the portal related to the Agro Food sector was completed.</p> <p>National trade guide was finalized and will reviewed by the Ministry of Economy and Trade in 2021.</p> <p>Market report on the GCC markets was completed and will reviewed by the Ministry of Economy and Trade in 2021</p>	<p>A new output was added to reflect the needs of exporters to access information on external markets potential and requirements to ensure more informed decisions for entering new markets.</p> <p>The LEBTRADE platform implemented by the Dutch government, is a national portal that centralizes all the administration and technical requirements needed by exporters in the Agriculture sector to access new markets. Developing similar information for exporters in the Agro Food sector will further centralize trade relation information, not only optimizing the exporter</p>	

		journey but also paving the way for more sustainable tools for government entities.	
<p><b>Outcome 3</b> Improved capacity of women farmers, women-led cooperatives and women-led micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), as well as men-led entities in productive sectors to create and sustain gender equitable job opportunities and adopt environmentally sustainable practices</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> #of jobs created or maintained for women and men <b>Baseline:</b> TBD <b>Planned Target:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of women and men led MSMEs/cooperatives registering increasing income within 1 year of the intervention <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 40%</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of MSMEs who have signed and implemented the Women Economic Empowerment Principles within 6 months of having finished the training <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 50%</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of beneficiary women and men-led MSMEs who have adopted environmentally sound practices <b>Baseline:</b> TBD <b>Planned Target:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of beneficiary women and men farmers who have adopted environmentally sustainable agriculture practices <b>Baseline:</b> TBD</p>			

<p><b>Planned Target:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Outcome 3.1</b> Improved productive capacity and skills of women and men farmers, women-led cooperatives and women and men-led MSMEs in targeted value chains while becoming more knowledgeable of environmentally sound business practices, efficient energy measures and environmentally sustainable agriculture</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> % of women and men led MSMEs/cooperatives registering increased production or improved quality within 6 months of the intervention</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 70%</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of beneficiary women and men-led MSMEs who showcase better awareness on environmentally sound practices after the training</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of beneficiary women and men farmers who have more awareness environmentally sustainable agriculture practices after the intervention</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> % of MSMEs who showcase good awareness of Women Economic Empowerment Principles after the training based on post training assessment</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 50%</p>	<p>The Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) and skills training components are set to begin when the value chains are selected, and training topics and beneficiaries identified.</p>		-
<p><b>Output 3.1.1</b> Provide technical support for the development of targeted agriculture and agro-food value chains that have high</p>	<p>An inception report has been conducted to advise on the selection of the priority agro-food value chain of intervention in the programme as</p>		

<p>potential of job generation for women  <b>Indicator</b> # of women and men-led MSMEs/agricultural cooperatives supported with technology transfer. (at least 50% women-led)  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD  <b>Planned Target:</b> +15-20  <b>Indicator</b> # of women and men receiving technical skills training in the target value chain (75% women)  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD  <b>Planned Target:</b> 500  <b>Indicator</b> # of women and men farmers (at least 75% women) supported through awareness sessions, training and/or provision of inputs  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD  <b>Planned Target:</b> 250  <b>Indicator</b> # of women and men farmers and farm workers (at least 75% women) technically trained on Good Agricultural Practices (therefore reducing environment footprint and enhancing food safety) and on occupational safety and health (targeting children, particularly girls)  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD  <b>Planned Target:</b> 140  <b>Indicator</b> # of farms (at least 50% women-led) certified for Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD  <b>Planned Target:</b> 60</p>	<p>well as the selection of 2 centers to implement the project activities. Accordingly, a scientific and inclusive methodology has been adopted throughout the assessment and approved by the participating UN agencies and the counterparts. It consists of a Value chain scanning, Preliminary qualitative assessment, a quantitative assessment, and in-depth qualitative assessment which will help in capturing the dynamic of changes that have emerged in both the agriculture and agro-industry sectors in 2020. Based on the quantitative findings, a qualitative in-depth analysis of the value chains selected has been conducted in parallel with a detailed gender assessment to lead to the final selection of the Value Chain of intervention.</p> <p>As for the service centers, the methodology took into consideration the selection criteria mentioned in the programme document, and topped it with a self-assessment for all the agriculture and agro-industry centers in Lebanon, an in-depth- assessment for the pre-selected centers has been also conducted to lead to the final selection that will be endorsed in the steering committee.</p>		
<p><b>Output 3.1.2</b>  Promote businesses practices that are efficient in terms of energy, material, and</p>	<p>This final design and implementation of this component will start when the target region and</p>		

<p>resource use, and have low environmental footprint</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of women and men-led MSMEs trained on environmental sustainability (at least 75% women-led MSMEs)</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 40</p>	<p>the value chain are selected and finalized</p>		
<p><b>Output 3.1.3</b></p> <p>Economic empowerment of women in prioritized agriculture and agro food value chains</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of women and men-led MSMEs trained on WEP</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 20</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> # of women benefiting from leadership and business management training</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 600</p>	<p>The WEPS and skills training components are set to begin in 2021, when the value chains are selected, and training topics and beneficiaries identified.</p>		
<p><b>Outcome 3.2</b></p> <p>Improved skills of female and male youth in targeted value chains strengthening their employability and entrepreneurship capacities</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> % of women and men led MSMEs/cooperatives registering increased production or improved quality within 6 months of the intervention</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b></p>			
<p><b>Output 3.2.1</b></p> <p>Rolling out gender sensitive business support services and coaching to existing and newly created MSMEs prioritizing women and youth starts ups in priority value chains</p>	<p>Based on the selection of the service center and agreed value chain, the PSDP will proceed in coaching and training female and male MSMEs</p>		



<p><b>Indicator</b># of female and male youth (at least 50% female youth)  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD  <b>Planned Target:</b> TBD</p>			
<p><b>Output 3.2.2</b>  Apprenticeship and paid on the job training provided to vulnerable female and male youth in focus sectors  <b>Indicator</b> # of youth supported with agriculture employment support services (e.g. guidance, business mentorship, internships, on the job training, or apprenticeship) (at least 50% female youth)  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD  <b>Planned Target:</b> 500</p>	<p>Based on the findings of the value chain analysis and its final recommendations, PSDP will design a tailored and matching skills building program in the agriculture productive sector for young interested males and females</p>		

#### **IV. Programmatic Revisions**

Based on internal assessment, the programme revisions are:

- There is three months delay in the inception phase and will be finalized in end of April 2021 instead of the end of January.
- At the micro level activities, the results of the value chains selection and the agro-service centers will define the area of work and this might impact the number of beneficiaries set. A review of the log frame, work plan, and development of the M&E framework will take place after approval by TCC of the value chain and centers.