



## United Nations Development Programme

Country: Eritrea

Project Document



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

### Project Title:

Support to promotion of sustainable livelihoods, enhanced community solidarity and resilience in Eritrea

### SPCF Outcome(s):

Selected government institutions have the capacity to effectively and efficiently provide services to all

Poor and vulnerable households have improved access to and utilization of quality food and enhanced livelihood opportunities

### Expected CP Outcome(s):

- Effective human and institutional capacity development.
- Women and youth have the skills to participate in income generating activities and are employed.
- Policy level Food Security Strategy broadened and ensures access to and utilization of quality food and the improvement of livelihoods.

### Expected Output (s):

- Entry points identified for longer-term UN engagement in building capacity in the area of international relations, strategic analysis, human rights, diplomatic engagement and implementation of the Universal Periodic Review recommendations, underpinning support to the Government of Eritrea to elaborate strategies and policies related to conflict prevention, mitigation and response;
- Strengthened capacity of UNCT in integrating community solidarity, peace building and resilience into the programmes being delivered in the areas identified under the Strategic Cooperation Framework and the UNDP Country Programme Document
- Support strengthened livelihoods opportunities for displaced communities due to dry seasons and host communities as a means of strengthening community solidarity and building community residence livelihood and development.
- Increased awareness and capacity of the community especially the village water committees and range land committees strengthened on disaster preparedness and prevention of conflict emanating from land use and other natural resources to reinforce community solidarity to ensure social economic infrastructure contributes to social cohesion.

**Implementing Partner:**  
Southern Red Sea Region

Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with ministry for national development and

## Brief Description

Building on the current improved relationship between the UN and government, the opportunity offered by signing a new cooperation framework the SPCF and the importance of Eritrea in influencing regional peace and security; the project aims to support activities for strengthening community resilience through support for food security and sustainable livelihoods, access to water, and build mechanisms of village committees for stronger solidarity and resilience mechanisms. In supporting the capacity of selected communities, the project envisages to support youth and women's capacity to engage and work in food security and livelihoods to build medium and long term resilience and minimizing risks, prevent man-made and/or natural shocks, avert major development setbacks and promote sustainable human development.

Furthermore the proposed project aims to support and strengthen UNDP's and the UNCT's engagement in Eritrea through the provision of analytical and strategic advice, high quality technical support, conflict prevention analysis, identification and development of entry points or international advocacy in support of national efforts for sustainable development.




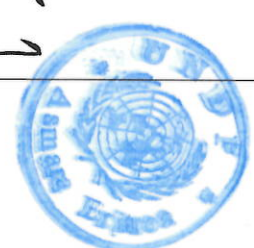
In other words, the fund requested from BCPR will support various activities for enhanced community solidarity, resilience, food security and sustainable livelihoods in selected areas of the country. The resources will also contribute to the recruitment of a Policy Advisor to help the UN's efforts in strategic analysis and international advocacy to accompany Eritrea's development efforts. The project will start in the Southern Red Sea and it is expected that the project will be scaled up with availability of more resources to cover more areas and to ensure sustainability of results.

Programme Period:	<b>May 2014 - May 2015</b>
Key Result Area (Strategic Plan)	Inclusive and Sustainable Development
Atlas Award ID:	_____
Start date:	May 2014
End Date	May 2015
PAC Meeting Date	_____
Management Arrangements	NIM

Total resources required:	<b>635,000</b>
Total allocated resources:	<b>635,000</b>
• Regular:	
• Other:	
o BCPR/UNDP	<b>635,000</b>
o Donor	
o Government	
o Unfunded budget:	
In-kind Contributions	

Agreed by (Ministry of Agriculture)

Agreed by (UNDP)

## I. SITUATION ANALYSIS

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Eritrea is categorised among the low developed countries (LDCs). It is a country affected by short rains and long dry seasons causing floods and droughts, water stress, land degradation, rising temperatures and deforestation. These factors undermine efforts towards attaining sustainable development, poverty reduction, food security, and improved livelihoods. At the moment, about 70 per cent of the country's population, most of whom are women and children, reside in rural areas and predominantly rely on crop and rain-fed agriculture, livestock and fisheries for employment and income generation. In particular, food security has severely deteriorated. According to WFP, Eritrea produced 13-20% of the 300,000 MT annual food requirements. Prices of most market commodities, including staple grains, pulses, and animal feed are increasing annually. This has been aggravated by fuel shortages that affect economic activities across the board.

Because rainfall is very seasonal torrential and of short duration, in general, precipitation ranges from 200mm - 700mm throughout the country. Agriculture is mainly subsistence, most farmers produce for consumption with minimum production for the market. Low agricultural productions have caused increases in prices. The rising food prices has further undermined food security and threatened the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people due to their already limited purchasing power. Poor agricultural production combined with increasing food prices and lack of income generating opportunities, increases community vulnerability. In efforts to cope with the situation communities will consume less food with no balanced diets. They will sometimes sell this seeds or livestock to buy food, in turn they have no enough reserves for other necessities.. This affects the people's productive capabilities.

As a result, the communities coping mechanisms could be affected over time, hence the urgent need for increased resilience<sup>1</sup> building with the integrated programmatic approach across multiple practice areas including Disaster Risk Reduction and social cohesion, and with an area-based approach, to link recovery efforts with sustainable development. It is important to work with all levels of society and government (i.e. individual, community, institutional

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<sup>1</sup> UNDP defines resilience as “a transformative process of strengthening the capacity of men, women, communities, institutions, and countries to anticipate, prevent, recover from, and transform in the aftermath of shocks, stresses, and change”. Resilience’ is an inherent as well as acquired condition achieved by managing risks over time at individual, household, community and societal levels in ways that minimize costs, build capacity to manage and sustain development momentum and maximize transformative potential.

levels) to address the multiple causes and drivers of vulnerability; linking resilience based approaches to solidarity community cohesion and disaster sensitivity; and strengthening preparedness for effective response at all levels. Although the country is prone to natural and manmade disasters, very little has been done in the area of disaster preparedness, mitigation and contingency planning, nor is there sufficient capacity at the local level to address community disputes that may arise from these problems hence the need to support increased preparedness and community solidarity.

The capacities for the UN's and the country to engage in strategic analysis of the situation and to increase international advocacy is very critical to accompany the nation's efforts towards improved community livelihoods and economic development.

## **II. STRATEGY**

The overall objective of the project is to create the conditions and develop partnerships for the enhancement of sustainable and disaster risk resilient livelihoods in the drought affected communities with a focus on IDPs and host communities, while strengthening the UNCT for longer-term UN engagement in Eritrea.

It aims to contribute to outcome two outcomes of the Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework (2013-2016) namely:

Outcome 2: "Selected government institutions have the capacity to effectively and efficiently deliver services to all"

Outcome 6: "Poor and vulnerable households have improved access to, and utilization of quality food and enhanced livelihood opportunities"

It will also contribute to CPD outcomes namely;

- Effective human and institutional capacity development.
- Women and youth have the skills to participate in income generating activities and are employed.
- Policy level Food Security Strategy broadened and ensures access to and utilization of quality food and the improvement of livelihoods

Through the deployment of a Policy Advisor, this PIP aims to provide analytical and strategic advice to UNDP and the UNCT to create the conditions for their engagement in Eritrea in capacity building and high quality technical support, resilience, community cohesion and livelihoods. This will identify strategies for underpinning support to the Government of Eritrea to elaborate and strengthen existing strategies and policies related to community solidarity

and peace building. The project builds on the existing projects on improvement of livelihoods at the community level and will look at the potential for drawing on existing local mechanisms for cohesion, such as village committees and any other methods used by the people.

The Advisor will also support the UNDP and UNCT to identify and establish strategic partnerships with key national stakeholders, such as central ministries and institutions and development partners. It will work with partners on strategies for achieving the objectives defined in the Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework and the Country Programme Document.

The PIP also aims to develop activities for restoring livelihoods strategies and increasing food productivity of targeted communities and regions for the drought affected communities, in particular targeting the already resettled former IDPs and other vulnerable communities which lack the mechanisms to address the increased pressures on livelihoods and agricultural production, building on previous UNDP work on Recovery, Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods in order to recover from the impact of the drought and “build back better” with the following two complementary activities:

(a) emergency employment creation through cash for work for the rehabilitation of socio-economic infrastructure; and (b) food security improvement through improving productivity of grazing lands and livestock towards sustainable livelihoods. The project will increase food supply and security by improving purchasing capacity of target population through cash for work and enhancement of water access and improved productivity of grazing lands and their livestock.

By developing potential strategies for supporting the establishment of village water committees and rangeland development committees and the development of their capacities in disaster risk reduction and social integration, the project will ensure that livelihoods interventions are disaster risk reduction and conflict sensitive. UNDP will also seek to build disaster risk reduction mainstreaming practices and mechanism that can be further scaled up to other provinces.

The Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework emphasizes gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women in all sectors, including in areas related to sustainable livelihoods, agriculture, and integrated water resources management. There large number of female-headed households provides the opportunity to strengthen the role of women in building and support capacity for achieving community resilience. Therefore the National Union of Eritrean Women has been identified as a potential partner and at the village-level.

### III. SCALING UP

Initial activities will be implemented in the Southern Red Sea Region to support settled former IDS and host communities, with the aim of scaling up to other regions once funds are available. The project will also build on the successful previous UNDP programmes that were scaled up from Joint Programme on IDPs/expellees return/resettlement to Transition and Early Recovery and then to Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods and will complement other existing and ongoing projects such as the project “supporting to poor and vulnerable artisanal fishermen and women to build communities resilience by creating employment, increasing their food security and income via better fish catch.

### IV. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

**Output 1:** Strategic analysis is undertaken to inform the development of programmatic options and identify entry points in building capacity in the area of international relations, strategic analysis, human rights, diplomatic engagement and implementation of the Universal Periodic Review recommendations, underpinning support to the Government of Eritrea to elaborate strategies and policies related to conflict prevention, mitigation and response; Under this output, the Policy Advisor would undertake strategic analysis to enhance community solidarity and peace building in collaboration with the UN Country Team. The analysis would build an understanding of the context as well as identifying existing mechanisms that could be strengthened for community solidarity and peace building, or mechanisms to manage and maintain harmony at the community level, such as village committees. The Advisor will also support the RC and UNCT in their engagement with Government to strengthen international advocacy of this strategy through for example the implementation of the Universal Periodic Review recommendations. Through the analysis and liaison, the Advisor would identify entry points for strengthening national capacity on social cohesion, resilience and peace building. The entry points would be in line with the outcomes in the Strategic Cooperation Partnership Framework and the UNDP Country Programme Document. In turn, this output would aim to lead to strengthened national capacity in the implementation of the Government’s plan and strategies related to social cohesion and sustainable development.

**Output 2:** Strengthened capacity of UNCT in integrating community solidarity, peace building and resilience into the programmes being delivered in the areas identified under the Strategic Cooperation Framework and the UNDP Country Programme Document. Considering the importance of Eritrea in regional peace and building on Eritrea’s strength in community cohesion and solidarity, the Advisor will work to build the UNCT understanding of the context

and integrate community resilience, solidarity and peace building into the existing and proposed programmes and projects under the Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework and the UNDP Country Programme Document. This will ensure programmes and engagement are designed in such a way as to be alert to potential natural or manmade shocks that may hamper community development. Community solidarity and peace building mechanisms based on existing structures like community committees highlight not only the strategies to mitigate risk, but also the opportunities where programming can directly contribute to the building of national capacities for social cohesion, such as capacities to manage resources, capacities to develop implementation plans of the Universal Period Review mechanism for human rights.

**Output 3:** Support strengthened livelihoods opportunities for displaced communities due to dry seasons and volcanic activity and host communities as a means of strengthening community solidarity and building community residence livelihood and development.

Displacement of villages and communities occurs in Eritrea due to deteriorating livestock conditions and poor water sources due to long dry seasons. In particular, female-headed households are vulnerable to displacement. With the long drought in the Southern Red Sea region, livestock watering points have become scarce and have also strained host communities.

First the project will create emergency employment opportunities in the form of cash for work. Cash for work involve the provision of wage payments in exchange for labour through short-term activities such as rehabilitation and development of socio-economic infrastructure –e.g. soil and water conservation structures, including water cistern, terracing on grazing lands and construction of watering points. Secondly, the project will strengthen food security through access to water and rangeland, as well as restocking of livestock and improved animal husbandry.

The interventions will help in natural disaster preparedness and enhance community solidarity and peace building through the assessments and also the establishment and capacity development of the rangeland development committees and village water committees to manage the socio economic infrastructure and advocate for disaster risk reduction, in particular the water facilities in the communities and to become a means of community dialogue and resolution of tensions related to livelihoods and natural resources.

The project will also contribute to building social cohesion, as different factions of society (people who were displaced due to long dry seasons and host community members) work together on projects for a common cause. The selection of beneficiaries and sites as well as implementation of development and rehabilitation of socio-economic

infrastructure will be conducted through close consultation with the rangeland development committees and village water committees. In order to forestall conflict over the use of natural resources between people displaced because of long dry seasons or volcanic activity and host communities, the project will build the capacities of village water committees and rangeland development committees to mediate and be a space for dialogue on these issues of the use of natural resources.

The project will contribute to the overall goal of the Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods programme. In particular, it will increase the productivity of pastoral production system and resilience to recurrent drought in the target communities. In addition, it will build implementing partners' capacity to use a decentralized approach to respond to the effects of volcanic eruption/ earth quake as well as drought and recovery.

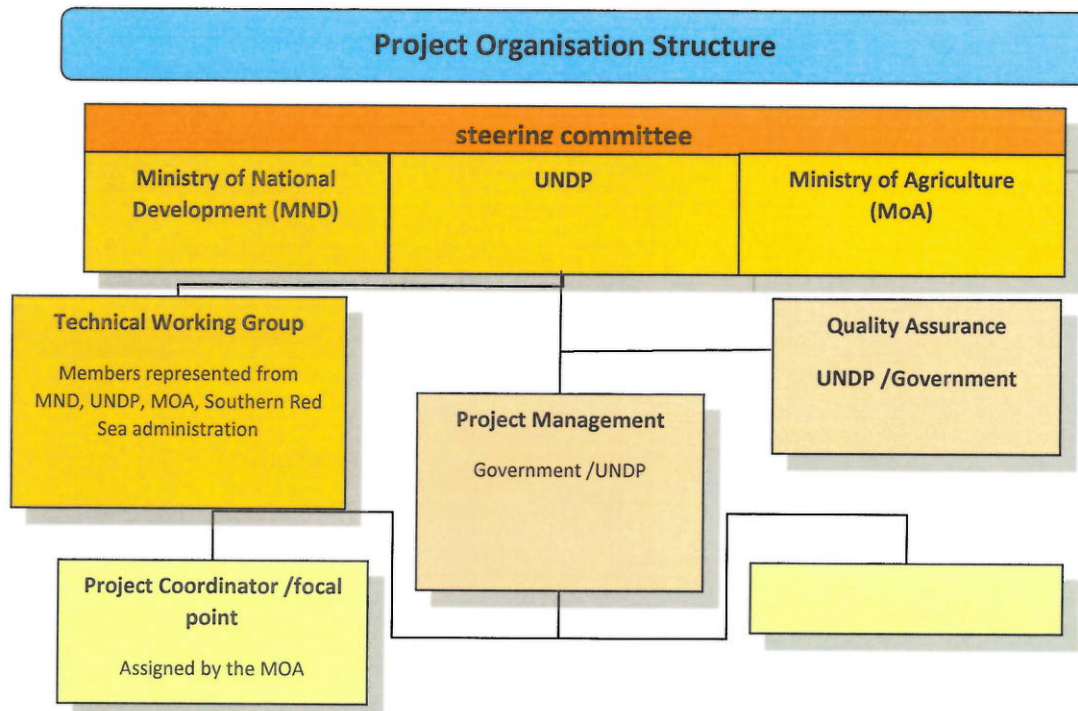
**Output 4.** Increased awareness and capacity of the community especially village water committees and range land committees strengthened on disaster preparedness and prevention of conflict emanating from land use and other natural resources to reinforce community solidarity to ensure social economic infrastructure contributes to social cohesion.

The national strategy for disaster risk reduction is yet to be at national level. Through this project the idea of disaster risk reduction and preparedness will be advocated and tested at the local level; this will demonstrate its effectiveness and influence national level policy makers the project will undertake advocacy meeting with regional, sub-regional and local officials, organize awareness campaigns and recruit national consultant to assess risks of targeted population

## **V. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The project will be implemented in close consultation with the relevant ministry and institution like Southern Red sea administration administration as identified in the strategic analysis. UNDP will be responsible for ensuring effective and efficient implementation of the project. Under the leadership and guidance of the DRP (P) the Inclusive and Sustainable Development Team will manage, support monitor, review, and comprise project assurance mechanism for the project. The Team will coordinate and supervise the delivery of the key outputs outlined in the proposal and also do the relevant reporting obligations.





### Project Steering Committee (PSC)

The project is designed for a period of one year and will be implemented by Ministry of Agriculture. The project PSC will be set up composed of UNDP, MND, MOA .. The main role of the PSC is to provide oversight and quality assurance and approve annual work plans and resource allocation. The project PSC decides on resource allocation and submit instructions for disbursement of fund based on its approval.

### Technical Working Group (TWG)

The TWG will be formed at the implementation level to ensure delivery of results as described in the work plan. The TWG will be represented from UNDP, MND, MOA and Southern Red Sea Administration Region

### Programme Management

The Programme Management will be responsible for the management of the project day to day implementation, reporting on the project implementation, liaising with the concerned implementing partners and stakeholders and coordination and follow up for timely submission of reports.

### Project Assurance

The project assurance is responsible for oversight to ensure UNDP's rules and procedures are followed, due processes are met in terms of budget utilization as per the plan, timely submission of report both financial and narrative progress reports and quality project implementation.

### **Project coordinator/focal person**

The project coordinator will be assigned by the MoA and will be responsible to follow up project implementation and inform project status as well as Project Progress Report.

## **VI. MONITORING and EVALUATION**

In accordance with the programming policies and procedures outline in the UNDP and Government , the project will be monitored through the following:

Within the Annual cycle

- ✓ The project will be monitored on a quarterly basis by UNDP, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Governor of the respective administrative region to observe progress made, and resolve issues and challenges that may impede implementation.
- ✓ A total of US\$20,000 of the overall budget have been allocated for Monitoring and Evaluation, including to cover cost of one mid-term evaluation to ensure results and and/or lessons-learned from the initiation phase are captured and to inform the design of the subsequent strategic direction and activities. The end of project evaluation: The end of project evaluation will include an analysis of project contribution to enhance the community resilience through creation of viable employment options and generation of sustainable income among the beneficiaries in the targeted areas on main targets at outcome, output and process/activity level). The changes/impact identified will be documented and published. In particular, an innovative approach to rehabilitate water infrastructure using the traditional knowledge such as a water cistern will be well documented for knowledge systematization and can be shared with other country offices through the global COP on Livelihoods and Economic Recovery.

## **VII. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The project foresees that lessons learned from the local recovery planning processes, and from the immediate results generated from its implementation, will be properly documented. These lessons learned will be incorporated into the knowledge management products of the project which will be used for further scaling up the interventions. All activities in the project will be used to generate lessons learnt for documentation.

## **VIII. LEGAL CONTEXT**

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Eritrea and UNDP, signed on 11 June 1994.

## ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Year: May 2014 – April 2015

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES/OUTPUTS	TIMEFRAME (2014/15)			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET	
						Funding Source	Budget Description
<p><b>Output 1:</b> Strategic analysis is undertaken to inform the development of programmatic options and identify entry points in building capacity in the area of international relations, strategic analysis, human rights, diplomatic engagement and implementation of the Universal Periodic Review recommendations, underpinning support to the Government of Eritrea to elaborate strategies and policies related to conflict prevention, mitigation and response;</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> UNCT has undertaken some planning on UPR engagement, no current programme of engagement on social cohesion, conflict prevention and mitigation nor in the area of strategic analysis. Need strategy of engagement with identified entry points and partners</p> <p><b>Indicators:</b> Strategy developed and agreed by partners on social cohesion Conflict analysis undertaken Agreement on activities to be implemented to further social cohesion</p> <p><b>Targets</b> 1. CO and UNDP develop a project to support government in social cohesion and peace building</p>	1.1 Recruit a Policy Advisor (P4)			BCPR /UN DPA/ UNDP Eritrea Country Office (CO)	BCPR and UN DPA	Peace and Development Advisor (FTA) – P4 level Conflict analysis	135,000
	1.2 Undertake conflict analysis with the United Nations Country Team			Government/UNDP			
	1.3 Identify and build relationships with key government and community partners			Government/UNDP			
	1.4 Identify, in consultation with government colleagues, relevant recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review that can be implemented and build on to further social cohesion and conflict prevention			Government/UNDP			
	1.5 Prepare strategy on social cohesion and peace building for the Resident Coordinator and United Nations Country Team			Government/UNDP			
	1.6 Engage government and partners leading to UN strategy for engagement on peace building and social cohesion being supported						

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES/OUTPUTS	TIMEFRAME (2014/15)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET	
				Funding Source	Budget Description Amount (USD)
<p><b>Output 2:</b> Strengthened capacity of UNCT in integrating conflict sensitivity into the programmes being delivered in the areas identified under the Strategic Cooperation Framework and the UNDP Country Programme Document.</p> <p><b>Baseline</b> No conflict analysis exists to inform the UN programming</p> <p><b>Indicator</b> Conflict analysis conducted and shared with UN Country Team</p> <p>UN Country Team engagement adjusted in response to conflict analysis and peace building</p> <p>New engagement developed in response to conflict analysis and peace building</p> <p><b>Target</b> UN Country Team engagements adhere to the principles of conflict sensitivity and complement the aims of social cohesion</p>	<p>2.1 Advise Resident Coordinator and UN agencies on developments relevant to social coherence and peace building</p> <p>2.2 Build capacity of UN Country Team in relation to outcomes of conflict analysis and conflict sensitivity and peace building, through trainings and briefings; possibility also for working with national partners for capacity building on conflict sensitivity</p>		Government/UNDP  Government/UNDP	BCPR and UN DPA	<p>Sub Total: 135,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conflict and peace building</li> <li>sensitivity building</li> <li>capacity building</li> </ul> <p>30,000</p>
	<b>Sub Total:</b>				

<p><b>Output 3:</b> Support strengthened livelihoods opportunities for displaced communities due to dry seasons and volcanic activity and host communities as a means of strengthening community solidarity and building community residence livelihood and development.</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Total 8000 resource poor households, displaced people due to long droughts and volcanic activity and host communities, deteriorating livestock due to drought.</p> <p>Village committees exist at community level but need strengthening to mitigate and resolve tensions at the community level</p> <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- # of men and women benefiting from short term employment opportunities</li> <li>- Number of working days created through emergency employment</li> <li>- Amount of cash provided to each beneficiary</li> <li>- # of men and women benefit from socio-economic infrastructure rehabilitated</li> </ul>	<p>Activity Result 3.1 Short-term employment opportunities created for some 1,500 resource poor and women headed resettled formerly displaced households due to long dry seasons and host communities to rehabilitate socio-economic infrastructure</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct a participatory assessment on the land use options with disaster risk reduction and conflict sensitive lends - Identify priority interventions- e.g. terracing, construction of water cistern and pond, reseedling rangeland etc. and develop a natural resource management plan with the rangeland and village water committees identify eligible communities and beneficiaries for cash for work</li> <li>- Implement cash for work projects</li> </ul> <p>Activity Result 3.2: Village water committees and rangeland committees established and capacitated for management of natural resources for livelihoods activities and promoting community solidarity</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish and develop capacity the rangeland development committees and village water committees to manage the socio economic infrastructure, in particular the water facilities in the communities as a means of community dialogue and resolution of tensions related to livelihoods and natural resources.</li> </ul> <p>Activity Result 3.3: Productive capacity of drought affected community; IDPs and host communities increased</p>		UNDP / Ministry of Agriculture	BCPR, UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cash for Work</li> <li>- Watering point construction (equipment)</li> <li>- Establishment and capacity building for village water committees</li> <li>- Training in animal husbandry</li> <li>- Restocking of goats through rotation</li> </ul>	<p>170,000</p> <p>132,963</p> <p>20,000</p> <p>30,000</p>
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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES/OUTPUTS	TIMEFRAME (2014/15)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET			
				Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)	
<p>disaster risk management and peace building in two villages</p> <p>- Two villages have rehabilitated infrastructure</p>	<p>- Restock of local breeds goats through rotation</p> <p>- Provide animal husbandry training</p>						
<b>Sub-Total:</b>							
<p><b>Output 4:</b> Advocacy promoted and Risks identified of targeted population to initiate Disaster Risk Reduction (Management)</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> limited advocacy on disaster risk management</p> <p>No risk assessment and identification done in selected communities</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>1. Number of advocacy, awareness on disaster risk management,</p> <p>2. Assessment done in targeted population.</p> <p><b>Target:</b></p> <p>1. At least 2 high level officials targeting advocacy sessions; 3-4 awareness campaigns;</p> <p>2. 1 risk assessment study covering the region/sub-region</p>	<p>4.1. Undertake advocacy meeting with regional, sub-regional and local officials</p> <p>4.2. Organize awareness campaigns through village water and rangeland development committees</p> <p>4.3. Conduct risk assessment of targeted population and superimpose it over assessment on land use conducted</p>		Government			350,000	
<b>Sub-Total – Output 4</b>							
<b>Supervision &amp; monitoring</b>							
<b>PSC</b>							
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>							
					50,000	20,000	47,037
					<b>635,000</b>		