MID-TERM REPORT 2019

Building Capacities for Resilient Recovery - Phase 2

Women cooperative, Simiri - Niger 2019

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

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List of Acronyms

AADMER	ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency
ACDM	ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management
BCRR II	Building Capacities for Resilient Recovery Phase II
NDML	National Disaster Management Law
MLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare Lao PDR
DMH	Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ANMCV	National Association of Municipalities of Cape Verde
COPROSUR	Comité provincial de secours d'urgence et de réhabilitation
CODESUR	Comité départemental de secours d'urgence et de réhabilitation)
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
EC	European Commission
WRC4	World Reconstruction Conference 4
NDRG	National Disaster Recovery Guidelines
DRRWG	Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group
CONASUR	Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WB	World Bank

Building Capacities for Resilient Recovery - Phase II

Phase II of the "Building Capacities for Resilient Recovery" aims to better prepare governments to manage future recovery processes in an effective, sustainable and inclusive way. Strengthened capacities of national counterparts and systems to plan and manage recovery processes will enhance the resilience of five target countries - Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Niger - in the face of disasters through "building back better".

Utilizing UNDP's in-depth knowledge and experience in recovery, the second phase builds upon the achievements of the earlier phase - "Preparedness for Resilient Recovery" - and will deepen the practice of recovery at local and community level. Moreover, it will help meet the increasing demand from target countries for technical assistance to strengthen the institutional, policy and financial frameworks for resilient recovery, conduct post-disaster needs assessments and plan and implement comprehensive recovery processes at all levels, while promoting innovative financing mechanisms and community participation.

Finally, the project will foster knowledge sharing on recovery across regions and target countries. Knowledge platforms, communities of practitioners and social media will be harnessed and ongoing recovery programs within UNDP Country Offices will be strengthened.

Budget: 2,500,000.00 EUR funded by Luxembourg
Timeline: 2018 - 2020

1 OUTPUT : Strengthened national policy, institutional and financial frameworks, and mechanisms to plan and implement sustainable recovery processes

2 OUTPUT : Enhanced technical capacities in recovery planning and Implementation

3 OUTPUT : Enhanced national capacities for implementing recovery at the community level

4 OUTPUT : Improved knowledge products, technological applications and South-South exchange for recovery management

Distribution 2018-2020	
Burkina	$ 391,914.00
Niger	$ 391,914.00
Laos	$ 603,636.00
Myanmar	$ 603,636.00
Cabo verde	$ 310,633.00
Global coordination	$ 635,170.00
Total	$ 2,936,903.00

MID-TERM REPORT

1. Accomplishments to date (January-June 2019)

Output 1: Strengthened national policy, institutional and financial frameworks and mechanisms to plan and implement sustainable recovery processes

- In Myanmar, a Technical Working Group of representatives from key line ministries and the private sector constituted to develop the National Recovery Guidelines has finalized the outline of the National Disaster Recovery Guidelines (NDRG). So far, 24 bilateral consultations with key senior government counterparts from key ministries, the National Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG) and key agencies have been carried out to seek everyone's inputs and agreement on the NDRG's outline. The Myanmar Guidelines will be the first in the region to facilitate the operationalization and nationalization of provisions established in the <u>ASEAN Recovery Reference Guide</u> to the Myanmar context.

- In Lao PDR, the National Disaster Management Law (NDML) was formulated in April 2019 by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW) and presented the NDML to the Standing Committee of the National Parliament which approved the Law on June 25th. It was one of the key recommendations of the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) carried out in September 2018

- Progress under Output 1 for Burkina Faso and Cabo Verde are limited. In Cabo Verde, the first Steering Committee of the project took place in May 2019. Several consultancies have since been launched to accelerate project implementation, such as the revision of Cabo Verde's legal framework and institutional set-up for resilient recovery. Civil unrest and violent attacks in the Sahel and North region have created a humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso, diverting response efforts from disaster management authorities towards the crisis.

- In Niger, the National Strategy for Resilient Recovery initiated under Phase I has been consolidated and shared with national stakeholders for inputs before being submitted for adoption by the Government. The document proposes the establishment of a resilient recovery mechanism that takes into account not only the institutional framework, but also mechanisms for implementing, planning, financing, monitoring and evaluating post disaster recovery.

- A workshop on index-based insurance was held in Niamey in May 2019 to reflect on the feasibility of developing microinsurance products for farmers. The workshop's outcomes were positive, and the following next steps have been suggested: i) plan an exchange mission to Senegal which has experience in providing adapted index-based insurance products to its farmers, ii) develop a national roadmap for the operationalization of risk transfer mechanisms from farmers, (iii) set up a national technical committee to implement the recommendations of the workshop.

Output 2: Enhanced technical capacities in Recovery Planning and Implementation

- In Myanmar, as part of the synergies created between the BCRRII project and the early recovery intervention that UNDP has been implementing in Mon State - following the 2018 floods, a state-level disaster recovery training was conducted in February 2019 Totally. 22 participants, primarily State Level Government Officials, attended the training. The training included a small-scale PDNA simulation

exercise. The "learning by doing" approach, which allowed to turn a capacity-building activity into an actual recovery planning exercise, proved to be an effective methodology that could be replicated in the future.

- In Cabo Verde, 31 national experts, including government representatives, civil protection and academia, were trained in the PDNA methodology in March 2019. The focus was given to the most affected sector, namely drought. A field visit to local cooperatives in Santa Cruz (Santiago island) was organized to discuss and verify the human impact of the drought.

- In Burkina Faso, trainings on Disaster Risk Management and recovery are being held during the months of June/July at the provincial[1] and departmental[2] levels. Considering the exposure to natural hazards and the increasing instability in the North, the country seeks to strengthen its pool of national DRM and recovery experts.

- Launched in 2018, Niger has made progress on the adaptation of the PDNA methodology to its national context. A series of technical meetings with key stakeholders have been held. The guidelines (Volume A) and those specific to the agriculture, housing, transport, health and education sectors have been validated. These guidelines, which are intended for policy makers, are currently subject to the approval of the Government.

Output 3: Enhanced national capacities for implementing recovery at community-level

- The small-scale PDNA simulation conducted in Mon State, Myanmar, enabled the collection of pre-disaster data and the identification of recovery needs and priorities. Subsequently, a recovery plan at state level was drafted and is currently being finalized. The formulation of a state level multi sectoral plan has been the first attempt of its kind in the country. Despite not being an exhaustive exercise, it highlighted the advantages of having a consolidated multisectoral and coordinated methodology at local level. In Mon State, many priority interventions have since been included in the township's development plan, securing government funding for the prioritized recovery activities.

- Together with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, a training of trainers on community-based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and resilient recovery was held in Lao PDR, in Bolikhamxay and Saravane Provinces for 30 Government District Officials. The objective of this training was to strengthen local capacities to develop district/community contingency plans, DRR and recovery programs as well as climate adaptation plans.

- Within the broader integrated approach to support the localization of the 2030 agenda (Local 2030)[3], an awareness raising workshop on DRR and recovery was held in May for the municipalities of Santiago (Praia, São Lourenço dos Órgãos, São Miguel, São Domingos, Tarrafal, Santa Cruz and Assomada).

- Already supported under Phase I of the project, the villages of Balati and Deli Tondi, in the townships of Namaro and Simiri (Niger) respectively, have increased their resilience to drought through the

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[1] COPROSUR - Comité provincial de secours d'urgence et de réhabilitation
[2] CODESUR- Comité départemental de secours d'urgence et de réhabilitation
[3] Scaling and accelerating local implementation of the sustainable development goals

expansion of arable and irrigated land, as well as the acquisition of seeds. 210 villagers, including 100 women and 110 young people, have benefitted from this extended support.

Output 4: Improved knowledge products, technological applications and South-South exchange for recovery management

- The project has provided technical support for the organization of the 34th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) meeting in Mandalay, Myanmar. The meeting constituted an important occasion to strengthen south-south cooperation in the region, while highlighting the importance of effective mechanisms, policies and adequate funding for recovery.

- In Laos, the PDNA undertaken in 2018 recommended the establishment of early warning systems, the development of the Disaster Prevention and Control Law and the necessity of establishing Disaster Financing. Since then, the forecasting and early warning alert systems administered by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication and the four private sector telecommunications providers[4], was pilot-tested in Lao PDR. Early warning text messages were successfully sent to 223,810 subscribers in the target provinces of Bolikhamxay, Saravane, Vientiane Capital and Sanamxay in the district of Attapeu. Text messages were disseminated weekly, both in English and Pasa Lao languages. Two sets of acoustic equipment were supplied to four communities[5] to strengthen the early warning system outreach and to complement the text messaging.

- Since the beginning of the year, various communication pieces have been developed: colleagues in Lao PDR reflected on "Managing climate change with early warnings" and "Spreading the word of warning in Southern Laos to ensure we leave no one behind". Finally, the early-warning initiative in Lao PDR was showcased by the UNV department on their website. In Myanmar, the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management meeting was widely covered by local media as did the early warning initiative in Lao PDR (see in annex).

Other noteworthy accomplishments

- The 4th World Reconstruction Conference (WRC4) was held in Geneva on May 13-14, 2019 in conjunction with the and gathered more than 1000 participants from national and local governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, and international organizations from around the world. The conference was jointly organized by the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), and the European Commission (EC). Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and gathered more than 1000 participants from

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[4] Lao Telecom; ETL; UNITEL; Beeline

[5] Thabor and Siboun-Heung villages in Paksan district, Bolikhamxay Province and Hatxaikham and Thouang-Xe villages in Khongsedon district, Saravane Province

national and local governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, and international organizations from around the world. The conference was jointly organized by the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), and the European Commission (EC).

The WRC4 addressed the theme of "Inclusion for Resilient Recovery" and shared experiences on different dimensions of social inclusion in recovery processes, with a view to advance the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. As intended, the conference provided a platform to share new tools and innovative approaches to increase participation of the most vulnerable in recovery as well as proposed policy recommendations for making recovery inclusive. The outcomes of the Conference as well as the web-based report will be available in the coming months.

- Taking advantage of the global reach and the visibility of the WRC4, UNDP launched a series of publications reinforcing the importance of inclusive participatory processes in the recovery planning: Guidelines for Assessing the Human Impact of Disasters; PDNA Guidance: Integrating Conflict Sensitivity; Community participation in post disaster recovery processes; Recovery: Challenges and Lessons.

- A country support mission to Cabo Verde, Burkina Faso and Niger took place in March/April. In all three target countries, several meetings were held with key sectors, among which the representatives of the Embassy of Luxembourg. Synergies with national stakeholders, bottlenecks and action points to accelerate project implementation were identified and are being monitored.

- The country mission was also an opportunity to showcase the work being supported by the Government of Luxembourg. A photo essay on the realities faced by local farmers in Cabo Verde and Niger was published during the social media campaign of the WRC4.

Partnerships for Technical and financial Resources

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has partnered with UNDP to provide technical support to the elaboration of the Myanmar National Disaster Recovery Guidelines. ADB will be specifically contributing to the sections on recovery planning and financing for recovery.

- In Lao PDR, financial commitments from the Government ($220 000), ADB ($122 000) and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) ($25 000) have been secured to strengthen the ongoing early waring initiative in the most hazard prone provinces of the country.

Synergies
- At the community level, the project in Cabo Verde reached out to the National Association of Municipalities of Cabo Verde (ANMCV) to discuss the formulation of the Strategic Plans for Sustainable Development[6] that have been developed for eight municipalities. Ultimately, the BCRRII ambitions to

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[6] https://peds.gov.cv/

support the revision of the 8 existing plans and contribute to the remaining 13 plans as to ensure that risk-informed DRR and Resilient Recovery are included in said plans.

Innovation
- Initiated in 2018, the IT application for the collection of baseline data used for the damage and loss estimates has been baseline data from following key sectors: agriculture, infrastructure, education, health and habitat. While the application is housed at UNDP Niger, it will eventually be housed at the Ministry of Humanitarian Action. Capacity-building sessions for the data collection, use and updating of the IT application shall be held.

- In Lao PDR, the project ambitions to go a step further in the early-warning text messaging and has reached out to the Korean telecom which has expertise in conversion technology that enables to transform text messages into speech to ensure that sight impaired people are also reached out to, as well as into symbols to reach out to unschooled subscribers.

2. Difficulties encountered, lessons learnt, and measures taken

All five target countries have actively started project implementation, however, the **pace of the project implementation** in Cabo Verde and Burkina Faso remains slow. The lack of locally available experts in recovery delayed procurement processes in Cabo Verde. As for Burkina Faso, civil unrest and violent attacks in the Sahel and North region have created a humanitarian crisis, which has already displaced 180.000 people. Consequently, CONASUR (Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation), the implementing partner, has been concentrating its response in the affected districts. Nonetheless, in both countries, national focal points have been formally appointed and UNDP project analysts have been recruited to accelerate project execution. Additionally, the country support mission from headquarters has facilitated the identification of bottlenecks and the elaboration of action points to be implemented. For instance, setting-up recovery activities with the displaced communities in Burkina Faso has been discussed.

The sustainability of the project has been mentioned with all target countries. For example, the project in Lao PDR will have to focus on the sustainability of the early warning text messaging once the funds run out. Same for the West Africa region: products from Phase I will be put to better use and built upon during Phase II, like the community-based revolving fund research done in Burkina Faso or the urban risk assessments in Cabo Verde.

In Niger and Burkina Faso, the **fragmentation of the national institutional framework** in the field of DRM in general and recovery in particular, is a key challenge. This situation does not always facilitate the mobilization of actors around post-disaster needs assessment activities or recovery planning. Nonetheless, the trainings, practice meetings and awareness-raising sessions undertaken since Phase I of the project seem to have significantly contributed to a better understanding of how recovery can be an opportunity to build back better and achieve sustainable development.

3. Financial Report: Semester 1 - 2019

Country	Country Allocation		2019 Amount in $		Expenditures Jan-June		% 2019* Delivery
Burkina Faso	$	391,914.00	$	177,223.00	$	99,238.06	56%
Niger	$	391,914.00	$	188,514.00	$	18,685.64	10%
Lao PDR	$	603,636.00	$	182,604.00	$	38,187.16	21%
Myanmar	$	603,636.00	$	289,598.00	$	63,615.38	22%
Cabo Verde	$	310,633.00	$	151,200.00	$	20,049.16	13%
Global Coord.	$	635,170.00	$	366,120.00	$	120,059.40	33%
* January 1st to June 30th, 2019							

4. Key actions until the end of year

At the country-level, priority will be given to

1. The strengthening of the institutional and legal arrangements for recovery: a stakeholder workshop will be organized in Lao PDR for dissemination of the DM Law; in Myanmar, a first solid draft of the Recovery Guidelines is expected before end of year; in Cabo Verde, Niger and Burkina Faso, the policies and regulatory frameworks in place will be reviewed to ensure that resilient recovery is properly integrated.
2. Capacity-building sessions on recovery/DRM and Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Trainings will be rolled-out at the district/community levels. Local PDNA simulations and recovery planning will be organized.
3. Livelihood empowerment, through vocational training curricula in Lao PDR, or the revolving fund in Burkina, will be consolidated. In Niger, priority will be given to the creation of an index-based microinsurance product.
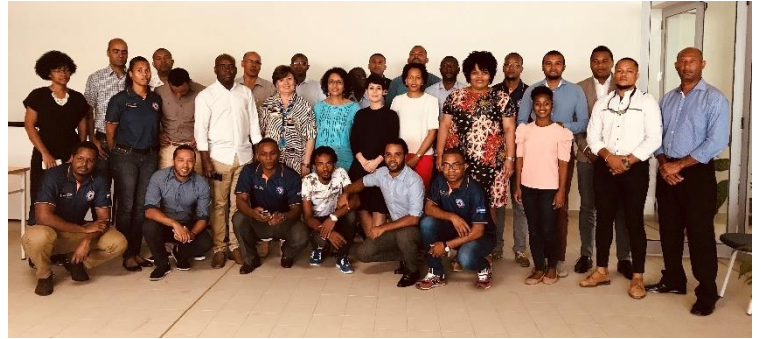
With regards to the global component, priority will be given to:

1. The organization of the Asia Recovery Practice Workshop to be held in Bangkok and which will target 22 countries. The overall objective of the workshop is to enhance UNDP Country Offices' capacity to support disaster affected governments in preparing for recovery, assessing post disaster recovery needs, planning, coordinating and implementing recovery strategies and frameworks. In so doing, the workshop will also contribute to building and strengthening UNDP's Disaster Recovery Community of Practice. The workshop will also provide the opportunity to discuss the critical role that preparedness plays in recovery by establishing institutional, policy and financial arrangements and strengthening governments' capacities in assessing, planning and implementing recovery interventions prior to a disaster.
2. Synergies with the *Strengthening Capacities for Post Disaster Needs Assessment Project*, jointly funded by UNDP and the European Union, will be pursued. As such, the BCRRII will contribute to the translation in Portuguese of the recently launched PDNA online training.
3. The recruitment of a programme assistant for the project at headquarters level will be finalized.
4. Technical and resource mobilization, especially for the community level component, will be pursued.

ANNEXES – PROJECT VISIBILITY

CABO VERDE

1st Steering Committee on March 19 with the presence of Mr. Sebastien Kiefer, First Secretary at the Embassy of Luxembourg

NIGER

Vientiane Times

Luxembourg supports Laos' flood recovery efforts

Times Reporters

The Government of Luxembourg is supporting Laos in its efforts to recover from last year's floods by providing over US$600,000 to help improve the conditions of vulnerable people.

"Building Capacities for Resilient Recovery (2018-2021)", a project implemented through UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, is part of Luxembourg's global policy in support of recovery after disasters. Of all the South-East Asian countries, only Myanmar and Laos are recipients of this support.

Speaking at the project signing ceremony last week, UNDP Resident Representative Ms Kaarina Immonen said "Today we continue our commitment to supporting disaster risk reduction efforts in

Laos with strong support from the Government of Luxembourg."

Ms Immonen also acknowledged the co-financing commitments of the Asian Development Bank and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The project has already progressed in several areas, in response to the urgent needs identified in the aftermath of the 2018 floods.

Significant legislation is in the process of being enacted and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare is to be congratulated on leading this process, Ms Immonen said.

The ministry has ensured consultations at the national, provincial and district levels and worked swiftly to finalise a new law, which was a key recommendation of the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment report.

The second area of progress is the piloting of text messages using mobile phones to help strengthen early warning systems during natural disasters.

Contracts were signed with all four private sector telecommunications companies – Lao Telecom, ETL, UNITEL and Beeline – for the sending of weather-related text messages to over 200,000 subscribers in four target provinces.

The weather information is provided by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The four telecoms companies are regulated by the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications.

This initiative is a firm example of the strength of multi-sectoral partnerships, and the need for such partnerships, in disaster risk reduction.

Vientiane Times, 2 May 2019

UNDP Myanmar ✔ @UNDP_Myanmar · Jun 19

In helping #Myanmar to be better prepared for resilient recovery, UNDP and #LuxAid fund the formulation of National Disaster Recovery Guidelines. 3rd Technical working Group meeting was held on 17th and 18th June.

UNDP Myanmar ✔
@UNDP_Myanmar

Follow

From 24-26 Apr, UNDP & #LuxAid supported the @ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management meeting. Here's what Martin Cosier, Project Manager of UNDP Myanmar has to say about this important meeting. @MFA_Lu @AHACentre @ASEAN2019TH @UNDPasiapac @UNDP 🇲🇲🇱🇺

144 views   0:00 / 2:16

3:16 AM - 26 Apr 2019

UNDP Myanmar ✔ @UNDP_Myanmar · Apr 24

UNDP & #LuxAid support 34th Meeting Of @ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management in #Myanmar from 24-26 Apr. This event affirms UNDP's commitment to support #SouthSouth Cooperation that in the past brought important achievements as #ASEAN #DisasterRecovery Reference Guide 🇱🇺🇲🇲

UNDP Myanmar ✔ @UNDP_Myanmar · Feb 15

In supporting the #Myanmar Government to be more prepared for post-disaster recovery, with funding from the Government of Luxembourg #LuxAid, UNDP in partnership with the #AsianDevelopmentBank is working on the development of National Disaster Recovery Guidelines.

Training and PDNA Simulation Exercise and Recovery Planning Workshop for Mon State, Southeast of Myanmar

19th – 25th February, 2019