

**REQUEST FOR TRAC 1.1.3 (CATEGORY II) RESOURCES  
UNDP BENIN FLOOD RESPONSE**

## **1. Situation Analysis**

### **a) Background**

Floods are one of the most important life-threatening weather events in West Africa. They are becoming more and more recurrent and aggravating and are seen as potential consequences of climate change in the region. Flood events can be seen both in cross-border crises and inland watersheds. Benin is facing cyclical flooding due to (i) the occupation of flood outlets zones and flood receptacles by peoples; and (ii) the lack of capacity of the sanitation and drainage works on the other. These floods are mainly reported in the Ouémé, Niger and Mono basins.

The 2019 seasonal forecast also heralded a late and surplus rainy season. The rains of the last few days are intense and close together. For example, the high rainfall recorded in the sub-region and Benin in September and October caused exceptional rain and river flooding, which is compounded by the release of water from the Nangbeto dam.

Several municipalities have been flooded; outside of the 21 municipalities at high risk new municipalities are affected. The municipalities most affected by the 2019 storm and river floods include:

1. Athiémé, Lokossa, Grand-Popo in the Department of Mono;
2. Dogbo in the Department of Couffo;
3. Ouinhi, Zagnanado, Zogbodomey in the Department of Zou;
4. Tchaourou, Prerèrè and Kalalé in Borgou department
5. Glazoué, Dassa and Savalou in the Department of Hills
6. Adjohoun, Dangbo, Bonou and Aguégués in the department of Ouémé
7. Karimama, Malanville, Banikoara in the department of Alibori;
8. Bassila, in the department of Donga

These floods have caused significant damage to homes, schools, colleges, health centres, roads, market places, drinking water and sanitation systems such as toilets/latrines, and other public and private property. 317546 farmers of which 165124 women affected. The damage to agricultural losses was very significant: over 180000 ha of culture lost. Cases of death have been recorded in several municipalities 19 death cases recorded. Faced this situation, and following several initiatives taken with their insignificant results, to the new phenomena that accompanied these floods and to the cries of distress of the affected populations, the Minister of the Interior and Public Security, President of the National Platform for disaster risk reduction to be requested by letter No. 1147/MISP/DC/SGM/ANPC/SA of 29 October 2019, the technical and financial support

of the United Nations System for a joint mission rapid damage assessment to provide the appropriate response in addition to the measures taken.

The United Nations system responded favorably to the Minister's request. Two working sessions were held on 28 and 30 October 2019 under the chairmanship of the World Food Programme (WFP), the leader of the United Nations agencies, during which the flood situation was analyzed in the same way the needs of the Agency National Civil Protection (ANPC). As a result of the recommendations of these sessions, a joint rapid assessment mission was deployed nationally from October 31 to November 9, 2019 in 20 municipalities that were targeted out of the 77. Consisting of government structures and SNDU agencies, this mission, divided into 4 teams, covered the 20 most affected targeted municipalities in the Niger, Mono and Ouémé valleys.

## **b) Response to date**

1. **Rapid assessment mission:** it was able to measure the extent of the damage caused by the water overflows. The overall objective of this mission is to assess the damage of all kinds caused by the 2019 floods in order to provide the response. Specifically, this will be the mission of:
  - ✓ To see and characterize the extent of the floods;
  - ✓ Assess the damage caused by the flood on populations, socio-community infrastructure, homes, crops, livestock, population health, education, natural resources, culture and others;
  - ✓ Invent the measures already taken by the authorities and communities to manage this flood;
  - ✓ List the needs of affected populations in terms of humanitarian response.
  - ✓ See the operationalization of contingency plans at the communal level

The ground record is the floods of 2019 have a critical magnitude with exceptional damage.

- Several municipalities, areas and villages previously classified as low risk in the past have suffered extensive damage to the result of the floods in 2019. We can mention the municipalities of Djakotomey, Banikoara, Segabana, Bembéréké, Bassila, Savalou, Dassa, Dogbo, Pobè, Adja-Ouèrè, Abomey-Calavi. The summary of the results of the 2019 floods and the point per commune is presented in mission report.
- Most municipalities do not have disaster reception sites. Existing reception sites are not arranged/fitted and serviced/equipped.

- In some municipalities, some of the victims live on makeshift reception sites; the majority of those affected live in host families.
- Most municipalities do not have the organizational, material, technical and financial capacity to develop and make disaster reception sites operational and viable.
- Most municipalities do not have the organizational, material, technical and financial capacity to update and implement their communal contingency plan; for others, this plan does not exist.

For 80% of the affected communities:

- The simple or motorized boat has become the means of transport and travel;
- Water from streams is consumed and used for all household purposes by the population without any treatment;
- Makeshift latrines and toilets are flooded, and people defecate in water close to habitats;
- The water level ranges from 1 to 6 meters high on land;
- Subsistence's and income-generating activities include fishing by nets, firewood exploitation (cut and selling), exploitation of lagoon sand, lake transportation, and trade;
- Access to basic social services in villages, affected boroughs is very limited or impossible. Populations are left to their own devices or require such services in non-disaster communities; Schools are closed and the start of the school year awaits the withdrawal of water that have embedded in November .
- In more than 80% of the villages, the attics are empty. According to the population, rising waters have surprised crops in fields. Producers have seen their crops leave in unpredictable ways; 60 to 100% of crops are lost, herds (volleys, small ruminants and pigs) have experienced losses due to mortality and stealing difficult to assess, fish ponds are being swallowed up.
- Some schoolchildren and college students in flooded schools have lost all their school belongings, including citizenship coins in the waters.
- The summary of the damage recorded during the assessment mission is presented in the mission report attached to this document.

## 2. Actions taken by the authorities

Various prevention and response actions have been carried out by members of the Disaster Risk Reduction platforms at various levels.

- a) Raising awareness and popularization of seasonal forecasts: dissemination of alerts;
- b) Tracking river basins and sharing visualization and alertbulletins based on waterlevels;
- c) Some municipalities, with the support of the ANPC, have provided various support to the populations in some communities. We can note the awareness, the radio messages, the assessments of developments.
- d) Some mayors have taken emergency measures to get classes back to school for students who are in exam classes and who are larger.
- e) Some town halls have invited the affected populations to join the makeshift sites, but these have not remained. They preferred to return to their communities and live there despite the water level, or to join their relatives, friends or acquaintances living on the plateaus.
- f) Today the affected populations have returned to the communities and have resumed their activities and their lives, but with consequences in terms of loss of crops, food, assets etc. the children have returned to schools with the support of UNICEF for some and the efforts of their parents for the most part. Economic activities are slowly resuming with the Gap to fill lost subsistence and production resources.
- g) Analysis of the situation it resort that if the system and management system are in place, they have remained non-functional due to:
- h) The lack of an updated mapping database that can support prevention, management and collection decisions and actions;
- i) Lack of a national coordination mechanism and an operational coordination plan based on an expressive alert system for the level of attainment of affected communities;
- j) The absence of a program supported by an in-depth analysis of the damage and costs.
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### **3. Support from UNDP Country Office**

The office contributed to the activities of UNCT's crisis management task force; he actively participate to:

- updating the inter-agency contingency plan and the national contingency plan, supported by the Office of Coordination;
- the finalization of the national strategy and the World Bank-supported disaster risk reduction law;
- the rapid damage assessment mission caused by this year's floods.

### **2. TRAC 3 Support**

From the Analysis of the situation it resorts that if the system and management system are in place, they have remained non-functional due to:

1. The lack of an updated mapping database that can support prevention, management and collection decisions and actions;
2. The lack of a national coordination mechanism and an operational coordination plan based on an expressive alert system for the level of attainment of the affected communities;

TRAC 3 will be used to strengthen national capabilities for the operationalization of governance and the realization of an in-depth analysis of the damage, costs and needs for the development of a national flood crisis prevention and management programme in Benin.

#### **Project Objective:**

The aim is to strengthen the flood management governance mechanism with national risk mapping to support the alert mechanism based on the publication of the thresholds of the level reached by rising waters.

Set up a dynamic database to inform alerts and plan response actions. It will specifically:

1. The development of risk maps to enable ANPC and PNRRC-ACC to better identify all vulnerable communities, categorize them by level of risk and vulnerability by department, municipality and borough in order to plan in a way that is effective and efficient response actions. The operationalization of the SNRRC action plan at all levels will be based on this risk mapping for greater efficiency.
2. The establishment of a community alert system to limit the damage and facilitate the organization of voluntary travel on time.

3. The completion of an in-depth analysis of the associated damage and costs and the assessment of the needs for the development of a flood risk prevention and management programme in Benin.

Outputs	Actions /results	Responsibles structures	Related structures	Estimated budget USD
Strengthening the governance mechanism in flood crisis management				
<b>Risk mapping is carried out</b>	Mobilization of risk mapping expertise	PNUD	ANPC	PM
<b>Mapping and GIS database in place for Floods coordination and management</b>	Development of risk maps for 77 communes and 3650 villages of Benin	ANPC	PNUD, IGN, CENATEL, UNIVERSITE	50000
	Definition and categorization of vulnerable villages and municipalities by risk level	ANPC	PNUD, IGN, CENATEL, UNIVERSITE	30000
	Integrating locality risk thresholds into the existing water level alert system	ANPC	DG/Eau, Météo Bénin, INRHOB,	20000
<b>Total 1</b>				<b>100 000 +PM</b>
The PDNA is made and validated	Mobilizing the required International expertise	PNUD	Bureau des crises, ANPC	PM
PDNA document	Mobilizing local consultant for the assessment	PNUD	Bureau des crises, ANPC	15000
	Organizing the stakeholder consultation and analysis sessions	ANPC	PNUD, BM, PAM, BCR	20000

	Collecting data in affected communities	ANPC	PNUD	15000
	Restitution of Results to actors' workshop	ANPC	PNUD, BM, PAM, BCR	8000
	Report writing and editing.	ANPC	PNUD, BM, PAM, BCR	12000
	PDNA validation workshop	ANPC	PNUD, BM, PAM, BCR	5000
<b>TOTAL 2</b>				<b>75 000 +PM</b>
<b>Total 1+2</b>				<b>175 000 + 2PM</b>

### 3. Implementation Arrangements

The implementation arrangement will be the direct execution by UNDP (DIM) under the responsibility of the implementation partner of the National Civil Protection Agency (ANPC).

ANPC experts reinforced by the frameworks of IGN Benin, CENATEL and researchers will be responsible for setting up a mapping database and the mechanism of updating and dissemination. Where possible, technical assistance will be available to provide mapping expertise to support this activity. The mapping database, developed with the support of the UNDP Country Office, serves as a basis.

UNDP will provide technical and financial support for the mobilization of the experiment as part of the implementation of the PDNA and, if possible, for the realization of risk mapping and the implementation of the alert system.

The country office will coordinate the action, provide various support services for the mobilization and management of the various resources required and the mobilization of actors and parties in the implementation of actions.