

## MINUTES OF MEETING

### UNDP/Government 7th Country Programme Review Meeting

Reiz Continental Hotel, Central Area, Abuja

15 July 2014

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Opening and Introduction: welcome and objectives	<p>The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Country Director (Programmes), UNDP and co-chaired by the Deputy Director, International Co-operation, National Planning Commission (NPC), Mr. Eloho. Both of them welcomed the participants comprising of Federal and State Implementing Partners of the recently concluded 7<sup>th</sup> Country Programme cycle which spanned 2009-2012 with an extension year to 2013. The DCD (P) stated that the meeting is a formal requirement in the Programme &amp; Operations Policies &amp; Procedures (POPP), whereby we are expected to collect final project reports from implementing partners and advise them formally of required steps as regards, e.g., outstanding activities, use of remaining budget balances, effective date of project closure, assets handover, disposal or management. UNDP and NPC reiterated that the meeting was imperative as there was a need to formally close the 7<sup>th</sup> CP projects and also have the opportunity to reflect and share experiences on the successes, challenges and lessons learnt which could also chart the way forward for possible up-scaling of some of the pilot initiatives undertaken during the cycle.</p>
Short overview of UNDP/Government 7th Country Programme	<p>The remark of the co-chairs was quickly followed by oral presentations highlighting the achievements under the three Thematic Areas during the cycle by the respective Team Leaders as follows:</p> <p><b>Governance of Environmental Risks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of Land management plans.</li><li>• Options provided for adaptation and mitigation of climate change</li><li>• Partnership and synergies with stakeholders towards national implementation of climate change agenda</li><li>• Capacity of national institutions strengthened.</li><li>• The eight (8) years old NEP successfully reviewed to reflect current changes in the national and international energy scenes.</li><li>• The edition of the voluminous Renewable Energy Master Plan (REMP) produced in 2005 reviewed to bring out the renewable energy programmes of all RE sources with targets and timelines in the short (2013-2015), medium (2016-2020) and long term (2021-2030).</li></ul>

- Sustainable Energy for ALL initiative of the UN concepts now entrenched into the nation's energy development strategy.

#### **Capacity for Governance**

- Public Procurement Law enacted in many States
- Capacity of Bureau of Public Procurement strengthened
- Due process office established in many states
- Citizens' engagement in terms of effective participation in governance. This involved community development approach to programme design and implementation in selected communities and Local Governments in both Ondo and Bayelsa States
- Capacity of the newly created Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs and Special Duties strengthened. The Ministry was supported to successfully host the Commonwealth Forum of Local Governments and also develop the Scheme of service & Financial Memoranda
- Technical assistance provided to for the take-off of the Niger Delta Amnesty programme
- Ministry was supported to develop a collaborative framework (Niger Delta Action Plan) to facilitate Inclusive development of in the Niger Delta
- Interventions in the North Central States of Benue and Plateau through community dialogue and early warning systems supported
- Peace policy developed through assistance from UNDP
- HIV and gender mainstreamed into development strategies such as NEEDS, SEEDS, OBOF etc
- Technical assistance provided for the passage of the anti-stigma bill
- States Action Committee on AIDS in Sokoto, Ondo etc supported to transform into an Agency with a statutory and legal status

#### **Economic Governance/Private Sector:**

- Focus on V20:2020, 1<sup>st</sup> National Implementation Plan developed
- States GDP compiled and Joint Planning Board inaugurated in states
- MDG Reports and MAF produced in some states
- MAF produced in some partner states
- Draft ODA Policy and Operational Guideline produced
- Medium Term Plan developed in a few states

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual Private Network (VPN) operational at NBS</li> <li>• Fiscal Responsibility Law (FRL) passed in several of the partner states</li> <li>• Development Assistance Database (DAD) operational</li> <li>• National Microfinance Development Strategy (NMDS) developed</li> <li>• Implementation of the National Strategy for the Design of Statistics (NSDS) resultant effect being design of SSMPs, passage of statistics edicts and establishment of state bureau of statistics in IP states.</li> </ul>
<b>Assets/Financial Closure</b>	<p>The Programme Finance Team made a presentation on Assets/Finance Closure. The highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How much each programme absorbed over the cycle.</li> <li>• Assets disposal procedure including transfer to government; transfer to NGOs or auction</li> <li>• Final decision rests with the UNDP Resident Representative</li> <li>• All actions with respect to the disposal expected to be concluded within 9 months after this closure meeting.</li> <li>• UNDP project asset duration is 4years. If there's a continuity of programme, assets are transferred to new cycle and if not it goes to the Government who will in turn dispose accordance with their regulations.</li> <li>• Cost share balances can be rolled over not Trac.</li> </ul>
<b>Discussions, Comments, Questions and Answers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNDP does not help partners maintain their assets so why the need for maintaining log book</li> <li>• In order to reduce staff turnover, it is suggested that UNDP could write to the state advising that current staff handling UNDP projects are retained to avoid the impact of staff turnover on implementation.</li> <li>• There is a need to build institutions in states (one stop shop) as this affects sustainability and continuity so staff turnover does not impact negatively on project implementation.</li> <li>• People are more receptive to downstream activities.</li> <li>• UNDP imposes budgets on IPs without discussion.</li> <li>• Capacity building of Implementing partners is key to successful program implementation</li> <li>• Continued advocacy and communication to relevant stakeholders is invaluable in ensuring cooperation and project approvals</li> <li>• Cumbersome financial processes for accessing project funds</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodic M&amp;E should be carried out to evaluate project impact</li> <li>• Consideration and approval of AWP to be done before the commencement of the year</li> <li>• Government Counterpart Cash Contributions should be made available during project onset</li> <li>• Regular quarterly meetings of IPs with the coordinating office</li> <li>• Stakeholders should be involved in the project identification stage for better appreciation of stakeholder roles and to ensure smooth implementation.</li> <li>• There should be more stakeholder interactions and collaborations to promote synergy.</li> <li>• Ensure provision of funds for project before commencement.</li> </ul>
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Implementing Partners to submit their assets inventory lists</b></li> <li>• <b>Reports from IPs to be collated for further action</b></li> <li>• <b>Decision to be taken regarding the cost share balances from states not in current cycle</b></li> </ul>



Registration Form

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