



**Country Initiation Plan
Sudan**

Project Title: Community-Based Development Solutions for Migrants and Host Communities

Project Number: 00121413

Related SDGs: 1, 5, 7, 13 and 16.

Expected SP outcome: 1, 2, 3

Expected SP output: 1.1, 1.5, 2.3, 3.1 and 3.2

Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome(s): UNDAF Outcomes 2 and 3

Expected CPD Output(s): 1.2; 2.4; 3.1; 3.2;

Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: September 2019 – March 2020

Implementing Partner: To be contracted

Brief Description

Aligned with the three UNDP key priorities as defined by the Administrator: migration, climate change and inequality, this initiation plan aims to address without delay the critical situation of communities hosting large numbers of refugees and other migrants and increase their absorption capacity during Sudan transitional period that follows the removal of Al Bashir’s regime in April 2019 and the consequent political and economic crisis. Upon conducting extensive research, needs were identified, and urgent activities were prioritized. This Initiation plan (PIP) is to prepare the ground for larger scale project to be launched as soon as new suitable government counterparts are formed and MoU with UNDP established. The PIP is an effort to shape the migration agenda through demonstrating advantages of addressing the deplorable economic situation of largely affected host and refugee communities in Kassala and alleviate the burden on natural resources as result of the lack of livelihood opportunities.

Programme Period: September 2019-March 2020

Atlas Project Number: 00121413

Atlas Output ID: 00117159

Gender Marker: 2 outputs with indicative marker

Total resources required 500 000 USD

Total allocated resources: 500 000 USD

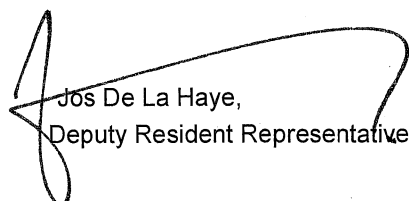
- Regular 200 000 USD
- Other: 300 000 USD
 - Donor Switzerland 300 000
 - Donor UNDP 200 000

Government State government/Ministry of Social Welfare/ Ministry of agriculture/HAC

Unfunded budget: Not Applicable

In-kind Contributions Not Applicable

Agreed by UNDP:


Jos De La Haye,
Deputy Resident Representative, Sudan

Date: 25.08.2019

I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

A short description justifying the need for an Initiation Plan for this project and the expected output.

1. Migration and Development Context in Sudan

In migration terms, Sudan is simultaneously a country of origin, transit, destination and return for refugees and other migrants.¹ In particular, Sudan is currently a major host and transit country for East African refugees and other migrants who wish to move along the Central Mediterranean route to Europe.² The exact number of migrants in Sudan remains unclear. However, UNHCR estimates from November 2018 indicate that the number of refugees and asylum seekers in Sudan is 1 094 972 with the largest nationality groups being South Sudanese (851 313), Eritreans (120 009), Syrians (93 502) and Ethiopians (13 592). In addition, IOM estimates that about 4.5 million Sudanese are living abroad (half of which in neighboring African countries and half of which in industrialized countries such as the United States and countries in Europe and the Gulf).³

Migration can have significant developmental benefits and can contribute to the realization of several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For instance, it can contribute to the reduction of poverty (SDG 1), disrupt inequalities related to gender (SDG 5), facilitating decent working opportunities (SDG 8) and decrease income inequalities (SDG 10).⁴ In order to investigate potential linkages between migration and development in Sudan, UNDP conducted a pilot study on Ethiopian and Eritrean migrant characteristics and aspirations in Eastern Sudan and Khartoum as well as on how migrants are perceived among host communities in Eastern Sudan. This pilot study revealed several key potentials as well as remaining challenges at the intersection of migration and development in Sudan:⁵

1. A large number of Eritrean and Ethiopian migrants in Eastern Sudan and Khartoum are unemployed (35.65% of the total). Many of them have at least a basic level of education. This means that migrants bring considerable human capital to Sudan. Most of these migrants were of working age when they migrated to Sudan which means they are a labor force that can be beneficial to the Sudanese economy. Simultaneously, however, a large number of them remain unregistered which not only makes them vulnerable to exploitation, discrimination and abuse but also poses a barrier to entering the labor market. In addition, gender and nationality appear to play a role in the level of unemployment with women and Eritrean respondents exhibiting higher levels of unemployment.
2. 75% of the Eritrean respondents and 55% of the Ethiopian respondents in Eastern Sudan would like to conduct an onward journey while only 34% of the Eritrean respondents and 24% of the Ethiopian respondents in Khartoum would like to do so. The economic situation is fundamental for these migration aspirations. As such, Ethiopian and Eritrean respondents both in Eastern Sudan and Khartoum mention the quality of life and job opportunities both as the two single most important reasons for staying in Sudan and as major reasons for onward migration.

¹ UNDP Sudan refers to migrants as an all-encompassing term that also includes asylum seekers and refugees. In essence, regardless of an individual's motivation for migration, UNDP Sudan considers anyone a migrant who has moved abroad with the desire to stay abroad for at least one year. Compare, e.g. United Nations Statistics Division, Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, 1998.

² Compare, e.g., Arezo Malakooti, The Current Context of Migration Dynamics and Programming in Sudan, April 2018.

³ IOM, Migration Crisis Operational Framework Sudan 2017-2019, p.11.

⁴ *Heaven Crawley*, <https://oecd-development-matters.org/2018/10/30/why-understanding-the-relationship-between-migration-and-inequality-may-be-the-key-to-africas-development/>

⁵ UNDP, A Development-focused Case Study of Ethiopian and Eritrean Migrants in Eastern Sudan and Khartoum - Key Findings and Implications for Policy and Programming, February 2019.

3. The majority (61%) of the host community respondents in Eastern Sudan perceive migrants as having a negative impact on their own economic opportunities in, for instance, increasing the competition over jobs and increasing the burden on resources such as arable land, forests and water. These perceptions can compromise social cohesion within as well as between the communities.

In addition to these findings on Eastern Sudan and Khartoum, a 2018 study on Darfur indicates that the number of internally displaced persons in the Darfur region remains high and that people might increasingly consider migrating elsewhere and, in particular, towards Europe.⁶ Moreover, a 2017 UNDP study on Sudanese migrants' remittances suggests that remittances from Sudanese living abroad could have a major development potential for Sudan that has, due to structural economic and regulatory barriers, hitherto remained largely untapped.⁷

Beyond this migration-specific evidence base, the general social, economic and security situation in Sudan remains important for a contextualized understanding of migration and development in Sudan. In social terms, Sudan is characterized by a nomadic and tribal society in which traditional gender norms prevail.⁸ A large proportion (40%) of the population is less than 15 years old.⁹ In economic terms, Sudan has suffered severe economic losses since the secession of South Sudan in 2011. In particular, oil resources, export earnings and revenue have declined.¹⁰ The country remains at the lower end of the Human Development Index in 167th place (2017). In security terms, despite the lower intensity of conflict in recent years, the security situation in Darfur, Blue Nile, Kordofan and Abyei remains fragile. The situation in Eastern Sudan has remained stable in recent years.

2. Cross-Cutting Issues

Migration and development are complex issues that touch upon a large number of contemporary global problems. UNDP considers the interplay with two such cross-cutting issues as particularly important: climate change and inequality.

Climate Change and Environmental Degradation: Environmental issues play a key role in conflicts in Sudan, for instance in competition over resources such as oil and gas, water and agricultural land.¹¹ Population displacement has aggravated these conflicts in causing significant environmental damage with areas around larger camps being severely degraded.¹² Hence, migration-related pressure on resources can lead to environmental degradation – an issue which is further aggravated by climate change if adequate adaptation mechanisms are lacking. Approximately 25% of Sudan's agricultural land is at risk of further desertification which will likely cause a significant drop in food production (approx. 20%).¹³ This further aggravates pressures upon migrant and host communities and can influence migration choices. Droughts, floods, severe land degradation due to demographic pressure and poor management, deforestation and industrial pollution are additional environmental issues that can impact migration and development.¹⁴ This interplay between migration, climate change and environmental degradation can threaten livelihood opportunities in the future and intensify potential conflict over resources.

⁶ Susanne Jaspars and Margie Buchanan-Smith, Darfuri migration from Sudan to Europe, August 2018, available at: <https://www.odi.org/publications/11186-darfuri-migration-sudan-europe-displacement-despair>

⁷ Selva Ramachandran and Abdalatif Hassan, The Sudanese Migrants' Remittances: Challenges and Opportunities, July 2017.

⁸ This is, for instance, reflected in a low ranking (167th place) on the Gender-related Development Index (GDI, 0.830) and the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM, 0.428). UNDP, Human Development Report 2015.

⁹ Sudan Central Bureau of Statistics, 2008 Census.

¹⁰ Compare, e.g., Selva Ramachandran and Abdalatif Hassan, The Sudanese Migrants' Remittances: Challenges and Opportunities, July 2017.

¹¹ UNEP, Sudan Post Conflict Environmental Assessment, <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/assessment/sudan-post-conflict-environmental-assessment>, p.6

¹² UNEP, Sudan Post Conflict Environmental Assessment, <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/assessment/sudan-post-conflict-environmental-assessment>, p.7

¹³ UNEP, Sudan Post Conflict Environmental Assessment, <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/assessment/sudan-post-conflict-environmental-assessment>, p.7

¹⁴ UNEP, Sudan Post Conflict Environmental Assessment, <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/assessment/sudan-post-conflict-environmental-assessment>, p.7-10

Inequality and Vulnerability: Migration and inequality are closely related as migration is often driven, or at least influenced, by economic factors such as wages, labour market opportunities and living standard.¹⁵ Migration can both mitigate and exacerbate inequalities.¹⁶ Migration often reflects and reinforces age, gender and income gaps as well as other social and structural inequalities. Whether or not migration can mitigate inequality fundamentally depends on the extent to which the most disadvantaged and marginalized migrants and host community members are able to reap the benefits of migration and participate in the local economy. Hence, structural vulnerabilities resulting from, for instance, irregular and precarious migration, poor labour conditions and migrants' inability to access and/or claim their rights must be addressed in migration and development planning.¹⁷

2. Fitting into UNDP's Global Approach to Migration

UNDP's global approach to migration focuses on streamlining human mobility into development strategies of countries of origin, transit, destination and return. As such, UNDP policies and programmes worldwide are aligned with existing efforts by UN agencies to advance the development dimensions of migration and displacement in line with the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and the Global Compact for Migration as well as in accordance with the efforts by the Global Migration Group, the Global Forum for Migration and Development, the Platform on Disaster Displacement, and other important international fora on migration and development. These development dimensions of migration and displacement include, but are not limited to:

- Supporting national and local governments in mainstreaming migration into development plans (including localized Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs));
- Addressing root causes and drivers of migration and displacement;
- Strengthening the humanitarian and development nexus by addressing protracted displacement;
- Investing in resilience-based development to ensure refugees and other migrants as well as internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities cope, recover and sustain development gains in crisis and post-crisis situations;
- Engaging diaspora human and financial capital for the advancement of communities.

The Global Compact for Migration and its intersection with the Sustainable Development Goals is guiding in UNDP Sudan's efforts in the field of migration and development. More than half of the 23 Objectives for safe, orderly and regular migration in the Global Compact for Migration touch on areas of UNDP's development approaches for migration.¹⁸ UNDP focuses on three main objectives and selected actions in relation to countries of origin, destination and return due to their direct and broad relevance for the realization of all the Sustainable Development Goals:

- Objective 2: minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin;
- Objective 19: create conditions for migrants and diaspora to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries;
- Objective 21: cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration.

¹⁵ Compare e.g. *Heaven Crawley*, <https://oecd-development-matters.org/2018/10/30/why-understanding-the-relationship-between-migration-and-inequality-may-be-the-key-to-africas-development/> and Richard Black, Claudia Natali and Jessica Skinner, Migration and inequality, 20 January 2005, siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDR2006/Resources/477383-1118673432908/Migration_and_Inequality.pdf

¹⁶ Compare e.g. *Heaven Crawley*, <https://oecd-development-matters.org/2018/10/30/why-understanding-the-relationship-between-migration-and-inequality-may-be-the-key-to-africas-development/> and Frances Stewart, The Dynamics of Horizontal Inequalities, 2016, hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/stewart_layout.pdf

¹⁷ Compare e.g. *Heaven Crawley*, <https://oecd-development-matters.org/2018/10/30/why-understanding-the-relationship-between-migration-and-inequality-may-be-the-key-to-africas-development/>

¹⁸ Objectives 1, 2, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 23.

In addition, due to the specific situation of Sudan as a major transit country for migrants, UNDP Sudan focuses on one additional objective in order to allow migration to be beneficial for the sustainable and inclusive development in transit countries:

- Objective 7: address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration.

In order to respond to migration in a comprehensive and sustainable way UNDP builds on the growing recognition that humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts are complementary and need to reinforce each other. UNDP's approach to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus therefore relies on a longer-term perspective that seeks to build socio-economic resilience and to engage early to prevent violent conflict and reduce humanitarian need.

3. Programme Scope and outputs

The above-described development challenges underline the importance of a comprehensive approach to migration and development that benefits the most disadvantaged and/or marginalized members of the migrant and host communities. UNDP Sudan's programme on migration and development seeks to improve the socio-economic resilience of migrants and host communities. This includes the fostering of economic opportunities and social cohesion within and between migrant and host communities through an integrated approach that mitigates structural inequalities through interventions at the community and policy level.

At the **community level**, UNDP's previous experience has revealed that the combination of improved economic opportunities and strengthened community structures can promote socio-economic resilience within and across targeted communities.¹⁹ UNDP's community-based interventions for socio-economic resilience-building understand social dynamics as crucial for successful economic interventions. As such, individuals are understood as embedded in social and institutional relationships that can promote or hinder an individual's self-reliance. UNDP's community-based interventions seek to identify and address these structural factors so as to facilitate migrant and host community members' engagement in the labor market in a way that can strengthen the socio-economic resilience of both migrant and host communities. Livelihood and capacity-building interventions are therefore tailored to the individual migrant's capacities and dependencies as well as to labor market needs. In addition, communities receive a central role in the management of projects as well as in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts through the establishment of Community Collaborative Groups (with migrant and host community members in a way that ensures equal representation of different ethnic and tribal groups, nationalities, age groups and genders).²⁰ Moreover, the interventions seek to encourage cross-community engagement between migrants and host community members through, for instance, joint ventures and self-help groups.²¹

At the **policy level**, community-based programming is complemented by efforts to improve the current coordination among national and international actors in the migration and development sectors. In particular, UNDP seeks to facilitate pathways for legal employment so as to ensure that the human capital and economic potential of migrants is not left unused both in the interest of their own empowerment and in the interest of the economic development of Sudan. Moreover, UNDP will engage in the capacity-building of government, civil society and other national stakeholders. UNDP will coordinate with the relevant ministries that provide services to host communities as well as with relevant national and international actors in other sectors (such as the food security and livelihood sector, the protection sector and the water and sanitation sector). In particular, UNDP and UNHCR have discussed collaboration along the lines of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

The Programme will achieve results through the following outputs:

¹⁹ C2SP

²⁰ These groups will be endorsed by local authorities and legally registered with the relevant government departments as it is the practice under other UNDP interventions in Sudan. The community-based approach entails a continuous process that engages communities as analysts, evaluators and implementers in their own protection and development strategies. Although the collaborative groups will have exclusively consultative functions in regards to project design, implementation and managing the project assets (including technical equipment), their engagement improves their capacities and thereby increases the chances for sustainability once UNDP withdraws. In addition, the collaborative groups will receive functional trainings in different areas as needed in order to further ensure sustainability once UNDP withdraws.

²¹ The approach has worked very well in similar ongoing UNDP projects in South Kordofan, West Kordofan, White Nile and other border states. These interventions have also offered seasonal jobs to refugees in agricultural farms which turned into larger scale economic ventures

Output 1: Socioeconomic infrastructure, economic assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities for migrants, host and neighbouring community members delivered

- 1.1 Socioeconomic infrastructure projects implemented
- 1.3 Efficient NRM and climate adaptation strategies integrated in activities

Output 2: Education, life skills and vocational training opportunities provided

- 2.1 Individual capacity building and vocational training
- 2.2. Trainings in environment conservation and NRM

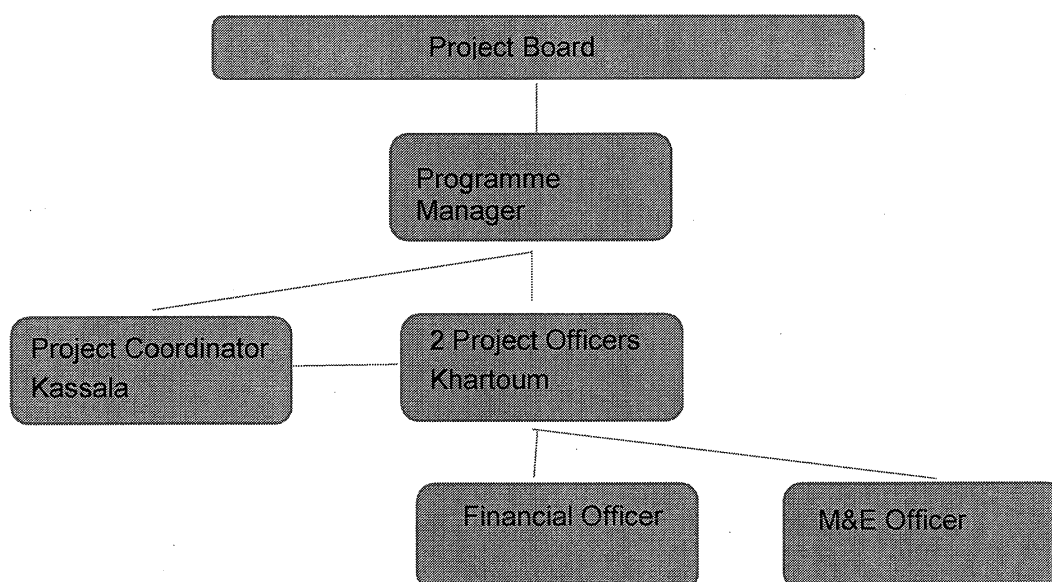
Output 3: Support the establishment of coordination and monitoring mechanisms and integrating development planning into migration policies to strengthen local governance

- 3.1 Coordination
- 3.2. Monitoring
- 3.3. Research
- 3.4 Advocacy

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Project will be managed and implemented under the Stabilization Unit, UNDP Sudan. The Programme manager, Srinivas Kumar will oversee the activities and assign programme staff in Khartoum.

A Project Coordinator in Kassala is required to oversee activities on the ground and liaise with government authorities and partners on a regular basis.



III. MONITORING

The initiation project requires the establishment of baselines which include but are not limited to:

- Needs Assessments
- Detailed market assessment
- Mapping and coordination with other actors
- Baseline perception survey

Throughout the implementation phase regular monitor visits will be organized on a bimonthly basis with one donor visit to be planned for the second quarter.

Furthermore, final perception survey and a documentation of lessons learned will be instrumental to the continuation of the project on a larger scale.

IV. WORK PLAN

Period²²: September 2019 – March 2020

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, indicators including annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity, results and associated actions</i>	RESPONSIBLE PARTY		PLANNED BUDGET			
		Q1	Q2	Implemented by	Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
<p>Output 1: Socioeconomic infrastructure, economic assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities for migrants, host and neighbouring community members delivered</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 1: # of socioeconomic assets provided to the targeted communities</i></p> <p><i>Target: 1 major asset per community</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 2 # of (F/M) refugees and host community members employed in seasonal jobs</i></p> <p><i>Baseline: 0</i></p> <p><i>Target: 1000 person per community (of which at least 30% female)</i></p> <p><i>Indicator 3 # of environmental/waste management activities conducted in camps and host communities (reforestation; water management; assessment on land issues)</i></p> <p><i>Baseline: 0</i></p> <p><i>Target 1 per community</i></p>	<p>1 Socio economic assets, infrastructure and equipment provided to targeted communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Needs assessments -Provision - Trainings <p>2. Efficient NRM and climate adaptation strategies integrated in activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessments - Water management, reforestation and other activities as per needs 			UNDP	Switzerland/ UNDP	Machinery and equipment, assessments, water and waste management, reforestation etc.	330 000 USD

<p>Output 2: Educational, life skills and vocational training opportunities provided</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i> # of (F/M) refugees and host community members receiving training and material support in various livelihood options (agriculture, vocational skills training, veg. production, etc.)</p> <p>Targets: 300 (m/f) (of which at least 30%)</p>	<p>3. Vocational trainings and job matching conducted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Needs assessment - Trainings 		Switzerland/ UNDP		50 000 USD
<p>Output 3: Support the establishment of coordination and monitoring mechanisms and integrating development planning into migration policies to strengthen local governance</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i> # of coordination activities (workshops) conducted</p> <p>Targets: 3 workshops</p> <p>#advocacy tools produced</p> <p>Target 1 movie</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i> # of publications disseminated</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 1 publication in Arabic 1 publication in English</p>	<p>1. Coordination workshops with civil society and new government leaders conducted to inform programme and shape migration agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop in Kassala - Workshop in Khartoum - Regional workshop <p>2. Research publication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publication in English - Publication in Arabic - Dissemination <p>3. Communication and outreach products developed and disseminated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocacy movie production - Communication materials production - Dissemination 		Switzerland/ UNDP	Stakeholder workshops	30 000 USD
<p>Baseline: 0</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i> # of coordination activities (workshops) conducted</p> <p>Targets: 3 workshops</p> <p>#advocacy tools produced</p> <p>Target 1 movie</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i> # of publications disseminated</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 1 publication in Arabic 1 publication in English</p>			Switzerland/ UNDP	Publication and dissemination	10 000 USD
			Switzerland/ UNDP	Design, publication and dissemination. Advocacy movie production	80 000 USD
TOTAL					500 000 USD

