

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Darfur Livelihood Recovery Project (DLRP)

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Final Evaluation of Project Phase



September 2018

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It is my sincere hope that the DLRP project will benefit from this evaluation and report lesson learning and future development activities in Darfur.

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Evaluator – September 2018

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Introduction	5
Background	5
The conflicts in Darfur	7
The Specific objectives of the evaluation	10
Evaluation Methodology	11
Ethical considerations	12
Major limitations of the evaluation	12
Evaluation Findings	12
Output 1	12
Output 2	17
Output 3	19
Evaluation Criteria	23
Relevance	23
Efficiency	24
Ownership of the process	25
Effectiveness	26
Sustainability	27
Recommendation comprehended from the beneficiaries	32
ANNEXES	I

Abbreviations

ARC	Agricultural Research Corporation
CBO	Community-based Organization
CBRM	Community Based Reconciliation Mechanisms
CDC	Community Development Committee
CEAP	Community Environmental Action Planning
DDPD	Doha Document for Peace in Darfur
DDS	Darfur Development Strategy
D-JAM	Darfur Joint Assessment Mission
ERRADA	Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation and Development Agency
IDP	Internally Displaced People
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
LOA	Letter of Agreement
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NNGO	National Non-Government Organization
SLA	Savings and Loans Association
STCC	State Technical Coordination Committee
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WFP	World Food Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Darfur Livelihood Recover Project (DLRP) is part of the Darfur Livelihood Recovery Programme which was launched in 2011. The project started in April 2016 for a duration of two years. Darfur region borders West and North Kordofan States, Abyei area, and the Northern State in the country; and Tchad, Central Africa, South Sudan and Libya countries. The conflict in Darfur started in 2003 with the armed confrontation between the rebellion groups and the government. Some of the resultant consequences of the conflict were:

- Destruction of the livelihoods and the basic services, and the adaptations that livelihood groups make.
- The continued disruption of markets and trade, particularly impacting those who are still able to engage in some of their pre-conflict livelihood strategies, namely pastoralists and resident farmers.
- The breakdown and failures in local governance, particularly in relation to competition over natural resources and local conflict resolution.
- Acceleration of environmental degradation, particularly in areas of high population concentrations as a result of displacement, but also as a result of the breakdown in natural resource governance and the impact of conflict in constraining livelihoods.
- Changes in the mentality and psychological settings of the people

UNDP launched the Darfur Livelihoods and Recovery Programme in 2011; since then it has contributed to the socio-economic recovery of communities in Darfur through the implementation of three interconnected components, one of them is the Darfur Livelihood Recovery Project, targeting IDPs, returnees and the host communities.

The project involved various project stakeholders in the implementation of the activities during the project period. State Ministries of Agriculture, Youth, Social Welfare, Agricultural Research Corporation, Forestry National Corporation, and the Range and Pasture Department were fully aware and cooperating in the delivering of the services to these communities.

Overall, the DLRP succeeded in building the capacities of the beneficiaries and strengthening their knowledge and capabilities to perform the livelihood-improvement-oriented actions. The various levels of training and the provision of some tools helped in improving the wellbeing of the participants. The various levels of training and the provision of kits and inputs, access to productive assets helped in improving the wellbeing of about **16,000** households (of which 53% female).

From the evaluation conducted, the project created very visible outcomes that should be replicated. According to project terminal monitoring survey, **79%** of direct

beneficiary households have increased their livelihood assets. This was measured using a set of baselines for selected assets. According to a field monitoring survey, beneficiaries increased their net annual incomes by 256% over the two years from \$758 in 2015 to average **\$1,946** by end of 2017 through production, processing and marketing of Honey, groundnuts, Sorghum, Sesame, Hides and skins, Hibiscus, vegetables and other off-farm income generation activities. Groundnuts and honey production and processing showed the highest income earning potentials. From the surveys conducted under this evaluation, it was clear from the perspective of beneficiaries that opportunities for livelihoods.

The economic impact of the project on ground were apparent, visible and verifiable. The above reports were ostensibly confirmed on ground through focus group discussions held with the participants during this evaluation mission to Darfur.

There were also positive outcomes from the establishment of the various infrastructure. According to the project final report, total of 25 different infrastructures were rehabilitated / developed. Communities confirmed that these infrastructures have improved their livelihoods. Communities gave examples of dams and irrigated schemes that reduced climate change risks and increased production as well improved access to water resources within close range therefore protecting women from risk of rape.

The project improved social cohesion through CBOs and Community-based conflict resolution mechanisms in place who addressed natural resource-based conflicts. Access to CBRMs was increased to 94% and 95% of the conflicts were successfully mediated to the satisfaction of the communities. According to the final project report, about 98% of the community member think that conflicts in their communities have dwindled at the end of 2017 compared to years earlier. Focus group discussion selected community members no confirmed that trust and confidence for co-existence has improved among the different groups and tribes.

Another striking outcome of the project is the level of community participation which has been enhanced by the establishment of CBOs, CDCs and CBRMS. Particularly, the participation and economic empowerment of women has been enhanced; something that this evaluation has identified. The final report of the project states that up to 53% of beneficiaries are women. Field survey in 2017 also further indicated that 49% of targeted women said their capacity for community participation in household decision making power has increased, compared to 46.4% in 2015 which is a great change considering the structural issues in Darfur.

The project interventions were very relevant to the target group as exemplified by the increase in the value of value chain products such as ground nut value and savings groups such as Saving and Loan Association (SLA). The outreach for the intended beneficiaries was more than 16,000 beneficiaries (53% female).

The participation of the NGOs and the communities in the implementation of the activities with the effective leadership of the UNDP were the driving forces for the efficient implementation of the activities

Some of the recommendations generated from this evaluation include:

- Partnering NNGOs in the right direction, including involvement of national and State institutions in the planning and implementation of the community - focused activities, especially for returnees and IDPs. UNDP should place great emphasis on improving NNGOs capacities
- The establishment of the VSLAs in the communities had enhanced savings mobilization and enhanced access to financial resources. Their formation should continue in all communities
- The introduction of the micro-financing has been a great success. Linking value chain groups, the VSLA associations and the CBOs to micro-financing and other financial lending institutions will be of great benefit to the beneficiaries.
- The rehabilitation/construction of the schools, health posts and other community assets should be considered for any future projects.
- Need to further strengthen partnerships with the private sector with the view of attracting capacity for value addition, market access and additional investment as part of their CSRs.
- Water provision through hand pumps or borehole water stations should be expanded since this proved to be a viable intervention for the project under evaluation. Rehabilitation of sanitary facilities should also be considered.
- While the project placed great emphasis on developing long-term partnership relationships with state-level government structures, the capacities of these government institutions to provide support to the IDPs and returnees remains quite limited and need to be further strengthened.
- Promotion of value chains should be enhanced and expanded since the current phase has witnessed significant income changes at community level.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Darfur Livelihood Recover Project (DLRP) was part of the Darfur Livelihood Recovery Programme which was launched in 2011. The project started in January 2016 for a duration of two years to fulfil the UNDAF outcome 1 and the UNDP Strategic Plan 2013-2017, and to satisfy the findings of the Darfur Joint Assessment Mission (DJAM). The project intended to provide some ideal activities in the period following the reduction in tensions and conflicts in Darfur. The project assistance focused on both returnees and host communities.
2. After two years of implementation, the DLRP intends to evaluate its implementation achievements and document the impact of the project on the targeted beneficiaries upon which this report is about.

Background

3. Darfur region lies in the far western part of the Sudan and administratively divided into five distinct States namely: North, West, South, East and Central Darfur. The region is boarding West and North Kordofan States, Abyei area and Tchad, Central Africa, South Sudan and Libya countries. The five States have a population of about 10 million persons, most of them are in South Darfur State which has more than 4 million persons and the least is in Central Darfur State which has only 6% of the region's population. The Darfur region lies between longitude 22 – 27° east and latitude 10 – 16° north. It is characterized by gently undulating to nearly leveled uplands and plateaus between 600 – 3000 meters above sea level. The region consists of six climatic zones ranging from desert in the north to rich savannah in the south.
4. The ecological zones represent the physical attributes of the area and natural resources that created conditions for land use patterns and livelihood options in Darfur. Major activities are based on agricultural production, livestock raising, trade and migrant labours. However, it is a general practice to combine livestock with farming at the same time.

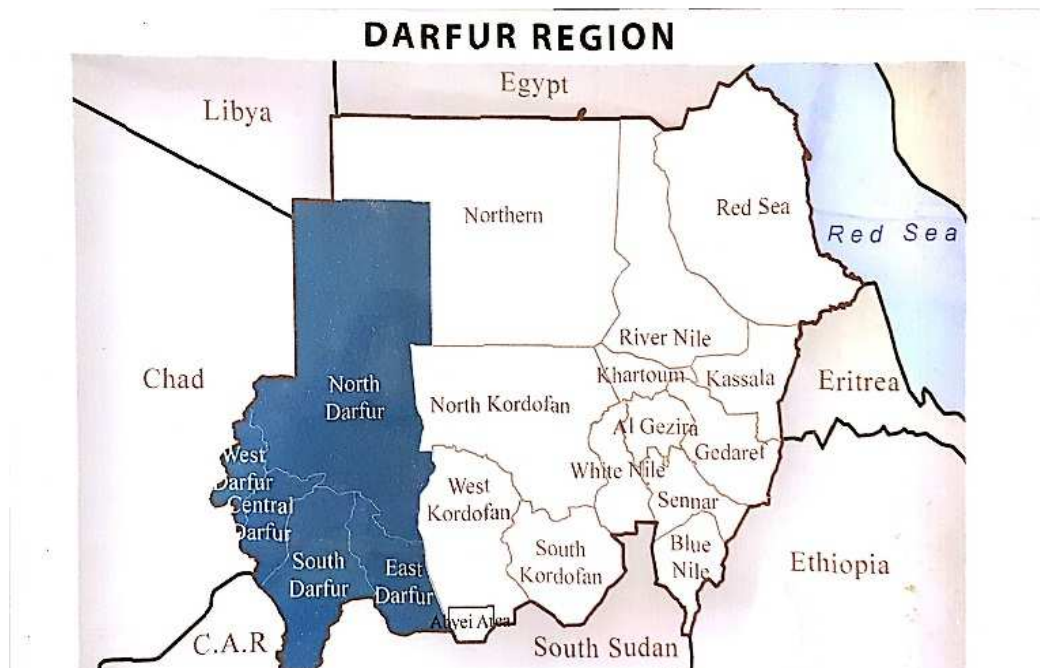


Table 1: Population and Area of Darfur States (2017)

#	State	Population		Area (km. ²)		Capital
		Number	% State	Area	% State	
1	East Darfur	1,547,800	16%	55,000	9%	Zalingei
2	Central Darfur	729,900	7%	34,000	6%	Ed Daein
3	North Darfur	2,113,626	22%	296,420	50%	Al-Fashir
4	South Darfur	4,093,594	42%	127,300	21%	Nyala
5	West Darfur	1,308,225	13%	79,460	13%	Geneina
	Total	9,793,145	100%	592,180	100%	

5. The Darfur region has high poverty prevalence, and this showed the marginality of the region in achieving the development goals in most of the aspects. The poverty level is highest in the country where 62.7%¹ of the population are below the poverty line, with North Darfur comprising of the highest percentage of poor people in the country at 69%² (Annex 1).
6. The five States are administratively divided into 61 localities as shown in Annex 2. The DLRP has targeted 24 localities or about 39% from the total number or 45% from the targeted 4 States (East Darfur in not included in the DLRP).

¹ National Household Survey 2009

² This is before the splitting of the Darfur Sates into 5 instead of 3

The conflicts in Darfur

7. Darfur region had a long history in peaceful and social consistency between the various groups living in the five States. The population of the States either originated in the States or migrated a long time ago, and they are divided into settlers, agro-pastoralists and pure nomads. The relationship between these groups were of shared mutual benefits that enhanced their livelihood and mode of life. As a result of the increasing populations, increasing competition on natural resources, and decrease in the different needs, some conflicts started mainly between the settlers who were traditionally farmers and the nomads who were traditionally livestock owners. Before 2003, the conflicts were around the natural resources such as water, pastures and agricultural land. These conflicts in the region were then fueled by some political and economic factors. The armed confrontations which started in 2003 led to large movements of the rural communities to towns and the IDP camps in the region in search of security.
8. The Darfur conflict had many interconnected causes. While rooted in structural inequality between the center of the country and the peripheral areas such as Darfur, tensions were exacerbated by a combination of environmental calamity, non-sustainable fast population growth, desertification, political opportunism and regional politics. The UN proposed that the conflict was also caused, at least in part, from "climate change, and that it derives, to some degree, from man-made global warming". The scale of historical climate change, as recorded in Northern Darfur for example, was almost unprecedented: the reduction in rainfall has turned millions of hectares of already marginal semi-desert grazing land into desert. The impact of climate change was considered to be directly related to the conflict in the region, as desertification has added significantly to the stress on the livelihoods of settlers and the pastoralist societies. Some of the resultant consequences of the conflict are:
 - Destruction of the livelihoods, and the adaptations that particular livelihood groups make.
 - The continued disruption of markets and trade, particularly impacting those who were still able to engage in some of their pre-conflict livelihood strategies, namely pastoralists and resident farmers.
 - The breakdown and failures in local governance, particularly in relation to competition over natural resources and local conflict resolution.
 - Acceleration of environmental degradation, particularly in areas of high population concentrations as a result of displacement, but also as a result of the breakdown in natural resource governance and the impact of conflict in constraining livelihoods.
 - Changes in the mentality and psychological settings of the people
9. The number of people displaced reached a maximum of 2.7 million persons in the 66 IDP camps around Darfur in addition to about 12 IDP camps for the Darfurians

in eastern Tchad republic. However, many IDPs started to return back to their home communities and to other new communities

10. Majority who returned, faced some difficulties such as insecurity and safety concerns, lack of access to basic services, loss of productive assets as well as diminished access to livelihood opportunities. The displaced people have been made vulnerable due to their reduced access to natural resources such as land and water, and a chronic shortage of basic services. For long period of time, the returnees used to rely on humanitarian handouts as their primary source of food and non-food needs. Conflict has also affected pastoralists' traditional migration routes and farmers' capacity to transport their livestock.

UNDP Response

11. The situation above called for increased efforts not to only to save lives but more urgently, to revive productive capacities for displaced populations, enabling their capacities to be self-reliant and creating an enabling environment for their sustainable return or relocation and integration/reintegration to pursue secure and thriving livelihoods. It was therefore crucial that donors and humanitarian actors operationalize programmatic and financial shift from short-term relief operations to more recovery and development efforts.
12. Some improvements have been noted after about a decade of armed conflict upon which some IDPs started to return to their homes or other host communities. Darfur Livelihood Recovery Programme was designed to serve those returnees and the IDPs in the host communities. DLRP started in early 2016 when the operational and circumstantial environment has significantly changed in the region towards improvement in security and unrest situation. The project was in line with the views of the government of transitioning from humanitarian to recovery
13. UNDP launched the Darfur Livelihoods and Recovery Programme in 2011 which has since then contributed to the socio-economic recovery of Darfur through the implementation of three interconnected components:
 - The Darfur Livelihoods Recovery Project
 - Youth Volunteers Rebuilding Darfur and
 - Promoting Sustainable Return and Reintegration of IDPs and Refugees in Darfur.
14. The objectives of the Darfur Livelihood Recovery Programme are also in line with Darfur Development Strategy (DDS) which provided the road map and framework for recovery and development in Darfur, and contributed to the UNDAF (2013-2017) outcome 1: *"People in Sudan, with special attention to youth, women and populations in need, have improved opportunities for decent work and sustainable livelihoods and are better protected from external shocks, thereby reducing poverty; and also in line with the UNDP Strategic Plan (2013-2017) "Early recovery and rapid return to sustainable development pathways are achieved in post-conflict and post disaster settings".*

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

15. This integrated project supported the livelihood and socio-economic recovery for IDPs, returnees and conflict affected host community members through value chain integration, establishment and or rehabilitation of basic community infrastructure and the management of natural resource conflicts. It focused on strengthening community-level institutions for local economic recovery as well as enhancing community conflict management processes at the local level.
16. The Darfur Livelihood Recovery Programme approach focused on restoring and promoting livelihoods through the development of two main categories of livelihood assets at community level: socio-economic infrastructure (e.g. physical and environmental capital assets) and human capability/know-how (e.g. human, social and financial capital assets) for livelihoods diversification, income generation and improved value retention on production and trade. The Programme adopted a three-track approach in ensuring transition from short-term livelihood stabilization to viable market and value chain integration. The approach also prioritized needs and opportunities for women and youth economic empowerment, with special attention to livelihood diversification and the promotion of environmentally sustainable practices for income generation. The Programme also promoted peace building and conflict management, particularly on those conflicts triggered by access to natural resources and ensured environmentally sustainable natural resource management.
17. Since January 2016, the **Darfur Livelihoods Recovery Project** worked as part of the DLR Programme with the objective of improving self-reliance and resilience of conflict affected population in Darfur.
18. The project has succeeded in reaching more than 16,016 households during the current phase in the 4 States through three key outputs:
 - **Output 1:** Livelihoods of IDPs, returnees and host community members improved through diversified income generation opportunities, increased value chain integration and local economic recovery;
 - **Output 2:** Community access to critical socio-economic infrastructure for value chain integration, conflict reduction and local economic recovery increased;
 - **Output3:** Institutions and mechanisms for peace building, social cohesion and management of natural resource related conflicts restored and strengthened;
19. The project covered 24 localities and 35 communities within **North, West, Central, and South** Darfur States. The criteria of selection although not explicitly stated in the available documents but the focus was on the localities and communities with large numbers of returnees and IDPs and based on specific value chains.
20. The funding of the project was from UNDP and the SWISS Government amounting nearly \$1,800,000 over the two years.

Objectives of the Evaluation

The purpose of this final evaluation was to provide an independent assessment of the outcomes and impact of the DLRP during the first phase of the project (2016-2017). Findings from the evaluation suggest that the project was well-designed and generally well implemented.

21. The purpose of this evaluation was to provide an independent assessment of the impact of the DLRP during the first phase of the project and seeks to:
- a) Measure the extent to which the DLRP has implemented its activities, delivered outputs and how these contribute towards attaining the outcomes and development results.
 - b) Generate evidence-based knowledge by identifying best practices and lessons learned that could be useful for the improved design and development of future DLRP Phase II in terms of scale-up and replicability.

The Specific objectives of the evaluation include:

- Review and assess the efficiency and adequacy of implementation arrangements and management of the project
- Review the effectiveness of the approach used to produce the project results. In particular, the mission focused on the following:
 - o Assess the views and perceptions of the direct beneficiaries. In particular, the evaluation examined whether the participation of primary beneficiaries has been adequate in the preparation and implementation and evaluation of the activities.
 - o Sustainability aspects of the project
 - o Document Findings, Best Practices and Lessons Learned
 - o Recommendations

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

22. The data sources for this final evaluation was mainly focus group discussions with the various groups of the project beneficiaries, community leaders and government counterparts with whom the project was designed and implemented.



Focus Group Discussion in Sileiaa - West Darfur in the Gum Arabic Center

23. The project documents and other progress reports and assessment were the supporting documents and sources of secondary information for this final evaluation. Some information was also gathered from the internet and relevant available documents.
24. Checklists were used in the group's discussions with beneficiaries including those beneficiaries from CDCs and CBRMs formed or reactivated by the DLRP.
25. After meetings with UNDP staff working for the project, field visits were undertaken to some selected sites where different types of beneficiaries were met followed by visits to infrastructure sites. The Ministries of Agriculture (North and Western Darfur), Ministries of Finance (North Darfur), Agricultural Research Corporation (North Darfur), National Forestry Corporation (West Darfur), and Extension Department (North Darfur) were all visited, and discussions centered on their roles and responsibilities during project implementation, opinion on the impact of the project and issues of sustainability including challenges encountered and possible solutions. The collaborating NNGOs (South, North, and West Darfur) and the INGOs (OXFAM in North Darfur) were also met and discussions were centered on impact and their roles in the project.

Ethical considerations:

26. The initial ethical consideration was whether it was appropriate to exclude non-beneficiaries or not. However, it was advised that this method of comparison must be avoided as it may not be applicable anyway. There are always direct and indirect beneficiaries.
27. The importance of obtaining authorization from the local and State authorities to ensure protection of the rights of beneficiaries to be interviewed was another ethical consideration. For security reasons, such authorizations were a must in most of the Darfur States and were taken care of by the States level UNDP offices. In general, the evaluation strictly follows UNEG document guiding notes for that the evaluation should count for the " respect for the beliefs, manners and customs of the social and cultural environment; for human rights and gender equality; and for the 'do no harm' principle for humanitarian assistance. Evaluator respected the rights of institutions and individuals, their privacy and voluntariness to provide information in confidence and ensured that sensitive data is protected and that it cannot be traced to its source.

Major limitations of the evaluation.

28. Darfur had challenges with delays in flights and sometimes cancellations and this disrupted scheduled meetings. UNDP team on the ground was flexible and managed to reschedule some of the affected meetings
29. Although the security situation was said to be improved, still the travelling to the field was restricted and conditioned by accompanying government of Sudan Police. Though there was no problem in that, their presence sometimes made beneficiaries tense and may have affected the collection of some essential information from locations especially information relating to security, inflation and peace.

EVALUATION FINDINGS

30. The project activities were implemented by national NGOs contracted through letters of agreements and Micro-Capital Grant Agreements detailing the activities to be conducted for each of the project planned outputs. The LOA also specified the reporting (quarterly financial report, quarterly progress reports, and a final report after completion or termination of the activities) and other obligations.

OUTPUT 1: Livelihoods of IDPs, returnees and host community members improved through diversified income generation opportunities, increased value chain integration and local economic recovery;

31. The Project addressed the drivers of conflicts by enhancing the community participation and collective works that resulted in strong social cohesion between the different components of the targeted communities. The project succeeded in targeting the needy and most vulnerable groups especially the returnees whose numbers are increasing and in dire need of livelihood support.
32. In achieving this output, the project successfully provided assistances and support to the returnees, IDPs and host communities to start and reestablish their livelihood which was negatively affected by the conflict.
33. The vocational training conducted (carpentry, mobile repair, trading, electricity, food processing such as Yoghurt making etc) for the school drop outs and youth has already started to change the lives of the trainees and stabilize their livelihoods. The trainees in vocational training courses (3 months) established their own businesses soon after the trainings.



Icecream Making Machine and Freezer provided by the project for a group of youth

34. In Ardamata community in West Darfur, the carpentry shop trainee graduate is realising about SDG 5,000 per month just 4 months after establishing the business. The mobile repairer also opened a shop after the training and started to generate some income although there is need for additional support. A trainee graduate in electrification is making good income and is working in a hardware shop of electric appliances. These are a few of the very many success stories of the project in building skills and creating employment and income generating opportunities for other impoverished and vulnerable people who have for decades relied on

humanitarian handouts. This evaluation notes that the project is contributing significantly to reducing humanitarian needs through its self-reliance focus.



Vocational Training graduates opening a Carpentry Shop in Ardamata - West Darfur

35. The introduction of leather making (hides and skins) has been one of the successful interventions in view of the large number of livestock in Darfur. The project trained some 400 women in two localities in South Darfur State in using the leather for decoration, shoe making, school bags, women handbag, and other uses of leather. The leather making association visited in Nyala locality has managed to train another 70 more women by themselves. Their present monthly income was about SDG 3,000 and expected to enormously increase as they started to receive orders from various parts of the locality and the State.
36. In Abudawi community in Azum Locality in Central Darfur, the vocationally trained hand pump mechanics are well established and disseminating their skills to many neighbouring villages after training and received service tools. However, six of them are working with one tool box and very few keys and screws.
37. The value chain interventions for some crops was the main thrust for the project. Many communities were trained and supported to improve their incomes through improved production, harvesting, storage and marketing. In South and North Darfur, the value chain for ground nuts production has improved the incomes of the beneficiaries. In South Darfur, production has increased tremendously because of the adoption of new cultural practices, and the quality has improved after training on methods for reducing or eliminating aflatoxins in their ground nuts. In North Darfur, Dareleslam community, the women producers succeeded in initiating a business of producing grounded and compressed ground nuts (foull

mazloot) in a modern plastic container after training and receiving soaking and compressing machines from the project.



Training on Technologies of Ground Nuts and Hibiscus Production – North Darfur

38. The gum Arabic society in Sileia community in West Darfur State was very active in making changes to their conditions after returning back. There are 23 groups in the locality, three of them are for women, most of them (18) are formed by the project in partnership with Siyag Charity Organisation (SCO) a NNGO. The groups participated in building the Gum Arabic center. The project also established a nursery, provided donkey carts, rehabilitated a well and repaired 6 hand pumps for the community. The groups succeeded in making fire lines 30 kilometres long in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry National Corporation (FNC) and in getting lands for their members in addition to lands for future purposes.



The Gum Arabic Center in Sileiaa - West Darfur State - by UNDP

39. It should be noted that the training and capacity building have resulted in improved social and economic conditions in the target communities. With some material support, the situation will definitely be more sustainable and will lead to peace and confidence building among the beneficiaries, and to more stable life in the targeted communities.
40. The Savings and Lending Associations (SLA) are one of the most valuable interventions introduced by the project in most of the targeted communities. The membership was about 25 persons per group with over 70% women. The contributing shares varied between communities but ranged from SDG 5 to SDG 10 per week, collected and used for lending to members up to SDG 3,000 payable after a month with written commitment to repay on time. The collected money was used also for investment in crops trading. SLA need to be connected to microfinance and other financial institutions for them to be able to make high value investments where they will realize higher profits.



SLA Group in Central Darfur

41. The project succeeded in introducing some innovative concepts and interventions carefully designed to meet the immediate and pressing needs of returnees. In Seleia in West Darfur State, most of the people fled to Tchad and other IDP camps in 2004 leaving back all their livelihood assets. Presently, only 30% of the population own some livestock.

OUTPUT 2: Community access to critical socio-economic infrastructure for value chain integration, conflict reduction and local economic recovery increased;

42. As indicated in the End of Phase Report, the project established 26 different infrastructures during the life of the project (2 dams, 19 hand pumps, 1 solar water system, 1 Gum Arabic center, 2 Community centers and 1 Gum Arabic nursery and a number of well).
43. Infrastructures are key to settlement of the beneficiaries and the communities and strengthen the value chain activities which has tremendously improved the production and productivity of the various crops that will lead to increased households' incomes. In Katila, the construction of a 15 meters deep water well added positively to reducing the travel time for women in search of water.
44. The construction of the women centers encouraged regular meetings of the women and this helped promote dialogue among different tribes apart from building trust. The center was used also for the meetings of other community-based committees and consequently added to the peace building in the village.
45. The partially rehabilitated dam in Malam Elwidya now act as resilience wall against the climate change and counter the effects of reduced rainfall in the area as

it provides water for production throughout the year and protect farmer production during years of drought especially in the 2016 growing season.

46. The Gum Arabic center in Sileia West Darfur was completed. As anticipated by the beneficiaries, they were very enthusiastic that the center has made a difference in their gum Arabic business and they are using the center for training purposes and Association meetings.
47. Some honey producers in Kabum started to make business by making modern bee hives which are of less harm to the environment, prevent contamination with animal dung and saves the bees from being killed by fires. However, until now they make them only on demand due to the lack of sufficient funds to make them for the market. UNDP formed 10 new honey producers groups and trained them on making these modern hives in addition to training women of how to benefit from the wax which has helped vulnerable women to increase their household incomes.
48. Nevertheless, access to the basic services such as education and health remain the major hurdle for the returnees and host communities. The services are either nonexistent, destroyed, ruined during the conflict period, or could not hold the additional number of people (returnees) joining the communities. The project, however, provided little assistance in this regard mainly because these services were beyond the scope of this project. The issue of access to the basic services need to be further investigated for possible linkages with other development partners.
49. Access to water was considered by the project where one well was rehabilitated and powered by solar in Darelsalam community of North Darfur, and 18 hand pumps repaired in the four States. Nevertheless, still the quality and quantity of water are vital issues in many communities in Darfur that need to be addressed. The cost for one barrel of water in Malam Elwidyan villages was SDG 15 which was too much for a poor family. Climate change leading to reduction of rainfall and frequent dry spells resulted in drying out of many surface wells especially in North Darfur. Therefore, such support need to be scaled up.



Solar Power pannel for pumping water - Darelsalam North Darfur

50. As a way of improving sustainability of the established water points, 6 mechanics were trained on hand pump maintenance and repairs in Abudawi community in Central Darfur. Maintenance kits were also provided to these trained community members.
51. Capacity building was one of the activities perfectly implemented by the project. All trainings were in line with the project design and followed the basic principles of adult learning where a lot of practicals were part of the trainings and visual aids. The training and capacity building curricula depended on the comparative advantage of the respective States with respect to the value chain and the actual needs of the communities ((sometimes based on action plans as prescribed in the Community Environmental Action Planning (CEAP). Generally, participants interviewed indicated that the training was very useful and have helped them gain essential skills.

OUTPUT 3: Institutions and mechanisms for peace building, social cohesion and management of natural resource related conflicts restored and strengthened;

52. The End of Phase Report indicated that 18 new Community Based Reconciliation Mechanisms (CBRMs) were formed and are now functional in the target locations (target was 10). In addition, Seven Community Development Committees (CDCs) were established with the participation of women, youth and different livelihood groups. The project conducted six conflict management trainings for CBOs focused on natural resource conflicts, negotiation and mediation skills, data collection, and incident monitoring and reporting. Two peace conferences were organized through which two inter-tribal peace agreements were facilitated on natural resources use and access between farmers and pastoralists resolved. One intertribal meeting was held in Joghana village after a conflict had occurred

between Masalit tribe and Reziegat in Gereida locality which resulted in the peaceful resolution of a lingering conflict between the Masalit and Reziegat). Monitoring survey indicate that 94% of the people reported increased access to CBRMs whilst 98% of the people think conflicts have dwindled in their communities". Field interviews held during this evaluation confirmed these same facts on ground.

53. The CDCs managed the development aspects for the villages and collaborated with the project in all the activities provided. The CDCs acted as the community mouthpiece and the mediator between the communities and the organizations and government institutions in the provision of the various services. Some are trained in action plans and budgeting for the development of their communities.
54. The Community-based organization assisted in creating social cohesion and justice for all the members and groups in the communities. The agricultural union of Malum Elwidyan comprised representatives from villages of different tribes and ethnic groups. They now have common interest and goals in the development of their irrigated land. The ground nuts producers also comprised many tribes all working in improving their productivity and enhance the value chains for their crops
55. The CBRMs were active in all communities visited and discussed. In Katila South Darfur, the beneficiaries estimated that the tensions and conflicts have reduced by 70% as a result of the formation and effectiveness of the CBRMs) in their area.



Training of CBRM members

56. The proper management of the natural resources around the village was noticed and the conflicts over the natural resources have dramatically reduced as people now believe in the committees formed and understood their rights and duties for the natural resources management. Reduction of conflicts and tensions among

farmers for farm boundaries and between farmers and the agro-pastoralists were reduced.

57. According to a quick impact study conducted at the end of the project, 98% of community members reported a decrease and deterioration in natural resource related conflicts. The conflicts were around agricultural land, pastures and water resources and these conflicts significantly declined due to the presence of the different community committees.
58. The project introduced the concept of Community Environmental Action Plans which was a participatory process through which communities planned, implemented and monitored specific activities in a way that preserved the environment and natural resources. Climate change resulting in reduction of rainfall and increasing competition over the land and water resources coupled with the increasing number of returnees in some communities, necessitated the need for natural resources management as a force for peace and stability. The project supported the beneficiaries to adapt to negative effects of the climate change by activities such as diversification of livelihood activities, introduction of climate-adapted varieties of crops for rainfed and irrigated agriculture, rehabilitation of dams and water sources, application of solar systems to ensure the flow of water for irrigation and drinking.
59. Gender and other cross-cutting issues are notably considered by the project in all its interventions. Most of the producers' associations were either with women representation or entirely composed of women as the cases in the ground nuts producers' associations in South and North Darfur States and the leather manufacturing society in Nyala, South Darfur where we found the associations composed mostly of women with few males. The gum arabic association in West Darfur and the agricultural producers' association in Central Darfur included considerable number of women as well.



Different types of belongings made of or decorated by leather – Hides and Skin Wome Group - Nyala South Darfur

60. The design of the Project was characterized by a short duration as a recovery project and future projects should be more longer-term with a minimum of 4 years. Nevertheless, the project involved various project stakeholders in the implementation of the activities during the implementation period and this helped in improving the sustainability of the project interventions. The State Ministries of Agriculture, the Ministries of Youth, Ministries of Social Welfare, the Agricultural Research Corporation, the Forestry National Corporation, and the Range and Pasture Department were fully aware and participated in the delivery of the services such as the provision of improved seeds and seedlings, follow up of the vocational and other training activities, and the provision of extension services. Elements of sustainability were strong in this project, however, still the institutional arrangements, frameworks and capacities necessary to ensure the sustainability of interventions still required further strengthening.
61. The project had some limitations in the coverage and inclusion as per the limited funding and duration. The coverage was about 16,000 direct beneficiaries. Nine (9) different activities on value chain (ground nuts, sesame, karkade (Hibiscus), gum Arabic), and the provision of vocational were key in improving the livelihoods of theses returnees.
62. It could be confidently said that the project management was efficient and adequate in achieving the objectives of the project through close following up the implementation processes.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Relevance

63. The Darfur conundrum started some decades ago but came to the surface with the eruption of the armed conflicts between the Darfur rebellions and the government in 2003. Since then, the Darfur region suffered from insecurity and massive displacement of the population to IDP camps where more than 2 million people were displaced. The IDPs lost their assets and all means of their livelihood including livestock, land and other household and personal belongings. The camps are mostly for relief and emergency assistance where food and other necessities are provided free. This although saved lives and helped in meeting the basic living requirements, it created dependency pattern of life among the IDPs.
64. The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper suggested that "Efforts to foster national reconciliation, integrate the internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees into viable communities and sustainable livelihood, and adopt inclusive governance institutions, will be essential for building peace, security and shared economic growth". The five-year Economic Reform (2015-2019) also call for improving the economic conditions and living standards of all the population. The DLRP was, therefore, very relevant to the government plans and strategies of instituting peace and improving the living conditions of the various groups of the population.
65. The conflict in Darfur affected all the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) especially those related to poverty, education and enrollment rates, health and population dynamics, sustainable agriculture and food security, rural employment and environmental aspects.
66. Therefore, the project was relevant to the Sudan Context and in line with the major national and international human needs. The project was also relevant and aligned with the UNDAF expected outcome 1 and 8 in Sudan.
67. As mentioned, the project was also in line with the Darfur Joint Assessment Mission which was a precursor to the Darfur Development Strategy (DDS) and various parties have now embarked on a process to identify key early recovery and long-term reconstruction and development needs for Darfur".
68. The project was in line with the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) which highlighted that "IDPs, returning refugees and all victims of conflict shall enjoy, in full equality, the same rights and freedoms as do other persons in Sudan under national law and international legal instruments to which Sudan is party".
69. The project was targeting returnees and vulnerable host community members who are the right beneficiaries as evidenced by the observations and discussions in the communities and individuals who told their experiences and situations before, during and after the conflicts. The project succeeded in establishing a model of delivering the needed livelihood mechanisms and activities that should be replicated and adopted to other communities.

Efficiency

70. The project was managed by a thin staff level within UNDP and the implementation processes heavily relied on the national and international NGOs who were implementing partners. There was a management board which provided oversight and State Level Technical Coordination Committee for the project. The two committees held meetings to review the work progress and approve the budgets and work plans.
71. Working with National NGOs during the implementation of the project activities proved to be effective in delivering the right outputs. They have the expertise in dealing with the communities and in implementing innovative packages. However, still their capacities and capability need to be improved for more effective and decent outcomes.
72. The project as one of the components of the Darfur Livelihoods Programme has increased efficiency in delivering the set outputs to the beneficiaries as exemplified by the increase in the value of ground nut value chain and the SLA groups. In Katila, South Darfur, the ground nut productivity increased from 7 sacks per feddan to more than 12 sacks per feddan as a result of the increased efficiency in using the recommended agricultural practices. The SLA groups in Gereida managed to purchase ground nuts at SDG 450 per sack and sold it for SDG 630 per sack after just one month; and trainees in vocational training courses in North and West Darfur States managed to establish businesses after the training.
73. In all the value chain activities visited or discussed (ground nuts in South Darfur and North Darfur, gum Arabic in West Darfur, agriculture in North and West Darfur), the communities expressed appreciation on the effectiveness of the skills learnt and applied, showcasing the outcomes.
74. The project targets were realistically set with a remarkable planning process and these targets were exceeded in many activities under the three outputs before the end of the project which means that realistic targets were set, and that the implementation was efficient. One NGO (War Child Canada) in West Darfur attributed that to the increase in the exchange rate during the implementation period that allowed them to reach more beneficiaries with the same level of resources.
75. In more than one output indicator, targets were exceeded denoting efficient implementation processes given the limited budget, well thought out planning and budgeting processes. For instance, and according to End of Phase Report 79% of the target households had their livelihood assets increased 24 months from project inception exceeding a target of 70%. Number of SLA associations formed was 13 against a target of 12 and the number of value chain related producer groups /associations established /reactivated reached was 19 compared to a target of 15 groups with more than 80% women members. The targeted beneficiaries increased

their net annual incomes by 256% over the project period from \$758 in 2015 to average \$1,946 by end of 2017 through production, processing and marketing of honey, groundnuts, sorghum, sesame, hides and skins, hibiscus, vegetables and other off-farm income generation activities.

76. Considering the short duration of the project (2 years), timing in delivering the outputs was very crucial if some early outcomes are to be achieved. Most of the outputs came across were delivered in time although some were delivered towards the end of the project which outcomes could not be assessed during this evaluation. Some NNGOs also expressed that if the funding constraint was solved, the performance will be better especially timely achievements.
77. The quantity of outputs achieved during the two years as mentioned above is exceptionally outstanding with the limited funding. This reveals that with good planning and follow up, projects can achieve their stated objectives and the expected results if the timing was well managed.

Ownership of the process.

78. The objective of the project was to improve self-reliance and resilience of conflict affected population in Darfur. People interviewed feel that this project enhanced community ownership through the community planning processes, the establishment of the CDCs, CBRMs, producer groups, management committees who are responsible for maintaining the dividends of the project. The formation of the community-based institutions, the leadership of the national NGOs and the level of participation added to the feeling of community ownership. As well, involvement, contribution and participation of Government was evident. Notably, the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance, Forest National Corporation and El Fsher research Station were the key government counterparts to this project.
79. Community participation and contrition was strong in this project. Some interventions such as the vocational training and the livestock restocking inevitably led to the creation of senses of ownership for the beneficiaries. The community contribution for the construction of the infrastructures was the most satisfying way of building sense of ownership among the beneficiaries. The contribution of the Gum Arabic groups in the construction of the Gum Arabic Center reached to more the SDG 38,000, about 20% of the total cost of the center. Some contributions were recorded in the construction of the community center and the women farm in Darelsalam. The farmers in Malemelwidyan expressed their readiness in the cleaning and de-silting of the dam.



Darelsalam Livelihoods/Community Center established by the project

Effectiveness

80. The project outputs were successfully implemented for all the activities under the value chain and other interventions. The immediate outcomes were reached or exceeded. The UNDAF (2013-2017) states that *“People in Sudan, with special attention to youth, women and populations in need, have improved opportunities for decent work and sustainable livelihoods and are better protected from external shocks, thereby reducing was also considered”*.
81. The outreach for the intended beneficiaries was presently more than 16,000 beneficiaries, most of them are females (53%). However, this represent only about 2% of the total population in the targeted communities and about 18% of the targeted population of IDPs who still rely on humanitarian aid. The figures showed that still more population was in need and more needy people need to be targeted in future. The project reached 35 communities in 24 localities in the four States of Darfur which again represented less than half of the communities in the States. However, considering the budget available and the cost of operating in insecure environments, this is considered optimum and highly effective.
82. The impact of the project on the targeted population may be too early to assess. However, it was very clear from the final evaluation meetings and discussions that the project addressed the real needs of the targeted segments of the Darfur communities and produced strong outcomes.
83. The project succeeded in having differentiated effects on the various levels of the community groups. The project layout of interventions called for inclusion of all types of groups as males, females, youth, tribal groupings and settlement structures. For instance, the value chain for some crops such as ground nuts and hibiscus was accomplished by only females while other interventions as gum

Arabic (as the case for the gum Arabic society in Seleia of West Darfur) required both sexes, while vocational training targeted male youth at this stage.

84. One of the outstanding achievements of the project was the formation of community-based institutions such as the CDCs and CBRMs. These committees composed, mostly intentionally, of the various tribes in the community resulting in concrete social cohesion and solidarity in the community as the case in Malam Alwidyan community in North Darfur where the committees was comprised of different tribes in the village, including females and youth from the six villages. The one feddan annual allocation also accounted for the returnees and the IDPs from other areas who were settling in the area.



Farmers in Malam Alwidyan in North Darfur beside the unmaintained dam

Sustainability

85. The project formed community-based institutions and the CDCs and CBRMs Joint Management Committees (JMCs) and SLAs. The SLA committees were registered with the States Ministry of Social Welfare which provided continuous administrative support even after the end of the project.
86. The project was an integral part of the programme board which was the overarching mechanism for all the projects focusing on livelihoods in Darfur. At the State level, the project was a core member of the State Technical Committee where government departments were represented.
87. The exit strategy for this project started right from the onset by working closely with State and Non-State actors who would assume responsibility for the

sustenance of services provided. The project has been working closely with the government institutions such as the State Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock, with institutions such as the Agricultural Research Stations and Forestry Departments, and with international and national NGOs who will continue with the activities after the project pulled out. The aims of building the capacities of and partnership with the communities and the relevant institutions have been also to enable them to continue delivering services even after the closing out of the project. The exit strategy for this project also "emphasized on linkages as a process to lead clients to access services from other service providers and or from other private sector sources"³

88. The communities and the national institutions need more intensive capacity building, need institutional support, and stronger coordination mechanisms. Some of the community institutions were recently registered by the States authorities, which will negatively affect the sustainability of the interventions if not properly supported by government. The coordination of the State ministries with the implementing NGOs still required further strengthening.
89. One example from the field which showed that sustainability is possible upon the exit of the project support with good planning and effective communication and contacts was that of Silea locality. UNDP and Siyag Charity Organization(NNGO) managed to receive 200 plots of houses lands to be distributed to the gum Arabic groups' members. In addition, they succeeded in being allocated 8,000 square meters of land for their future projects related to Gum Arabic. This shows great success in managing to settle their members and looking to the future.
90. The factors beyond UNDP's control that influenced the outcomes were the following:
 - The security situation at some locations limited the close monitoring of the activities. For many locations, the missions were accompanied by security personnel which distracted the communities and the teams from doing their work in liberty.
 - The limited funding of the project precluded the project from proper coverage of the needy communities, reduced the quantity of outputs to be delivered and reduced the level of capacity building and needed infrastructures.
 - The limited technical capacity, staffing and equipping and mobility provisions of the NNGOs.
91. Still the national institutions now show the required technical capacity and leadership to ensure the sustainability of the interventions. They however, show and express some commitments that may be fictitious in reality. There is no foreseen action or ability for scaling up the activities.

³ End of phase report April 2018.

92. The national institutions portray no sufficient financial or workable capacities for sustaining the outcomes of the project. Some basic technical capacity was available but need more consolidation if the activities are to continue or scaled up. The NNGOs, even if they have the financial and technical capacities, will not and could not continue working without support from donors for some time.
93. The project activities are replicable and scalable as they met the communities' incessant needs for recovering their livelihood. The activities proved that the beneficiaries have the capacity to improve their standard of living and improve their livelihood and wellbeing by such small, quick- tangible interventions.

CONCLUSIONS

94. Findings from this final evaluation suggest that the project was well-designed and generally well implemented. DLRP had positive immediate impacts on the livelihood situation and security for the project beneficiaries. Communities are working as one to prepare for and mitigate the impact of future shocks and stresses and are adopting resilience and coping mechanisms resulting mainly from the project interventions.
95. There was strong evidence to suggest that the DLRP initiative was an effective approach for encouraging displaced populations to return to their original or host villages. Value chain initiatives, the savings and lending mechanisms, the vocational and other training, the productive assets and infrastructures and capacity building sessions all lured communities back including the increased security in the targeted areas.
96. The use of the NNGOs has been successful in delivering the project outputs to the beneficiaries. Without them, the current achievements for the targeted communities, might have not been realized given the security and access issues. However, their capacity and equipping including mobility are still limited.
97. Capacities of the beneficiaries have been evidently improved in utilizing the innovative mechanisms and equipment to generate incomes and to improve their livelihoods.
98. Immediate outcome has been realized for many activities. Incomes of beneficiaries have increased, and peace dividends are now felt by many communities, many conflicts have been resolved and settled as a results of the functioning CBRMs that has improved trust, confidence and social cohesion.
99. Whilst the potential for sustainability is strong, there is still need for further strengthening of the capacities of the fledgling local and State authorities.
100. Training was the largest contribution to capacity development at state and community levels. Both the scale of the training sessions and the target beneficiaries were novel in the four focus states. Despite this, a missing link was noted between the training and the effective application of skills and knowledge in the working environment.

LESSONS LEARNT

Some of the lessons that could be of use for the future interventions are among the following:

101. Incorporating NNGOs national and State institutions in the planning and implementation of the community- focused activities was the best approach to sustainable development. This will strengthen them for the next phase of development in Darfur after the recovery situation is stabilized. The use of the NNGOs has been found to be very cost effective in view of the activities they performed and their outreach within the remote communities.
102. The establishment and strengthening of the Saving and Loans Association (SLA) was a successful approach in enhancing savings mobilization and enabled all value chain activity members to save for general community benefits, and lending for personal benefits which will add positively to the improvement in the households' incomes. However, the groups and community members need training in small enterprise management and in addition to the need to improve the marketing channels. There is a need to also provide small grants to successful groups such that they engage in more sustainable income generating activities.
103. With more training on value chain challenges such as aflatoxin on ground nuts, the quality of the produce has improved. The same token can be applied to gum Arabic for instance as farmers are inclined now to produce purer and high-quality gum.
104. With minor rehabilitation and provision of irrigation water, the lives of farmers changed as the case for the partial rehabilitation of the two dams in North Darfur where farmers resumed cropping after decades of droughts. The case in the two dams resulted also in peace building and community cohesion among the communities.
105. Construction and rehabilitation of wells and hand pumps for domestic and animal use, improved the quality of water, reduced the contamination of water and reduce the transporting time to women in the households and diminish the costs of buying water.
106. With the distribution of the locally multiplied seeds and other allocated farm needs, harvesting in time and avoiding of failure could be ensured.
107. With proper guidance, capacity building and support, communities can efficiently develop themselves and contribute to the achievement of the project objectives.
108. With improved security and access, projects' activities will be easily implemented, and achievements will be reached.
109. The participation of the private sector in value chain activities was very crucial. In the next phase of the project, the business model should be strengthened to emphasize the engagement of the private sector in a more competitive, and transparent process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

110. Whilst the National NGOs and CBOs provide the best solution for access and outreach in the most remote locations, their capacity building and enabling factors are of great importance. These institutions act as implementing partners and the direct link with the communities and their performance determine the success and sustainability of the intervention. UNDP should place great emphasis on improving their capacities and ensure that they can do their functions appropriately.
111. Engagement of both the government and the communities was critical to the long-term success of DLRP next phase. The current practice shows that this engagement still needs to be strengthened especially with the Government.
112. The establishment of the savings and loans associations (SLA) in the communities have enhanced savings mobilization and also enhanced access of all value chain groups members to cash that will enable them to achieve short term financial needs and start some small enterprises. Their SLA groups formation should continue in all targeted communities and close follow up by government should be enhanced to ensure that they are on the right track.
113. The introduction of the micro-financing to the communities has been one of the great successes of the project. Linking value chain groups, the SLA societies and the CBOs to micro-financing and other financial lending institutions will be of great benefit to the beneficiaries.
114. Local markets are not quality driven; therefore, farmers still prioritize quantity over quality. This was particularly apparent with groundnuts in which produce that contain low or no aflatoxin are not yet rewarded with premium prices. The same goes for the purified gums and honey where the buyers are inclined to the quantity rather than the quality in general. More advocacy is needed to improve the market preferences and introduce the variations in prices according to quality.
115. There is need to further strengthen partnerships with the private sector with the view of attracting capacity for value addition, market access and additional investment as part of their CSRs. The project needs to have a clear approach on how it will engage with private sector and the process of engaging with private sector should be transparent and competitive.
116. There are many old dams in the project area that are either not functioning well or smashed by time and lack of periodic maintenance. The experience in North Darfur shows that with minimum maintenance could make changes in the farmers activities. It is recommended, therefore, that the existing dams and weirs be maintained in collaboration with the beneficiaries and the concerned State authorities. The World Food Programme (WFP) could be an approachable option for cleaning and de-silting the dams; beds under their Food for Assets intervention.
117. On the other hand, more small dams should be constructed in areas in need such as in the gum Arabic areas of Sileia in West Darfur where beneficiaries are strongly demanding water, and other potential areas in all the Darfur States. Together with that, water harvesting, and watershed management techniques should be

- introduced to enable the populations withstand the climate change risks associated with reduced rainfall, droughts and desertification.
118. Provision of certified improved seeds through seed multiplication was one of the major factors enhancing production and productivity of the various irrigated and rainfed crops. Future interventions should expand seed multiplication by farmers in all the States to multiply high quality locally adapted varieties for and by the farmers. This initiative also supported the IDPs and returnees to re-start their agricultural activities on strong bases which is commendable.
 119. The constructions of community and services centers have multiple benefits. As a community asset, the centers are used for organized meetings for the different CBOs in a community, used as women operational centers, and as recreational points and settling factor for the youth. The community centers will also have the benefits of the enhancement of integration in the communities. It was recommended, therefore, that the construction of small community centers (US\$ 55,000 or less) be of the future interventions.
 120. The conflict period resulted in the destruction of so many community basic services. Therefore, the rehabilitation of the schools, health posts and other community assets should be in mind for any future projects. Whenever possible, new basic schools and health units could be constructed to add in the improvement of the enrollment rates and child and maternal health.
 121. While the project placed great emphasis on developing long-term partnership relationships with state-level government structures, the capacities of these agencies to provide support to the IDPs and returnees remains quite limited. Design of future programmes will need to recognize this reality by i) not expecting the projects to be strongly supported or ultimately taken over by government structures, ii) supporting community-level organizations such as the CDCs, to organize collective action for providing social services and investments using available community resources, and ii) serve as a vehicle for advocacy to government agencies and NGOs to provide services and investments to their communities.
 122. The project assumptions should include all possible risks and unexpected events in areas with possible climate changes and areas with most vulnerable people.
 123. Given the very strong potential of this project and the widespread and protracted displacement in Darfur, there will be needed to allocate more funds to the future of the project to enable it reach more beneficiaries.

Recommendation comprehended from the beneficiaries

124. New crops varieties and early maturing could be introduced with consultations with the ministry and the ARC in all locations.
125. Introducing complementary irrigation at some sites. This was one of the MoA suggestions to improve and reduce the risks associated with rainfed agriculture at some parts of the project area.

126. The conflict period resulted also in loss of most of the livestock either by looting or left over. Beneficiaries reported that the household ownership of livestock was only about 30% from 100% ownership before 2003. Restocking was therefore, the right strategy for building up the livestock ownership as means for food security, income generating and as resilient against drastic conditions. The DLRP provided few goats to some beneficiaries which stimulated the communities to request more. It was recommended that the restocking programme be continued in all targeted communities and preferably be in a revolving manner to benefit larger number of families.
127. Drinking water is a vital issue in all the four States. Water provision through shallow wells, hand pumps or borehole water stations should be expanded for the communities in need.
128. The design of the next support programme should outline goals and outcomes that are within the scope, budget, and resources available to the UNDP.
129. Seeds and tools should be distributed early before the rainy season starts to avoid the delay of planting which has negative impact on germination, crops density and production.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Table 2: Poverty in Sudan

Poverty profile for Northern Sudan				
	Poverty			Poverty gap among the Poor
	Incidence	Gap	Severity	
Northern Sudan	46.5	16.2	7.8	34.8
	<i>Poverty by Regions</i>			
Darfur	62.7	24.6	12.6	39.3
Kordofan	58.7	23.1	11.7	39.3
Eastern	46.3	17.7	9.0	38.2
Central	45.4	13.8	6.1	30.4
Northern	33.7	9.4	3.8	28.0
Khartoum	26.0	6.4	2.4	24.7
	<i>Poverty by States</i>			
Northern Darfur	69.4	27.4	14.2	39.6
Southern Darfur	61.2	24.5	12.7	40.1
Southern Kordofan	60.0	20.7	9.4	34.5
Northern Kordofan	57.9	24.6	13.1	42.5
Red Sea	57.7	24.9	13.7	43.1
Blue Nile	56.5	20.6	9.9	36.5
Western Darfur	55.6	19.8	8.9	35.6
White Nile	55.5	17.6	7.8	31.7
Al-Gadarif	50.1	15.9	6.7	31.8
Sinnar	44.1	14.0	6.4	31.7
Al-Gezira	37.8	10.1	4.1	26.6
Kassala	36.3	14.7	8.0	40.6
Northern	36.2	10.5	4.2	29.1
River Nile	32.2	8.8	3.5	27.3
Khartoum <small>Source: NBHS 2009.</small>	26.0	6.4	2.4	24.7

Annex 2: DLRP Outreach from the Total Localities and Communities

State	Number of Localities	# of DLRP Targeted Localities	# of DLRP Targeted Communities
North Darfur	16	6	9
West Darfur	8	6	8
Central Darfur	8	6	10
East Darfur	9	0	0
South Darfur	21	6	8
Total	61	24	35

Annex 3: People Met during the evaluation period

1: Khartoum

Mr. Omer Elhag	Head of Governance Unit, UNDP
Mr. John Anodam	DLRP Programme Manager

2: Nyala

Mr. Salah Eldin Ibrahim	Officer in Charge, UNDP– DLRP
Mr. Kanu Ismael	Manager, ERRADA NGO
Mr. Alaa Aldin Bakhit	ERRADA NGO
Mr. Saleh Ahmed Abbaker	ERRADA NGO
Mr. Esam Eldin Jameellala	SPCR NGO
Mr. Abdalla Adam Abdalla	Katila CDC member
Ms Kaltoum Hasaballa	Katila CDC member
Mr. Musa Alduma	Katila CDC member
Ms Huweida Mohammed	Gireida CDC member
Mr. Adam Mahmood	Gireida CDC member
Mr. Abbabker Gibreel	Gireida CDC member

Women Group for Leather making workshop Nyala

3: Elfasher

Mr. Burhan Hasan	UNDP Staff, DLRP
Ms Hiromi Amano	Youth Volunteers Building Darfur Project
Mr. Abdalla Adam Osman	Head, Alfashir Agricultural Research Station
Mr. Yasir Abdalla	Head of Extension, State Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. Mohammed Zakariya	Development Planning, State Ministry of Finance
Mr. Yahia Bkhat Ishag	International Cooperation, State Min of Finance
Mr. Ibrahim Suleiman	SAHARI NGO
Jalal Ali Mohammed	OXFAM, Area Manager
Abdalla Adam Eisa	OXFAM, Nutrition Officer

Farmers Group Malam Alwidyan Project
Women Group Darelsalam G/N Value Chain

4: El Geneina

Mr. James Handina	UNDP Geneina, DLRP
Mr. Giballa Ahmed	UNDP, Geneina, DLRP
Mr. Ibrahim Adam	SCO NGO
Mr. Zakariya Ahmed	SCO NGO
Mr. Sabeel Ahmed Sabeel	Director General, State MoA
Mr. Fadul Aldoom	Director Planning, State MoA
Mr. Abdulaziz Mohammed	Director of Forestry, State MoA

Gum Arabic Farmers' Group Sileia
Farmers Group Abudawi Community, Central Darfur
SILC Group (women) Abudawi Community, Central Darfur

Annex 4: Table 4: International and National NGOs working with the project

State	NGOs met	Agreed Activities	Locations	Summary achievements
South Darfur	ERRADA – Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation and Development Agency	- Ground-Nuts Value Chain - Education - Honey	Katila and Gireida EdelFursan Kabum	Formation and training of all community-based organizations in the four localities, – Distribution of 200 goats to 50 widows, 2 ground nut crushers, digging of a well, Rehabilitation of a well, construction of a women center, formation of SILC in 3 villages, 2 gum arabic producers, training in food processing
	SPCR (Sudanese Popular Committee for Relief and Rehabilitation)	- Leather making value chain including training of tannics	Nyala and Katila	Trained 400 women in leather making, trained 15 men in leather tanning
North Darfur	SAHARI	hibiscus, Groundnut and Arabic gum	Kelamindo, Allaaait, Altuwisha and Daresalam	Reactivation of 4 Gum Arabic producer's associations, 2 groundnuts producer's associations, 2 hibiscus producers associations in 18 communities,
	OXFAM	Micro-finance and SILC, Youth small producers Link value chain with micro-finance	Darelsalam, Kalamindo, Alfashir, Kabkabiya, Elsireif, Saraf Omra, Golo	Formation of 20 groups, start-up capital SDG 45,000/group, mobile banking, Link with value chain interventions, awareness campaigns, Restocking, animal health workers, water harvesting, IGAs, NRMs, RWSs
	Plan Sudan	Vocational Training	Tawila and Kutum	
	Agricultural Research Corporation	- Agricultural adaptive research - Seed Multiplication	Alfashir Darelsalam and other locations in the other States	- Preparation of 260 feddans irrigated, 340 feddans floods, distribution 7MT sorghum seeds, 3.5 sesame, 2.5 ground nuts and 2.5 water melon seeds to 2018 HHs. Sedd multiplication in 5 feddansm 2 farmers field schools.
West Darfur	Siyag Charity Organization (SCO)_	Gum Arabic Ground nuts	Sileiaa	Construction of G Arabic center, Distribution of Gum Arabic equipment to all 23 groups, distribution of horse cards to 10 groups, 2 SLIC groups, 30,000 capacity nursery. rehabilitation of 6 hand pumps, registration of all groups,
	War Child Canada	Vocational Training	Ardamata	Trained of 36 in carpentry, mobile repair, and electricity
Central Darfur	DDRA	Agriculture, SILC group	Azum	Provided services to Abudawi and Kromindi

Annex 5: Communities visited

State	Locality	Communities Visited	Major Interventions
South Darfur	Nyala	Sari	Leather making
North Darfur	Darelsalam	Malam Elwidya	Agriculture
	Darelsalam	Darelsalam	Ground Nuts Value Chain
West Darfur	Jebel Moon	Sileiaa	Gum Arabic value chain
	Ardamata	Ardamata	Vocational Training alumnae
Central Darfur	Azum	Abudawi	Agriculture and vocational Training alumnae

Annex 6 Meeting Community Representatives (not visited)

Locality	Community	DLRP Activities in the Locality	Remarks
Katila	Katila and other benefiting villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formation of a CDC from 11 members including 2 women - Formation of 5 Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation Committee - Trained in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Livelihood - IGAs - Conflict Resolution - Distribution of 200 goats to 50 widows in 6 villages - Provision of 2 ground nut peelers to 50 widows and disabled in two communities - Rehabilitation a shallow well - Construction of a women center - Formation of SLIC groups in 3 communities - Formation of G/Nuts producers' society - Training in food processing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Population of Katila village is about 15.000 - Rebellions intrusion 2013 resulted in fleeing of more than 1000 families. Livestock raiding and left back, - Some returned back in 2016 - The reconciliation committees reduced the conflicts by 70% - Production of G/Ns increased from 7 to 12 sacks per feddan - G/Ns quality improved after training on <i>aflatoxin</i>
Gireida	Goghan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formation of Resolution and Reconciliation, CDC, and Ground Nuts Producers Committees - Ground nuts peeler and presser - Three SILC groups and training of 75 women - Training on peace and reconciliation, Ground Nuts production, and quality assurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moved in 2005 and started returning back as from 2010 - The ground nuts committee collected and pressed 17 sacks of G/Ns giving 14 Jerkans of oil and 7 Kantars of cakes. Total income = SDG 10,920. Net income SDG 3,270. - The SILC bought G/Ns on SDG 450/sack. Sold after 9 months for SDG 630/sack

Annex 7: Terms of Reference (TOR)

For an Assignment Requiring the Services of an Individual Contract (IC) to Conduct Final Evaluation

A. Project Title: Darfur Livelihoods Recovery Project (000g8o88)

B. Background and Project Description:

Background:

The 2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO 2017) indicates that, after a decade of conflict in Darfur, the structural and root causes of the conflict in Darfur have not yet been addressed; leaving over 2.7m people still stranded in 60 camps across. Even though majority wish to return, a number of factors have made this impossible. These include insecurity and safety concerns, lack of access to basic services, loss of productive assets as well as diminished access to livelihood opportunities. The displaced people have been made vulnerable due to their reduced access to natural resources such as land and water, and a chronic shortage of basic services. They continually rely on humanitarian handouts as their primary source of food and non-food needs. Conflict has also affected pastoralists' traditional migration routes and **farmers' capacity to transport their crops.**

The current situation calls for increased efforts not only to save lives but more urgently, to revive productive capacities for displaced populations, enabling their capacities to be self-reliant and creating an enabling environment for their sustainable return or relocation and integration/reintegration to pursue secure and thriving livelihoods. It is therefore crucial that donors and humanitarian operationalize programmatic and financial shift from short-term relief operations to more recovery and development support in line with the Humanitarian Development-Peace Nexus agenda.

UNDP launched the Darfur Livelihoods and Recovery Programme in 2011 which has since then contributed to the socio-economic recovery of Darfur through the implementation of three interconnected components:

- The Darfur Livelihoods Recovery Project
- Youth Volunteers Rebuilding Darfur
- Promoting Sustainable Return and Reintegration of IDPs and Refugees in Darfur.

Project Description:

The integrated project supports the livelihood and socio-economic recovery for IDPs, returnees and conflict-affected host community members through value chain integration, establishment and or rehabilitation of basic community infrastructure and the management of natural resource conflicts. It focuses on strengthening community-level institutions for local economic recovery as well as enhancing community conflict management processes at the local level.

The **Programme approach** focuses on restoring and promoting livelihoods through the development of two main categories of livelihood assets at community level: socio-economic infrastructure (e.g. physical and environmental capital assets) and human capability/know-how (e.g. human, social and financial capital assets) for livelihoods diversification, income generation and improved value retention on production and trade. The Programme has adopted a three-track approach in ensuring transition from short-term livelihood stabilization to viable market and value chain integration. The approach also prioritizes needs and opportunities for women and youth economic empowerment, with special attention to livelihood diversification and the promotion of environmentally sustainable practices for income generation. The Programme will also promote peace building and conflict management, particularly on those conflicts triggered by access to natural resources, and ensure environmentally sustainable natural resource management.

Since start in January 2016, the Darfur Livelihoods Recovery Project reached more than **16,016 households** through three key outputs:

- **Output 1:** Livelihoods of IDPs, returnees and host community members improved through diversified income generation opportunities, increased value chain integration and local economic recovery;
- **Output 2:** Community access to critical socio-economic infrastructure for value chain integration, conflict reduction and local economic recovery increased;
- **Output3:** Institutions and mechanisms for peace building, social cohesion and management of natural resource related conflicts restored and strengthened;

The current phase of the project covers 23 localities within **North, West, Central, and South** Darfur States.

Objectives and Scope of Work:

The assignment will require the collaborative work of three experts of which one will act as the Team Leader, providing leadership for the quality execution of the task. Whilst the 3 consultants will work as one team, each of them will be issued a separate IC contract.

Objective:

The purpose of this evaluation is to provide an independent assessment of the impact of the DLRP during the first phase of the project and seeks to:

- a) Measure the extent to which the DLRP has implemented its activities, delivered outputs and how these contribute towards attaining the outcomes and development results.
- b) Generate evidence-based knowledge by identifying best practices and lessons learned that could be useful for the improved design and development of future DLRP Phase II in terms of scale-up and replicability.

The outcome of this evaluation will be used and shared by UNDP and other stakeholders to inform policy and guide similar future programmatic responses. The evaluation will focus on measuring development results and potential impacts generated by the **DLRP**. It will examine the extent of delivery of outputs, activities and inputs detailed in the project document and in associated modifications made during implementation period (January 2016 – December 2017 within four states of Darfur.

The Specific objectives of the evaluation include:

- ❑ ***1. Assess the results and achievements of the DLRP phase 1. In particular, the mission should focus on the following aspects:***
 - Outline the main achievements of the project and assess the extent to which the DLRP has contributed to solving the problems identified in the design phase;
 - Assess whether the project has produced its outputs effectively and efficiently and identify the major factors, which have facilitated or impeded the progress of the project towards achieving its goal and desired results;
 - Determine the impact of the project on target groups, and in particular the quality, usefulness and sustainability of the project's achievements and outputs;
- ❑ ***Review and assess the efficiency and adequacy of implementation arrangements and management of the project***
 - In particular, the evaluation should assess the professional capacity and review the quality of inputs and activities implemented by the main national implementing partners of the programme.
 - Assess whether these organizational arrangements were cost effective
- ❑ ***Review the effectiveness of the approach used to produce the project results. In particular, the mission should focus on the following aspects:***
 - Review the management structure of the project and determine whether the structure of the project, the resources, the distribution of responsibilities and coordination mechanisms were appropriate for the achievement of project objectives.
 - Review the project strategy and approach and results versus cost ratio of the project.
 - Assess the support and roles of teams at project management level.
- ❑ ***Assess the views of the direct beneficiaries.*** ○ In particular, the evaluation should examine whether the participation of primary beneficiaries has been adequate in the preparation and implementation and evaluation of the activities.
 - To the extent possible, the mission will collect the views and impressions of beneficiaries on the perceived impacts, shortcomings of the project and document beneficiary recommendations.
- ❑ ***Sustainability aspects of the project***

- Review approach, structures, strategies used by the project to involve local communities and build to technical and management capacities to implement and maintain the project;
 - Assess to what extent the project managed to build community and national ownership. ○ Assess the involvement of different stakeholders and inter-linkages and interactions at the local, state and national levels.
 - Assess the likelihood of sustainability of interventions;
 - To the extent possible, highlight linkages and synergies; direct or indirect with other UNDP, government and other donor supported projects.
 - An analysis of the underlying factors beyond UNDP's control that influenced the outcomes;
- ***Document Findings , Best Practices and Lessons Learned***
- Produce, as logically and objectively as possible, significant conclusions that are extracted from the evaluation in terms of project overall goals, approach, relevance, performance, success, failures, strengths and weaknesses.
 - Identify the main lessons learned during implementation, identify the major impediments encountered and make specific recommendations to address these findings in the next envisaged phase of the project.
- ***Recommendations***
- The consultant is expected to outline the recommendations for the next phase of project. The recommendations must be objective, realistic, practical, understandable, and forward looking;
 - The recommendations have to be logically linked to the findings and assumptions that were based on.
 - Each recommendation has to bear its impact on the improvement of the design and implementing of any next phase of the project;

C. Scope of Work Description of specific tasks to be performed:

The evaluation will entail a combination of desk research, interviews, and focus groups undertaken in four of the five States of Darfur.

a) Desk Research

Prior to the commencement of the field work, the consultant will be expected to conduct desk review of available materials including project documents, reports, work plans, assessment reports, strategic plans, sectoral, government and UN documents related to the objectives of the project to obtain a broader view and insight to the context and frame for the evaluation.

b) Inception Report

Before the analysis is undertaken, an inception report will be written addressing the objectives of the study, and an outline of the entire evaluation exercise. The inception report should outline in detail the methodology and techniques to be used in the evaluation, information on the instruments to be used for data collection and analysis (interviews, field visits, questionnaires or participatory techniques). In addition, the report should outline the stakeholder list/map, proposed work plan of activities and submission

of deliverables, interview checklists/protocols and the tentative outline of the main report. This report will be used as an initial point of agreement and understanding between the consultant and the evaluation managers. The format for inception report has been outlined in the Guidance Notes attached (**Attachment 1**).

c) Field Data Collection (Interviews & Focus Groups Discussions)

Questionnaires and checklists will be designed by the evaluation team as deemed necessary to collect sufficient information for analysis.

d) Data Analysis, interpretation and Compilation:

The consultant will enter data collected using appropriate software for analysis and interpretation.

e) Evaluation Reports

The consultant will produce an evaluation report detailing the findings from the field data collected. The following reports will be expected after the field data collection.

- **Draft Final Report** (to be submitted 6 working days after the completion of the field visit)
- **Debriefing at the stakeholder meeting:** Debriefing session on the draft evaluation report by the evaluation team.
- **Final Evaluation Report** (to be submitted after the debriefing, and after incorporating all comments and revisions).
- **Power point presentation and evaluation brief** for dissemination to stakeholders

Quality standards for the reports as well as outline for the reports have been detailed in outlined in the Guidance Notes attached (**Attachment 1**) under item **3: Expected Outputs and Deliverables**.

Existing literature and Information

In order to provide the consultant sufficient background for enriched analysis, the consultant may draw on the following documents that are currently available:

- Project Document: results framework and monitoring and evaluation framework
- Biannual monitoring reports
- Annual reports/ Annual work plan
- Financial information
- List of Target Locations
- List of Key Stakeholders in 4 States

Other in-country documents or information

- UNDAF
- The Sustainable Development Goals
- The UNDP Country Programme Document

D. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

Deliverables / Outputs	Estimated Duration to Complete	Target Due Dates	Submission Requirements	Review and Approvals Required	Payment %
1. Conduct Desk Review/ Final Inception Report	1 working day	14 May 2018	Draft Inception Report	DLRP Programme Manager	
2. Feedback and Final Inception	1 working day (1 day review)	15 May 2018	Final Inception Report	DLRP Programme Manager	40%
3. Conduct field evaluation mission for data collection (visits to the field, interviews, focus group mission.	7 working days	16-24 April 2018	Detailed work plan List of interviewees	DRLP Programme Manager	Nil
4. Submission of the first draft evaluation report	6 working days	27 May -3 June 2018	First draft	DRLP Programme Manager	Nil
5. Stakeholder feedback on draft report	1 working day	4 June 2018	Comments, feedback		Nil
6. Conduct stakeholder meeting and consultation	1 working day	5 June 2018	Discussion points/ comments, feedback	Head of Unit	Nil
7. Incorporate all feedback and Finalize Report	2 working days	6-7 June 2018	Final Evaluation Report, Updated PowerPoint Presentation.	Head of Unit	Nil
8. Final evaluation report	1 working day	10 June 2018	Evaluation report	Head of Unit/DCD-P	60%

E. Institutional Arrangements

The evaluation team will have direct contact with a wide range of actors including government institutions, UN agencies, I/NGOs, CBOs, local communities and the private sector. Within state governments, the key institutions would be the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Animal Resources, and Ministry of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Centers, The Forest National Corporation and a range of National NGOs. Within UNDP, the consultant will have close working relationships with the UNDP Darfur Livelihoods Team under the Leadership of the Programme Manager and the Head of Unit.

There will be weekly update of the status of implementation addressed to the Programme Manager. The report will detail the level of implementation of the work plan and challenges being faced.

F. Duration of the Work

The total duration of this consultancy will be **20 working days** from desk review to the dissemination; commencing **14 May 2018 till 10 June 2018**.

G. Duty Station

The main duty station will be Khartoum. The consultant is expected to carry out their activities in all relevant areas of Darfur where the project was implemented. Consultations and data collection will be concentrated in **El Fasher, Nyala, Zalingei and El Geneina** with field visit to at least one community in each of the states. Consultations with direct beneficiaries will be sampled from a number of locations where the project is being implemented including the following.

- **ND:** EL Fasher, Daresalam
- **WD:** Genana and Jebel Moon
- **CD:** Azum Locality
- **SD:** Nyala, Katila, Kubum or Id al Fursan

H. Qualifications and Experience

Minimum Level of Education Required:

A master's degree or equivalent in International development, Agriculture Economics, Business Management, Policy studies, social science or related field is a requirement. Further education or a concentration in monitoring and/or evaluation would be an asset.

Work Experience and Expertise:

- A minimum of 10 years of experience in conducting or managing evaluations, assessments, audits, research or review of development projects and programmes;
- Track record in evaluating a wide range of donor funded projects;
- Excellent writing skills and ability to produce high quality evaluation reports and documents.
- Having thematic expertise in international development programmes and or assessing or evaluating Value Chain, Agriculture and Livelihoods projects in crisis and post-crisis-settings.
- Experience of working in Darfur, in particular the understanding of the context of the region would be an asset.
- Fluency in English required and Arabic proficiency highly desirable.

I. Scope of Price Proposal and Schedule of Payments

The consultancy fee will be determined on a lump sum basis. The lump sum amount will be all-inclusive and the contract price will be fixed regardless of changes in the cost components. Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) and travel fees to the duty station will not be included in the lumpsum and shall be paid separately on the actual costs of travel to and from duty station, based on the local DSA rate and the actual number of days spent outside the primary duty station.

The travel DSA or living allowance will be paid to consultant upon completion of the mission but after completing the F10 Claim Form that shall be accompanied by Travel Authorization. Ticket will be procured directly by UNDP. Payment will be made upon completion of key deliverables as outlined in section D above.

UNDP shall be responsible for all flight arrangements, ground travel and security arrangements as well as logistics for stakeholder consultations on ground.

J. Recommended Presentation of Offer

Applicants are kindly requested to complete, sign and submit all the following documents:

- a) Duly completed **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability** using the template provided by UNDP;
- b) **Most updated P11**, indicating all past experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the Candidate and at least three (3) professional references;
- c) **Brief description** of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment, and a methodology on how they will approach and complete the assignment.
- d) **Financial Proposal** that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price, supported by a breakdown of costs, as per template provided (i.e. Offerors Letter). The offeror's letter must be completed by candidate and returned to the procurement focal point.

K. Approval

This TOR is approved by:

Name and Designation: John Anodam, Programme Manager, Darfur Livelihoods Programme

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Annex 8: Sampled Distribution of Seeds and Seedlings in North Darfur by the DLRP

No.	Association	Number of HHs	Hibiscus Seed kg	Groundnut seed kg	Planting Hoe	Donkey carts	Tatting axe	Seedlings
1	Umshajer	280	750	0	0	2	0	0
2	Umajaja	250	750	0	0	2	0	0
3	GossaJammat	120	0	4800	50	2	0	0
4	Dar Elsalam	130	0	5200	50	2	0	0
5	Sanikaraw	125	0	0	0	0	100	2500
6	Umrowaba	125	0	0	0	2	0	2500
7	Um Hosh	125	0	0	0	0	100	2500
8	Haskanita	125	0	0	0	0	100	2500
	Total	1280	1500	10000	100	10	300	10000

Source: SAHARI NGO