From Crisis to Recovery: Financing Coordinated Efforts in CAR

BACKGROUND

The current crisis in the Central African Republic (CAR) has left more than 2.5 million people in need of immediate humanitarian assistance. The conflict and violence will affect the country's development for years to come and could seriously undermine stability in the region. To address the crisis, the UN Secretary-General has presented a Six-Point Proposal, which aims to restore security, support critical statebuilding, political and reconciliation priorities, and promote recovery. The SG’s Proposal calls on the international community for an immediate, integrated and comprehensive response.

Experience and lessons learned from support to fragile and conflict-affected countries have shown that the transition from crisis to recovery is complex, non-linear, with overlapping phases that are often difficult to define. A coordinated, coherent and integrated approach that builds on humanitarian action with development finance from the very outset will support CAR find sustainable solutions to the current crisis. Such an approach also allows for humanitarian and recovery efforts to simultaneously address short, medium and long term priorities.

A MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND FOR CAR

The United Nations has established a Multi-Partner Trust Fund for CAR (CAR MPTF) to finance a coordinated response to stabilization and recovery efforts. The CAR MPTF:

- Provides an accountable, transparent, results-oriented and cost-effective financial instrument to catalyse and channel development assistance from a range of international partners to the UN, NGOs and Government to meet immediate, medium and longer-term priorities.
- Creates a platform between national and international partners for development of a shared vision and robust theory of change that addresses the underlying drivers of conflict and structural causes of vulnerability, which are essential for building resilience and reducing the risk of relapse into conflict.
- Promotes aid effectiveness by coordinating international assistance, reducing aid fragmentation, and decreasing gaps in, or duplication of efforts.
- Ensures national ownership and alignment with national priorities.
- Facilitates a collective, shared and dynamic approach towards assessment, mitigation and management of contextual, programmatic and institutional risk.
- Uses a Result Based Management (RBM) system to assess fund efficiency and effectiveness.

AREAS OF SUPPORT

The CAR MPTF has 3 operational modalities (Project modality, Direct Budget Support, and a Fast Track Window) to channel assistance towards:

- Immediate Impact Projects based on the SG’s Six Point Proposal in support of state authority; reconciliation and mediation; early recovery; and economic revitalization.
- Transitional strategic priorities in the short to medium term based on the Government’s Feuille de route and Programme d’Urgence.
- Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals in support of the New Deal.

FUND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The CAR MPTF is governed by a Steering Committee which is co-chaired by the Government and the UN Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary General / Resident Coordinator (DSRSG/RC) and includes representatives from United Nations, donors and civil society. The key role of the Steering Committee is to:

- Provide strategic direction and prioritize funding needs.
- Make Fund allocation decisions.
- Oversee overall Fund implementation and impact.

The Steering Committee is supported by a Technical Secretariat within the DSRSG/RC’s Office. The Technical Secretariat is responsible for reviewing allocation submissions, monitoring progress, and reporting on results.

The CAR MPTF is administered by the UNDP MPTF Office.
RESULTS BASED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The MPTF Office GATEWAY (http://mptf.undp.org) supports a Results Based Management system. The Fund architecture design is set up to mirror the result areas. The RBM system captures performance data at the outcome and output level. It links programmatic and financial performance indicators, allowing an assessment of both the Fund’s efficiency and effectiveness. This data can in turn inform a better performance based allocation of funding and serve as a tool to complement M&E efforts.

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The MPTF Office GATEWAY (http://mptf.undp.org) is a web-based service portal, which provides real-time financial data generated directly from UNDP’s accounting system. It is a first of its kind in the UN to provide real-time financial information to the public. Partners are now able to track information on contributions, transfers and expenditures related to the CAR MPTF.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAR MPTF

The CAR MPTF is administered by the UNDP MPTF Office. Contributions to the CAR MPTF are accepted from governments, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations, and private-sector organizations upon signature of the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) with the MPTF Office. The SAA is a pre-negotiated agreement, which the MPTF Office has entered into with more than 90 development partners, allowing for rapid operationalization and disbursement of funds.

Following signature of the SAA, contributions may be made into the following account:

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CONTACTS

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