

JOINT PROGRAMME DOCUMENT – UN Lesotho – El Niño drought response

Country: Lesotho

Programme Title: Support to the Humanitarian Response following the El Niño 2015/16 in Lesotho

Joint Programme Outcome: Effective response to the consequences of El Niño in Lesotho in the WASH, food security, agriculture, protection and coordination sector

Programme Duration: 14 months	Total estimated budget: £ 4,759,999.93 GBP million
	Of which:
	1. Funded budget: US \$ 0
Anticipated start/end dates:	1. <u>July 2016-31. August 2017</u>
	2. Unfunded budget: £ 4,759,999.93 GBP million
Fund Management Option(s):	<i>*Total estimated budget includes both programme costs and indirect support costs (7%)</i>
Managing or Administrative Agent: UNDP	
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	• Donor: DFID

Names and signatures of (sub) national counterparts and participating UN organizations

UN organizations	National coordinating bodies
Ms. Karla Hershey Signature Name of Organization: UNDP Date & Seal	Mr. Haretsebe Mahosi Signature Disaster Management Authority Date & Seal
Ms. Nadi Albino Signature Name of Organization: UNICEF Date & Seal	
Mr. Yves Klompenhouwer Signature Name of Organization: FAO Date & Seal	
Ms. Mary Njoroge Signature Name of Organization: WFP Date & Seal	
Ms. Therese Zeba Kobeane Signature Name of Organization: UNFPA Date & Seal	

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Executive summary

A variety of humanitarian needs have arisen in Lesotho as a result of the El Niño related drought in 2015/16. The Joint Programme is part of the United Nations response to the Government of Lesotho's (GoL) request for international support. The joint programme addresses humanitarian needs that have not been catered for due to the limited funds received so far.

As a result of the El Niño weather phenomenon, Lesotho is experiencing one of the worst droughts to have hit southern Africa in 35 years. This has led to a poor rainfall season, decline in recharge of aquifers and springs, and widespread crop failure. It follows consecutive years of poor harvests, adverse weather conditions – such as dry spells and erratic rain – and rising food prices, all of which have made it harder for Lesotho's farmers to produce enough food to meet their own and the country's needs, and have led to steep drop in food production. This has resulted in the progressive erosion of communities' resilience. As of July, the IPC ranking for Lesotho is projected to be at level three or above for all districts. In the same period of time over 491,000 people are projected to be affected by food insecurity in these categories.

Lesotho uses multiple sources of water, including gravity fed systems from surface water (rivers and springs) and ground water (borehole and hand pumps). Gravity fed water supply systems are widely used and particularly affected by the drought. Some spring sources have already dried up and some have been flowing with reduced yield since September 2015. Since then, communities have resorted to drinking untreated water from unprotected water sources. There is a dire need to connect existing gravity-fed systems with new spring sources to provide safe access and minimum quantity per country's standards i.e. 30 lit/person/day.

Livestock assets have equally been affected by the drought, primarily in the lowlands. Nearly 30 per cent of households reporting losses of two to three heads of cattle, and over 40 per cent of households in all the districts reported deaths of at least one cow per household. The current rangeland recovery and water availability for livestock is poor and livestock conditions have deteriorated. Although vegetation and pasture conditions improved with rains between February and May 2016, the situation is likely to deteriorate during the dry winter months.

Meanwhile, increasing stress levels resulting from the negative effects of the drought have led to increased danger for vulnerable groups in the population. In particular, there has been a reported rise in gender-based violence. Sexual violence was most likely to occur at home (64% of respondents) followed by while collecting firewood, on the way to school and around the village all rated at 40 per cent. However, only 33 per cent of healthcare facilities surveyed in a recent assessment indicated that they follow the national protocol in their management of victims of GBV, because of insufficient access to the protocol or capacity to apply it.

The United Nations in Lesotho recognizes that, in a time of drought, urgent interventions are needed to prevent potential serious humanitarian consequences to the population that deviate from such planning frameworks. While some response operations have commenced with the limited funding received so far, other limited funds that have been pledged will allow limited continuation and expansion of the ongoing humanitarian response. So far the level of funding in general has meant that funding received has had to be prioritised to provide limited coverage in the hardest hit areas.

The proposed Joint Programme by four UN agencies – UNICEF, FAO, WFP and UNFPA – and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, encompasses a holistic package of interventions with a wide synergy

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between participating agencies in supporting people affected by the drought. The programme response follows a rights-based approach that considers the rights and needs of the population in a comprehensive way to cover multiple aspects of the drought's impact.

UNICEF's interventions will include the provision of safe water in secure places for women and girls through connecting existing gravity fed systems with new spring sources, drilling deeper boreholes to reach lower water tables and repairing existing boreholes and hand pumps.

FAO intends to increase its coverage of vulnerable farming with timely and appropriate agricultural inputs and training on climate smart agricultural practices, through the promotion of livelihood recovery with essential inputs of seeds for small farmers. The distribution of these livelihood community assets will assist in diversifying production methods and improve resilience among communities. The poorest households will benefit from home gardening and nutrition kits and nutrition awareness support. National structures will also be supported to adopt modern and appropriate climate smart agricultural production techniques.

UNFPA's intervention is designed to reduce the vulnerability of women and adolescent girls to drought-linked GBV in four districts of Lesotho. In total 121,708 women and girls will be reached by the UNFPA intervention. In addition, 120 health practitioners will be trained in clinical management of GBV, 720 leaders of community protection structures empowered with knowledge and skills in leadership, human rights and GBV, and 1920 women and girls at risk of GBV and survivors will benefit from GBV-related services. Community capacity will be built to take charge of GBV detection, response and coordination. When linked to services this will enhance the referral system and coordination for GBV survivors and build trust between community members, GBV survivors and service providers.

WFP's role during the current emergency will be to pursue immediate life-saving objectives and longer-term visions around recovery, resilience and improving national response capacities. Within this specific intervention WFP will address the immediate food needs of 5,600 households (28,000 people) affected by the El Niño drought in Quthing, Maseru and Butha Buthe district through the distribution of cash to the most vulnerable households. Where possible and appropriate, the able-bodied members of these vulnerable households will engage in light livelihoods protection works.

UNICEF will also provide a complementary emergency cash transfer intervention, focussing on building resilience of 3,861 vulnerable CGP households (11,043 vulnerable children), in Seate (Mokhotlong), Tenesolo (Thaba-Tseka) and Tosing (Quthing) community councils, affected by the food and emergency crisis. These households are new CGP enrolments and as such have not received emergency cash top-ups to date under the existing CERF programme.

Finally, support for the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) will allow it to carry out its mandated role of supporting the Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator and the Humanitarian Country Team to co-ordinate the humanitarian response and to supervise the Joint Programme. The UN RCO will ensure that the principles of UN "Delivering as One" are upheld and facilitate inter-sectoral coherence and coordination in the overall humanitarian response. The RCO will support the implementation of the Joint Programme in achieving greater coherence to facilitate the most effective, efficient and timely delivery possible of humanitarian support to the worst affected people in Lesotho by the El Niño related drought.

The interventions have been designed to address some of the key gender concerns arising from the current crisis. Improving access to protected water sources will reduce the daily workload on girls and

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women, and reduce their need to go in search of water in unsafe areas. Home gardening, nutrition and social protection interventions to improve food security and nutrition will also improve the lives and increase the safety of vulnerable women. Some of the key protection needs of girls and women will also be supported by the prevention and response activities on gender-based violence.

Project activities will be implemented with a range of governmental and non-governmental partners nationally and in the target districts. Implementing the activities will require a total budget of GDP 4,759,999.93.

Situation analysis

As a result of the El Niño weather phenomenon, Lesotho is experiencing one of the worst droughts to have hit southern Africa in 35 years. This has led to a poor rainfall season, decline in recharge of aquifers and springs, and widespread crop failure. Most districts of the country are already experiencing acute shortages of water. Dry conditions prevailed in the country during the summer crop-planting season (August to December 2015) and prevented most farmers from planting. The few areas that were planted suffered from failed germination, heat or water stress. The current harvest (May-June 2016) is expected to be the lowest ever recorded, below even the previous low recorded in 2012, and there have been losses to the country's livestock because of the drought. The crisis has aggravated the vulnerability of girls and women to gender-based violence, both as a result of increased stress levels in the home and community and because of the need to spend more time looking for water and fuel.

The current drought follows consecutive years of poor harvests, adverse weather conditions – such as dry spells and erratic rain – and rising food prices, all of which have made it harder for Lesotho's farmers to produce enough food to meet their own and the country's needs, and have led to steep drop in food production. This has resulted in the progressive erosion of communities' resilience.

Water supply

As a result of the 2015/16 El Niño drought, Lesotho has experienced a severe decline in recharge of aquifers and springs, with many water sources either drying-up completely or flowing with minimum yield from September 2015 (Annex A provides a preliminary breakdown of type of source, problem and action required). Since then, communities have resorted to drinking untreated water from unprotected water sources.

The Lesotho Rapid Drought Impact Assessment (Jan. 2016) conducted by Multi-Agency Drought Assessment Team (MDAT) reveals that up to 56% of communities indicated that they are using unprotected water sources and up to 83% indicated they are dissatisfied with their water quality. Additionally, 33-67% reported they have access to less than 30 lit/person/day. There are additional affects due to water supply, sanitation and hygiene deterioration. These are demonstrable as serious health, education, child protection and gender impacts during this drought emergency, further detail is provided in sections below.

The Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee Report, May 2016 (LVAC) suggests that increasingly, the dry water sources are anticipated to become viable during the precipitation period from October to November 2016. However, in the short to medium term, the winter period is forecast to remain drier than normal, creating no immediate relief. The legacy of the drought period means that water aquifers remain too low to provide useful safe water sources in the interim without significant rehabilitation work. At this point in time, this has been confirmed by community and school reporting, advising continued lack of safe water sources.

The 4 selected districts showed high use of unprotected water sources in the Rapid Drought Impact Assessment, with 23% - 56% using unprotected water sources. The exception is Thaba-Tseka where the normal situation shows 44% unprotected use rising to 56%.

There are multiple sources of water i.e. gravity fed systems from surface water (rivers and springs), ground water (borehole and hand pumps). Gravity fed water supply system are widely used and thus are most effected by the drought.

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Some spring sources are already dried up and some are flowing with reduced yield. There is a dire need for rehabilitation of existing water supply systems through connecting with new safe spring sources. Due to less recharge water table has gone deeper therefore, there is a need for re-drilling of new borehole and repairing of existing borehole and hand pumps.

UNICEF is seeking assistance from DFID to secure protected water for targeted communities in 4 extremely vulnerable districts, being Butha-Buthe, Mafeteng, Quthing and Thaba - Tseka. Approximately 46,000 of the most vulnerable men, women and children affected by the drought emergency will benefit from activities described under this submission.

Specific interventions will include the provision of safe water through connecting existing gravity fed systems with new spring sources, drilling/rehabilitating deeper boreholes to reach lower water tables and repairing existing boreholes and hand pumps. In addition, UNICEF plans to provide clean latrines in schools and health facilities and raise awareness on safe hygienic practices in line with expected results listed above. The planned interventions are in-line with the “National Mitigation and Preparedness Plan for Drought” prepared by the DMA.

Agriculture, food security and nutrition

The 2015/16 agricultural season began very late with a delay in rainfall of up to 40 days in some areas of the country. The delays in rainfall have had a significant impact on overall agricultural production. According to the 2015/16 Crop Forecasting Report by the Bureau of Statistics, production of wheat, maize and sorghum fell by 37.9 per cent, 61.3 per cent and 88.1 per cent respectively in that order. In particular for maize, there is a distinct trend in production: annual production figures have been declining since 2011/12; this year's production estimates are the lowest over the five-year period. The area planted to crops for the same period has decreased by 33.7 per cent from 166,626 ha in 2014/15 to 110,531 ha in 2015/16. The decrease in crop production has led to reduced agricultural labour opportunities, essentially reducing household incomes and rural purchasing power.

Livestock assets have equally been affected by the drought, primarily in the lowlands. Nearly 30 per cent of households reporting losses of two to three heads of cattle, and over 40 per cent of households in all the districts reported deaths of at least one cow per household. The current rangeland recovery and water availability for livestock is poor and livestock conditions have deteriorated. Although vegetation and pasture conditions improved with rains between February and May 2016, the situation is likely to deteriorate during the dry winter months.

The increase in food prices due to the forecasted poor production of cereals in the region coupled with the weakness of the LSL against the ZAR is eroding capacity to purchase food and will represent the main driver of food insecurity. It is expected that food prices will remain high, above the general consumer price index. Agriculture and on-farm jobs will contribute substantially less to household income. The 2016 LVAC found that almost half (about 48%) of the rural population are at risk of livelihood and food insecurity between May 2016 and April 2017. The assessment estimated that a total of 679,437 people are in need of humanitarian assistance of which 476,842 will need life-saving and livelihood assistance for 9-12 months, and 202,595 will require support to protect existing livelihood assets. The recent IPC analysis foresees that the entire country is considered to be in IPC phase 3 or above as of July 2016. According to the IPC, 316,119 and 157,682 will be in phases 3 and 4 respectively during the period July-October 2016.

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Lesotho is confronted with high levels of stunting (33 percent) and micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6 to 59 months (particularly iron deficiency anaemia at 51 percent).¹ The highest levels are found in mountainous parts of the country. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) remains low at 2.8 percent nationally. The 2016 LVAC assessment confirms the 2014 DHS GAM rate. The LVAC also revealed an aggravation of longer-term problems associated with nutrition. Sixty-two per cent of households were found to have poor dietary diversity. Less than one in 10 children from poor households in all districts had sufficiently diverse diets. Chronic malnutrition was widespread among children under five years (42.7%), and severe stunting was high in children aged 18 to 29 months.

Social Protection Safety Nets

In August 2012 the government declared an emergency food crisis, and in September it launched an appeal for international assistance. As part of the United Nations Flash Appeal, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) in responding to the food emergency through the Livelihood Intervention during Food Emergency (LIFE) project. The main objective of the LIFE intervention was to strengthen national capacity to meet the needs of orphans and other vulnerable children in areas affected by the food crisis. To deliver the emergency grant, the intervention was embedded in the Lesotho Child Grants Programme (CGP), an unconditional cash transfer. Established with the support of the European Commission in 2009, its funding and administration has recently been fully taken over by the MoSD.

Embedding the LIFE intervention within the CGP meant that the project could use the CGP's existing targeting mechanisms and implementation and monitoring procedures, improving response time and cost-efficiency. The LIFE cash top-ups were paid as part of regular CGP payments. This allowed for rapid distribution as no new procurement processes had to be set up to sub-contract payment agencies.

The main lessons learned from the CGP experience showed that:

- Using existing structures can increase the speed and efficiency of emergency responses
- Exploiting synergies between emergency responses and social protection schemes is critical to promoting resilience
- A national single registry has great potential for governmental and UN agencies to better link emergency and development programming.

Protection

Meanwhile, increasing stress levels resulting from the negative effects of the drought have led to increased danger for vulnerable groups in the population. Child labour, sexual abuse of children and separation from usual caregivers has increased as a result. In a Child Protection Assessment in March 2016, 47 per cent of respondents stated that survival sex has become more frequent as a result of El Niño, and 42 per cent said the same of gender-based violence. Sexual violence was most likely to occur at home (64% of respondents) followed by while collecting firewood, on the way to school and around the village all rated at 40 per cent. However, only 33 per cent of healthcare facilities surveyed in a recent assessment indicated that they follow the national protocol in their management of victims of GBV. The most common

¹ Demographic Health Survey, 2014

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reason not to do so was because individual healthcare facilities do not have access to the protocol, or else limited knowledge of the protocol and capacity to apply the protocol.

There are generally no community protection mechanisms, and where they do exist they are very weak. Decisions reached at community level to settle disputes concerning gender-based violence at village level generally end up favouring the perpetrators. This includes forcing the girls to marry the perpetrator (33% of respondents) while according to CPRA 45 per cent of GBV cases are dealt with within the family and not taken to the justice system. The GBV data need to be regularly updated to ensure oversight, quality of advocacy improvement of services and reporting.

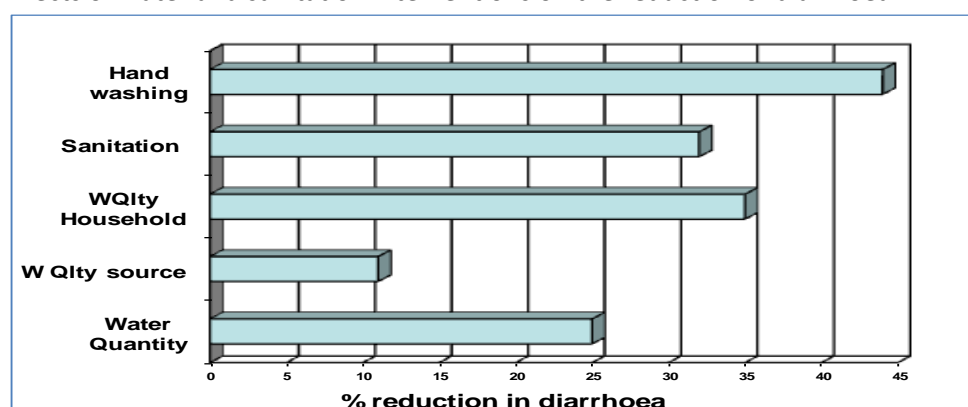
Coordination of response

On 22 December 2015, the Government of Lesotho declared a state of drought emergency and requested international support. It has established an Inter-Ministerial Task Force to oversee the response, developed a National Response Plan to address the situation and has issued an Appeal Document. In response, the humanitarian community in Lesotho established a Humanitarian Country Team to ensure coordination of the humanitarian response of UN agencies and NGOs in support of the Government of Lesotho and the national drought response plan. While coordination is being facilitated, as the number of needs and interventions increase, a higher level of coordination is required to ensure complementary action. The coordination structures by the UN and humanitarian partners support the Government of Lesotho's coordination structures. The GoL has established a Cabinet Task Force to supervise coordination of the Disaster Management Authorities at technical level.

Rationale for this intervention

Addressing key risk practices includes eradication of open defecation, safe disposal of child and infant faeces, and hand washing with soap at critical times is paramount. The proposed action prioritizes low cost interventions, such as awareness raising, and low cost technologies such as pit latrines and gravity fed water schemes in line with the National Water and Sanitation Policy.

Effects of water and sanitation interventions on the reduction of diarrhoea.



There is a need to ensure that safe access and adequate water quantities (30lit/person/day) are easily available to the effected population. Outbreaks of acute watery diarrhoeal diseases and dysentery have been observed and are likely to increase unless there is greater access to clean water and safer practices to ensure water is safe to use. Global studies indicate there are strong economic and health benefits for timely interventions to provide improved water and sanitation facilities, and therefore there is strong justification to invest in interventions to support the 302,507 people (15% of the population) without access to safe water due the current emergency. If nothing is done, current conditions will worsen due to the forecast dry winter in upcoming months.

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LVAC and Water Commission survey data confirms a high rate of defecation in the open, across the 5 districts selected for interventions under this submission i.e. between 20% - 48%. Rapid Drought Assessment (RDA) conducted in Feb, 2016 findings reveal that 23-65% people in proposed 5 districts use unprotected water sources. Additionally, the list of unprotected water supply sources provided by department of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (DRWSS) also shows that approximately 123 villages across the proposed districts are using unprotected water sources (of which UNICEF will rehabilitate/restore 54 water supply system under this submission). People have been forced to use alternative unprotected water sources due to drying up and reduced yield of safe sources because of the current drought. These are mainly rivers, open ponds and unprotected springs.

The results of the various assessments that have been conducted during the past few months reveal a need for additional livelihood support to protect and sustain livelihoods from the impact of negative coping mechanisms and to promote adaptation measures that reduce exposure to future hazards. The affected populations will need support to improve availability and use of diversified foods, develop livelihood skills and knowledge and sustainably manage land and other natural resources. Inadequate and untimely response may lead the “at risk population” to resorting to unsustainable and negative coping strategies or loss of livelihood assets, which would slow down their ability to recover from the drought. Given the high chronic malnutrition and the poor dietary diversity, there is also a need to include nutrition in social safety nets, or the long-term effects of the crisis on the health of the most vulnerable groups in the population may be severe.

A dual track strategy is needed to mitigate the effect of gender-based violence arising from the drought. Firstly, community level measures should be taken to raise awareness of the problem, understand the causes and develop mechanisms to prevent it: inbuilt community mechanisms to protect GBV are sustainable if well nurtured. There is a direct link between GBV and drought based on evidence from the 2012 drought in which cases of GBV increased with the impact of the drought. Therefore establishing functional community mechanisms requiring a degree of commitment by local leaders and decision makers may be a sustainable option for tackling GBV. If there is a well-organized community protection mechanism, GBV survivors will be able to access health and psychosocial services without stigma. Secondly, there should be greater capacity to support survivors of GBV across the healthcare system, in community healthcare facilities and in hospitals, as well as by other frontline service providers. Health and psychosocial professional should be able use the protocols for appropriate care and at the appropriate times. Referral systems should be operational for multi-sectoral services for the survivors, including justice and social protection. A lack of such preventive measures and response capacity will leave girls and women in a vulnerable situation. Health service providers applying protocol should be able to detect incidents, preserve evidence, uphold secrecy and confidentiality, and build the confidence of GBV survivors.

The food assistance component through cash will address the immediate food needs of food insecure people in IPC phases 3 and 4 experiencing significant food gaps. It will also support the protection and rebuilding of livelihoods to improve their ability to withstand climate-induced shocks.

Following reduced incomes of households due to reducing labour opportunities, shrinking remittances and low expected harvest, especially the most vulnerable households across the countries require urgent lifesaving support to stop the adoption of irreversible negative coping mechanisms. Therefore, the most vulnerable households are targeted with cash assistance to reduce the negative impacts of the drought.

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As the number of needs and interventions increase, a higher level of coordination is required to ensure complementary action among UN agencies, NGOs and government ministries. The Resident Coordinator's Office will assist with development of the humanitarian response plan and the establishment of humanitarian needs through improved information management structures. This will ensure that humanitarian interventions are coherent and coordinated and that donors and humanitarian partners are informed of the needs and planned response activities in Lesotho. In addition the Resident Coordinator's Office will ensure the required coordination of the joint programme and of partners under the leadership of the Humanitarian Country Team, chaired by the Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator.

Strategies for the proposed joint programme

Background

The United Nations in Lesotho recognizes that, in a time of drought, urgent interventions are needed to prevent potential serious humanitarian consequences to the population that deviate from such planning frameworks. While some response operations have commenced with the limited funding received so far, other limited funds that have been pledged will allow limited continuation and expansion of the ongoing humanitarian response. So far the level of funding in general has meant that funding received has had to be prioritised to provide limited coverage in the hardest hit areas.

While these interventions are designed to prevent potential serious humanitarian consequences, most fit into a development framework, albeit one that is implemented more urgently than traditional development programming, and with a greater degree of collaboration and coordination between development partners. The United Nations in Lesotho is continuing to implement the Lesotho UN Development Assistance Plan (LUNDAP) for 2013-2017, and is currently developing a new UNDAF for the subsequent period. Much of the programming in this Joint Programme dovetails with LUNDAP 2013-2017 clusters such as Agriculture (Cluster 2); Health and Nutrition (Cluster 6); and Social Protection (Cluster 7). The Joint Programme also partly addresses some of the national commitments in the National Strategic Development Plan for the same period (e.g., under Section 5.2.2 “Develop water infrastructure for communities that have no access to water, including installation of communal taps and protection of the wells”; under Section 5.4.3 “Identify and implement sustainable livelihood strategies and programmes for vulnerable able-bodied persons to graduate from receiving social grants and reduce vulnerability; and under Section 6.1 “Improve the capacity of supporting agencies (CGPU/police, social welfare, health and the justice system) to respond adequately to gender-based violence”.

The interventions proposed are furthermore in line with the Government of Lesotho’s (GoL) drought response plan presented on 16 December 2015 as well as the Humanitarian Country Team’s (HCT) proposed interventions. The joint project proposal is therefore a direct implementation of the humanitarian response plans, agreed to by both the GoL and the HCT.

Lessons learned

UNICEF WASH

UNICEF’s monitoring activities in the WASH sector, as well as LVAC, suggest that the Government’s response to the drought emergency and performance against the national response plan has been limited. Key indicators include:

- The high number of schools reporting insufficient safe water despite water tankering. Preliminary data indicates that 189 of the 510 schools in the five target districts are still in urgent need of water supplies (advice from WHO indicates the same trend for health facilities);
- The high number of villages still using unprotected water sources and the subsequent high diarrhoea rates, despite planned borehole and water source development. A total of 123 villages across the target districts are using unprotected water sources, with 15 of those confirmed as contaminated. The Ministry of Health is on standby alert for further outbreaks because of the forecast dryer than normal winter conditions, which would lead to further increased use of unprotected water sources;

These conditions persist with limited interventions from the Government’s water sector against the National Response Plan. For instance, the budgeted 64 new boreholes have not been completed. To date

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18 have been drilled, however none are operational. This same trend persists for other WASH activities under the plan, meaning limited alleviation of the serious conditions shown above. The reason for limited Government performance against the response plan is given as limited resources and difficulties in coordination and financial management. UNICEF and other UN agencies are building capacity in these areas, however the experience indicates further direct interventions are required.

UNICEF Social Protection

Recent evaluations by UNICEF: "Cash Transfer as a social protection intervention evidence from UNICEF Evaluations 2010-2014; Evaluation Office-June 2015" suggest that cash transfers in emergency has high impact on food security reduction of vulnerability. The impact evaluation results completed in 2014 of the CGP and emergency cash-top programme found that the CGP cash transfer intervention had a strong impact on food security, while non-CGP households continued to experience high levels of food insecurity, there was a significant improvement among CGP households and their children. The direct impact of the CGP was large and particularly significant for children. The study also suggested that CGP beneficiaries were better equipped to deal with unanticipated shocks and less likely to send their children to live elsewhere, send children to work and take children out of school. The findings further suggest that the provision of grants not only help vulnerable households survive lean periods, but if distributed on a regular basis can considerably improve their capacity to cope with future shocks. The cash injections also had a wider impact on the local economy, stimulating demand for locally supplied goods and services. A recent impact evaluation found that, for every Loti spent on a transfer, 1.36 Maloti are generated in the local economy.

FAO

FAO has been collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) in Lesotho since 2012 to implement the Emergency and Resilience Programme (ERP). The ERP has been promoting early recovery in the aftermath of disasters such as droughts through support to production and strengthening and incorporating climate change adaptation from the early stages of the emergency response; combined with skills and knowledge development on nutrition sensitive sustainable and integrated agricultural practices in order to enhance resilience of rural communities. The ERP has been implemented in all the ten districts of the country. The implementation has been done collaboratively with all the 68 agricultural Resource Centres (RC) of the ministry.

The ERP has already trained a diverse number of stakeholders in different climate change adaptation techniques. The ERP has also paid special attention on producing harmonized visual training materials adapted to Lesotho. During the past three years, FAO has been piloting and evaluating complementary interventions linking Social Protection and Agriculture. The lessons learned (documented in the "Lesotho Child Grant Programme and Linking Food Security to Social Protection Programme", <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4694e.pdf>) form the basis for the proposed interventions in the current ERP as well as the interventions in this project.

UNFPA

UNFPA and MGYSR partnership under the 6th Country Program 2013-2017, focuses on Gender equality and women empowerment. The partnership has been supporting community networks against GBV, through sensitization, outreach programs and the Lapeng one stop centre for comprehensive package on legal, health, psycho-social and protection of GBV survivors.

Also to mention the UNFPA partnership with Help Lesotho a national NGO in areas of advocacy, supporting adolescent girls, Herd-boys and Grandmother Networks through outreach programs, trainings and

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sensitization on the danger of GBV and linkages to HIV & AIDS, and sexual reproductive health and services. Community networks and community leaders have supported and provided the building blocks the successful work of the gender and GBV interventions.

UNFPA will build on this experience to build community protection mechanism against drought linked GBV and to ensure communities take charge of their protection. Results from other interventions of UNFPA indicate that community participation and ownership yields tangible outcomes.

WFP

As its overall response to the drought, WFP is setting up a protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) which will concurrently pursue immediate life-saving objectives and a longer-term vision around recovery, resilience and improving national response capacities. Up to 263,000 vulnerable drought affected people will be supported till December 2017 through:

- Monthly food assistance in priority locations to stabilize or improve food security and dietary diversity during the lean season;
- Food assistance for assets in areas recurrently affected by shocks to reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience over time; and
- Technical assistance to the Government's national public works programme to become a more effective and shock-responsive safety net.

In line with the results of a March 2016 market assessment, the support will be through a combination of food and cash-based transfers.

As a first response to the drought, WFP provided unconditional cash-based transfers (CBT) through its immediate response emergency operation (IR-EMOP) to some 21,000 food insecure beneficiaries in Mohale's Hoek and Mafeteng districts as of March 2016. The programme will continue till August 2016.

The PRRO will complement the ongoing Country Programme (2013-2017) which through its three components (Disaster Risk Reduction; support to pre-school education; and support to nutrition and HIV and AIDS) has the ultimate objective of repositioning WFP from recovery to development.

The proposed Joint Programme

The proposed Joint Programme encompasses a holistic package of interventions with a wide synergy between participating agencies in supporting people affected by the drought. The programme response follows a rights-based approach that considers the rights and needs of the population in a comprehensive way to cover multiple aspects of the drought's impact.

The focus of the Joint Programme is to facilitate relief of the humanitarian crisis by building the resilience of the community in a holistic way- the package of interventions does not only provide physical items, but also knowledge and information on the rights, and how to achieve these rights.

The organizations involved have experience in handling such humanitarian responses, and the capacity to deliver – and collaborate with other agencies to deliver – a comprehensive range of interventions. The joint programming approach will also facilitate the passing on of skills, tools, and other relevant capacity and skills to government agencies and communities to be able to take appropriate actions in the future.

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The Joint Programme increases the coherence of humanitarian interventions and ensures effective coordination across humanitarian sectors.

UNICEF WASH

UNICEF's interventions will include the increased access to potable water, rehabilitation of water sources in safe places to reduce exposure of women and girls to violence through connecting existing gravity fed systems with new spring sources, drilling deeper boreholes to reach lower water tables and repairing existing boreholes and hand pumps. In addition, UNICEF plans to provide clean latrines in schools and health facilities and raise awareness on safe hygienic practices in line with expected results listed above. This unfunded WASH project has 1.2 million USD (845,835 Pounds Sterling) and the planned interventions are in-line with the "National Mitigation and Preparedness Plan for Drought" prepared by the DMA.

Water

Rehabilitation of gravity-fed water supply systems

- Rehabilitation of 30 gravity-fed water supply systems
- Rehabilitation of 15 boreholes, tube wells and hand pumps
- Installation of 10 dam pumps and infiltration galleries
- Provision of water (piped or rain harvested) to 10 schools and 10 health facilities

These emergency activities will improve access to water points located in safe areas, reducing risk of violence for women and girls collecting water. They will also augment the quantity of potable water to meet the minimum needs of the drought affected population.

Sanitation and Hygiene

- Provision of latrines and hand washing facilities in 10 schools and 10 health facilities
- Awareness raising on improved hygiene practices in target areas
- Training of water and sanitation committees (WSC) and Hygiene Clubs in schools and health facilities on Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of WASH facilities.

UNICEF Social Protection

The other UNICEF intervention under this programme is to provide 3,681 most vulnerable households with £58 over two quarters (£29 each quarter) – August –September 2016 and December 2016 - January 2017 over the food crisis period. Payment of these households will be transferred together with the regular transfer using the Child Grant Programme (CGP) system. Hence the Ministry will use existing paying agencies such as G4S and Mobile payment as appropriate, to deliver the cash to targeted beneficiaries. The CGP impact evaluation revealed that the grant is covering 20% of household consumption. There is a need to increase household purchasing power of a rural household of five members in Lesotho for food items to prevent negative coping strategies that compromise child well-being. The rationale for the amount is twofold:

1. While the cash grant meets only 20 per cent of households monthly consumption requirement in a normal situation, the 34 per cent price hike during this emergency puts them further under stress.
2. The £58 is only meant to complement the already existing coping mechanism that has been brought about by the CGP. The plan is to complement the already existing coping mechanism to enable vulnerable households to increase their purchasing power without eroding the full benefit of CGP transfer.

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The lessons learned from an earlier disbursement shows that the existing targeting and disbursement mechanism is the most effective in reaching the affected people faster (vulnerable households with children, currently receiving the CGP). The existing coordination and monitoring mechanism run by the Government will be used to effectively implement the project and to establish a relationship of accountability between actors, and service receivers. At community level, there are Village Assistance Committees (VACs) to deal with any complaints from communities in regard to inclusion and exclusion errors.

FAO

The activities proposed through this joint programme will contribute to FAO's overall ERP for 2016/17. Through this programme, FAO will i) expand its current coverage for the livelihood support for the recovery of agricultural livelihoods decimated by the drought before the next planting season (August – December 2016), and ii) increase support to Social Protection and Agriculture complementarities interventions by targeting an additional 15,000 households. The following are the specific interventions proposed under this Joint Programme:

Improving food security and resilience

Since the planting window for summer crops is limited to August - December, FAO intends to increase its coverage of vulnerable farming with timely and appropriate agricultural inputs and training on climate smart agricultural practices. The planned intervention is based on the distribution of essential agricultural inputs to increase future household production, increase dietary diversity through the production of vegetables in home gardens. This package will consist of seeds of staple crops (maize and beans), vegetable seeds (six different varieties), fertilizer and seeds of grazing vetch. Grazing vetch seeds are distributed as one way of increasing soil fertility (nitrogen fixing), improve water infiltration and moisture retention and soil erosion control apart from improving availability of biomass for animal feed. In addition, the project will distribute livelihood equipment at community level (that will include ox-drawn planters and/or fruit driers) one per every 50 beneficiary households approximately. The home gardening particularly supports women in their ability to produce food for the households. Traditionally, women are a responsible for the production of vegetables in home gardens. The activities are less labour intense than the more traditional farming activities that are targeted at vulnerable farmers, independent of their sex. However, in Lesotho, men tend to be engaged in more labour intense farming activities. The distribution of these livelihood community assets will assist in diversifying production methods and improve resilience among communities. In total a minimum of 3,500 households will benefit under this sub-component.

Promoting complementarities between Social Protection and Agricultural production:

The project will support the productive capacity of the poorest of the poor, they will benefit from home gardening and nutrition kits and nutrition awareness support. A total of 15,000 households will be assisted potentially from all districts in the country. The Ministry of Social Development is identifying around 15,000 new households through the NISSA expansion during 2016. UNICEF intends to provide these families with at least two payments and FAO will give priority to assist these 15,000 with a home gardening and nutrition kit. Should this option not materialize, beneficiaries will be selected from cash/food transfer programmes targeting the poorest, largely implemented by UNICEF or WFP. In addition, FAO is exploring options to complement health interventions with the distribution of the home gardening and nutrition kit among groups with special nutrition needs (e.g. HIV affected, pregnant women, lactating mothers, children under 5).

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Capacity Development on climate smart food production techniques

The work of FAO with regards to capacity building is inherent in all its interventions. Currently, FAO has been working with different partners to strengthen the capacity of national structures such as the education system through schools, the agriculture extension services, the local leaders and traditional chiefs. The aim is to facilitate adoption of modern and appropriate climate smart agricultural production techniques through promoting community level cascading of messages and skills.

Information, Coordination and Analysis

FAO will closely monitor the achievement of the proposed project objectives, determine the impact and draw lessons for future reference. Analysis will be generated from needs assessments and analysis of available data for the benefit of the sector stakeholders. Special emphasis will be put on analysis and evidence generation on natural resources and Social Protection and Agriculture complementarities.

UNFPA

The UNFPA intervention has targeted the four selected districts based on the LVAC assessment that established that these districts are facing particularly severe drought. The beneficiaries were selected based on the numbers of people with survival deficit. In total 121,708 women and girls, out of a total of 243,416 with survival deficit, will be reached by the intervention. In addition, 120 health practitioners will be trained in clinical management of GBV, 720 leaders of community protection structures empowered with knowledge and skills in leadership, human rights and GBV, and 1920 women and girls at risk of GBV and survivors will benefit from at least one of the following services: safe spaces packages; multi-sectoral support; training in human rights, GBV or income generation activities; while GBV survivors will receive specialized treatment from the empowered health service providers.

The response to drought-linked GBV includes building the capacity of care providers for clinical management of GBV, and ensuring availability of information and knowledge to deal with GBV survivors. Building the capacity of health service providers in the four major hospital and over 60 health centres within the target communities will enhance service provision and also build the confidence of survivors to seek assistance. Better supply of high quality services will improve the relationship between health facilities and the communities in detecting GBV, seeking support and in turn increasing knowledge of and protection against GBV in a sustainable manner.

Community resilience will be built by establishing community mechanisms. These community mechanisms will take charge of GBV detection, response and coordination, and are intended to build the capacity of communities to deal with GBV and solve the problem using locally initiated solutions that are easy to enforce.

Community protection mechanisms and structures – when linked to services – will enhance the referral system and coordination for GBV survivors and build trust between community members, GBV survivors and service providers by offering a complete package based on protocols. At the end of the intervention the complete cycle against GBV will have been strengthened to detect, protect and refer the affected and provide reliable and approachable support at healthcare facilities for those in need. Monitoring is inbuilt to ensure that results at each level are recorded, feedback mechanisms sustained and continuity ensured with the ultimate aim of eliminating GBV

The outcome of the intervention will have a trickle-down effect of an empowered community that can take charge of its own protection, respond to GBV and manage a referral mechanism. This will reduce the

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cost of GBV, as the perpetrators will be held to account for their actions through community structures and the legal system, girls and women will take charge and control of their own security and have the capacity to trace and report any form of GBV. By the end of the intervention, in 12 months, women and girls will have greater confidence and be able to defend or negotiate for safe sex, while community responses will have reduced occurrence of GBV, women's and girls' resilience to drought will have increased and they will be able to survive and produce to increase their incomes and personal development.

WFP

Through this intervention WFP will pursue immediate life-saving objectives as per the relief pillar of its PRRO by providing monthly food assistance in priority locations to stabilize or improve food security and dietary diversity during the lean season.

The objectives of this intervention are to:

- (i) Address the immediate food needs of the people affected by the El Niño induced drought;
- (ii) Support the protection and rebuilding of livelihoods to improve their ability to withstand climate-induced shocks.

The targeted beneficiaries will be in IPC phases three and four. Households with food gap below 2,100 kcl/day per person; borderline food consumption score; and significant livelihood protection deficit will be targeted. The support is meant to address survival deficits and ensure livelihood protection.

The proposed activities aim to improve the food security of 5,600 among the most vulnerable households (28,000 overall beneficiaries) in Quthing, Maseru and Butha Buthe district through life-saving interventions, in this case cash transfers. The beneficiaries will collect from the bank their cash entitlements worth US\$ 65 per household on a monthly basis; and this includes USD 5 for transport for travelling to the banks located in towns. This transfer value is calculated on the basis of the average retail price of a basic family food basket (consisting of 12 kgs of maize meal, 1.8 kgs of pulses and 0.600 kgs of vegetable oil per person per month) corresponding to 2,100 kcl/day per person.

Households that are labour constrained will receive unconditional rations. Where possible and appropriate, participation in complementary low-tech activities, requiring few technical inputs and only unskilled or semi-skilled labour, will be encouraged. Both women and men headed households will be considered for livelihood protection works. This approach is in line with the Government's May 2016 'Guide for Disaster Response' which encourages beneficiary participation in the design and implementation of assistance and discourages the provision of "free" food/cash. Specific examples may include repair and maintenance of water sources (including check dams, which are a key source of irrigation at the community level), clearing of feeder roads, establishment of 'keyhole' gardens, and participation in nutrition- and HIV-sensitive Social Behavioural Change and Communication (SBCC).

Coordination

Increased humanitarian needs and interventions require increased coordination capacity in order to avoid duplication and to resource-effectively respond to the needs. The coordination component of the JP will support the Humanitarian Country Team as the Steering Committee of the Joint Programme in its oversight function by providing necessary technical coordination of the other components. The coordination includes the provision of Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting support to the HCT based on the Participating UN Organizations' (PUNOs') M&E contributions.

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The Resident Coordinator's Office will further provide Secretariat support to both the Steering Committee and the Administrative Agent and will act as a convening agent. The RCO will support the RC/HC and the Humanitarian Country Team (Steering Committee) to fulfil their responsibilities for management and coordination of the Joint Programme (see further details in respective sections below) as well as in the management and engagement with partners.

The RCO maps humanitarian interventions to avoid duplication of humanitarian interventions and to support an effective humanitarian response.

Targeted beneficiaries and districts

The UN organizations' interventions are needs informed and target the areas most affected by the drought in the specific components. A number of sectoral and inter-sectoral assessments have identified needs and will drive the selection of beneficiaries and districts. Based on consolidated WASH assessments, UNICEF WASH will target 46,000 beneficiaries in the most affected four districts: Botha-Bothe, Mafeteng, Quthing, and Thaba-Tseka. UNICEF Social Protection will provide around 3,600 households with a top-up that are enrolled in the Child Grant Programme in Thaba-Tseka, Mokhotlong and Quthing. FAO will target 3,500 vulnerable farmers across the country for its livelihood recovery programme. Home-gardening inputs will be distributed to 15,000 beneficiaries of social protection support across the country. UNFPA will implement its protection component in Maseru, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek and Butha-Buthe, based on the LVAC assessment. WFP will select 5,600 beneficiary households in Quthing, Maseru and Butha-Buthe district jointly with the District Disaster Management Team (DDMT) and partners through the NISSA and a community based targeting based upon three main vulnerability criteria, i.e. food consumption, income level, and inclusion in existing social protection programmes. This process is followed by a verification exercise implemented by WFP and the DDMT which aims to confirm the eligibility of the selected beneficiaries for the assistance. According to the preliminary findings of the PDM conducted in May within the IR-EMOP, the targeting process is quite successful and a high percentage of targeted households have spent most of the cash received on food. Further targeting information is to be found in the technical proposals annexed to the JP document.

Gender analysis

The Joint Programme as a whole, as well as its individual components, is gender sensitive and based on sound gender analysis. Reducing gender-based disparities and potential harm arising out of these is a crucial dimension of all programme components. Gender based indicators have been included in a number of assessments, that allow for gender inclusive humanitarian programming.

The Joint Programme addresses the root causes and consequences of a number of gender based challenges in communities and therefore reduces gender-based disparities. It responds to a number of negative coping mechanisms that have been identified by the Joint Rapid Assessment and the LVAC, relating to gender and protection. Reported negative coping mechanisms are an increase of early marriages, high dropout rates from school to provide water and food.

The joint programme will address these gender based needs and negative coping mechanisms by supplying water, supporting agricultural income and availability of food and by preventing and responding to gender based violence.

The protection component directly addresses gender-based violence in communities, through prevention, strengthening of coordination structures and response to gender based violence.

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Assessments have identified that one of the root causes of violence against women and children is linked to the supply of water to communities. The severe water shortages cause community members to travel long distances to water sources. Particularly at night, this exposes women and children to violence and assault. Reports have shown that the dropout rate in schools has increased because children have been tasked to collect water. By improving access to water in communities and particularly around schools, boys and girls are able to attend school. Further, women, girls and boys have to travel shorter distances to water points, reducing their exposure to violence. This action will safeguard the safety of women and children during and after project implementation by providing safe access to WASH facilities in the communities and institutions.

The project includes interventions to support home gardening and nutrition, areas where the role of women is dominant. These are interventions that support both livelihood recovery and social protection while strengthening synergies and complementarities in a nutrition-sensitive way. Many of the beneficiaries of a sub-component focusing on social protection are households headed by elderly women hosting vulnerable children. The sub-component is particularly adapted to families with labour constraints, since home gardening production can be managed by households with limited labour and/or access to land.

Traditionally, women have the responsibility to provide food within the household. Therefore, they are the most affected by food insecurity that in many cases exacerbate gender based violence. WFP will ensure that the majority of recipients are women. This will happen based upon the selection process and throughout the distributions. In line with the new WFP Gender Policy (2015-2025), equitable gender participatory processes will be employed to allow active participation of both men and women at all stages of the project. Through this assistance, stakeholders including line ministries, host communities, community leaders, and Cooperating Partners (CPs) will be sensitized on the need to promote gender equality and the empowerment of both men and women. Through the partnership with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) in the UK trainings will be conducted to improve gender analysis for more accountability.

Further detailed gender analysis is included in the technical proposals annexed to the Joint Programme Document.

Value for Money

The Joint Programme achieves the most effective, efficient and timely implementation of humanitarian interventions. The joint delivery of humanitarian programmes, ensured by the Resident Coordinator's Office (as the convening agent), reduces transaction costs for national partners, donors and the UN, while at the same time establishing coherence of interventions and insurance of value for money. The Resident Coordinator's Office will coordinate and support partners in the delivery of the joint programme.

UNICEF WASH

A common measure of the population health effect of the intervention is disability life years (DALYs) averted as a result of the intervention. Considering VFM in WASH interventions in general terms: The WHO has carried out analysis of the cost effectiveness of various health interventions in terms of USD per DALY averted. The WHO findings are that WASH interventions are 'highly cost-effective' when compared to other health interventions using standardised measures of USD per DALY averted. Sanitation and hygiene promotion are among the most cost effective interventions for controlling endemic diarrhoea (approximately US\$3 per DALY averted for hygiene promotion and US\$11 for sanitation promotion),

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ranking higher on this basis than many other health interventions, including combating malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. The cost-effectiveness ratios for sanitation construction and hand pumps or stand posts are less favourable (USD 270 and USD 94/DALY) but still fall into the 'highly cost effective' category for the low income settings in which DFID's work is focused. (Source-DFID20012-water, sanitation and Hygiene portfolio review)

UNICEF is currently implementing an emergency WASH programme in 3 districts funded by CERF. In addition, UNICEF is also implementing emergency WASH under its own regional funding.

CLTS under the development programme is also being implemented by IPs with UNICEF funding. As the lead of the WASH sector in Lesotho, UNICEF can therefore be a preferred implementing partner for current emergency in Lesotho.

Keeping best value for money, UNICEF will put great emphasis on the use of simple, low-cost water supply and sanitation technology options using local materials. UNICEF builds on community involvement right from the beginning of the project. Local communities will be involved to take O&M responsibilities once a project is handed over to them. This involves management of infrastructure by water committees with tailored solutions in the best interests of the community such as conservation, rationing and funds/fee collection maintenance i.e. spare parts and labour etc. UNICEF will also equip "water and sanitation committees" and hygiene clubs with simple tools to enable them to fix the repairs in timely manner. Additionally, partnerships will be formed with the Department of Rural Water Supply as the GoL provider of rural water infrastructure, support and expertise. Department of Rural Water Supply have limited maintenance budgeting, however this is poorly deployed and/or inadequate, based on sighted neglected water supply infrastructure (Annex A).

Health facilities and schools have their own maintenance funding based on attendance per capita amount. Sustainable maintenance funding solutions will be developed with stake holders depending on the community needs.

An exit strategy will be formulated to reduce external dependency for the local communities. This will ensure the sustainability of the WASH services.

Below is the breakdown of the cost per person:

- a) Project funding per capita for direct beneficiaries is USD 26 (46,000 people). Project funding per capita for indirect beneficiaries is USD 8.70 (138,000 people), derived from the total programme cost of USD 1,458,659. Benefits for this project will have longevity after the initial investment and are also resilience measures, strengthening the communities against future drought and health shocks. For this reason, they cannot be equated to a once off cash transfer. Surrounding communities outside the project areas will also benefit indirectly with availability of services.
- b) UNICEF through its implementing partners will ensure delivery of integrated WASH services as per SPHERE standards i.e. ensure key indicators (water quantity, water quality, number of learners per latrine in schools, distance covered etc.) for water and latrines in the communities and for institutions are matched with SPHERE.

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The cash transfer component is proposing to provide 3,681 most vulnerable households with USD 76 over two quarters (£29 each quarter) August – September 2016 and December 2016 - January 2017 over the food crisis period. Payment of these households will be transferred together with the regular transfer using the Child Grant Programme (CGP) system. Hence the Ministry will use existing paying agencies such as G4S and Mobile payment as appropriate to deliver the cash to the targeted beneficiaries. The total transfer amount will be £213,498 and the total cost of this project's component will be £236,696. Building on the existing partnership with the MoSD considerably reduces the transaction cost and the cost for targeting and allows for better coverage of households.

FAO

The activities proposed by FAO will cost the programme as follow:

- c) Livelihood recovery package – supporting affected populations with appropriate inputs to produce their own food is the most cost effective way of responding to a livelihood emergency. With USD120 per household, the project will be making a significant contribution towards ensuring food availability and diversified diets. The project will distribute high quality OPV seeds (Open Pollinated Variety) which will allow beneficiaries to refresh the genetic quality of their seed and improved selected seeds over the next three agricultural seasons.
- d) Social protection and agriculture complementarity – the cost of this intervention is only USD26 per beneficiary household. According to a recent evaluation by FAO, most rural families spend 65% of their income on food products and of that share, 20% is spent on vegetables and fruits (but mostly vegetables). By intervening and investing in six varieties of nutrient-dense vegetables, the programme will be assisting beneficiary households to make a financial saving (as they will be producing their own vegetables) and that will allow them to invest more money into other household needs including health and education.

UNFPA

- e) UNFPA's intervention against drought linked GBV will target health workers in the 4 districts, building their capacity in clinical management of GBV and using harmonised standard operating procedures (SOPs). The SOPs will be designed to meet the international standards for GBV in humanitarian situation to improve on building confidence among GBV survivors and the service providers. The intervention targets health workers from the 4 major government hospitals and 60 government health centres in the target districts. This implies an 85% reach in empowering health facilities to offer a comprehensive GBV package that includes; medical management, Psycho-social support, and forensic management, humanitarian issues of sexual violence, and quality assurance and quality improvement for post GBV care. This comprehensive package of services guided by SOPs will improve service provision and the referral system to enable GBV survivors to integrate and rebuild their resilience and contribute to community development

Community GBV protection mechanism sustainability in communities

- f) UNFPA works with community leaders (chiefs and councillors) and members of the community to build GBV protection structures for policing and protection. The cost of the intervention is USD 189 per community, for training and empowerment of community structure leadership with GBV knowledge, Human rights and leadership skill. This is a means to empower communities to take control of their own protection, ensure their own policing mechanism, link to health centres for GBV survivors referral and ensuring cases of GBV are reported and followed up to their conclusion within the justice system. This is the one way UNFPA ensures the sustainability by investing in the community structures that will remain in the community after the intervention resources have

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been exhausted.

WFP

Although the government has recently announced a 30 percent subsidy on maize meal and pulses, it is understood that rural households will continue to pay higher food prices for some time until the market reaction to the subsidy has reached the more remote areas of Lesotho. Therefore, targeted households in Quthing, Maseru and Butha Buthe will receive USD \$65 per month, and this includes USD 5 for transport for travelling to the banks located in towns. This transfer value is calculated on the basis of the average retail price of a basic family food basket (consisting of 12 kgs of maize meal, 1.8 kgs of pulses and 0.600 kgs of vegetable oil per person per month) corresponding to 2,100 kcl/day per person.

Through the support of the WFP field offices and the Vulnerability and Assessment Mapping (VAM) unit, markets will be monitored monthly and monthly reports will be issued. The markets are monitored through the administration of a questionnaire by the WFP Field Monitor Assistants in targeted/supported areas. The exercise is meant to collect data on the types of commodities purchased, the price changes and to detect the risks which may affect the project or the markets. The results of the exercise further inform the decision on whether to revise the cash transfer value. Should there be a reason for reducing the transfer value during the implementation period, WFP will notify DFID in a timely manner and submit a modification request for the resulting surplus funding to cover additional caseloads of negatively affected households in Quthing, Maseru and Butha Buthe.

WFP will support relevant Government departments to conduct quarterly Post Distribution Monitoring to ensure evidence-based decision making throughout project implementation. Onsite distribution monitoring will be conducted monthly to establish whether distributions are on time, orderly and safe for supported people. Spot checks will be made to verify the proper use of beneficiary verification processes, distribution site management and proximity to beneficiary households. Together with cooperating partners, WFP will also undertake monthly output reporting which will include beneficiary numbers, food or cash distributed, capacity building activities and some key process indicators.

RC Office

The coordination component under the Joint Programme will ensure a higher quality of humanitarian delivery through coordinated interventions. Mapping of humanitarian interventions decreases the risk of duplication and makes spending more cost-effective. The RCO supports the development and mapping of assessments that allow for evidence-based planning and a targeted and efficient response. The communication of needs, planned response and financial gaps to donors, government and other humanitarian partners fosters transparency, reduces transaction costs and allows for effective humanitarian spending.

Supporting coordination through the Resident Coordinator's Office increases the access to information for donors, government and other partners, and ensures the effective delivery of reports about the implementation of humanitarian interventions and in particular of Joint Programme.

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Efficiency/effectiveness

There is an urgent need to provide communities with life-saving water supply interventions and hygiene/sanitation promotion. This will reduce mortality/morbidity associated with diarrhoea, malnutrition and other drought-related illnesses. Water collection distances will also be reduced thus favouring school attendance of children and diminishing GBV risks to women and young girls. Health facilities are the preventative and curative centres for the affected communities and hence they must have water supply on a daily basis to ensure that those affected at least have a place to receive treatment for diarrhoea; and any other drought-related illnesses. As children are considered as ‘agents of change’, it is also paramount to ensure daily water supply to schools and to conduct hygiene sensitisation using schools and health facilities as community gateways for mass communication.

Gravity fed water supply systems are common in Lesotho. However there are few other systems that are in use i.e. hand pumps with shallow boreholes and solar systems to lift water to an elevated community tank. Therefore, the key focus would be to rehabilitate gravity fed water supply systems that became dysfunctional due to the drought. This technology is simple and required less O&M expenditure.

UNICEF will develop minimum standards supported by a set of tools that capture information related to implementation. These standards ensure that the infrastructure and technical aspects of the programme are fit to local context and are durable. This will also bring costs down, as the standard of work will be using local labour and local materials as much as possible. It will create opportunities for local labour and local vendors.

UNICEF will work with WASH technical working group for a collective effort to continually improve harmonized performance indicators and use resources as effectively as possible across the sector. Learning on key sustainability issues related to WASH programming will be shared among the group members to ensure sustainable WASH interventions.

Proposed action will deliver results in terms of time saved due to having easy access to water will be utilized to rearing children and other productive activities. The reduction in diarrhoea and other WASH associated disease will also lead to saved time in terms of less sick days, again leading to more time for economic productivity such as working in the fields and ultimately money will be saved that would have been spent on treatment of the family members.

FAO’s partnership with MAFS allows a high proportion of funds directly channelled to beneficiaries as agricultural inputs (68% of total project cost).

Timely provision of inputs to disaster-affected populations has proven to be an effective way of assisting early recovery, improving short term nutritional outcomes and safeguarding livelihood productive assets. Specifically, the emergency provision of agricultural inputs and training helps the affected households immediately return to production without eroding their productive assets (normally disaster affected populations would sell their productive assets such as livestock or implements as a way of coping with the disaster).

WFP will address the survival deficit of 5,600 households (28,000 beneficiaries) in Quthing, Maseru and Butha Buthe. It will do so by transferring a monthly value which is calculated on the basis of the average retail price of a basic family food basket. The cash option has been selected as the most appropriate further to the results of the 2016 market assessment which concluded that markets in Lesotho are overall still functioning and that food insecurity is mainly demand driven.

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WFP will implement this cash-based intervention in a timely manner from July to December 2016. The proposed delivery mechanism for this cash-based programme is banks based upon the successful cooperation with Standard Lesotho Bank under the IR-EMOP.

Evidence

All humanitarian interventions are built on a sound assessment of humanitarian needs. The joint rapid assessment, conducted in February 2016 as well as the recently undertaken Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment (LVAC) provide a joint, inter-sectoral evidence and needs basis. The assessment is complemented by a series of sectoral assessments that establish the humanitarian needs in Lesotho. All humanitarian response projects are needs informed and based on the current set of assessments.

The design of specific agricultural interventions in this programme is informed by a number of assessments and evaluations. Such evaluations include the evaluation of the "Lesotho Child Grant Programme and Linking Food Security to Social Protection Programme" and lessons learned during the implementation of the ERP during 2012-2015. In addition, the package for inputs to be distributed is a result of a number of discussions between different technical stakeholders in agriculture including the MAFS, FAO and NGOs operating in the country.

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Results framework

Joint Programme Outcome: Effective response to the consequences of El Niño in Lesotho in the WASH, food security, agriculture, protection and coordination sector			
Component Outcomes	Participating UN organization specific outputs	Participating UN organization	Implementing partners
To improve access to safe water in the most affected communities in 5 districts, currently consuming unsafe water due to the El Nino drought emergency.	1.1) Number of Drought affected people (men, women and children) have access to safe water 1.2) Number of Schools equipped with WASH facilities 1.3) Number of Health facilities equipped with WASH facilities 2.1) Number of drought affected people have raised awareness about improved hygienic practices 3.1) Water and Sanitation committees and hygiene clubs are trained on operation and maintenance of WASH facilities	UNICEF WASH	World Vision Lesotho and Catholic Relief Services
Food security and resilience of vulnerable households in Lesotho is improved through sustainable livelihood support and complementarities between Social Protection and Agriculture production.	1) Availability and use of food is improved in a sustainable manner through the distribution of recovery productive packages, complementary production support to Social Protection Beneficiaries. 2) Key Stakeholders at national, district and community level are familiar with Climate Smart Agricultural (CSA) practices and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) topics and promote them effectively for further replication and adoption. 3) Improved Information, Coordination and Analysis in emergency decision-making processes.	FAO	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Ministry of Social Development (MOSD), Ministry of Forestry, Rangeland and Soil Conservation (MFRSC) UNICEF and WFP
Reduced vulnerability of women and adolescent girls to <i>El Niño</i> drought-linked GBV in 4 districts of Lesotho	1) Improved measures by communities in prevention of drought-linked GBV in Butha-Buthe, Maseru, Mafeteng and Mhales' Hoek districts of Lesotho 2) Improved response for survivors of GBV resulting from drought crisis in Lesotho 3) Improved Coordination and Information among GBV responders at National, District and Community Levels in Lesotho	UNFPA	Ministry of Health Ministry of Gender and Youth, Sports & Recreational Lesotho Planned Parenthood Association (LPPA) Vodacom Lesotho, Help Lesotho
Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted households Community or livelihood assets restored or maintained by targeted households and communities	1) Food consumption and diet diversity scores attained 2) Assets maintained or restored by targeted households	WFP	WFP, FAO, Ministry of Forestry, DMA
UNICEF SP To improve access to food for approximately 3,681 households caring over 11,583 vulnerable children from the poorest of the poor segment of the population in the affected areas through a cash transfer.	1) 3,681 households in 3 affected community councils receive cash transfers reaching a minimum of 11,583 vulnerable children 2) Strengthened. management of the Emergency response	UNICEF SP	Ministry of Social Development, Local Authority (District Council), GS4 (Payment company).
Adequate capacity in the Resident Coordinator's Office to support inter-sector and sector coordination to respond to the El Niño related drought.	1) Effective coordination of the humanitarian response 2) Effective management of Joint Humanitarian Funding 3) Effective operations and support to the	RC Office	UN organizations, including non-resident agencies; Disaster Management Authority; humanitarian NGOs

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	Humanitarian Coordination structure 4) Effective internal and external communication on the Humanitarian Response in Lesotho 5) Effective Monitoring and Evaluation of El Niño drought related Humanitarian Response		
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Governance Structure and Management arrangements

The management and coordination arrangements of the joint programme will follow the [UNDG's Guidance Note on Joint Programmes](#).

The Joint Programme will be supported by a coherent governance structure, with clear lines of accountability and decision-making to deliver agency-specific projects and joint programmes adhering to principles of 'Delivering as One'. A brief description of each entity of the governance structure is provided below, with detailed Terms of Reference are contained in the **Annexes**.

The Joint Programme will be jointly managed and implemented by UNFPA, WFP, FAO, UNICEF and UNDP (thereinafter referred as "Participating UN Organizations" or PUNOs) and the UNDP as Administrative Agent. The pass-through funding modality will be used with the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) of the UNDP serving as the Administrative Agent (AA) for the Joint Programme. The AA's functions are fully described in the Fund Management Arrangement Section below.

The coordination mechanisms ensure the implementation of the Joint Programme under the principles of "Delivering as One". This will increase the efficiency of delivery of humanitarian response.

Joint Programme coordination

Joint Steering Committee

The Humanitarian Country Team, chaired by the Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator was established as a centerpiece of the humanitarian coordination architecture and will collaborate with the Steering Committee of the Joint Programme. The Steering Committee is composed of the representatives of all signatories to the Joint Programme document with similar level of decision-making authority, including representatives of the Participating UN Organizations and the national coordinating authority. The objective of the Steering Committee under the leadership of the Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator is to:

- Ensure that the activities of the organizations are coordinated, and that humanitarian action in Lesotho is principled, timely, effectively and efficiently, and contribute to longer-term recovery.
- Overall management and coordination of the Joint Programme.
- Provide oversight, supervision and management of the joint programme.
- Ensure that the Joint Programme is in line with the global humanitarian response by the Government of Lesotho and the humanitarian partners.

The Steering Committee is the decision-making authority, the highest body for strategic guidance ensuring fiduciary and management oversight and coordination.

The Steering Committee facilitates the collaboration between participating UN organizations and the GoL for the implementation of the Joint Programme. It reviews and approves the Joint Programme Document and work plans, provides strategic direction and oversight, reviews the implementation progress and addresses problems. The SC reviews and approves progress reports budget revisions, and evaluation reports, notes audit reports (published in accordance with each PUNOs' disclosure policy), and initiates investigations (if needed).

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The Steering Committee will provide strategic guidance for coherent and coordinated programme implementation. As appropriate the SC will, review progress against set targets, review and approve the periodic progress reports. The Steering Committee will meet on a regular basis, agreed to by the Steering Committee, to ensure close monitoring throughout the implementation period of the Joint Programme.

Joint Programme Management at Component Level

The main management principle is that the ‘implementation’ of the Joint Programme components will be carried out by individual Participating UN organizations.

Therefore, internal coordination on each of the component outcomes will be ensured by each participating UN organization, and monitoring based on individual outputs will also be conducted by the UN organizations. Output-level internal coordination between the Participating UN organizations and their implementing partners will take place according to each UN organization’s policies. Implementation focal points for each of the components are also listed in the technical annexes to the Joint Programme.

The following entities will also be involved, in various forms described below, in implementation of the Joint Programme.

The Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator guides the strategic implementation of the JP. For all UN related issues and activities or agency specific events that have broader UN relevance, the UN system in Lesotho will strive to speak with ‘one voice’ through the UN Resident Coordinator or through an UN participating Organizations’ head on behalf of the HCT.

Heads of Participating UN Organizations will interact with the line ministries for the purposes of implementation of the interventions, monitoring and evaluation, advocacy and representation.

Participating UN Organizations

The participation of UN Organization is differentiated by their contribution and/or role that they may play. Participating UN Organization may play one or more of several roles as mutually agreed with the UN Resident Coordinator and the PUNOs: as a substantive financial contributor, as the implementing authority of defined agency-specific projects and/or joint programmes, as an implementing partner or party providing technical advice or other specified inputs and services, as an occasional or ad hoc technical / policy advisor on normative issues, or as an advocate on a particular UN issue or convention. Some participating agencies will play a substantive leadership role in the JP outcome areas.

The Office of the Resident Coordinator

The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator is responsible for support to the strategic leadership role of the RC/HC on the JP. It provides support for all the designated tasks for the RC/HC.

Administrative Agent

UNDP (the Multi Partner Trust Fund Unit) functions as the JP’s Administrative Agent, and as such is responsible for financial administration of this JP: that is, managing contributions from the donor, disbursements, accounting, maintaining supporting systems, and audit. In addition, compiles financial and narrative reports from participating agencies and submits reports to the Resident Coordinator for dissemination to partners.

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Technical Coordination and Convening Agent

Joint Programme Coordination will be organized between UN agency focal points for each component, under the leadership of the Heads of the respective Agencies. The Resident Coordinator's Office will support this process at technical level and report to the SC if and where required. If required the UN Disaster Risk Management Team will provide technical support. The Resident Coordinator's Office will ensure that the Administrative Agent – and therefore subsequently the donor – will be provided with the necessary reporting and monitoring material. UNDP in the form of the RCO will ensure these roles, through its function as a convening agent.

The UNDP Country Office/RCO, as the Convening Agent, is responsible for operational and programmatic coordination: It coordinates all the Joint Programme partners, coordinates and compiles annual work plans and narrative reports, coordinates monitoring of annual targets, calls and reports on Steering Committee meetings, facilitates audits and evaluation, and reports back to the Steering Committee.

The Convening Agent is involved in day-to-day coordination, but does not hold any financial or programmatic accountability beyond the implementation of the coordination component.

The Joint Programme Coordination Team will be established with participation of the designated Programme Officers of the Participating UN Agencies (not funded additionally through this Joint Programme) with a responsibility to coordinate the planning and implementation for the Joint Programme, assuring the quality of the implementation and reporting vis-à-vis the Steering Committee, as well as ensuring the joint approach to the crosscutting themes, such as visibility. The Team consisting of the senior focal points per agency will meet once a month, chaired by the RC or her delegate to review the progress, work-plans and ensure the coordinated implementation.

Capability and capacity of partners

UNICEF

UNICEF has been operating in Lesotho since 1972 and has an annual operating budget of US\$9 million. There are limited options to partner with INGOs/NNGOs in Lesotho. A very few INGOs (such as Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and World Vision Lesotho (WVL)) have been working in the WASH sector. UNICEF is currently working with these organizations through standing Programme Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) to respond to the current emergency and on longer term development programmes: i.e. distribution of water purification tablets, rehabilitation of water supply systems, provision of WASH services in schools and health units with integrated hygiene promotion and on Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS). UNICEF is also working with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Water to respond to the current emergency. Current INGO partners are strengthening their capacities in the WASH sector by hiring more WASH staff and involving their regional WASH expertise. UNICEF will create PCAs with WVL and CRS to implement activities under this proposal. They have indicated that they have the capacity to take on the required activities. UNICEF will also invest time in enhancing the capacities of its partners to ensure that the objectives of the proposed interventions are achieved.

CLTS is being implemented by UNICEF to eliminate open defecation in all ten districts of Lesotho. The key purpose of the CLTS is to safeguarding water sources from the adverse impacts of open defecation. Proposed action will be integrated with the current CLTS programme to maximise the impact of both emergency and longer-term activities.

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UNICEF works closely with government line ministries in advocating for CLTS as an integral part of the national sanitation policy. Field staff of government line departments at district level are trained on the CLTS approach.

FAO

FAO has been in Lesotho since the early 1980's with an annual indicative budget of around USD 1m for its development programme. On the other hand, the budget for FAO's emergency activities for the past 3 – 4 years has ranged from USD 1m to USD3m per year. The emergency team works with the MAFS decentralized structures and monitors its projects through three teams (2 agronomist + 1 M&E) supported by field assistants. Overall, FAO is comprised of 15 members with 8 in the emergency team. FAO will implement activities proposed in this programme in collaboration with the MAFS and MOSD especially the extension services at district level. This responds to the strategically important objective of strengthening the existing government structures in the country and mainstream adequate practices in their routine work. The project does not foresee subcontracting any production activities to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) though coordination and collaboration with relevant stakeholders will be promoted.

From an internal point of view, the project will be managed and operated by the FAO country office in Lesotho. The FAO country representative will be the designated budget holder of the project. The project falls under the technical advisory role of the Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP) and the Social Policies and Rural Institutions Division, therefore, the Plant Production Officer in the FAO Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa (SFS) in Harare will be the FAO's Lead Technical Officer (LTO) supported by the Social Protection Officer in HQ on issues relating to Social Protection. The officers will be responsible for the overall technical supervision and technical support. In addition an AGP Officer in headquarters will be part of the project task force to technically backstop the project. Considering that the project is in response to the drought emergency, it automatically falls under the strategic programme 5 (resilience) and the designated regional office for Africa (RAF) SO5 coordinator shall provide support on behalf of the Strategic Programme Leader (Resilience).

UNFPA

At national level the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreational are UNFPA's main implementing partners. The Ministries will provide strategic guidance in aspects of sustainability, development of protocol and tools to guide implementation at the district level. Another tier of partnership of UNFPA is the NGOs, at national and local or district level, and CBOs with wide understanding and experience working in the area of GBV and communities. This will provide UNFPA with knowledge and guidance in relation to power relations and socio-cultural dynamics underlying at the community level. UNFPA will tap into their experience and technical support in building community structures and linking them to the district level and services.

At district level, partnership with district leaderships will include technical district staff and cultural leaders for information and services. Culture-related information will be available at the office of the district administrator and the principal chief. In addition, the district Ministry of Gender, the major hospital and the District Office and staff will be a resource for provision of information and services

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There will also be partnership with community-level institutions including health centres, cultural and traditional leaderships and community based organizations for services and information. Health workers at health centres will provide survivors with the appropriate GBV treatment, psych-social support and referral. The traditional leadership will provide guidance and information on the community cultural and traditional beliefs that the project can tap into to organize the community against the negative practices that promote GBV. Communities will be sensitized and mobilized into community structures that promote good practices to protect women and girls, boys and men and working towards elimination of GBV.

WFP

The intervention will be implemented in collaboration with line government ministries and local authorities for capacity development and sustainability of livelihood protection activities, the private sector for the cash distribution and NGOs, Community Based Organisations (CBOs) to support activities such as life skills trainings and nutrition-sensitive activities such as community gardens and nutrition and HIV education.

During the programme implementation, WFP will be collaborating with partners, including FAO, in providing complementary conservation agricultural support; the Ministry of Forestry, which is involved in environmental management activities; the Ministry of Agriculture to promote community gardens, and the Ministry of Small Business Development, Cooperatives and Marketing to support other income-generating projects.

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Fund management

The programme will be using a pass-through fund management modality where UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office will act as the Administrative Agent (AA) under which the funds will be channeled for the programme through the AA. Each participating UN organization receiving funds through the pass-through would have to sign a standardized Memorandum of Understanding with the AA.

The Administrative Agent will:

- Establish a separate ledger account under its financial regulations and rules for the receipt and administration of the funds received from the donor(s) pursuant to the Administrative Arrangement. This Joint Programme Account will be administered by the Administrative Agent in accordance with the regulations, rules, directives and procedures applicable to it, including those relating to interest;
- Make disbursements to Participating UN Organizations from the Joint Programme Account based on instructions from the Steering Committee, in line with the budget set forth in the Joint Programme Document.

The Participating UN Organizations will:

- Assume full programmatic and financial responsibility and accountability for the funds disbursed by the AA.
- Establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent.
- Each UN organization is entitled to deduct their indirect costs on contributions received according to their own regulation and rules, taking into account the size and complexity of the programme. Each UN organization will deduct 7% as overhead costs of the total allocation received for the agency.

The MPTF Office will charge administrative agent fee of one per cent (1%) of the total contributions made to the Joint Programme.

UNDP Country Office, as 'lead agency' will consolidate narrative reports provided by the Participating United Nations Organizations. As per the MoU:

- Annual narrative progress report and the final narrative report, to be provided no later than three months (31 March) after the end of the calendar year.

The MPTF Office will:

- Prepare consolidated narrative and financial progress reports, based on the narrative consolidated report prepared by the UNDP Country Office and the financial statements/ reports submitted by each of the Participating UN Organizations in accordance with the timetable established in the MoU;
- Provide those consolidated reports to each donor that has contributed to the Joint Programme Account, as well as the Steering Committee, in accordance with the timetable established in the Administrative Arrangement.
- Provide the donors, Steering Committee and Participating Organizations with:
 - Certified annual financial statement ("Source and Use of Funds" as defined by UNDG guidelines) to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year;

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- Certified final financial statement (“Source and Use of Funds”) to be provided no later than seven months (31 July) of the year following the financial closing of the Joint Programme.

Budget Preparation - The Programme Coordinator will prepare an aggregated/consolidated budget, showing the budget components of each participating UN organization.

Accounting - Each UN organization will account for the income received to fund its programme components in accordance with its financial regulations and rules.

Admin Fees and Indirect Costs

- **Administrative Agent:** The AA (UNDP) shall be entitled to allocate one percent (1%) of the amount contributed by the donor, for its costs of performing the AA’s functions.
- **Participating UN Organizations:** Each UN organization participating in the joint programme will recover indirect costs in accordance with its financial regulations and rules and as documented in the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the AA.

Interest on funds - Interest will be administered in accordance with the financial regulations and rules of each UN organization and as documented in the Standard Administrative Arrangement signed with the donor.

UNICEF WASH

UNICEF will form Programme Cooperation Agreements (PCA) with NGOs for programme implementation. Financial rules and regulations for dispersing funds are agreed under the PCAs to ensure transparency and expedited fund transfer with required oversight from UNICEF. Both UNICEF’s NGO partners, CRS and WV, have a proven record of sound financial practices with UNICEF in Lesotho projects, in the past and currently, with two current emergency projects under CERF and UNICEF regional funding. UNICEF will provide ongoing guidance regarding financial management and reporting needs as required. Funding disbursement will occur as per the agreed financial management arrangements under the PCA and will be scheduled to support activities under the agreed implementation plan. This will ensure adherence to the Joint Programme Agreement.

UNICEF Social Protection

For the cash transfer component of the project UNICEF, the Ministry of Social Development, through the Child Grants system, will be partner with communities and private sector organizations, such as G4S and telephone companies. The security company, G4S, will be responsible for the cash disbursement to individual households at designated cash distribution points (CDPs) and the MoSD will ensure that the complaints and grievances of the community regarding the project are dealt with. Standard Lesotho Bank is the main financial institution that will work with G4S for coordinating the transactions as necessary. The Village Assistance Committees (VACs) will assist the community with monitoring and follow-up on complaints raised by the community. The Local councillors within the selected Community Councils and the Area Chiefs will assist in the beneficiary validation process. Issues of child protection will be considered by UNICEF to ensure that the cash which is distributed benefits the intended beneficiaries.

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FAO

FAO does not foresee transfer of funds to third party organizations such as NGOs through sub-contracting. All interventions will be directly implemented by FAO in close collaboration with the relevant government Ministries. However, as a lead UN technical agency on agriculture and food security, FAO shall foster coordination with relevant stakeholders at all levels especially through information sharing, discourse and technical engagement where necessary.

UNFPA

UNFPA adheres to the existing financial rules and regulations, particularly when dispersing funds to implementing partners. For this project, UNFPA will apply cash transfers (HACT) to the Lesotho Planned Parenthood Association, an NGO with a history of delivery and accountability even in a humanitarian context. LPPA has demonstrated financial implementing capacity and accountability. For other district level funding, UNFPA will apply direct execution based on work plan-specific timelines. Annual work plans will be agreed and signed, and will constitute the implementation agreement for the Joint Programme. Direct execution, transfer for activity and cash transfers are all facilities that are clearly stipulated under the financial rules and regulations of UNFPA.

WFP

WFP will select the beneficiaries in Quthing, Butha Buthe and Maseru district jointly with the District Disaster Management Team (DDMT) and partners through the NISSA and a community based targeting methodology based upon three main vulnerability criteria, i.e. food consumption, income level, and inclusion in existing social protection programmes. This process is followed by a verification exercise implemented by WFP and the DDMT which aims to confirm the eligibility of the selected beneficiaries for the assistance.

WFP will rely on Standard Lesotho Bank for the distribution of the monthly cash entitlements. In addition, World Vision International will be the main cooperating partner throughout the entire implementation of the intervention, from the beneficiary selection phase to overseeing the cash distributions including the M&E processes.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

Joint Programme monitoring and evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the respective regulations, rules and procedures of the Participating UN Organizations.

Monitoring

The Joint Programme will be monitored throughout its duration and evaluated in accordance with the MPTF institutional arrangements. In addition there will be a developed programme specific monitoring and evaluation plan. Participating UN Organizations will share information and progress updates (quarterly reviews), and undertake joint visits where appropriate and in line with donor requirements.

Programme monitoring will be carried out by the M&E teams of the Participating UN Organizations at the component outcome level in accordance with the policies and procedures of those Organizations. Programme implementation will be assessed continuously at output (agency) level and end programme

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reporting (jointly at outcome level). Outputs will be measured at regular intervals and against clearly defined indicators. Specific programme activities will serve as benchmarks indicating progress achieved. The results of monitoring activities will be presented to the Steering Committee (HCT) by the Participating UN Organizations' focal points for the Joint Programme.

Evaluation

The Steering Committee will undertake the Joint Programme evaluation at the Outcomes' level according to the agreed evaluation Terms of Reference (TOR). The Administrative Agent undertakes the responsibility for consolidating the final evaluation report in consultation with the Participating UN Organizations.

Audit

The Administrative Agent and Participating UN Organizations will be audited in accordance with their own Financial Regulations and Rules and, in case of MDTFs, in accordance with the Framework for Joint Internal Audits of United Nations which has been agreed to by the Internal Audit Services of the participating UN organizations and endorsed by the UNDG in September 2014.

In addition to UN agency internal audits, a joint programme and financial audit will be conducted to establish financial accountability. The audit will be funded beyond joint programme costs and be made available to the donor after the completion of the programme.

Reporting

1. The Administrative Agent will provide the Donor and the Steering Committee with the following statements and reports, based on submissions provided to the Administrative Agent by each Participating UN Organization and the Convening Agent prepared in accordance with the accounting and reporting procedures applicable to it, as set forth in the Joint Programme Document:
 - (b) Annual consolidated narrative progress reports, to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year;
 - (c) Based on the information provided for the end of the calendar year narrative progress report, the convening agent will provide the donor with a mid-term report due in mid-February (14 February).
 - (d) Annual consolidated financial reports, as of 31 December with respect to the funds disbursed from the Programme Account, to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year;
 - (e) Based on the information provided for the end of the calendar year financial reports progress report, the convening agent will provide the donor with a mid-term report due in mid-February (14 February).

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- (f) Final consolidated narrative report, after the completion of the activities in the Joint Programme Document, including the final year of the activities in the Joint Programme Document, to be provided no later than six months (30 June) after the end of the calendar year in which the operational closure of the Programme occurs;
 - (g) The Participating UN Organisations submit their preliminary final financial and narrative report to the convening agent, not later than 90 days after the completion of the joint programme. The convening agent will provide the donor with a provisional final consolidated narrative and financial report 120 days after the completion of the joint programme.
 - (h) Final consolidated financial report, based on certified final financial statements and final financial reports received from Participating UN Organizations after the completion of the activities in the approved programmatic document/Joint Programme Document, including the final year of the activities in the approved programmatic document/Joint Programme Document, to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closing of the Programme occurs.
2. Annual and final reporting will be results-oriented and evidence based. Annual and final narrative reports will compare actual results with expected results at the output and outcome level, and explain the reasons for over or underachievement. The final narrative report will also contain an analysis of how the outputs and outcomes have contributed to the overall impact of the Programme. The financial reports will provide information on the use of financial resources against the outputs and outcomes in the agreed upon results framework.
3. The Administrative Agent will provide the Donor, Steering Committee and Participating UN Organizations with the following reports on its activities as Administrative Agent:
- (a) Certified annual financial statement (“Source and Use of Funds” as defined by UNDG guidelines) to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year; and
 - (b) Certified final financial statement (“Source and Use of Funds”) to be provided no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closing of the Programme occurs.

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Log frame

Expected Results (Joint Programme Outcome and Component Outcomes)	Indicators (with baselines and indicative timeframe)	Means of verification	Risks and assumptions
<p>Joint Programme Outcome: Effective response to the consequences of El Niño in Lesotho in the WASH, food security, agriculture, protection and coordination sectors</p>			
<p>Component Outcome 1: Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted households</p> <p>Community or livelihood assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities</p>	<p>1) Food consumption and diet diversity scores attained</p> <p>2) Assets maintained or restored by targeted households</p>		
<p>Component Outcome 2: Food security and resilience of vulnerable households in Lesotho is improved through sustainable livelihood support and complementarities between Social Protection and Agriculture production.</p>	<p>1.1) Percentage increase in HH incomes as a result of reduced expenditure on vegetables and increased own production</p> <p>1.2) Number of HHs reporting increase in vegetable consumption and diversity from own production</p> <p>1.3) Percentage increase in food production by target HHs</p> <p>2.1) Number of extension and social workers promoting improved practices on social protection and agriculture/nutrition complementarities.</p> <p>2.2) Number of extension workers promoting improved practices on climate smart food production techniques.</p> <p>2.3) 70% of households assisted with productive packages are trained by extension and/or social services on nutrition sensitive and climate smart agricultural production techniques.</p> <p>2.4) 100% of households assisted by the project receive high quality visual training materials on nutrition sensitive and sustainable food production</p> <p>3.1) Regular survey and assessment reports (e.g. baseline, post-harvest, pre-post training assessments and qualitative assessments) are available.</p> <p>3.2) FAO global analysis on “Social Protection and Agriculture: breaking the cycle of poverty” and “Assessment of coherence of SP and Agriculture policies in Lesotho” are disseminated among national decision makers.</p> <p>3.3) Functional food security sector coordination structures e.g. emergency fora and technical working groups</p> <p>3.4) Information and communication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO M&E reports • Policy coherence report • Livelihood profile assessment • Impact of food prices report. • Agenda of the meetings • Minutes of the meetings • Communication reports • Website statistics 	<p>- The 2016/17 agricultural season will be normal to support normal agricultural production. (Any extreme weather conditions will prove detrimental to the achievement of the objectives set in this action).</p> <p>- Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho continues to support the Social Protection system.</p> <p>- The Ministry of Social Development and Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (Dept. of Field services) continue to encourage collaborative approaches.</p> <p>- MAFS and MFRSC continues to encourage extension services involvement in FAO supported activities</p> <p>- Technical support on social protection from the SP team in FAO HQ is provided in a timely manner.</p>

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	products are available and repository website with CSA materials (www.lesothocsa.com) is updated		
<p>Component Outcome 3:</p> <p>1) Through the different interventions proposed the 46,000 beneficiaries will directly benefit. Approximately 25,000 (described in points 2 and 3 below) will benefit through improved access to better quantity and quality water. At least another 21,000 people will receive humanitarian assistance through improved functioning of health clinics and schools, sanitation improvements at schools and hygiene promotion.</p> <p>2) Increase the number of people who access to secure potable water >15 litres/day/person and up to 30 litres/day/person in targeted rural communities. Currently only 61% of the rural population (546,000) has access to 30 litres of water per day from secure water sources (e.g. piped water, standpipes, borehole and existing spring water systems).</p> <p>3) Reduce the number of people accessing unprotected and insecure water sources which currently stands at 22.6% of the population.</p> <p>4) Reduce the average travelling distances >1km for collecting water at proposed intervention sites.</p>	<p>Outcome Indicators:</p> <p>1) Completion of water supply and connection to 5 health clinics and 10 school integrated with sanitation and hygiene promotion.</p> <p>2) The programme, through specific targeting will increase the number of people in the district who have access to at least 15 litres/day/person by the following in these respective districts; Mafeteng 11500, Quthing 6000, Botha-Bothe 6000 and Thaba-Tsaka 1500.</p> <p>3) Through the construction of new water points and the rehabilitation of existing water sources the need for people to avoid unprotected water sources will be reduced by the following; Mafeteng 7800, Quthing 5400, Botha-Bothe 4800 and Thaba-Tsaka 2000.</p> <p>4) Of the intervention sites proposed the average travelling distance will be reduced to less than <500m. The number of sites that will have access to water no greater than 500m is; Mafeteng 10, Quthing 5, Botha-Bothe 5 and Thaba-Tsaka 2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing Monitoring and evaluation throughout project. • Monitoring report. • Quarterly report, • End of project report 	<p>- Partners have sufficient capacity to ensure application of technical quality standards and procedures in programme implementation.</p> <p>- Initiation, implementation, and reporting agreed activities and deliverables not delayed</p> <p>- Water infrastructure rehabilitation works not affected by the rainy season / La Nina.</p> <p>- There is not another drought year.</p> <p>Political and security instability do not affect interventions.</p> <p>High inflation does not cause a significant drop in value of Maluti vs the Rand/ USD or a significant increase in cost of supplies and contractors.</p>
<p>Component Outcome 4: Reduced vulnerability of women and adolescent girls to <i>El Niño</i> drought-linked GBV in 4 districts of Lesotho</p>	<p>1.1) 1,920 individuals by sex and age in 4 districts empowered with HR knowledge and skills for protection and GBV related service seeking behaviour.</p> <p>1.2) Extent of reporting GBV in a period of 12 months by survivors and community members.</p> <p>1.3) Activated and functioning Protection structures for prevention of drought related GBV in the 4 districts.</p> <p>2.1) 120 health service providers/ staff trained in Clinical Management of Rape Protocol (CMR) and GBV SOPs.</p> <p>2.2) 4 hospitals and 15 health centres in the districts are equipped with GBV response kits (Kit 5 and dignity kits)</p> <p>2.3) % change in <u>uptake of GBV</u> services at health facilities in the districts of Botha-Bothe, Maseru, Mafeteng, Mochale's Hoek districts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vulnerability assessment - WFP assessment - UNICEF assessment 	<p>- Political stability will prevail during implementation of the project and thereafter, to ensure transfer of the project to the beneficiaries and community level structures, linked with the district so they can move forward with the positive attributes of the project and __grow strong to continue with the initiatives and benefits of the project.</p> <p>- Donor commitment will prevail and through the project life to ensure the deliverables are realized on time.</p> <p>- Commitment of Chiefs (Principal and local Chiefs)</p> <p>- Continued commitment of DMA</p>

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	<p>2.4) 100% of referred drought-linked GBV survivors receive <u>multi-sector support</u> in the 4 districts of Lesotho</p> <p>3.1) Assessments undertaken for drought linked GBV in the 4 districts.</p> <p>3.2) GBV SOPs for Drought response developed and adopted</p> <p>3.3) Extent to which activated GBV data calls/SMS are processed through the hotline per month by sex, age and district of callers.</p> <p>3.4) Number of coordination meetings conducted in the 4 districts</p>		
<p>Component Outcome 5: UNICEF Social Protection To improve access to food for approximately 3,681 households caring over 11,583 vulnerable children from the poorest of the poor segment of the population in the affected areas through a cash transfer</p>	<p>1) 3,681 households in 3 affected community councils receive cash transfers reaching a minimum of 11,583 vulnerable children</p> <p>2) Strengthened management of the Emergency response</p>	<p>3) Monitoring report.</p> <p>4) End of project report,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of community awareness about purpose of emergency response - Complaints on inclusion and exclusion errors - Political and security instability do not affect interventions. - High inflation does not cause a significant drop in value of Maluti vs the Rand/ USD or a significant increase in cost of supplies and contractors.
<p>Component Outcome 6: Adequate capacity in the Resident Coordinator's Office to support inter-sector and sector coordination to respond to the El Niño related drought.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of HCT and other coordination meetings organised - Number of situation reports published - Avoidance of duplication in humanitarian support. - Transparency on humanitarian funding on FTS webpage - Follow up to action points of HCT and other humanitarian coordination structures - timely consolidated financial and narrative reports - project completes on-time, no extension 	<p>UN RCO publications; Meeting minutes; mapping tools; FTS webpage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DMA continues drought response coordination - humanitarian partners provide information material to RCO - continued participation of NGOs and UN agencies (resident and non-resident) in drought response activities

Legal context or basis of relationship

Table 3 below provides illustrative examples on various UN organizations' cooperation arrangements.

Table 3: Basis of relationship

Participating UN Organization	Agreement
UNDP	This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Lesotho and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 31. December 1974.
UNFPA	This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Lesotho and the United Nations Population Funds, as per exchange of letters constituting an agreement entered in force on 31 March 2010.
FAO	The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Government of Lesotho signed an agreement for the establishment of the FAO Representation in Lesotho in 1981, the Representation opened in 1983.
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Emergency Fund and the Government of Lesotho signed a Basic Cooperation Agreement on 24 September 1987 replacing the Basic Agreement between UNICEF and the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho signed November 1972.
WFP	This Joint Programme Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Lesotho and the World Food Programme, signed by the parties on 11 November 1968.

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Work plan and budget

								JP Outcome	
UN Organization specific targets	UN organization	Activities	TIME FRAME						Implementing Partner
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	
Component 1									
1.1) Drought affected people (men, women and children) have access to safe water	UNICEF	1- Gravity water supply systems rehabilitated 2- New water points established 3- Boreholes/hand pumps rehabilitated/newly constructed 4- Infiltration galleries constructed	x	x	x	x	x	x	WVL and CRS
1.2) Schools are equipped with WASH facilities		1- Schools with water supply systems installed 2- Schools with latrines constructed 3- Schools with hand washing places constructed		x	x	x	x	x	
1.3) Healthcare facilities are equipped with WASH facilities		1-Schools with water supply systems installed 2- Schools with latrines constructed 3- Schools with hand washing places constructed		x	x	x	x	x	
2.1) Drought affected communities have raised awareness about improved hygienic practices		1- VHW trained on hygiene promotion messages 2- Village Water Committees members trained on hygiene promotion and O&M 3- Community members received hygiene promotion messages 4- People reached with hygiene and sanitation messages 5- School health clubs trained on hygiene promotion and O&M 6- Children reached with hygiene promotion messages			x	x	x	x	
Component 2									
General preparatory activities	FAO	Project preparation and funding negotiations	X						FAO
		District government staff sensitizations and orientation	X						FAO
Result 1(a): Protecting and improving agricultural livelihoods		Beneficiary identification and sensitization	X						FAO & MAFS
		Procurement and delivery of inputs	X						FAO
		Distribution of inputs	X	X					FAO&MAFS
		Continuous activity monitoring	X	X	X	X	X		FAO&MAFS
		Post-harvest monitoring and evaluation					X		FAO
Result 1(b): Promoting		Procurement and delivery of inputs	X	X					FAO

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complementarities between social protection and agricultural production		Distribution of inputs			X				FAO, MOSD & UNICEF
		Continuous activity monitoring			X	X	X		FAO, MOSD & UNICEF
Result 2: Capacity development on climate smart food production techniques		Training of MAFS extension officers	X						FAO&MAFS
		Capacity development of beneficiary households by the MAFS extension officers	X	X	X	X	X		MAFS
Result 3: Information, coordination and analysis		Monitoring and evaluation of the project	X	X	X	X	X		FAO
		Analysis – continuous generation of information	X	X	X	X	X		FAO
		Coordination and assessments	X	X	X	X	X		FAO
Component 3:									
Result 1: Prevention	UNFPA	Community leaders and decision makers awareness creation meetings/workshops/ Dialogues	X	X	X				UNFPA.MGYSR, MOH, LPPA, Help Lesotho, Vodacom
		IEC /BCC material development and dissemination	X	X	X				
		Outreach & community workers /support group training	X	X	X				
Result 2: Response		Training of health care providers,	x						
		Provision of Psychosocial support and health care to GBV survivors in the community and procurement of health kits	x	x	x	X			
		Referral and provision of judiciary/legal information and supports	x	x	x	X			
Result 3: Coordination		Development of protocols data collection, assessments, and reporting, SMS code activation	X						MGYSR, MOH, LPPA, Help Lesotho, Vodacom
		Mapping of GBV intervention and progress	x	x	x	x			
Component 4:									
Result 1: Address the immediate food needs of the people affected by the El Niño induced drought;	WFP	Targeting the beneficiaries	X						DMA,
		Conducting the distributions	X	X					
		Monitoring the distributions	X	X					
		Conducting the Post Distribution Monitoring		X					
Result 2: Support the protection and rebuilding of livelihoods to improve their ability to withstand climate-induced shocks.		Identifying the livelihood protection activities	X						DMA, Ministry of Forestry, Health, FAO
		Providing technical support to the communities	X	X					
		Monitoring the activities	X	X					
		Evaluating the results		X					

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Component 5	UNICEF SP								
Result 1: 3,681 households in 3 affected community councils receive cash transfers reaching a minimum of 11,583 vulnerable children		Number of households receiving emergency cash transfer top ups in the 3 community councils	X						MSD GS4
		Number of community leaders and beneficiary households reached with emergency transfer message	X						
		Number of sensitization sessions on child protection in emergencies conducted during payment days	X						
		Number of field monitoring and spot check visits	X						
Result2: Strengthened management of the Emergency response		Number of TWG meeting organized by MOSD with other stakeholders	X						
		Number of report shared with partners	X						
Component 6	UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNDP)								
Humanitarian Coordination for better results	UN RCO/UNDP	Effective coordination and operations support to the Humanitarian coordination structure	x	x	x	x	x	X	RCO
		Effective internal and external communication of the humanitarian response	x	x	x	x			RCO
		Effective Monitoring and Evaluation of Humanitarian Response, including joint humanitarian funding				x	x	x	RCO

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CATEGORY	FAO	UNFPA	WFP	UNICEF WASH	UNICEF SP	UNDP/RCO	TOTAL
1. Staff and Other Personnel Cost	£ 128,077.00	£ 28,615.38	£ 33,270.00	£ 152,308.00	1,518	£ 76,923.08	£ 419,193.46
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	£ 630,000.00	£ 23,461.54	£ 28,654.00		£ 3,795.00		£ 685,910.54
3. Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation	£ 199,231.00	£ 3,846.15	£ -	£ 3,846.00			£ 206,923.15
4. Contractual Services	£ 15,385.00	£ 14,445.00	£ 90,168.00		£ 2,400.00	£ 23,077.00	£ 145,475.00
5. Travel	£ 26,154.00	£ 4,615.38	£ 20,431.00	£ 5,538.00	£ 1,518.00	£ 1,615.39	£ 59,871.77
6. Transfers and Grants Counterparts	£ -		£ 1,650,000.00	£ 622,414.00	£213,498.00		£ 2,485,912.00
7. General Operating and Other Direct Costs	£ 79,515.00	£ 238,767.70	£ 75,549.00	£ 5,231.00		£ 1,763.46	£ 400,826.16
Total Programme Costs	£ 1,078,362.00	£ 313,751.15	£ 1,898,072.00	£ 789,337.00	£221,211.00	£ 103,378.93	£ 4,404,112.08
8. Indirect Support Costs (cannot exceed 7%)	£ 75,485.34	£ 21,962.58	£ 132,865.04	£ 55,253.59	£ 15,484.77	£ 7,236.53	£ 308,287.85
Pass-through (1%)							£ 47,600.00
TOTAL	£ 1,153,847.34	£ 335,713.73	£ 2,030,937.04	£ 844,590.59	£236,695.77	£ 110,615.46	£ 4,759,999.93

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Annex 1: UNICEF WASH detailed technical proposal

Annex 2: FAO detailed technical proposal

Annex 3: UNFPA detailed technical proposal

Annex 4: RCO/UNDP detailed technical proposal

Annex 5: UNICEF Social Protection detailed technical proposal

Annex 6: WFP detailed technical proposal

Annex 7: Detailed Log frame

Annex 8: Terms of Reference: Joint Programme Steering Committee