



**UN EBOLA RESPONSE MPTF
ANNUAL PROJECT NARRATIVE REPORT**

Year: 2016

Project Number and Title: #49 – Operational Support to the UN Resident Coordinator in managing Ebola Response Phase 3 and beyond in Guinea	PROJECT START DATE¹: 18-12-2015	AMOUNT ALLOCATED by MPTF <i>(please indicate different tranches if applicable)</i> \$983,230.54	RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION UNDP IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S): UNDP
Project ID: 00097554 (Gateway ID)	EXTENSION DATE: 04-11-2016	FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS \$7,213.69	
Project Focal Point: Name: Mohamed Abba, RCO’s Senior Policy/Post-Ebola Recovery Advisor Tel. +224 628 710802 E-mail: Mohamed.abba@undp.org	PROJECTED END DATE: 30-06-2017	EXPENDITURES as of [31-12-2016] \$553,613.25	
Strategic Objective (STEPP) SO5 – Prevent outbreaks in countries not currently affected Recovery Strategic Objectives RSO4- Governance, Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion			
Mission Critical Action MCA 13 – Multi-faceted preparedness	Location: Guinea nationwide	Sub-National Coverage Areas: All 38 prefectures	
Report Submitted by:	Report Cleared by:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name: Theoneste Ganza ○ Title: RCO’s Crisis & Recovery Specialist ○ Date of Submission: 27-03-2017 ○ Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP ○ Email address: Theoneste.ganza@undp.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name: (Head of Agency): Lionel Laurens, Country Director ○ Date of Submission: 29-03-2017 ○ Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP ○ Email address: lionel.laurens@undp.org 		

¹ The date project funds were first transferred.



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OUTPUT INDICATORS					
Indicator	Geographic Area	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the quarterly reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)	Delivery Rate (cumulative % of projected total) as of date
<i>Description of the quantifiable indicator as set out in the approved project proposal</i>					
Output 1.1. The UN Resident Coordinator Office has the qualified human resources to fully play its role in supporting the RC in strategic coordination functions pertaining to Ebola Phase 3 and beyond					
1.1.1. Number of experts deployed within RCO	Nationwide	7	0	6	87%
1.1.2. Extent to which advisory services of Ebola Support Unit were used to inform high-level policy discussions and strategic decision-making	Nationwide	100%	100%	100%	100%
Output 2.1. The Ebola Support Unit provides required policy and operational support to key actors involved in the follow-up of July 2015 Conference and implementation of National Ebola Recovery Strategy and relevant Priority Action Plan					
2.1.1. Number of staff from the Permanent Secretariat of the Consultative Framework between GoG and the Donor Community benefiting from capacity-building activities	Nationwide	30	8	24	80%
2.1.2. Number of project funded through the financial mechanisms for	Nationwide	No specific target	2	2	N/A



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Ebola recovery pledges						
2.1.3. Number of monitoring missions realized	Nationwide	No specific target	3		11	N/A
2.2. Ebola Support Unit develops a joint UN Guinea strategy and action plan in support of National Ebola Recovery Strategy and Priority Action Plan in line with Delivering as One (DaO) modality.						
2.2.1. Existence of a joint UN Guinea strategy and action plan	Nationwide	1	0		1	100%
2.2.2. Existence of Ebola recovery related projects formulated	Nationwide	No specific target	13		14	N/A
2.2.3. Number of partners who receive copy of a joint UN Guinea strategy and action plan	Nationwide	40	0		40	100%
Output 3.2. The ERRT has skilled human resources to ensure a rapid response to future Ebola flare-ups						
3.2.1. Number of interventions conducted by the ERRT.	Nationwide	4		4	4	100%
Output 4. 1. Key national actors involved in humanitarian, natural and sanitary crisis prevention and response are capacitated to effectively respond to crises						
4.1.1. Existence of a Post-Ebola Guinea inter-agency contingency plan	Nationwide	1	1		1	100%
4.1.2. Number of copies of Post-Ebola Guinea UN inter-agency contingency plan printed and distributed	Nationwide	100	0		0	100%



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EFFECT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)					
Outcome 1. The UN Resident Coordinator fully exercises strategic coordination functions pertaining to Ebola phase 3 and beyond					
1.1. Extent to which the ECM functions are transferred to RC	Nationwide	100%	100%	100%	100%
1.2. Number of high strategic coordination meetings convened by RC	Nationwide	1 per month (12)	8	12	100%
Outcome 2. An operational mechanism and required capacities are put in place to follow up and capitalize on the July 2015 Conference pledges on Ebola recovery					
2.1. Existence of a comprehensive mechanism to follow up on the July 2015 Conference pledges on Ebola recovery at national level	Nationwide	1	1	1	100%
2.2. % of July 2015 pledges mobilized through the National Ebola Recovery Strategy funding mechanism	Nationwide	60%	10%	10%	10%
Outcome 3. The national Ebola Rapid Response mechanism is institutionalized and fully operational					
3.1. Existence of an institutionalized Ebola Rapid Response Team (ERRT)	Nationwide	1	1	1	100%
Outcome 4. A coordination mechanism for humanitarian, natural and sanitary crisis prevention and response is operational					
4.1. Existence of a revitalized humanitarian/crisis/disaster management and prevention	Nationwide	1	1	1	100%



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coordination framework					
4.2. Number of meetings held on the humanitarian/crisis/disaster management and prevention coordination framework	Nationwide	1 per month (12)	7	12	100%

PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In ½ to 1 page, summarise the key achievements of programme in terms of outcomes and outputs. Please, list the main activities implemented for the project, and describe the progress made during the current reporting period. Explain how the outcome(s) indicated in the Matrix have contributed to the project objective(s) through the Mission Critical Action (MCA) for the Response and the Recovery Strategic Objective (RSO) for Recovery

Current Situation and Trend

With the closure of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response in August 2015 followed by the departure from Guinea of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in March 2016, and in the spirit to entrust the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator a continued humanitarian coordination of Ebola Virus Disease Phase 3 and beyond, arrangements were made to facilitate the deployment of additional required capacities within the Resident Coordinator’s office to help the country’s goal to attain and stay at 0 case of infection while ensuring a humanitarian strategy and readiness to respond to future flare-ups by providing strategic and operational support towards the elaboration and operationalization of comprehensive mechanisms, putting in place workable strategies meant to strengthen the national capacity to handle future crises and emergency related operations beyond the Ebola era.

The current situation shows a relatively stable context whereas the country has successfully contained the Ebola virus. The current focus is about working hard in order to address the post-Ebola recovery needs while also shaping the country’s operational capacities for a better preparedness for future emergencies. With the participation of the UN country team and under the strategic guidance of the Resident Coordinator’s EVD support unit, a series of programmes and tools have been developed and Ebola matters included in the country’s post-Ebola recovery/development plans including the UNDAF document as an additional axis 4.

Narrative section (*About 1,000 words*):



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• **Key Achievements:**

The achievements below are reported per outcome and output indicators as originally set out in the project result matrix.

- The project aimed primarily to facilitate a smooth transition and handover of Ebola Crisis Manager's functions to the UN Resident Coordinator's Office. This was successfully done and the Resident Coordinator took over the strategic coordination of all Ebola Phase 3 and beyond related functions. At least 12 strategic coordination meetings (one per month) took place under the leadership of the UN RC/HC who hosted meetings of the Ebola Response Team before the Inter-agency Standing Committee was reinstated in September 2016 (outcome indicators 1.1. & 1.2.)
- Supplementary to the project MPTF#44, a government mechanism to follow up on the Ebola recovery pledges made in New York in July 2015 was put in place and operationalized (outcome indicator 2.1. & 2.2.).
- The project has also provided meaningful advocacy and technical support that led to the creation of a multi-epidemiological rapid response mechanism and the revitalization of the national humanitarian/disaster management programme inspired by the four pillars of the Sendai framework whose mandate is to facilitate the coordination of future emergencies (outcome indicators 4.1 & 4.2). The RCO-EVD support unit actively facilitated technical meetings with all stakeholders to develop project concept notes to operationalize the national resilience and disaster risk reduction programme. A total of 20 projects have been identified and will be soon submitted to various potential donors.
- The deployment of the 6 additional experts within the RC Office allowed a successful fulfillment of the new functions assigned to the Resident Coordinator pertaining to the coordination of the Phase 3 and beyond. Additionally, operational support and technical guidance was regularly provided to national partners (output indicators 1.1.1 & 1.1.2).
- Still aiming at boosting the operational capacities of national humanitarian actors and their institutions, 24 staff from the Permanent Secretariat of the Consultative Framework benefited from the capacity-building related activities thanks to the complementarity approach between this project and the MPTF project #44 (output indicators 2.1.1. & 2.1.3.)
- During the year 2016, a total of 11 field missions were conducted either to monitor ongoing activities by technical partners, or to assess any operational gaps that ought to be considered in the country's future programming initiatives (output indicator 2.1.3.)
- The year 2016 was also a good opportunity to help the country update key strategies and action plans on crisis prevention and management. Therefore, the integration of Ebola and other emergencies in the UNDAF will serve as a good joint reference for the UN Country Team in the management of future health crises and other emergencies. Additionally, about 14 Ebola recovery related projects were formulated by various actors (UN and non-UN) with the technical assistance from the EVD support unit within the RC Office (output indicators 2.2.1, 2.2.2.& 2.2.3.).
- One of the other key achievements by this MPTF project is the high level advocacy that contributed to the creation of the public health agency (*Agence Nationale de Securite Sanitaire*) and the existence of the country's multi-epidemiological rapid response mechanism including regionally-based early warning and response teams (*Equipes Regionales d'Alerte et de Reponse aux Epidemies*). These teams are currently operational and have thus far conducted at least 4 interventions at the district levels during Ebola resurgence in Koropara in April 2016. Efforts are



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underway to finish up the update of the post-Ebola contingency plan which is a critical step to provide the country with a more updated contingency plan capable of helping in future emergency management endeavors. (output indicators 3.2.1, 4.1.1.). While copies of the draft have electronically been circulated amongst actors for review and comments, the final document is expected to be finalized after a workshop to be hosted by the RC Office at the end of March 2017 to harmonize the Guinea plan to other regional emergency response preparedness approaches will have completed this task.

The availability of technical support as well as the strategic guidance within the RC office allowed the above mentioned results. In return, the project successfully achieved its strategic objective to stop the outbreak in Guinea. Ensuring a good coordination and leadership during the EVD phase 3 and beyond proved to be a critical path to bringing stability, ending stigmatization and shaping social cohesion in the aftermath of the EVD crisis with a focus on the recovery strategic objective #4.

- **Delays or Deviations**

There are two major delays to report for this annual report 2016:

- The deployment of some of the required human capacities within the Resident Coordinator's Office experienced a significant delay due partially to the recruitment process itself and also because it took longer than expected to attract suitable profiles for some roles.
- The resurgence of Ebola virus in mid-March 2016 in the prefecture of Koropara of Nzerekore region led to a delay in the completion of some key activities. A no cost extension through June 2017 was submitted to allow the project smoothly complete the remaining activities which could not be achieved within the project initial cycle.

- **Best Practice and Summary Evaluation**

The project was exclusively dedicated to building new or reinforcing existing capacities to stop the Ebola outbreak and prevent new epidemics. Since the project was located within RCO and operationally managed under UNDP rules and regulations, it allowed a thorough follow up on daily basis of all its activities and compliance to overall objectives. The other advantage was that besides the field monitoring visits, all remaining activities were conducted at the central level in Conakry where accessibility to all involved stakeholders was always made easy by good communication and information flow. This allowed quick results especially during the coordination and follow up of key strategic meetings; and also when it came to bringing together different working groups to develop key strategies and tools such as the disaster risk reduction, the joint UN action plan or consultations to update the national contingency plan.

- **Lessons learned**

- Maintaining a minimal support for the coordination of Phase 3 and beyond was a good idea in a crisis context like Guinea. Not only this allowed to help the country build strong tools and strategies to manage similar crises in the future but also helped in the response to flare up of March 2016. One can wonder what would have happened if the resurgence had occurred in the absence of these additional capacities. The effectiveness of the response to Koropara resurgence was made possible by the presence of these capacities that also assisted in resource mobilization.



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- **Story from the Field**

- *“When we learnt about the closure of UNMEER and OCHA, and more importantly the departure from Guinea of the ECM Abdou Dieng, we first felt abandoned because the country still needed the international support to bring the country to a very satisfactorily level of stability not only with Ebola but also on the overall emergency preparedness and response level. The deployment of experts and the continued support from the UN system via the RC Office especially their role in mobilizing resources to carry out the intensive response to Koropara flare up was very crucial to my department.”* Dr Sakoba Keita, Former NERC Chairman and Head of the National Health Security Agency.
- *“I am very thankful that finally the national contingency plan is about to be updated and that also the country is about to have an operational disaster risk reduction plan thanks to the support from our partners within the UN system”* Mr Denka Keita, Director, National Humanitarian Action Service.