



[MDG- ACHIEVEMENT FUND]

ANNUAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

LEAVE NO WOMEN BEHIND-ETHIOPIA

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2009

Submitted by:

Name: Mrs. Ane Etxebarria Atxutegi
Title: Junior Professional Officer- Gender Unit
Organization (Lead Agency): UNFPA
Contact information: etxebarria@unfpa.org
Tel. 251-115 444088 (ext. 34088)
Mob. 251-910-368-126
P.O. Box 5580
Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

Country and Thematic Area²

Ethiopia- Gender

Programme No: Id.00067142

MDTF Office Atlas No: 1644-B-TH

Programme Title: Leave No Woman Behind

Participating Organization(s):

World Food Programme (WFP)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Implementing Partners:

- *Ministry of Women Affairs (MoWA)*
- *Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED)*
- *Regional Bureaus of Woman Affairs (BoWA)*
- *Regional Bureaus of Finance and Economic Development (BoFED)*
- *Regional Bureaus of Agriculture and Rural Development (BoARD)*
- *Regional Bureaus of Cooperative Promotion Agency*
- *Regional Bureaus of Education(BoE)*
- *Regional Bureaus of Health (BoH)*

Programme Budget (from the Fund):

For Joint Programme provide breakdown by UN Organization

UN Org. A: WFP- 4, 299,638 USD

UN Org. B: UNFPA- 3, 200, 362 USD

Total : 7,5 million USD

¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

² E.g. Priority Area for the Peacebuilding Fund; Thematic Window for the Millennium Development Goals Fund (MDG-F); etc.

Programme Duration (in months): 36 months

Start date³: 5th February 2009

End date: 5th February 2012

- *Original end date*
- *Revised end date, if applicable*
- *Operational Closure Date⁴, if applicable:*

Budget Revisions/Extensions:

List budget revisions and extensions, with approval dates, if applicable

³ The start date is the date of the first transfer of funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent.

⁴ All activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MDTF programme have been completed. Agencies to advise the MDTF Office.

NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

I. Purpose

The Leave No Woman Behind is an integrated MDG-F Programme addressing gender equality and women empowerment objectives, aligned with the principles and objectives of the MDG Spanish Fund in that it is an “interventions” based programme, in line with the MDG Goal 1 and 3 which contribute to 4, 5, and 6, through integrated interventions addressing Education and Literacy, Livelihood and Reproductive Health interventions.

JP Outcomes:

- 1) Increased enjoyment of human rights at grassroots level through strengthened government efforts in promotion and protection of human rights and community empowerment, with special emphasis on adolescent girls and women.
- 2) Regional efforts to strategically address gender disparities in literacy and educational attainment, sexual and reproductive health services and GBV are strengthened.
- 3) Improved access to and demand for quality, gender sensitive and integrated reproductive health care including HIV/AIDS prevention services at all levels.
- 4) Target women and their family members enjoy improved and sustainable livelihoods with increased income, improved food security and enhanced resilience to shocks.

At country level , the outcomes of the JP respond to the GoE’s key development pillar in the poverty reduction strategy paper (PASDEP) addressing gender equality and women’s empowerment needs (“Unleashing the Potential of Women”). They also draw from the national gender strategy (NAP-GE) that highlights, among a broad spectrum of needs, the reproductive health, literacy and livelihood needs of women and girls.

In the framework of the UN Strategy it is remarkable mention that between April and June 2009, the United Nations in Ethiopia conducted a Mid Term Review (MTR) of its United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2007-2011) to assess implementation progress from 2007 to date. The MTR entailed a number of consultations with the Government Implementing Partners, UN agencies and UNDAF technical working groups. Throughout this process a series of challenges to the UNDAF implementation were identified and consequently, several recommendations were made for its improvement for the remaining period.

One of those found challenges was related to the incorporation of new Joint Programmes, which were not foreseen at the time UNDAF was drafted. In view of these gap and based on the recommendations of the MTR, the UN in Ethiopia together with the Ethiopian Government counterparts agreed on a refinement process that supposed “ *to place each of the Joint Programme at the heart of the deliverables under each outcome* “, increasing that way the linkages between JPs and outcome achievements under different UNDAF’s thematic area.

For this three years JP that supposed its incorporation under the Governance thematic area integrated in the Outcome 3: *Women's empowerment, gender equality and children's rights promoted and strengthened*, in line with the Output 3.2: *Rights of Women and girls at community level promoted and protected*.

Therefore, we can concluded that this refinement process based on the UNDAF- Mid Term Review, has resulted strategically important in order to reinforce the location of the LNWB MDG- Programme in the UN Planning Framework.

II. Resources

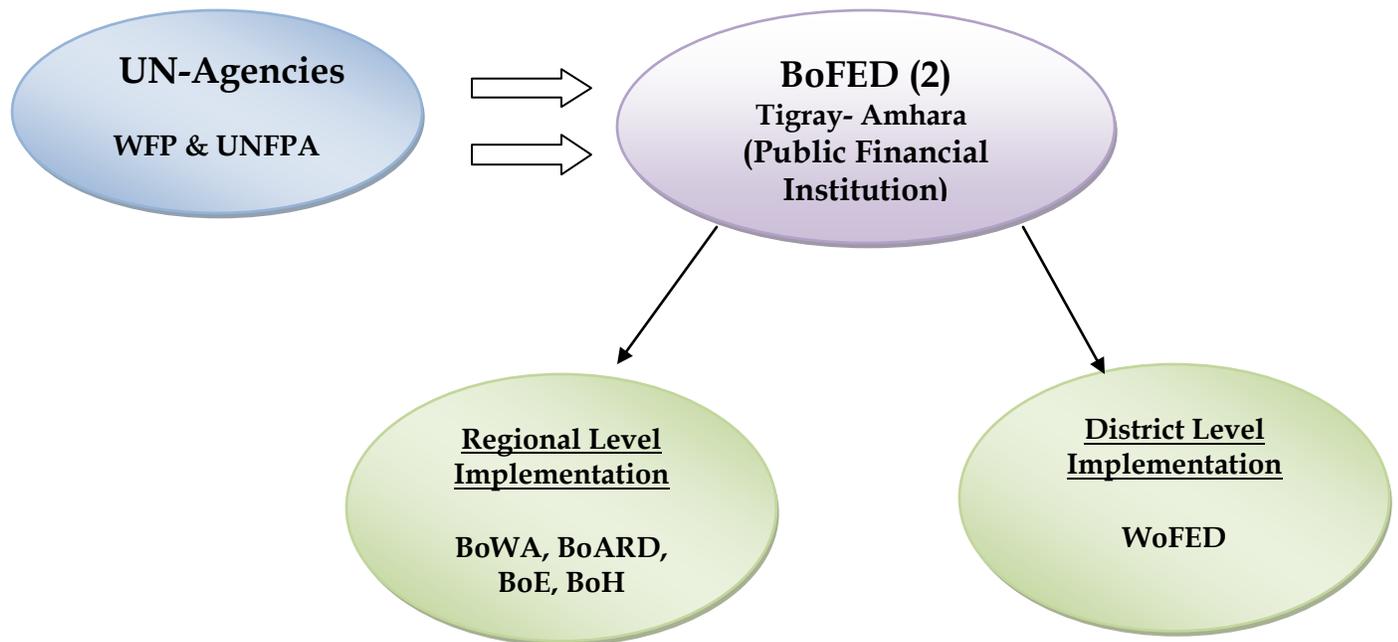
Financial Resources:

In terms of the financial process for the LNWB Joint Programme, it is important to mention that according to the Ethiopian Government's Structure, the fund has to be transferred to a Public Financial Institution at regional level- Bureau of Finance and Economic and Development in Amhara and Tigray region , based on an SSPOL system.

In the case of this Joint Programme were 5 Sector Bureaus are involved (BoWA, BoE, BoARD, BoH, BoFED) , with an implementation at regional and district level the fund is released from the Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (BoFED) to the regional offices and also to the offices at district level.

Regarding this mechanism, both Regions have expressed (on the quarterly reports and through the several meetings held at the region) delay of the fund transferred, specifically for the activities related to procurement. Therefore, identified this constraint, at the end of the year it has been proposed a plan to reformulate the fund transfer mechanism for those activities related with procurement at district level.

. Fund Transfer Mechanics : Country Level (graphic 1).



Human Resources:

According to the Joint Programme document (*Outcome 1, Output 1.2 “Increased institutional capacity of the MoWA, BoWA and the district Women Affairs office”*), the personnel recruited during August 2009- December 2009.

- National level: 1 Programme Coordinator allocated in the MoWA (at recruitment stage)
- Regional level : 1 UNV- Programme Coordinator for Amhara Region
1 UNV- Programme Coordinator for Tigray Region (under process)
- District level: 5 Programme Coordinators and 5 Finance Officers for Tigray Region.
4 Programme Coordinator for Amhara recruited, 6 Finance Officers (under process)

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

The implementation mechanism utilized is in synergy with the Joint Programme document signed at federal level and aligned with the Annual Work Plan developed in each Region in June 2009. For this kind of programme there are involved 5 Regional Bureaus under the leadership of the Bureau of Women's Affairs, the implementation rhythm has to be synchronized in order to achieve the maximum impact. If some of the activities (in line with the outcome 1,2,3) have not been implemented (budget allocated utilized) this can cause a delay on the next fund transfer, an in consequence a gap on the implementation process. In order to avoid this situation, a reinforced communication and "working on synergy" has become a key strategy.

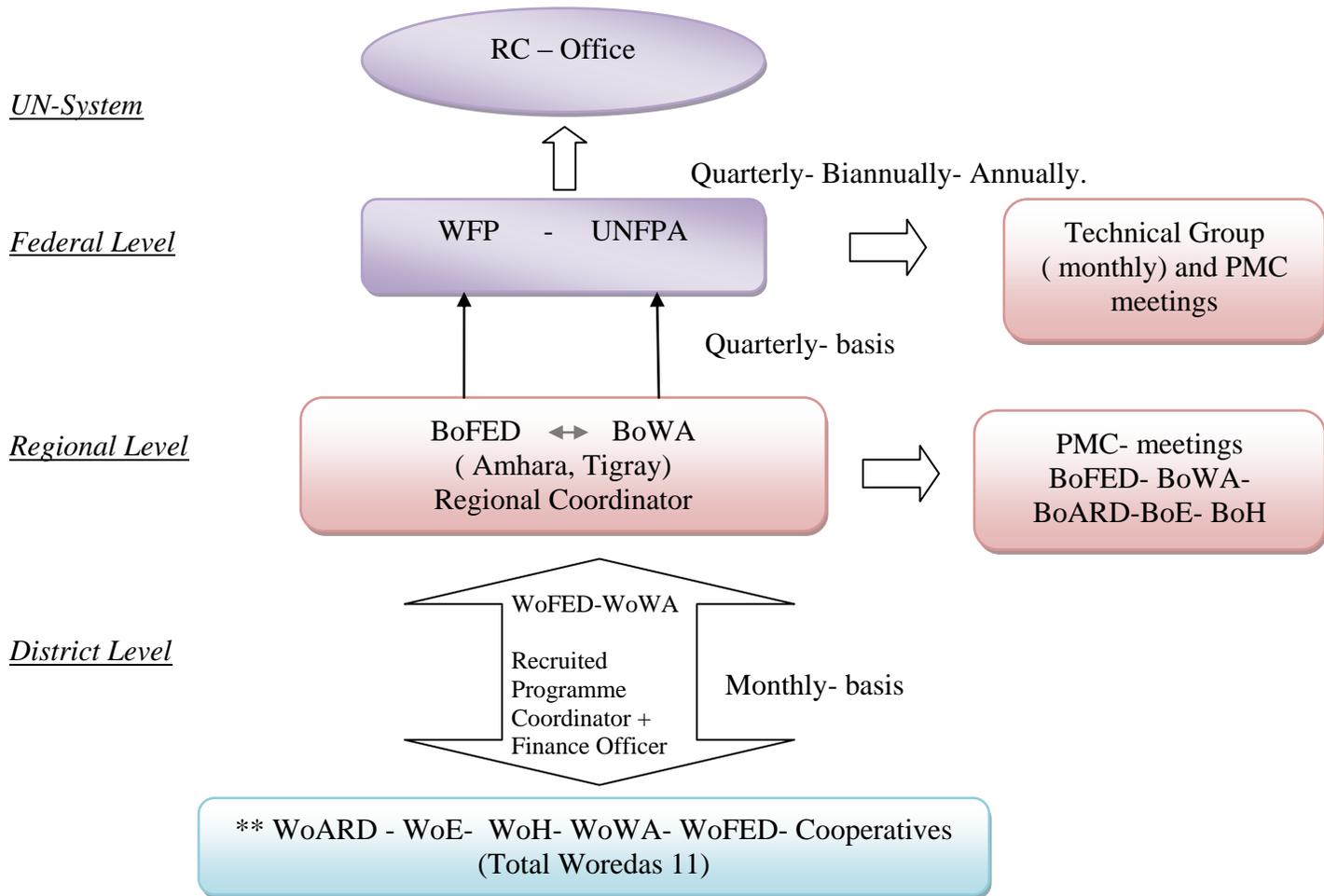
Regarding the procurement procedure, mention that the one utilized "*foreign system*" to procure 11 motorbikes, 2 vehicles and office equipment for the 11 districts, has supposed a clear advantage in terms of time and quality-price relation. This system is standard for UNFPA (no used of variance), and has permitted to the implementing partners increase the attention on the implementation of the activities and avoid that way the long procurement procedure common in the country

In terms of monitoring system, the UN-Agencies involved in the programme in continuous communication with the IPs at federal and regional level are focusing the efforts in consolidating/setting up one M&E strategy in synergy with the *Programme Monitoring Framework* and on line with strategic information found through the different Field Visits and quarterly reports.

During this reporting period , both regions have developed a monitoring system based on their expertise and the orientations given (Programme Monitoring Framework-document), and through an analysis on the implementation process and how this monitoring system capture the strategic information, several recommendations were made:

- Incorporate a participant's registration system (*annex 1*, draft pending on final decision).
- Design an "unique" standard reporting format for both UN-Agencies (*annex 2*, draft), in order to avoid double reports.
- Training on MIS to the new recruited personnel: at district level.
- Establish quarterly field visits.

. Monitoring Reporting System : At Country Level (graphic 2).



** Woreda: referring to a District Level.

IV. Results

The programme progress in relation to the planned outcome level it is quite difficult to measure, too early in terms of reliable data analysis considering that the implementation process started in July 2009. The Baseline-Survey (*Monitoring Framework- indicator*) is at data cleaning stage, and as per our last meeting with the Organization responsible of this action the Baseline Survey at National Level will be published shortly.

In terms of progress at output level, these are the achievements based on: the reports submitted by the implementing partners; the Monitoring Field Visits; and the meetings held with all the stakeholders involved in the Joint Programme.

- National Level:
 - ✓ Regional level AWP developed and submitted from the Region
 - ✓ **Saving & Credit and IGA:** short term consultants recruited to assist the region in conducting and develop training materials for the ToT on Saving and Credit and IGA packages. Saving modality was explored and proposed to the regions.
 - ✓ **Baseline Survey results at data cleaning-report and dissemination stage**
 - ✓ **Procurement of vehicles and equipment;** 11 motorbikes and office equipment are being delivered to both Regions: 5 motorbikes for Tigray's livelihood component are under process & 6 for the Amhara Region upon to receive the written confirmation to process the custom clearance- protocol.
 - ✓ **Personnel Recruitment almost finalized:** at Woreda Level finalized; the UNV-RC for Amhara also finalized: restarted the recruitment process for the National Coordinator and UNV- RC for Tigray.
 - ✓ **Monitoring Field Visits to the Regions conducted:** Amhara (2) and Tigray (2),
 - ✓ **Technical LNWB meetings held:** monthly
 - ✓ **Workshop on Joint Programme's structure and M&E held:** for the new recruited personnel in Tigray Region (8-11 Dec).

- Regional and District Level : Amhara & Tigray

Output 1: Capacity Building

- Amhara:
 - Community Conversation Participants 124 (98,4% achieved): Female 64 (51%). In 41 Kebeles.
 - Workshop- Launch of the JP at District level conducted for 332 community members, officials, community leaders, teachers.
 - Regional Coordination meetings and M&E field visit and reported, November 2009
 - Programme Coordinators and Finance Officers at Woreda Level recruited, November 2009.
- Tigray:
 - 64 male and 77 female a total of 141 mentors were selected from the community and trained for 7 days on house to house mobilization, group facilitation, communication and rapport building, HIV/AIDS, gender issues and women's right; b) These trained mentors have mobilized 4900 target groups out of which about 1352 men, community leaders and boys, and 2830 women and adolescent girls a total of 4182 (85.3%)community target groups have been attending the bi-monthly discussions held in 140 sites regularly: and c) During their bi monthly discussion the target groups raised gender issues, HTPs, importance of education especially to girls and women. Tigray Region.
 - At the launching ceremony a total of 307 (F=104 & M = 203) participants were attended from zone and District. Tigray Region.
 - Regional coordination meetings M&E conducted and reported, August and December 2009.
 - Programme Coordinators and Finance Officers at Woreda Level recruited, in August 2009.
 - The Regional Steering Committee visited the 3 woredas 2 times and 2 Districts once for technical support.
- Subsequent training at Community Level underway (in both regions)

- Output 2: Life Skill and Literacy

- Provided training in life skills:
 - Amhara: provided to 3192 girls and boys by education officers. More than 1867 girls and women attended.
 - Tigray: Life skill and literacy training was planned to give for 5044 adolescent girls and women in the five target woredas and 4970 adolescent girls and women are attending the programme which is 98.5% achievement: and c) 140
- Trainers/teachers were selected from the community/in some zones volunteer regular primary education teachers are providing the training.
- Exercise books , chairs , tables and pens purchased to distribute to the targeted women

- Output 3: Reproductive Health

- Amhara:
 - 346 health extension workers and district experts, provided training on RH& HIV/AIDS
- Tigray
 - 4458 adolescent girls and women training have been provided on RH, HIV/AIDS, and gender. As a result, health centers are being frequently visited by Pregnant Mothers for monthly check ups and delivery and by adolescent girls and women for VCT service.
 - 137 health extension workers, from the five target woredas, have been trained on advocacy, sensitization, RH/MPS, HIV/AIDS, and gender; b) These trained health extension workers are giving trainings to adolescent girls and women aged 15-49 for a total of 4458 which is achieved 99.8%:
- The procurement of medicine delivered by the Bureau of health and the distribution, during September – December 2009.

- Output 4: Livelihood

- Amhara:
 - 1,105 potential women have been identified in 5 out of 6 target woredas (85% of the Year 1 target achieved).
 - 918 women have been mobilized and organized for saving and credit in 4 out of 6 target woredas.
 - ToT on IGA was conducted at both regional and district levels on IGA.
- Tigray:
 - 350 women have been mobilized and organized for saving and credit.
 - Regional ToT on livelihood (IGA and Saving and Credit) was conducted and 39 woreda experts and officers (14 female and 25 male) have been trained on saving and credit and different IGA packages.
 - 510 adolescent girls and women have been trained on IGA and Saving and Credit.
 - 130 women received credit for selected IGA.

In terms of any variance in achieved versus planned output, it is necessary to mention the delay in the implementation start up.

The Leave No Woman Behind JP was commenced in a timely manner following the fund transfer in February 2009. Inception workshops at national and regional level were conducted in April-March 2009, where the implementing partners and relevant stakeholders gained clear understanding of the objectives and implementation modality of the Joint Programme. Following the regional workshops, however, the JP encountered some delay because the regional counterparts required up to 2 months to develop the region specific Annual Work Plans. This was due to the limited manpower and capacity of the regional implementing partners who had to attend many other responsibilities-duties in the same period. However by June 2009, both regions (Amhara and Tigray) had finalized their Annual Work Plans and made the request of the first fund transfer to WFP and UNFPA. In addition, another factor that affected the starting process of the programme was the frequent power cuts prevalent in all parts of Ethiopia, the access to internet, landline telephone and fax was limited to 3 or 2 days per week, which also made the communication between the UN- organizations with the regional partners difficult. Nevertheless WFP and UNFPA in order to face this situation increased the phone-communication and visited the two Regions for various consultancies and monitoring work.

Once the regional partners started implementing the activities, a significant challenge was the continuous restructuring of government offices (Business Process Engineering or “BPR”) and subsequent staff transfer and lengthy training for all government staff. Due to this, our government partners were not always available, which significantly affects the timely implementation of planned activities. In order to address this issue and in synergy with the Output 1.2 (*Increased institutional capacity of MoWA, BoWA and the district Women Affairs offices*) personnel was recruited at district and regional level. This action improved the communication considerably, accelerated and enriched the reporting system, reinforcing the relationship between the UN-Agencies and the implementing partners.

In synthesis, the most significant challenges that the programme has faced during the reporting period is the delay of the AWP submission from the Regions: the delay of the fund transfers at district level and the delay in personnel recruitment, this last one caused by lack of synergy between one of the Region’s recruitment regulation and the UNFPA fund transfer policy. At the end of the year, however, this gap was solved.

V. Future Work Plan (if applicable)

The process for the design of the second year's Work Plan will be starting 7th of April 2010 according to the mechanism of the Ethiopia's Government and the UN Representation in the country. Different workshops and meetings will be held in order to reach the consensus at district, regional and federal level, in order to define the action plan (2010) and the corresponding budget allocation.

The annual review is under process and will be shared for discussion in the next National Steering Committee.

VI. Performance Indicators (optional)⁵

- Fill the table in this section to report on the indicators set at the output level as per the approved results framework in the programme document.

⁵ E.g. for the UNDG Iraq Trust Fund and the MDG-F.

VII. Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACRONYMS

AWP:	Annual Work Plan
BoARD:	Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development
BoE:	Bureau of Education
BoFED:	Bureau of Finance and Economic Development
BoH:	Bureau of Health
BoWA:	Bureau of Women's Affairs
CC:	Community Conversation
CSOs:	Civil Society Organizations
CP:	Country Program
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GoE:	Government of Ethiopia
IGA:	Income Generation Activities
JP:	Joint Program
LNWB:	Leave No Woman Behind
MDGs:	Millennium Development Goals
MDTF:	Multi Donor Trust Fund
MoARD:	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MoWA:	Ministry of Women Affairs
MoE:	Ministry of Education
MoFED:	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MoH:	Ministry of Health
MoYS:	Ministry of Youth and Sport
NAP-GE:	National Action Plan for Gender Equity
NFE:	Non-Formal Education
PASDEP:	Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty
PMC:	Programme Management Committee
SC:	Steering Committee
TC:	Technical Committee
UNDAF:	United Nation Development Assistance Framework
UNCT:	United Nation Country Team

