

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
Darfur Community Peace and Stability Fund (DCPSF)

Reporting Period: YEAR 2009

Technical Secretariat
Sudan Resident Coordinator Office
&
Administrative Agent
UNDP Sudan Country Office



Reporting Agency	UNDP/Resident Coordinator Support Office – UNDP
Country	Sudan
Title	Darfur Community Peace and Stability Fund
Project duration	2007-2011
Reporting period	Year 2009
Project budget	USD 22,215,090
Funds committed for reporting	USD 11,157,948
Donors	Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, UK/DFID
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1 Executive Summary

This is the second Annual Progress Report of the Darfur Community Peace and Stability Fund (DCPSF). UN programme activities and NGO access to the fund are coordinated by the UN Technical Secretariat (TS) of the DCPSF, which reports to the DCPSF Steering Committee (SC) that oversees the fund. The DCPSF is administered by UNDP, as the Administrative Agent (AA), on behalf of Participating UN Organisations that also serves as Management Agent (MA) vis-à-vis NGOs that benefit of direct SC Allocation Decisions.

This report, consolidated by the TS and AA, presents a narrative and financial overview on progress made in the operation of the fund and the implementation of projects, as well as challenges faced during the period of January to December 2009.

The DCPSF experienced significant change in 2009, including the relocation of the TS to Darfur. With a permanent presence now in Darfur the DCPSF developed stronger, more productive relationships with grantees (henceforth referred to as partners), and implemented a bespoke monitoring and evaluation strategy. Recognition of the DCPSF among stakeholders in Darfur has increased, and owing to a sound communications approach the objectives, activities, and accomplishments of the Fund have been broadly conveyed. For the majority of DCPSF partners, 2009 was their first full year of operations which was by and large highly productive and has resulted in some notable accomplishments. Even with the overall successes achieved this year, Darfur remains a challenging context in which to work, and the sections below highlight both the accomplishments of DCPSF partners and the constraints they face to project implementation.

In the Call for Proposals held in 2009, the DCPSF saw the addition of five new projects to the Fund portfolio. An *ad hoc* Call for Proposals process was open during the second half of the year, through which two additional grants were awarded. There are currently 14 projects in the DCPSF portfolio, with 12 project partners. Total funding allocated to these projects is approximately USD 11.1 Mil.

The total cumulative donor contribution to the DCPSF at the end of 2009 is of USD 22,008,445. Interest earned by the fund amount to USD 206,645 which have set the total available income for allocation decisions of the DCPSF Steering Committee to USD 22,215,091. Funding approvals amounts up to 31st December 2009 to USD 13,252,131, 60% of the total available resources. The Administrative Agents has transferred to UN Participating organizations USD 5,645,818, charged Direct Costs of Technical Secretariat for USD 1,874,088 and has withdrawn USD 210,637 for Administrative agent fee. UN Agencies have reported expenditure for a total amount of USD 4,713,000 which constitutes an high delivery rate of 83% for the DCPSF at the end of 2009.

2 DCPSF Structure

2.1 Purpose

There is a growing body of evidence to suggest that processes of dialogue and consultation assist war-torn communities to overcome their distrust of each other, mend relationships, and build bridges towards peaceful co-existence. Dialogues can be participatory and inclusive processes that foster understanding among participants, seek to identify new options, and develop shared visions. The DCPSF seeks to promote community level reconciliation through the

restoration of trust and confidence; accomplished through processes of dialogue and consultation, and the meaningful delivery of services and inputs.

The DCPSF differs from other funding initiatives in that it balances material investment in basic services or livelihoods with support for processes of dialogue and consultation. Projects funded by the DCPSF must be guided by a conflict sensitive approach; in essence an understanding of the issues that divide communities. The DCPSF is founded on a number of principles and criteria, which include inclusivity, adherence to the principles of 'Do No Harm', voluntary returns, and viability of the local security situation. Most importantly, the DCPSF aims to support processes and activities that engage all sectors of the community, particularly those that may have been under-represented in decisions regarding the delivery of existing support. In identifying communities and facilitating dispute resolution through confidence and trust building, the DCPSF endeavours to support processes and activities that amplify the voices of women's and youth groups, which have tended to be marginalised within communities. Equally, the DCPSF seeks to support processes and activities that broaden geographical scope; beyond urban centres and IDP camps, into rural areas that support pastoralist and nomad communities, Arab and non Arab groups, displaced and non displaced populations.

The main objectives for the DCPSF in 2009 included:

- Disbursement of funds through a Call for Proposals;
- Support to new and existing project partners as they implement their DCPSF projects;
- The promotion of the aims and scope of DCPSF through a communications strategy;
- The implementation of a bespoke M&E strategy;
- The profiling of community focused peacebuilding initiatives and activities;
- The implementation of the Small Grants Programme to engage national organisations.

2.2 Governance Structure

2.2.1 Steering Committee

The overall management of the DCPSF activities is led by a Steering Committee (SC), under the chairmanship of the Deputy UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator. Based in Khartoum, the SC includes the representatives from DCPSF donors, one representative of the NGO community, one representative from the UN agencies (this position rotates every six months), and a representative from the DDDC. The Joint Mediation Support Team (JMST) and ECHO participate as observer while the Technical Secretariat and the AA are *ex-officio* members. Depending on the agenda, invitation to the meetings is extended to other agencies/organisations/individuals for which the meeting may be of interest.

In accordance with the DCPSF Terms of Reference (ToR), the SC is responsible for:

- Providing strategic guidance and setting priorities for the DCPSF;
- Approving proposals for DCPSF funding; and
- Reviewing and approving regular consolidated progress and financial updates and reports of the DCPSF submitted by the TS and AA respectively.

To date, meetings of the SC have been held monthly in Khartoum. The meetings are an occasion for the TS and AA to update the SC members on the Fund activities and to receive feedback and advice from members. Decisions related to funding and operations are taken at these meetings, and they are also the forum in which policy discussions take place as they relate to the Fund – such as on recovery, security, returns, etc.

Steering Committee

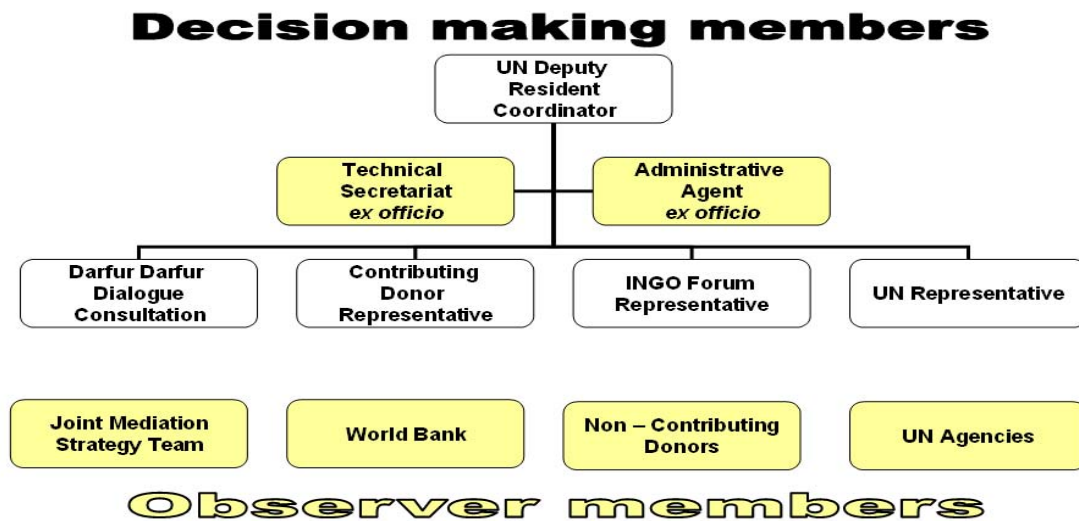


Figure 1: Steering Committee composition DCPSF

2.3 Operation Mechanism

In the context of growing efforts of the UN system towards enhanced coherence and efficiency at the country level, and in increasing joint UN activities - UNDP is often called upon to play the role of Administrative Agent (AA) for Multi Donor Trust Funds (MDTF) and Joint Programmes which use the pass-through fund management model established by the UN system, national authorities, and donors in the context of humanitarian, transition, reconstruction and development programmes.

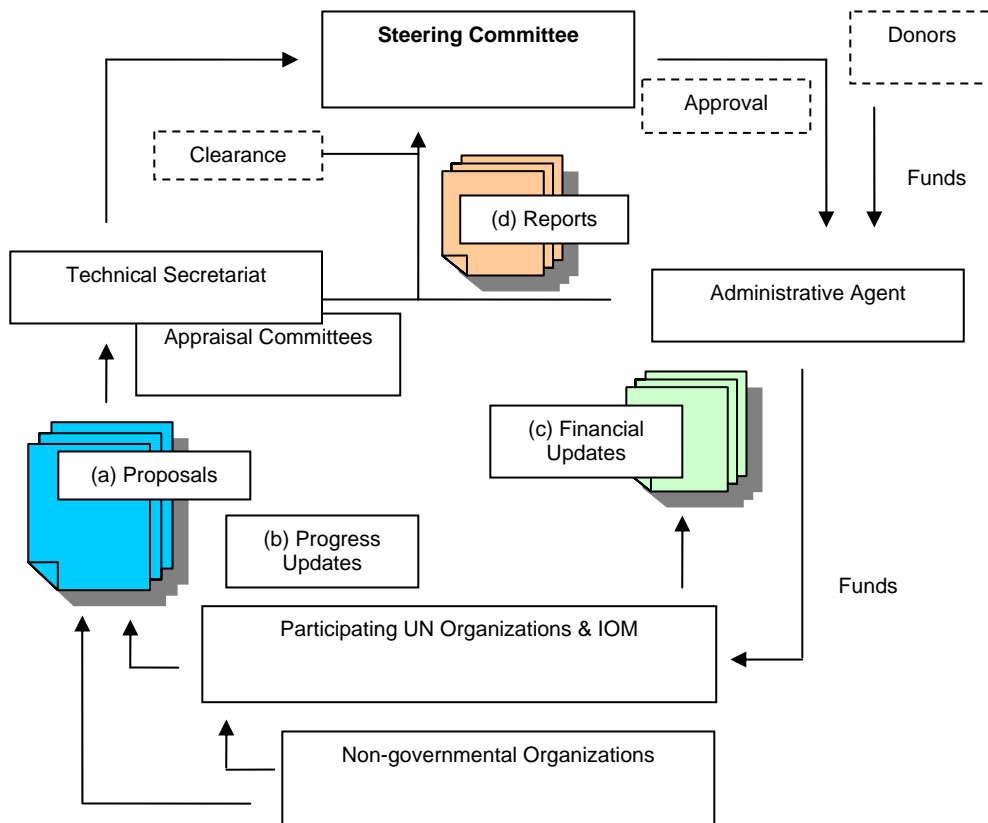
The increasing use of MDTFs is an application of the Aid Effectiveness Agenda, the UN Reform initiative of "Delivering as One" and the need to provide flexible, coordinated, and predictable funding to support the achievement of national and global priorities. In their governance structure and operations, MDTFs are consistent with several principles of the "Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness" and the "Accra Agenda for Action", including national ownership and alignment with national priorities; harmonization and coordination; effective and inclusive partnerships; and achieving development results and accounting for them.

MDTFs usually use the pass-through fund management modality. Under this arrangement, Participating UN Organisations appoint an AA through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

as their administrative interface with donors. The AA subsequently signs a Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) with donors, receives and administers donor funds, and transfers funds to Participating UN Organisations accordingly. Participating UN Organisations assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds received from the AA, and operate under their own individual financial rules and regulations.

For the DCPSF, UNDP was selected as the AA. The accountability for UNDP’s function as AA in MDTFs using pass-through arrangements has been delegated to the Executive Coordinator of the MDTF Office, reporting to the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau of Management, in accordance with the policy governing “UNDP’s Accountability when acting as Administrative Agent in MDTFs and/or UN Joint Programmes using the pass-through fund management modality”¹.

UNDP’s responsibility as the Management Agent for funds transferred to NGOs is governed by various DCSFP legal documents. These documents indicate that NGO partners involved in the DCPSF will have access to the Fund through a UN Agency performing additional oversight function as Participating UN Organization. The Steering Committee and its Chair, the Deputy Resident Coordinator for Darfur, have in 2009 requested UNDP country office to perform such management oversight role. Each allocation signed in favour of NGOs is notified for transfer to UNDP.



¹ <http://www.undp.org/mdtf/darfur/overview.shtml>

2.3.1 Technical Secretariat

The Technical Secretariat (TS) Resident Coordinator Office management project, operationally managed by UNDP, charged with facilitating the work of the DCPSF. The TS consists of four international and one national staff led by the Head of the TS, who reports to the Deputy RC/HC as Chairperson of the DCPSF Steering Committee. The Head is joined by a Proposals/M&E Officer, Peacebuilding Specialist, and Field Communications and Reporting Officer who are all based in Darfur. The Head of the TS is based in Darfur with travel to Khartoum, while the national Programme Analyst which performs operation support function is based in Khartoum.

The role of the TS is to enable the workings of the Fund; namely running Calls for Proposals, providing recommendations to the SC, implementing the M&E in coordination with UN agencies and Communications components, and providing quality assurance throughout the programme/project implementation processes of project partners.

The specific tasks of the TS include:

- Periodically reviewing the ToR of the DCPSF SC, and in consultation with the SC Chairperson, recommending changes or revisions for the consideration of the SC.
- Preparing and updating policy guidance notes to facilitate the allocation of DCPSF funding.
- Contributing as appropriate to preparing or updating any planning framework applicable to rehabilitation and development in Darfur.
- Providing guidance to potential DCPSF partners on the Call for Proposals procedures and DCPSF objectives.
- Receiving proposals from Participating UN Organisations, INGOs, and national organisations, and maintaining appropriate files, archives and database for all documentation.
- Reviewing with the Appraisals Committees, the technical and operational suitability of proposals prior to submission to the SC for approval.
- Ensuring that programmes and projects funded by the DCPSF are not funded under the CHF, other funds, or bilateral donors.
- Receiving and reviewing quarterly narrative progress updates from DCPSF implementing partners, and annual progress reports from Participating UN Organisations and NGOs relating to all programmes and projects in receipt of DCPSF funding.
- Conducting both desk and field based monitoring and evaluation of project partners.
- Implementing a DCPSF Communications Strategy.
- Providing consolidated quarterly updates and annual narrative progress reports to the SC.
- Facilitating the SC review and approval of consolidated financial reports submitted by the AA.
- Calling, organising and annotating meetings of the SC, in consultation with the SC Chairperson.
- Documenting, communicating and ensuring follow-up of the SC's decisions.
- Facilitating any DCPSF external audit or evaluation exercises undertaken from time to time.

- Undertaking any other activities requested by the SC Chairperson, relevant to the work of the DCPSF, the SC, and the SC Chairperson.

2.3.2 Appraisals Committees

As outlined in the Annual Progress Report for 2008, the Thematic Working Groups were collapsed in favour of establishing independent Appraisals Committees. These Committees are composed of experts from the fields of peacebuilding, conflict prevention and recovery. The Committees are convened at the end of the Call for Proposals process to assess the suitability of applications against a set of pre-determined eligibility criteria. The criteria are available to all applicants in the Guidance Note for the DCPSF Call for Proposals.²

2.3.3 Administrative Agent & Fund Management Unit

As mentioned above, the MDTF Office of UNDP serves as AA and is responsible for concluding SAA with donors and MOU with Participating UN Organisations. The office receives and manages contributions from donors, and then disburses these funds to the Participating UN Organisations in accordance with the decisions of the DCPSF SC through its Chairperson. The AA also prepares and submits financial reports and statements on the DCPSF account to the DCPSF SC and to each donor that has contributed to the DCPSF.

The UNDP Sudan Country Office Director (CD) performs some of the AA functions, under delegated authority from the Executive Coordinator of the UNDP MDTF office. This includes making payments to Participating UN Organisations for programmes approved by the DCPSF Steering Committee, after ensuring that all the relevant programme documentation is submitted and compliant with the DCPSF MOU and TOR.

In the Sudan Country Office, the Fund Management Unit and its Head, under the overall guidance of the Deputy Country Director for Operations and Country Director, are offering the Administrative Agent service at Steering Committee and for the country based UN Participating Organization and Donors.

3 Financial Resources

By 31 December 2009, donor contribution to the DCPSF amounted to just over USD 22 million, funds released to DCPSF were recorded in the Administrative Agent DCPSF account for a total amount of USD 22,215,090 including fund interests cumulative for 2008 and 2009 of USD 206,645, as shown in the AA 2009 Source and Use of Funds Statement in Table 1 below. Table 2 below shows donors deposits as of 31 December 2009:

² [Http://www.sd.undp.org/DCPSF.htm](http://www.sd.undp.org/DCPSF.htm)

	Previous Period as of 31 Dec 2008 (US\$)	Current Period Jan - Dec 2009 (US\$)	Total (US\$)
Source of Funds			
Gross Donor Contributions	9,623,892	12,384,553	22,008,445
Fund Earned Interest Income	64,612	142,033	206,645
Agency Earned Interest Income	-	-	-
Total - Source of Funds	<u>9,688,504</u>	<u>12,526,586</u>	<u>22,215,091</u>
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Implementing Agencies from Donor Contributions	2,937,339	2,708,479	5,645,818
Transfers to Implementing Agencies from Interest	-	-	-
Refund of Unutilized Balances on Closed Projects by Implementing Agencies	-	-	-
Sub-total Transfers to Implementing Agencies	<u>2,937,339</u>	<u>2,708,479</u>	<u>5,645,818</u>
Administrative Agent Fees ^A	47,650	162,987	210,637
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat ... etc.)	457,178	1,416,910	1,874,088
Bank Charges	-	-	-
Other Expenditures from Earned Interest	-	-	-
Total - Use of Funds	<u>3,442,168</u>	<u>4,288,375</u>	<u>7,730,543</u>
Balance of Funds Available	<u>6,246,337</u>	<u>8,238,211</u>	<u>14,484,548</u>

^A Balance of 2009 AA fee in the amount of \$9,447.45 recorded via GLJE 0003372831 dated 26/05/2010

Table 1: Source and Use of Funds Statement 2009 – Administrative Agent

US\$ 000	Donor Name	2007	2008	2009	Grand Total
	DEPARTMENT FOR INT'L DEVELOPMENT (DFID)	0	3,753	3,102	6,855
	SWEDISH INT'L DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION	0	0	1,380	1,380
	DENMARK, Government of	0	0	872	872
	NORWAY, Government of	0	858	-27	831
	ITALY, Government of	0	0	2,557	2,557
	NETHERLANDS, Government of	0	4,500	4,500	9,000
	GERMANY, Government of	513	0	0	513
	Grand Total	513	9,111	12,385	22,008

Table 2: Total Donor Deposits, by year and cumulative, as of 31 December 2009 – Administrative Agent

The Income received for 2007, 2008 and 2009 from several Donors participating to the UN DCPSF is provided below.

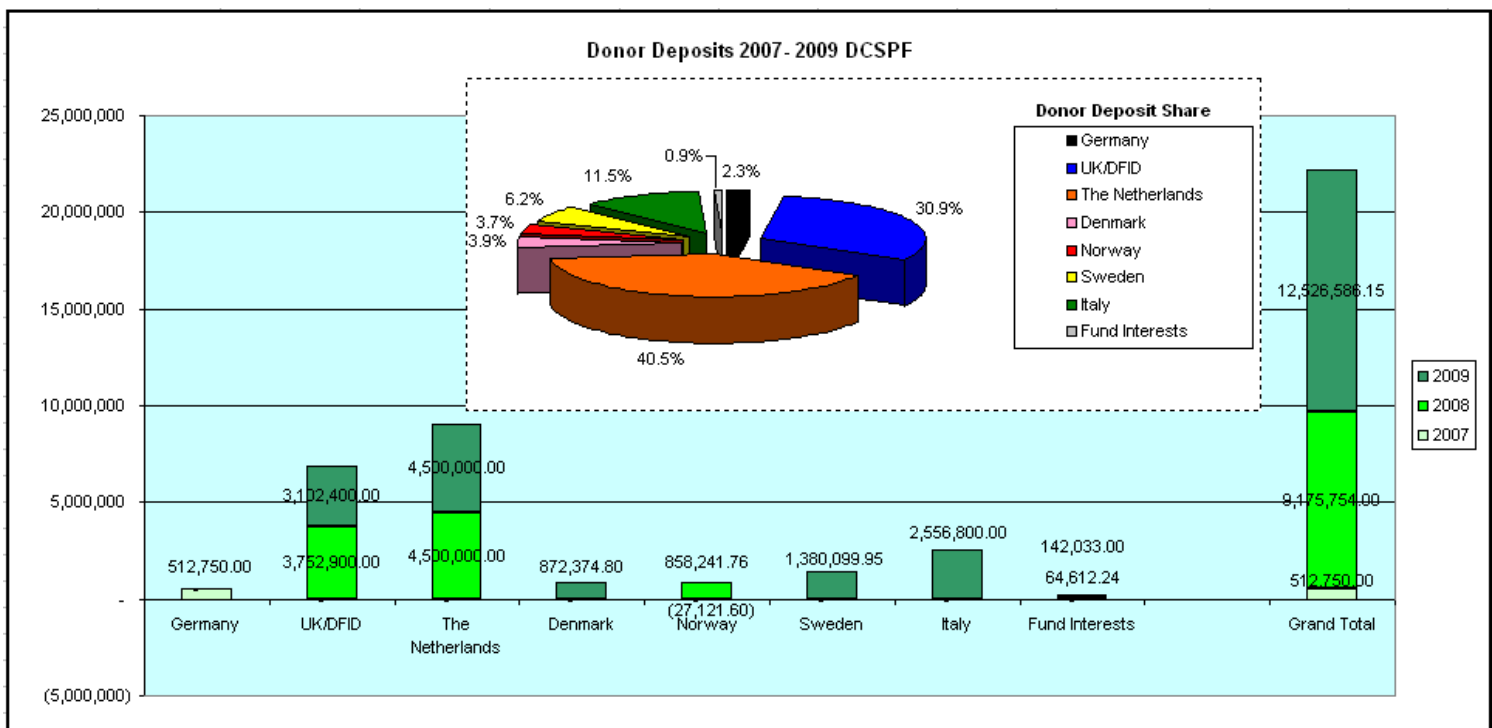


Figure 3: Administrative Agent – Donor Deposits per year and Donor share distribution of income

Of the 22 Mil USD received from Donors some 13.2 Mil USD have been allocated by the SC towards 14 projects that support the goal and objectives of the DCPSF. These have included Management Costs of the fund for the Administrative Agent fee (1% of total income received), Direct Costs of Technical Secretariat support to the Steering Committee (14% of Programme Funds up to 31st December 2009), as approved by the DCPSF Steering Committee, and UN Participating Organizations programmes as well as NGOs implemented programmes supported through UNDP acting as Management Agent.

	Project no.	Prior Years	2009	Grant Total
Allocations to TS: Direct Costs	69369	457,178	1,416,920	1,874,098
Administrative Agent Fee (1%)	N/A	96,239	123,846	220,084
Allocations to Participating UH Organization	N/A	7,684,028	3,473,921	11,157,948
NGO/UNDP		5,913,657	3,436,421	9,350,072
CARE INTERNATIONAL	61990	856,000	-	856,000
SUDO	62696	321,000	-	321,000
WARCHILD CANADA	63737	959,108	-	959,108
INTERSOS	63740	962,919	-	962,919
FAR	63741	888,854	-	888,854
ZOA REFUGEE CARE	63742	963,000	-	963,000
WORLD VISION NORTH.SUD.	63743	962,770	-	962,770
JUSTICE FOR AFRICA	71559	-	847,440	847,440
ZOA REFUGEE CARE	72499	-	1,070,000	1,070,000
AZZA WOMEN	72524	-	724,283	724,283
NORWAY CHURCH AID	72843	-	794,698	794,698
UNDP		737,857	37,500	775,357
UNDP Rule of Law	54580	737,857	-	737,857
UNDP Conflict Prevention & Recovery Unit	70864	-	37,500	37,500
UNICEF	N/A	1,032,519	-	1,032,519
Grand Total		8,237,445	5,014,686	13,252,131

Note 1: All UN Participating Allocations are inclusive of the 7% Indirect Cost.

Table 3: Overview of Allocations and Budgetary Commitments DCSFP 2007-2009

At 31st December 2009, 84% of the funds committed by the DCPSF Steering Committee have been committed for NGOs projects supported through UNDP acting as Management Agent. The rest of the funding went to project activities implemented directly by UNICEF (9%) and UNDP (7%).

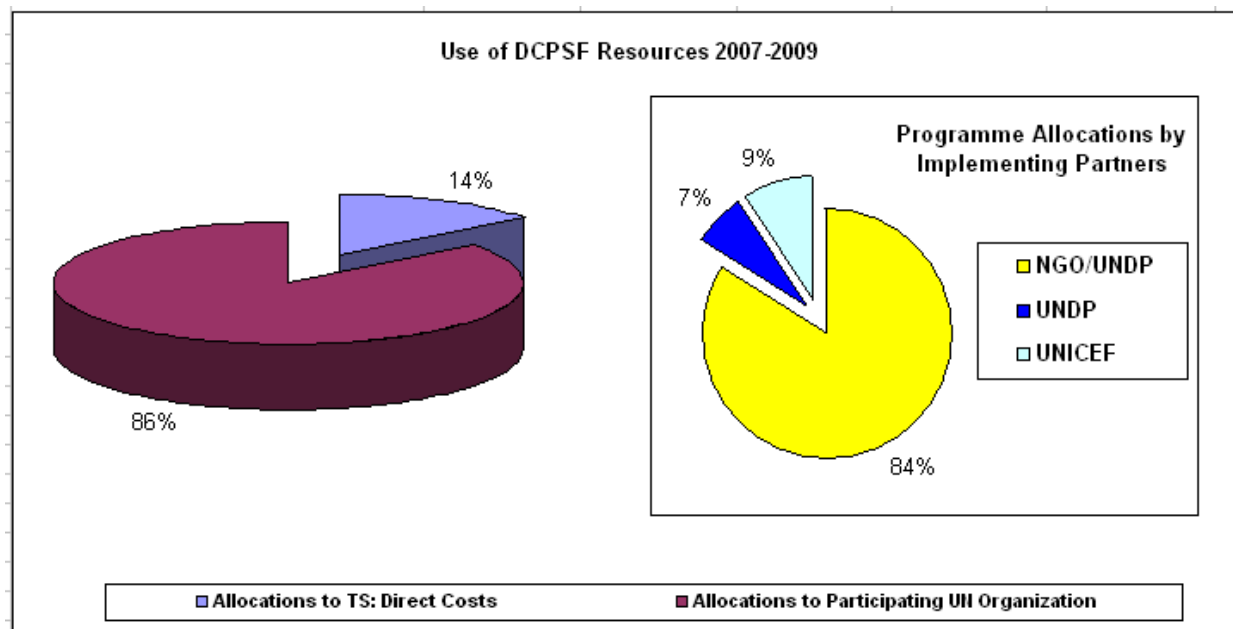


Figure 4: Use of DCSPF Resources amongst UN Participating organizations/ NGOs and UN Technical Secretariat

3.1 Progress on Programme Component

In 2009, the DCPSF managed a Call for Proposals which expanded its portfolio of partners. In addition *ad hoc* proposals were accepted during the second half of the year, through which two existing partner organisations were granted funds for new projects. The DCPSF sought to engage national organisations in the Call for Proposals process and two national NGOs succeeded in securing funding.

With its current portfolio of partners and USD 11.1 million worth of projects up and running, the DCPSF saw substantial progress in many areas towards achieving its objectives. At the end of 2009 most partners had finished a full year of operations, and were beginning to see the tangible outcomes of their efforts. Primarily through the work of its project partners, the DCPSF can note progress towards its goal of working across diverse communities, increasing trust and confidence, and contributing towards increasing stability in communities in Darfur. The progress made by individual DCPSF partners is highlighted in section 4.5.

3.2 Methodology /Approach

3.2.1 Call for Proposals

The 2009 Call for Proposals was advertised in the month of June, with submissions due in early July. The process employed followed that of the previous call in 2008; in preparation for the Call, the TS revised the Guidance Note and Application Forms which included all of the relevant information pertaining to the objectives, eligibility, and application process. The Guidance Note and Application Form were posted on the website; advertisements were placed in Khartoum newspapers; an electronic version of the Call was circulated widely through networks in Khartoum and Darfur; and information sessions were held for potential applicants in Khartoum and the three states of Darfur.

In advertising the Call for Proposals and the information sessions, the TS utilised existing networks and mailing lists; membership of which encompasses the audience that DCPSF is looking to reach – namely Participating UN Agencies, INGOs, and NNGOs and other types of registered national organisations. Useful networks that were utilised included OCHA distribution lists in all 3 states, the INGO Forum and state committees, NNGO committees (where in existence), UNAMID Civil Affairs and the Darfur Darfur Dialogue and Consultation. Through this broad circulation, the information regarding the Call for Proposals succeeded in reaching its audience of potential partners. The addition of a Communications and Reporting Officer in the second quarter of 2009 strengthened the DCPSF's interaction with various coordination forums and streamlined the way that the Fund disseminates information.

The Call for Proposals received 17 applications of which 11 were from national organisations. After appraisals process, three projects were put forward for approval to the SC 2009, two of which were from national organisations. The projects from UNICEF and FAO were conditionally approved, pending adjustments recommended by the Appraisals Committee, which were eventually met towards the end of 2009.

Name of Organization	Project Title, Location	Budget* USD
Azza Women Association (national)	Conflict Management and Mitigation in South Darfur State	724,283

NGO)		
NORWAY CHURCH AID (national NGO)	Promotion of reconciliation and peace-building among the communities of Sheria localities in South Darfur	794,698
ZOA Refugee Care	Community peace promotion in Gereida and Buram locality, South Darfur	1,070,000
pipeline for 2010 following the Call finalized in 2009		
War Child Canada (pipeline 2009 for 2010)	<i>Shared Prosperity for Peace in Krenek</i>	1,046,229
INTERSOS (pipeline 2009 for 2010)	<i>Migration and Cultivation Coexistence: Mapping, Maintenance and Sustainability of Nomadic Migration Routes</i>	1,070,000
FAO (pipeline 2009 for 2010)	Support to strengthening native leadership structures and participatory peace building; conflict resolution and recovery planning in [North] Darfur	1,000,000
UNICEF (pipeline 2009 for 2010)	Peace Building in 20 Communities of West Darfur West Darfur	999,368

NB: Includes Indirect Costs 7% applied by UN participating Organization.

Table 4: New DCPSF projects and partners following the 2009 Call for Proposal

In the original 2009 Workplan, it was envisioned that a second Call for Proposals would be held in the third quarter. Although this would have been possible in terms of the capacity of the TS and AA/MA, there were numerous factors that led to a modification in the workplan so that only one formal Call would take place. Firstly, only a limited number of submissions were made to the Fund. This could be attributed to the expulsion of INGOs in March, which reduced the number of potential eligible applicants. There were a high number of national organisations which applied, but who possessed neither the experience nor capacity to manage projects of the size required by the DCPSF – a fact unlikely to change in the near future. Secondly, it was decided that the DCPSF would accept and consider *ad hoc* submissions; guidelines were created to accommodate this window and advertised on the website and through various networks. Finally, recognising that peacebuilding is a time-consuming and human resource heavy endeavour, it was decided that in the interest of ensuring that DCPSF reach its objectives more time and effort should be dedicated to supporting existing partners and pursuing a monitoring and evaluation process that relied heavily on interaction with project partners.

In the third quarter two *ad hoc* proposals were submitted to the DCPSF. Following standard procedure, the TS convened an Appraisal Committee; the two proposals met the eligibility criteria and were agreed by the SC. Funding was allocated to the two organisations in October 2009.

The DCPSF will hold its final Call for Proposals in the second quarter of 2010, which aims to allocate the remaining funds dedicated under its current mandate.

3.2.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

The achievement of a fully-staffed Technical Secretariat in July 2009 and the relocation of the DCPSF to Darfur allowed for far greater interaction with project partners and for a robust monitoring and evaluation (M&E) strategy to be put into place. The M&E framework utilised by the DCPSF works towards the following:

- To gain an improved understanding of the DCPSF funded projects and the conflict context in which it is being implemented and their interaction processes
- To assess operational progress towards achieving outputs

- To factor in lessons learned from ongoing initiatives into future programming decisions
- To increase the positive impacts of DCPSF funding on conflict situations in Darfur

Project monitoring is undertaken in the following ways:

- Quarterly narrative updates and financial reports are submitted to the TS and MA (for NGOs) accordingly;
- The MA provides feedback to NGO partners on the financial reports;
- A desk review of the narrative updates is undertaken by the M&E Officer;
- Feedback letters on the reports are sent to project partners by the M&E Officer;
- Field visits are carried out by the TS;
- Quarterly partner meetings are held with all DCPSF partners.

The relocation of the Fund to Darfur has had a positive impact on DCPSF programming. The proximity to DCPSF project partners has permitted a greater understanding of both the projects and the context in which they are being implemented. The TS has also developed good relationships with partners on the ground, which has led to open communication and sharing of expertise. Any potential problems or hindrances to project implementation are caught early, and the M&E Officer is able to work with project partners towards finding solutions. In a context as fluid as Darfur, having direct contact with project partners has been invaluable in terms of ensuring that DCPSF projects continue to progress towards their objectives.

In addition to the desk reviews and general close contact maintained with project partners, field visits are periodically undertaken. Field monitoring missions capture first-hand observation of the project environment and setting, and allow assessment of the extent to which the objectives and activities respond to the local peacebuilding needs as outlined in the project. In 2009 site visits were made to World Vision and ZOA in South Darfur, War Child Canada, FAR and Intersos in West Darfur.

3.2.3 Communications Strategy

In the second quarter of 2009, a Field Communications and Reporting Officer joined the DCPSF with the aim of implementing a Communications Strategy that would increase recognition and understanding of the DCPSF with potential partners and other stakeholders across Darfur. Specific objectives of the Communications Strategy 2009 included:

- Creation of a DCPSF pamphlet in English and Arabic;
- Publication of a quarterly DCPSF newsletter;
- Regular attendance at the various coordination forums in Darfur including the Area Humanitarian Country Team Meetings, Returns and Reintegration Working Group, and the newly established Early Recovery Network;
- SC visit to project partner in West Darfur;
- Fostering relationships with various stakeholders (UNAMID Civil Affairs, DDDC, HRDLS, OCHA, INGO state committees, etc.);
- Dissemination of Call for Proposals information and materials;
- Availability of briefing notes, narrative reports, power point presentations, etc. for various audiences and/or at the request of the SC; and
- Updating DCPSF website.

In the annual report for 2008 it was noted that certain elements within civil society and international community had expressed concerns about the DCPSF that by its very existence and its name, it signalled a calmer, more benign environment that was conducive to a resettlement/returns movement and thereby indirectly legitimising government intentions. Although the small number of applications received during the formal Call for Proposals was primarily due to the three reasons mentioned in the section above, the TS wanted to ensure that interest in the Fund continued to grow. Although these particular concerns seemed to have abated in 2009, the Communications Strategy ensured that INGOs and national organisations were shown a realistic picture of what the DCPSF sought to accomplish and the type of projects being undertaken by partners. Due to regular communication with the INGO and CBO/CSO community in Darfur, the perception of the DCPSF has shifted and most organisations who would be suitable partners have expressed an interest in the Fund in some way. With this shift, and with INGOs slowly returning to Darfur, it is expected that the final Call for Proposals in 2010 will have a greatly increased number of qualified applicants.

3.2.4 Peacebuilding Specialist

The position of Peacebuilding Specialist was incorporated into the DCPSF in 2009 to strengthen the technical capacity of the Fund, to provide guidance and support to project partners when required, to gauge the scope of peacebuilding work being undertaken in Darfur and to develop, alongside actors who are engaged in this work, a common understanding of peacebuilding. The main tasks undertaken by the Peacebuilding Specialist in 2009 were:

- Completed an assessment of the peacebuilding training manuals employed by DCPSF partners and provided feedback thereon;
- Undertook field visits upon request of DCPSF partners to provide expert support;
- Conducted peacebuilding training components of quarterly DCPSF partner meetings;
- Surveyed DCPSF partners to measure the gaps they faced in term of capacities in peacebuilding, training, and other skills related to effective project implementation;
- Coordinated a series of peacebuilding training sessions across Darfur and in Khartoum based on the gaps identified by DCPSF partners. The training is for both partners and other stakeholders, including UNAMID Civil Affairs, DDDC, Darfur Peace Centres, local authorities and ministry employees, etc. (Trainings took place in March of 2010);
- Liaised with the above mentioned stakeholders on developments in peacebuilding across Darfur.

3.3 Small Grants Scheme

It was recognised early on that the applications process was likely to favour international organisations that had more experience in drafting proposals in English, and preparing budgets, workplans and log frames. This was proven to be true in 2008, since none of the eight national NGOs that applied succeeded in passing the eligibility and evaluation criteria checklist. Towards the end of 2008, the DCPSF suggested a Small Grants Scheme as a means to directly engage national NGOs/CBOs. This was endorsed by the Steering Committee, and Terms of Reference (TOR) were drawn up for a Small Grants Programme Manager. The purpose of the Small Grants Programme would be threefold; to strengthen capability in project cycle management and delivery capacity of selected national organisations; to provide them with small grants from USD

5,000 to 50,000 (from a total of USD 500,000) towards projects aligned with DCPSF objectives; and to promote a common understanding of peacebuilding.

The position of Small Grants Programme Manager (SGPM) was advertised as a Call for Proposals using the same approach as the Call for Proposals; by advertising in newspapers and through various networks and fora. Two applications were submitted, and after passing through an Appraisal Committee, the SC awarded the Small Grants contract to Justice Africa.

Justice Africa was tasked with identifying a fixed number of suitable national NGOs/CBOs to take part in their programming (approximately 15 per Darfur state). The selection of organisations took place in August/September, followed by a week-long training session on management and capacity building (including proposal writing) in October. Organisations who participated in the training were then invited to submit proposals for grants that Justice Africa would award on behalf of the DCPSF. This process is currently underway in 2010, with 16 organisations having made it through the eligibility criteria determined by the Small Grants Programme Manager.

3.4 Evidence & Capacity Mapping Phase

Towards the end of 2008, the SC discussed the establishment of an Evidence & Capacity Mapping Phase (E&CMP) to commission research that would lead to a deeper understanding of the issues that drive conflict in Darfur and the appropriate means by which these issues could be addressed. The E&CMP was envisioned as an envelope of funds within the DCPSF that could be used to commission pieces of work which would help the SC take increasingly informed decisions on the types of projects it should fund. In early 2009 the SC agreed to a budget of USD 300,000 for the E&CMP.

Under the E&CMP in 2009, funding towards two initiatives was committed; a UNDP initiated mapping exercise on Darfur Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and a piece of research on the role of traditional leadership in Darfur. The study entitled “Mapping and Capacity Assessment of CSOs in Darfur” was part of the UNDP livelihoods project and sought to map the profiles and experiences of CSOs involved in livelihood issues in Darfur region, to assess the capacities of these structures and to recommend areas of interventions for capacity development of CSOs in Darfur. Obtaining a greater understanding of the capacity of national organisations would benefit the DCPSF and its partner organisations as both have as objectives increasing partnerships with national organisations and strengthening their capacity. The assessment would be an ideal opportunity to survey the peacebuilding work being undertaken at a national level. The DCPSF entered into an agreement with UNDP, whereby it would fund 25% (USD 37,500) of the study if survey questions would be included on reconciliation and conflict resolution mechanisms.

The assessment found that only a limited number of CSOs were engaged in peacebuilding interventions and concluded that this was due to the following; the humanitarian nature of the international presence in Darfur which provides limited support to peace building interventions; the limited access of CSOs to building skills in conflict analysis, mobilization, advocacy, negotiation and communications; and the highly politicized nature of the Darfur context and the conspicuous ethnic/tribal polarization that makes most of CSOs refrain from focusing on this area; and the inappropriate peace Lack of appropriate and conducive political spaces and platforms for public debate and social dialogue.

The second piece of work that was commissioned by the DCPSF SC was a Research Report on the Role of Community Leadership across Darfur aimed at deepening an understanding of the role played by community leaders in moderating and resolving disputes between diverse communities. Specifically, the research will:

- a. Review, map and interpret the roles played by various forms of community leadership particularly those relating to dispute resolution between diverse communities
- b. Provide an analysis of the relevance and utility of indigenous leadership structures
- c. Consider the principle challenges to engaging representative community leaders in existing and planned peace/mediation efforts
- d. Submit an overview of the historical role played by community leaders

An Expression of Interest³ was advertised for the research, which was awarded to Christian Aid and the Rift Valley Institute. The research is scheduled to commence in the second quarter of 2010, after the elections period in Sudan subsides.

3.5 Activities and Achievements of DCPSF Funded Programmes/Projects

As noted in Section 2.4.1 above, the Call for Proposals 2009 concluded in the approval of five new projects. Of these, Azza Women's Organisation began their projects in the fourth quarter, while Sudan Council of Churches and ZOA were scheduled to begin their projects in 2010. The two projects approved under the Ad Hoc proposals process were due to begin operations in 2010.

For partners who received grants in 2008, the close of 2009 saw the close of a full year of operations for them, and for many, substantial progress made against their workplans.

This section provides an overview of the activities and accomplishments of DCPSF partners in 2009. DCPSF's portfolio of projects and partners is diverse – there is no prescription for peacebuilding and the DCPSF has enabled a variety of peacebuilding approaches to be implemented. Partners have designed their projects to use what they deem the most appropriate interventions for the communities. This has led to a diversity of approaches amongst project partners, for example while some partners are working with existing reconciliation mechanisms others have formed new committees. In some cases communities were already beginning to rebuild their relationships, while in other communities a significant amount of consultation was required before groups would come together. Although DCPSF projects employ different approaches and include varying components, the underlying means by which partners aim to achieve their objectives are the same; through the development of inclusive and representative mechanisms, through processes of dialogue and consultation, by adhering to "Do No Harm" principles, and by providing material inputs that contribute directly to increasing stability.

Working in Darfur is not without its challenges, and while the section below highlights the accomplishments of DCPSF partners, the following section will look at the constraints that plague organisations who are attempting to work in this ever-changing, complex environment.

³ The document can be found at <http://www.sd.undp.org/DCPSF/htm>

US\$ 000	Prior Years				2009		Cumulative as of 31 Dec 2009	
Participating UN Organization	Funds Transferred Amount	Refunds on Unspent Amount	Funding Amount	No. of Projects	Funds Transferred Amount	Refunds on Unspent Amount	Funding Amount	Total No. of Projects
NGO/UNDP	1,905	0	1,905	8	2,426	0	4,331	11
UNDP	0	0	0	2	283	0	283	2
UNICEF	1,033	0	1,033	1	0	0	1,033	1
Total	2,937	0	2,937	11	2,708	0	5,646	14

Table 5: Transfer of Funds by PUNOs, for the reporting period and cumulative, as of 31 December 2009

US\$ 000	Cumulative as of 31 December 2009					Expenditure		
Participating UN Organization	Budget	Funds Transferred	Refund Unspent Balances	Funded Amount	No. of Projects	2008	2009	Grand Total
NGO/UNDP	5,574	4,331	0	4,331	11	1,218	512	1,730
UNDP	775	283	0	283	2	0	1,951	1,951
UNICEF	1,033	1,033	0	1,033	1	774	257	1,031
Total	7,381	5,646	0	5,646	14	1,992	2,721	4,713

NB: Due to the use of incorrect agency's codes, UNDP's expenditures as Managing Agent (i.e. expenditure reports for NGOs projects) have been incorrectly reported against UNDP as Participating UN Organizations (for the Rule of Law programme/CPR Programme) and the other way around. Since the UNDP Administrative Agent's books are closed, this inaccuracy will be adjusted in the 2010 Consolidated Financial Report to be submitted by 31 May 2011

Table 6: Expenditure reported by Participating organizations, by year cumulative as of 31st December 2009

Below is a brief overview of DCPSF funded projects and accomplishments in 2009⁴:

NGO/UNDP - World Vision, "Decreasing Conflict among Communities in the Northern Area of South Darfur State"

Jan 09 -Dec 10, USD 962,770

Accomplishments to date:

- All 10 communities targeted for the project have been trained and are engaged in the project – and all Community Peacebuilding Committees (CPC) to have been formed. All 10 CPCs have undergone the Local Capacities for Peace (LCP) framework exercise which includes training in conflict mapping, conflict assessment, conflict resolution and instructions on how to carry out and report on "reflection meetings."
- Community Peacebuilding Committees have been undertaking the following activities; holding regular meetings to discuss and resolve conflicts, supporting activities that promote interaction between different groups, and reinvigorating the tradition of Hakamas (women singing to encourage men – previously during times of war, but now they are singing for peace)
- Income Generating Activities (IGA) groups (27 in total) have been formed and are composed of 225 women and youth.
- Literary education is being delivered to 900 women.

⁴ See Annex I

- Sports teams/clubs in target communities have been formed (18 clubs total, 6 were already in existence) and will receive training in peacebuilding and equipment. Five teams have thus far received the equipment and 2 intra-community events have been organised.
- Three boreholes were dug in the target areas.
- Successful Peace Conference arranged by the Manawashi Peace Committee, supported by World Vision.

NGO/UNDP - War Child Canada, “Youth as Leaders for Peace and Development” (West Darfur)

Jan 09 –Dec 10, USD 959,108

Accomplishments to date:

- The Conflict Management Module of the Lifeskills Curriculum was completed and is being piloted.
- Continued to increase the diversity and democratic nature of youth committee membership and leadership.
- Youth peace projects implemented by youth include; community newspapers, tree planting, community cleanup and sports/recreation activities.
- Support provided to Youth Committees to mitigate conflicts and be more active in community forums.
- Work with youth committees to enable them to design and run activities without support from WCC. Examples include a project to connect water services to the youth centre, paid for by neighbours who also use the connection – this was an initiative undertaken by the youth alone
- Support to youth committees to prepare proposals to secure funding for their projects, 10 youth projects were awarded small grants and implemented in the fourth quarter.

NGO/UNDP - ZOA, “Harmony and Cohesion in South Darfur Areas”

Jan 09 -Dec 10, USD 963,000

Accomplishments to date:

- Continued support to the Natural Resource Management Platforms (see case study below) and service committees, through trainings and material inputs.
- Facilitated the opening nomads’ corridors through Natural Resource Management platforms with the aim to reduce tension and conflict between agricultural and nomads.
- The first 5000 tree seedlings were distributed to schools in returnee villages and El-Neem IDP camp (Ed Dein area).
- Various trainings conducted to target audiences (service committees, nomadic groups, farming groups) on; peacebuilding and conflict mediation skills, agriculture extension and production, animal health, sustainable grazing, supervision and maintenance of water points, etc.

NGO/UNDP - INTERSOS, “Conflict Mitigation and Prevention through increased dialogue between communities of south Western Darfur, and improved availability of resources”

Jan 09-Jun 10, USD 962,919

Accomplishments to date:

- Water experts and reconciliation teams continued assessments aimed at identifying suitable cattle trough locations.
- Five Reconciliation Committees in each Administrative Unit were selected for infrastructural support (20 in total). This initiative will be undertaken on a merit basis, and was agreed to with the support of the TS after Intersos was approached by Committees asking for items

such as rakubas, a traditional shelter where meetings are held, and which will be known as a peacebuilding space, and also be used by the Women's Committees, and other community groups

- The construction of traditional wells (in 7 locations) is complete.
- Hygiene promotion activities are ongoing
- Fifteen Women's Committees were created and workshops held on reconciliation, conflict mitigation, and crop destruction awareness.
- Workshops for the Reconciliation Committees were carried out covering topics such as; the importance of reconciliation, the roles and responsibilities of the Committees, the importance of record keeping, and the initiation of crop destruction awareness campaigns.
- Distribution of seedlings completed.
- Awareness raising dialogue held with communities on environmental issues such as deforestation. Youth were involved in the discussions and trainings, as they are often responsible for cutting down trees on private land. The discussions also addressed deforestation for firewood and construction materials. Intersos and its expert teams devised a plan for the most equitable and effective distribution of seedlings grown in their nurseries.

NGO/UNDP - FAR, "Peacebuilding between Agriculturalists and Nomads in Arara and Kongo-Haraza villages" (West Darfur)

Feb 09 -Oct 10, USD 888,854

Accomplishments to date:

- The Community Peace Centres in both target villages are completed.
- Demonstration gardens were created.
- IDP and Host animal owners are bringing animals in for treatments, as a step towards encouraging them to have joint herds.
- Reconciliation and conflict resolution trainings were attended by community leaders and members of the wider community – with participation by members of different groups and leading to increased positive interactions.
- Forty youth from the two communities are attending vocational training in El Geneina, where they live and work with youth from different groups. FAR facilitates discussions on peacebuilding weekly with the youth.
- Training for teachers from the nomadic community has begun.
- Introduction of a monitoring system for conflict cases involving criminal activities (crop destruction, animal theft) that demonstrated that trust in the local court is increasing (cases used to be brought to courts further away) especially by nomadic communities (the court is under the jurisdiction of the Fursha, a representative of the farming groups, but also the highest leader in the area)
- Farm Protection Committees were made more inclusive and with representatives from all groups, are now viewed as a legitimate mechanism for the resolution of animal/farm grazing incidences.
- Income-generating activity training was conducted for 73 people across the 4 communities. This was also an opportunity for interaction across groups where this was previously not happening.
- One community CBO was established and began activities in Arara village.

UNICEF, "Child Friendly Community Initiative (CFCI)" (North Darfur)

Jun 08 -Dec 09, USD 1,032,519

Accomplishments (project finished in 2009):

- Established of Community Development Committees with representatives from farming and nomadic groups, responsible for taking joined decisions around service delivery, co-habitation, conflict resolution;
- Peacebuilding training and management trainings delivered to the leaders of the Committees and Peacebuilding Sub-Committees;
- Inter-community exchanges were arranged and helped to improve relationships, local markets expanded;
- Peacebuilding Sub-Committees facilitated agreements between farmers and nomads over shared water resources and crop destruction;
- Provision of drinking water facilities; household and community sanitation and refuse disposal facilities; hygiene education; operation and maintenance of water facilities;
- Renovation/construction and equipping of basic education facilities; support for teaching and learning materials; teacher training; school health and sanitation services; school feeding/school gardening;
- Renovation/construction and equipping of health facilities;
- Establishment of Community Development Centres;
- Peacebuilding messages were delivered over the radio and listened to by Community Radio Listening Groups;
- Community capacity development and empowerment, community mobilization and awareness raising activities on various aspects including ways of community living, inter-communal harmony, cohesion between settlers and IDPs/others, peace-building, conflict resolution and governance.

UNDP, “Promoting Peace and Human Rights in all three states of Darfur”

Jan 09 -Jun 10, USD 737,857

- Conducted trainings in human rights, rule of law and peacebuilding to diverse groups of stakeholders including local authorities, police, IDP and host communities, nomadic groups, military, national security and legal professionals;
- Developed the capacity of a pool of Darfurian trainers in human rights, rule of law and legal aid;
- Provided support to the African Centre for Human Rights (AHCR), the main project partner of UNDP in this project. Worked to strengthen the capacity of AHCR staff.

UN Participating organizations has also reported their expenditure by budget category as below:

US\$ 000	Expenditure			
	Category	2008	2009	Total Expenditure
Supplies, com, equip	33	4	37	0.81
Personnel	197	23	220	4.74
Training of counter	0	27	27	0.58
Contracts	474	220	695	14.97
Other direct costs	1,234	2,427	3,661	78.90
Programme Costs Total	1,938	2,701	4,640	100
Indirect costs	54	19	73	1.57
Indirect Support Costs Total	54	19	73	1.57
Total Expenditure	1,992	2,721	4,713	

Note: Other direct costs is capturing the funds transferred by UNDP Management Agent to NGOs

Note 2: Indirect costs billed from UN Participating organizations is of 1.57% of the total expenditure, against an authorized amount of 7%, UN agencies will need to withdraw the balance amount committed for indirect support cost of management in run of 2010.

Table 7 Total Expenditure by Category, for the reporting period & Cumulative, as of 31 December 2009

US\$ 000										
Expenditure by Category										
Participating UN Organization	Funds Transferred	Total Expenditure	Supplies, com, equip	Personnel	Training	Contracts	Other direct costs	Total Programme Cost	Indirect costs	
NGO/UNDP	2,426	512	0	0	0	0	512	512	0	
UNDP	283	1,951	0	0	0	35	1,914	1,949	2	
UNICEF	0	257	4	23	27	185	1	240	17	
Grand Total	2,708	2,721	4	23	27	220	2,427	2,701	19	

Table 8: Total Expenditure by Participating UN Organization, with breakdown by Category, 1 January - 31 December, 2009

3.6 Constraints to Project Implementation

This section outlines the constraints encountered by partners in the implementation of their DCPSF funded projects. The overall security situation in Darfur is generally stable, certainly in the capital cities, however insecurity persists in deep field locations and our partners have had to adapt on many occasions to changing security situations. Disruptions in programming can vary from slight to complete suspension of activities for short periods. Generally the national staff of project partners are able to continue working even when international staff cannot travel.

The security situation is not the only constraint to operating in Darfur; below is a selection of the challenges faced by DCPSF partners – grouped in Security, Staffing, Social and Environmental constraints.

Security Constraints:

- Security in certain areas of West Darfur is highly unstable, with periods of increased compound break-ins and carjackings
- Tribal fighting has impeded access to some areas (in West Darfur, and currently in South Darfur)
- Attack on staff in vehicles in South Darfur – with serious injuries, led to decreased access in an already difficult area to access for international staff especially (World Vision)
- New influxes of IDPs
- Food gap expected due to poor harvest and WFP decision to stop food aid support to IDPs in the localities (World Vision)
- Security has affected the ability of national and international staff to stay overnight in remote areas (Intersos, FAR). Day trips are possible by helicopter, which is costly for the projects
- Risk of kidnapping of international staff in deep field locations

Staffing Constraints:

- Peacebuilding staff have been recruited by a few partners who had included this human resource in their workplans and budgets, however all noted that finding suitably trained national staff is difficult
- Difficulty finding competent local NGO to partner with (ZOA, World Vision)
- Lack of qualified peacebuilding facilitators in-country (for staff training).
- Identifying and hiring qualified national staff caused some delays, the national Humanitarian Affairs Commission (HAC) has also caused delays as their permission is required to hire new staff (War Child)

Social Constraints:

- Youth have attracted negative attention by national security in some of their activities that address rights issues (War Child Canada)
- Integrating women into the reconciliation process: Women are traditionally charged with collecting water and caring for the children – as such they have been responsible for managing the water resources and mitigating conflicts when they arise. Conflicts however, are traditionally handled by men, and women allow men to deal with issues on their behalf. In these cases, women’s voices are not traditionally heard at the community level when it comes to conflict mitigation and reconciliation (Intersos)
- In some areas, it has been a challenge to convey to communities the importance of considering longer-term implications of their actions; such as using traditional wells during the dry season to avoid water contamination, instead of digging (more convenient) shallow wells near the wadi (Intersos)

Environmental Constraints:

- Buffer area farming initiatives were severely impacted by the low rainfall this year (Intersos)
- Poor rains this year may lead to increased nomadic migration from Chad into Darfur and therefore more contact with farmers (FAR)
- Poor harvest this year will lead to increased demands on livelihoods inputs and potentially less willingness for communities to join shared activities

As a requirement to receiving DCPSF funding, all potential project partners are asked to identify the constraints they are likely to face in project implementation and to include adaptive measures in their workplans. As such our partners have been able to respond to many of the constraints mentioned above. The most severe potential impediment to effective project implementation – and to achieving the objectives of the DCPSF – is the security situation, which though generally stable, remains unpredictable.

3.7 Challenges and lessons learned in the implementation of the DCPSF

In working with project partners, and in assessing the effectiveness of projects towards achieving their goals, the Fund has encountered challenges – many of which could be considered unique to operating in Darfur. These challenges, and the efforts made to navigate them, are described below.

- Channels of communication within partner organisations *and* level of analysis of project activities:

Over the year, a discernable lack of clear communication was observed between field-based (predominantly national staff) and the international personnel based either in Khartoum or the Darfur state capitals. Reporting on DCPSF projects can lack adequate analysis of what is occurring on the ground, especially the interactions between communities – primarily outcomes that are not easily captured with statistics. This gives the impression that partners are missing the depth and understanding of the DCPSF peacebuilding objectives of the projects they are implementing.

In most instances this is not the case. What has occurred is a failure to properly communicate information and analysis that is occurring in the field to international project managers. What is evident during field visits when staff are asked pointed questions regarding peacebuilding outcomes, is that the information exists in the field, and the analysis is in fact undertaken by field staff. Unfortunately this knowledge is not present at the state/HQ offices. Project managers have been requested to listen more to field staff, and ensure that they are asking the appropriate questions in order to draw out analysis of the impacts of their projects.

- Unwillingness to address *real* peacebuilding issues:

In communities where partner organisations operate, there are often ongoing issues that can impede peacebuilding – but which are not addressed in their projects. Examples of this include ongoing conflicts among groups, and inappropriate and unsustainable activities such as renting of non-proprietary land and extortion. The DCPSF is interested in hearing about the realities within communities, while partners are interested in demonstrating success and progress. Partners have been reminded of the importance of addressing all issues that provide a barrier to establishing trust and confidence, and that in the case of peacebuilding success and progress are a long process. The situation varies between partner organisations, though overall the reasons for this lack of initiative are; lack of expertise in peacebuilding, the need to invest more time and effort, and the potential risk to the partner organisation and/or ongoing activities should their probing into sensitive areas jeopardise their ability to work in the communities. There are legitimate concerns that exist, however the Fund is willing to work with partners to address as far as possible the root causes of conflict in order to affect sustainable change.

- Partnering with national organisations

The majority of DCPSF INGO partners have included capacity building for national organisations as one of their objectives. Some partners have managed to move forward in this area of their work, but for those looking for a suitable national organisation with which to partner, it has proved challenging. The capacity of national groups in Darfur is limited, and those who are capable of operating are few. ZOA for example has been unable to identify the number of national organisations that it intended to support based on their workplan, and instead has shifted more resources towards supporting viable committees with which they work. FAR has taken a different approach, and worked with their two partner villages to establish two Community Based Organisations. So far, one of these has been registered with the local Humanitarian Affairs Commission, and both of which have the support of the communities. It is expected that these CBOs will play a strong part in the phasing out of FAR in the project area and the sustainability of the work undertaken.

Two DCPSF project partners have partnership agreements with government ministries. For UNICEF this is standard operating procedure, as the organisation directly supports departments within the line ministries. War Child Canada (WCC) has signed a Technical Agreement with the Ministry of Youth, who will take responsibility for realising certain aspects of the project.

- Reporting

This point is linked to the issue of communication between the field and HQ noted above. Quarterly reports are often brief in explaining and elaborating on the impacts that their activities are having. Organisations are accustomed to quantitative reporting to donors on concrete, materials benefits delivered to target communities, rather than on qualitative reporting on brokering processes of dialogue and consultation that restore trust and confidence

across communities. Unlike other funding streams, ‘the peace dividend’ in DCPSF projects should come towards the end of a lengthy process of consultation and dialogue. There is a lack of analysis of the impacts that their work is having on the community. This is not to say that the impacts are not there and when asked the appropriate questions it is obvious that the projects are in line with DCPSF priorities. In the feedback provided to partners on their quarterly reports, and through regular contact with project partners, the TS is working to ensure that partners understand the importance of the peacebuilding elements of their work and that they have the skills to adequately report on this vital progress.

4 Effectiveness of the DCPSF as a Funding Mechanism

One of the responsibilities assigned to the TS is to gauge the impact of the DCPSF funded projects in terms of peacebuilding and conflict resolution, in order to provide the SC with evidence on which to base future funding decisions. Peacebuilding and reconciliation processes are typically slow and labour intensive; DCPSF partners who have now completed a full year of operations out of typically two year projects, have reported progress towards increased trust and confidence, and through targeted provision of material inputs partners have made an impact on the lives of those in the communities in which they work. The accomplishments of DCPSF partners are highlighted in section 4.5 above. Looking at the DCPSF itself as a Funding Mechanism, the following points relate to its effectiveness:

- a) The DCPSF is the only multi-lateral mechanism that is currently funding peacebuilding and community development work in Darfur. Were it not for the Fund, organisations would likely not be engaging in such intensive peacebuilding work; instead this type of work would remain peripheral; as a component of project, or as an indirect outcome.
- b) Recognising that peacebuilding work is labour intensive and analysis heavy, the TS both provides greater support and interaction with project partners than similar secretariats administering comparable funds in other contexts. Given the complexities of the Darfur context, and the relatively recent introduction of peacebuilding work, the technical support provided by the DCPSF has thus far been an important contribution towards achieving the peacebuilding objectives of the Fund. The SC has consistently acknowledged the added value that the TS provides in this context, and is pleased with the results to date.

The ability of the DCPSF to disburse timely allocations through the AA and MA functions performed by UNDP, has mainly been successful, and provided there are no unforeseen circumstances, most project partners have begun their operations within their scheduled work plans.

