# MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND OFFICE

Efficiency | Transparency | Accountability

**Quarterly Newsletter**

April-June 2012, Issue 2

## Key Figures

- US$6.1billion total commitments
- US$5.9 billion total deposits
- US$5.5 billion net funded to Participating Organizations
- 82 Contributors/Partners
- 41 Participating Organizations
- Operating in 91 Countries

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## MPTF Office Mission

To provide transparent and accountable fund management services to the United Nations system to enhance its coherence, effectiveness and efficiency.

Log on to the MPTF Office GATEWAY mptf.undp.org
Share your feedback!

Dear Reader,

One of the key Administrative Agent functions of the MPTF Office is the synthesis, consolidation and submission of the annual narrative and financial progress reports of the MPTFs and JPs it administers. In the case of some MPTFs this task involves the consolidation of over 200 individual reports into a single fund level report covering numerous sectors/clusters. The Office further refined its annual reporting processes and ensured the timely submission (and posting on the MPTF Office GATEWAY) of nearly all 2011 consolidated annual reports which is presented on page 2.

In June, two major events - the **Rio+20 Sustainable Development Conference** and the **5th V High Level Conference on Delivering as One** - that have major significance to the MPTF Office services took place.

In addition to the official delegates, the Rio+20 Conference brought together over 50 million people from all over the world through social media platforms and declared the "Future we want" is sustainable development that integrates economic, social and environmental aspects. It also affirmed partnerships as the most effective mechanisms for the implementation of the wide range of actions it endorsed.

The Tirana Conference also concluded that the "United Nations we want" requires Delivering as One to go beyond the current stage and bring about a more coherent, efficient and effective United Nations development system. Recalling one of the significant findings of the recently released Independent Evaluation of Delivering as One, Ms. Helen Clark, Chair of the UN Development Group, stated "Through the Delivering as One approach, the UN development system has been better positioned to apply the kind of integrated policy solutions and responses needed to address the multi-dimensional and interlinked challenges of our time".

Development partners, welcomed the Tirana Conference Outcome Document and its recommendations and stated, "We as development partners fully recognize the important role we have to play in reducing fragmentation and ensuring coherence in our own approach to enhance the sustainability of the Delivering as One process. Now, more than ever, we need to take a fresh look at how we engage with the UN development system, including how we support sustainable funding to deliver better results. We acknowledge that predictable, flexible, multi-year and unearmarked funding is a catalyst for reform".

**Client/Partner Survey:** As part of its ongoing efforts to improve its fund administration services, the MPTF Office has engaged the Gelfond Group, an independent survey research firm, to undertake a client/partner survey. The feedback received will be used to further deepen service improvements. We would be grateful for your participation in the short survey, to be carried out 16 to 31 July, and giving us feedback on any aspect of our fund administration services. The Gelfond Group will contact you directly.

**Bisrat Aklilu,**
**Executive Coordinator**

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# New Joint Programmes (JPs)

**Rapid Reduction of Maternal and Neonatal Mortality in the Philippines**

This JP is aimed at improving the provision of continuum quality care and services from pre-pregnancy, to post-natal and neonatal care, as well as to increase equitable access to these services. It also aims to enhance the effectiveness of national and sub-national structures to support local planning, implementation and monitoring of the Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health and Nutrition Strategy. AusAID has contributed AUD$ 8,500,000 to supporting this Joint Programme between UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO.

More information on this Joint Programme will soon be available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY.

**Support to the Development of the Maradi Region in Niger**

This JP designed to reduce poverty, through the improvement of agro-pastoral production, sustainable management of natural resources, access to social services for vulnerable groups, and the promotion of local governance and human rights in the Maradi region of Niger. The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg has committed USD$ 6, 600,000 to support this this JP between FAO, WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNCDF and UNDP.

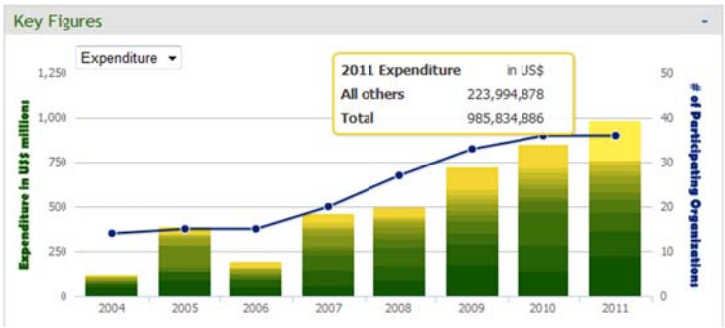
More information on the Niger Developpement Maradi programme website on the MPTF Office GATEWAY

# Timely and Smooth 2011 Annual Progress Reporting

The second quarter is among the busiest period in the MPTF Office. On 31 March annual progress reports of individual projects/programmes financed under the various MPTFs/JPs are received by the Office. This is followed by receipt of the annual financial expenditure reports on 30 April. The MPTF Office subsequently produces the MPTF/JP level consolidated annual narrative and financial progress reports along with the certified financial statements for submission to Partners, Steering Committees and governments by 31 May.

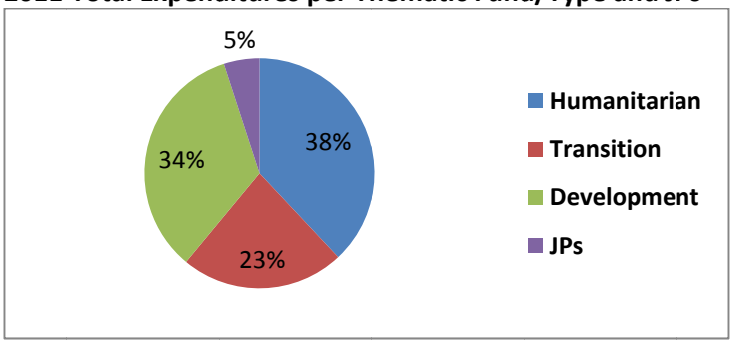
The 2011 annual expenditure reports of the Participating Organizations showed excellent delivery. Total 2011 expenditures of the 34 Participating Organizations amounted to $986 million - 16 per cent more than in 2010 and 37 per cent higher than 2009.

**2011 Expenditure for Participating Organizations**




Humanitarian, Transition and Development MPTFs accounted for 38, 23 and 34 per cent of total expenditures respectively, while JPs made up the remaining 5 per cent. The MDG Achievement Fund had the highest total delivery, with $209 million, followed by the Sudan Common Humanitarian Fund with $146 million. The twenty one Delivering as One Funds reported a combined expenditure of $129 million.

**2011 Total Expenditures per Thematic Fund/Type and JPs**




Based on the lessons learned in earlier years, the MPTF Office refined the 2011 annual report consolidation process and further intensified its follow-up with Participating Or-

ganizations so as to ensure that it fulfills its reporting responsibilities on time. These efforts paid off, as 78 per cent of the MPTF Annual Reports (and 95 per cent for MPTFs directly administered by the MPTF Office) were officially submitted to MPTF stakeholders and posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY by 31 May. By early July the submission rate had increased to 100 per cent. For the stand-alone Joint Programmes the result was even better: 100 per cent of the annual reports were issued by 6 June.

The preparation and certification of the 2011 annual financial statements was another notable success: 100 per cent of the 'Source and Use of Funds' were certified by 31 May and posted on the GATEWAY and also made available to stakeholders along with the 2011 Annual Progress Reports.

## Resident Coordinator's Reflections on Delivering as One (DaO) in Kyrgyzstan and Peacebuilding

Over the years there has been growing number of UN joint initiatives in the Kyrgyz Republic to more effectively respond to national development priorities and challenges. To increase impact and coherence and improve partnership building, the UN system began with smaller joint initiatives and moved towards more substantive and ambitious proposals, culminating in a design and implementation of the Delivering as One (DaO) UN Programme 2010-2012.

The DaO initiative has given the UN system a unique opportunity to increase its effectiveness in expanding and accelerating activities to address energy and food insecurity. Funding received through the Expanded Funding Window (EFW) played a catalytic role in mobilizing additional funds and was critical to deliver a wide range of theme-based programmes. The government of the Kyrgyz Republic strongly supports the DaO approach since it is contributing to the country's recovery and is promoting sustainable development. The Kyrgyzstan One Fund is a financing and coordination mechanism that has proved valuable in a crisis setting.

These interventions of the One UN Programme have been instrumental in the implementation of UN efforts in the peacebuilding area which is also received the support of the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). The PBF has supported the government to lay the foundations for durable peace following the June 2010 events. In the past two years significant progress has been made at different levels as a result of joint efforts by communities, civil society, local authorities, and other partners, including the UN. Notable areas of achievement include empowering and protecting people through legal assistance, creating jobs, strengthening the administration of justice, as well as rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure; promoting participation of women and youth in conflict prevention and peace building activities.

A joint project implemented by FAO and UN Women in the agriculture area under the Kyrgyzstan One Fund is one of the examples of the interventions that have contributed to the peacebuilding processes. In order to support women's economic empowerment in restoration of peace and reconciliation, the emphasis was given to villages where a network of 20 local Women Peace Committees (WPC) was established under the project funded through the Immediate Response Facility of the UN PBF.

The WPCs are represented on various peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery committees at the provincial level in the south of Kyrgyzstan and there are excellent examples of women activists' conflict resolution and prevention through joint planting/harvesting and community reconciliation. With the selection of the project interventions areas and WPCs, UN Women is targeting and empowering vulnerable and conflict affected populations to allow their full participation in post-conflict planning, priority setting, economic sustainability and enhancement of food security.

Another example is WFP's Food for Asset programme designed to clean and rehabilitate irrigation canals. Some 807 km of irrigation canals were cleaned and rehabilitated, which now supply water to 52,854 hectares of crop land, 4.9

km of main channels and around 13.5 km of secondary channels. This has enabled 9,500 of the most vulnerable households to receive constant access to irrigation water. These efforts are contributing to strengthened interethnic relations through household interaction and improvement of livelihoods.

The Government, the UN Country Team, civil society and international partners enthusiastically support the DaO One UN Programme and expect tangible results. In my view, more coherent programming through the DaO approach is the right way to fully realize the One Programme potential.

WFP's repair of an irrigation canal (May 2012, ©WFP)

## Success of Local Governance Support Project in Bangladesh: Learning & Innovation Component

Bangladesh has a long history of local government. However, low capacity has limited local governments from meeting the service delivery needs of its citizens. As part of a countrywide Joint Programme, the UNDP and UNCDF implemented Local Governance Support Programme (LGSP), through the Learning and Innovation Component (LIC), focus on testing innovative governance mechanisms for Union Parishads (UP) in six districts, changing both the way communities engage with their local government institutions and the way these authorities deliver services.

**Budget:** $18.12 million (including parallel funding)

**Delivery** (as of 31 December 2011): 99.5%

**Implementing partners:** The Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives; Union Parishads; and the National Institute of Local Government

**Donors:** European Union, Denmark, UNDP and UNCDF

**Key objectives:** The LGSP-LIC aims to promote better local governance and local service capacity and delivery.

**Key achievements:**

Participatory approaches which are open to all and engaging communities in the planning and budgeting process have increased transparency and accountability. LIC UPs consistently show increased levels of knowledge and engagement in local government compared to those where LIC is not yet in place. 99 per cent of LIC UPs report knowing who their local government officials are.

The Supplementary Block Grants (SBG) mechanism systems and processes have contributed to improve the UP capacity for effective and accountable delivery of local infrastructure and services. **10,242 small scale infrastructure projects** have been completed, meaning better roads, water and

sanitation and livelihoods for 10 million people. SGBs must include at least three quarters of the budget on wage labor, benefitting several thousand rural poor. Due to its success, the number of UPs receiving SGBs has grown from 80 to 362, totaling $9 million. Managing SBGs has also improved the financial management capacity of local governments.

LIC UPs have **9.3 per cent** higher expenditure level of total spending ability than non LIC UPs. On average, revenue collected during the three LIC years increased by **42.5 per cent** compared to those collected during the three years preceding LIC. LIC UPs have reported better availability of services: statistically significant are the services relating to maintenance of local markets, immunization, number of business establishments, registration of birth and deaths.

**Culvert made under LIC project which is connecting a village with a main road in Bahra UP, Habiganj**

**Case Study**

Char-Sahavikhari is a village with 400 households, mostly dependent on agriculture. A total of 5 to 6 hectors land was not cultivable due to lack of water supply, having a string of negative knock-on effects, including increased levels of poverty and hunger. Through the LGSP-LIC programme, the villagers participated in local level planning and together with their local government, implemented a deep tubewell. Four hectors of land was brought under production through distribution of water, benefitting almost 3000 people and increasing crop production increased gradually.

**Installation of a deep tube well improved the Livelihood of Char-Sahavikhari**

[1] Prepared with inputs from UNDP's Empowered Lives, Resilient Bangladesh: Key results achieved with our partners 2006-2011

# Sudan CHF Continues to Refine its Humanitarian Assistance Toolkit

Since its inception in 2006, the Sudan Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) has grown to become the largest of all CHFs in the world and the second largest of the 53 UNDP-administered MPTFs. It has proven to be an essential tool in providing early, rapid and flexible funding to meet the most urgent needs of the Sudanese people. Since 2011, the CHF Sudan has allocated US$900 million, supported 1,911 projects and reached millions of vulnerable people with timely humanitarian assistance, through a needs-based, coordinated approach designed to evaluate, prioritize and fund the most urgent Humanitarian Work Plan projects, implemented by a wide array of partners.

One of the main strength of the CHF Sudan is its capacity to support non-governmental organizations (NGOs), both national and international. In 2011, CHF funding to NGOs amounted to US$ 66 million out of US$155 million. This represents 43 per cent of the total allocations, a figure that has steadily increased from only five per cent in 2006. In particular, the number of national NGOs that received CHF funding over the same period increased from one to twenty.

In order to further improve the service it provides to the humanitarian community, the CHF Sudan has progressively introduced additional tools to rationalize the use of funds[1] and to prioritize urgent interventions[2]. It is also showing its achievements in more detail, by registering progress towards sector annual targets and longer term outcomes in its progress reports.

Currently, CHF Sudan is in the process of strengthening its Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) capacity. Recognizing that M&R is essential for strategic and accurate fund management, OCHA has developed a standard global CHF M&R Framework that considers the Inter-Agency Standing Committee transformative agenda. Its key objectives include the strengthening of project verification mechanisms, leading to a better informed funding decision process. All CHFs are currently in the process of developing and implementing a country specific M&R implementation plan.

The M&R Framework recommends harmonized and integrated monitoring and reporting mechanisms, building on national specificities and strengths. To achieve this, CHF Sudan is working towards a dedicated M&R unit, comprised of both OCHA and UNDP as the managing agent. Sectors will also be fully engaged, utilizing lead agency capacity and technical expertise in the respective sectors, including for field-level on-site monitoring. Joint OCHA/UNDP CHF Sudan M&R activities in 2012 are expected to provide a good pilot basis for finalization of the new framework, expected early next year.

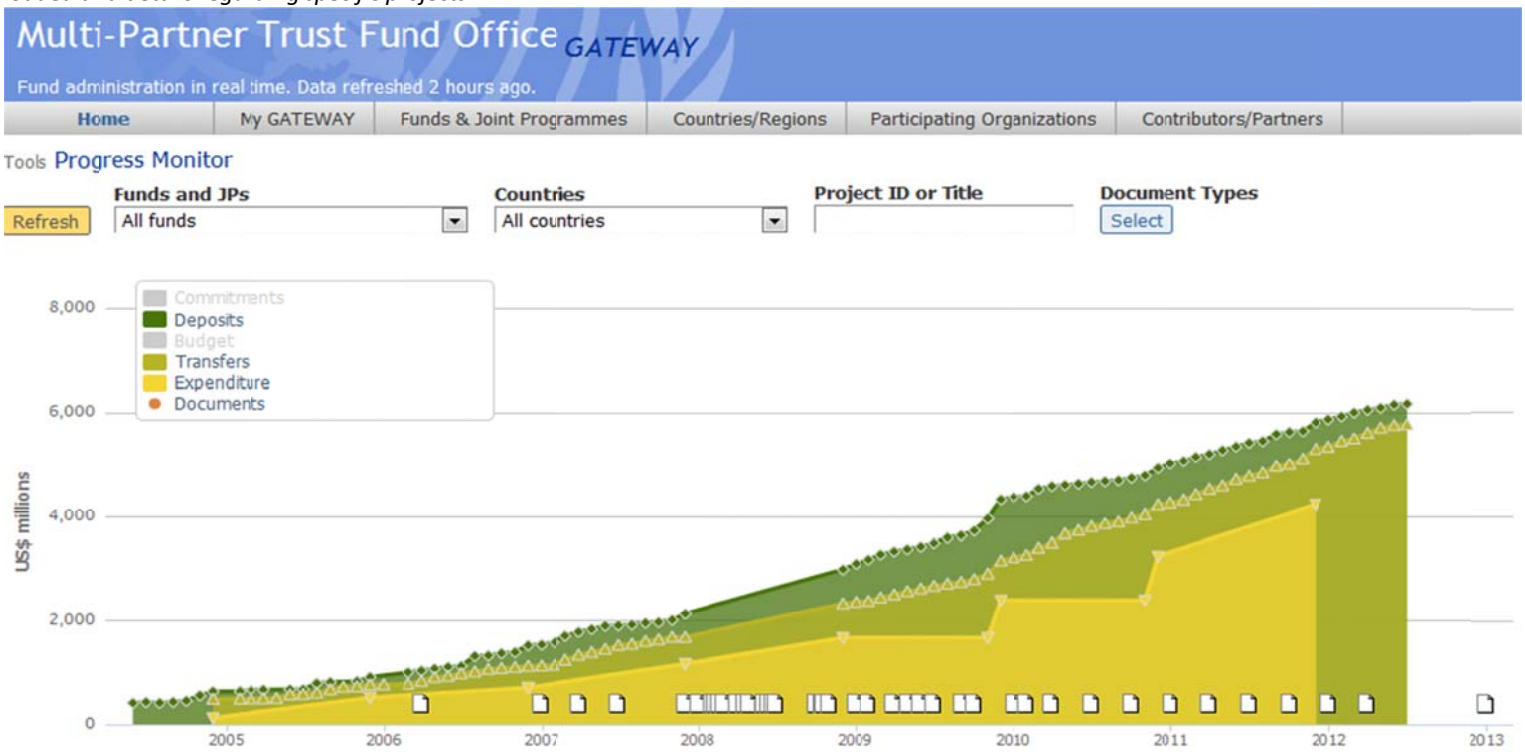
Finally, in an effort to ensure earlier disbursements and more strategic use of funds, the Humanitarian Coordinator put forward an ambitious schedule for the 2012 first round of allocations. The CHF allocation process was brought into greater harmony with the Sudan Humanitarian Work Plan and the Fund completed the allocations approvals process in January. Notwithstanding the selection of over 140 urgent interventions across Sudan in a timely manner, disbursements had to wait until end March and April due to delays in receipt of contributions.

[1] The concept of Value for Money was introduced in 2011, as an essential component of measuring qualitative progress of funded projects. It is determined through the cost of assistance, the timeliness of delivery and the quality/appropriateness of the assistance delivered.

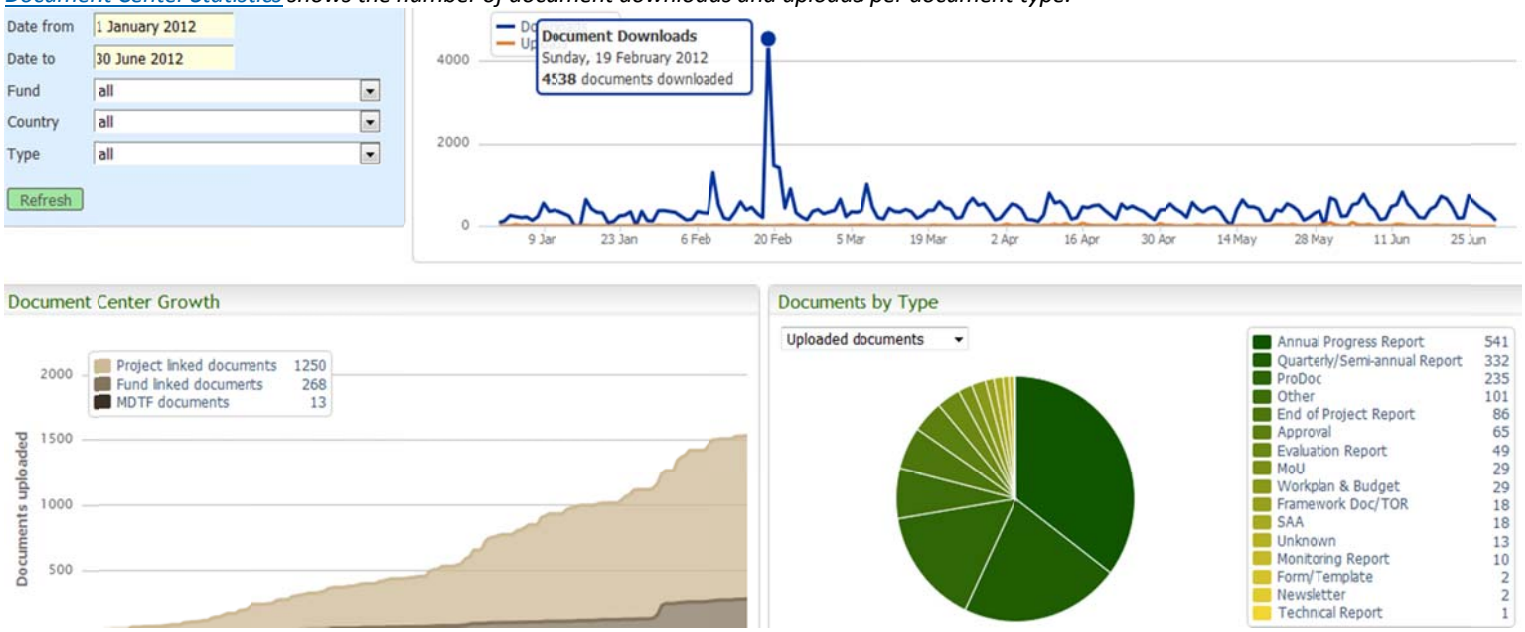
[2] The 2012 CHF allocation model has been strengthened to better assess gender and environment mainstreaming in CHF-funded projects. CHF now uses the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Marker to ensure projects address the different needs of women, girls, boys and men. And the Environment Marker, based on the principles of "do no harm", environmental mitigation and sustainable resources, was mainstreamed and rolled out in 2011 to make requirements more stringent and planning more accurate.

***The MPTF Office Client/Partner Survey will be undertaken by the Gelfond Group from 16 to 31 July 2012.***
***We thank you in advance for your participation and providing feedback to improve our services.***

*Progress Monitor shows a timeline from 2004 to today of Commitments, Deposits, Budget, Transfers, Expenditure, as well as Documents downloaded and details regarding specific projects.*

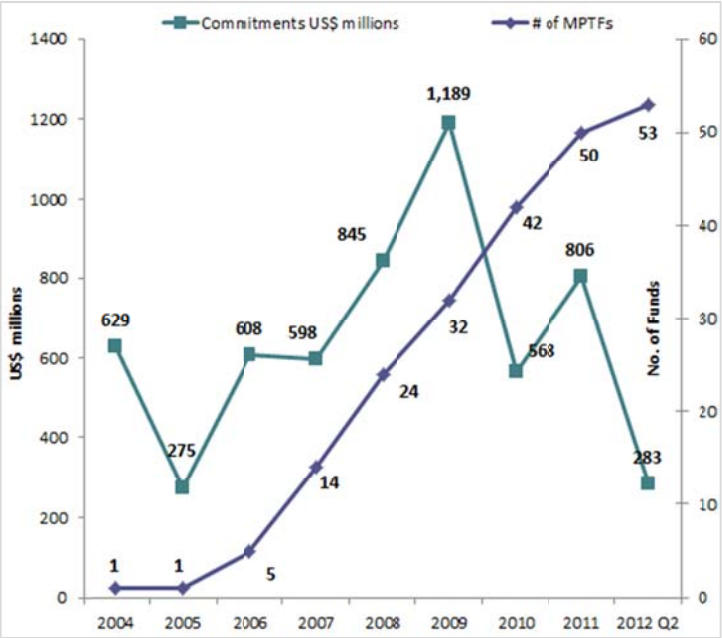



*Document Center Statistics shows the number of document downloads and uploads per document type.*

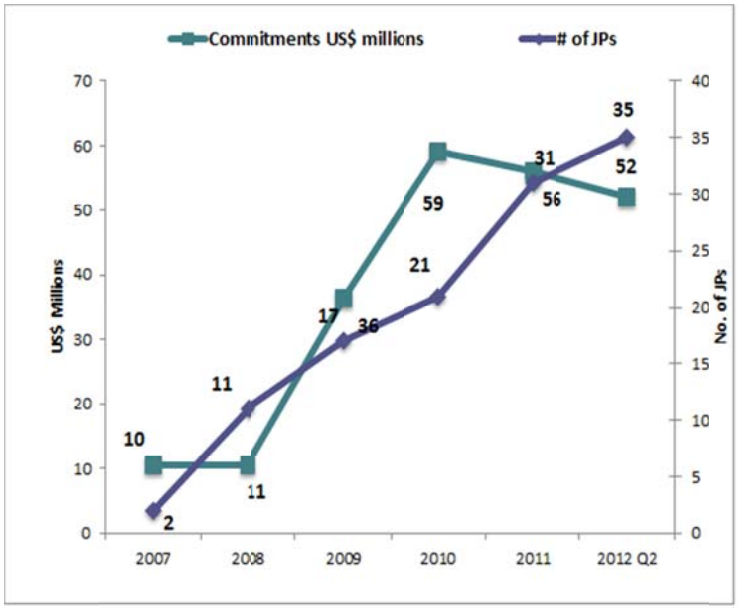


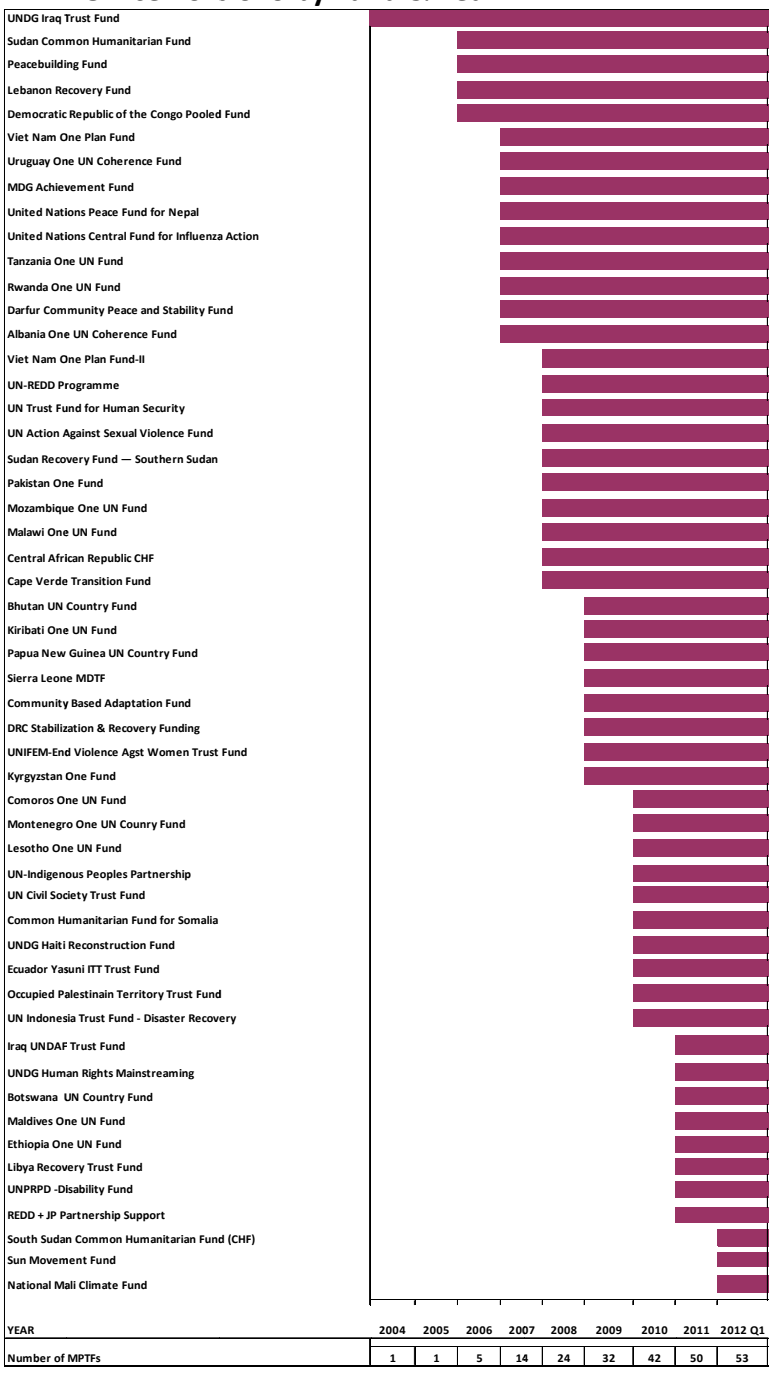
## Portfolio at a Glance via the MPTF Office GATEWAY

### Annual Donor Commitments to MPTFs (29/06/2012)




### Annual Donor Commitments to JPs (29/06/2012)




### MPTF Office Portfolio by Fund & Year