



**UN EBOLA RESPONSE MPTF
FINAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE REPORT
Year: 2015-2017**

Project Number and Title: #49 - Operational Support to the UN Resident Coordinator in managing Ebola Response Phase 3 and beyond in Guinea	PROJECT START DATE¹: 18-12-2015	AMOUNT ALLOCATED by MPTF <i>(please indicate different tranches if applicable)</i> \$983,230.54	RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION UNDP
Project ID: 00097554 (Gateway ID)			IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S): UNDP/RCO
Project Focal Point: Name: Mohamed Abba, RCO's Senior Policy/Post-Ebola Recovery Advisor Tel. +224 628 710802 E-mail: Mohamed.abba@undp.org	EXTENSION DATE: 30-06-2017	FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS \$0.00	
Strategic Objective (STEPP) SO5 – Prevent Outbreaks in countries not currently affected Recovery Strategic Objectives RSO# - Description	PROJECTED END DATE: 31-12-2017	EXPENDITURES as of [29/03/2018] \$983,183.41	
Mission Critical Action MCA13 – Multi-faceted preparedness			
Location: Guinea nationwide	Sub-National Coverage Areas: All the 38 prefectures of Guinea		
Report Submitted by:	Report Cleared by:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name: Theoneste Ganza ○ Title: Crisis Recovery Specialist ○ Date of Submission: 27-03-2018 ○ Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP ○ Email address: Theoneste.ganza@undp.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name: (Head of Agency): Lionel Laurens, Country Director ○ Date of Submission: 29-03-2018 ○ Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP ○ Email address: lionel.laurens@undp.org 		

OUTPUT INDICATORS

Indicator	Geographic Area	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the quarterly reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)	Delivery Rate (cumulative % of projected total) as of date

¹ The date project funds were first transferred.



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<i>Description of the quantifiable indicator as set out in the approved project proposal</i>					
Output 1.1. The UN Resident Coordinator Office has the qualified human resources to fully play its role in supporting the RC in strategic coordination functions pertaining to Ebola Phase 3 and beyond					
Indicator 1.1.1. Number of experts deployed within RCO	National	7	0	7	100%
Indicator 1.1.2. Extent to which advisory services of Ebola Support Unit were used to inform high-level policy discussions and strategic decision-making	National	100%	Used fully	100%	100%
Output 2.1. The Ebola Support Unit provides required policy and operational support to key actors involved in follow up of July 2015 Conference and implementation of National Ebola Recovery Strategy and relevant Priority Action Plan					
Indicator 2.1.1. Number of staff from the Permanent Secretariat of the Consultative Framework between the Government of Guinea and the Donor community benefiting from capacity building activities	Conakry	All staff	13	13	100%
Indicator 2.1.2. Number of project funded through the financial mechanisms for Ebola recovery pledges	Nationwide	TBD	2	2 (i) Multisector project funded by Belgian Government for 15 Million Euros (ii) Economic Revitalization Project with IDB funding of 20 Million USD	100%
Indicator 2.1.3. Number of monitoring missions realized	Nationwide	4	7	7	175%
Output 2.2. Ebola support unit develops a joint UN Guinea Strategy and action plan in support of the national Ebola recovery strategy and priority action plan in line with Delivering as One (DaO) modality					



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Indicator 2.2.1. Existence of a joint UN Guinea strategy and action plan	National	1	0	1	100%
Indicator 2.2.2. Existence of Ebola recovery related projects formulated	National	TBD	4	4 (i) Youth Employment and Integration (ii) Communities Resilience (iii) Health Sector Reform (iv) Integrated Agricultural Project	100%
Indicator 2.2.3. Number of partners who receive a copy of a joint UN Guinea strategy and action plan	National	40	50	50	125%
Output 3.2. The ERRT has skilled human resources to ensure a rapid response to future Ebola flare ups					
Indicator 3.2.1. Number of interventions conducted by the ERRT	National	75% of flare ups	1 flare up occurred	1 response conducted	100%
Output 4.1.: Key national actors involved in the humanitarian, natural and sanitary crisis prevention and response are capacitated to effectively respond to crises.					
Indicator 4.1.1. Existence of a Post-Ebola Guinea inter-agency contingency plan	National	1	1	1	100%
Indicator 4.1.2. Number or copies of Post-Ebola Guinea UN inter-agency plan printed and distributed	National	40	40	50 Electronically distributed to actors	125%
EFFECT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)					
Outcome 1. The UN Resident Coordinator fully exercises strategic coordination functions pertaining to Ebola phase 3 and beyond					
Indicator 1.1. Extent to which the ECM functions	National	100%	100%	100%	100%



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are transferred to RC					
Indicator 1.2. Number of high strategic coordination meetings convened by RC	National	1 per month (24)	3	24	100%
Outcome 2. An operational mechanism and required capacities are put in place to follow up and capitalize on the July 2015 Conference pledges on Ebola recovery					
Indicator 2.1. Existence of a comprehensive mechanism to follow up on the July 2015 conference pledges on Ebola recovery at national level	National	1	1	1	100%
Indicator 2.2. % of July 2015 pledges mobilized through the National Ebola Recovery Strategy funding mechanism	National	No specific target	75%	75% The Government prepared projects portfolio that was discussed with donors based on their pledges. The outcome was that 75% of pledges were allocated for the agreed portfolio implementation.	75%
Outcome 3. The National Ebola Rapid Response mechanism is institutionalized and operational					
Indicator 3.1. Existence of an institutionalized Ebola Rapid Response Team (ERRT)	National	8	8 Response Teams (one per region) under the technical supervision of the National Public Health Security Agency formerly national Ebola response cell	8	100%
Outcome 4. A coordination mechanism for humanitarian, natural and sanitary crisis prevention and response is operational					



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Indicator 4.1. Existence of a revitalized humanitarian crisis/disaster management and prevention coordination framework	National	1	The Sendai inspired national Disaster Risk Reduction action plan was developed and a unique disaster management platform is underway	1	100%
Indicator 4.2. Number of meetings of the humanitarian/crisis/disaster management and prevention coordination framework held	National	(20)	18	20	100%

Current Situation and Trend

This project was initiated after the closure of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response in July 2015 followed by that of OCHA in March 2016. Therefore, the Country's UN Resident Coordinator was given an additional role to oversee all coordination functions pertaining to the Ebola Crisis management. To achieve the above, additional resources, especially human expertise was required in order to help in this critical goal to help the country achieve and stay at 0 case of EVD infections. The project emphasized mainly on strengthening and maintaining the required operational capacity among key humanitarian actors in order to strategically coordinate the post-Ebola phase and beyond. The top priority was to ensure that the country was sufficiently equipped with the required capacity to respond to future health outbreaks and other emergency situations.

This project proved helpful especially during the flare up that occurred in March 2016 and also went further beyond after the end of human to human EVD transmission in June 2016. A particular emphasis was put thus on how to successfully deal with the post-Ebola recovery needs and community resilience capacity building. Hence, the project emphasized more on the transfer and exchange of knowledge towards the national ownership over key emergency response coordination aspects. The UN Resident Coordinator's Office maintained its technical guidance and advisory services to key national humanitarian institutions in the formulation of new and/or updating existing tools including but not limited to the elaboration of the national resilience and disaster risk reduction programme supported by an Action Plan as well as the update and dissemination of the country's multi-risk contingency plan. Also a series of training workshops on emergency response preparedness were organized and key national humanitarian actors benefited.

With the EVD crisis successfully managed and the country focusing now on restructuring its health system and other emergency response mechanisms as a part of the "build back better" approach, this project outstandingly accompanied the entire process and played a pivotal role in the achievement of key results pertaining to the improvement of the country's



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emergency preparedness capacity.

Key Achievements:

- The humanitarian and emergency response coordination capacity was enhanced through capacity building events including training workshops for local humanitarian actors. This was achieved in accordance with the output indicators 4.1.1 and 4.1.2.
- The statutory meetings for the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) or *Comite Permanent Inter-Agence (CoPIA* in French) were regularly held and co-facilitated by the UN Resident Coordinator's Office. To ensure the effective ownership over core humanitarian coordination functions, national institutions were encouraged to take the lead in convening and co-facilitating these meetings while the Resident Coordinator's Office provided logistics i.e. conference room and contributed to the agenda (outcome indicator 1.2.). This led the process to be completely taken over by the national side which is a key step towards a full ownership.
- The national multi-risk contingency plan which was updated in October 2017, validated and electronically disseminated amongst local actors (output indicators 4.1.1 and 4.1.2). At the request by the Ministry of local administration and decentralization, the project provided the technical and financial support to this activity. The Contingency Plan will continue to undergo regular reviews and any other updates as needed. The final document will be a part of tools to be tested during the simulation exercises scheduled at the end of the second quarter of 2018 to ensure of its effectiveness and efficiency. This will be done as a part of the newly launched Post-Ebola Preparedness joint project #65 which was designed with the aim to help the country improve its preparedness capacity to efficiently manage future health outbreaks and other disasters.
- The Sendai framework on Disaster Risk reduction needs to be fully implemented in Guinea in order to efficiently afford a good prevention and governance of disasters. It is to that end that the project supported the participation to regional workshops such as the 4th UNDP Africa Disaster Risk Reduction/Community of Practice forum held in Dakar from November 29 to December 1st, 2017. The meeting focused on the mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction into the national development strategy. The Country Office pursued its operational support to the Guinean institutions in charge of the disaster management as applicable (outcome indicators 4.1. and 4.2).
- The support team which was recruited under this project also occasionally contributed in the formulation of the new country's UNDAF (2018-2022) cycle which was officially launched on 07 December 2017. The new UNDAF which kicked off in 2018 includes flagship projects on humanitarian and disaster management in the country (output indicators 2.2.1. and 2.2.2).
- The Ebola Rapid Response Teams "ERARE or *Equipe Regionale d'Alerte et de Reponse aux Epidemies*" were set up and operated by the National Public Health Security Agency formerly National Ebola Response Coordination Cell. Each of the region has one trained Emergency Response team that can be rapidly deployed should a health emergency occur (outcome indicator 3.1. and outcome indicators 4.1. and 4.2).
- In complementarity with the project #44 on Support to the Government for the follow up of the July 2015 pledging conference, a capacity building support was provided through recruitment and training of new staff for the Permanent Consultative Framework to help the Government capitalize on the pledges, and also on tips on how to formulate projects for the implementation of the National Ebola Recovery Strategy (output indicator 2.2.1). Therefore, a total of thirteen staff from the Permanent Secretariat of the Consultative Framework benefited from capacity building activities including training and other related support; and two projects were successfully developed and implemented as a part of the post-Ebola recovery efforts. This specific achievement was attained



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through the output indicators 2.1.1 and 2.1.2/ outcome indicators 2.1. and 2.2.

- The overall Ebola coordination function was strategically achieved by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Ebola virus disease successfully contained in accordance with the Outcome indicators 1.1. et 1.2., and output indicators 1.1.1 and 1.1.2.

Delays or Deviations

- The project was initially set for one year. Due to a good number of activities that were to be implemented under the leadership of or in coordination with the national institutions, and also following the resurgence of the Ebola virus disease back in March 2016 in Koropara of Nzerekore region, the project experienced some delays. This resulted in a couple of extension requests with the latest being the one granted on 30 June 2017. There was no deviation from the project goals and on outlined activities.

Best Practice and Summary Evaluation

The implementation of this project in a critical context whereas combining both the Ebola crisis management and the post-crisis recovery process, the Country office was able to respond to a series of operational needs that would not have otherwise been fulfilled without this funding facility. The EVD support team put in place by the project allowed the UNRC to successfully coordinate the functions previously carried out by the Ebola Crisis Manager and OCHA respectively. The assigned role was successfully achieved in a critical context that required strong leadership and commitment by all actors. The transfer of the above functions to the UNRCO was a great experience and this process proved that the UNCT can in some crisis situations successfully lead the emergency response if well equipped with required expertise and adequate operational resources.

There is no final evaluation undertaken thus far but it would be beneficial to conduct one for reference.

Lessons learned

- ✓ As above mentioned, one of the best lessons learned is that through the UN RC and UNDP CO, Guinea was able to successfully manage the remainder of the EVD crisis phases, and to subsequently take on some needs related to the post-crisis recovery.
- ✓ A well-coordinated response was timely provided by the EVD support team and the whole UNCT, while UNDP also learned a lot by interacting daily with national counterparts involved in the Ebola virus response management, especially the former National Ebola Coordination Cell that later became the National Health Security Agency (ANSS) and other national and international stakeholders.
- ✓ The transition from the Ebola Response Team to the Inter-agency permanent committee (CoPIA) was a smooth experience and it allowed the strategic and technical expertise sharing within the humanitarian community in Guinea on key crisis management related aspects.
- ✓ Another lesson drawn from the implementation of this project, is that during a crisis and post-crisis context, flexibility is often sought from all sides as no one has full control over the course of events. The project was initially set for 12 months, however the EVD flare up that occurred in March slowed down some activities causing some delays which were successfully handed by the UNDP CO without hampering the overall project goal and results.

Story from the Field

“It is a good thing to see that even after the departure from Guinea of the Ebola Crisis Management teams,



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we are still able to confront the resurgence of this deadly virus in Koropara. I cannot thank enough the UN system for this highly valuable support that allowed us to quickly connect and timely plan our response”, Dr Sakoba Keita (Head of NERC), during an emergency response meeting in March 2016.

Video link and photos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9wKoAxUwb4>