|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME** **NIGERIA COUNTRY OFFICE**  | **ONE PAGE MISSION REPORT SUMMARY** Date: 20th - 25th October 2019 |
| **Names:** Oluwasegun AdetundeAbdoul Wahab Ba   | **Unit:** GPSU | **Extension No.** | **Travel Authorization Number:** |
| **Approved Mission Itinerary:** Abuja –Makurdi-Jalingo - Abuja  | **Facilitators**: |
|  |
| **Inclusive Travel Dates:** Date: Sunday 20th – Friday 25th 2019 | **Key partner/counterpart (s) in location:**Benue State Government; Taraba State Government, Secretary to the State Government of Taraba State, Houses of Assembly for both Benue and Taraba States, Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (Benue and Taraba states), All Farmers Association of Nigeria (Benue and Taraba states), Council of Traditional Rulers (Benue and Taraba states), Military and Paramilitary Formations (State and Federal), CSO Network in Benue and Taraba states.  |
| **Purpose/Objective of Mission:**The main objectives of the mission was to:* Hold high-level workshops on conflict prevention and peace dialogue at Makurdi, Benue state and Jalingo, Taraba state.
 |
| **Makurdi, Benue state:**The mission to Makurdi, Benue state was to hold a conflict prevention and peace dialogue workshop at the highest level of government and stakeholder engagement. It held on the 21st of October 2019 at the Old Conference Hall of Benue Peoples Government House, Makurdi. There were 63 participants in attendance drawn from senior level government officials (executive and legislative), traditional leaders, state level executives of farmers and herders associations, religious bodies, security formations, civil society organizations and pressure groups. At the end of the workshop, a communique was developed and signed by representatives of all clusters of participants on behalf of all that were present. A copy of the signed communique is attached for further reading. Some of the key causes of the conflict identified were;* Quest for land grabbing by a nomadic people group.
* Move for survival in the face of desertification in the far North of Nigeria.
* Lack of education (formal and civic) on the part of the herders and farmers.
* Failure of the Nigerian security architecture.
* Porous borders and influx of criminals, small arms and light weapons.

Some of the proposed recommendations to solving this crisis were;* Initiation of the green wall project in the core North to combat desertification there and further strengthen modern animal husbandry practices.
* Federal Government’s full implementation of the Benue Open Grazing Prohibition and Ranches Establishment Law 2017 to the letter.
* Education of both farmers and herders on formal and civic levels to facilitate enlightenment on peace.
* Youth engagement through jobs and skill acquisition programmes.
* Facilitation of community resilience for a in Benue communities.
* Strict border control to stop influx of criminal elements.

**Jalingo, Taraba state:**The mission to Jalingo, Taraba state just like in Makurdi was to hold a conflict prevention and peace dialogue workshop at the highest level of government and stakeholder engagement. It held on the 24th of October 2019 at the Government Conference Hall, Jalingo. There were 81 participants in attendance drawn from senior level government officials (executive and legislative), traditional leaders, state level executives of farmers and herders associations, religious bodies, security formations, civil society organizations and pressure groups. At the end of the workshop, a communique was developed and read by representatives of all clusters of participants on behalf of all that were present. A copy of the presented communique is attached for further reading. Some of the key causes of the conflict identified were;* Conflict of economic interest of both farmers and herders.
* Forced migration to herders to the south into Taraba state due to climate change effects and desertification
* Blockage of renowned cattle routes
* Intolerance from both parties (farmers and herders)
* Attacks and reprisal attacks on animals and destruction of crops on farmlands
* Illiteracy
* Illegal drug addiction

Some of the proposed recommendations to solving this crisis were;* Constant dialogue between herders and farmers on issues of common economic interest
* Religious teachings on peaceful co-existence.
* Involvement of traditional institutions in conflict management and resolution between farmers and herders
* Strengthening of the security system in Nigeria
* Early warning mechanism and proactive measures to nib crisis in the bud should be implemented.
* Leverage on best practices in science and technology, allowing private sector to pioneer such where necessary and train stakeholders on best grazing/ranching practices
* Provision of financial support to affected farmers and herders from commercial banks facilitated by state government
* Establishment of a state-level peace commission

On Friday 25th October 2019, the UNDP team paid a courtesy visit to the Office of the Secretary to the State Government of Taraba state in Jalingo. We were received by the Permanent Secretary at the SSG’s Office. He expressed his satisfaction with progress made on the project so far and re-affirmed the State Government’s commitment and support to the project. Plans for the forthcoming activities in the state were also discussed. **Conclusion and Remarks:**The mission was a success as its objective was accomplished. One common narrative from both states was the understanding of climate change effect and desertification in the escalation of the crisis. Second to this was the weak security architecture in the country. Indeed UNDP’s approach to install EWERS will help strengthen security architecture through improved surveillance and prompt response to crisis. UNDP should also begin considering an environmental approach to the crisis to address climate change and desertification especially in the core Northern regions of the country. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME** **NIGERIA COUNTRY OFFICE**  | **ONE PAGE MISSION REPORT SUMMARY** Date: 27th September 2019 |
| **Names:** Oluwasegun Adetunde   | **Unit:** GPSU | **Extension No.** | **Travel Authorization Number:** |
| **Approved Mission Itinerary:** Abuja –Lafia - Abuja  | **Facilitators**: |
|  |
| **Inclusive Travel Dates:** Date: Tuesday 24th – Friday 27th September 2019 | **Key partner/counterpart (s) in location:**Nasarawa State Government; Secretary to the State Government, Keana LGA Chairman, Giza LCDA Overseer, Awe LGA Chairman, Seriki of Ribi, Emir of Tunga, Emir of Azara, Chairman ALGON, Osokadoko of Kadorko, Seriki Giza, Makama Giza, UN OHCHR, CSO Network in Nasarawa  |
| **Purpose/Objective of Mission:**The main objectives of the mission was:* To identify and select communities in Keana and Awe LGAs where PBSO funded Peace Project will be implemented
 |
| **Introduction:**The mission to Nasarawa state was a follow up on the implementation of the Integrated Approach to Building Peace in Nigeria’s Farmer-Herder Crisis Project. This was with a particular focus on selecting one community per LGA (Awe and Keana) from the already shortlisted 8 communities by the Nasarawa state government.The objectives of the mission were achieved in view of the following:* Giza community in Keana LGA and Ribi community in Awe LGA were selected for project implementation based on agreed selection criteria between UNDP and Nasarawa state government.

 **Conclusion and Remarks:**The mission was a success as its objective was accomplished. Giza community in Keana LGA and Ribi community in Awe LGA were selected after the mission for Project implementation. One major recommendation across most Traditional rulers interacted with was the need to have proper boundary demarcation between Benue and Nasarawa states. This will help both herders and farmers around the border areas of these states to know the geographic area where the Benue state’s anti-open grazing law covers. Hence herders will not encroach into Benue land and anti-open grazing law enforcers will not encroach into Nasarawa in the guise of law enforcement. Some video recordings are attached to back this up. UNDP can help facilitate and fast track this with the National Boundary Commission and the Benue and Nasarawa state governments. |