



**UN DARFUR FUND**  
**FINAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE REPORTING FORMAT**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: FROM JANUARY 2016 TO DECEMBER 2018**

**NAME OF PROJECT: STRENGTHENING LAND MANAGEMENT FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE IN DARFUR**  
**PARTNERS: FAO, UNHABITAT AND UNDP AS LEAD AGENCY**

**PART ONE**

**1. Executive Summary:**

Land is one of the most significant drivers of instability in Darfur during the last four decades for various reasons started by desertification and famine in the region in middle of 80<sup>th</sup> resulted in shortage of food in the region. Followed by environmental degradation caused by human practices to secure more land for harvesting, fodder and energy for cooking and finally increase of human and livestock population in underdeveloped land led to competition in the limited natural resources of the region.

Strengthening Land management for peaceful coexistence in Darfur is one of the 12 projects contributing to Darfur Development Strategy (DDS) in the first phase of Fast Track activities (FaST).

Throughout the project implementation from June 2016 to June 2019 there were 6 broad outputs been partially achieved by the project related to: -

- a) Drafting land legislation policies, whereby 4 out of 5 reform drafts were generated from consultations in the 63 localities of Darfur, 5 women focus groups and 5 states officials, the drafts are ready for the Darfur states legislative councils to amend or accept after discussion. Process for drafting the 5<sup>th</sup> legislation is ongoing.
- b) Conflict resolution mechanism to resolve disputes over land, Arbitration was chosen by the Darfur Regional Authority and Sudan constitution of 2005 as tool for Land adjudication, therefore trainings in Arbitration were conducted targeting rural population of the 5 states thus, 900 arbitrators (358 Female + 542 male) are found in Darfur with identity Cards.
- c) Monitoring mechanism for nomadic corridors established and fully functioning whereby 13 livestock migratory routes were studied and monitoring groups were established to avoid / resolve conflicts on the route.
- d) Awareness raising activities conducted on land management issues including gender segregation using different means of media and interactive theater targeting all Darfur community.
- e) Land title system improved in 52 return villages through adoption of a continuum land tenure security concept starting with identification and demarcation of the village boundary, land uses, spatial locations of basic services in the 5 states and recordation of information in STDM which also use as database
- f) 52 return villages' boundaries, sketch mapping including future expansion as well as a buffer grazing zone around the village demarcated. Spatial data collected for basic services, land uses, economic activities, and physical feature in the village and village profile developed accordingly.

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<sup>1</sup> The term "programme" is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.



**2. Purpose:**

- I. The project intended to achieve peaceful living between different groups of Darfur population in Darfur land
- II. Strengthening land institutions including native administration to improve Darfur land management.

**PART TWO - Assessment of Programme Results**

The land project comprises of mainly FAO, UN-Habitat and UNDP as leading agency in addition to UNAMID for logistical support, the 3 UN partners have worked in partnership with Darfur Land Commission (DLC) with their states government partners from ministries of Agriculture and Animal resources, Urban planning and . During the project duration June 2016 – June 2019 it has achieved the following results: -

**1- Drafting 4 legislative reforms for the Darfur state legislation Councils.**

The project managed to break the silence on Darfur land issues by opening the concerns of farmers, nomads, native administration and even the local government institutions. It took the project 6 months just to be allowed executing the planned activities that already been agreed upon signed by the federal Government representing Sudan.

The 5 state governors with their relevant cabinmate have been oriented by the project objectives in one day workshop and then became interested and agreed for the project to move to the localities where by 63 localities consultation workshops were conducted attended by average of 50 participants in each workshop from villages of the localities representing farmers, nomads, women and youth groups, returnees and locality government officials,. Almost 90% of the participants were astonished by the existence of statutory land law that contradicts in some provisions with what they believe is their own rights. The wisdom and experience of the facilitators have reduced the tension that occurred in some localities. Majority of the participants have expressed their gratitude for creating opportunity /platform where they can express their concerns about land issues.

Separate consultation workshops for women on land issues were conducted by the project in which women voices were loudly heard on depriving women from farming land ownership, they strongly recommended amendments not only on the legislations but also the social norms.

Creating project technical steering committees in each of the 5 states is found by the members committee as good chance because they were lacking technical coordination platform to coordinate efforts by the government institutions that working on land issues then consequently, Governors of 3 states have issued formal decrees announcing official formation of the land technical committee, the technical staff of the government land related departments together with representatives of native administration are regularly discussing matters related to improving land management.



*Women focus group consultation on Land*



*Localities Consultation Workshops*



*States officials Govt. Consultation W. shops*



*Project Technical Steering Committees*



The project conducted two successful land workshops held at the national level in April and December 2018. They discussed challenges and opportunities, peace and stability through good land governance. The workshops brought over 250 representatives together with those who engaged in different aspect of land issues in Sudan including the representatives of line federal ministries, state ministries, localities, major tribes, native administration, judicial administrations, nomads and famers associations, UN agencies, donors, and international and national NGOs. The outcomes of the workshops, a set of recommendations for the way forward drafted that will constitute the basis of a roadmap/proposals for holistic capacity development on land issues, in particular, strengthening the land governance, land administration, land policy and legislation reform, recognition of customary land tenure, building peace and stability among different land users in Darfur and the country at large.

## 2- Policies for adjudicating land claims cases drafted and endorsed

The ongoing legislation for 2005 in Sudan has a provision considering arbitration as the main tool for resolving dispute over land and therefore Darfur Regional Authority (DRA) and Darfur Land Commission have approved Arbitration as the main tool for resolving land disputes, there are existing local adjudication systems practiced in popular courts at villages such as what locally called Jodia and Rakoba, this system as reflected by some legal lawyers is weakened by absence of law enforcement, while the official court



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e before settle down sensitive land dispute.

The project trained 903 Arbitrators representing the 63 localities of Darfur states. The Head of Judiciary Administration in each state has expressed the importance of the trained groups in resolving land disputes and encouraging trained arbitrators to request recording cases in the judicial system which reflects official acceptance of arbitration as system for adjudication.

To have female arbitrators that have right to be part of the local courts system was a breakthrough welcomed by some of the native administration members participated in the Arbitration trainings.

The process of linking the arbitrators with the official judiciary system in each state is going on.

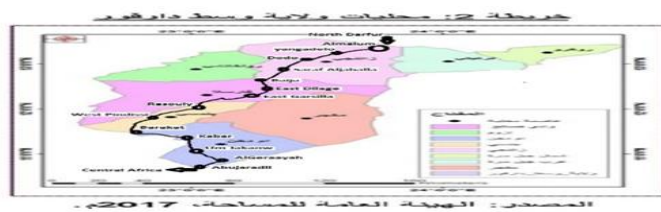
*Arbitration training targeted 63 localities of the Five Darfur States; women participants was 40%*

## 3- Monitoring mechanism for nomadic corridors established and fully functioning

the project brought together the stakeholders of livestock migratory routes and had consultative meetings participated by States Ministries of Animal Resource, nomadic commissions/ councils, States Ministries of Local Governance, traditional leaders of farmers and nomads, women and youth group were actively participated in the consultative meetings. The purpose was to identify conflicting spots including reasons within corridors and suggesting resolution way forward.

It was irregular to have the stakeholders meeting together since 2002 as expressed by most of the participants, the result was consciences of the stakeholders along the animal corridors of the studied 4 states in Darfur in identifying reasons and places of conflicts. As consequence, 2 cross border animal routes in Central and West Darfur have been fully researched by the 2 states universities department of Peace studies, Research and Development Centers. The studies were covering 26 villages and settlements whereby corridor monitoring group comprises of farmers and nomads was formed and functioning at each village/ settlement. Reasons for conflicts along livestock corridors were found predominately shortage of water and pasture due to environmental degradation (especially in the northern parts of the states), decrease in width of the route due to farming inside the animal route or rapidly increasing livestock numbers, and uneven distribution of veterinary services.

The project has provided 4 water with capacity of 50M<sup>3</sup> yards in the northern parts of the two corridors contributing to conflict reduction and peaceful coexistence in the areas, construction of these water yards is still going on because of access during rainy season.



*Al Kharitta Animal migratory route, mainly for cattle grazing - Central Darfur*

There were seven shorter Livestock migratory routes in South Darfur plus one in West Darfur that were studied comprehensively by the stakeholders from local communities including nomads and farmers, nomadic councils and relevant government departments. Conflict spots/ points were mapped, reasons for conflicts were acknowledged and monitoring groups were formed from Nomads and farmers to prevent and mitigate conflict occurrence. GPS tracking was used along the routes to validate current natural status of the corridor and accordingly, slight changes in the direction of some routes was agreed upon in consensus between farmers and nomads witnessed by ministry of agriculture and animal resources and then demarcation with cement concrete poles in some areas of the migratory routes were erected as well as veterinary services in some vet clinic within the routes was provided.



*Formation of monitoring groups - Routes Validating and conflict identifying areas - Official recognition of monitoring group*



*Demarcation of 11 mapped livestock grazing routes with concrete bars and barrels*

In North Darfur, the project via The Center for peace research and development studies of Fasher University has developed M&E system for 3 Corridors (Wadi Hawar- Dar Altaaisha Route; Albaasheem- dar Falata Route; Umsayala- Dar Alreziegat Route) within the territory of North Darfur revised and activated through wide and in-depth consultations with all concerned stakeholders in 5 localities in North Darfur, namely, Kutum, Elfasher Rural, Taweela, Kalemendo, and Dar Essalam. It has also studied Livestock routes history in five localities in North Darfur, these routes have been expanded in 1992 from 100 to 150 meters according to an official decree by the state authority and recognized by the communities. Conflict resolution trainings were conducted for the existing and formed monitoring groups.

The main outcome of the studied livestock routes is the willingness of farmers and nomads to prevent and mitigate their prevailing disputes peacefully. The DG for ministry of animal resources for West Darfur found it very positive to sit together and agree upon this important issue that saves lives.

**4- Communities informed on their role and sensitized in land administration**

Several means were used in disseminating information and sensitizing Darfur communities to participate in management of the land peacefully and sustainably. Local and federal radios broadcasted on Darfur land issues several times during the project duration, various interviews with knowledgeable individuals were broadcasted. Newspapers and brochures were distributed widely, awareness raising sessions on natural resource management and climate changes were interactively conducted at most of the localities and villages of Darfur. Open interactive theater shows conducted in 14 localities Darfur wide in coordination and full consultation with relevant localities and states authorities to enable stakeholders access information on land and to understand their role in land administration.



*Community awareness raising /sensitization and natural resource use and planning through VGGT principles*





*Open theater interactive performance on land issues at villages markets and playgrounds in 15 localities*

The outcome of this outreach activities is interventions by the farmers and nomads especially young men and women raising messages such as green land for future generation, our tribe is Darfur, and there are some local initiatives encouraging community forests planting.

**5- Land title system is improved, made more gender-equal, and land concerns at return site addressed (Support to land commission and state authorities to become more gender sensitive)**

The project core partner Darfur Land Commission (DLC) has been supported with employing and training 5 officers for Darfur states to follow up implementation of the project in collaboration with UN partners in the project, consequently close coordination and joint implementation was distinctive at all stages of implementation. Each of the 5 Darfur state has been awarded with Plotters under DLC supervision 3 of which were situated in the ministries of physical planning to support in printing maps for various usage. Also, a huge capacity server was donated to DLC to be the data center for the land information system that connected with other relevant ministries. The Darfur Regional Authority was dissolved in 2017 resulted in delaying some of the joint land assessment interventions with DLC in the field.

Land institutions in the 5 states of Darfur were identified and assessments of their role in land management was conducted and thus, gaps were verified for ministries of agriculture and animal resources, physical planning and public utilities, legal administrations, nomadic and farmers unions. In due course, institutional support in aspects related to land resources management was provided in form of equipment and technical trainings enabling these institutions to establish 11 Land Information System (LIS) data centers within the 5 states relevant ministries and DLC.

- 52 return villages' boundaries, sketch mapping including future expansion as well as a buffer grazing zone around the village demarcated. Spatial data collected for basic services, land uses, economic activities, and physical feature in the village and village profile developed accordingly. The process of sketch mapping was preceded by consultations with communities' members and leaders.
- The project made use of its partnership with Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) explored the application of the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) within the context of Darfur; It is a participatory tool that has been customized to match the context of Darfur by the participation of the concerned staff from the relevant ministries of the 5 Darfur States and the targeted communities. Moreover, the project with collaboration of GLTN embarked on land stakeholder's assessment. The report will be published after editing



*Training in data collection, entry and GPS tracking system for gov. land relevant staff*



*Training on data collection for urban observatory in Nyala and Fasher*

The ministers for Urban planning, Agriculture and Animal resources and the director generals in the 5 states have expressed their gratitude to duties effectively, they land related government first time to establish urban of services provision.



the project for enabling them to perform their mentioned that it is for first time to link the institution in one system of information, also observatory that will enable proper planning

**6- Sketch mapping for 50 support for returned women**

**return villages and livelihoods**

The project in collaboration with partners from Return, Recovery and Reintegration (RRR) and the Darfur states ministries of urban physical planning has selected and demarcated 52 return villages in Darfur whereby boundaries, sketch mapping including future expansion as well as a buffer grazing zone around each of the selected villages carried out following traditional practice/ participatory planning to ensure returns and reintegration processes are sustainable. It also supported livelihood for returned women at 14 returned villages targeting 324 women household. The main achievements from this section are:

- A) Creation of core technical team for the activity implementation
  - Each state has a technical core team comprises of state government employees from different departments of ministry of urban physical planning in addition to a member from ministry of agriculture, ministry of health and ministry of education. Most of these teams contain 15 persons.
  - The technical teams received introductory and advance trainings internal and abroad on Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) editing and GIS mapping techniques
- B. UN-Habitat partner in the project has made use of its partnership with Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) to test the STDM in Sudan and match it to the context of Darfur by participation of the concerned ministries of the 5 Darfur States; it is a participatory tool. The tool is translated into Arabic, Sudan is considered as the first experience in Arab states.



*SKETCH MAPPING AND STDM TRAINING INTERNAL AND ABROAD FOR THE CORE TEAM FROM 5 DARFUR STATES*

**C. Villages profiling and sketch mapping**



This task was completed for 52 villages, whereby village profiling was the process of collected data about the village origin name, population and their livelihood, climate and general demography.

The sketch mapping was the process of drawing map of the village after a) participatory data collection of the current structures names (schools, health facilities, houses, internal roads, livestock corridors) and their locations using GPS tracking system in presence of the communities, b) The core team with the village community identifies the future expansion of the village including housing, service areas, grazing and farming lands to determine buffer zone of the village and c) Digitally recorded in data center of the ministry of physical planning the village houses farms owners, services locations, communal grazing and forest zones.



*Sketch Mapping at Terbaiba village, Gender participation in Sketch mapping*

#### D. Livelihood for returned women households

Returned 152 household women at 7 villages in West Darfur plus 172 returned women at 7 villages in Central Darfur have been granted livelihood investment supporting their families and sustaining return to own lands.

Proper assessment of livelihood activities conducted determining eligible women based on ministry of social affairs approved criteria followed by training in simple bookkeeping was conducted.

Water irrigation pumps, grain millings, groundnuts peelers, oil spelling machines, crops peelers and goods for petty trade are sample of investment capital requested and donated to returned household women.



*Returned Women are selecting appropriate livelihood activities in West and Central Darfur*

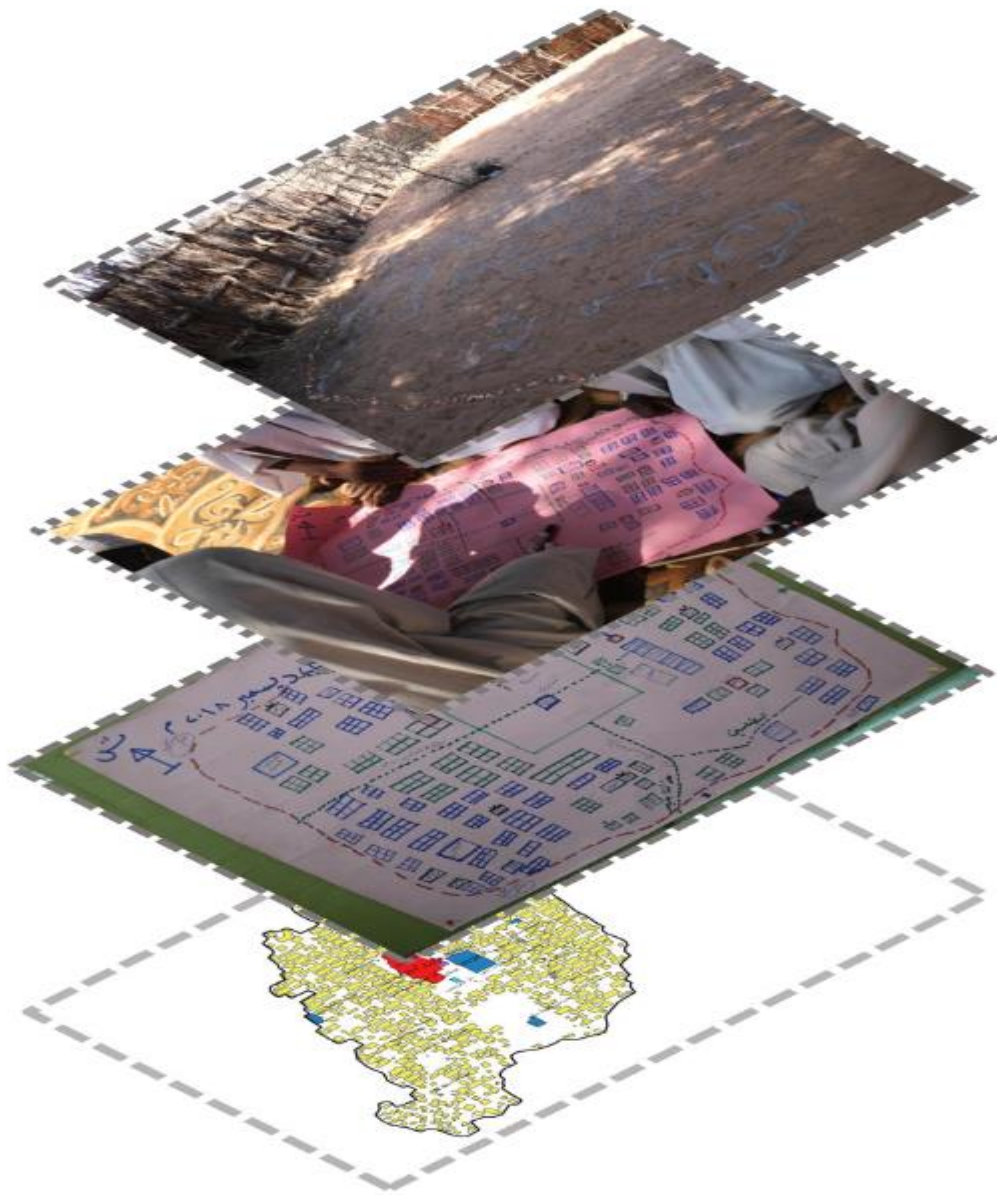


*Donated livelihood assets for returned women at 14 villages in West and Central Darfur*

- **Qualitative assessment:** Provide a qualitative assessment of the level of overall achievement of the Programme. Highlight key partnerships and explain how such relationships impacted on the achievement of results. Explain cross-cutting issues pertinent to the results being reported on. Has the funding provided to



the programme been catalytic in attracting funding or other resources from other donors? If so, please elaborate. As a joint project, highlight how UN coordination has been affected in support of achievement of results.



Process of village sketch mapping: ground drawing by community, paper drawing and digitization



**ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:**

Using the **Results Framework from the Project Document** - provide details of the achievement of indicators at both the output and outcome level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, clear explanation should be given explaining why.

	<b>Achieved Indicator Targets</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
<p><b>Outcome 1<sup>2</sup>:</b> Improved land legislation/property system including related conflict resolution mechanisms, land concerns at return sites were addresses, effective land related institutions and communities are prepared to coexist and share land resource peacefully</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> <b>Baseline:</b> <b>Planned Target:</b></p>	<p>Drafted land legislation reforms in the 5 states of Darfur, widely spread arbitrators at villages of Darfur states including returned areas, relevant institutions capacity was built, and communities were sensitized and effectively participating in managing land resources in coordination with government institutions</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drafted land legislation documents with Darfur Land Commission</li> <li>- List of recognized local arbitrators connected with official judiciary system</li> <li>- Conflict mapping research studies reports</li> <li>- Official decrees approving creation of land steering committees at states level</li> <li>- Coexistence between farmers and nomads at some returned sites</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1:</b> land legislation framework, drafted and endorsed based on consultations with communities at return villages and in/around the migration corridor and government concern bodies on customary land registration, determine current linkages between Hakura system and relation to modern land title</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 63 consultation sessions made at local level</li> <li>• Establish link between VGGT concept and principles and land use policies, laws and administrative legislation processes</li> <li>• 8 Consultative workshops for official</li> </ul>		

<sup>2</sup> Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be **as outlines in the Project Document** so that you report on your **actual achievements against planned targets**. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.



<p>system across the five states with concrete recommendations</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of 50 consultation sessions</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Study on Traditional Land Use and Hawakeer system</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 50 session and consultative workshop with 30% female participation, including women only sessions/ workshops (one in each state), Benchmark current link between land use policies, laws and administrative legislation processes and VGGT principles.</p>	<p>government leaders with heads of native administrations at capital of states and federal levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76 List of recommendations made</li> <li>• Adoption level of recommendations</li> <li>• 5 women only focus groups consultation sessions</li> </ul> <p>27 % female participants at consultation sessions</p>		
<p><b>Output 2:</b> Policies for adjudicating land claims cases drafted and endorsed, and appropriate land dispute mechanisms initiated across the five states</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Indicators:</b> Gender sensitive draft policies are produced</li> <li>• Policies are discussed against local norms and with regards to gender aspects, contradictions avoided, collection of best practices</li> <li>• 3 Mechanisms are in place</li> <li>• 3 of gender sensitive mechanism in place</li> <li>• Mechanisms agreed upon and approved by DRA and state governments</li> </ul>	<p>Arbitration as mechanism for adjudication has been adopted by DRA and implemented through DLC project partner with the official judiciary departments. This adjudication system is adding value in resolving disputes on land cases. Other ongoing mechanisms of traditional systems has been collected by DLC partner in books, the third system is the official court system.</p>	<p>Some trained arbitrators managed to resolve cases but not relevant to land issues. More time and practice is needed to see land dispute cases is resolved by the trained arbitrators.</p>	<p>Spread trained 902 arbitrators (358F + 544M) with their IDs at rural 90% and urban areas of Darfur. Linking the arbitrators with the rural court as well as with the official judiciary departments in the state's capital.</p> <p>Voluntary Guidelines for Governance Tenure system (VGGT) principles is widely spread among rural communities as well as trained government staff.</p>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 dispute cases are solved in a gender just way</li><li>• VGGT concepts and principles tested and used where appropriate in resolving land disputes processes.</li></ul> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Establish in each state land technical steering committee unit.</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 3 Policies to be in force Mechanisms are active and gender sensitive.</p>			
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<p><b>Output 3:</b> Monitoring mechanism for nomadic corridors established and fully functioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Indicators:</b> 7 of Corridors selected for monitoring</li> <li>• Comprehensive, gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation system is created and applied to track usage gender disaggregated</li> <li>• Functionality of the monitoring system is validated</li> </ul> <p>Real-time feedback system is in-place</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Selection of 7 livestock corridors and to study 5 as pilot</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 7 corridors to be studied and to establish monitoring system/ mechanism around villages/ settlements of 5 pilot corridors.</p>	<p>12 livestock migratory routes were studied, and 35 monitoring groups were established / strengthened the existing ones in the 12 migratory routes. Gender issues were raised while forming the monitoring systems.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress reports</li> <li>• Minutes of consultation meetings</li> <li>• 2 Research study reports</li> <li>• Migratory routes x 12 updated maps</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Output 4:</b> Communities informed on their role in land administration through outreach and sensitization, especially about the land rights of women</p> <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of VGGT advocacy workshops</li> <li>• # of people reached, gender disaggregated</li> <li>• # of targeted sessions conducted land rights issue</li> <li>• # of targeted sessions conducted for women on their land rights issue</li> <li>• # of mass media campaigns and coverage in general</li> <li>• # of campaign targeted specifically at women using women appropriate channels to inform them about their rights</li> <li>• # of mass media campaigns and coverage to inform the general community about women’s land rights to increase acceptance.</li> <li>• % of community members reflecting knowledge on their positive roles in land administration, gender disaggregated</li> </ul> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b></p>	<p>Local and federal radios broadcasted on Darfur land issues several times during project period, various interviews with knowledgeable individuals was broadcasted. Newspapers and brochures were distributed.</p> <p>About 3,012 people in 5 Darfur States (2207 men and 807 women) were fully aware of Land use information included Legislations, relationship between the land use legislations and Land traditional rule (Hakora system) through consultations and women focus group work. Open interactive theater shows conducted in 14 localities of 5 Darfur State in coordination localities and states authorities enabling stakeholders accessing information, total participants are 11,406, where 45% were women.</p> <p>Awareness raising sessions with local communities, native administration, farmers, pastoralists and sate line ministries on the impact of climate change on natural resource use and planning as well as participatory land use mapping using GBS tracking for triggering resource-based conflict in Darfur. Awareness raised also on how other communities in Africa region have Voluntary setup Guidelines to Govern their land Tenure systems (VGGT) for avoiding competition over natural resources contribute in building sustainable and peaceful land utilization.</p>		<p>Brochures, Recorded interviews, media monitoring reports, progress reports</p>
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<p><b>Output 5:</b> Land title system is improved, made more gender-equal and strengthened, and land concerns at return site addressed (Support to land commission and state authorities to become more gender sensitive)</p> <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender sensitive land tenure policy document in place</li> <li>• # of return sites considered for land title issue - aggregated by gender and vulnerability criteria</li> <li>• # of state institutions with functioning land information system</li> <li>• # of institutions provided with institutional capacity/ need assessment</li> <li>• # of institutions (including commissions, local courts and traditional dispute resolution actors) provided with sensitization and capacity building to gender mainstream implementation and resolve disputes in a gender sensitive/equality enhancing way</li> <li>• #percentage increase in female staff of land institutions</li> </ul> <p># of female staff at land institutions received capacity building to boost effectiveness and impact</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b></p> <p>.</p>	<p>DLC main government partner in the project has been supported with employing and training 5 officers working in coordination and joint implementation with UN partners. Land institutions were identified in the 5 states, assessed and capacities were built in term of equipment and trainings, the institutions are: Native administration, states ministries of Agriculture and Animal resources, Physical Planning and Public Utilities, local governors, legal and judiciary administrations, Nomadic councils, Peace Centers within Darfur Universities. Equipment and materials were provided including relevant basic and advance trainings for the 5 states ministries of agriculture, animal resources, physical planning in addition to DLC and thus, Land Information computerized system was established for registering including mapping farmers land, reserved forests and livestock routes, Urban observatory was established in North and South Darfur as pilot.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lists of trained female and male for polies designed and implementation</li> <li>• List of provided equipment for the land institutions</li> <li>• Data entry in servers</li> <li>• Functioning plotters</li> <li>• Progress reports</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Output 6:</b> Sketch map/plan produced for 50 return village including existing boundary and possible direction(s) of settlement future expansion in order to draw a draft future boundary and grazing buffer zone and land for livelihood.</p> <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 return villages assessed</li> <li>• 50 sketch/maps prepared for return villages</li> <li>• Security of land tenure provided in return villages</li> </ul> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 50 return villages</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b></p>	<p>Each of the 5 Darfur states has a technical core team comprises of state government employees from different departments of ministry of urban physical planning in addition to a member from ministry of agriculture, ministry of health and ministry of education. Most of these teams contain 15 persons.</p> <p>The technical teams received introductory and advanced trainings internal and abroad on Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) editing and GIS mapping techniques</p> <p>the project has made use of its partnership with Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) to test the STDM in Sudan and match it to the context of Darfur by participation of the concerned ministries of the 5 Darfur States; it is a participatory tool. The tool is translated into Arabic, Sudan is considered as the first experience in Arab states.</p> <p>52 Villages of return were assessed, profiled and sketch mapped.</p> <p>Returned 324 household women at 14 returned villages in West Darfur and central Darfur have been granted livelihood capital investment to sustain their return in their lands</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress reports</li> <li>• Sketch mapping and village profile reports</li> <li>• Photos</li> <li>• Baseline on returned women and livelihood report targeting 14 localities.</li> </ul>
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## **Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned**

The project has bridged the gap for concern stakeholders by discussing land issues in Darfur and gaining trust of the official partners and Native administration stakeholders through explaining the background of how the local communities have participated since the planning stage of the project formation to the current implementation stage assuring necessity of stakeholders participation to reach the desired peaceful coexistence in Darfur. Land issues were found to be sensitive with political, technical, and social complex to the extent of spending more than 3 months to officially acquire approval for running a workshop on Land management in the beginning of the project implementation, also the process of selecting implementing partners and discussion with the commissions for joint activities and final agreement took long time, temporarily the project started under agreement between states ministries of physical planning and UN-Habitat.

The lands use in Darfur are still governed by the traditional Hakoura system and the sheikhs of the land. They were not subject to the laws of land registrations of 1925, which reduced the value of the land and prevented its registration and investment. But through these workshops and discussion, citizens, Sheikhs land and their native administration understood the importance of land registrations but through laws and regulations that preserve the historical rights of the local leaders on the lands. There is a gap in the conventional land administration systems such that customary and informal tenure cannot be easily handled. There is a need for complimentary approaches in land administration. The concept of the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) was applied to bridge this gap by providing a standard for representing 'people – land' relationships independent of the level of formality, legality and technical accuracy

The Federal Government has deployed legal registries to the Darfur 5 states for registration of farmlands through their farming association that needs to be established first. Farmers were reluctant to register their land reasons mentioned are insecurity situation and they need their land to be cleared from others who are living there now as they expressed in several workshops, also they mentioned the high cost, long process and short validity of the registration certificate. However, it was observed some new farmers have started the process of registering whilst the intended targets were not. The deployed registrars postpone the processes to do no harm and consequently it might be more reasonable to specify certain peaceful locations to demonstrate possibility of farming land registration.

2- Arbitration is value added to the traditional methods in resolving disputes as revealed by the participants. It is midway between the judiciary courts and local means of disputes resolution. Some of the trained arbitrators have mentioned that more than three cases were resolved through arbitration system since they have been trained.

3- During the implementation of the project, it was found most of the animal routes in Darfur were designed 50 - 70 years ago and need to be updated to accommodate changes in the environment and deterioration of the natural resources hitched Darfur. Increased livestock number with improved



access to veterinary service has built huge animal restock supported by social believes among pastoralist to keep cattle for economic and cultural flaunting reasons.

The animal migration became shorter due to reduction of rainfalls especially northwards of Darfur region and therefore animal compete with farms in the limited fertile land.

Population number is also increasing and thus food security is also required for the rapidly increase population that uses traditional / subsistent farming method in the shrinking fertile land.

Gaps were found in access to water for livestock along the routes and thus, low productivity of cattle milking and meat compare to the huge livestock number that grazing in the area. The farmers are cultivating in the migratory routes for various mentioned reasons such as livestock are grazing in farmers croups anywhere, cultivating in one farm over years got the soil infertile besides some streams changed direction and splatted some farming lands.

4- Different Darfuri tribes, ethnics and livelihoods groups participated and came together during execution of the project and interactive theater shows in issues related to land rights communal and individual land tenure including the nomadic population, sedentary farmers, IDPs, refugees, returnees and hosting communities, achieved kind of co-existence and social cohesion, interactive theater show is one of the powerful and favorite ways for all groups of society whereby different massages on sharing land resource for livelihood of all the community was digested. through interactive theater shows VGGT and local Radio broadcasted, awareness messages on land tenure including women and land rights has reached to 20% of Darfur community, these methods are well accepted and acknowledged by communities, local authorities and native administrations.

5- Participation of relevant UN agencies in the project is essential to jointly build the ability of Gov. stakeholders.

Land issues found to be sensitive by communities and Government thus needs more awareness raising over longer period to achieve the desired change. More capacity building is needed to update government partners in technological means to improve performance in land management.

6- Returnees can actively participate in drawing plan of their own villages with assistance of land title institutions which in due course need to acquire technical knowledge of installing the web-based system, data collection then entry to produce useful reports amicable for land information system.

Return to own land could be faster with some restitution directed especially to household women.

**Problem / Challenge faced:**



The project management Structure is situated under Governance and Stabilization Unit of UNDP as leading Agency among other UN participating agencies of UN-Habitat, FAO and UNAMID for logistical support. The UNDP project team was understaffed by M&E and Reporting officer, Gender expert and 3 International UNV, even 2 of the 5 field staff resigned halfway through the project without replacement. Meanwhile the project staff of UN-Habitat and FAO were already employees of their agencies, but tasks of this project were added to their duties.

The effect of not employing the mentioned staff was reduced outreach and presentation of the project and in adequate visibility besides delay in completion of project activities in time.

Other challenges are:

- 1- Access difficulties due to the rainy seasons coincided with poor infrastructure and lack of unpaved roads and bridges made difficult access to the remote Localities. In addition to lack of fuel that resulted in the shortage of the implementation budget for IPs.  
Poor government services in most of the localities and absentees of qualified staff that belittled the effectiveness of the government in the eyes of most people in the localities.  
Lack of cash withdrawal from the banks set a great obstacle against the implementation of some project activities.  
Poor capacity of some implementing partners of Qatari Organizations and quit of another Qatari organization called RAF has delayed implementation of some activities in North Darfur.
- 2- Documentation of resolved cases by arbitrators. Creating arbitration committees at remote localities then linkage to judiciary systems in capitals.
- 3- The Land issue is very sensitive, and each state has its specifications and concerns in dealing with in land and land related issues in spite of some similarities. Therefore, the sketch mapping and village profiling are taken and considered differently due to security of the state and the stability of the concerned staff.
- 4- From the experience, the land issues need longer time to be well perceived and real positive change concerning the policies, legislations and community perceptions to be achieved. However, the process of village profiling and sketch mapping raised the sense of ownership  
Community acceptance to female arbitrators in resolving land disputes
- 5- Demobilization of powered nomads with more tendency to create settlements around the corridors with huge number of cattle that will destroy the reduced natural resource, meanwhile most of farmers are in ID camps leaving their land behind for security or political reasons.  
Limitation of funds directed for improving land cultivation productivity to allow space for animal grazing.
- 6- General insecurity for in the ground during early stage of the implementation  
Inadequate basic services and facilities at villages of Darfur.



- Damaged infrastructure including communications and transport facilities in general  
Distrust between nomads and farmers at some localities
- 7- Frequent change of government focal person at all levels  
IPs performance, the uneven capacity of National and some International Partners (Qatari organizations) in technical and managerial skills.  
UN agencies long process of procurement as well as delays in processing agreements and project extension procedures prior to final approval.
- 8- Dissolve of Darfur Region Authority (DRA) the main counterpart without replacement has affected the coordination process with the states and caused some delay in the project implementation.  
Change of government staff caused some delay in the project implementation specially communities consultation exercises, village profiling and the sketch mapping which needs participation of the communities and involvement of the line ministries as well as their approval on the selected villages. Additional updates and briefing to the new government staff to support the implementation process is required.  
Political and social sensitivity of land issues and lack of technical capacity.  
Fragmented, disjointed and conflicting land administration