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**[Human Rights Multi Donor Trust Fund]
MPTF OFFICE GENERIC FINAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: 28 AUGUST 2019 – 28 DECEMBER 2020**

<p align="center">Programme Title & Project Number</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme Title: <i>Pilot of UNSDG Operational Guide on LNOB for UNCTs in Cameroon</i> Programme Number <i>IC/Coordination/141/09/2019</i> MPTF Office Project Reference Number:³ <i>MPTF Project HRM LNOB – Cameroon 00117587</i> 	<p align="center">Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results²</p> <p><i>Country/Region Cameroon, Africa</i></p> <p><i>Priority area/ strategic results</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right to Equality and non-discrimination, 2030 Agenda Pledge to Leave No One Behind and reach the furthest behind first. Provide operational guidance for the field on normative issues, including leaving no one behind, HRBA, and gender equality. Strengthen LNOB in National Development Strategy, 2018-2020 UNDAF Mid-Term Review, CCA/UNSDCF, HRP 2020, Localization and Prioritization of SDGs at Regional and Local levels.
<p align="center">Participating Organization(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Guidance: RCO Lead Agency: UNDP Participating Agency: WHO, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNWOMEN, UNECA, ILO 	<p align="center">Implementing Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations: several NGOs identified as representing left behind groups
<p align="center">Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: 44,779.50 MPTF /JP Contribution⁴: 44,779.5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i> <p>Agency Contribution: 0</p> <p>Government Contribution: 0 <i>(if applicable)</i></p>	<p align="center">Programme Duration</p> <p>Overall Duration (<i>months</i>): <i>16 months</i> Start Date⁵ (<i>28.08.2019</i>)</p> <p>Original End Date⁶ (<i>28.02.2020</i>) Actual End date⁷(<i>28.12.2020</i>)</p> <p>Have agency(ies) operationally closed the Programme in its(their) system? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.
² Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;
³ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁴ The MPTF/JP Contribution is the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁵ The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁶ As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.
⁷ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see [MPTF Office Closure Guidelines](#).

Other Contributions (donors) **0**
(if applicable)

TOTAL: 44,779.5

Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.

Assessment/Review - if applicable *please attach*

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

Mid-Term Evaluation Report – if applicable *please attach*

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

Expected Financial Closure date⁸:
31.12.2020

Report Submitted By

- Name: Matthias Z. NAAB
- Title: Resident Coordinator, UN RCO Cameroon
- Email address: Matthias.naab@one.un.org

- Name: Jean-Luc Stalon
- Title: Resident Representative
- Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP
- Email address: jeanluc.stalon@undp.org

⁸ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the [Certified Final Financial Statement and Report](#).

(DELETE BEFORE SUBMISSION)

Guidelines:

The Narrative Progress Report template is based on the UNDG 2003 template, which is currently under review and is in line with the [UNDG Results Based Management Handbook \(October 2011\)](#).

Building on continued efforts made in the UN system to produce results-based reports, the progress report should describe how the activities (inputs) contributed to the achievement of specific short-term outputs during the twelve month reporting period, and to demonstrate how the short-term outputs achieved in the reporting period collectively **contributed to the achievement of the agreed upon outcomes** of the applicable Strategic (UN) Planning Framework guiding the operations of the Fund.

In support of the individual programme reports, please attach any additional relevant information and photographs, assessments, evaluations and studies undertaken or published.

Where available, the information contained in the Programme Summaries and Quarterly and/or Semi-Annual Updates prepared by the Participating Organizations may be useful in the preparation of the Annual Narrative Progress Report. These Summaries and Updates, where applicable, are available in the respective Fund sections of the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/>).

Formatting Instructions:

- The report should be between 10-15 pages. Include a list of the main abbreviations and acronyms that are used in the report.
- Number all pages, sections and paragraphs as indicated below.
- Format the entire document using the following font: 12point _ Times New Roman and do not use colours.
- The report should be submitted in one single Word or PDF file.
- Annexes can be added to the report but need to be clearly referenced, using footnotes or endnotes within the body of the narrative.

FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

By piloting the UNSDG Operational Guide on LNOB in Cameroon, UNCT Cameroon has on the one hand achieved several advancements in the quest to ensure that the furthest left behind in Cameroon's development landscape are identified and supported, while on the other hand making substantive recommendations for the improvement of UNSDG's operational guide. These achievements are explained in the paragraphs below.

Firstly, one of the core components of this project was to conduct an enquiry analysis on the identification of the groups that are furthest left behind in Cameroon's development landscape and the reasons why they face such exclusions. The Cameroon LNOB Report which ensued from this analysis was widely shared within the UN family and has enlightened UNCT on the groups that most need support to evade the vicious cycle of economic-social-political deprivation in Cameroon. Given that Cameroon is bilingual but about 80% of the population speaks the French language, both the interim Operational Guide and the Cameroon LNOB Report were translated into this language.

Secondly, the LNOB Agenda has been mainstreamed at several strategic and programmatic levels in the Cameroon's government development plans. One of such avenues is in the country's 2020-2030 National Development Strategy (NDS30). During the planning workshops and conferences for the elaboration of the NDS30, the UN System in Cameroon was convened by the Government and the Agencies, under RCO/UNDP leadership, availed themselves of the opportunity to ensure that the NDS30 is pro-poor, focuses on leaving no one behind and is aligned to the SDGs.

Thirdly, by piloting the UNSDG Operational Guide on LNOB in Cameroon, the UNCT has been able to complete the Common Country Analysis for which Cameroon was a rollout country in 2020. In fact, the LNOB report which shed light on exclusions and the multidimensional explanatory factors thereof was used by UN experts in Cameroon in undertaking the CCA. Both the Cameroon LNOB Report and the Interim Guide have been very useful in the elaboration the new Cooperation framework (UNSDCF) between the UN and the Government of Cameroon which is nearing completion – and whose strategic priorities focus on people identified as being left behind. This will eventually inform Agencies on the strategic orientation of their CPDs as well as on the definition of the joint workplans and projects.

Fourthly, though not initially a stated objective of the project, the piloting of the LNOB Guide was used as an opportunity to sensitise and advocate for LNOB both within the UN and amongst our partners. Being a pilot country, the UNCT in Cameroon was quick to react on the call from USG Ana Maria Menendez, Senior Advisor of the SG on Policy, to operationalize the SG's Disability Inclusion Strategy and formed a Task Force on Disability Inclusion that is meeting on a regular basis and has developed an Action Plan that will soon be discussed by the UNCT.

Fifthly, 39 CSOs, representative of the groups identified in the Cameroon LNOB Report as most left behind were brought together in a workshop to assess the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on such groups. These groups were to a certain extent left behind by the rapid assessments conducted by government and the UN to inform response plans to COVID-19. The results showed that groups were disproportionately affected, especially those living with a disability. The workshop also provided an opportunity to sensitise these CSOs on the LNOB approach and guide.

Finally, following the operationalization of the UNSDG LNOB guide in Cameroon which resulted in the LNOB Cameroon report, pertinent contributions were formulated and shared for the improvement of the Guide to the UNSDG Task Team on LNOB at HQ. These comments are aimed

at making the guide more operational and practical in view of ensuring that it produces pertinent results for all UNCTs on a global scale.

I. Purpose

The inter-agency Task Team under the auspices of the UNDG developed an LNOB operational Guide to support UNCTs in assisting member countries to operationalize the pledge to leave no one behind. The Task Team decided to pilot the interim draft guide in a number of countries so as to obtain feedback to inform the finalisation of the guide. The UNCT in Cameroon took interest in the pilot in order to strengthen its support to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in a way that is consistent with the pledge to leave no one behind and reach the furthest behind first. The UNCT identified a number of opportunities to improve key policy and processes in Cameroon through a greater focus on groups left behind. The UNCT applied, was selected for the pilot and used the project to test the LNOB interim Operational Guide and mainstream the LNOB approach. By manifesting its interest in piloting the UNSDG Operational Guide on LNOB in Cameroon, the UNCT expected to achieve the following:

- Strengthen the Right to equality and non-discrimination; 2030 Agenda Pledge to Leave No One Behind and reach the furthest behind first.
- Provide operational guidance for the field on normative issues, including leaving no one behind, HRBA, and gender equality.
- Strengthen LNOB in the National Development Strategy, the Common Country Analysis and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

II. Results

i) Narrative reporting on results:

Outcomes:

- By mainstreaming the LNOB principle in Cameroon's SND30, the UNCT has contributed in strengthening the Right to equality and non-discrimination in Cameroon's development plans more than this has ever been the case in previous development documents that were considered more "growth" oriented and less focused on equality. For example, one of the focus areas of the Pillar 2 (Human Capital Development and Wellbeing) of SND30 is Social Protection. The goal here is to "promote the wellbeing of the population, especially the most vulnerable" (p.11). It goes further to reference the integration of all social categories hitherto on the fringes of the system, through the reduction of social inequalities, taking measures to protect against all forms of vulnerability.
- My mainstreaming LNOB into the CCA and especially in the UNSDCF, the CPDs of UN agencies, which derive from the UNSDCF, will fully incorporate the principle in their programming and prioritise identified groups in their interventions. For example, every of the five outcomes of the draft UNSDCF references the vulnerable populations, the groups left behind.
- By providing relevant comments based on the implementation of the LNOB guide in the Cameroon context, UNCT has supported the strengthening of operational guidance in the field on normative issues, including leaving no one behind, HRBA, and gender equality. The UNSDG Task Team on LNOB at HQ can capitalize on the input from UNCT in Cameroon alongside comments from other pilot countries to improve the pragmatism of the LNOB guide.

Outputs:

- LNOB principle and approach was shared with the Government, and Government's capacities in that area were strengthened for a better and systematic inclusion of groups left behind in planning decisions.
- UNCT as well as the international contractor applied the relevant steps of the LNOB guide to the Cameroon context and produced the Cameroon LNOB Report. The report indicates the analytical and evaluative capacities required for the process.
- The operationability of the LNOB Guide was tested and evaluation form completed providing insight into how the LNOB guide can be improved to better support efforts to operationalize the LNOB approach in Cameroon. Part of the testing was through a workshop comprising 39 CSOs focusing on the plight of LNOB groups.
- Using the interim guide and the Cameroon LNOB Report, the LNOB principle has been mainstreamed into the HRP, CCA and the UNSDCF. The CCA incorporates LNOB principles in its Chapter 4 which addresses issues related to inequality, exclusion (social, health, education) and discrimination.
- Both the LNOB Cameroon Report and the interim operational Guide were effectively disseminated and shared to UNCT and key stakeholders through several presentations: a) Seminar to sensitise parliamentarians on SDGs; b) municipal councillors and CSOs during the celebration of the 5th anniversary of the SDGs in Cameroon; c) UN humanitarian inter-sector working group; d) A meeting organized by UNV, the RCO and the Minister of Youth in preparation of the Global Technical Meeting (on the side of the HLPF 2020), under the theme: Volunteerism and Agenda 2030; and e) Several CSO organisations during consultations for the elaboration of the CCA.
- Both the interim Guide and the Cameroon LNOB Report have been translated into French language to facilitate their adoption and use by the various stakeholders.
- The production of a report on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on groups identified as left behind in the Cameroon LNOB Report. The results showed that these groups were disproportionately affected, especially those living with a disability.
- A short video and article have also been produced by the RCO Communications team to further sensitise on the necessity to include people left behind in Cameroon
- **Describe any delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & best practices:**

The project was initially scheduled for 6 months, but with the opportunity to mainstream the LNOB principle in the CCA, and therefore also in the UNSDCF, the task team requested and obtained an extension until December 2020. These objectives have been achieved. The several civil society organisations that participated in both the CCA and the UNSDCF enlarged consultations were aware with the principles of LNOB.

A salient yet very known bottleneck on the quality of the LNOB report is the deficiency of disaggregated data at country level and from various perspectives including gender, age, geography

disability, and other multi-faceted identities such as culture (ethnicity). If the UN must effectively monitor progress in fulfilling the Agenda 2030 and uplift the most vulnerable, then the organization must provide unprecedented support to developing countries such as Cameroon in strengthening their statistical systems and ensuring that surveys address these multi-faceted aspects. The UN signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Institute for Statistics in 2020, which will look at strengthening the technical and financial capacities of the country to collect and analyse such data.

- **Qualitative assessment:**

The evaluation of the guide for the operationalization of the pledge to LNOB by UNCT Cameroon was achieved through an effective coordination between the RCO, the LNOB Task Force of UNCT Cameroon as well as HQ. Feedback was made on the draft LNOB report by the LNOB Task Force and the team at DCO. This feedback enabled a shift from what was considered a generalized classification of groups that are furthest left behind in Cameroon's development landscape to more specific identities that are furthest left behind based on concrete facts.

The LNOB Task Force worked together to achieve the goals of this project. The team jointly planned and executed activities and identified the other key stakeholders who participated in the several activities organised as part of the implementation of the project. Without this collaboration such results would not have been achieved.

Both the terms of reference and the final report for the LNOB COVID-19 impact study were vetted by the SDG inter-agency working Group which meets every month. The translation, proofreading and editing of both LNOB draft Guide and the Cameroon LNOB Report were done by a group of carefully selected Online volunteers with extensive experience in their respective fields.

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

Using the **Programme Results Framework from the Project Document / AWP** - provide an update on 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, as well as plans on how and when this data will be collected.

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
Outcome 1⁹ / Output 1.1: UNCT applies the LNOB Guide to key activities, with support provided as required by Cameroon support Pilot Team			
Indicator 1.1.1: Guide disseminated to UNCT and relevant partners and stakeholders Baseline: Planned Target:	The Guide was effectively disseminated and shared to UNCT and key stakeholders.	N/A	UNCT documentation, CSO meeting reports
Indicator 1.1.2: Guide applied to country level activities that will result in development of an LNOB prioritization and analysis report to feed into the planning of the Next National Development Plan and the CCA/UNSDCF and HRP	The LNOB principle has been mainstreamed into the National Development Strategy (2020-2030). The guide and the LNOB report have been mainstreamed into the HRP, the CCA and UNSDCF processes. The UNSDCF is currently being finalized.	N/A	National Development Strategy, CCA, HRP, UNSDCF
Outcome 2/Output 2.1: The Operationability of the LNOB Guide is tested in Cameroon			
Indicator 2.2.1: LNOB Guide is introduced and applied by UNCT, applying relevant steps and cross-cutting elements of the Guide.	The UNCT via the LNOB Task Force and the international contractor applied the relevant steps of the LNOB guide to the Cameroon context and produced an LNOB Cameroon Report. Both the Report and the Guide were widely disseminated among UN colleagues and CSO partners	N/A	Regular communications including virtual meetings with Cameroon Support Pilot Team and UNCT focal points to update on progress in application of the LNOB guide; several presentations and submission by UNCT of agreed deliverables like the evaluations and meetings with HQ.

⁹ Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be **as outlined in the Project Document** so that you report on your **actual achievements against planned targets**. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.

Outcome 3/Output 3.1: Feedback on how the LNOB Guide can be revised to better support efforts to operationalize the LNOB approach is obtained using evaluation techniques			
Indicator 3.3.1: At least one report documenting results of evaluation exercises	The LNOB Task Team completed the LNOB evaluation form which provides insight into how the LNOB guide can be improved especially by providing more practical examples.	N/A	UNCT focal points coordinated with relevant UNCT members and other partners and provided inputs in accordance with evaluation framework and relevant tools. Evaluation results presented and discussed in a virtual meeting with HQ
Outcome 4/Output 4.1: Process support and capacity building inputs to support UNCT application and uptake of the Guide are identified			
Indicator 4.4.1: Document detailing the process and capacity supports provided during the piloting – Evaluation report (see above)	PowerPoint presentations were prepared and shared with UN colleagues, especially the Humanitarian inter-sector Working Group. These presentations benefited from the interim Guide and the LNOB Cameroon Report prepared by the international consultant following the steps in the guide. This facilitated the streamlining of the LNOB principle in both the CCA and the UNSDCF. Similar presentations were shared with several CSOs.	N/A	Available PowerPoint presentations and the CCA and UNSDCF (draft) documents
Outcome 5/Output 5.1: Best practices for leaving no one behind in Cameroon are documented and disseminated			
Indicator 1.5.1: One report documenting best practices for Leaving No One Behind	LNOB has been mainstreamed into the national Development Strategy (SDN30). The CCA incorporates LNOB principles in its Chapter 5 and the UNSDCF (currently being finalized) mainstreams LNOB.	N/A	The SDN30 and CCA documents are available. The UNSDCF is nearing completion

iii) A Specific Story (Optional)

- *This could be a success or human story. It does not have to be a success story – often the most interesting and useful lessons learned are from experiences that have not worked. The point is to highlight a concrete example with a story that has been important to your Programme in the reporting period.*
- *In ¼ to ½ a page, provide details on a specific achievement or lesson learned of the Programme. Attachment of supporting documents, including photos with captions, news items etc, is strongly encouraged. The MPTF Office will select stories and photos to feature in the Consolidated Annual Report, the GATEWAY and the MPTF Office Newsletter.*

Problem / Challenge faced: *Describe the specific problem or challenge faced by the subject of your story (this could be a problem experienced by an individual, community or government).*

In the course of implementing the project, we decided to organise a workshop with the twin objectives of sensitising groups representing people left behind on the LNOB principle and taking them through the interim operational guide; and also assess how such groups have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Those living with disability form an integral part of the groups left behind, and it was therefore very likely that some of the participants could have serious challenges if the venue was not disability inclusive; as is largely the case in Cameroon.

How will the UN, organising a workshop to fight against marginalisation and to promote inclusiveness, deal with such a situation?

Programme Interventions: *How was the problem or challenged addressed through the Programme interventions?*

The management of the hotel was informed of this challenge and the potential effect on the image of the UN. A request was made for meeting room and bedrooms without staircases (this was a small single-floor hotel with no lifts). The management could not guarantee any of these, and it was unfortunately too late to start looking for a different venue which is disability inclusive, noting that most venues are not disability friendly.

Result (if applicable): *Describe the observable **change** that occurred so far as a result of the Programme interventions. For example, how did community lives change or how was the government better able to deal with the initial problem?*

When the team arrived at the venue on the eve of the workshop, it was agreeably surprised with what the management had done. As the two pictures below indicate, work had been done to facilitate access to the meeting room and toilet to wheelchair-bound participants.

The team had been expecting, at best, the availing of someone to help (carry) the wheelchair participants into the meeting rooms. This initiative and investment by the hotel were very positively received by the participants.



Lessons Learned: *What did you (and/or other partners) learn from this situation that has helped inform and/or improve Programme (or other) interventions?*

As far as LNOB advocacy, and especially disability inclusion is concerned, it may suffice simply to better articulate the problem and get the buy-in of some stakeholders. There are potentially many people out there willing and ready to lend a hand.

III. Other Assessments or Evaluations (if applicable)

- *Report on any assessments, evaluations or studies undertaken.*

As already reported above, a study to assess the effects of COVID-19 on groups left behind was conducted. The PI team also produced a video for further sensitisation on the LNOB principle during the workshop organised as part of the project (<https://vimeo.com/530061344>).

IV. Programmatic Revisions (if applicable)

- *Indicate any major adjustments in strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs that took place.*

V. Resources (Optional)

- *Provide any information on financial management, procurement and human resources.*
- *Indicate if the Programme mobilized any additional resources or interventions from other partners.*