



DCPSF FINAL REPORTING TEMPLATE 2023

INSTRUCTIONS

- Please fill in all sections of the template. If information is not available, note the reason.
- Kindly submit the report along with any photographs or communication products as well as other relevant documents to dcpsf.sd.team@undp.org.

Section 1: Contact and Project Details

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Project Title	Improved Peaceful Coexistence and Social Cohesion for conflict-affected communities in Kutum Rural, North Darfur.
State	North Darfur State
Localities and their Population number	Kutum Locality, With 58,670 beneficiaries
Specific villages covered	(Dissa, Gureir, Umlaota, Eldur, Erada, Damrat Guba, Helt Tafa villages).
Project start & end date (as per the signed contract)	1st of February 2021 – 31st of January 2023
No Cost Extension (NCE) dates if any	Yes, for 6 months from 1 st February to 30 th June 2023
Project Budget (as per signed contract)	USD 800,000
Total Expenditure	USD 800,000
Reporting period	1st of February 2021 – 28 th February 2023



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



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Section 2 – Executive Summary (MAX. 700 words)

Please provide a summary of your project:

- What was your project about? Brief summary on main goals, relevance in the Darfur context and key output results during this DCPSF Phase (2021-2023).
- A brief on budget and delivery rate for the entire project

Executive Summary (650 words maximum)

The project sought to improve peaceful coexistence among the communities in Kutum locality, North Darfur State, while addressing all 4 outputs in DCPSF's Results Framework. The project was implemented in seven (7) villages with 5 Farming and Agro-pastoralist villages (Dissa, Umlaota, Eldur, Erada, Helt Tafa villages) and 2 purely pastoralist villages (Gureir and Damrat Guba). Contextual challenges beyond the control of the organisation delayed the timely completion of the project, and as a result, a 1 month no cost extension was requested and granted from 01.02.2023 to 28.02.2023. The goal of the project is to improve the living conditions of the targeted communities in the above-mentioned areas, while also aiming at sustainable improvement of opportunities for the future generations with the expected outcome of up to 90% of the target communities helping themselves sufficiently. Overall, the project resulted in improvement of security and stabilization of communities affected by conflict through the utilization of effective conflict management mechanisms, peace dividends, support to peace infrastructures, and durable solutions that augmented peaceful coexistence and social cohesion.

During the period of the project implementation, the overall security of North Darfur had improved as compared to the previous years. However, poverty, insecurity, and failing livelihoods opportunities continued to exacerbate the fragility of communities across the southern parts of North Darfur State. Moreover, in the wake of the changes taking place in the country and the uncertainties of the transitional period, new conflicts continued emerging in an environment where resources and opportunities are already under stress. Even after the end of the project implementation, It is still essential for Government and other relevant stakeholders to continue reconciliation and peace-building initiatives in the targeted rural communities.

This WHH project built on the achievements and good practices from the first three Darfur Community Peace and Stabilization Fund (DCPSF)-funded peacebuilding projects with an increased focus on gender mainstreaming and youth economic empowerment by ensuring their increased participation in decision-making structures and peacebuilding mechanisms and the inclusive participation of youth, women, and marginalized communities in key political tasks of the transitional period. The project also focusing on strengthening and improving collaboration between local/informal peacebuilding mechanisms and formal authorities at both the local and state-level; as well as increasing capital investments into local economies and stimulating the diversification of livelihood and income generation sources, especially targeting youth at risk of becoming engaged in violence.

In addition, there was a significant focus on immediate investment in youth employment, education, and empowerment to provide alternatives and strengthen the resilience to recruitment to armed groups and illegal activities.

This project also linked all WHH developed CBRMs, those established in the previous phases and those that have been established in this phase, along with CBRMs created by other DCPSF partners in North Darfur, with relevant government ministries, legal institutions, HAC, and security services to ensure that traditional conflict resolution methods are linked with legal Sudanese structures for enhanced peace efforts.

The project was funded by DCPSF, a UN pooled funding mechanism, for 24 months with a funding portfolio of USD 800,000. The implementing partner for this project was Al Rayan for Social Development (RSD). The project was also implemented in collaboration with State Line ministries;

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Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MoAR), State Water Sector (SWS) and the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC). WHH and RSD worked in collaboration with El fasher University, Faculty of Peacebuilding on peacebuilding, conflict resolution and reconciliation, Ministry of Social Affairs for Raising awareness on GBV, child protection on gender justice and against any abuse related to SGBV abuse and referral pass way mechanics.

The project focused on 4 main outputs namely, (i) Community-based conflict resolution and reconciliation mechanisms (CBRMs) are in use and working effectively to resolve conflict. (ii) Peace dividends for community interdependence and coexistence are delivered, (iii) Women's organizations, including those representing pastoralist women, empowered to meaningfully participate in local and state-level peacebuilding platforms, (iv) Improved networking, coordination and learning between local and state-level peacebuilding institutions.

Project budget and final expenditure (100 words maximum)

The total project budget was USD 800,000 and total expenditure by 28.02.2023 is 780,077.52 USD (97.5% of total budget). The project did a budget revision to meet expenditures for each budget line and revised budget. This not the final due to the delay of funds form UNDP/DCPSF to WHH and the final financial report will be on June 2023.

Section 3 – Project activities and results (500 words for each section)

Using the output breakdown below, please list **all your activities and significant results achieved made during the project implementation period (2021 -2023).**

Highlight any achievements towards gender equality and inclusion.

Output 1: Community-based conflict resolution and reconciliation mechanisms are in use and working effectively to resolve conflict

Output Activity	Result
1.1 Seven (7) new CBRMs established, their capacity developed, their activities monitored and linkages created.	Together with the national partner, Al Rayan for Social Development (RSD) , WHH successfully created 7 new CBRMS comprising of 70 members :(26 women (37%), 30 youth (43%) and 14 men (20%) and linked them to the Peace building centre of Elfasher university to build their capacity on peacebuilding, negotiation, conflict management and administrative laws. Throughout the project period, the 7 CBRMs held a total of 391 meetings and 320 conflicts/disputes were registered, including: 80 cases of crop destruction, 42 land disputes, 12 water related disputes, 108 criminal activities, 60 family disputes and 18 other diverse conflicts. As can be seen from the figures, key conflicts relate to disputes over resources as well as criminal activities including animal thefts as the community in Kutum locality are a mix of crop farmers, agro pastoralists, and pastoralists. Up to the end of the project, 70% (225) of the disputes were completely resolved by the CBRMs and 30% (95) of the disputes couldn't be resolved by the CBRMS and were referred to a court . The project final evaluation

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	<p>indicated that the establishment of CBRM's have greatly resulted in reducing conflict and successfully addressing disputes and</p> <p>Reducing inter-tribal violence, thus contributing to the stabilization of the targeted communities during the project time.</p>
1.2 Twenty-four (24) key stakeholders, including village leaders, local government, native-administrative units were trained.	<p>24 (F-8) Key stakeholders were trained in peacebuilding and reconciliation, governance, leadership, and natural resources management by the Peace building center of Elfasher University. This has strengthened the inclusion of community members in the decision-making process for the community's coexistence and social cohesion and enhanced the ownership and sustainability of the project in the targeted locality villages.</p>
1.3 Organize three (3) cross tribal peace building forums.	<p>Three (3) cross-tribal peace-building forums were conducted, and this enhanced the opportunities for peaceful coexistence between the farmers and pastoralists communities, consolidated peace, and stability, reactivated the roles of native administration in addressing the issues of farmers and pastoralists, and boosted the administrative, security, and social coordination among the localities of Kutum and Al Waha.</p>
1.4 Mentorship and coaching sessions monthly for 7 months targeting 140 women and 140 youth to strengthen the role of women and youth in peacebuilding.	<p>There was a significant improvement in the roles of specifically marginalized actors such as women and youth in peacebuilding through the Mentoring and Coaching Sessions' use of strong leads in the community. After 14 sessions with participation of a total of 140 women and 140 youth focusing on public speaking, networking, and presentation skills, the participants were able to present their ideas and voice in public and even in the CBRMs meetings, peacebuilding forum and social events.</p>
1.5 Sports or cultural events will be organised to bring together two (2) different community groups 2 times per village every 3 months.	<p>Through project held four (4) sport/cultural events in the seven (7) targeted communities where 4,695 individuals (1,060 men; 2,620 women; 1,015 youth) participated. The events contained different themes from the local community including different sports for both females and males. The youth presented their skills in public speaking and poetry, which reflected what they have learned during the project in advocacy, and protection against GBV. Community members represented in the events included local administration leaders like the "Umda"," Sheikh", Youth leaders, and Women representatives. Overall, the events promoted inclusion and social cohesion, and tensions were diffused, and some conflicts were mitigated especially those affecting youth and women in the community. Different cultural activities contributing to enhancing peacebuilding, and cohesion among different communities, different tribes,</p>

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	and cultures to exhibit homogeneity and tranquillity were presented during the events.
Output 2: Peace dividends for community interdependence and coexistence are delivered	
Output Activity	Result
2.1 Rehabilitation of two (2) boreholes and solar installation.	In collaboration with the State water sector, sites for Two (2) Boreholes were identified and subsequently rehabilitated and installed with solar pumping system. This increased water availability, reduced walking distances to water sources, as well as reduced waiting time at the water source. In particular, the solarization of the units significantly reduced maintenance costs and air pollution due to usage of fuel. To enhance governance and operationalization as well as management of the water infrastructure, two (2) water management committees were formed and trained on Operation and Maintenance and Management and organization. These two (2) rehabilitated boreholes are currently serving at least 15,830 individuals (7,580 in Erada and 8,250 in Tafa).
2.2 Construction of one (1) shallow well for agriculture production.	One (1) shallow well in Eldur Village was drilled and constructed in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources. This increased access to water for vegetable production. The women's vegetable group comprising of 30 members which was situated far away from reliable water sources are now able to produce vegetables for their own consumption and sell the surplus in the village market as IGAS. To enhance governance and operationalization as well as management of the Shallow well and vegetable garden, all 30 women belonging to the vegetable group were trained in Operation and Maintenance, Management and organization, and marketing.
2.3 Training of 45 members of the water management committees (WMCs) in the operation and maintenance of water infrastructure.	To enhance governance and operationalization as well as management of the water infrastructure, three (3) water management committees comprised of 41 members (22 Men and 19 Women) were formed and trained on Operation and Maintenance, Management, and organization of water infrastructures. All the WMCs are actively managing the water infrastructure in collaboration with the State Water Sector.
2.4 Training for 80 small-scale farmers in Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).	The project established and operationalised five (5) farmer field schools (FFS) with 129 farmers (F-63) who were trained on the FFS approach by the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources. The Ministry supported with development of the training curriculum. The farmers were well capacitated with the knowledge on conservation agriculture techniques such as minimum soil tillage and soil disturbance, permanent soil cover with crop residues and crop rotation and intercropping,

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	these increased the productivity of yield per Fadden and subsequently an increase in income for the farmers.
2.5 Training of 60 pastoralists in Pastoralist Field Schools (PFS)	Through Pastoralist Filed Schools (PFS) Approach The project established and operationalised two (2) pastoralist field schools with 60 members (F-30) who received technical training from the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources. The line ministries supported with development of training curriculum.
2.6 Procurement and distribution of seeds for 1,000 beneficiaries	The project supported 1,000 (F- 633) farmer households from 7 villages with 16MTs of improved seeds (Sorghum, Ground nut, Millet, and Sesame) during the year 2021 autumn season. Farmers indicate an increase in crop production by more than 50% as a result of using improved seeds.
2.7 Conduct labour market assessment and value chain analysis to identify value creation potential.	WHH conducted labour market assessment and value chain analysis in Kutum locality. Based on the recommendations from the labour market assessment and value chain analysis, the project team identified various value chains activities including, Agro food processing, cheese making, yoghurt making and animal fattening and the farmers groups were trained on activities that increased their efficiency on production and marketing; also the Lead farmers represented the interests of their groups at the FFS and PFS levels.
2.8 Improving job prospects through vocational training and entrepreneurship skills training for 140 young people (18-35 years), as well as people with disabilities.	Vocational and entrepreneurship training programs were chosen and implemented according to the recommended potential vocations and professions in the "Labour Market Survey "conducted by Sudan Research and Consultation Group (SRCG)in 2021. 140 youth (F-70) were supported through vocational and entrepreneurship skills training (Handcraft, Sewing Clothes, and Shaving Shops). The trainees were provided with starter kits to ensure a stable start-up and sustainability. The training provided knowledge and know-how on new income generating activities and increased employment opportunities for community members as the majority have lost their source of livelihood due to the prolonged conflicts in the region. WHH together with its' partner, RSD closely supported the apprentices and linked them with local networks to ensure placement, and opportunities to practice and earn an income.
2.9 Training of 14 community-based animal health workers and equipping with veterinary kits.	14 (F-5) Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) were trained and well capacitated on animal husbandry and diseases by the Animal Health department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources and were equipped with veterinary kits. The CAHWs are actively carrying out extension services and delivering livestock

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	<p>treatment services to target pastoralist HH during the project implementation period and beyond. The CAHWs report directly to the Animal Health department at the locality levels, who also supervise their activities.</p>
<p>2.10 Constructing of one (1) multi-functional centre in Dissa village within the target area.</p>	<p>WHH constructed One (1) multi-functional community centre at Dissa village and handed over to the community at Dissa village.</p> <p>The multi-functional centre is currently being used as a venue for interaction between different groups in Dissa village council including youth and women groups in their engagement. The centre is also being used for economic gains for example, through renting it out to agencies for training after which the revenue collected is being used for operation and maintenance as a diversified investment at the community level for group members. Some of the groups planned to benefit from the centre include, CBRM members, women groups for IGAs, youth groups through vocational training/life skills, cultural events, library, and community members through theatre and social events.</p>
<p>2.11 Training of 140 women in income-generating measures/small businesses (e.g., production, marketing and sales for fuel-saving stoves, handicrafts, and food processing).</p>	<p>Following the Income Generating Activities (IGA) skills training conducted by WHH for a total of 140 women, all the trained women were provided with business starter package including, tools and materials kits for soap making, handicrafts, sewing machines, food processing (cheese and Yoghurt making). All the 140 women have established their own small businesses in 7 villages and their incomes have increased by 61%, thus enabling their economic and financial empowerment. The businesses established include handcraft production, food processing and soapmaking.</p>
<p>2.12 Establishment of one tree nursery in identified sites within one of the 7 villages.</p>	<p>One (1) tree nursery was established in Erada village near Erada water point for the purpose of producing tree seedlings for reforestation and recharging the local tree cover using indigenous tree species. Fruit trees were planted by the 25-youth managing the nursery and other trees will also be planted along migratory routes once the rains return this year, thus contributing to peacebuilding as they will provide feed for livestock, hence avoiding grazing on farms and valuable crops. The tree planting groups were supplied with in-kind support like farming tools. Further, the nursery will boost the youth group of 25 members through income generation from the sales of tree seedlings and tree products.</p>
<p>2.13 Demarcation of one (Kutur) migratory route covering 100 kilometres in 3 target villages (Al Dur Erada, Dissa).</p>	<p>100 kilometres along the regular migratory route were demarcated. The migratory route extends from Jana, Sayee, Khier ban, Um Shideq, North Eldur villages up to Aljenaik water point. The aim of demarcating the</p>

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	migratory route is to mitigate against recurrent conflicts resulting from pastoralists migrating from the North to the South and vice versa, in search of water and pasture thus damaging crops; leading to conflicts between pastoralists and farmers. With the demarcation, farms will be secured from damage and farmers from losses, leading to food security and economic growth.
Output 3: Women's organisations, including those representing pastoralist women, empowered to meaningfully participate in local and state-level peacebuilding platforms	
Output Activity	Result
3.1 Mapping and establishment of 7 women organisations in the target villages.	7 Women groups comprising 140 women were established in seven (7) villages of Dissa, Umlaota, Eldur, Erada, Gurair, Helt Tafa, and Damrat Guba. A mapping exercise of women's organizations' needs was conducted, and specific gender and youth needs were identified and discussed leading to enhancing the inclusion of women in the peace negotiations and making their voices heard, thus giving a strong mandate to women to discuss their experiences during peace negotiations and to represent their interests. In general, women tend to be underrepresented among peace and human rights groups, and their getting organized lends more weight to women's voices in the peace-building process.
3.2 Train all 49 executive committee members on fundraising, leadership, financial management, small grants mechanism.	The project empowered the leadership of the seven (7) women's organizations through training of 49 women executive committee members on fundraising, leadership, financial management, and small grants mechanisms. The training was conducted in collaboration with El Fasher University. The training also included aspects of income-generating activities including, village saving and loan associations (VSLA). The 7 women's organizations were linked to the Government's Microfinancing Department, Ministry of social affairs, ElFasher University, and private sector companies like El Shazalia (soap and food processing company) for continuity of business engagements.
3.3 Organise 8 awareness raising sessions during the project period (4 per year) on Gender/GBV and (Child) Protection.	The 7 communities where the project is operating were sensitized on Gender/GBV and child protection, and this enhanced their awareness about Gender/GBV and (Child) Protection including forced marriage and possibly rape issues. The eight (8) awareness sessions were facilitated by EL Fasher University peacebuilding Centre, where 480 people (F-236) participated. Through these sessions, the participants gained knowledge about GBV, child protection on gender justice and against any abuse related to SGBV and referral pathway mechanics. The gender focal point from WHH also facilitated sessions on

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	<p>the role of peacebuilding and social participation, especially women and youth. The participants now have ability to deal positively with the challenges facing peacebuilding and their social participation in the community. The participants are also now aware of their role in society and how to participate in any programmes. During community social events, the participants demonstrated key issues related to the public speaking on GBV. The participants are now able to conduct gender analysis to identify risks and inequality in their communities. The women groups were linked to the created CBRMS to enhance escalation of GBV issues.</p>
3.4 Train 70 young women and girls (10 each per village) on advocacy skills (special focus on pastoralist women).	<p>The project built the capacity of 70 young women and girls in advocacy skills for Peacebuilding and peaceful coexistence and social cohesion. Right now, they can speak and raise their voices in public and cultural events in their communities.</p>
Output 4: Improved networking, coordination and learning between local and state-level peacebuilding institutions	
Output Activity	Result
4.1 Exchange visits between CBRMs and other stakeholders for mutual learning and networking.	<p>Four (4) exchange visits were conducted between the established CBRMs, where experience, the lessons learned and best practices to promote joint learning was shared. Networking visits to concerned bodies of interest, for legal advice, human rights, or Gender issues, and lobbying visits to concerned government bodies were conducted. Three (3) CBRMs networking visits were conducted during the project lifetime in the 7 villages, bringing the total to 6 networking visits for the entire project.</p>
4.2 Establishment of a Peacebuilding network with linkages to relevant government authorities in El Fasher.	<p>The concept of a “trust architecture” was promoted and this strengthened horizontal linkages between CBRMs as well as created vertical incorporation of those actors at the state level. This was done through the creation of a peacebuilding network and linking them to relevant institutions and equipping them with skills relevant to this process. 7 CBRMs were registered as community-based organisations at state level and linked to 3 existing CBRMs networks. The CBRM networks were linked with the government authorities in El Fasher in the rule of law and courts. The network promoted meetings on regular basis. The Network was supported to register as a peacebuilding body with the government for sustainability and trained to carry out independent tasks including assessments and trainings workshops. The network elected leaders who provided overall management and supervision of its activities. The</p>

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	leadership was subjected to periodic changes (after every 6 months) for rotation and equal participation.
4.3 Capacity strengthening of local partner RSD and 7 CBRMs registered as CBOs.	Together with the local partner, RSD, WHH supported and strengthened 7 CBRMs into CBOs in the 7 villages and built their capacity on networking, advocacy skills and relation building and institutional strengthening. The capacity building focused on institutional strengthening through organizational development since CBRMs are considered as Community-based organizations (CBOs) charged with the responsibility to advocate on behalf of the members for better services.

Section 4 – Conflict sensitivity and Inclusion (500-word limit)

Conflict sensitivity and Inclusion: Share a brief summary of how you ensured:

Conflict sensitivity was mainstreamed across all the DCPSF project activities

The drivers of the conflict in the project area are complex, multi-level, politicized and encompass local, national, regional, and international dimensions simultaneously. An understanding of historical causal factors is required since each cycle of conflict has led to the current dynamics in the region.

Conflict sensitivity is an approach to ensure that interventions do not unintentionally contribute to conflict, but rather, strengthen opportunities for peace and inclusion:

The conflict-sensitivity approach was also adopted regarding the inclusion of conflict drivers from Political, Economic, Gender, ethnic and tribal, Intergenerational, and Natural resources while making sure these drivers are targeted by the project activities and do not exacerbate intra-household and community conflict through transparent communication with the target groups and important gatekeepers. For interventions with environmental impact, a rapid assessment, baseline assessment, and community mobilization was conducted before the implementation of the planned activity to define mitigation measures if necessary. The project worked closely with community leaders, all community members, and technical experts from line ministries in El Fasher to ensure that all activities meet the required Government standards and reasoned to the community needs, also to do no harm.

It has been widely observed that in peacetime, project areas prevalent social solidarity has been based on collaboration over livelihoods and cohabitation whereas, in times of conflict, ethnicity plays a greater role in defining solidarity. For example, in peacetime, the Arab Abala Mahria tribe progressively took on the social norms of the Tunjur Agro pastoralists, their farms grew, and Arab Abala Mahria families modified their gender roles (men looking after animals and women cultivating, not just women as among the Tunjur), housing (huts rather than tents) and ultimately language. The mutual engagement in peacebuilding, livelihoods and economic activities makes ethnic identity subordinate to the achievement of a shared livelihood objective. By contrast, in times of conflict, the recruitment of militia and the payment of blood money and restitution is organized by the tribe, so community boundaries harden according to ethnic boundaries. The project did very good interactions between the pastoralism communities and Farmers communities through engaging them in all project activities implemented spicily through the cross tribal workshops, peacebuilding forums, exchange visits, sport and cultural events and sharing communal infrastructures.

Significant progress has been made resulting in the reduction of clashes between pastoralists and farmers, however, peacebuilding is an iterative process and requires time. Gurair and Damrat Guba are both pastoralists' communities with active CBRMs, Field Schools, CAHWs, VSLA, Vocational Trainings. In Gurair and Damrat Guba community, a women group was trained on handicraft making

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especially of leather products in addition to hygiene awareness. During this action, WHH encountered difficulty in fully engaging women due to the community's strong customs and cultural practices.

Inclusion of women, youth, pastoralists, and farmers as well as environmental issues.
Please provide specific examples with numbers of those included.

The project applied a unique mix of approaches / initiatives that called for responsibilities of both women, men, youth, pastoralists, and farmers since DCPSF phase 1 and that continued throughout DCPSF phase 2.

The project surpassed the target with 37% of women (target-26), 43% for youth groups (target-30), including framers and pastoralists and 20% (target-14) of the community leaders were framers and pastoralists participating in CBRMs during this project.

During the project, the women CBRM participants took more active roles, by directly handling some cases related to family disputes: For instance, in Helat Tafa, Erada and Dissa, the female CBRM members took active roles in resolving conflicts between spouses and in Gurair they were active in reconciling the transmission of rumours.

Eight (8) Key stakeholders' women were trained in peacebuilding and reconciliation, governance, leadership, and natural resources management, the project also strengthened the inclusion of community members in the decision-making process for the community's coexistence and social cohesion and enhanced the ownership and sustainability of the project in the targeted locality villages. 140 women and 140 youth from the farmers and pastoralists communities were able to present their ideas and voice in public and even in the CBRMs meetings, peacebuilding forum and social events, also, through the four (4) sport/cultural events held in the seven (7) targeted communities which involved 2,620 women and 1,015 youth .The women's vegetable groups comprising 30 members which produce vegetables for their own consumption and sell the surplus in the village market as IGAS.

WHH also carried out trainings on water management and Nineteen (19) women played a crucial role in the water management committees through conducting hygiene promotion sessions. Typically, in the rural areas in North Darfur, women are involved in collecting water from the water sources, they take care of the hygiene of the children and the entire hygiene at home.

In the selection of members of the Famer Field Schools, the project focused on farmer's communities and for the Pastoralist Field Schools, the focus was on pastoralists communities, WHH and RSD ensured the participation of 59% women farmers and women pastoralists as well as 26% from youth groups. Furthermore, the project established 7 women organizations and trained them on food processing, home gardening, handicrafts, VSLA, domestic violence and discussing the role of women in the community and on the negotiating table. The trained women went on to start talking in public events and had negotiation skills.

The women groups participants also gained more skills on importance of safe spaces for women and girls and participation in project activities.

WHH also worked with women in the migratory route campaigns to reduce conflicts between pastoralists and farmers. Men took up the responsibilities of demarcation (colouring the routes) while the women will carry out tree planting once the rains begin.

Involving both women and men in this project implementation received a boost and increased acceptance by the local communities. Their involvement increased a sense of project ownership and inclusion because of including all stakeholders. However, there was one output (Output 3: "Women's organisations, including those representing pastoralist women, empowered to meaningfully participate in local and state-level peacebuilding platforms") allocated mainly to the women, equally targeting women from both the pastoralists and famers community with the activities in Output 3:

During the project period, the demarcation of 100 kilometres of migratory route has been completed, and the project team commenced the exercise of mobilisation of the communities to ensure planting

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of trees along the migratory route. The tree seedlings were accessed from the established tree nursery located in Erada village. This will lead to forest restoration along the migratory route and rehabilitation of the communal forests around Disa, Erada and Eldur villages.

Section 5 – Partnerships (500-word limit)

Partnerships: Share a brief summary of partnerships built during the project implementation. Highlight how these supported peacebuilding.

Al Rayan for Social Development (RSD); At the initial stages of project inception, jointly with WHH, RSD was involved in the review of the project work plan, community mobilization, identification of the target communities together with the local community leaders. The partner also participated in project launch event at state and locality levels and implementation of various peace building components.

Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC); During the entire project life span, HAC has been involved in the approval of the technical agreements (TA) both at state and Federal level. HAC also participated in the project launch event, supported the project access project implantation sites by approving travel permits and regularly monitored field activities.

Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources; MoAR has been involved in review of the technical agreements (TA), participation in the project launch event, as well as providing technical guidance in the identification of seed varieties, planning, and conducting agricultural related community trainings, follow-up, and monitoring of field activities, delivering CAHWs training, FFS and PFS facilitation. Where applicable, WHH has advocated for a female led training team when it comes to training exclusive women groups. This is a move to encourage more women to participate in the project.

Trainings are tailored to reflect on the target groups and not using a one blanket approach for all system to deliver the outputs.

State Water Sector (SWS); Involved in the initial project launch, review of the technical agreement as well as providing guidance during the identification of boreholes and shallow well sites that require rehabilitation, technical support during rehabilitation, training, and support to water management committees.

Native Administration; Has been involved in community sensitisation meetings, identification of borehole sites, meetings to deliberate on siting for the multifunctional centre, the project launch event and participating in all process of selecting beneficiaries, CAHWs, FFS and PFS.

El Fasher University; Has been involved in training of CBRM members, key stakeholders, and women executive committee members.

Ministry of Social Affairs; Involved in the GBV awareness sessions and training of young girls and women, designing of vocational training curriculum taking shape of a formal youth class, using techniques used in tertiary level classes to maintain focus and relevance to the local market demands.

Section 6 – Challenges, sustainability and exit strategy, lessons learned and recommendations (500 words)

Share briefly on:

Challenges and risks faced during implementation – how were they addressed

Some of the key challenges that the project faced include:

- Prolonged procedures in signing of the TA which delayed the timely start of project activities, and this led WHH to advocate through the INGOs forum at state and federal level.

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- Fuel shortage in certain instances caused a delay in field visits, and as a result, we opted to conduct some activities through local staff from our national partner who were based in the villages and strengthened collaboration with the local village authorities.
- Deregistration of a collaborating local organization, RSD caused some delays in implementation of the activities, those activities were eventually fastracked when the partner was re-instated.
- Inability of community members to attend some planned trainings during social events and market days eventually causes a delay in commencement and completion of training sessions. WHH reviewed the project work plan, implementation of activities in synergy and working with community members to ensure their participation.
- Insecurity during the 2nd year of the project prevented some field missions from happening as planned. Therefore, WHH opted to do a review of project delivery to be through the national partner and local staff based in the villages who understood the local security dynamics, which helped to mitigate against the high risk of exposure to violence and armed conflict. Further, the project also mitigated any potential risk or threat to the staff by closely monitoring the security situation in close collaboration with UNDSS, local authorities at state and locality level and through information from communities.

Key lessons learnt during the implementation of the project

Key lessons learned:

1. Information sharing and exchange visits among CBRMs from the 7 sub-villages is a good practice and this has supported the CBRMs to manage issues and become more strong and sustainable units.
2. Enhancement and strengthening of coordination meetings between different key stakeholders in surrounding areas of the target villages to discuss common problems facing the communities has enabled project implementation amidst challenges.
3. It's important to strengthen the involvement of community members in all steps of project implementation to ensure they fully understand the project, their roles and responsibilities, target beneficiaries and selection criterion, the importance of community working in groups among others.
4. For sustainability, the CBRMs should be linked with authorities at local and state level and registered as CBOs with relevant authorities to be able to source for funding of their initiatives in addition to capacity building on areas such as mediation and reconciliation.
5. Linking trained members of farmer and pastoralist field schools to MoAR upon graduation as village extension workers, motivates farmers/pastoralists to disseminate learning to other community members as demonstrated by WHH's experience in establishing or supporting farmer/pastoralist field schools in North Darfur in all the two DCPSF phases since.
6. Conflict resolution is a gradual process, hence more communal projects that bring farmers and pastoralists together should be prioritized to foster peace and cooperation between and within the communities.
7. The viability of established women organizations was to a very large extent dependent on the learning opportunities that resulted from trainings conducted by the project, which included entrepreneurship, vocational, and financial education trainings. Project initiatives that are centered on practical application and locally available resources have more potential to succeed. However, the absence of start-up capital in the design of VSLA's may hinder their ability to go into full operation and sustain their activities. This needs to be revisited.
8. Sports and social events provide an opportunity for community members from different villages to interact and form relationships.

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<p>Sustainability- What measures have you put in place to ensure continuity of initiatives beyond DCPSF funding</p> <p>Linkages between CBRMs, CAHWs, Women Organizations as CBOs, and GoS structures ensured sustainability and continuity. Through a participatory approach at all project stages, ownership by all stakeholders and collaboration between various groups was ensured. Ecologically sound Natural Resource Management (NRM) and soil and water conservation techniques featured in the FFS and thus built resilience against environmental threats and climate change.</p> <p>The discussions with different stakeholders revealed that the selection of activities was very appropriate and capable to address the existing problems. Livelihood options, water, peace, and stability, and in addition to that vocationally trained youth groups and women organizations were capacitated and equipped and all the communal infrastructures were constructed/rehabilitated, being run by the community in the project area, and linked with respective line ministries and GoS technical structures.</p> <p>However, the project relied on two main aspects to ensure continuity, which is capacity building through training and linkages with government organizations to ensure future support to local communities.</p>
<p>Exit strategy: What exit strategy have you employed to ensure that all project components minimise risk. Make mention of how project assets will be transferred to communities or local governments.</p> <p>The project worked closely with the targeted communities and technical experts from line ministries in El Fasher from the project design to implementation to ensure that all activities meet the communities needs and required Government standards, ensured the ownership and minimised risks as well as ensured value for Money of the project implemented activities, leading to sustainability as well as building an exit strategy right from the onset of the project.</p> <p>This project also well capacitated and linked all project-developed community initiatives; CBRMs, communal infrastructures, Women Organizations, Community Animal Health Workers, Vocational Groups, VSLA Groups and FFS/PFS with relevant government ministries, legal institutions, HAC, and security services to ensure that traditional conflict resolution methods are linked with legal Sudanese structures for enhanced peace efforts and self-reliance when the project exits, right from the early stages of the project implementation.</p> <p>The project handed over all the rehabilitated/ constructed infrastructures to local communities and local authorities or organizations that were developed by the project and legally registered and well-functioning.</p>
<p>Key recommendations DCPSF and other Development Partners can address in similar projects</p> <p>Considering the success of the project interventions in conflict resolution within the seven villages, the following recommendations are made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Continuation of the Community Based reconciliation Mechanisms. WHH recommends continuing supporting the existing CBRMs with engagement of local administration as part of the peace building process, because the exclusion of this category would complicate this process in the future. Moreover, the established network committee members would require more capacity building on arbitration through recognized judicial body to facilitate transfer of the complicated issues and give the committee the leverage to play a firmer role rather than just reconciliation. This is bearing in mind the future such a role might play in stimulating many people to raise their complaints. This happened during the conflict era and requires robust bodies with high level of wisdom and vision to solve problems in a more professional manner by considering the stability in the area along with acceptable justice. 2- Extension of the project and scale-up of interventions to encompass other villages while targeting a larger number of beneficiaries.

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- 3- The design of similar projects should take into consideration extension of the project duration to allow more time to achieve the expected outcomes, and measure impact realistically.
- 4- Inclusion of WASH intervention in future projects. The project addressed problems related to access to safe water for drinking (human and animals) and other household needs, however, it did not address the dire needs of the community for sanitation and hygiene intervention as this project did not have the hygiene/sanitation component.
- 5- Women-related development initiatives should be increased as women participation in the different activities exceeded that of men. This will demand more targeted and in-depth gender awareness-raising and sensitization, surrounding the positive role of women in peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

Section 7 – Success stories and communication products

From your achievements/results, **please highlight key success items that DCPSF can highlight in its public communication.** These include; success stories highlighting beneficiaries, photographs (in high resolution), videos, media/news story links related to your project. If available, women and youth success stories are encouraged in this section. (Items can be shared as attachments; your organisation will be credited for items shared).

Success story: The following stories have been attached as annexes:

- 1- CBRMs Manage to Defuse a Potential Conflict in an area in Kutum Locality.
- 2- VSLAs Women Group thriving in Kutum and Alwaha localities.
- 3- Mentorship and Coaching Training Revive Women and Youth Role in Peacebuilding from better to the BEST in Kutum & Alwaha locality.