



UN EBOLA RESPONSE MPTF
FINAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE REPORT - VERSION 1
DATE: 18 OCTOBER 2017

<p style="text-align: center;">Project Number(s) and Title(s)</p> <p>#44 – Support to the government to setup and manage a dedicated financial mechanism to capitalize on New York pledging Conference commitments</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Recipient Organization(s)</p> <p>UNDP Project Focal Point: <i>UNDP Country Director</i> Name: Lionel Laurens E-mail: lionel.laurens@undp.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Strategic Objective & Mission Critical Action(s)</p> <p>This project is designed to strengthen the capacities of the Government of Guinea for the establishment of a financial mechanism to ensure the efficient and effective mobilization of the resources pledged to Guinea during the New York conference on July 9-10, 2015.</p> <p>Mission Critical Action (MCA) - Governance, Peacebuilding, and Social Cohesion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Implementing Partner(s)</p> <p>Government of Guinea (Prime Minister Office)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Location: Guinea Country</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sub-National Coverage Area:</p> <p>Conakry (Prime Minister Office, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</p> <p>Total approved budget as per project proposal document: MPTF: \$247,915.00</p> <p>Government Contribution: In-kind</p> <p>TOTAL: \$247,915.00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Programme Duration</p> <p>Overall Duration (<i>months</i>) Project Start Date 21-10-2015 Originally Projected End Date 31-03-2016 Actual End date 31-12-2016</p> <p>Agency(ies) have operationally closed the programme in its(their) system Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Expected Financial Closure date: 31-10-2017</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</p> <p>Evaluation Completed <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X No Date:</p> <p>Evaluation Report - <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X No</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Report Submitted By</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Name: Mohamed Abba <input type="radio"/> Title: Sr Policy Advisor <input type="radio"/> Date of Submission: 18-10-2017 <input type="radio"/> Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP <input type="radio"/> Email address: mohamed.abba@undp.org <p><i>Signature:</i> _____</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Report Cleared By</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Name: (Head of Agency): Lionel Laurens <input type="radio"/> Date of Submission: 18-10-2017 <input type="radio"/> Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP <input type="radio"/> Email address: lionel.laurens@undp.org <p><i>Signature:</i> _____</p>

PROJECT/PROPOSAL RESULT MATRIX

Project Proposal Title: Support to the government to setup and manage a dedicated financial mechanism to capitalize on New York pledging Conference commitments						
Strategic Objective to which the project contributed						
MCA <input type="checkbox"/> Governance, Peacebuilding, and Social Cohesion						
Output and Effect Indicators		Geographical Area	Target	Budget	Final achievements	Means of verification
<i>Ebola Recovery Financing Options are shared within the Government and with the Donors and Staff is trained from the Permanent Secretariat and the Thematic Groups</i>		Nationwide	30		PARTIALLY ACHIEVED 24	Reports and meetings minutes of the Government/Donor Coordination Board
<i>Portfolio of robust and bankable projects are finalized and ready for implementation</i>		Nationwide	20% of total pledges at New York Ebola International Conference		FULLY ACHIEVED In addition, development of : Programmatic Framework of the National Trust Fund with five pillars ; ProDocs of four major programmes: Youth entrepreneurship; Women empowerment; Local governance; Sustainable Environment.	Prime Minister Office, Thematic Groups, Delivery Units
<i>Operational Manual Developed and SOPs</i>		Nationwide	Trust Fund governance structure, oversight and components		FULLY ACHIEVED Guinea National Post Ebola Trust Fund is created: Operational Manual, SOPs were finalized and negotiated between Government and Donor Community	Ministry of Economy and Finance
<i>Finance mechanisms setup and operationalized with Training of Technical Core Team from the Permanent Secretariat</i>		Nationwide	2		PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Finance mechanism set up but not operationalized at the time of completion of the Project 2	Side Event Launching session during UN General Assembly in Sept 2016. Training sessions and evaluation.
						Prime Minister Office and Ministry of Economy and Finance

FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

Current Situation and Trend

To better coordinate the multiplicity of financing streams pledged at the July Ebola Conference, discussions took place with the Government of Guinea to assist them with aid coordination and explore the merits of establishing a dedicated financing mechanism based on best practices and international experiences. This financing mechanism would finance the national recovery strategy that provides coherence, speed and flexibility as well as full transparency and accountability.

In October 2015, the CO submitted a proposal to the MPTFO for this project designed to strengthen the capacities of the Government of Guinea for the establishment of a financial mechanism to ensure the efficient and effective mobilization of the resources pledged to Guinea during the New York conference on July 9-10, 2015.

The Consultation Framework between the Government and the donor community (*Cadre de Concertation et de Coordination: CCC*) is meant to become the permanent National Coordination & Consultation Framework in the country. The CCC is co-chaired by the Prime Minister and the UN Resident Coordinator in Guinea and oversees the implementation of the Post Ebola Priority Action Plan while ensuring coordination between the Government and Development Partners. The CCC is supported by a Permanent Secretariat that ensures the consolidation of the contributions from the sectoral planning units and the Cluster Thematic Groups covering the different sectors of the Post Ebola Priority Action Plan. The Permanent Secretariat is chaired by the Special Advisor of the Prime Minister with membership of the Ministry of Finance.

• Key Achievements:

The achievements below are reported per outcome and output indicators as originally set out in the project result matrix.

- Ebola Recovery Financing Options were shared within the Government and with the Donors notably through conference call, best practices sharing and capacity building sessions
- The design of the most suitable architecture for a national financing mechanism for Ebola Recovery within the Guinean context was developed to meet Government expectations and priorities in consultation with Development Partners and based on international best practices: Guinean Post Ebola Resilience and Recovery National Trust Fund (PERRNTF)
- Agreement between the Guinean Government and the MPTF Office was reached on key components, scope and governance structure of the finance mechanism (Steering Board, Trustee, Implementing entities) and finalization of the proposed membership and responsibilities of Steering Board and Trustee
- Drafting and endorsement of the Operations Manual of PERRNTF and finalization of SOPs deriving for each financing window from the architecture
- In the aftermath of Ebola crisis, coordination mechanisms are emerging to support recovery efforts and are being efficiently used for the implementation of the National Plan for Economic and Social Development 2016/2020
- Formulation of bankable programmes to be presented under the National Trust Fund with high level of national ownership and stewardship: Youth entrepreneurship; Women empowerment; Water and Sanitation; Local governance; Sustainable Environment.

- Capacity building of Technical Cell of the Permanent Secretariat with emphasis on strategic planning and programming, monitoring and evaluation and support delivery capacity of National Entities. This support included the recruitment and financing of three national experts and one administrative assistant for six months starting June 2016.
- Production of promotional materials: booklets; leaflets; presentations; documentary film

Thanks to this project, UNDP worked closely with the Permanent Secretariat to undertake an analysis and took the lead to coordinate the UNCT positioning against each Government priority projects and identify opportunities for joint programmes. As a result, a number of streams of work have been identified and UNCT technical and advisory teams have worked hand in hand with key ministries to jointly formulate relevant programmes. The institutional strengthening requirements for accountable and effective delivery were highly considered in order to ensure that programmes are aligned with sectoral strategies and plans for which resources will be sought jointly for a subsequent joint implementation.

• **Delays or Deviations –**

End 2015 and early 2016, the project faced delays in its implementation due to Presidential election and change of government. It was then deemed preferable to obtain political endorsement of the concept and official go ahead from the newly formed Government.

The political endorsement was ascertained early February 2016 when a letter signed by the Minister of Finance and Economy confirmed the Government of Guinea's support of the initiative and requested high level support to be deployed to Conakry and assist with the finalization of the most appropriate governance architecture and set up of the Funding mechanism based on international best practices and in close consultation with all Development Partners. On 12 February 2016, a response from Helen Clark was sent to the Minister of Finance and Economy confirming that this project will be instrumental to assist the Government and that a high level expert identified by MPTFO and RBA will be deployed imminently to Conakry to assist to set up the financing mechanism.

Project implementation suffered further delays due to the weak institutional capacities in the country which conducted to allow more time for training and inclusive/participatory consultations towards the finalization of the National Trust Fund governance structure and operating procedures. Consequently, UNDP CO requested and obtained that the Project be extended twice in order to allow for finalization of its implementation.

• **Best Practice and Summary Evaluation**

The Project permitted to: (i) provide support to Guinean Government on Ebola recovery financing options; (ii) develop finance mechanisms setup including governance structure, oversight and components as well as operational manual and SOPs; (iii) strengthening Government resource mobilization function.

As a result, the Guinean Post Ebola Resilience and Recovery National Trust Fund (PERRNTF) was approved based on following principles: national ownership and leadership; transparent decision- making; involvement of Donors in effective partnership; timely & effective project delivery by using the implementation capacities of national & international agencies ; focus on results; transparency of operations.

During the UN General Assembly in September 2016, the Government of Guinea organized a Side Event where the National Trust Fund was presented to bilateral donors and development agencies. The participants praised the initiative and promised support. In the following week, the Government signed the Memorandum

of Agreement (MoA) with the MPTF Office as Fiduciary Agent and Trustee of the National Trust Fund. The MoA stipulated that the Government will make an initial deposit of 5 million US\$ out of its budget for year 2017 in order to show commitment and drive donors to follow. This 5 million US\$ represents 1% of the National Trust Fund targeted investment budget. Unfortunately, the Government due to dire financial constraints has not been able to concretize its commitment for year 2017.

- **Lessons learned**

The Guinean Government has shown its commitment to the Mutual Accountability Framework in accordance with the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action. In fact, this Government commitment shows the endorsement of different assessments and recommendations regarding the capacities and institutional weaknesses in the country: poor governance, insufficient delivery capacity, low capacity in planning and programme development. For these reasons, Guinea has sought to address these weaknesses in its recovery program, by joining the forces of its institutions and partners in a joint program based on five pillars for short to medium-term recovery, while at the same time strengthening national governance and implementation capacity.

It was however crucial to mobilize start-up resources in order to begin financing projects. In this regard, the Government missed the opportunity to channel some of its own resources through the PERRTF. This happened after the MoA was signed between the MPTF Office and the Government with the latter committed to make an initial contribution of 5 Million US\$ as seed money. This deviation was perceived as bad signal from donors who have endorsed the National Fund Structure and procedures and were planning to be contributors.

However, UNDP CO keeps on working with the Government to correct this perception and have the National Trust Fund operationalized within the implementation process of the Guinea National Plan for Economic and Social Development 2016/2020.

In this regard, it was confirmed that the Government's final choice to postpone resource mobilization and operationalization of the PERRNTF was due to completion of PNDES and commencement of the preparation of the high level donor meeting (Consultative Group).

This donor meeting is scheduled on end November 2017 and the portfolio of Ebola recovery project are planned to be presented as part of PNDES Public Investments Programmes.