

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

Support to NEPAD

Period of Report: July 2008 to June 2009

Context

UNDP continues to support NEPAD, a strategic and transformative mechanism for achieving sustained development in Africa. There is convergence between NEPAD strategy and the overall goal of UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa's (RBA) Regional Programme in both substance and approach. Both share the overall goal of accelerating Africa's integration into global development and achieving the Millennium Declaration Goals (MDGs).

UNDP is present in all African countries; is seen as a trusted partner of governments and civil society; has a reputation as an impartial "honest broker" in policy advice and resource mobilization; has a recognized coordination role in the UN and the broader donor community; has a strong cooperation record with the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs); and has a comprehensive mandate for sustainable human development, governance and poverty eradication. UNDP is indeed in a strong position to act as an effective partner to NEPAD.

Collaboration with other UN agencies in support to NEPAD

As evidence of its commitment towards reform for system-wide coherency, the UN has evolved two structures to improve coordination across agencies: the Regional Consultation Mechanism (RCM) and its Thematic Clusters, and the Regional Directors Team (RDT). In the Africa context, the UN's expertise and resources are being harnessed through these two mechanisms to ensure better coordinated support to NEPAD.

UNDP continues to actively participate in the RCM and is a member in seven of the nine thematic clusters¹. It also has a convening role in the Governance Cluster. During 2008 UNDP provided financial support to the RCM as well as organized an inter-agency meeting of the Governance Cluster to identify joint activities. UNDP also contributed to the Capacity Development Strategic Framework which was endorsed by the Ministers of Public Service with pilots in Ghana, Kenya and Uganda.

UNDP as Chair of the Regional Director's Teams (RDT) has made significant progress in increasing coherency with the RCM. Recognizing the potential for a synergistic

¹ There are nine cluster under the RCM. 1. Infrastructure development, water and sanitation, & Energy, Transport and ICTs; 2. Governance; 3. Human Resources Development, Employment and HIV/AIDS; 4. Environment, Population and Urbanization; 5. Agriculture, Food Security & Rural Development, 6. Science and Technology; 7. Advocacy and Communications; 8. Peace and Security; 9. Industry, Trade and Market Access.

approach, UNDP and the ECA, strategic coordinator of the RCM have agreed on increased communication between the two mechanisms to advance coordinated UN support to the AU and NEPAD at regional level.

UNDP also participates in other inter-agency structures such as UN-Water, UN-Energy, African Development Forum and the Africa Governance Forum.

Institutional Support to NEPAD

African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Secretariat

Support to APRM: UNDP support to the APRM has focused on technical and advisory services and institutional support including financial support. Specifically, the technical and administrative support services were provided in the launching of APRM in 14 countries, the completion of the reviews of Benin, Nigeria, Uganda and Burkina Faso in 2008 and Mali, Mozambique and Lesotho in 2009; the review of methodologies for costing of the Programme of Action and national self-assessment processes, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of APRM and the review of the APRM process, its institutions and instruments. On institutional and financial support, the APRM Trust Fund initiated by UNDP has been instrumental in mobilizing resources. Total contributions to May 2009 amount to over US\$ 13 million from various donors including USD 2.7 million from UNDP, other contributors include DIFD, Canada, Senegal, Algeria, Lesotho, Malawi, Spain, and Switzerland. The agreement for EU contribution of EURO 2.3 million was finalized and Ireland has also expressed interest. The Trust Fund supports the APRM Panel and Secretariat operations including staff cost, missions and meetings including country review missions, networking and sharing of experiences. A Strategic Plan (2008 - 2012) of the APRM was approved in January 2008 by the APR Panel and Forum and will be funded from the Trust Fund. In addition to managing the Trust Fund, UNDP participates in the Oversight Committee and provides technical support as one of three strategic partners of the APRM.

An in depth assessment was undertaken on the support UNDP is providing to the APRM. A key outcome is the need for increased engagement with the AU and RECs and their associated institutional mechanisms through the Regional Governance Programme as a basis for strengthening them. Institutional mechanisms to strengthen collaboration, management, and implementation support provision to APRM processes have been initiated.

The Governance Practice provided advisory and technical assistance to Country Offices on various governance issues including electoral system, parliamentary systems, public service reform and socio-economic and political recovery. Missions were undertaken to Mozambique, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

The Africa Governance Forum

Since its launch in 1997, the Africa Governance Forum has evolved into a recognized discussion forum for African countries and their partners on policy issues and partnerships. Indeed its reports and conclusions have informed policy formulation. At the conclusion of the last AGF in Burkina Faso follow up measures were agreed upon to implement the “Ouagadougou Commitment” including organizing an e-discussion as part of the continuing dialogue on the challenge of capacity development in Africa. AU, AfDB, ECA, UNDESA, UNCDF, DfID and GTZ are among the key partners to AGF.

Africa Forum

The Africa Forum is an informal network of former African Heads of State and Government and other African leaders. UNDP provided a cash grant of US\$ 307,000 to assist with startup funding for the secretariat of the Forum. UNDP-South Africa (with the understanding of Government of South Africa) also provides office space for the secretariat of the Forum in the UN Building. UNDP is providing funding for capacity development and operational support. Through 2008-2011, it is envisaged that UNDP will contribute \$3m over three years of the total US\$ 8.7m.

Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)

The TICAD initiative works in cooperation with NEPAD to promote regional integration, strengthen the African Union’s peace, security and governance organs, and boost the private sector. TICAD is committed to creating synergy between its own developmental work and NEPAD as illustrated by the TICAD-NEPAD Joint Policy Framework for the promotion of trade and investment between Africa and Asia and the Japan-NEPAD policy dialogue.

In 2008, TICAD Ministerial Meeting was held in March 2008 in Libreville, Gabon while TICAD IV, an annual meeting, was held in May 2008 in Yokohama, Japan. The UN was represented at the highest level led by the Deputy Secretary- General and UNDP Administrator.

In 2009, TICAD held its Ministerial Conference was held in Gaborone, Botswana in March and in June 2009, the Fifth Africa-Asia Business Forum (AABF V) was held in Kampala under the theme of “*Forging Business Linkages for Sustainable Tourism Development in Africa*”. The Forum attracted over 349 participants representing business, government, international organizations, civil society and the media (largest number of participants in the AABF history). Discussions between 165 companies from 24 countries in Africa and Asia resulted in 28 Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and partnership arrangements for a total value of US\$ 235.43 million, breaking the value recorded in a single AABF in the past.

Advocacy Work in Support of Africa's Development

High Level Meetings (HLM) on Africa's Development Needs (22 September 2008) and the MDGS (25 September 2008). UNDP was a key player in the substantive preparations of the two high level meetings, providing one of its MDG Policy Advisers to OSAA to assist in the preparation of the Meetings. UNDP was a convener and participating agency in two side events on the Gleneagles Scenario approach to scaling up ODA and the global food crisis respectively

UNDP MDG Support Team continued to work closely with all major development partners to break some of the bottlenecks in the effort to achieve the MDGs in Africa. Gleneagles Scenarios were prepared by ten pilot countries with support from UNDP. Macroeconomic analyses by the IMF have fully endorsed ODA scale up in Benin, Niger and Togo.

Through the Regional Partner's Initiative, UNDP has provided support to the African Development Forum VI under the theme was "Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and Ending Violence against Women in Africa". The Conference was attended by the Deputy Secretary-General, Chair of the AU Commission and several Ministers. The Conference adopted a consensus document which calls for universal responsibility to protect and respect women and girls; a comprehensive and urgent Africa Action Plan to eliminate violence against women and girls; global, African and national initiatives to ensure gender equality; prioritize and implement social protection policies and programmes; and to translate these commitments into meaningful action.

UNDP as a member of the RCM Communication and Advocacy Cluster provided USD 50,000 for a senior media dialogue event in February 2009 to promote advocacy for NEPAD. The event was organized to provide African journalists and senior officials and decision-makers from the NEPAD Secretariat and African Union Commission an opportunity to agree on how to harness the role of the media in the overall development of Africa, especially within the context of NEPAD.