



North West Climate-Peace Hubs: A Climate Security Approach to Conflict Prevention

Project Number: 00130572

2023 Quarter Three Progress Report
(July – September 2023)



Meeting with the Sokoto State Deputy Governor on the technical components of the Climate Security project, where he officially handed over land description of 4 hectares to UNPD for the purpose of the PEACEHUB construction and assured full commitment. 15th August 2023.



During the market physical survey in Illela international market to gauge market potential, examine its structure and the dynamics of demand and supply despite border close. September 7, 2023.



During active engagement in Illela community with community members such as women groups, farmers groups, youths and community watch groups. July 21, 2023.

Project Summary

Country: Nigeria

Project Duration: December 2022 – December 2025

Project Budget: US\$ \$5,729,794.93

Annual Budget: US\$ 1,873,371

Donor	Annual budget US\$
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Norway)	1,873,371

Cumulative expenditure *(including for the reporting period)*:

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Responsible Parties: The responsible parties to date include, the Environment and Climate Unit, the Knowledge Hub.

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Acronyms

AG	Action Group
AP	Annual plan
AWP	<i>Annual Work Plan</i>
CBO	<i>Community Base Organization</i>
CSO	Civil society organization
Covid19	Coronavirus
EWER	Early Warning Early Response
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GBV	Gender-based violence
GISCO	Grass-root Initiative for strengthening community resilience
HH	Household
IGA	Income Generation Activities
I4P	Infrastructure for Peace
PIC	Project implementation Committee
PIP	Project Implementation Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
PWD	People with disability
NW	Northwest
S.A	Special Advisor
SBCC	Social behavioral communication change
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-based violence
SARC	Capacity building for Sexual assault referral centre
SDG	Sustainable development Goals
SOP	Standard Operation Procedure
SOCU	State Operational Coordination Unit
SEMCOM	Sokoto Emergency Management Coordination Meeting
SOKSAME	Sokoto State Emergency Management Agency
SMT	Senior Management Team
VAW	Violence against women
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
UN	United nation
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNDP	United National Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

1. Executive Summary

In September the Climate Security Project successfully completed its Inception Phase.

During the inception phase, the UNDP has:

- Defined the specific project sites for the pilots in Katsina and Sokoto States.
- Concretised activities and defined the indicators reflective of the local communities' needs and emerging priorities.
- Developed a detailed joint action and activity plan on how the UNDP will engage local and state government, community organisations and other key stakeholders in project delivery.
- Drafted an initial budget outlining approximate spending intentions per activity.
- Attained both Pilots' State Governments, endorsements and commitments to support the proposed project.
- Identified the LGA and have been allocated land to begin construction of the Climate Peace-Hubs.

During the inception phase, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a Letter of Agreement (LoA) with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) to support the conduct of a livelihoods baseline assessment. The results of this exercise will inform the activities for Outcome 2 & 3 of the project. The UNDP has completed the recruitment of the required staff for the project. The household survey, which will be conducted by the NBS, is almost finished and will take place between 2nd and 22nd November. The UNDP will take part in the processes, such as LGA and Enumeration Area identification, review of the survey instrument and survey methodology, and monitoring the field for data quality assurance. The survey aims to collect baseline data to inform UNDP's initiative in Sokoto and Katsina under the Climate Security project and enable the monitoring of climate security risks and vulnerabilities in the target communities.

The baseline surveys will be conducted in Sokoto and Katsina States using a climate security lens to collect data on livelihoods, including agriculture and land dependency, socio-economic conditions, access to basic services and water sources, experience of climate hazards, and societal tensions. The NBS has been engaged to conduct household surveys, and preliminaries are currently underway. The LGAs and Enumeration Areas (EAs) to be sampled have been identified, and the listing of households will take place this week. Additionally, the draft survey instrument (questionnaire) will be reviewed and finalized next week. Subsequently, training of enumerators, pilot survey, and main fieldwork will take place. It is estimated that the completion of these processes by the end of November.

The Livelihood consultant initiated work in September and will conduct their assessment in mid-October.

On July 3, 2023, the UNDP signed an official Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Katsina and Sokoto States to officially commence implementing the project activities in the two states. The selection criteria matrix was approved and endorsed by both the local governments of Katsina and Sokoto, with Jibia and Illela being selected as the project Pilot locations. In July, the Sokoto Deputy Governor presented the UNDP with a government-owned lot of land in Illela to launch the pilot project. In September 2023, UNDP engineers and experts completed a technical assessment to assess the allocated land in Illela, Sokoto, to review and finalise construction requirements. Additionally, the assessments sought to ensure that the allocated land meets UNDP's selection

criteria and the local community's needs in Illela. The September Mission is working to concretise activities to facilitate the development of the Inaugural Sokoto Climate Change policy.

During the reporting period, the project had deepened its engagement with the government and Civil Society Organisation (CSOs) and secured the full buy-in and commitment of the different stakeholders in the State. Also, the government of Sokoto State and Katsina State had endorsed the site selection criteria developed by the UNDP team that led to the allocation of a land in Amarawa Community of Illela LGA by the Sokoto State Government to serve as pilot site for the construction of the Climate-Peace Hubs while Jibia town of Jibia LGA have been selected as the preferred location for the construction of the Climate-Peace Hubs by the Katsina State Government. A joint assessment of locations within Jibia town was conducted by the UNDP team and the Katsina State Government and currently awaiting an official communication of the land allocation from the Katsina State Government.

The Climate-Peace Hubs project Inception Report documented the activities conducted in the Inception phase and also plans for the remaining years for the project implementation have been developed and submitted to the donors. Also, the contracting for the Livelihood assessments through an Individual Consultancy and household surveys through and LoA with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has been finalized. The Livelihood Assessment Inception report has been submitted by the consultant and currently undergoing internal review with a plan to conduct the assessment by the end of October 2023. The NBS has conducted a training of the enumerators that will conduct the household survey. Also, a draft technical specification/design and Bill of Quantity (BoQ) for the Construction of the Climate-Peace Hubs have been developed and currently undergoing review.

As part of plans to accelerate the implementation of the project, a Call for Proposals was advertised for the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to apply to implement some of the project activities requiring their technical expertise while modalities are put in place to sign LoAs with the Government of Sokoto and Katsina States to implement other activities of the project.

2. Situation Background

Security

The Northwest states of Zamfara, Sokoto, and Katsina remain highly plagued in conflicts of diverse nature. Visible gaps in natural resources management and existing tensions between farmer-herder communities coupled with perceptions of marginalization have over the past years metamorphosed into widespread cases of banditry and inter-tribal conflicts. The region, which is the same size as the United Kingdom, has experienced more civilian deaths in 2021 and 2022 than the conflict in the North East. According to SMB Intel, the North West region saw 961 deaths in the first quarter of 2021 and 782 in 2022, while the North East saw 336 deaths in the first quarter of 2021 and 441 in 2022¹.

Some of the most dreaded bandit groups operating in the Northwest states are affiliated to the bandit kingpins Abdullahi Abubakar (popularly known as Dogo Gide), and Turji. In a recent video that made rounds on social media, loyalists to the Ansaru-linked Abdullahi Abubakar claimed responsibility for ambushing and shooting down an M1-171 Nigerian Air Force (NAF) surveillance helicopter near Chukuba village in the Shiroro Local Government Area, Niger State on August 14, 2023. This clearly indicates the cross-state border operating capacities of these outlaws. Kinetic

¹ Barnett, J et al. (2022) Northwestern Nigeria: A Jihadization of Banditry, or a "Banditization" of Jihad? CTC Sentinel, vol15, Issue 1.

efforts led by the Nigerian arm forces had in the past made gains and flushed most of them out of their strongholds. This had greatly weakened their activities. However, recent trends point to a surge in banditry, kidnapping, and cattle rustling incidences in the Northwest and the emergence of new bandit actors whose acts have unprecedentedly continue to reverse gains achieved by successive administrations in the Northwest states in areas like peace and security, poverty reduction, health care and access to education.

This pinpoints the need to scale up efforts to prevent further deterioration of the security context and to continuously align non-kinetic approaches with kinetic mechanisms to streamline the need for peace, conflict prevention, resilience, economic revitalization, and social cohesion in the Northwest states. In the unlikely event where this is not done, there are possible scenarios that could evolve.

Loss of Large Swaths of Land to Non-State Actors (Likely)

The pace of expansion of bandit control areas is alarming in the Northwest states. Bandits control and reign terror over communities with some of the largest precious mineral deposits in these states. The urge to conquer and control new mineral depots could trigger the loss of large swaths of land and communities to non-state actors (Bandits). This could further deteriorate and compromise existing livelihoods opportunities for vulnerable groups like women and girls, trigger mass displacements, and limit movements to and from some LGAs within the state. In the likely event where this occurs, movement of staff, implementing partners, and hardware materials to and from project site could be further complicated, compelling UNDP-Northwest to commit more resources to address safety concerns.

Non-Respect for the rule of Law and Fundamental Human Rights (Highly Likely)

The present context plays in favor of anarchy and the non-respect of human rights. Bandit groups in the Northwest states thrive and are renowned for jungle justice practices, sexual abuse, and gender-based violence. This could lead to more women increasing becoming victims and targets in some of the hotspots LGAs restricting access of female implementing partners to project sites.

Youth Radicalization (Highly Likely)

Poverty and unemployment rates remain extremely high in the Northwest states. Amid the present context characterized by an exacerbated flow of ammunitions, small arms and light weapons, some youths in the state could become extremely vulnerable to getting recruited into bandit groups in different capacities (Informants, gang members, carriers of weapons and ammunitions, food, and clothing suppliers, ransom collectors). The emergence of these new bandit actors could trigger a surge in violence necessitating intense counter offensives from the formal security agencies that could impact the pace of implementation of the project. There is therefore an urgent need to continuously build partnerships to support skills acquisitions and start-up businesses that could fill legitimate employment gaps and prevent the emergence of these new bandit actors and the deterioration of the current security context.

Political Context

The political context in Northwest states like Zamfara, Sokoto, and Kaduna remains highly unpredictable. This is driven by multiple post gubernatorial elections petitions that have generated a sense of political instability in these parts of the geopolitical zone. In a recent court ruling, the Governorship Election Tribunal sitting in Kaduna declared the March 18th gubernatorial election in the state “inconclusive” and ordered a re-run in 24 polling units in seven wards of four local governments areas consisting of 16,300 registered voters. In Sokoto and Zamfara, the stakes remain highly unpredictable as parties await court rulings. Evidently, this could reverse progress made in

terms of stakeholder engagement and the political leadership's commitment to the project as they battle with petitions contesting their legitimacy at the helm of state affairs.

Amid the need to coordinate, organize, attend court hearings, and perform their gubernatorial duties, most of these government stakeholders are often not available for strategic engagements, and their capacities to make long term decisions have been widely affected. This is of great concern to the successful and timely implementation of the projects in the Northwest geopolitical zone of Nigeria as the unavailability of these actors affect the pace of strategic decision making and coordination of the implementation strategies.

The Climate Peace Hub

Establishing 'Climate Peace Hubs' is integral to implementing the Climate Security Project in North West Nigeria. In short, the Climate Peace Hubs aims to establish a government-endorsed (via policies) community-led information Centre to provide climate-smart resources management, agricultural and conflict-sensitive advice and support. As identified in the preliminary Project Document and research, there was a clear gap between Government intention and implementation – notably on climate-related issues. Building Climate-Peace Hubs aims to establish this link, which, in turn, will facilitate a long-lasting relationship between government environmental policy and community implementation.

As the project document outlines, the region's security challenges are exacerbated by the worsening climatic conditions. The overarching strategy of the Peace Hubs is to provide both the government and communities with the physical tools and real-time environment preparedness advice to address the climate security challenges.

Community facilities, like the Hubs, play a crucial role in promoting sustainable development, and UNDP recognizes this nexus. By investing in the construction of community facilities, the UNDP aims to foster social and economic development founded on sustainable environmental practices. These Hubs will facilitate education and training, providing opportunities for people to learn new skills and improve their livelihoods – core components of peacebuilding. As outlined in the inception report, these facilities are designed to incorporate sustainable features such as renewable energy sources, water-saving technologies, and green spaces. By doing so, the UNDP is not only promoting sustainability but also ensuring that communities are better equipped to tackle the challenges of the future.

How will the Hubs contribute to the project's core objectives:

1. Improved access to data supporting decision-making for anticipatory actions to climate and conflict risks.

Establishing a physical location where organizations like NiMet, and the State Emergency Management Agency can use to conduct training programs and collect and disseminate real-time data to targeted communities.

The representatives of these organizations will have full access to the state-of-the-art facilities of Hubs, in addition to the vast networks of the UN and the government, to develop real-time climatic information. This will significantly enhance the community's awareness of the changing seasonal patterns, enabling them to determine the optimal planting seasons with utmost confidence. For the government actors, this will provide an invaluable tool for developing and implementing evidence-based policies that will drive progress and development.

One specific example in the pipeline – is the proposal to support SEMA in piloting their Climate Security Corp, a training program to empower local community members to be security,

environmental and disaster first responders. The Hubs will provide the physical training location and, in the long run, will be the Centre where climate and security disasters are communicated and assessed between the community, community agents and the government at the local, state and even federal levels.

2. Increased access to conflict-sensitive and climate-resilient livelihoods and green jobs

As Both Sokoto and Katsina are embarking on developing and implementing their Inaugural Climate security policy, the climate peace Hubs will be critical to supporting the government's policy implementations. In the long term, the Hubs will represent the Policy's implementation arm into communities. Baseline research and consultations have outlined the limited capacity of the state governments to implement laudable policies. Through the Hubs, the UNDP will facilitate the training and delivery of livelihood-building activities aligning with UNDP and the state's climate objectives.

3. Strengthened systems and practices for communal management of natural resources

Data is essential to strengthening systems and practices for communicating the management of natural resources. The desired outcome of this component of the project is twofold. First, leverage the PBF work underway, and the data collected through component 1 by providing communities with a neutral space and evidence-based information to manage resources.

Akin to Components 1 & 2 The Hub intends to establish the facilities the government requires to implement their policies concerning Climate Change and Security Mechanisms. For the community, it will be a natural ground where communities can raise concerns and disputes about natural resources.

An inception workshop is scheduled for November 2023 to review and endorse the proposed Project implementation strategy and the inception report. It will engage key stakeholders involved in the project implementation in both Katsina and Sokoto States to review the work plan and obtain their valuable inputs and views to ensure seamless and successful implementation.

3. Progress towards development results

1. Contribution to longer term results

Since the project is in the inception phase, the onus is on enabling actions and forging partnerships for the implementation phase. Therefore, it is premature to report progress to longer term results.

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)/Country Programme Document (CPD) Outcome <add relevant number>:

Summary achievements based on **CPD Outcome 4**: More inclusive, participatory, transparent and gender-sensitive governance, justice and human rights systems are in place at all levels to promote acceleration in achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs for a peaceful, inclusive, and cohesive society.

CPD outcome target	Summary achievement to date	Status <i>Ongoing, Delayed, Completed</i>
Outcome 4.1	By 2027, people in Nigeria, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from peace and security and protection from conflict, violence, and crime through strengthened capacity and infrastructures	Ongoing
Outcome 3	Cooperation Framework (CF) Strategic Priority 2): By 2027, people living in Nigeria, particularly the most vulnerable, have equitable access to affordable clean energy, enjoy sustainable food systems, environmental conditions and increased resilience to climate change disasters	Ongoing
Overall		Ongoing

Relevant CPD Output 3.4 Strengthened systems, institutions, and capacities for transitioning to development solutions, and for inclusive and gender responsive peace building.

Summary achievement based on CPD output targets

CPD output targets	Summary achievement to date (provide gender disaggregation)	Status <i>Ongoing, Delayed, Completed</i>
Indicator 3.4.1.: Number of functional infrastructures for peace at national and sub-national levels Target 17 (2027): National – 1; Sub-national – 16	An assessment is scheduled to be conducted in Q4 to map existing infrastructures for peace.	Ongoing
Indicator 3.4.2.: Number of gender-responsive and	Woman advocacy groups are continually engaged in the project. The project team	Ongoing

conflict sensitive development policies, systems and plans in place to prevent risk of conflict including climate security. Target 5 (2027)	have commenced a gender conflict sensitivity guidance to addressing distinct needs, vulnerabilities and experiences of different genders. This guidance will support the implementation phase by ensuring the project does not exacerbate existing inequalities. The climate peace hubs will be sensitive to specific challenges and promote inclusivity while reducing the risk of unintentional harm.	
Overall status		Ongoing

Relevant CPD Output 3.5 Communities affected by violent conflict enabled to regain lost livelihoods, infrastructures and basic services for durable socioeconomic development and restoration of local economy.

Summary achievement based on CPD output targets

CPD output targets	Summary achievement to date (provide gender disaggregation)	Status <i>Ongoing, Delayed, Completed</i>
Indicator 3.5.1.: Number of people benefiting from improved infrastructure for recovery in crisis or post-crisis settings disaggregated by sex. Target 3,770 (2027)	The UNDP livelihood assessment consultant has resumed their duties and initiated plans to conduct the Household surveys in Katsina and Sokoto State. The contracting between UNDP and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has been finalized. The training of the enumerators has been conducted and the household survey will be done in November 2023.	Ongoing
Indicator 3.5.2.: Percentage of households benefiting from jobs and improved livelihoods disaggregated by sex. Target 60% (2027)	The UNDP livelihood assessment consultant has resumed their duties and initiated plans to conduct the Household surveys in Katsina and Sokoto State. The National Bureau of Statistics has conducted the training for the enumerators to carry out the household survey scheduled to hold in November.	Ongoing
Overall status		Ongoing

2. Progress towards project outputs

Project Output 1: Improved access to data supports decision-making for anticipatory actions to climate and conflict risks

Summary achievement against 2023 Annual Work Plan (AWP) target

Indicator (as they appear in the AWP)	Indicator Target (2023) (AWP indicator targets)	Summary achievement during the quarter (provide gender disaggregation)	Status:
1.1 Number of data and Information Management Systems established and operationalized in project sites	2	The project has identified several key stakeholders that will be potential partners in the project implementation. Working is underway to finalize which partner will support in the achievement of this indicator.	Ongoing
1.2 Number of community-led risk assessment reports produced, published and disseminated in the region	1	This will be finalized after the completion of the Livelihood assessment and the Household survey.	Ongoing
1.3 Number of Policy dialogues and knowledge exchange sessions convened quarterly	2	Engagement with the government is sustained to facilitate the achievement of this indicator	Ongoing
Overall status			Ongoing

Project Output 2: Vulnerable and at-risk communities have increased access to climate resilient livelihoods and green jobs

Indicator (as they appear in the AWP)	Indicator Target (2023)	Summary achievement during the quarter (provide gender disaggregation)	Status:
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	(AWP indicator targets)		
2.1 Number of households benefiting from climate-resilient livelihoods and green jobs	5000	This will be finalized after the completion of the Livelihood assessment and the Household survey.	Ongoing
2.2 Number of value addition centers within communities improving livelihoods productivity	2	This will be finalized after the completion of the Livelihood assessment and the Household survey.	Ongoing
2.3 Number of households benefiting from VSLAs	500	This will be finalized after the completion of the Livelihood assessment and the Household survey.	Ongoing
Overall status			Ongoing

Project Output 3: Collaborative systems and practices for communal management of natural resources strengthened

Summary achievement against 2023 Annual Work Plan (AWP) target

Indicator (as they appear in the AWP)	Indicator Target (2023) (AWP indicator targets)	Summary achievement during the quarter (provide gender disaggregation)	Status:
3.1 #of Community Natural Resource Management Plans developed	2	This will be reported during full activities implementation.	Ongoing
3.2 #of Natural Resource Management actions initiated by communities	2	This will be reported during full activities implementation	Ongoing
3.3 #of communities benefiting	2	This will be reported during full activities implementation.	

from Natural Resource Management Committees	
Overall status	Ongoing

Project Output 1: Improved access to data supports decision-making for anticipatory actions to climate and conflict risks

The project team developed a baseline tool to support the data collection for the selection of communities. Within the month of July and August 2023, a recognizance assessment for community needs was conducted in Jibia and Illela. The climate peace hubs land sites have been finalized in Illela and Jibia LGAs of Sokoto and Katsina States and sites have been handed over to UNDP to commence work of building of the Peace hubs. The inception phase activities have been listed in the executive summary and apply across all output areas. The Knowledge Hub team has drafted an implementation strategy for Output 1.

Project Output 2: Vulnerable and at-risk communities have increased access to climate resilient livelihoods and green jobs

UNDP has signed an Individual Contract (IC) for livelihood assessment consultancy and initiated plans to conduct the Household surveys in Katsina and Sokoto State in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics. The project team engaged in strategic fact-finding mission plan in Illela to identify where best to conduct the household profiling of the main economic and livelihood activities in the region. The aim of this is to inform and develop climate resilient responses.

Project Output 3: Collaborative systems and practices for communal management of natural resources strengthened

Engagement with the Sokoto state Ministry of Environment has established a strong link to how the project will ensure communal management of natural resources.

Also, plans have been finalised to conduct a high level and low-level dialogue and mediation session to lay the groundwork for the strengthening systems and practises of communal management of natural resources.

3. Human Interest Story

This will be reported during activities implementation

4. Cross cutting issues

1. Gender results

Gender results	Evidence
Gender result 1: What is the impact of the project on men and women separately?	Evidence 1: example

The project team have commenced a gender conflict sensitivity guidance note that will be crucial in recognizing and addressing distinct needs, vulnerabilities and experiences of different genders. This guidance will support the implementation phase by ensuring the project does not exacerbate existing inequalities and hinder effective developmental support. The climate peace hubs will be sensitive to specific challenges faced by women, men, girls and boys, and promote inclusivity while reducing the risk of unintentional harm. The gender conflict sensitivity guidance will help identify these peculiarities and guide implementation accordingly.

Also, experience in using gender disaggregation in research methods is part of the required experience in the ToR for the livelihoods assessment that will be conducted in Q4 2023. Gender-related questions are included in the assessment and household survey questions.

2. Partnerships

The approach and strategy adopted for the implementation of the project would facilitate synergy and collaboration between selected government Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs) in Sokoto and Katsina States, CSOs and professional firms and organisations like Adelphi. The modalities for implementation includes signing Letters of Agreement with the government, issuing Low Value Grants to CSOs and Responsible Party Agreement with professional firms to advance the implementation of the project. UNDP is collaborating with the state government to select a suitable focal point/MDA that will serve as the primary implementing partner for the project while a call for proposal was advertised for the engagement of CSOs and professionals' organisations to provide technical consultancy services.

A division of responsibilities for the inception phase has been developed, seeking to increase clarity on the expectations and deliverables of the different UNDP teams as well as project partners. UNDP teams (Peacebuilding & Conflict Prevention, Climate and Environment Units and the Knowledge Hub) have conducted joint planning and developed a draft implementation plan for outcome 1.

cooperation. During the recent mission to Sokoto, the project team engaged with key stakeholders, CSOs and potential partners to develop a baseline assessment.

Engagement included meetings with:

- The Deputy Governor of Sokoto Idris Muhammad Gobir, who was presented with the Project's site selection criteria. He reiterated support for the project and endorsed Illela as the pilot LGA, recommending the communities of Illela Central, Kalmanu and Njema.
- The Ministry of Environment reaffirmed their support for the project, noting the current development of the State's first Climate Change Policy as a potential entry point.
- The Director for Humanitarian affairs, who will provide profiling of humanitarian issues in Sokoto.

- Chairman of Illela, who expressed enthusiasm for the project, acknowledged the LGA site selection criteria and offered his support for the project.
- The newly appointed Sokoto Police Commissioner Ali H Kaigama, who was briefed on the project and expressed intent to provide the necessary security support.
- A range of CSO's currently working on Climate, Humanitarian and security relevant initiatives in Sokoto. GISCO, NAIF, the 3P's and, the Peace Committee were identified as most aligned to UNDP.
- The State Emergency Management Services, identified projects underway complimentary to CSO's identified above. E.g the initiative to develop a local Climate Security Response Corps.
- The Illela local government and representatives from women, farmer and, youth/vigilante groups in a focus group discussion. The team gained insight into the causes of insecurity and efforts underway by government and their partners to address the issues. The team examined how livelihoods are affected, identifying potential locations for the Climate Peace-hubs noting areas that are challenging to access.
- The Gagi Fulani and Hausa community, who shared challenges relating to climate and insecurity.

The Executive Governor of Katsina State also endorsed the selection criteria and delegated a team led by the Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on IDPs and victims of Banditry to facilitate the identification of suitable site for the construction of the Climate Peace Hubs in Jibia LGA and support in conducting the baseline assessments. Below are some of the key partners on this project:

- Katsina State Ministry of Internal Security and Home Affairs
- Katsina State Ministry of Environment
- Katsina State Department of Livestock
- Executive Chairman of Jibia LGA
- Local Communities (women, youths, farmers, traditional and religious leaders, persons leaving with disability e.t.c) in Jibia and Illela LGAs
- Fulani/Herders community in Sokoto
- Civil Society Organisations in Sokoto Nigeria Police Force
- Sokoto State Command Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps
- Sokoto and Katsina States Command Department of State Service (DSS)
- Katsina State Command

3. Environmental Considerations

Climate Analysis

Nigeria contains a significant portion of the Sudan-Sahel ecological zone and is subjected to frequent climate variations. Since the early 1980s, climatic anomalies such as droughts, dust storms and flooding have been reoccurring at unprecedented levels. The climate of the region has become highly unpredictable².

North West Nigeria has been facing an increase in false onset. False onset occurs when the rainy season starts normally and then ceases abruptly, creating an unexpected dry period. The extreme but short-term climatic variation results in insufficient rainfall for the region to meet the socio-economic demands of water supply for domestic and industrial uses, agriculture and the ecosystem. Decreases in vegetation cover caused by over-grazing and deforestation are leading to an increase in the

² Ekpoh, Imo. (2011). Extreme Climatic Variability in North-western Nigeria: An Analysis of Rainfall Trends and Patterns. Journal of Geography and Geology.

reflectivity of the land surface and thus resulting in longer, hotter and drier climatic conditions. Additionally, the increasing build-up of atmospheric dust, exacerbated by such as fire-wood exploitation, bush burning and poor farming practices, are further exacerbating the climate stressors the region is facing. Most droughts in the region have been associated with a late start of the rainy season and early cessation of the rains. During the Harmattan, sand storms are getting more intense and blocking wells and natural underground channels that fill local wells relied on by both Farmers and Herders.

Sahelian societies are overwhelmingly rural and dependent on agriculture and pastoralism. Farmer and herder lifestyles can complement each other, but climate change and population growth disrupt the balance and stoke violence³.

North West Nigeria is one of the nation's important food producers. Most crops grown in the region include millet, corn, beans, onions, tomatoes, ground nuts, and rearing farm animals. One significant challenge farmers face is the reduction in crop yield. The land is becoming less arable and over-farmed. Overpopulation exacerbates these challenges as traditional inheritance systems result in each generation getting smaller – and less arable – plots of farmland. For successful yields, farmers must still address the significant supply chain issues of getting their produce to market .

Farming and herding communities are not ignorant of climate change's impacts on their livelihoods. Anecdotally, communities recognize the increase in pests and diseases, sighting unprecedented rises in locus swarms. At the state and federal levels, initiatives are underway for local communities to commence tree planting. While communities understand the logic and environmental importance of these initiatives, they often fail to address communities' baseline need for cooking fuels, which is a key factor driving deforestation.

Herding communities across the Sahel are nomadic and live symbiotically with their cattle. Unlike farmers who inherit the land, herders inherit the family herd. Moving from pasture to pasture, the Herds people rely on selling their livestock's milk, meat and leather. They are often left with very little if their herd are stolen or killed. Desertification has caused alterations in traditional grazing routes, with herders migrating to regions with more arable land and heightening pressure on farmland. Reduced access to green pastures is noted to have caused a reduction in the milk-related products the community, often women can take to market. The changes in harvesting seasons, coupled with changes in grazing routes, are devastating a once symbiotic relationship.

³ International Crisis Group (ICG), *Herders against Farmers: Nigeria's Expanding Deadly Conflict*, (2017)

4. South to South and Triangular Cooperation

Guidance: List the types of South to South and Triangular Cooperation that the project was involved in during the year. Which countries (1st column) and type of cooperation (2nd column)

Country	Type of cooperation
1. N/A	

5. Strengthening national capacity

Guidance: Describe national capacity strengthening initiatives and results for the quarter

Results achieved	Institution	National strengthened	capacity
1) N/A			
2) N/A			

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

Key M&E activity (monitoring visit, evaluation, review exercise)	Key outcomes/ observation	Recommendation	Action taken
M&E activity 1: Establishment of a programs training database	Established Database is currently being used to track, and to document the participants reached during activities such as trainings, workshops, meetings, roundtable sessions, community focus group discussions.	N/A	The database is shared with the team and adequate mechanisms were put in place to ensure adherence across the programs' portfolios.
M&E activity 2: Update of the Project Workplan	The Updated Project workplan reflected the realistic timelines on activities conducted.	The project workplan should be updated on a periodic basis to reflect the timelines on activities conducted.	N/A
M&E activity 3: Development of Pre and Post test	Pre- and post-training assessment tools developed and to be deployed, improved the evaluation of the programs assessments and trainings.	N/A	N/A
M&E activity 4: Conduct of the programs baseline assessment	Baseline Assessment of the programs' output and outcome indicators was conducted and is under the process of validation.	N/A	N/A
M&E activity 5: Development of programs indicator reference	The indicator reference sheet and the programs Monitoring and Evaluation Plan were developed to	N/A	The indicator reference sheet is now used by the

sheet and the Monitoring and Evaluation plan.	ensure that activity implementation is aligned to intended outputs and outcomes and that progress is monitored against changes in context.		team as a guide in measuring the indicators.
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6. Risk management

Risks	Mitigation Measures
<i>Identify the different types of risks faced during the year and include here. Please also refer to the risks identified in the project AWP during planning. Look at all type of risks (environmental, financial, political, security, operational etc.).</i>	<i>Describe the measures that were taken by the project / UNDP to mitigate or avoid the negative impact of the risk on the achievement of project results.</i>
Limited and difficult access to both the Pilot site locations and state governments due to security risk as a result of the Niger Republic military coup and unreliable airlines is an increasing risk to the project. Unreliable transportation can lead to staff being stranded with limited access to required services.	When undertaking mission planning or travel ensure it includes contingency planning. The team should also look into the option of reserving refundable tickets for other flights to and from the location, should there be multiple and unexpected delays. Also, regular conflict and political economy analysis is conducted and also monitoring activities are being carried on the security situation in the border areas of Jibia and Illela LGAs.
Insufficient local ownership and participation in implementation.	Sustained consultation and co-creation approaches adopted including at inception and implementation stages. Implementation will leverage State and local government structures, community-based organizations that allow for citizen's voice and participation.
Women in local communities in Katsina and Sokoto states are not being included in decision and implementation.	The project has been designed considering a gender lens. The project field teams are expected to consider women's meaningful participation in all project activities and adhere to UNDP's Gender Strategy. In addition, the project collaborates with UNDP gender team.
The political context has changed with the coming in of a new administration which is yet to appoint heads of government Ministries, Departments and Agencies who are to serve as interlocutors of the government.	Sustained engagement with the new government and likely appointees to consolidate on previous milestones and achievements.

Limitations and restrictions for stakeholder engagements due to limited resources.	Field team should have access to finances that they can use to plan and respond to unexpected opportunities and challenges. Thought would include paying for refreshments for an unplanned but critical stakeholder meeting or hiring cars to support the mission team get to a location when other transportation is not available.
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7. Challenges

One of the challenges is the political dynamics arising from perceived neglect of the Eastern part of Sokoto State which is the most affected by the violent conflict involving bandits and the farmer-herder clashes which makes some communities inaccessible. More so, the conflict vulnerability and possibility of escalation has served to denied access to some strategic locations like Goronyo LGA, Gwadabawa LGA and Sabon Birni. Hence engagement of community stakeholders has been affected, however there has been progress in identifying certain powerful gatekeepers to help access communities.

Furthermore, the outcome of the 2023 General Elections and the subsequent transition and change in political structures of the state have impacted on the existing relationship already built with the State actors and previous successes and milestones achieved which will require the team to leverage on the political space to reinstate familiarization, high-level engagement and advocacy to re-establish healthy relationship that will tailor toward identifying a suitable entry point.

Finally, the partnership negotiations and engagement with Adelphi was delayed due to UNDP's policies of contracting and signing Responsible Party Agreement (RPA) a on certain amount of money involved in a project which needs to be subjected to a very competitive process that comes with its complications and uncertainties. This has also caused some delays in the inception phase. However, the issue has been resolve and they are expected to be engaged in Q4 2023.

The field office does not have a dedicated budget to use for managing their daily operations. When hosting CSO, meetings or other key engagements it requires significant amount of planning for the team to engage the head office finance team. This limits the field office's ability to engage spontaneously to various challenges and opportunities that come with working in the field.

8. Lessons Learned

The transition and change in political structures in Katsina and Sokoto States reawaken the mind of the team to constantly conduct a context analysis with a view to identify new actors and emerging issues that needs to be considered as the project implementation progresses. Ahead of meeting with partners and stakeholders it will be important to provide field teams one-week minimum notice for mission planning and coordination, including ensuring the field

office are provided with sufficient funds to support the mission. Also, to establish consulted mission plan, objectives and strategy ahead of departure. Develop a mission brief to be shared with stakeholders ahead of mission and a stakeholder profile for strategic engagement.

9. Evidence

Report Section	Title	URL link
	Natural resource management structures (NRMS) and resolution of farmer-herders conflicts in north west, Nigeria – THE FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations , Index Number: 3099242 Program/Project Number: OSRO/NIR/107/IIE: TF.FRIE190022102
	Nigeria - Climate Risk Country Profile – The World Bank	Nigeria Climate risk Profile-WB.pdf
	Accessing and Using Climate Data and information, Data Poor States – IIST	Accessing-climate-data-information-fragile-data-poor-states-IIST.pdf

10. Financial Summary for Quarter 3, 2023

Outputs / Activity Result		Current Annual Budget (US\$) (Jan – Dec 2023)	Expenditure (Reporting Period) Q3	Cumulative Expenditures	% Expenditure (Cumulative)
		A	B	D	D/A*100
Output 1: Improved access to data supports decision-making for anticipatory actions to climate and conflict risks					
Activity Result 1	Community led and robust systemic risk assessment and integrated risk management systems including	108,000	0	67,869.13	63%

	community led crowdsourcing tools established				
Activity Result 2	Regular synthesized and analyzed reports on pattern and trends of resource related conflicts, including gendered dynamics using primary and secondary gender disaggregated data produced	0			
Activity Result 3	Synthesized data disseminated to policy actors, decision makers and communities.	0			
Activity Result 4	Implementation pathway clearly defined through baselines, targets, indicators, progress measurements	194,400	21,772.44	121,772.44	62.6%
Output 1 Sub-total		302,400	21,772.44	189641.57	62.7%
Output 2: Vulnerable and at-risk communities have increased access to climate resilient livelihoods and green jobs					
Activity Result 1	Seed Financing for green micro-businesses led by young people provided	339,120			
Activity Result 2	Technologies and skills for enhanced productive capacities of communities on livelihoods acquired and transferred	86,400			
Activity Result 3	Technical support to VSLAs on matching grants and for client resilient livelihoods provided	228,960			
Output 2 Sub-total		654,480			
Output 3 Collaborative systems and practices for communal management of natural resources strengthened					
Activity Result 1	Communal natural climate resilience and peace hubs established eg: shared access to resources such as water and integrated	432,000			

	agro-value chains support to the communities				
Activity Result 2	Investments in Conservation and Ecosystem revitalized through cash for conservation	104,000			
Activity Result 3	States supported through policy needs assessments/provision and ecosystem destruction curbed. Quarterly knowledge reports for learning produced	132,400			
Output 3 Sub-total		668,400			
Programme Management		176,038	15,110.9	91,110.9	51.8%
	Audits and Hact Assessments	18,013			
	M&E Costs	36,026			
	Communication Cost	18,013			
Programme Management Sub-total		248,090	15,110.9	91,110.9	36.7%
Grand total		1,873,370	36,883.34	280,752.47	15%