Template and Guidelines for Project Progress Reports

This document provides a step-by-step guide on how to complete QFFD's progress report template. These guidelines apply to development and humanitarian projects and are based on QFFD's Results-Based Approach to Project Cycle Management. These instructions, therefore, complement QFFD's Managing for Results (MfR) Guidelines which explain the different steps of planning for results, monitoring results and reporting results in more details.

Results-oriented project reports describe progress made during the reporting period against the planned outcomes, outputs and their respective target values as summarized in the project's LogFrame. Progress reports provide a self-critical analysis of results achieved, performance, challenges faced and how they were dealt with, and lessons learnt. Progress reports, therefore, are based on the project's M&E plan and experiences made during project implementation. Progress reports inform planning of the next project phase based on results and lessons learnt from the current phase and, thus, allow for steering decisions.

Progress Reports are expected to be short, concise, objective, and critical, and they must be self-explanatory, clear, and comprehensible. It is further expected that progress reports are elaborated by the office or person in charge of managing the project on the ground. Please note that it is mandatory for partners to provide QFFD with all relevant information based on their monitoring and reporting system as per the agreed project LogFrame and contract.

Basic Information

Name of Project	Employment and Self-Employment through Strengthening Food and Livelihoods Security for Conflict-Affected Populations
Name of Organization	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Organization's Focal Point (name, function, e-mail and phone number)	Arvind Kumar, Programme Manager, arvind.kumar@undp.org
QFFD Project Code	
Country/Region	Sudan – Gedaref, Kassala, River Nile
Theme/s (as identified at the proposal stage)	Livelihoods, Food Security, Youth Employment

Total agreed QFFD Funding (in USD)	$5,000,000
Co-Funding (in USD) and name of co-funding entity/ies	$1,000,000 – UNDP Core Resources
Total Project Budget (in USD)	$6,000,000
QFFD Funding received to date	$905,764
QFFD Funding utilized to date	$919,781.79
Start of Project	January 2025
Scheduled End of Project	December 2026
Scheduled Project Duration	24 months
Start of current reporting period	January 2025
End of current reporting period	July 2025
Report Submission Date	August 2025
Report Written by (including function and location)	Isaac Asare, Programme Analyst, Gedaref
Sources of information	Field visits, partner reports, M&E data, government consultations

Beneficiary Targets & Achievements

Life of Project (LoP) Target	17,700 youth placed in employment
Cumulative Target	5,500 youth placed in employment
Cumulative Achieved to Date	5,599 youth placed in employment
Reporting Period Target	5,500 youth placed in employment
Reporting Period Achievement	5,599 youth placed in employment

Executive Summary

Please provide a **summary of the main results achieved** during the reporting period and the project's performance compared to the objectives and target values in your project proposal, the LogFrame and the M&E plan. **Highlight the main steering implications** for the next phase of project implementation.
The UNDP, in partnership with Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), the Education Above All Foundation (EAA), and the Implementing Partners and local/state authorities, is implementing the Employment and Self-Employment through Strengthening Food and Livelihood Security for Conflict-Affected Populations project, targeting Gedaref, Kassala, and the River Nile states, covering eight (8) localities and reaching 28 towns/communities. The project aims to improve the food security and livelihoods of IDPs and crisis-affected communities in Sudan by providing in-kind, financial, and capacity support to enable affected populations to undertake humanitarian and development emergency interventions, including the employment and self-employment of young people, thereby contributing to economic resilience while promoting peace and social cohesion. The project seeks to support approximately 100,500 households, which translates to about 603,000 direct beneficiaries, of whom 52% will be female. This includes employment and self-employment of 17,700 young people (18-35). Additionally, the project is set to impact an estimated 450,000 indirect beneficiaries. Overall, the project benefited **approximately 10,000** individuals by enhancing food security/livelihoods and providing employment for **5,599 youth between the ages of 18 and 35 years**. UNDP has created the master beneficiaries list as required by EAA. *There are 33 beneficiaries who are above 70 years old and have received the project support. However, the date of birth verification has remained ad hoc for those 66 beneficiaries due to lack of any supporting documentation for their age proof. This is also to acknowledge that age-proof documentation for such a category (beyond 70 years) is one of the key challenges that the project has encountered.* The project distributed a total of **93.7 metric tons of improved** seeds and other agro-inputs to 9,177 smallholder farmers across the three states, including **5,599 youth**. This support will enhance agricultural productivity while employing the youth. A total of **430 feddans (equivalent to 180.6 hectares)** has been allocated to 1,412 smallholder farmers, of which 91% are women. Among the farmers who gained access to this productive land, 1,261 individuals were youth aged between 18 and 35 years. The project has **established five (5) producer associations**. These associations aim to support local farmers by sharing best practices in sustainable farming techniques and access to markets, thereby enhancing the overall productivity and sustainability of farming. UNDP, in collaboration with the State Ministry of Agriculture, is providing extension services to farmers, offering expert guidance on best farming practices, access to modern agricultural technologies, and training sessions focused on crop management and pest control. Through farmer field schools and one-on-one consultations, farmers received tailored support to address their unique challenges. Twenty (20) lead farmers in the River Nile State participated in a training program focused on rainwater harvesting techniques. This initiative aimed to equip them with the skills necessary to collect and utilize rainwater for irrigation purposes.

A total of 200 goats were distributed to **100 vulnerable households** in the Gedaref state. Among the beneficiaries, 67 were youth, aiming to provide economic empowerment and improve livelihoods. Each household received one goat, which not only serves as a source of nutrition but also has the potential to provide additional income through breeding or selling offspring. This effort is part of a broader strategy to support economic resilience and promote self-sufficiency among at-risk populations in the area. In addition, a group of **20 young individuals** received specialized training to become **Community Animal Workers** in the River Nile State. This training focused on enhancing their skills in animal health care, husbandry practices, and sustainable community development. By equipping these youth with the necessary knowledge and resources, the project aims to improve the overall well-being of both the local livestock and the communities that depend on them for their livelihoods, and to provide employment for the youth.

UNDP has initiated the procurement process to procure a solar-powered irrigation system and water yards. The tender document has been finalized. UNDP, based on previous experience and lessons learned, wishes to consult the donor on the feasibility and implementation of solar stoves, as well as alternatives to them. UNDP has commenced the procurement of **five (5) community warehouses** to reduce post-harvest losses, reaching at least 6,000 farmers. The tender documents for the construction of four new warehouses—comprising two in Gedaref, one in the River Nile, and one in Kassala—have also been completed. The procurement of 10 tractors and their accessories, worth a total of US$464,000, has been completed. Meanwhile, procurement processes have been initiated for the following: 10 solar water pumps valued at US$150,000, five warehouses worth US$166,666, and the rehabilitation of a water yard, also estimated at US$166,666.

Fourteen (14) Community Management Committees (CMCs) have been established to support local governance and community engagement, with a total membership of 410. The youth constitute 90% of the total membership of the CMCs. Additionally, five (5) youth groups, comprising 125 members (50 women and 75 men), have been formed to promote peaceful co-existence. Further training workshops and the creation of additional CMCs are planned for Kassala and River Nile states.

Moreover, access to credit for 200 (more than 50% youth) individuals has not yet been implemented. To strengthen market opportunities, six market fairs and bazaars have been planned to connect producers with buyers. In addition, three training sessions on market access strategies will be conducted for 500 producers. Linkages with private sector actors, including the World Food Programme (WFP), traders, and exporters, are also being facilitated to enhance market integration and sustainability.

To address immediate financial needs, the project provided emergency employment opportunities through a **cash-for-work scheme, enabling 371 people to earn an income** while contributing to community development projects (to rehabilitate a 22-kilometer stretch of the Kahaloot Canal). Out of the 371 employed, 25% were female, while 75% were male. Out of 371, in total, 275 youth, aged 18-35, were placed in employment through cash-for-work initiatives in Kassala. *Though the project has selected beneficiaries (youths) for cash for work but they are yet to complete employment beyond three months to qualify as employent beneficiaries. Therefore, 371 beneficiaries have added into the beneficiaries database but not considered as employment beneficiaries for reporting.*

Despite the challenges posed by the onset of the rainy season, UNDP and its implementing partners are dedicated to ensuring that all planned tasks are implemented efficiently. We are closely monitoring the conditions on the ground and adjusting our strategies as needed to maintain momentum and achieve our objectives on schedule.

Changes in the Project Environment

Describe possible **changes in the project environment** compared to the situation at the proposal stage, the LogFrame assumptions and the risk analysis. Include all relevant changes at the national level and in the project areas (political landscape, country ownership, development policies, sector strategies, humanitarian response plans, etc.) and changes related to the target groups, other key stakeholders, your partners or sub-grantees, etc. that may influence the project. Please explain resulting steering decisions in more detail in section "lessons learned and steering".

The project aims to improve the food security and livelihoods of IDPs and crisis-affected communities in Sudan by providing in-kind, financial, and capacity support to enable affected populations to undertake humanitarian and development emergency interventions, including the employment and self-employment of young people, thereby contributing to economic resilience while promoting peace and social cohesion.

The project contributes to alleviating the immediate suffering of the conflict-affected population while laying the foundation for recovery and development. The project contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 11 (Make Cities/Human Settlements Inclusive, Safe, Resilient, and Sustainable), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

UNDP is implementing the project in an unstable political and economic context. The war, which broke out on April 15, 2023, between Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), affected civilian populations in Khartoum State, North Kordofan, West Kordofan, Darfur Region (North, South, West, Central, East), Sennar State, Al Jazeera, as well as between the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) Al Hilu faction and SAF in South Kordofan State. This armed conflict has caused massive displacement, leading to societal cleavages, scarce resources, and governance challenges. Atrocities against civilians, destruction of infrastructure, and poor humanitarian access have worsened the food security situation. The conflict has also led to the emergence of many women-headed households. Although local authorities have provided new gathering sites, these sites have limited access to basic services, including electricity. IDPs live in precarious conditions in sheltering centers, with limited access to food, non-food Items, and healthcare services.

Humanitarian and Development Context

As of 25 June 2025, Sudan hosts an estimated 10,065,329 internally displaced persons (IDPs). This figure includes individuals displaced both before and after the outbreak of conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on 15 April 2023. Of this total, approximately 7,666,575 individuals have been displaced since the conflict began. The total number of IDPs has decreased by 13% compared to the highest recorded figure in January 2025. This reduction is primarily attributed to increased return movements, particularly to the states of Khartoum, Sennar, and Aj Jazirah.

The demographic breakdown of the IDP population reveals that 54% are female and 46% are male. Children under the age of 18 constitute 53% of the displaced population, with 27% being under the age of five. Notably, 29% of the IDPs are female children under 18, who face heightened protection risks. The majority of IDP households, approximately 47% are residing with host families or communities. Other shelter arrangements include informal settlements or open areas (22%), camps (17%), schools or public

buildings (8%), rented accommodation (5%), and improvised or critical shelters (3%). Shelter types vary significantly by state. For instance, 93% of IDPs in Sennar and 82% in Aj Jazirah are hosted by families. In contrast, North Darfur has a high concentration of IDPs in gathering sites (46%) and camps (19%).

The security situation remains volatile, with clashes continuing in Omdurman (the western part of Khartoum State) and in some pockets of White Nile State, North Kordofan, South Kordofan, and North Darfur states. Meanwhile, RSF continued attacks using drones, reaching Port Sudan, the capital of the Red Sea state, and the temporary administrative capital of the Sudan.

The significant advancement of SAF revealed the extent of the widespread destruction that occurred in the areas that witnessed clashes and remained under the control of RSF for several months. It has also led to a significant return of displaced persons to the areas they left due to the war, only to find extremely complex conditions awaiting them. DTM June 2025 reported that between 18 December 2024 and 28 May 2025, approximately 1,189,893 returnees crossed 898 locations in Al Jazirah (80%), Sennar (15%), and Khartoum (5%). Those returnees have moved back mainly from Gedaref, Kassala, River Nile, White Nile, Blue Nile, Northern, and Red Sea states. (15%), and Khartoum (5%). Those returnees have moved back mainly from Gedaref, Kassala, River Nile, White Nile, Blue Nile, Northern, and Red Sea states.

Food insecurity remains high. Approximately 24.6 million people across Sudan were expected to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between December 2024 and May 2025. This includes 8.1 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and at least 638,000 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). Furthermore, there is a risk of Famine in seventeen additional areas. Half of the population (24.6 million people) faces high levels of acute food insecurity. This marks an unprecedented deepening and widening of the food and nutrition crisis, driven by the devastating conflict, which has triggered unprecedented mass displacement, a collapsing economy, the breakdown of essential social services, and severe societal disruptions combined with poor humanitarian access. Food insecurity and malnutrition have reached unprecedented levels of severity despite the mitigating effects of the ongoing harvest season (Famine Review Committee: Sudan, 2024).

Women IDPs bear the brunt of the crisis, facing displacement, gender-based violence, and loss of livelihoods and lives (UN Women, 2024). Cases of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) against women and girls have been reported across the country, as the conflict created a rule of law vacuum, with reports of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law mounting. Women caught up in the heavy fighting in urban areas are especially vulnerable, as they work as tea and food sellers or petty traders, often providing the sole source of income for their households. The influx of IDPs has strained resources and services, leading to tensions between displaced groups and host communities. Ensuring equal access to basic services for vulnerable groups is crucial to maintaining social cohesion among co-existing communities.

Economic Context

Two years into the SAF–RSF conflict, Sudan's economy remains severely disrupted. SAF has regained control over key states like Khartoum, Sennar, and Aj Jazirah, prompting the return of over 628,000 displaced persons. However, widespread destruction, especially in RSF-held areas, has devastated infrastructure and services. RSF drone attacks have targeted critical facilities, including power stations, hospitals, and airports, causing over $41 billion in damage across the health, agriculture, and energy sectors.

Inflation surged to triple digits in 2024 but began to ease in 2025 due to reduced demand, foreign aid, and improved security in SAF-controlled areas. Despite this, inflation remains high, and the exchange rate, although relatively stable, shows a significant gap between the official and parallel markets. GDP contracted by 12.7% in 2024 but is projected to grow by 1.74% in 2025, driven by a modest recovery in agriculture and industry. Gold exports reached $1.57 billion, accounting for 50% of total exports. The fiscal sector is under pressure, with the government prioritizing military spending and basic services. Revenue mobilization efforts include tax hikes and electricity price increases. Oil transit revenues from South Sudan were lost due to attacks by the RSF. Imports and exports declined sharply, with a 33% drop in imports and a 14% drop in exports in 2024. Sudan's external financing has dried up, and new U.S. sanctions are expected to worsen the situation.

The financial sector is fragile, with declining deposits and capital adequacy. Limited credit is flowing, and infrastructure issues hinder digital payments. Some recovery efforts are underway, including support for agriculture, solar energy, and MSMEs. However, RSF-controlled areas face insecurity, looting, and trade restrictions, stifling economic activity.

The new Prime Minister, Kamil al-Tayeb Idris, has outlined a vision for recovery in his "Sudan's Marshall Plan," focusing on governance reform, infrastructure, human development, and sustainability. Urgent interventions are necessary to support returnees, restore essential services, and prepare for the upcoming agricultural season. This project contributes to addressing immediate humanitarian challenges, including intractable development challenges, particularly those related to youth employment.

Target Areas and Context

UNDP is implementing the project in Gedaref, Kassala, and the River Nile states. It covers eight (8) localities, reaching 28 towns/communities. The project supports approximately 100,500 households, which is about 603,000 direct beneficiaries, with 52% women. This includes employment and self-employment of 17,700 young people (18-35). Additionally, the project is set to impact an estimated 450,000 indirect beneficiaries.

Gedaref

As of 25 June 2025, Gedaref State hosted an estimated 475,315 internally displaced persons (IDPs). The majority of IDPs in Gedaref—approximately 79 percent—were residing with host families or communities. Other common shelter types included rented accommodation (11%) and schools or public buildings (8%). Of the total IDP population in Gedaref, 22,169 individuals were displaced before 15 April 2023, while 453,146 were displaced after April 2023. The conflict has put a strain on already limited resources and access to services, particularly in localities that host displaced populations. Gedaref has become an affordable transit point for individuals seeking refuge beyond Sudan's borders. Ongoing conflicts between Ethiopian government forces and Fano militias in the northwestern Amhara region resulted in an influx of Sudanese refugees into camps located near the Sudanese border. Consequently, many individuals are forced to flee toward the West Galabat locality in the state of Gedaref. The convergence of different tribes and the competition for scarce resources is creating new tensions. This necessitated the expansion of livelihood opportunities to alleviate the suffering of the IDPs, strengthen the capacity of host communities, and foster social cohesion and peaceful coexistence among the different groups. Many people who fled Sudan are classified as returnees, meaning they are former refugees who have returned to their country of origin.

The project is being implemented in two localities, covering 12 towns as indicated in the Table. These locations were selected in consultations with the local authorities, targeting high densities of IDPs and vulnerable communities.

Kassala

Eastern Sudan was already hosting a very high number of protracted refugees before the conflict. The region hosts more than 181,424 refugees and asylum seekers, including about 60,000 refugees who crossed into the region, fleeing the conflict that erupted in Ethiopia in November 2020. This high number of migrants and refugees, coupled with the effects of Sudan's severe economic crisis, is further compounded by the enduring effects of the ongoing conflict. A recent Inter-agency assessment conducted by the United Nations in the Kassala state indicates a dire Water and Sanitation situation.

Kassala State had an estimated 118,605 IDPs as of 25 June 2025, marking a significant 30% decrease from the previous month's figure of 169,806. Of these, only 650 individuals were displaced before 15 April 2023, while the vast majority—117,955 individuals—were displaced after April 2023. In terms of shelter, 56 percent of IDPs were staying with host families, 35 % were in schools or public buildings, and 7 % were in rented accommodations. Kassala accounted for 1% of the national IDP population. The state also hosted approximately 1,520 non-Sudanese IDPs, making up about 1 percent of its IDP population.

River Nile State

Due to the ongoing conflict in Sudan, the state has seen a significant number of IDPs who were displaced from Khartoum, Singa, and Wad Madani. The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have targeted the cities of Damar and Atbara in the River Nile state by employing drones. River Nile State was hosting approximately 585,975 IDPs as of the end of June 2025. All recorded displacements in the River Nile occurred after 15 April 2023. The majority of IDPs in the state, 69% were living with host families, while 22% were in rented accommodation and 5% in gathering sites. The River Nile accounted for 6% of the total IDP population in Sudan. The state also had a small number of non-Sudanese IDPs, estimated at 327 individuals, which is less than 1% of its IDP population.

Outcomes achieved

In this section, you are asked to critically and transparently reflect on progress made towards achieving the project outcomes as summarized in your LogFrame. Assess **progress made against all outcome indicators and target values for the reporting period** as outlined in your M&E plan. *Please use the M&E Plan* you submitted at the project proposal stage and fill in the "actual values" column based on the outcome monitoring you conducted. Use the table below to **explain further and appraise progress made** by using colors (traffic lights) as illustrated in the table below and **describe resulting steering decisions**. You may also use the input field at the bottom of this section to provide additional information. Please explain overall steering decisions in section "lessons learned and steering".

Reflect on **quantitative and qualitative dimensions of outcome achievement** and **provide evidence**, facts and figures, explanations, appraisals, and further information of relevance. Please also provide evidence of your M&E data collection during the reporting period.

Disaggregate your figures based on the beneficiaries' age, gender and relevant vulnerability criteria as agreed at the proposal stage. If possible, present information on positive and negative, intended and unintended effects of the intervention. If an outcome should not yet be documentable, assess the likelihood of achieving it in the current project phase.

Outcome 1: OUTCOME 1 Food Security of 63,500 crisis-affected households improved through increased agriculture and livestock production, access to productive assets and improved storage conditions.		
	Appraisal ● = satisfactory, no adjustments needed ● = some challenges, minor adjustments needed ● = unsatisfactory, mayor adjustments needed	**Steering Decision**
Indicator 1.1 Percentage (%) of target smallholder farmers with increased productivity per hectare by sex, by age.	Satisfactory, 0% target achieved (not yet measured) Indicator will be measured in Q2-2026	The farming season started in August 2025. UNDP will conduct a survey to measure the outcome indicators in December 2025 after the farming season. The outcome level indicators will be measured through output which is yet to be completed.
Indicator 1.2 % of target households with reduction in post-harvest losses	Satisfactory, 0% target achieved (not yet measured) Indicator will be measured in Q2-2026	The farming season started in August 2025. UNDP will conduct a survey to measure the outcome indicators. The outcome level indicators will be measured through output which is yet to be completed.
Indicator 1.3 Percentage (%) of target households with increased net income from agriculture and livestock activities	Satisfactory, 0% target achieved (not yet measured) Indicator will be measured in Q2-2026	The farming season started in August 2025. UNDP will conduct a survey to measure the outcome indicators. The outcome level indicators will be measured through output which is yet to be completed.
Indicator 1.4 Number of households with improved access to productive assets and community infrastructure	Satisfactory, 0% target achieved (not yet measured) Indicator will be measured in Q2-2026	The farming season started in August 2025. UNDP will conduct a survey to measure the outcome indicators. The outcome level indicators will be measured through output which is yet to be completed.

<table>
<tr><td>disaggregated by sex and</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Indicator 1.5
Number of youth placed in employment</td><td>Satisfactory, 102% target achieved
The project reached out to more youth. The absence of formal employment has led more young people to enter the farming business. Thus, there was a need to provide targeted support to enable the youth to engage in economic activity.
<table><tr><th>Age</th><th>5599</th></tr><tr><td>Youth (26-35 years)</td><td>3912</td></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>1942</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>1970</td></tr><tr><td>Youth (14-25 years)</td><td>1687</td></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>856</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>831</td></tr></table></td><td>The project reached out to more youth. The absence of formal employment has led more young people to enter the farming business. Thus, there was a need to provide targeted support to enable the youth to engage in economic activity.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Outcome 2: Financial capacity of vulnerable households improved through access to micro grants, temporal labor-intensive employment, innovative credit schemes and market access.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Appraisal
● = satisfactory, no adjustments needed
● = some challenges, minor adjustments needed
● = unsatisfactory, mayor adjustments needed</td><td>Steering Decision</td></tr>
<tr><td>Indicator 2.1
Number of people with improved access to market and credit services.</td><td>Satisfactory, 0% target achieved (not yet measured)
Indicator will be measured in Q2-2026</td><td>The activity is linked with outcome 1 and once farmers are able to harvest, the access to market and credit services will be put in place.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Indicator 2.2
Percentage (%) of target households with increased household income from non-agricultural income-</td><td>Satisfactory, 0% target achieved (not yet measured)
Indicator will be measured in Q2-2026</td><td>The activity is linked with outcome 1 and once farmers are able to harvest, the access to market and credit services will be put in place.</td></tr>
</table>

generating activities.		
Indicator 2.3 Number of young people temporarily employed disaggregated by sex and by age.	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 44% UNDP facilitated temporary employment opportunities through its Cash for Work initiative in Gedaref and the River Nile states, engaging a total of 275 individuals (disaggregated below). However, UNDP was unable to meet its target due to the need for the youth to engage in their own farming activities. The Cash for Work activities will resume soon after the farming season. **Age** **275** *Youth (26-35 years)* *145* Male 108 Female 37 *Youth (14-25 years)* *130* Male 90 Female 40	As the definition of temporary employment is beyond three months, selected youths (275) out of 371 would not qualify as a beneficiary criterion for employment. Therefore, they will be considered in the next reporting cycle.

Outputs and Performance

This section provides a summary of the outputs (tangible products such as goods and services) your project delivered in the reporting period as summarized in the LogFrame. Describe **progress made against all output indicators and target values** as outlined in your M&E plan. *Please use the M&E Plan* you submitted at the project proposal stage and fill in the "actual values" column based on your output monitoring. Use the table below to **explain further and appraise progress made** by using colours (traffic lights) as illustrated in the table below and **describe resulting project steering decisions**. You may also use the input field at the bottom of this section to provide additional information. Please explain overall steering decisions in section "lessons learned and steering".

Outcome 1: Food Security of 63,500 crisis-affected households improved through increased agriculture and livestock production, access to productive assets and improved storage conditions.		
	Appraisal ● = satisfactory, no adjustments needed ● = some challenges, minor adjustments needed ● = unsatisfactory, mayor adjustments needed	**Steering Decision**
Output 1.1: OUTPUT 1.1: Agricultural and livestock production of 63,500 vulnerable households (including IDPs, refugees, and host communities) increased through access to inputs, livestock vaccination, climate-smart production, and post-harvest technologies.		

<table>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1: Number of smallholder farmers who received improved agriculture inputs and land, disaggregated by sex and age</td>
<td>Satisfactory. % target achieved = 184%

The project provided 9177 smallholder farmers (disaggregated below) with agro-inputs, including improved seeds, and productive land to engage in farming business. UNDP exceeded the target due to the increased demand for agro-inputs among farmers, particularly the youth. This necessity prompted UNDP to respond to the need and provide agro-inputs to enable farmers to go into food production.
<table>
<tr><th>Age</th><th>9177</th></tr>
<tr><td>Adults (36+ years)</td><td>3548</td></tr>
<tr><td>Male</td><td>1684</td></tr>
<tr><td>Female</td><td>1864</td></tr>
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<tr><td>Female</td><td>844</td></tr>
</table>
</td>
<td>UNDP exceeded the target due to the increased demand for agro-inputs among farmers, particularly the youth. This necessity prompted UNDP to respond to the need and provide agro-inputs to enable farmers to go into food production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.2: Number of target households with increased area under sustainable agriculture production disaggregated by sex and age</td>
<td>Satisfactory: % target achieved = 184%

UNDP supported 9177 smallholder farmers (disaggregated below) by providing improved certified seeds and other agro-inputs. UNDP exceeded its targets due to the increased number of smallholder farmers who benefited from these improved agro-inputs.
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</td>
<td>UNDP supported smallholder farmers by providing improved certified seeds and other agro-inputs. UNDP exceeded its targets due to the increased number of smallholder farmers who benefited from these improved agro-inputs. The main farming season starts from May-October and therefore more farmers have targeted and will continue to be the case in the next reporting period as well.</td>
</tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr>
<td>1.1.3 Number of smallholder farmers trained and or educated on new/improved agriculture techniques and technologies.</td>
<td>Satisfactory: % target achieved = 184%

UNDP deployed Field Extension Officers to facilitate the delivery of extension services to 9,177 smallholder farmers (disaggregated below) through the establishment of farmer field schools, promoting the adoption of new, improved, and sustainable agricultural production methods. UNDP exceeded the target due to the number of farmers who received improved agro-inputs, who need to acquire Good Agricultural Practices to enhance productivity.
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<tr>
<td>1.1.4 Number of households who received livestock support including restocking and vaccination services, disaggregated by sex and age</td>
<td>Satisfactory: % target achieved = 7%

UNDP distributed 200 goats (150 milking and 50 male) to 100 vulnerable households. The UNDP was unable to achieve its target due to delays in securing improved breeds. UNDP has addressed this challenge to ensure the distribution of the improved livestock to vulnerable households in Q3 and Q4.
<table><tr><td>Age</td><td>100</td></tr><tr><td>Adults (36+ years)</td><td>33</td></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>Youth (26-35 years)</td><td>67</td></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>43</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>24</td></tr></table></td>
<td>UNDP distributed 200 goats (150 milking and 50 male) to 100 vulnerable households. The UNDP was unable to achieve its target due to delays in securing improved breeds. UNDP has addressed this challenge to ensure the distribution of the improved livestock to vulnerable households in Q3 and Q4.</td>
</tr>
</table>

OUTPUT 1.2: Access of 20,500 vulnerable households to socioeconomic productive assets and infrastructure increased		
1.2.1 Number of water resources rehabilitated and functional	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0% UNDP has initiated the procurement process to rehabilitate 10 water yards. The tender documents have been finalized.	UNDP has initiated the procurement process to rehabilitate 10 water yards. The tender documents have been finalized. First tranche was completely consumed and due to that, the procurement did not conclude. This was also presented during the monthly meeting. However, UNDP has advanced its core resources to finalize the procurement process and issuing a purchase order.
1.2.2 Number of community warehouses constructed and functioning	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0% Procurement initiated for five (5) warehouses	Procurement initiated for five (5) warehouses. Due to unavailability of fund the procurement process did not concluded and it was also highlighted in the monthly meeting.
1.2.3 Number of solar cooking stoves provided to communities	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0% Procurement launched for 10 solar water pumps. Also, the procurement of solar stoves is planned for 1,510 households	Due to the availability of fund, this could not proceeded.
1.2.4 Number of farm machinery provided to support agricultural production	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0% The procurement of 10 tractors and accessories has been initiated. The bid documents have been evaluated pending final approval from the Regional procurement Unit.	The procurement of 10 tractors and accessories has been completed while using UNDP core resources. The tractors are yet to be delivered and will be reported in next reporting period.
OUTPUT 1.3: Local communities and civil society empowered to promote livelihood and economic recovery enhanced.		
1.3.1: Number of Community Management Committees (CMCs)	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 233% UNDP established 14 CMCs, comprising a total membership of 410 individuals. UNDP established the CMCs to oversee the effective management and maintenance of assets	UNDP established 14 CMCs, comprising a total membership of 410 individuals. UNDP established the CMCs to oversee the effective management and maintenance of assets provided by the

established and functional	provided by the project, including tractors and water yards. UNDP exceeded the target due to the need to ensure the presence of CMCs in targeted communities prior to the delivery of any assets.	project, including tractors and water yards. UNDP exceeded the target due to the need to ensure the presence of CMCs in targeted communities prior to the delivery of any assets
1.3.2: Number of CMCs trained on community mobilization skills and social cohesion promotion disaggregated by sex of participants	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 233% UNDP trained all 14 CMCs that were established. The project exceeded its target due to the need to ensure the presence of CMCs in all communities where the project provided/ will provide assets.	UNDP trained all 14 CMCs that were established. The project exceeded its target due to the need to ensure the presence of CMCs in all communities where the project provided/ will provide assets..
1.3.3: Number of social forums and peace events organised	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 20% UNDP organized one (1) social event, involving five (5) youth groups (established by the project), comprising 125 members (50 women and 75 men), to promote peaceful co-existence. UNDP was unable to meet the target because the timing of the activities coincided with the farming season. The project will organize the events after the farming season.	UNDP organized one (1) social event, involving five (5) youth groups (established by the project), comprising 125 members (50 women and 75 men), to promote peaceful co-existence. UNDP was unable to meet the target because the timing of the activities coincided with the farming season. The project will organize the events after the farming season.
Outcome 2: OUTCOME 2: Financial capacity of vulnerable households improved through access to micro grants, temporal labor-intensive employment, innovative credit schemes and market access.		
	Appraisal ● = satisfactory, no adjustments needed ● = some challenges, minor adjustments needed ● = unsatisfactory, mayor adjustments needed	**Steering Decision**
OUTPUT 2.1: Income-generating and labor-intensive employment opportunities created for 4,500 vulnerable households.		
2.1.1 Number of Voluntary Savings and Loans Associations	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0% Planned: UNDP was unable to meet the target because the timing of the activities coincided with the farming season. The beneficiaries are engaged in farming business	UNDP was unable to meet the target because the timing of the activities coincided with the farming season. The beneficiaries are engaged in farming business during the rainy season. UNDP will establish the VSLAs in Q4.

<table>
<tr><td>(VSLAs) established that are functional disaggregated by sex and age</td><td>during the rainy season. UNDP will establish the VSLAs in Q4.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2.1.2 Number of young people self-employed as a result of receiving a micro-grant</td><td>Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0%

UNDP was unable to meet the target. The beneficiaries also engage in off-season agribusiness enterprises, and they will only need grants after the agricultural production. Providing microcredit at this time will not yield the expected outcome. UNDP will provide the micro-grants to the beneficiaries in Q4, when they need to purchase agricultural commodities.</td><td>Micro-grants planned for 800 households starting September 2025. UNDP was unable to meet the target. The beneficiaries also engage in off-season agribusiness enterprises, and they will only need grants after the agricultural production. Providing microcredit at this time will not yield the expected outcome. UNDP will provide the micro-grants to the beneficiaries in Q4, when they need to purchase agricultural commodities.</td></tr>
<tr><td>2.1.3 Number of young people participating in Cash for Work activities disaggregated by gender and by age group</td><td>Satisfactory: % target achieved = 44%

UNDP facilitated temporary employment opportunities through its Cash for Work initiative in Gedaref and the River Nile states, engaging a total of 275 individuals (disaggregated below). However, UNDP was unable to meet its target due to the need for the youth to engage in their own farming activities. The Cash for Work activities will resume soon after the farming season
<table>
<tr><th>.Age</th><th>275</th></tr>
<tr><td>Youth (26-35 years)</td><td>145</td></tr>
<tr><td>Male</td><td>108</td></tr>
<tr><td>Female</td><td>37</td></tr>
<tr><td>Youth (14-25 years)</td><td>130</td></tr>
<tr><td>Male</td><td>90</td></tr>
<tr><td>Female</td><td>40</td></tr>
</table></td><td>275 youth were placed in employment through cash for work initiatives in Kassala and River Nile. UNDP will place additional youth in employment in the River Nile and Gedaref states. UNDP facilitated temporary employment opportunities through its Cash for Work initiative in Gedaref and the River Nile states, engaging a total of 275 individuals. However, UNDP was unable to meet its target due to the need for the youth to engage in their own farming activities. The Cash for Work activities will resume soon after the farming season.</td></tr>
</table>

OUTPUT 2.2: Linkages and access to markets facilitated for 1,700 smallholder producers, associations and enterprises.		
2.2.1: Number of target beneficiaries trained on market access strategies disaggregated by sex and age	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0% UNDP postponed the training sessions for Q3 and Q4 to allow farmers to fully engage in their crucial farming activities during the peak season.	3 training sessions planned for 500 producers. UNDP postponed the training sessions for Q3 and Q4 to allow farmers to fully engage in their crucial farming activities during the peak season.
2.2.2: Number of agricultural fairs and bazars organized	Satisfactory: % target achieved = 0% UNDP postponed the training sessions for Q3 and Q4 to allow farmers to fully engage in their crucial farming activities during the peak season	The project will conduct activities to measure this indicator in Q3 and Q4. UNDP postponed the training sessions for Q3 and Q4 to allow farmers to fully engage in their crucial farming activities during the peak season.
2.2.3: Percentage (%) of target smallholders who reported that finding markets to sell their products was easy	Planned	This indicator will be measured by the end of Q2-2026.

Also **explain and justify major differences between executed and planned activities** as per the approved project GANTT Chart. Please explain resulting steering decisions in more details in section "lessons learned and steering".

Please also use this section to describe **steps taken towards realizing the exit strategy** and/or the strategy for scaling up the approach as agreed at the project proposal stage.

The project is primarily targeted at farmers, and the planned activities are carefully aligned with the agricultural calendar specific to various states. Each activity is strategically layered to correspond with the farming cycles, ensuring that they are relevant to the seasonal demands and practices of local agriculture. This approach allows us to address the unique challenges and opportunities presented by each state, ultimately enhancing the effectiveness and impact of our initiatives. By taking into account the specific agricultural timelines, we aim to provide timely support and resources that foster sustainable farming practices and improve overall productivity for farmers in diverse areas. Attached is an activity tracking sheet. To this end, the achievement of the project target hinges on the farming calendar.

Finances

Please summarize the project's financial status for the reporting period. Attach a financial report and use annexes PDS-2d and PDS-2e to show the **percentage of budget spent versus planned** for each outcome and including contributions from other donors (if applicable). **Justify budget deviations** and over- or underspending compared to the approved budget at the proposal stage. Provide an outlook of major expenditures planned for the next project phase. Please provide **updates on the registered assets** purchased or to be purchased as part of the intervention and/or your asset disposal plan. Please use and provide updates directly in your Asset Register Plan as submitted during the proposal stage. **Appraise the project's efficiency** (if applicable). How reasonable is the relation between the inputs and the outputs/outcomes achieved so far? Which adjustments to the budget could increase efficiency?
Project Financial Status: The project has an overall approved budget of US$6 million, of which US$1,233,970 million (approximately 21%) has been expended as of June 2025. This leaves a remaining balance of about US$4.7 million available for implementation across the next reporting periods. The expenditure pattern reflects a burn rate of 30%, which is aligned with the project's multi-year implementation timeline. While utilization is progressing, the relatively modest spending rate highlights the need for accelerated disbursement in upcoming quarters to meet delivery targets. Updates on Registered Assets: The fixed asset register records project assets purchased during implementation, including equipment and related items assigned for field activities. Each item has been logged with purchase cost, depreciation, and user assignment, ensuring accountability and traceability in line with UNDP asset management standards. The data suggests that assets are being systematically allocated to field staff and project locations, which strengthens operational capacity for delivery while also maintaining compliance with donor reporting requirements. Project Efficiency: Overall, the project demonstrates efficiency in budget management with clear tracking of both expenditures and co-funding contributions. The structured recording of assets and consistent reporting across categories reflect strong financial discipline. However, efficiency gains could be further enhanced by aligning expenditure pace with programmatic milestones, particularly to avoid end-loaded spending. With over two-thirds of the budget still available, careful planning and timely fund utilisation will be critical to sustaining delivery momentum and achieving set results within the project cycle.

Risk Update

Please **update your risk analysis, risk mitigation strategies and action plans** using the matrix you submitted at the project proposal stage. **Explain any changes** compared to the situation at the proposal stage. Do not include risks that have been downgraded in previous progress reports and pose no more threats to the project. Please insert additional risks you may perceive as critical to the project. Kindly note that **risk mitigation strategies and action plans must be provided for risks that fall in one of the orange or red categories.**
Attached is the project risk and mitigation plan

Lessons Learned and Steering

This section resumes **key lessons learned from project implementation** during the reporting period. Reflect critically and transparently on main **factors that contributed to successes and failures**, on **obstacles and challenges faced and measures taken** to tackle them. If available, introduce findings from reviews and self-evaluations. Describe briefly how you shared findings and lessons learned with project beneficiaries and other relevant stakeholders and possible feedbacks (positive and negative) received. This section also elaborates on **steering decisions that need to be taken** for a next project phase. What needs to be done differently in the next project phase, what action needs to be taken to overcome existing or anticipated challenges and constraints? **Describe and justify possible adjustments** of the intervention approach, the outreach strategy, the project assumptions, partners and sub-grantees, the organizational set-up and staffing, the M&E plan, etc. Note: any steering decision that may affect the project deliverables as agreed in the contract require prior approval by QFFD.
Stakeholder Engagement: The establishment of Community Management Committees (CMCs) and youth groups has demonstrated effectiveness in promoting local ownership, accountability, and the sustainability of interventions. Early and inclusive engagement of community members, particularly women and youth, significantly enhances project acceptance and effectiveness. The active involvement of government representatives is essential in establishing a robust accountability framework among duty bearers. Fostering collaboration with various governmental agencies and stakeholders not only enhances governance structures but also promotes transparency and trust within the community. Cash-for-Work: The Kahaloot Canal rehabilitation demonstrated how labor-intensive employment can simultaneously address infrastructure needs and provide income to vulnerable youth, while also fostering community solidarity. Digital and Financial Literacy: The government's transition to a cashless economy will significantly impact individuals with low levels of digital literacy. Many individuals in these areas may lack the necessary skills to navigate digital transaction platforms, which could lead to further economic marginalization. To bridge this critical gap, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country Office is planning digital literacy training sessions across various project locations. These training initiatives are designed to equip vulnerable populations with the essential knowledge and skills required to confidently and effectively manage their financial transactions in the digital landscape. By fostering digital competency,

these programs will not only empower individuals but also promote broader financial inclusion as the nation adapts to the evolving economic environment.

Strengthen Gender Mainstreaming: The project remains committed to enhancing women's participation across all its components, recognizing their vital role in achieving sustainable outcomes. To this end, we are developing specific interventions that take into account the unique vulnerabilities faced by women in the community. This includes targeted sensitization efforts aimed at raising awareness among local leaders about the importance of women's involvement. Additionally, we will engage in advocacy initiatives designed to empower women, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed in decision-making processes. Through these comprehensive strategies, we aim to create an inclusive environment where women and youth are supported.

Media, Communication and Advocacy

Please describe and provide evidence of **progress made towards implementing the visibility workplan** as submitted and agreed at the proposal stage. Please update your visibility workplan and report on progress made against all deliverables outlined therein. Justify major deviations from the plan and explain steering decisions in more detail in section "lessons learned and steering".

Kindly provide **success stories from the field**, including personal/human interest stories, that illustrate the perspectives of beneficiaries and other involved stakeholders in the form of testimonies and/or other illustrations of main results achieved. Attach pictures, press clippings, social media posts and other publication materials.

This section highlights the achievements made under the visibility and communication plan. The plan aimed to enhance stakeholder awareness, promote donor recognition, and showcase project outcomes through various media, digital, print, and community engagement tools.

Traditional media and official website: UNDP engaged both local and regional media to raise awareness of the programmatic vision of the project. Highlighting our partnership with Education Above All Foundation (EAA) and Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD) following project agreement signature. Link: https://www.undp.org/sudan/press-releases/silatech-qffd-and-undp-join-forces-support-youth-employment-and-livelihood-security-conflict-affected-populations-sudan

Digital

UNDP used its website to raise awareness of the project as indicated above. Additionally, the project published project information/achievements on its social media platforms, UNDP has also published a blog, co-authored with EAA, on the importance of empowering youth as catalysts for peace, stability, and prosperity in their countries.

Link: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/luca-renda-95b7239_silatech-qffd-and-undp-join-forces-to-support-activity-7260967527709638656-4Srl/

Link: Empowering Sudanese Youth: Pathways to Peace, Stability, and Prosperity | United Nations Development Programme

Human interest/Success story

UNDP published a human-interest story on its webpage, highlighting the impact of project activities on beneficiaries, and further increasing the project's visibility. ,

Link: https://www.undp.org/sudan/stories/support-smallholder-associations-helps-meet-input-costs-and-boost-profits-women-farmers-more-remote-locations.

Print

UNDP designed signboards and banners to inform communities, local authorities, and other stakeholders about project investments, and to inform participants about the project, organizing the event, and the donor of the project.

Leaflets/information sheets/fact sheets will be designed and printed by the end of September to inform all stakeholders about the key facts and information about the project.

Events

The project organized a workshop to raise awareness of Local authorities, Partners, and beneficiaries about the project. One Project Meeting was held involving key Federal and State Government representatives. The communication plan is attached as an annex.

Further Comments and Feedback

Please use this section to provide any additional information, comment, or feedback to QFFD not yet covered in the previous sections.
Nothing to comment.

Annexes

M&E Plan

Please use the approved M&E Plan and fill in the actual outcome and output values for the reporting period. Use the "comment" section in the M&E Plan (and/or the input fields in sections "outcomes achieved" and "outputs and performance" above) for more detailed explanations. Please provide evidence of outcome and output monitoring conducted as per your means of verification.

Financial Statement

Use annexes PDS-2d and PDS-2e attached to showcase the percentage of budget spent versus planned for each outcome. Justify budget deviations and over- or underspending compared to the approved budget in the "finances" section of the progress report and/or a comment column in the attached expenditure sheet.

Follow-up LogFrame and updated M&E Plan

Please attach an updated LogFrame based on possibly suggested adjustments. Make sure you highlight changes compared to the initial LogFrame and justify your changes in the "lessons learnt and steering" section and/or in the Follow-up LogFrame itself. Make sure you also adapt and share your adjusted M&E plan accordingly. For a detailed description on how to elaborate a LogFrame, please see QFFD's Managing for Results (MfR) Guidelines.

(Adapted) GANTT Chart

Please attach an (adapted) GANTT Chart for the next project phase. Make sure you highlight possible changes compared to the initial GANTT Chart and justify the changes in the "lessons learnt and steering" section of this progress report and/or in the revised GANTT-Chart itself.

Updated Risk Assessment

Please update your risk analysis, risk mitigation strategies and action plans using the matrix you submitted to QFFD at the project proposal stage (see also section "critical risk assessment").

Updated Asset Register

Please use the "asset register" you submitted at the project proposal stage to provide updates on the registered assets purchased or to be purchased as part of the intervention and/or your asset disposal plan. Please reflect changes in the activities related to your asset disposal plan in the revised GANTT Chart.

Updated Visibility Workplan

Please update your "visibility workplan" and report progress made against all deliverables outlined therein. Justify major deviations from the plan in section "media, communication and advocacy" and explain resulting steering decisions in section "lessons learned and steering".