

ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND HUMAN SECURITY OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN URBAN SETTINGS THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SENDAI FRAMEWORK

Final Narrative Report - June 2020



SENDAI FRAMEWORK
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030



UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

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Final Narrative Report

Section I Basic Summary Data

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|---|--|
| Date of submission | 31 December 2019 |
| Benefiting country and location | Tunisia and Mauritania (Arab States, Africa) |
| Title of the project | Enhancing community resilience and human security of vulnerable communities in urban settings through the implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 |
| Duration of project | 01/07/2016 – 31/12/2019 (42 months) |
| Lead UN organisation | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Regional Office for Arab States: Fadi Jannan (Jannan@un.org) |
| Implementing UN organisation(s) | UNDP Mauritania: Ousmane Dia (ousmane.dia@undp.org) UNDP Tunisia: Jihène Touil (jihene.touil@undp.org) |
| Non-UN implementing partners | League of Arab States, Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI), United Cities Local Government (UCLG), Private Sector partners supporting cities Scorecard (IBM and AECOM) |
| Total project budget including indirect support costs in US\$ | \$ 1,855,650 |
| Amount requested from the UNTFHS in US\$ | \$ 999,100 |
| Amount to be sourced from other donors in US\$ (please list each donor and the amount to be contributed) | Cost sharing of additional \$ 856,550: \$ 496,550 to be committed immediately by UNDRR and UNDP \$ 360,000 to be raised from other donors during the project course. (UNDP Tunisia succeeded to raise 1 M Euros from European commission and signed with DG ECHO in May 2017 to work on two additional cities within the same DRR programme.) |
| Reporting period | 01/07/2016 – 31/12/2019 (42 months) |
| Type of report | Final Narrative Report |

Executive Summary

A short narrative focusing on three main questions: (i) How far have the **expected outputs been achieved?** (ii) What is the **impact** of the project so far? and (iii) What **progress has been made towards mainstreaming human security approach in the work of the UN Country Team?** The executive summary should not be more than half a page.

Aiming to enhance the resilience and human security of vulnerable communities in Tunisia and Mauritania, this project adopted the human security approach to develop institutional capacities at the local level, and help communities overcome disaster, health, food, environmental and economic insecurities. The project is the first of its kind to introduce the human security approach for implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) and contributes to the global Making Cities Resilient Campaign 2010-2020 in the Arab region. This report presents the final narrative on the activities conducted by United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Mauritania and Tunisia, in accordance with the results framework of the project. The activities conducted include risk assessments in ten beneficiary cities (Bousalem, Gabes, Kasserine, Mateur and Siliana in Tunisia; and Boghe, Kaedi, Tevragh Zeina, Rosso and Tintane in Mauritania) and local resilience action plans in five cities.

The project met all of its outputs, namely to: i) enhance knowledge and awareness of local governments in 10 cities with respect to resilience, disaster risk reduction and the human security approach and establishment of urban risk and human security learning platform; ii) identify challenges and gaps in capacities for disaster risk reduction planning and implementation in 10 cities; iii) the Human Security Approach (HSA) used to complete in-depth risk assessments for 5 cities; iv) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) action plans developed and implemented in 5 cities (3 in Mauritania and 2 in Tunisia) utilizing the human security approach; v) the human security approach is utilized to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at national and local levels in each country; and vi) road maps for implementation of the Sendai Framework at the regional, national and local levels are developed and implemented.

The project activities and deliverables had various positive impacts on various stakeholder engaged in the project (UNDP staff, national and municipal officials and vulnerable communities) including: 1) risk assessment, helped identify gaps and challenges in terms of urban risk and helped gain a better understanding of disaster risks in cities / municipalities; 2) the development of local plans for resilience provided municipalities ownership of their risk adaptation planning, beyond project schedule; 3) training of local actors (municipal authorities, district leaders, etc.) and experience-sharing visits helped raise awareness on disaster risks and on the need to prepare to manage these risks; 4) national focal points and local municipal staff synthesised to the advantages of the HSA approach in developing an integrated approach for sustainable development and resilience building; 5) UNDP staff synthesised to the advantages of the HSA approach in enabling UN country systems in developing coherent frameworks and agendas for the efficient and consistent implementation of the post 2015 humanitarian, climate change, resilience, urban and sustainable development agendas.

In addition, UNDRR and UNDP have taken steps to facilitate scaling-up and replication of the programme, with the aim of mainstreaming the human security approach in future disaster risk

reduction (DRR) and resilience activities throughout the process of the SFDRR implementation up to 2030.

List of Acronyms

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| ALDC | Arab Least Developed Countries |
| CCA | Climate Change Adaptation |
| DRM | Disaster Risk Management |
| DRR | Disaster Risk Reduction |
| HS | Human Security |
| IPCC | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change |
| LG | Local Government |
| MCR | Making Cities Resilient |
| MCRC | Making Cities Resilient Campaign |
| SDG | Sustainable Development Goals |
| Sendai Framework | Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNDRR | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| UNTFHS | United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security |

Section II Results

(a) Progress on project activities

| Planned activity for this reporting period | Progress | Reason for variation from original plan (if any) |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Objective 1: Enhance the resilience of communities and authorities to natural disasters through the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies and building capacity of local stakeholders to mainstream the human security approach.</p> | | |
| <p>Output 1.1: Knowledge and awareness of local governments in 10 cities developed and enhanced with respect to resilience, disaster risk reduction and the human security approach and establishment of urban risk and human security learning platform.</p> | | |
| <p>Activity 1.1.1: Organize City-to-City technical exchange and provide DRR capacity building for Mauritania and Tunisia</p> | <p>In Mauritania, two exchange visits among cities took place between Rosso and Tintane in Mauritania on 10-13 November 2018 and 25-28 December 2018. Moreover, the mayor of Tevragh Zeina participated earlier in the Fifth Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Cancun/ Mexico allowing exchange opportunities with cities from inside and outside the region. As for Tunisia, the Activity has not been conducted between the pilot cities.</p> | <p>The city to city exchange could not be organized due to the project termination in 31/12/2019.</p> |
| <p>Activity 1.1.2: DRR capacity needs assessment and implementation in 5 cities in Tunisia</p> | <p>The capacity assessment report for the five cities in Tunisia has been finalized and a capacity building plan for the cities has been drafted and validated in a workshop that was held on 21 August 2019. The implementation of the key priorities identified in the capacity building plan and the training guideline was developed. 13 themes were approved by the municipalities, including two priority ones: "Mastery of the tools of the participatory and integrated approach" API "and" Tools and methods of strategic planning of risks and disasters ". The 13 themes were classified as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodological training combining 4 themes, - Training in communication technique combining 2 themes, - Computer training combining 2 themes - Technical training combining 3 themes - Environmental training combining 2 themes <p>However, and in order to offer exhaustive training, and taking into account the complementarity and interaction of priority themes with the more general ones identified during the needs assessment phase, local</p> | <p>The project faced difficulties in mobilizing and involving local partners in the project implementation where several consultation meetings were necessary to overcome the given challenge. Furthermore, all project activities had to be validated and approved by the local government throughout the stages of implementation as per agreement with the national government, which affected the agreed project timeline where there were multiple delays in validating and approving project activities at the local level.</p> |

| Planned activity for this reporting period | Progress | Reason for variation from original plan (if any) |
|---|--|--|
| Objective 1: Enhance the resilience of communities and authorities to natural disasters through the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies and building capacity of local stakeholders to mainstream the human security approach. | | |
| | partners strongly recommended to include sessions on climate change, sustainable development and the disaster risk management cycle in the 02 training sessions which were held during the month of December 2019 when the project was able to have 25 participants / training session. | |
| Activity 1.1.3: Organize technical exchange visit for 10 stakeholders (5 from each country) to a city outside the Arab region with experience in implementing a comprehensive urban disaster risk reduction plan and to share experiences on the added value of the human security approach to strengthen disaster risk reduction planning in cities. | The City-to-City Exchange workshop organized by UNDRR was successfully conducted from 15-19 July in Potenza, Italy. Representatives from the project beneficiary cities were given the opportunity to exchange and learn from best practices in integrating the human security approach to strengthen disaster risk reduction planning and implementation on the local level and national level. | |
| Activity 1.1.4: Continuous advocacy and outreach activities benefiting targeted communities. | A large number of photos and videos were collected from workshops that took place throughout the project. Two web stories were developed by UNDRR and activities under the project were frequently posted on UNDRR's and UNDP's social media outlets. Additionally, local and national newspapers promoted the National Dialogue held in Mauritania to scale up the development and implementation of city action plans. UNDRR integrated the project results in its 2019 annual report and presented it as a success story that is to be disseminated to a global audience. | |
| Output 1.2 Challenges and gaps in capacity for disaster risk reduction planning and implementation identified in 10 cities. | | |
| Activity 1.2.1: Conduct local self-assessments in 5 participating cities and municipalities in Mauritania to measure resilience, human security and existing resources as a means to identify the root causes of vulnerability. | In Nouakchott, Mauritania 22-24 August 2017 the beneficiary cities undertook local-self assessments using the Disaster Resilience Scorecard to measure resilience for each of the '10 Essentials' and their link to human security. | |
| Activity 1.2.2: Conduct local self-assessments in 5 participating cities and municipalities in Tunisia to measure resilience, human security and existing resources as a means to identify the root causes of vulnerability. | In Tabarka, Tunisia 26-28 July 2017 the beneficiary cities undertook local-self assessments using the Disaster Resilience Scorecard to measure resilience for each of the '10 Essentials' and their link to human security. Following the | |

| Planned activity for this reporting period | Progress | Reason for variation from original plan (if any) |
|---|---|--|
| Objective 1: Enhance the resilience of communities and authorities to natural disasters through the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies and building capacity of local stakeholders to mainstream the human security approach. | | |
| | workshops, Scorecards from both countries were collected by UNDRR and the required analysis was made by a project consultant. The analysis comprehensively looked at how each city fared with each of the '10 Essentials'. | |
| Activity 1.2.3: Regionalize and regularly update the local assessment tool. | The Disaster Resilience Scorecard along with the scorecard tool, an excel data-entry tool to electronically record the results of the assessments, were translated to French and Arabic and published on UNDRR website. | |
| Output 1.3: Human security approach used to complete in-depth risk assessments for 5 cities. | | |
| Activity 1.3.1: Conduct in-depth risk assessments and analysis in 3 cities in Mauritania towards the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies. | On April 3-4, 2018, a workshop for Quick Risk Estimation (QRE) was provided to key stakeholders of the national government of Mauritania and representatives of the three cities of Rosso, Tervagh Zeina, and Kaedi. It was implemented by Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) in cooperation with UNDRR regional office for the Arab States, and UNDP office in Mauritania, with support of the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) focal point | |
| Activity 1.3.2: Conduct in-depth risk assessments and analysis in 2 cities in Tunisia towards the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies. | Two in-depth risk assessments were conducted in the commune of Gabes and Mateur The final version of in-depth risk assessments report in Gabes and Mateur has been submitted in June 2019. | |
| Output 1.4: Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plans developed and implemented in 5 cities (3 in Mauritania and 2 in Tunisia) utilizing the human security approach | | |
| Activity 1.4.1: Develop and implement local resilience action plans using the human security approach in 3 cities in Mauritania. | Three Local resilience action plans were developed in the cities of Kaedi, Rosso and Tervagh Zeina using HS approach. | |
| Activity 1.4.2: Develop and implement local resilience action plans using the human security approach in 2 cities in Tunisia. | Two local DRR strategies and resilience action plans were developed in the cities of Gabes and Mateur using HS approach. | |
| Objective 2: protect people from disasters and minimise loss of life economical and infrastructure, and to support the implementation process by strengthening and promoting innovative new partnerships for human security and resilience | | |
| OUTPUT 2.1: The human security approach is utilized to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at national and local levels in each country. | | |

| Planned activity for this reporting period | Progress | Reason for variation from original plan (if any) |
|--|--|--|
| Objective 1: Enhance the resilience of communities and authorities to natural disasters through the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies and building capacity of local stakeholders to mainstream the human security approach. | | |
| Activity 2.1.1: Organise 1 national multi-stakeholder dialogue in Mauritania with engagement of the private sector to support and strengthen National Platforms for information exchange and guidance on resilience and mainstreaming the human security approach. | The national dialogue in Mauritania was successfully conducted on the 5 and 6 August by UNDP Mauritania, UNDRR and the General Directorate of Civil protection, Ministry of Interior and Decentralization. | |
| Activity 2.1.2: Organise 1 national multi-stakeholder dialogue in Tunisia with engagement of the private sector to support and strengthen National Platforms for information exchange and guidance on resilience and mainstreaming the human security approach. | | The National Dialogue was not conducted due to the delay in finalizing the local resilience action plans, the national context where Tunisia declared a mourning period after the death of President Essebsi and the financial status. |
| Output 2.2: Road maps for implementation of the Sendai Framework at the regional, national and local levels are developed and implemented. | | |
| Activity 2.2.1: Contribute to regional platform for DRR and human security. | A Side event Linking DRR, Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Development through the Human Security was organized during the Africa-Arab platform on DRR in October 2018. ¹ | Former Activity 2.2.1: Develop implementation plans and priority actions to implement Sendai Framework and achieve its targets including initiating implementation of the local resilience action plans has been reprogrammed. |
| Activity 2.2.2: Development and implementation of a 'Marketplace for Cities Resilience': Collecting and promoting information and services; consultations and advocacy meetings; adaptation of the tool to national and local specificities. | Activity Cancelled | (Reprogrammed under 1.1.4) |

(b) Results monitoring

| Results | Objectively verifiable indicators | Baseline | Target | Means of verification | Progress as of the reporting date |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Human Security Goal ¹ : | | | | | |
| Objective 1 ² : | | | | | |
| Output 1.1 ³ : | Numbers of exchanges / study tours completed | Level of awareness varies and/or is limited among participants and city representatives | Increase awareness & lower DRR knowledge disparity between participants by conducting 3 city-to-city | Outcomes of Exchanges; List of participants; Agenda & Concept note; Photos | 100% |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|------|
| | | | technical exchanges | | |
| Output 1.2 ⁴ : | Preliminary Self-assessments completed in 10 cities | Little knowledge of challenges and gaps in the state of resilience and human security | "Measure resilience and human security by organizing two workshops using disaster resilience scorecard" | Assessment Scores from the cities; report from workshops; pictures from workshops | 100% |
| Output 1.3 ⁵ | Detailed Self-assessments completed in 5 targeted cities; progress in establishing disaster loss database | "Lack of information to support development of local DRR action plans. No decentralized technical services to collect data relating to disaster losses" | Conduct workshops to complete detailed assessment for targeted cities; use opportunity of multi-stakeholder engagement towards establishing local action plans and local/national disaster loss databases | Assessment Scores from the cities; report from workshops; pictures from workshops; | 100% |
| Output 1.4 ⁶ | Local resilience action plans completed in targeted 5 cities using HS approach | "A) No DRR/resilience action plans B) No utilization of HS approach in DRR" | "Enhance Resilience and Human Security by completing local action plans for the cities" | Resilience Action plan; brief on planning process; HS linkages identified within plan | 100% |
| Objective 2 ⁷ : | | | | | |
| Output 2.1 ⁸ : | National DRR Strategies and plans in Tunisia and Mauritania are in line with the Sendai Framework and the human security approach | National DRR Strategies and plans not existent or in line with Sendai Framework or Human Security | Achieve progress towards implementing Sendai Framework by updating National DRR Strategies and plans in Tunisia and Mauritania based on the Sendai priorities | "Updated National Strategies and plans for Tunisia & Mauritania" | 100% |
| Output 2.2 ⁹ : | "A road map for the implementation of project's outputs (in particular the resilience action plan) in line with priorities of the Sendai Framework with | | "1 side event to be organized by UNDRR and HSU" | Concept notes of the side events; photos; event report; | 100% |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | focus on local community resilience and human security;" | | | | |
| <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Human Security Goal: To protect communities in urban vulnerable areas from disaster, health, food, environmental and economic insecurities and enhance their human security through the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 2. Objective 1: Enhance the resilience of communities and authorities to natural disasters through the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies and building capacity of local stakeholders to mainstream the human security approach. 3. Output 1.1: Knowledge and awareness of local governments in 10 cities developed and enhanced with respect to resilience, disaster risk reduction and the human security approach and establishment of urban risk and human security learning platform. 4. Output 1.2 Challenges and gaps in capacity for disaster risk reduction planning and implementation identified in 10 cities. 5. Output 1.3: Human security approach used to complete in-depth risk assessments for 5 cities. 6. Output 1.4: Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plans developed and implemented in 5 cities (3 in Mauritania and 2 in Tunisia) utilizing the human security approach. 7. Objective 2: protect people from disasters and minimise loss of life economical and infrastructure, and to support the implementation process by strengthening and promoting innovative new partnerships for human security and resilience 8. OUTPUT 2.1: The human security approach is utilized to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at national and local levels in each country. 9. Output 2.2: Road maps for implementation of the Sendai Framework at the regional, national and local levels are developed and implemented. | | | | | |

(c) Progress on advancement of the integration and mainstreaming of the human security approach

Report the progress against the action plan presented in Section III of the full proposal.

The project action plan for mainstreaming the human security approach at the national level, including both Government as well as the UN Country Team (UNCT), was developed along three major axes: 1) the implementation of the SFDRR 2015-2030, at both national and local levels with emphasis on building local capacities at both local government and local community level, which will take results beyond the project phase; 2) developing and implementing national and local context-specific strategies and plans for increased resilience and human security, in a manner that links the SFDRR with sustainable development goals (particularly SDG 1, SDG 11 and SDG 13), the New Urban Agenda (also through SDG 11) and climate change mitigation efforts (also through SDG 13); 3) embedding the project in the UN Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, which ensures the integration of resilience and human security approaches into the long-term planning and work programmes of the UN at country level. As such, the project intended to guarantee that both Governments as well as the UNCT in these countries will continue to partner in order to utilise the human security approach for their work on disaster risk reduction beyond the duration of this project and through other sources of funding. The degree to which these three axes were successfully implemented is elaborated in this section.

The added value of the project lies in its ability to link the above agendas, through applying the five pillars of the HSA, namely the protection and empowerment, comprehensiveness, context-specific, prevention oriented and multi-sectoral. Through the adoption of the HSA approach, linking economic, health and environmental hazards was easier to achieve. Work at the local

level, both local governments and local communities, was a main step towards ensuring both that 'no one is left behind' and to 'endeavour to reach the furthest behind first'. The local resilience action plans focused on the prevention of the identified risks from the in-depth risk assessments.

Implementation of the SFDRR 2015-2030, which will take results beyond the project phase

This project synthesized the national focal points and the multi-sectoral committees responsible for the SFDRR implementation in Mauritania and in Tunisia on the advantages and opportunities of integrating the HSA in the SFDRR. It also raised the awareness of the local focal points and local communities at the city level on the importance of the HSA integration in the SFDRR implementation. It is envisaged that this integration will continue throughout the process of the SFDRR implementation up to 2030. Local capacities are usually the weakest link in efforts of building resilience, hence building local capacities at both the local government and community levels, contributes towards the dual related imperative of 'leaving no one behind' and 'endeavour to reach the furthest behind first'.

UNDRR ROAS which play an active role in providing contextualised guidelines and best practices on the implementation of the SFDRR, and as such will also be promoting the HSA mainstreaming into the SFDRR throughout the SFDRR implementation process in all the Arab states. The project reports and deliverables will be highlighted in future UNDRR publications including the seminal first Regional Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction in the Arab Region, due to be published in 2021.

Developing and implementing national and local context-specific strategies and plans for increased resilience and human security

The project demonstrated the importance of the main pillars of the HSA approach during risk assessments and during the development of local resilience action plans, namely i) protection and empowerment, ii) contextualisation, iii) prevention-oriented, iv) multi-sectoral and v) comprehensiveness. This was the first attempt to incorporate these main pillars into risk assessments and local resilience action plans, and as such a significant effort was directed at awareness raising and capacity building. It is envisaged that future plans at both local and national level would build on lessons learnt and developed capacities to continue to mainstream these important notions in DRM practices including risk assessments and development of resilience action plans. UNDRR ROAS, as the agency that provides technical guidance for national and local stakeholders, including UNDP country offices, in the development of resilience plans will also continue to promote HSA-inspired best practices for the coherent implementation of the SFDRR.

Through adopting the HSA approach of multi-sectoral and comprehensiveness it was possible to link economic, security, health, personal and environmental hazards in a rational manner. This allowed for linkages between the SFDRR and the SDGs (particularly SDG 1, SDG 11 and SDG 13), which in turn allowed for further linkages with the New Urban Agenda (SDG 11) and the Climate Change adaptation efforts (SDG 13). The partnership between the government, the

UNDP and the whole UNCT team will ensure that these linkages will be strengthened as a result of the continued cooperation which the project pioneered.

Embedding the project in the UN Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, for integration of resilience and human security approaches into the long-term planning and work programmes of the UN at country level.

The project synthesized UNDP country offices, at both national and local levels, on the main pillars, advantages and opportunities afforded by the HSA approach for integrating disaster risk reduction into UN country level operations. As such, it helped make disaster risk reduction a priority for the UN system in both countries. It demonstrated through tangible examples how the main pillars of empowerment and protection, prevention, comprehensiveness, multi-sectoral and contextualisation can be used to link sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, resilience and climate change efforts and make sure they are coherent and efficient. It is envisaged that this will be reflected in future sustainable development and UNDAF plans in Tunisia (last plan was for 2015-2019) and future framework strategies and environmental action plans in Mauritania, amongst others.

The local resilience action plans focus on preventing the accumulation of new risks and reducing the existing risk levels for the main risk categories that have been identified as a result of the in-depth risk assessment. Furthermore, by focusing on resilience building measures to reduce vulnerability at the community level, the local action plans also promote the dual imperative of 'leaving no one behind' and 'endeavour to reach the furthest behind first'.

(d) Progress on facilitating the replication of the project approach

Report on the actions taken to facilitate the replication of the project approach by other sources of funding in other areas in the country, and the results of such actions.

Actions to replicate the project approach can be divided into two categories, namely: 1) risk assessments to scale up the implementation of the HSA, and 2) coherence between local resilience action plans and National DRR Strategies

Risk assessments to scale up the implementation of the HSA

UNDRR reviewed the assessments conducted in Tunisia and Mauritania and drafted a report highlighting main linkages between the 10 Essentials of the Making Cities Resilient (MCR) campaign and Human Security Approach and recommendations to achieve resilience. The linkages developed facilitates the replication of the practice in other cities in the beneficiary countries as the linkages are clearly identified on the tool and can be used as a reference to guide the process, as demonstrated in the Figure below for the first three priorities of the MCR

Essential 01: Organize for Resilience

| | |
|------|---|
| P1.1 | Does the City master plan (or relevant strategy/plan) adopt the Sendai Framework? |
| P1.2 | Is there a multi-agency/sectoral mechanism with appropriate authority and resources to address disaster risk reduction? |
| P1.3 | Is resilience properly integrated with other key city functions / portfolios? |

Essential 02: Identify, Understand and Use Current and Future Risk Scenarios

| | |
|------|--|
| P2.1 | Does the city have knowledge of the key hazards that the city faces, and their likelihood of occurrence? |
| P2.2 | Is there a shared understanding of risks between the city and various utility providers and other regional and national agencies that have a role in managing infrastructure such as power, water, roads and trains, of the points of stress on the system and city scale risks? |
| P2.3 | Are their agreed scenarios setting out city-wide exposure and vulnerability from each hazard, or groups of hazards (see above)? |
| P2.4 | Is there a collective understanding of potentially cascading failures between different city and infrastructure systems, under different scenarios? |
| P2.5 | Do clear hazard maps and data on risk exist? Are these regularly updated? |

Essential 03: Strengthen Financial Capacity for Resilience

| | |
|------|---|
| P3.1 | The city / lead agencies understand all sources of funding, and the "resilience dividends", are well connected, understand all available routes to attract external funding and are actively pursuing funds for major resilience investments. |
| P3.2 | Does the city have in place a specific 'ring fenced' (protected) budget, the necessary resources and contingency fund arrangements for local disaster risk reduction (mitigation, prevention, response and recovery)? |
| P3.3 | What level of insurance cover exists in the city, across all sectors – business and community? |
| P3.4 | What incentives exist for different sectors and segments of business and society to support resilience building? |



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Essential 04: Pursue Resilient Urban Development

| | |
|------|---|
| P4.1 | Is the city appropriately zoned considering, for example, the impact from key risk scenarios on economic activity, agricultural production, and population centres? |
| P4.2 | Are approaches promoted through the design and development of new urban development to promote resilience? |
| P4.3 | Do building codes or standards exist, and do they address specific known hazards and risks for the city? Are these standards regularly updated? |
| P4.4 | Are zoning rules, building codes and standards widely applied, properly enforced and verified? |

Essential 05: Safeguard Natural Buffers to Enhance the Protective Functions Offered by Natural Ecosystems

| | |
|------|--|
| P5.1 | Beyond just an awareness of the natural assets, does the city understand the functions (or services) that this natural capital provides for the city? |
| P5.2 | Is green and blue infrastructure being promoted on major urban development and infrastructure projects through policy? |
| P5.3 | Is the city aware of ecosystem services being provided to the city from natural capital beyond its administrative borders? Are agreements in place with neighbouring administrations to support the protection and management of these assets? |

Essential 06: Strengthen Institutional Capacity for Resilience

| | |
|------|--|
| P6.1 | Does the city have clear access to all the skills and experience it believes it would need to respond to reduce risks and respond to identified disaster scenarios? |
| P6.2 | Does a co-ordinated public relations and education campaign exist, with structured messaging and channels to ensure hazard, risk and disaster information (that can be understood and used) are properly disseminated to the public? |
| P6.3 | Extent to which data on the city's resilience context is shared with other organizations involved with the city's resilience. |
| P6.4 | Are there training courses covering risk and resilience issues offered to all sectors of the city including government, business, NGOs and community? |
| P6.5 | Are training materials available in the majority of languages in common use in the city? |
| P6.6 | Is the city proactively seeking to exchange knowledge and learn from other cities facing similar challenges? |



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Essential 07: Understand and Strengthen Societal Capacity for Resilience

| | |
|------|---|
| P7.1 | Are "grassroots" or community organizations participating in risk reduction and post-event response for each neighbourhood in the city? |
| P7.2 | Are there regular training programmes provided to the most vulnerable populations in the city? |
| P7.3 | What proportion of businesses have a documented business continuity plan that has been reviewed within the last 18 months? |
| P7.4 | How effective is the city at citizen engagement and communications in relation to DRR? |

Essential 08: Increase Infrastructure Resilience

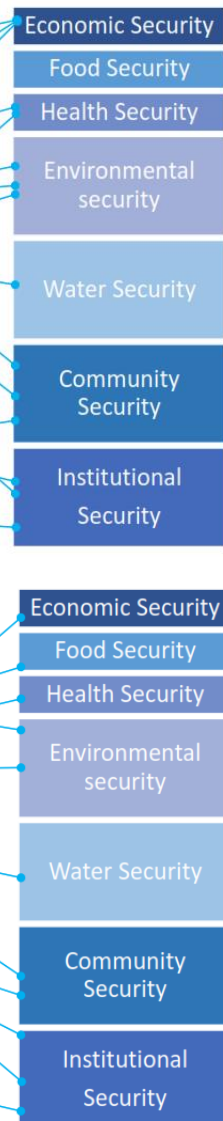
| | |
|------|--|
| P8.1 | Is critical infrastructure resilience a city priority, does the city own and implement a critical infrastructure plan or strategy? |
| P8.2 | Is existing protective infrastructure well-designed and well-built based on risk information? |
| P8.3 | Would a significant loss of service for these two essential services be expected for a significant proportion of the city under the agreed disaster scenarios? |
| P8.4 | Would a significant loss of service be expected for a significant proportion of the city in the 'worst case' scenario event? In the event of failure would energy infrastructure corridors remain safe (i.e. free from risk of leaks, electrocution hazards etc.)? |
| P8.5 | Would a significant loss of service be expected for a significant proportion of the city in the 'worst case' scenario event? In the event of failure would transport infrastructure corridors remain safe (i.e. free from risk of flood, shocks etc) and passable? |
| P8.6 | Would a significant loss of service be expected for a significant proportion of the city in the 'worst case' scenario event? |
| P8.7 | Would there be sufficient acute healthcare capabilities to deal with expected major injuries in 'worst case' scenario? |
| P8.8 | % of education structures at risk of damage from "most probable" and "most severe" scenarios |
| P8.9 | Will there be sufficient first responder equipment, with military or civilian back up as required? |

Essential 09: Ensure Effective Disaster Response

| | |
|------|---|
| P9.1 | Does the city have a plan or standard operating procedure to act on early warnings and forecasts? What proportion of the population is reachable by early warning system? |
| P9.2 | Is there a disaster management / preparedness / emergency response plan outlining city mitigation, preparedness and response to local emergencies? |
| P9.3 | Does the responsible disaster management authority have sufficient staffing capacity to support first responder duties in surge event scenario? |
| P9.4 | Are equipment and supply needs, as well as the availability of equipment, clearly defined? |
| P9.5 | Would the city be able to continue to feed and shelter its population post-event? |
| P9.6 | Is there an emergency operations centre, with participation from all agencies, automating standard operating procedures specifically designed to deal with "most probable" and "most severe" scenarios? |
| P9.7 | Do practices and drills involve both the public and professionals? |

Essential 10: Expedite Recovery and Build Back Better

| | |
|-------|--|
| P10.1 | Is there a strategy or process in place for post-event recovery and reconstruction, including economic reboot, societal aspects etc.? |
| P10.2 | Do post-event assessment processes incorporate failure analyses and the ability to capture lessons learned that then feed into design and delivery of rebuilding projects? |



Coherence between local resilience action plans and National DRR Strategies

The multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral, national and local level approach employed throughout the implementation phase of the project ensured coherence between DRR strategies at the local, national, regional and global levels. In Tunisia, this Model has already been replicated in other cities under the separate project funded by the European Commission.

In Mauritania, the National Dialogue that took place early on in the project brought together national and local government representatives, civil society organizations and partners and discussed the need for establishing an institutional framework, policies and legislations to enhance resilience on the national level and arrived at a consensus on the added value of mainstreaming the Human Security approach in DRR activities. Finally, the data collated during

project implementation acts as a catalyst for future actions and guideline for the implementation of any related steps to improve resilience.

Section III. Challenges faced and lessons learned

(a) Challenges faced during the reporting period and mitigation measures

Describe challenges faced and mitigation measures using the template below.

| | Challenges faced | Mitigation measures |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Community domestic capacity: Lack of capacity demonstrated in beneficiary cities and low general awareness of DRR and Human Security concepts. | From a human security perspective, this meant that the comprehensiveness and multi-sectoral HSA principles were difficult to apply from the onset of the project. Four workshops which were conducted with the LGs to ensure that the participants understood the 10 essentials for making cities resilient and the human security approach and principles within it. Workshop 1.3.1 (Tunisia 26-28 July) and Workshop 1.3.2 (Mauritania 22-24 August) were specifically structured around explaining the '10 Essentials' using an expert consultant. The workshops also engaged in initial discussions about the linkages between resilience and human security. Moreover, technical exchange workshops and capacity building trainings were carried out, with participation from local communities and local governments. Mitigation actions paid off in later phases as evidenced by various cities identifying health, personal, environmental and economic hazards and challenges to be addressed. The positive impact was that people were more likely to mitigate the impact of the above threats since they are being addressed in a comprehensive and integrated manner. |
| 2 | Community domestic capacity: Disparity between the participating cities regarding understanding of DRR and little common language between the participants on the principles of the city resilience key elements | City-to-City technical exchanges (1.1.3) increased awareness and reduce disparity through common experiences and facilitated the sharing of knowledge and best practices to enhance resilience and human security. Having a role model city present its experience in implementing urban risk reduction plans particularly increased field exposure of all participants to DRR practices. The capacity building needs assessment that UNDP Tunisia conducted in five cities and the tailored training for the cities improved knowledge at local level for relevant actors. |
| 3 | Political Structures / Commitment: Representatives of participating cities did not include all cities' institutions and stakeholders that have an important and effective role in DRR and resilience and human security. | From an HSA perspective this meant not all stakeholders were present to be able to fulfil the multi-sectoral and comprehensive principles. UNDRR and UNDP maintained constant contact with the various stakeholder in order to allow follow-up and further consolidate sources of verification for the process of measuring resilience building. The main trade-off was to address the personal, environmental, economic and health threats; while future effort should be directed at linking these with security type threats. |
| 4 | Organizational or institutional capacity to deliver: Absence of a focal point for DRR at city level in Tunisia and lack of capacity to coordinate DRR activities at municipality level | UNDP Tunisia followed up with the Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment (MLAE) that sent official letter to nominate DRR FP in each city, where local actors were also sensitized during information and awareness raising meetings conducted by UNDP and the MLAE on the importance of having a dedicated person to coordinate DRR activities at the level of the Municipality. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | <p>Political Structures / commitment: Delay in the municipal elections in Tunisia and absence of local elected people working at the municipality.</p> | <p>The elections that were supposed to take place in December 2017 were postponed to March 2018. The absence of elected people to manage the municipalities contributed to some lack of ownership at local level, particularly in view of the novel HSA principles. UNDP remained in permanent contact with national (MLAE) and regional (governorates) partners, directly targeting technical staff at the municipality and other sectoral departments at regional and local level. This helped ensure the sustainability of the demand and ownership of project, while waiting for the elections to take place and for more political will to integrate DRR and HSA into planning.</p> |
| 6 | <p>Organizational Challenge: Staff Turnover in project management team in both UNDRR and UNDP Tunisia</p> | <p>UNDP Tunisia requested to hire a national UNV to support the project implementation, but it was rejected. Nevertheless, UNDP relied on the support of the project manager mobilized as part of the DG-Echo project to monitor the project implementation.</p> <p>As for UNDRR, Programme Officer in charge of project management, who left the organization handed over the project information and pending documents to the Deputy Chief of Office and three consultants where hired to support the different stages of implementation of the project.</p> <p>To further mitigate the challenge UNDRR worked on strengthening coordination between the implementing agencies and maintained constant communication and discussion of the project activities to better support the implementation whenever possible.</p> |

(b) Lessons learned during the reporting period

Describe lessons learned and recommendations using the template below.

| | Lessons learnt | Recommendations |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | <p>Importance of an introductory activity explaining and summarizing concepts and project overview.</p> | <p>Conducting an introductory workshop contributed to several outputs of the project. Typically, this is done in parallel with activities occurring early in the project. In future projects, from a programmatic perspective, such an activity could be separately included in the project Framework. Specific focus on the 'bottom-up' empowerment approach put forward by the HSA is necessary early on in order to ensure community engagement, participation and ownership, which in turn would ensure the contextualisation of the project deliverables.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Implementing the HS approach in correspondence with the steps for resilience building, relies on multi-disciplinary participation and engagement.</p> | <p>Using a conceptual framework which allows for the congruent implementation of project phases at the same time. From a programmatic perspective, this requires expediting and ensuring a multi-disciplinary participation needed for suitably aligning resilience projects to climate change, the SDGs, human security, etc. For the implementing partners, this emphasises the paramount importance of multi-stakeholder representation and engagement in the</p> |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | | workshops. For the UNCT, this is a lesson learnt that can be adopted in other coherence and integration activities. This also acts as a pilot demonstration for the governments to carry out the necessary coherence building across the SDG, climate change, human security, new urban agenda and the SFDRR. |
| 3 | Integrating the national strategy ensuring coherence at the local, national, and global levels. | Local resilience action plans need to be well-informed as well as comply to a great extent with national platforms and internationally agreed upon frameworks. The approach taken to ensure coherence at the local, national and global levels is simple but very effective in aligning resilience action plans to existing mechanisms. From an HSA perspective, the pillars of the HSA when used properly, provide a road map for implementing agencies and the UNCT on how best to ensure that this integration and coherence is taking place in a sound manner. Checking the degree to which the pillars are met is a way to identify deviations and challenges at the beginnings of the process of integration and coherence building. |
| 4 | Delivering the results of HSTF projects using a 'one UN' approach to increase effectiveness. | Strengthening coordination between the different UN involved in the project is essential for the achievement of the desired outputs. It is recommended that lead/implementing agencies must maintain constant communication and discussion of the project activities in order to avoid overlaps and, more importantly, to develop timely and integrated responses to new challenges as they emerge. These challenges are best identified and addressed under the five categories of the HSA principles. |
| 5 | Absence of communication tools on DRR and HS did not help in raising awareness at the cities level. | Creation of communication tools on DRR and HS concepts presented using "User friendly" techniques in efforts to explain complex thematic areas. This can include the main idea of Lesson Learnt 3, namely, to use the HSA pillars as a tool to guide integration and coherence building, as well as to act as an early warning against challenges in this regard. |

(c) Findings from evaluation (if any)? Was an evaluation carried out?

Summarize the findings from evaluation, if evaluation was conducted during the reporting period. Attach the TOR and final report of evaluation if applicable.

Evaluation by Mauritania¹

- **Relevance:** 1. The relevance of the HSTF project was deemed very good, for the following reasons: 1) the project was developed through a participatory process; 2) various relevant stakeholders were engaged (UNDP, UNDRR, Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, Directorate General of Civil Protection, National Sanitation Office, decentralized services of the State such as the environment and rural development, municipal authorities) and involved in the implementation of the project (risk assessment, development

¹ The evaluation report and ToR are both available on the shared drive.

of local resilience action plans, capacity building of stakeholders); 3) project adopted the interdisciplinary approach to human security (it promotes actions at the local level to strengthen the resilience and responses of vulnerable communities in urban areas to disaster risks); 4) project adopted a people-centred approach which, for its part, puts the individual and their community at the heart of the action, empowers the individual and their community to become aware of their environment and act for better appropriation; 5) the project builds on the contextual experience and lessons learned from previous initiatives of UNDRR and its partners to reduce disaster risks and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable urban households; 6) the choice of project intervention municipalities, namely Tévragh Zeina, Rosso, Boghé, Kaédi and Tintane is relevant, as these municipalities are particularly exposed to disaster risks (droughts, floods, fires, food insecurity, epidemics, etc.); and 7) the project is consistent with national development, DRR, environmental and sustainable development policies, strategies and plans.

- **Effectiveness:** The project is considered to have been implemented in an effective manner, as the rate of completion of all activities is very high, despite challenges such as 1) lack of a human resources budget line allowing the recruitment of a management team, 2) the late start of the project, 3) the instability of key players (municipal administration and heads of decentralized state services, in particular); 4) capacity gap at national level in the field of disaster risk reduction and the approach to human security in particular, and 5) the weak capacities of the targeted municipalities, especially with regard to human resources and means of communication.
- **Efficiency:** The project was deemed to have been implemented and managed in an efficient manner due to two main reasons: 1) the use of UNDP staff (Team Leader Sustainable Development, Program Associate and UNV Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist) with the consequence of reducing the project implementation costs, and 2) and the management of Human and financial resources of the project according to the management principles of the United Nations system agencies (UNS).
- **Impact:** The project activities and deliverables had various positive impacts on various stakeholder engaged in the project (municipal officials and vulnerable communities) including: 1) risk assessment, helped identify gaps and challenges in terms of urban risk and helped gain a better understanding of disaster risks in cities / municipalities; 2) the development of local plans for resilience provided municipalities ownership of their risk adaptation planning, beyond project schedule; 3) training of local actors (municipal authorities, district leaders, etc.) and experience-sharing visits helped raise awareness on disaster risks and on the need to prepare to manage these risks.
- **Sustainability:** The sustainability of project results and momentum is deemed promising due to two main reasons: 1) the ownership of project deliverables by the various relevant stakeholders (the technical ministries, the Directorate General of Civil Protection, municipal administrations, decentralized state services, vulnerable communities, etc.); and 2) the willingness and desire of few Mayors to continue to raise awareness among neighborhood leaders and the population at large on issues related to disaster risk management.

Evaluation of Combined Project in Adhering to the HSA Components and Main Principles

The UNDRR carried out an evaluation on the degree to which the risk assessments and the local action plans succeeded in capturing the main elements of the HSA approach, where the main

findings may be summarised below as a contribution to informing future project design. Notwithstanding the identified challenges, the risk assessments and the local resilience action plans are considered a positive step towards incorporating the HSA into all disaster risk management and sustainable development practices. It should be recognised though that this needs to be an ongoing, continuous process.

Risk Assessment:

The risk assessment methodology and results are assessed from an HSA perspective, using the main HSA pillars, namely i) people-centred, ii) multi-sectoral, iii) comprehensive, iv) context-specific.

- **Prevention Oriented:** The risk assessments were carried out prior to the occurrence of any disasters, and hence are prevention oriented by aiming to provide protection through a top-down approach. The fact that the risk assessments were participatory and included local stakeholders shows a degree of empowerment and a bottoms-up approach, which may be further strengthened in the future by engaging vulnerable groups in the assessment itself. The degree to which the results of risk assessments will eventually prove to be prevention oriented will inevitably depend on how these results will inform the decision-making process and the extent to which the local action resilience plans will be implemented.
- **People-Centred:** the extent to which threats affecting survival, livelihoods and dignity were assessed. Most disaster risk assessments noted the potential impact of the identified hazards on human lives. In several instances, the detrimental effect of climate change on agriculture production (and indirectly livelihoods) was identified. This achievement allows future assessments to focus on the disproportionate effects of disasters on vulnerable groups including the poor, the unemployed, youth and women led households- possibly due to the lack of disaggregated data on this topic. Finally, this will set the background for future assessment to account for the long-term effects of hazards on human dignity and the interaction of hazards losses and impacts with disaster risk drivers and violent extremism risk drivers (e.g. chronic unemployment, chronic poverty, multi-dimensional poverty, socio-economic exclusion, inequality).
- **Multi-Sectoral.** All assessment considered the environmental hazards, which is common practice for cities and local governments beginning to embark on the resilience building efforts. including pollution. In most instances, the assessments also accounted for one or more of economic, health, personal and community shocks and stresses. Future assessments should build on these achievements and link the above to political shocks and stresses.
- **Comprehensiveness:** In several instances, geographic comprehensiveness was addressed by identifying the different sectors in the different municipalities that may be affected by disasters originating from hazards sources in adjacent areas. In addition, the capacity building and the assessments carried out so far do set the background for future assessments to account for the domino-effect of comprehensiveness (in the sense that each threat feeds on the other) between the different category of threats (e.g. climate change effects on poverty and unemployment which in turn may lead to an increase in informal settlements and environmental degradation, which in turn may disproportionately affect the health of vulnerable groups, and accentuate their vulnerability to other hazards including landslides, floods and pollution).

- **Context Specific:** The hazard and exposure specific context of the municipality was accounted for. The context specific set of economic and social factors that contribute to vulnerability (or resilience) in addition to the more traditional environmental and physical factors were also accounted for in several cities and assessments, which is a very good first step in cities and municipalities just embarking on their resilience building efforts. Future assessments will allow for an analysis of the context specific institutional factors contributing to resilience/vulnerability as well as for a strengthening of the analysis on the interaction between these factors.

Local Resilience Action Plans

The local resilience action plans are assessed from an HSA perspective, using the main HSA components that must be included in such plans, namely: i) mutually reinforcing protection and empowerment, ii) comprehensiveness, iii) multi-sectoral, iv) contextualisation, v) prevention, vi) partnerships and collaboration, and vii) benchmarking, evaluation and impact assessment.

- **Component 1 – Protection and Empowerment, Top-down and Bottom-up:** Reviewing the proposed and existing axes of intervention within local resilience action plans, it becomes clear that prevention related efforts favour a top-down rather than a bottom up approach, perhaps because protection is seen by local officials as a priority, which is a common practice for cities and municipalities just embarking on the resilience building efforts. During actual implementation of the local resilience plans it is possible to direct more effort at empowering individuals, vulnerable local communities and sectors.
- **Component 2 – Comprehensiveness:** The action plans recognised the interconnectedness of geographical areas for some hazards including drought, locust, upstream flood control, food and nutrition crises. This sets the scene for future assessments to build on the strengthened capacities in order to direct efforts at refining the action plan so it accounts for comprehensiveness in terms of interaction of threats and hazards under the different categories (including climate change, food, economic, health, political, environmental, community and personal).
- **Component 3 - Multi-sectoral:** Several local resilience action plan accounts for threats under the environmental, personal, economic and health categories, which is a consolidated first step for cities and municipalities just embarking on their resilience building efforts. Future assessment can build on these efforts to consider threats under the other categories, as well as to analyse the manner in which they interact (see Component 2 above).
- **Component 4 – Contextualisation:** The environmental and physical factors contributing to exposure and vulnerability to environmental hazards have been identified and quantified in all risk assessments, and further addressed in the resilience local action plan. In some instances, the social and economic factors contributing to vulnerability (in the risk assessment) or resilience (in the local action plan) were also addressed. Future assessments can build on the results of current assessments and on the strengthened capacities in order to identify and address the all social, economic, and institutional factors that contribute to vulnerability - both to environmental hazards and other hazard categories; before also identifying and addressing the factors that may increase the interaction between the different hazards within and between categories.

- **Component 5 – Prevention:** The local resilience action plans proposed the development and enforcement of several prevention and mitigation laws and legislations; informed by the results of the disaster risk assessment. Once DRM legislation and institutions are in place, future effort can ensure that the duties of such bodies include carrying out regular risk assessments with the aim of informing the science-policy-interface. Equally important, such duties should include the need to develop strategies to address the root causes and drivers of disaster risk, violent extremism and civil strife all of which interact to increase vulnerability and reduce human security- including poverty, unemployment, inequality and socio-economic exclusion.
- **Component 6 – Partnerships and Collaboration:** In most instances the in-depth risk assessments and the associated local resilience action plans, piloted the practice of working in partnership with the various relevant sectors and with the main economic development and investment stakeholders. It would be equally useful for future efforts to ensure engagement with vulnerable group stakeholders.
- **Component 7 - Benchmarking, Evaluation and Impact Assessment:** a base line of risk has been developed, together with data on poverty and certain socio-economic indicators, albeit not sufficiently dis-aggregated due to data scarcity which in turn is an indicator of the weak science-policy interface. Future effort should focus on collating data on i) risks and disaster losses, disaggregated along main socio economic parameters including poverty level, age and gender ii) interaction of disaster losses with disaster risk drivers, iii) interaction between threats, shocks, hazards and stresses under different sectors, iv) interaction between threats in different cities. Finally, future effort can build on achievements to date and strengthened capacities in order to advocate for empowering local disaster prevention and management municipal bodies so their mandate covers carrying out risk assessments, disaster loss collation and analysis, setting targets for risk reduction, amongst other important risk reduction tasks.

Section IV: Financial status

To be attached separately.

Section VI: Promotional activities

Progress made in raising the profile of the programme and the issues it seeks to address

Incorporating the national strategy with the resilience activities at the local level in Tunisia and Mauritania facilitated awareness raising by enabling the programme by design to highlight the national government strategies at the regional and global level and the beneficiary cities' profile at the national and regional levels. During the 2017 Regional Platform for DRR, a multi-stakeholder platform dialogue on ongoing projects and strategies in the region, the project was introduced to a wide range of participants in the Arab Region. The platform agenda included updating the national strategies for Tunisia and Mauritania. As a result, other countries in the Arab Region took to engaging discussions and made commitments to follow suit and update their national strategies in the short term.

The International Day for Disaster Reduction on October 13 saw activities and dialogues taking place in different countries and awareness sessions to raise the profile of resilience building in the region. This was integral in demonstrating the linkages between achieving resilience, sustainable development and human security. In the Arab region, the International Day for Disaster Reduction was an opportunity to reflect on the human impact of disasters. Several events took place across the region echoing the Sendai Framework and how it promotes more dedicated action to tackle underlying disaster risk drivers, such as poverty and inequality. Not only can disaster risk reduction reduce the impact of disasters and crises, but it also contributes to economic sustainability and growth. Activities took place in Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, UAE and Jordan.

During the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction that was held in Cancun, H.E. Riadh Mouakhar, the Tunisian Minister of Local Affairs and Environment announced that Tunisia will be hosting the regional platform for both Africa and the Arab States in 2018. The platform provided an opportunity for countries in both the Arab and the African region to exchange best practices on resilience and its human security impact. In addition, the platform included a detailed session which presented the progress and lessons learned in the implementation of the human security approach to achieve disaster resilience and provided case studies from the specific cities participating in the program. See the following link for the minister's announcement: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvSyN90vSF4&t=118s>

A workshop was held in Abu Dhabi on 11-12 October 2017 on the "Development of Risk Reduction Strategies and Plans in the Arab Region", where there was a dedicated session to national and local strategies and how the Disaster Resilience Scorecard can be used as a tool to achieve the 10 Essentials and human security at the regional level.

Is the programme or elements thereof, worthy in terms of telling a human security story?

There are several elements of the programme that could possibly be turned into a success story specifically focused on the human security element. As mentioned above in the report the relationship between disaster resilience and human security is one that is mutually reinforcing. In this context, the insecurities outlined in the human security approach are both drivers and consequences of disasters. Disasters often have impacts that go well beyond their immediate effects, most of which are related to human security. At the same time, the existing state of human

security is clearly related to the vulnerability of communities to disasters and therefore increases disaster risk. This is observed clearly when we look at the results of the Disaster Resilience Scorecard in the 10 cities participating in this programme.

Looking at the scores of the essentials in all five cities in both Mauritania and Tunisia, it is noticeable that the reason behind the low results is directly connected to weak Human Security Dimensions in these cities. There is a mutual relation between the dimensions of the HS and resilience results obtained from the scorecards. In other words, if the human security dimensions are low, then the scorecards results will be low as well which means increase in social vulnerability, physical vulnerability, as well as economic and environmental vulnerabilities. On the contrary, if the Human Security dimensions are of a good level, the results of the 'Essentials' will be higher and the social vulnerability, in addition to other vulnerabilities, will indicate higher levels of resilience.

Insecurities outlined in the human security approach are both drivers and consequences of disasters. Disasters often have impacts that go well beyond their immediate effects, most of which are related to human security. This is manifested in food insecurity, unemployment, poverty, and environmental degradation. Disaster risk, coupled with climate change, could derail efforts to achieve a greater level of human security within the next decade or to eradicate poverty by 2030 (SDG1). At the same time, the existing state of human security is clearly related to the vulnerability of communities to disasters and therefore increases disaster risk. This is observed in how disasters disproportionately affect people who are economically marginalized. The human security standing of groups within the community, such as women, children, persons with disabilities, and the elderly, is a good indicator for whether –and to what extent– they will be disproportionately affected in disasters. Hence, working to enhance human security can be considered both as a disaster prevention as well as a disaster recovery strategy.

The Sendai Framework calls for the integration of the most crucial principles of human security in DRR related activities advocating a “broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk.” (UNDRR 2015, 7) Sendai Framework recognizes the existing gap in community involvement, particularly in developing regions, and outlines measures for shifting focus towards community engagement, awareness and mobilization in order to reduce disaster-related losses in lives, livelihood, productive assets, and cultural heritage. In this context, the Sendai Framework recognizes that “disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective” (ibid) Furthermore, the Sendai Framework advocates both a top-down and bottom up approach in order to ensure the protection and empowerment of the most vulnerable, including economically marginalized communities, women, children, the elderly, and people living with disabilities. (UNDRR 2015, 19(e), 32, 33(m), 36)

High-resolution, non-copyrighted photographs to the HSU from the programme sites and the local communities as well as Resources and materials produced by the program available through the Shared Drive.

Final Assessment Form

PART I Basic Project Information

| | |
|--|--|
| Project title | Enhancing community resilience and human security of vulnerable communities in urban settings through the implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 |
| Project number | UN-AF-15-007 |
| Country and region | Tunisia and Mauritania (Arab States, Africa) |
| Lead UN organisation | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Regional Office for Arab States: Fadi Jannan (jannan@un.org) |
| Implementing UN organisations(s) | UNDP Mauritania: Ousmane Dia (ousmane.dia@undp.org) UNDP Tunisia: Jihène Touil (jihene.touil@undp.org) |
| Non-UN implementing partners | League of Arab States, Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI), United Cities Local Government (UCLG), Private Sector partners supporting cities Scorecard (IBM and AECOM) |
| Project start date | 01/07/2016 |
| Project completion date | |
| Originally planned | 31/06/2018 |
| Actual | 31/12/2019 |
| Extension(s) approved on | |
| Total project budget including indirect support costs in US\$ | \$ 1,855,650 |
| Amount requested from the UNTFHS in US\$ | \$ 999,100 |
| Amount to be sourced from (each of) other donors in US\$ | Cost sharing of additional \$ 856,550: \$ 496,550 to be committed immediately by UNDRR and UNDP \$ 360,000 to be raised from other donors during the project course. (UNDP Tunisia succeeded to raise 1 M Euros from European commission and signed with DG ECHO in May 2017 to work on two additional cities within the same DRR programme.) |
| Project goal | To protect communities in urban vulnerable areas from disaster, health, food, environmental and economic insecurities and enhance their human security through the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 |
| Project objectives | Objective 1: Enhance the resilience of communities and authorities to natural disasters through the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies and building capacity of local stakeholders to mainstream the human security approach. Objective 2: protect people from disasters and minimise loss of life economical and infrastructure, and to support the implementation process by strengthening and promoting innovative new partnerships for human security and resilience |

PART II - Numerical Rating

Rate the relevance and performance of the project, using the following scale:

- 1 – Excellent
- 2 – Good
- 3 – Satisfactory
- 4 – Unsatisfactory
- 5 – Not applicable
- 6 – Insufficient information

| | <i>Ranking Criteria</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----|---|---------------|
| | RELEVANCE: | |
| 1. | Has the project proven to be as relevant as originally envisaged? <i>Comments:</i> The HS approach is very relevant for the two countries and cities within under consideration. These cities witness multi-sectoral threats (climate change and environmental, health, economic, political, security, personal and community) that need a comprehensive approach to analyse their interaction in a people centred manner that will look at the vulnerability of people and livelihoods, and the threat to human dignity. Such an analysis will in turn allow for the development of local resilience action plans that adopt a top-down approach for enabling prevention and a bottom-up approach for empowerment of local communities. The HS approach allows the analysis of the above complex phenomena through the adopting of its people-centred, comprehensive, multi-sectoral, context-specific and prevention-oriented methodology, guidelines and principles. | 1 |
| | EFFECTIVENESS: | |
| 2. | Were the project's main objectives achieved in keeping with the original activities, outputs and performance indicators? <i>Comments:</i> The project's first objective to <i>enhance the resilience of communities and authorities to natural disasters through the development and implementation of people-centred and comprehensive local disaster risk reduction strategies and building capacity of local stakeholders to mainstream the human security approach</i> was achieved to a good extent. Disaster risk assessments were carried out, which then informed the development of local risk reduction strategies. Most assessments did make linkages, albeit qualitatively, between environmental and health hazards and threats and their potential impact on lives, livelihoods and human dignity. Local stakeholders were synthesized to the importance of adopting a people-centred, context-specific, prevention-oriented, multi-sectoral and comprehensive approach to implement the SFDRR- which constituted a significant leap, and a first step, in their capacities for mainstreaming the HS approach into the SFDRR strategies and action plans at all levels. The project's second objective to <i>protect people from disasters and minimise loss of life economical and infrastructure, and to support the implementation process by strengthening and promoting innovative new partnerships for human security and resilience</i> was achieved to a good extent. Developing DRR strategies and action plans that are prevention-oriented, multi-sectoral and comprehensive significantly enhances the protection of people, their livelihoods, economic assets and infrastructure systems. Developing DRR strategies and action plans that are | 2 |

| | <i>Ranking Criteria</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----|--|---------------|
| | people centred, context-specific, prevention-oriented, multi-sectoral and comprehensive certainly strengthens and promotes innovative approaches and partnerships to HS and DRR. | |
| 3. | How would you assess the effectiveness of the management and administrative arrangements employed to implement the project? UNDRR | 3 |
| | <p>Comments:</p> <p>The management and administrative arrangements proved challenging to adhere to in a prompt manner due to the staff turnover in both UNDP and UNDRR where project was handed over mid implementation to staff who have not been sufficiently exposed to these arrangements. This was exacerbated by the fact that this is a novel project with new types of management and administrative arrangements which most staff are unfamiliar with, thereby causing delays in the strict implementation of these arrangements. Yet, these issues were mitigated through continuous coordination from the lead agency with implementing agencies.</p> | |
| 4. | How effectively did the project partners collaborate? (Elaborate what, if any, were the major challenges) UNDRR | 3 |
| | <p>Comments: Throughout the project implementations partners-maintained transparency and efficiency in information exchange, yet some challenges surfaced. The different context of the two beneficiary countries of the project led to different paces of implementation of same project activities and different levels of capacity in country offices. Moreover, one of the main issues was staff turnover in both UNDP and UNDRR where project was handed over to another focal point mid implementation which caused some delays and barriers to communication. Finally, the different financial systems used by partners has led to problems with utilization rates and some logistical barriers on implementing workshops.</p> | |
| | EFFICIENCY | |
| 5. | Were the anticipated outputs generated on time and within the budget, as specified in the work plan and implementation schedule? (if certain outputs were not achieved, elaborate briefly the reasons) | 3 |
| | <p>Comments:</p> <p>Outputs were generated within the agreed budget, however in terms of compliance with timeline the project faced a few challenges which led to two no-cost extensions. The first was in 2018 where a reprogramming of the activities took place due to the below reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following the kickoff and disaster resilience workshops, the beneficiary cities committed to establishing local DRR committees and assigning focal points to facilitate the activities of the project. When these commitments were not met due to several institutional challenges, the implementation process was hindered. 2. Tunisia: The first ever local/municipal elections took place during the duration of the project leading to newly elected mayors and municipal councils which required further sensitization about the project. 3. Mauritania: 2018 saw both municipal and legislative elections, hindering the progress of the project as both mayors and local authorities in the project beneficiary cities have been heavily involved in their political campaigns. | |

| | <i>Ranking Criteria</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----|--|---------------|
| | <p>4. The finalization and adoption of the national DRR strategy in both Tunisia and Mauritania has been delayed pending final approval by the government.</p> <p>5. Both Tunisia and Mauritanian cities request all information and tools to be provided in Arabic and French. Given that the tools were initially developed in English some key activities were delayed to ensure all material is provided in all languages.</p> <p>The second was in 2019 where although project implementation was finalized in Mauritania, UNDP Tunisia encountered some barriers that contributed to the delay in implementation of the pending activities during the official project period:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of local capacities and ownership: the project faced difficulties in mobilizing and involving local partners in the project implementation where several consultation meetings were necessary to overcome the given challenge. This led to a delay in launching the in-depth assessment missions where local partners had to discuss and validate the terms of reference of the missions. 2. Lack of expertise in DRR: UNDP Tunisia faced difficulties in identifying a national consultancy agency to assist in the implementation of the in-depth risk assessments and development of the local resilience action plans. The process for contracting the agency took 6 months to be finalized (October 2018 – March 2019). Furthermore, the consultancy agency encountered challenges in mobilizing two specialized teams to implement the activities in Mateur and Gabes in parallel. 3. Reluctance of local government in validating activities: As per agreement with the national government, all project activities had to be validated and approved by the local government throughout the stages of implementation. This affected the agreed project timeline where there were multiple delays in validating and approving project activities at the local level. 4. The incompleteness of the local resilience action plans: The National Dialogue in Tunisia was intended to take place during August which had to be postponed due to the incompleteness of the local resilience action plans as well as the national context where Tunisia declared a mourning period after the death of President Essebsi. 5. Lack of project dedicated human resources at UNDP Tunisia: The request to hire national UNV to support the project implementation was rejected. As a result, UNDP relied on the support of the project manager mobilized as part of the DG-Echo project and funding to monitor the project implementation, which led to the delay in project monitoring and implementation. | |
| | IMPACT | |
| 6. | How would you rate the overall performance and impact of the project? | 2 |
| | <i>Comments:</i> The impact of the project is good as it developed prevention-oriented, people-centred, multi-sectoral, context-specific and comprehensive DRR strategies and action plans, informed by sound disaster risk assessments. This ensured that | |

| | <i>Ranking Criteria</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|----|---|---------------|
| | the strategies are relevant to the specific context and needs of the population under consideration. | |
| 7. | If appropriate, were the communications and public/media outreach components of the project effectively implemented? To what extent were the project's achievements disseminated to benefit wider audiences (even beyond the project's direct beneficiaries)? | 2 |
| | <i>Comments:</i> Overall, continuous advocacy and outreach activities were effectively conducted throughout the project and communication tools were utilized to raise awareness on disaster risk reduction and human security approach. Two web stories were developed by UNDRR: one ⁱⁱ to introduce the project objectives and the human security approach and the second ⁱⁱⁱ to cover the Technical exchange workshop. Activities under the project were frequently posted on UNDRR's and UNDP's social media outlets. The National Dialogue held in Mauritania to scale up the development and implementation of city action plans was promoted, and the project gained publicity through national and local news. Moreover, the project's impact on the local level was integrated into UNDRR's 2019 annual report and presented as a success story and is to be disseminated to a global audience. Finally, UNDRR is to integrate the project approach and results in the Arab region's first regional assessment report. | |
| | SUSTAINABILITY | |
| 8. | What is the prospect that the project's activities and achievements will be sustained following UNTFHS support? (Elaborate on major factors and potential follow-up needs that are likely to influence whether the project's activities will be sustained) | 2 |
| | <i>Comments:</i> Notwithstanding the important leaps in capacities and strategies achieved as a result of this project, additional work is required before the project results become self-sustaining. In particular, additional support is required to 1) create context specific training tools and implementation guides to be used during the implementation phase of the local resilience action plans. The implementation guides must demonstrate the regional, sub-regional, national and local context-specific challenges and opportunities of "comprehensiveness", "multi-sectorality" and "prevention-oriented" dimensions of the HS approach; 2) train local stakeholders on adopting the developed tool and guidelines to develop detailed action plans for implementation, with monitoring and evaluation frameworks to ensure the HS approach is indeed mainstreamed during the implementation phase; 3) provide regular support throughout the implementation phase; 4) extract lessons from steps 1 to 3 above to maximize potential scale-up and mainstreaming to other levels, regions and cities. | |
| | OVERALL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT | |
| 9. | How would you rate the overall performance of the project, considering the Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact and Sustainability of the project? | 2 |
| | <i>Comments:</i> The project is clearly extremely very relevant to the region. The project effectiveness is good and can be improved upon in future project as more stakeholders, beneficiaries and even implementing UN agencies become more familiar with the Human Security Approach and its contextualisation in the region and how it can be best mainstreamed into the SFDRR. Similarly, while the | |

| | <i>Ranking Criteria</i> | <i>Rating</i> |
|--|---|---------------|
| | efficiency and impact of the project are generally good, they can be improved upon in future projects as more stakeholders become familiar with the HSA which in turn would allow for refinement and fine tuning to further address local context opportunities and challenges. Ensuring sustainability is a process that this project has started and where more work is needed to arrive at the desired goal. | |

PART III: Textual assessment

1. What were the major issues or problems that affected project implementation?

From a technical perspective, a main issue is the lack of exposure of local stakeholders to the HS approach coupled with the lack of context-specific guidelines and tools to demonstrate through theoretical examples, or case studies where applicable, the application of the HS approach within the SFDRR framework, on a principle-by-principle basis (i.e. showing the importance and manner of integration of i) people-centredness; ii) comprehensiveness, iii) multi-sectoral ; iv) specific-context; and v) prevention-oriented within the SFDRR).

2. What, if any, significant unintended impacts/outcomes (positive or negative) were there beyond the original project plans?

One main positive impact of the program is to reassert the relevance and legitimacy of the HS approach, coupled with the SFDRR and other international frameworks, to address various complex threats, shocks and stresses that manifest themselves at the local, and even sub-local, levels. The case of flood protection measures affecting flood plain irrigation zones, in turn affecting the livelihoods of some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities provides one example of the potential for such an integrated HS approach to identify and analyse multi-sectoral threats in a people centred, prevention-oriented, comprehensive, and context-specific manner. This is particularly so when we consider how the phenomena under consideration may be exacerbated by climate change which in turn may also exacerbate economic, health, food, personal, community and political crises.

3. Comment on the impact of the project in enhancing and strengthening the UN implementing partner and the wider UN system.

The project clearly synthesised the UN personnel on the importance of cooperation between the UN system within any country as a fundamental pre-requisite to meeting the HSA pillars of being people-centred, multi-sectoral and comprehensive. The HSA approach is particularly relevant in the post 2015 development agenda as it provides a tangible example to the calls of coherence and integration by various international frameworks including the SFDRR, the 2030 agenda, the COP21 climate change agreement, the humanitarian agenda the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the New Urban Agenda all of which call for integration and coherence of agendas. The HSA emphasis on comprehensiveness across geographies during risk assessment and risk management provides another tangible example of how UN agencies can and should cooperate across borders. The multi partner, multi-national implementation of the project is another timely example on the need of comprehensiveness especially in the face of emerging infectious disease threats such as COVID-19.

4. What type of evaluation was conducted on the project by the UN implementing partner(s) (internal, external or participatory)? Were the target beneficiaries involved in the evaluation, and if so how?

At the UNDRR level, the UNDRR carried out an external evaluation by asking an international consultant to conduct an overall evaluation for project results. UNDP Mauritania also carried out an external evaluation of the project (against project objectives) by another international consultant to assess the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the project as per UNDP guidelines. This assessment adopted a participatory, inclusive, gender balanced approach where visits, interviews and focus groups were held with project beneficiaries in the cities of Rosso, Kaédi and Boghé. In particular, the degree of satisfaction of the beneficiaries with the project results, and the degree to which gender and human based approach was mainstreamed into the project was assessed.

5. What were the challenges faced and what mitigation measures were taken? Did mitigation measures resolve the challenges?

- **Challenge 1 – Community domestic capacity:** Lack of capacity demonstrated in beneficiary cities and low general awareness of DRR and Human Security concepts. From a human security perspective, this meant that the comprehensiveness and multi-sectoral HSA principles were difficult to apply from the onset of the project. **Mitigation Measure 1:** Four workshops which were conducted with the LGs to ensure that the participants understood the 10 essentials for making cities resilient and the human security approach and principles within it. Workshop 1.3.1 (Tunisia 26-28 July) and Workshop 1.3.2 (Mauritania 22-24 August) were specifically structured around explaining the ‘10 Essentials’ using an expert consultant. The workshops also engaged in initial discussions about the linkages between resilience and human security. Moreover, technical exchange workshops and capacity building trainings were carried out, with participation from local communities and local governments. Mitigation actions paid off in later phases as evidenced by various cities identifying health, personal, environmental and economic hazards and challenges to be addressed. The positive impact was that people were more likely to mitigate the impact of the above threats since they are being addressed in a comprehensive and integrated manner.
- **Challenge 2 – Community domestic capacity:** Disparity between the participating cities regarding understanding of DRR and little common language between the participants on the principles of the city resilience key elements. **Mitigation Measure 2:** City-to-City technical exchanges (1.1.3) increased awareness and reduce disparity through common experiences and facilitated the sharing of knowledge and best practices to enhance resilience and human security. Having a role model city present its experience in implementing urban risk reduction plans particularly increased field exposure of all participants to DRR practices. The capacity building needs assessment that UNDP Tunisia conducted in five cities and the tailored training for the cities improved knowledge at local level for relevant actors.

- **Challenge 3 – Political Structures / Commitment:** Representatives of participating cities did not include all cities' institutions and stakeholders that have an important and effective role in DRR and resilience and human security. From an HSA perspective this meant not all stakeholders were present to be able to fulfil the multi-sectoral and comprehensive principles. **Mitigation Measure 3:** UNDRR and UNDP maintained constant contact with the various stakeholder in order to allow follow-up and further consolidate sources of verification for the process of measuring resilience building. The main trade-off was to address the personal, environmental, economic and health threats; while future effort should be directed at linking these with security type threats.
- **Challenge 4 – Organizational or institutional capacity to deliver:** Absence of a focal point for DRR at city level in Tunisia and lack of capacity to coordinate DRR activities at municipality level. From an HSA perspective this meant not all stakeholders were present to be able to fulfil the multi-sectoral and comprehensive principles. **Mitigation Measure 4:** UNDP Tunisia followed up with the Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment (MLAE) that sent official letter to nominate DRR FP in each city, where local actors were also sensitized during information and awareness raising meetings conducted by UNDP and the MLAE on the importance of having a dedicated person to coordinate DRR activities at the level of the Municipality.
- **Challenge 5 – Political Structures / Commitment:** Delay in the municipal elections in Tunisia and absence of local elected people working at the municipality. The elections that were supposed to take place in December 2017 were postponed to March 2018. The absence of elected people to manage the municipalities contributed to some lack of ownership at local level, particularly in view of the novel HSA principles. **Mitigation Measure 5:** UNDP remained in permanent contact with national (MLAE) and regional (governorates) partners, directly targeting technical staff at the municipality and other sectoral departments at regional and local level. This helped ensure the sustainability of the demand and ownership of project, while waiting for the elections to take place and for more political will to integrate DRR and HSA into planning.
- **Challenge 6 – Organizational Challenge:** Staff Turnover in project management team in both UNDRR and UNDP Tunisia. **Mitigation Measure 6:** UNDP Tunisia requested to hire a national UNV to support the project implementation, but it was rejected. Nevertheless, UNDP relied on the support of the project manager mobilized as part of the DG-Echo project to monitor the project implementation. As for UNDRR, Programme Officer in charge of project management, who left the organization handed over the project information and pending documents to the Deputy Chief of Office and three consultants were hired to support the different stages of implementation of the project. To further mitigate the challenge UNDRR worked on strengthening coordination between the implementing agencies and maintained constant communication and discussion of the project activities to better support the implementation whenever possible.

6. What were the major lessons (positive and negative) learned through the project? Are there concrete recommendations that could increase the success of future programmes?

- **Lesson 1:** The paramount importance of an introductory activity explaining and summarizing concepts and project overview. **Recommendation 1:** Conducting an introductory workshop contributed to several outputs of the project. Typically, this is done in parallel with activities occurring early in the project. In future projects, from a programmatic perspective, such an activity could be separately included in the project Framework. Specific focus on the ‘bottom-up’ empowerment approach put forward by the HSA is necessary early on in order to ensure community engagement, participation and ownership, which in turn would ensure the contextualisation of the project deliverables.
- **Lesson 2:** Mainstreaming the HS approach in each of the steps for resilience building, from hazard assessment, through vulnerability and risk assessments, to local resilience building DRR strategies and action plans, relies on multi-disciplinary participation and engagement. **Recommendation 2:** Using a conceptual framework which allows for the congruent implementation of project phases at the same time. From a programmatic perspective, this requires expediting and ensuring a multi-disciplinary participation needed for suitably aligning resilience projects to climate change, the SDGs, human security, etc. For the implementing partners, this emphasizes the paramount importance of multi-sectoral representation and engagement from the very beginning, including in early workshops, in order to i) identify sectors and stakeholders to be engaged in the process; ii) carry out a contextualised, comprehensive and multi-sectoral hazard assessment; vulnerability and risk assessment; iii) developing a DRR and resilience building strategy based on the dual imperative of protection and empowerment; For the UNCT as a whole, this is a lesson learnt that can be adopted in other coherence and integration activities. This also act as a pilot demonstration for the governments to carry out the necessary coherence building across the SDG, climate change, human security, new urban agenda and the SFDRR. Only in this manner it becomes possible to ensure that a people-centred, comprehensive, multi-sectoral, prevention oriented and context specific approach is being adopted to integrate HS considerations and principles into DRR and resilience building.
- **Lesson 3:** The importance of integrating with the national strategy to ensure coherence at the local, national, and global levels. **Recommendation 3:** Local resilience action plans need to be well-informed as well as comply to a great extent with national platforms and internationally agreed upon frameworks, including those on DRR, poverty reduction, climate change adaptation and mitigation, ecosystem and biodiversity protection, urban development and housing, women empowerment. The approach taken to ensure coherence at the local, national and global levels is simple but very effective in aligning resilience action plans to existing mechanisms. From an HSA perspective, the pillars of the HSA when used properly, provide a road map for implementing agencies and the UNCT on how best to ensure that this integration and coherence is taking place in a sound manner. Checking the degree to which the pillars are met is a way to identify deviations and challenges early in the process of integration and coherence building.
- **Lesson 4:** Delivering the results of HSTF projects using a ‘one UN’ approach to increase effectiveness. **Recommendation 4:** Strengthening coordination between the different UN organisations involved in the project is essential for the achievement of the desired outputs. It is recommended that lead/implementing agencies must maintain constant

communication and discussion of the project activities in order to avoid overlaps and, more importantly, to develop timely and integrated responses to new challenges as they emerge. These challenges are best identified and addressed under the five pillars of the HSA. Therefore such a coordination plan should be multi-faceted and must at least account for coordination of efforts to ensure each of the important pillars of the strategy are accounted for in a coherent manner: i) people-centred (protection and empowerment) efforts, ii) comprehensiveness, iii) multi-sectoral efforts, iv) prevention-oriented efforts, and v) context specific efforts. Finally, it is essential that a coordination plan be developed from the onset of the project along the above lines.

- **Lesson 5:** Absence of communication tools on DRR and HS did not help in raising awareness at the cities level. **Recommendation 5:** Creation of communication tools on DRR and HS concepts presented using “User friendly” techniques in efforts to explain complex thematic areas. This can include the main idea of Lesson Learnt 3, namely to use the HSA pillars as a tool to guide integration and coherence building, as well as to act as an early warning against challenges in ensuring that resilience building is proceeding smoothly in adherence to i) people-centred efforts, ii) comprehensiveness, iii) multi-sectoral efforts, iv) prevention-oriented efforts, and v) context specific efforts.

7. What was the added value, if any, of applying the human security approach to this project?

Applying the HS approach to this project has significant added value in first identifying and analysing the multi-sectoral threats in a comprehensive manner; and then develop local resilience building strategies and action plans that are people centred, context-specific and prevention oriented that can both protect lives, livelihoods and assets and empower vulnerable groups and communities. In this manner it is clear that the HS approach provides a unique added value in promoting solutions that help promote and protect human dignity as well as human lives.

8. Would you suggest that the UNTFHS profile this project as a human security success story?

This is a very relevant project to the region and significant progress has been achieved in developing HS informed local resilience action plans. It is suggested that the UNTFHS consider profiling this project once the local resilience action plans begin being implemented, as part of the effort to encourage local authorities to implement them. Furthermore, it is also suggested that the UNTFHS considers the lessons learnt emerging from the project, particularly to develop contextualised guidelines for expediting HS into DRR and promote these as part of the profiling of the project.

9. Has there been any significant progress in the promotion of the concept of human security as a result of this project?

Yes

10. Describe any significant contributions by donors/s (outside of the UN system) and/or effective strategies employed to secure funding.

N/A

11. Was the human security approach successfully integrated and mainstreamed across the work of the UN at the local and country level through this project? Explain why or why not.

The application of human security provided a multi-stakeholder partnership model for implementing partners to move beyond the single-agency style of programming in which results overlap and synergy is lost. UN partners have collectively identified the needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of people and Governments, and accordingly designed comprehensive, context-specific solutions to address any challenges faced during the project implementation period. The human security approach reinforced the United Nations support to Tunisia and Mauritania on both local and national levels in building resilience to climate change and disasters, promoting multi-stakeholder, bottom-up approaches in DRR planning and implementation and addressing the underlying causes of human insecurity and challenges faced by communities.

12. Has this project been replicated elsewhere using other financial resources? Explain why or why not.

The project has been replicated in Tataouine and Ain Drahem in Tunisia, where UNDP Tunisia is the key implementing agency and the European Commission, DGECHO, is the project donor with a budget of one million euros to strengthen the knowledge and skills of local actors in DRR; Establish and test adapted DRR methods and tools for risk management based on effective coordination between actors and sectors; Involve the local population by using tools and methods that do not exclude any of the social categories of the municipality and to promote the participation and the promotion of a culture of risk at the level of local communities; and Document and valorise the results and lessons learned from the project in order to duplicate them. The project was replicated mainly due to its relevance in terms of addressing the range of human insecurities and threats faced by the local communities. Furthermore, its prevention-oriented, people-centred, comprehensive, multi-sectoral, context-specific and methodology is highly relevant and effective in implementing DRR activities, especially on the local level.

ⁱ IISD Reporting Services. "Africa Arab Platform on DRR". <http://enb.iisd.org/isdr/afrrp-acdrr/2018/html/enbplus141num12e.html>

ⁱⁱ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction - Regional Office for Arab States. "Mauritania Acts on Urban Resilience". 2018. <https://www.undrr.org/news/mauritania-acts-urban-resilience>

ⁱⁱⁱ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction - Regional Office for Arab States. "Italy Hosts Arab Cities". 2019. <https://www.undrr.org/news/italy-hosts-arab-cities>