

UNDP'S RESPONSE TO EL NIÑO AND LA NIÑA



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



FROM RECURRING
CRISIS TO RESILIENCE
AN INVESTMENT CASE



CONTEXT

The 2015-2016 El Niño¹ phenomenon has been one of the strongest on record, affecting deeply the lives and livelihoods of more than 60 million people across 40 countries. It has devastated crops and killed livestock, in some cases dried up water-sources in others caused massive flooding, driven up malnutrition rates, increased disease outbreaks and caused significant migration.

Starting in April 2015 El Niño started to grow by December, disruptions in temperature, rainfall, and surface air pressure across the tropical Pacific were on par with the strongest on record. Many regions experienced climate extremes and weather anomalies. Sixteen tropical cyclones formed in or passed through the unusually warm central Pacific hurricane basin in 2015, three times the average and four more than the previous record of 12 set in 1992 (also an El Niño year.) In late August, the basin sustained three category 4 hurricanes at the same time, a first, not just for the central Pacific, but for any basin during the modern record. Drought was also widespread. El Niño in the dry corridor of Central America resulted in a dry spell beginning in early June 2015 lasting until mid-September, severely affecting staple crops causing losses of up to 100 per cent. The Indian monsoon, on which the vast majority of the countries agriculture depends, fell to extremely low levels. Drought was also severe in Southern African and the Horn, with Ethiopia, Malawi and Angola significantly affected.

The long-term impact of the current El Niño has yet to be fully assessed but experience from past events illustrate the magnitude

and losses from the phenomenon. The 1997-1998 El Niño, for example, caused at least 2000 direct deaths and at least US\$33bn in damages. The 2015-2016 El Niño is likely to have been at least as devastating, and while its peak impact may have passed, the effects may last well into 2017.

In response, the global humanitarian appeal for El Niño is one of the largest ever: US\$5 billion. However, the appeal, whilst crucial to the life and wellbeing of millions, does not tackle the underlying vulnerabilities and risks. El Niño is not only a humanitarian challenge, but also a long-term development challenge. Factors such as poverty, inequality, environmental degradation, competition over scarce natural resources, high population growth, rapid and uncontrolled urbanization, and weak governance contribute to make countries and their people more and more vulnerable to climate change induced increasing frequency and intensity of weather-related hazards. The poorest, who directly depend on natural resources for food, clean water, energy, shelter, and income and do not have access to social safety nets are the most affected.

In summary this massive humanitarian crisis is based on a predictable climate pattern, and worsened by climate change that impacts disproportionately those areas that suffer from poverty and inequality. This combination warrants a significant investment in a range of interventions that will tackle vulnerability and deliver resilience, from early warning, preparedness and recovery, through to long-term effective climate-risk management and risk-informed development.

The Impact of El Niño: What Needs Assessments Say

UNDP's work at the country level, supporting governments to manage El Niño and through post-disaster needs assessments (PDNA) carried out with partners, illustrates the realities of impact on countries and communities:

Angola: The drought driven by El Niño has caused a progressive reduction of available water, aggravating previous dry spells. This situation is having a major impact at household level where a progressive decline of the water table has led to 80 per cent of the existing boreholes being non-functional. It is estimated that less than 20 per cent of affected communities have currently access to safe water, which in turn is affecting health with increasing cases of diarrhea and other water-related diseases.

Malawi: Due to the erratic rains and prolonged dry spells caused by El Niño, agriculture production has been severely affected resulting in economic losses of US\$199 million. Cereals accounted for 60 per cent of the losses and this is particularly critical in a country where subsistence agriculture remains the main source of food and livelihoods. It is estimated that 6.4 million people will be in need of food assistance during the next lean season (first quarter of 2017).

Fiji: Cyclone Winston, which struck Fiji in 2016, affected approximately 62 percent of its population. One in five households across the country have experienced total destruction of their houses and the loss of most personal belongings. The social and psychological impact on the affected population has been enormous. Displacement has been common. There are causes for concern for security in some transitional shelters. Women have been particularly affected, as the destruction of homes has often led to damage to any equipment and materials used for traditional home-based livelihoods.

1. El Niño refers to the recurrent (three-to-seven years) warming of the central to eastern Pacific Ocean, when sea surface temperatures increase by 1-3°F or more. El Niño impacts weather systems, often reversing usual patterns and resulting in extreme events. Although naturally occurring, El Niño events vary and intensify as a result of climate change. La Niña, characterized by the cooling of equatorial waters, follows and can have a greater overall impact due to the reduced capacity to cope by El Niño. A predictable climatic hazard, El Niño affects the same 40 countries each and every cycle depending on its strength.



UNDP'S RESPONSE

El Niño is a critical issue for UNDP, going to the heart of its resilience focus and development mandate, including efforts linked to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 13 on Climate Action. During the current El Niño event, we have adapted existing programming and provided additional core resources to provide support at the global, regional, and country levels in all affected regions. We have also contributed significantly to inter-agency advocacy, including shaping the new El Niño standard operating procedures, and committed a full-time secondment to support the SG's Special Envoys on El Niño and Climate. This has been underwritten by the development of a global El Niño strategy that provides the structure for all of UNDP's work. Some of our efforts, both regional and country-examples are as follows:

In **Africa and Arab States**, UNDP is working with Regional Economic Commissions to improve advocacy and information management, and develop innovative solutions for response and resilient recovery, supporting governments and communities to prepare for and bounce back from climate induced disasters, to diversify income sources, strengthen capacities for climate adaptation and mobilize public and private resources.

UNDP is also supporting governments to set up innovative financing to address both humanitarian and resilience needs. For example, a US\$50 million multi-donor **Zimbabwe** resilience fund improves community risk management through cash savings, informal safety nets, disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies, and hazard insurance.

In **Mozambique**, the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Country Team has coordinated international humanitarian support, with UNDP leading on Early Recovery. UNDP and other agencies have deployed staff, provided coordination and communications support, information services, and broad technical and advisory assistance. This has supported response to immediate needs, and medium to long-term measures to build community resilience to disaster and climate risk.

In **Djibouti**, UNDP is involved through UNCT and has been requested to coordinate and provide technical assistance. The government (with the support of the UN) has launched an appeal to deal with the situation to mobilize US\$26 million to cover various immediate and urgent needs.

In **Asia-Pacific**, UNDP established a flexible advisory support hub for enhancing regional mechanisms; developing a composite methodology for societal impact assessment; and preparing a regional risk profile study with national/sub national level disaggregation:

In **Indonesia**, El Niño has contributed to widespread peat land and forest fires (which also have major consequences on CO₂ emissions) and drought due to overly dry conditions. UNDP has supported the government to diversify livelihoods and initiate climate-smart agriculture and climate-smart water management and distribution. Technical support was provided in drafting El Niño / La Niña Scenarios, which can now also be a basis for a National Contingency Plan and better preparedness.

In **Vietnam**, UNDP is coordinating with multiple national and international partners to monitor the drought situation. Along with UNITAR, it has undertaken drought mapping and risk assessment. UNDP's long-term DRR programme in the country has built resilience building, strengthened key institutions, and climate proofed investments in small scale rural infrastructure.

UNDP supported the Government of **Fiji** in conducting the PDNA following the landfall of cyclone Winston in February 2016 and developing a recovery programme. In the Republic of Marshall Islands, UNDP provided technical and financial support both for emergency response as well as long-term programmatic interventions in the wake of climate hazards.

In **Latin America and the Caribbean**, UNDP is leading in establishing early recovery clusters involving UN agencies, IFRC and NGOs and enhancing coordination with governments at different levels. Pilot initiatives have been implemented to restore livelihoods recovery and to strengthen capacities in information management and governance, which have the potential to be replicated.

In **Cuba**, UNDP and WFP are working together in 20 municipalities to improve early warning and early action, specifically through strengthening the technical capacity of meteorology and hydrology sectors to monitor drought. These drought risk assessment systems will be complemented by food security and nutrition indicators and used to trigger the early warning system.

In **Europe and the CIS**, where disaster and climate risk are not strongly correlated to El Niño, a major knowledge base (and human resources) relevant to the same types of climate-related disasters is being utilized for inter-regional solutions.

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THE UNDP APPROACH

As a development agency, UNDP's approach is long-term. UNDP's El Niño Strategy, developed at the outset of the phenomenon in late 2015, focuses on developing the capacity of countries to build long-term resilience, delivering urgent improvements in early warning and preparedness, utilizing the recovery phase to make long-term systematic improvements to livelihoods and environmental management. UNDP works closely with governments to strengthen their climate risk management and invest in risk-informed development. Support in these areas will also tackle long-standing vulnerabilities and ensure synergy between humanitarian and development activities.

- 1 **Information, Early Warning/Action and Preparedness** to protect lives and minimize impact
 - Information management / Understanding and communicating risk
 - Multi-hazard early warning and early action
 - Preparedness planning and implementation
- 2 **Immediate Response and Resilient recovery** to stabilize livelihoods, build systems and institutions
 - Support to joint assessments, coordination and planning
 - Restoring livelihoods and revitalizing local economies
 - Restoring core government functions
- 3 **Disaster and Climate Resilience Building** to address underlying vulnerabilities before the onset of El Niño/La Niña, integrating climate and disaster risk and ensuring risk-informed development
 - Integrated disaster and climate risk governance
 - Biodiversity and ecosystem management
 - Support to long-term risk informed economic development
 - Developing conflict sensitive capacities in particular in disaster conflict interface settings

The proposals which UNDP has developed for 25 countries reflect the approach outlined above. UNDP's activities in support of the approach would improve governments' capacities to prepare and respond to the El Niño crisis, provide support to households and communities, and strengthen resilience of the people.

In addition, crosscutting themes such as gender and women's empowerment, south-south cooperation, information management, advocacy, and the interface between climate and insecurity, will be a core component of all work at the country level. The component of global support, which UNDP has included, will coordinate country initiatives, improve effectiveness through knowledge management and evidence, and maintain and deepen standards of work through monitoring and evaluation.

This development appeal is based on UNDP's existing work under this framework, work that has supported dozens of countries to tackle both present impact and long-term issues. The scale and scope of this cycle's El Niño has been so significant, however, that it demands increased efforts. Based on a comprehensive review undertaken across a full range of priority-affected countries, the appeal focuses on specific targeted interventions planned by sector and type that remain unfunded.

UNDP's activities will improve the capacity of governments to build the **long-term resilience** of people, communities and countries to El Niño in the most at-risk parts of the world.



Why UNDP

UNDP's 20-year experience supporting over 160 countries to deliver both climate action and risk reduction has given it the tools, resources and expertise to help countries tackle El Niño in the long-term:

- **Capacity Development in Risk Governance, Preparedness, Recovery and Resilience:** UNDP has expertise across the range of requirements needed to tackle El Niño. Our work helps build the capacity of countries and communities to prevent and prepare for hazards, recover from their impact and build long-term resilience. As importantly, UNDP supports governments to integrate risk into their development strategies, protect investments and make development sustainable.
- **Bridging Climate and Development:** Ensuring that development is zero-carbon and risk-informed is the only way to deliver long-term sustainability. As the lead UN development agency, it has deep familiarity with national and local context, development priorities and challenges and is well placed to support countries to integrate climate concerns into development.
- **Early Recovery Leadership:** mandated by the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator as Global Cluster Lead for Early Recovery, UNDP leads the international system to help countries transition from crisis interventions to the building of long-term resilience.
- **Empowering the Most Vulnerable:** UNDP has a track record of supporting countries most vulnerable to climate change. Our extensive adaptation portfolio, UN-REDD and the Climate Vulnerable Forum are just a few examples of work that helps the most vulnerable lead within and beyond national borders. Central to UNDP's work is ensuring that everyone, vulnerable or otherwise, has a voice and is able to participate in climate action and risk reduction.
- **Partnerships and Innovation:** UNDP works with an extensive network of partners from the UN system, development banks, civil society and private sector, bringing together best expertise to support countries to meet development aspirations. Through partnership, joint implementation and innovation, UNDP is able to find new ways to tackle the multi-faceted challenge that is El Niño.
- **Extensive Organizational Infrastructure:** A network of 170 Country Offices, Regional Hubs, and Policy Centers work with UNDP Headquarters to help countries develop policies, programmes and approaches to tackle climate change and undertake sustainable development. This ensures advice and support that delivers appropriate and contextualized action.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS



COUNTRY	REQUIREMENT (USD)
AFRICA AND ARAB STATES (HORN OF AFRICA)	
Angola	\$ 9,600,000
Burundi	\$ 1,500,000
Ethiopia	\$ 10,000,000
Kenya	\$ 5,728,400
Lesotho	\$ 2,938,000
Madagascar	\$ 3,404,348
Malawi	\$ 3,608,000
Rwanda	\$ 3,402,432
Somalia	\$ 2,401,000
Sudan	\$ 2,756,268
Swaziland	\$ 2,700,000
Uganda	\$ 2,500,000
Zimbabwe	\$ 2,241,011

ASIA PACIFIC	
Bhutan	\$ 650,000
Indonesia	\$ 2,250,342
Pacific countries	\$ 1,500,000
Papua New Guinea	\$ 3,010,000
Sri Lanka	\$ 2,000,000
Timor-Leste	\$ 2,500,000
Vietnam	\$ 5,018,200

COUNTRY	REQUIREMENT (USD)
LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	
Colombia	\$ 1,743,000
Cuba	\$ 1,100,000
El Salvador	\$ 900,000
Guatemala	\$ 1,200,000
Honduras	\$ 1,157,970
Paraguay	\$ 1,116,519
GLOBAL COORDINATION AND RESPONSE	\$2,500,000
TOTAL	\$79,425,490



COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Africa and Arab States (Horn of Africa)

Despite rapid growth, poverty across **Africa** remains high, and progress towards global development goals is uneven. Increasingly frequent natural disasters have eroded the recovery capacities of vulnerable populations, threatening hard-won development gains. UNDP is working at the regional level through Regional Economic Commissions to improve advocacy, information management and the formulation of innovative solutions for crisis response and resilient recovery. It supports national governments and communities to prepare for and bounce back from climate induced disasters, to diversify income sources, strengthen their capacities for climate change adaptation and mobilise public and private resources for resilience building.

In the **Horn of Africa region**, a drought exacerbated by El Niño has directly affected the region, leading to an increase in food insecurity and malnutrition and a serious impact on agricultural production and livelihoods. As of June 2016, 24 million people in the region were facing critical and emergency food insecurity. Excessive rains in late 2015 and in the March to May rainy season of 2016 led to flooding in parts of Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda. Heavy rains intensified in late April, affecting nearly 410,000 people, displacing 231,916 people and killing 271 people in the region. While the El Niño can now be considered over, IGAD-ICPAC and global climate partners predict that the impact is likely to be felt into 2017, and there still remain critical gaps showing the need to prepare for the next time (El Niño can be followed by La Niña and vice versa with guaranteed recurrence, although the exact timing is variable).



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ANGOLA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: Successive years of drought and another harvest failure in 2016 have severely affected large groups of already marginalized communities that have few alternative livelihood options or safety nets. UNDP is already on the ground and proposes to further scale up ongoing livelihood support through women and assist in the operationalization of a Resilience Fund supporting a total of 755,930 people in need of income diversification, basic services, livelihood support and small infrastructure development in transition from humanitarian to development phases. At the same time, UNDP will continue to assist the inter-sectorial Civil Protection Commission in improving Disaster and Risk Management at all levels.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will reach out to 755,930 local residents in Cunene, Huila and Namibe provinces to: 1) increase coping capacities of vulnerable residents through livelihoods support; 2) enhance institutional capacities for DRM, information management, early warning systems and preparedness; and 3) promoting climate-resilient development and enhancing adaptive capacity to withstand disaster risks.

BUDGET: As at 1 September, the funding gap remains at US\$9,600,000 (Total funding US\$ 19,000,000).

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will build resilience of communities through adaptation initiatives, reaching out to communities in 3 provinces with at least 4,000 people (of which 60 per cent are women): 1) building community resilience to climate variability through enhanced early warning and climate change information systems; 2) improving institutional and community capacity; and 3) engaging in early recovery action, through livelihood activities and green employment.

BUDGET: US\$ 1,500,000



BURUNDI

SITUATION OVERVIEW: As one of the poorest country in the world, Burundi is extremely vulnerable to the damage caused by El Niño. In 2015/2016, at least 40 per cent of the total population of the country, have been negatively impacted by an overall economic loss of more than US\$ 40 million. As a direct result of El Niño, 2108 people died, over 1000 families were displaced, 30 hectares of arable land have suffered damage, 300,000 students interrupted their studies, and 1562 cases of malnutrition were recorded.

ETHIOPIA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: In 2015, 10.2 million people (including nearly 60 per cent children) living in more than 400 rural districts were affected by El Niño compounded drought. The impacts include severe and moderately acute malnutrition standing at 0.4 million and 1.7 million respectively. Over 400,000 livestock died, and over 2 million have no safe drinking water. The below average harvests and crop failures led to very low market supply, resulting in skyrocketing food prices. In December 2015, the country launched the 2016 Humanitarian Requirements Document calling for US\$1.4bn to support 10.2 million people in 2016, over and above the 7.9 million people who will be supported through the government led Productive Safety Net Programme.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The goal of this Programme is to bridge the gap between relief, recovery and development whilst ensuring efficient use of resources for communities to successfully recover from the current El Niño and build resilience to extreme climatic shocks and stresses, including highly expected La Niña. 1 million beneficiaries are targeted over two years' period.

BUDGET: US\$ 10,000,000



KENYA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: The 2015-16 El Niño resulted in 25-50 per cent of normal rainfalls in the pastoral and marginal agricultural areas during rainy season, which significantly reduced food harvest and pasture regeneration. With currently estimated 75 per cent probability of La Niña, further deterioration of crop and livestock production is forecasted, which is likely to further push the marginalized farmers and pastoralist into humanitarian crisis situation.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: Aligned with the National Government's El Niño/La Niña contingency plan, UNDP will support to strengthen the capacities of 24 County Governments, and improve access to disaster resilient livelihoods and infrastructure to protect 500,000 vulnerable people from sliding further into humanitarian crisis situation. The project will also contribute to build long-term resilience through climate resilient infrastructure, risk transfer (crop insurance) and strengthening of county-level strategies for DRM.

BUDGET: US\$ 5,728,400

LESOTHO

SITUATION OVERVIEW: The last drought more than halved crop production, worsening an already fragile situation where about 25 per cent of Lesotho's population has faced food crises each year since 2005. Poor and very poor households are seeing a 44 per cent decline in their income, already 31 per cent below the survival threshold. 679,437 people are at risk in absence of safety nets. Water shortages forced the cancellation of basic services at community health facilities. In April 2016, the UN started supporting the Government to develop a resilience framework to set the country on a path to sustainable and durable development.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will support: 1) the finalization and begin the implementation of the Lesotho Resilience Framework; 2) livelihoods diversification and restoration of productive assets for 286,496 beneficiaries identified in the three most affected districts; and 3) improving national capacities to implement a Multi-Hazards Contingency Plan to mitigate the impact of future disasters.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,938,000

MADAGASCAR

SITUATION OVERVIEW: The cumulative effect of a two-year rainfall deficit triggered exceptional drought conditions in the south. This impacted livelihoods and traditional coping mechanisms, worsening an already acute food and nutritional insecurity situation. 80 per cent of the population in the most affected districts will continue facing food insecurity throughout 2017 harvest, with 665,000 people (333,752 women and girls) in need of emergency assistance. Only 26 per cent of the population can obtain water from protected sources.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: UNDP is supporting the Government to finalize a comprehensive early recovery and resilience building plan targeting the most affected districts. This proposal is well aligned to the Government's plan to: 1) protect lives and livelihoods of affected people in the most affected seven

districts through early warning mechanisms; 2) restore resilient production system; and 3) institutionalize DRR and resilience building.

BUDGET: US\$ 3,404,348

MALAWI

SITUATION OVERVIEW: As the most drought affected country in Southern Africa, Malawi is undergoing severe crisis following two successive shocks – floods in 2015, followed by extensive El Niño-related drought in 2016 affecting 24 out of 28 districts. The PDNA conducted by the government in partnership with UNDP and the World Bank estimates damages at US\$ 365.9 million and recovery interventions at US\$ 500.2 million. More than 7.6 million people are likely to be food insecure through the 2017 harvest, with 6.5 million people in need of food or cash assistance during this period. The Government of Malawi prioritizes early recovery from the impacts of El Niño as well as early warning and preparedness in anticipation of La Niña.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will support: 1) recovery in El Niño affected communities and strengthen preparedness capacity for La Niña through scaling up sustainable income generating opportunities; 2) strengthening of early warning systems; 3) institutionalization of emergency operation centres for preparedness and response; and 4) strengthening DRR and recovery capacity at the national and district level.

BUDGET: US\$ 3,608,000

RWANDA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: The 2015-16 El Niño caused catastrophic disasters and its effects had been unprecedented. In May 2016, landslides and flood caused massive losses in 3 districts, damaging 2,317 houses and washing away about 3,500 hectares of near-harvest crops. In the Eastern Province, four Districts were hit by drought resulting in crop failures and lack of food supply. 19,586 households faced with food and water shortages.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will provide emergency water supply, support resilient recovery of agriculture and livelihoods, and establish sustainable water collection/production system in drought-affected Districts. To support the recovery of the landslides/floods-affected population, the project will construct 100 houses for female-headed households (IDP), and provide livelihoods recovery support to 600 most vulnerable households. The project will also intervene to enhance preparedness to La Niña, including to improve national early warning systems and National La Niña preparedness/contingency plans and resilient recovery planning at community levels.

BUDGET: US\$ 3,402,432



SOMALIA

Situation Overview: El Niño has affected different sub-regions of Somalia variously, but severely. In the second quarter of 2016, Puntland and Somaliland were hit by a devastating drought which impacted lives and livelihoods of over a million people, compounding an already challenging situation. Other areas have experienced higher than normal rainfall, resulting in flash floods and riverine flooding in south-central and north-eastern



Somalia. The El Niño related droughts and flooding disasters have further intensified an already complex situation for affected Somali communities which are yet grappling with the effects of a chronic conflict, the effects of climate change related water and food scarcity, displacement and destitution. As a result of water and food scarcity, malnutrition is widespread where newborns, young children and lactating mothers suffer the most severe consequences.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: UNDP Somalia will support an effective recovery intervention to assist the herders, farmers, families and local governments to restore the lost assets, livelihoods, income and infrastructure to prevent further escalation of violence, poverty, misery and political instability lingering on the horizon. Given the periodic recurrence of El Niño/La Niña conditions the project will not only target affected communities to recover their lost livelihoods, but also communities and authorities in building resilience to future events, through improving climate prediction, early warning, disaster preparedness, water resources management and strengthening of sources of livelihoods, including alternative livelihoods.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,401,000

SUDAN

SITUATION OVERVIEW: In Sudan, approximately 70 per cent of the rural population rely on traditional rain fed agriculture for their food and income. With El Niño, the 2015-16 harvest is below average. Poor harvests lead to limited agricultural labor opportunities and below average wage rates. Food insecurity is increased where households have less food from their own harvest and less income from sales of cash crops and agricultural labour, with reduced purchasing power due to increased basic commodity prices. Due to El Niño, more than 4.4 million in Sudan are facing acute food insecurity, including more than 100,000 people in emergency. Heavy rains and floodings since early June have affected over 122,000 people, 29 people dead and destroyed over 13,000 houses in many parts of Sudan.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project's strategy for reducing vulnerability to climate change is to climate proof current productive activities through enhancing the ability of at least 3,000 farming and pastoral households in Gedarif and Kassala state to cope with increasing climate variability and future climate change. This will contribute towards the reduction of the proportion of populations classified as vulnerable to climate change impacts on food security. The project focuses on three key areas identified in Sudan as urgent and immediate priorities and which are intimately linked to food security, namely: i) water resource management; ii) rain fed agricultural production and iii) rangeland productivity.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,756,268

SWAZILAND

Situation overview: In 2016, country maize production has decreased by about 64 per cent. 28 per cent of the population is in urgent need of humanitarian support. 75,662 cattle are estimated to have died, 200,000 people are unable to access to safe water, and health facilities have temporarily closed due to lack of water. This causes significant problems to Swaziland which has the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the world compounded by 80 per cent TB co-infections. In February, the Government declared a State of Emergency and developed a National Emergency Response Mitigation and Adaptation Plan targeting the two poorest and driest regions mobilising 27 per cent of the requirements.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will increase food security, strengthen livelihoods and resilience to climate risks in two most vulnerable communities in the Shiselweni and Lubombo regions, focusing on adaptive and sustainable use and management of rangelands and community preparedness. The establishment of rural community early warning system and response mechanisms will be also supported.



BUDGET: US\$ 2,700,000



Effects have generally comprised of **extended dry spells or drought** leading to water shortages, prolonged lean seasons and food shortages.

UGANDA

Situation Overview: El Niño food security crisis in the Karamoja region and neighbouring districts represents the worst in history. An estimated 500,000 people (about 50 per cent of the total population of the region) suffered from severe food insecurity. Given the high probability of La Niña, which would further exacerbate the situation with dry, hot weather resulting in extreme crop failure across Karamoja for a fourth consecutive year, there is an urgent need to support households and communities to build their resilience to shocks and to increase their food security through a development approach.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will improve food security in affected areas by: 1) assisting vulnerable households through cash for work, while focusing on addressing the underlying causes; 2) access to water harvesting facilities to 31,500 members of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities; 3) improving crop production technology, and relevant livestock activities; 4) building the capacity of districts to generate and apply evidence-based information supporting risk-informed planning and investment decisions; and 5) empower 3,500 youth, especially girls, through livelihood activities and trainings.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,500,000

ZIMBABWE

SITUATION OVERVIEW: 30 per cent of the population require urgent assistance, mainly in the South. Food insecurity will peak to approximately 4.1 million people during the lean season. In Buhera, food insecurity is expected to raise up to 70 per cent during January-March 2017. The planted area decreased by 40 per cent from 2015, 89 per cent below the five-year average. Up to 1.9 million people will lack adequate access to water until the onset of the rainy season. The HCT seeks \$360 million to assist 1.86 million people but funding requirements are expected to substantially increase.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project will build resilience of about 2,000 households in 3 wards of Buhera District with multipurpose early recovery investments to stabilize livelihoods and help household meet basic needs for food and water; promotion of climate smart dryland and irrigation agriculture, and non-agro based livelihoods and income generation capacity; enhanced community capacities to coordinate and plan for disaster and resilience building.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,241,011



Asia-Pacific

The impacts of El Niño began in mid-2015 and subsequently affected at least 11 countries in the region. Effects have generally comprised of extended dry spells or drought leading to water shortages, prolonged lean seasons and food shortages. In the Pacific island countries and territories, the recent event fueled powerful cyclones. With a 50 per cent chance of La Niña, there is an increased risk of typhoons and cyclones in some countries. In response, UNDP established a support hub to prepare a regional risk profile study with national/sub national level disaggregation, to develop a composite methodology for societal impact assessment, and to enhance regional mechanisms for preparedness and immediate response.



BHUTAN

SITUATION OVERVIEW: Since mid-July 2016, torrential rains have caused flooding and landslides impacting 18 of Bhutan's 20 districts, with Sarpang, Chhukha and Samtse hit the worst. Critical infrastructure including roads and bridges and agricultural land have been significantly damaged.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: UNDP's project will: 1) develop a post flood recovery strategy based on a detailed impact assessment; 2) strengthen district disaster management preparedness and early warning; and 3) strengthen community preparedness, early warning and livelihoods recovery in the most affected districts.

BUDGET: US\$ 650,000

INDONESIA

Situation Overview: The El Niño caused severe drought in Indonesia, especially in areas where an estimated 3 million Indonesians live below the poverty line, of which 1.2 million rely on rainfall for their food production and livelihoods²; making the country even more vulnerable to climate variability and change.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: Building on the results of UNDP Indonesia's Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme, UNDP will: 1) develop and establish a dynamic (web-/mobile-based/offline) information system on extreme climate events associated with the incidences of El Niño/La Niña as a basis of an early warning system; 2) develop climate regionalization and El Niño/La Niña impact assessments to

facilitate mainstreaming of risk management initiatives for crop production and water availability at local levels; and 3) formulate community risk management and adaptive strategies based on an analysis of El Niño/La Niña through risk information and assessment.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,250,342

PACIFIC COUNTRIES

Situation Overview: Due to the El Niño, the dry conditions experienced across the Pacific have had severe impacts for agriculture and food security. The drought further exacerbated the impacts of Tropical Cyclones Pam (2015) and Winston (2016) in Vanuatu and Fiji respectively, which, along with Solomon Islands and Tonga, are the worst affected.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project aims to enhance resilience of farming communities in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Tonga by: 1) building capacities of Agriculture Extension Officers and Farmer Associations through a formalized network and trainings on food security and risk reduction; 2) implementing Community-based El Niño Agriculture Recovery Plans; and 3) enhancing knowledge and lessons learnt on building agricultural resilience through data assessments, cropping techniques, crop insurance, market access, among others.

BUDGET: The funds required to implement the project are US\$ 1,500,000 for the four Pacific countries.



² Scenario of El Niño and La Niña Impacts on Indonesia, UN and ACAPS.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: In February 2016, a Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (MVAM) survey indicated that 1.3 million people's food security and livelihoods has been severely impacted by drought and frost. There is a 50 per cent chance of La Niña impact by September heightening the urgency to support livelihoods recovery.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: As part of the larger response operation³, UNDP proposes a community-led initiative to support recovery by: 1) diversifying livelihoods through introducing income generating opportunities from non-agriculture livelihoods, business training, formation of cooperatives, and increasing access to markets with focus on women; 2) improving water supply and access to clean water during droughts through rain water harvesting and storage technology; 3) improving local level early warning system by facilitating information flow; and 4) strengthening community-based disaster management through village level trainings.

BUDGET: US\$ 3,010,000

SRI LANKA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: Affected by El Niño, Sri Lanka initially experienced lower than average rainfall with extended water shortages and short term drought. This was followed by torrential rainfalls and storms resulting in floods and landslides, the highest recorded in over 18 years. The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) reported that over half a million people across 24 out of 25 districts were affected by the floods and landslides. Over 55,000 houses were damaged, 6,000 hectares

of paddy was damaged, and 500 acres of cash crops were lost; affecting the livelihoods of more than half a million people especially the rural poor.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: UNDP's project will: 1) improve capacities at national and local levels for assessments, recovery planning and implementation; 2) strengthen preparedness and early warning in most affected districts; 3) improving resilience by supporting income generation activities for most vulnerable families; and 4) promoting sustainable disposal and management of municipal solid waste and environmentally safe land management practices.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,000,000

TIMOR-LESTE

SITUATION OVERVIEW: The drought caused by El Niño has led to water and food shortages across the country, causing crop failure, reduced family income and the death of 70,000 livestock. Preliminary assessment results show that an estimated 120,000 people were severely affected and access to food remains a major challenge in upland areas and remote villages in five municipalities. The assessments also show that 83 sucos (villages) with approximately 180,000 people are facing water stress. Lack of drinking water and water for agriculture is negatively impacting food security, livestock, health and nutrition, sanitation, and livelihoods in these sucos.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: UNDP's project will: 1) undertake a Recovery Needs Assessment and developing a response plan to recover from El Niño and mitigate the impacts

of La Niña; 2) construct or rehabilitate small scale water infrastructure; 3) provide short-term immediate employment in infrastructure rehabilitation to the affected community, particularly for youth including trainings; and 4) introduce and scale up climate resilient and alternative sustainable livelihoods in the affected areas with support of local governments.

BUDGET: US\$ 2,500,000

VIET NAM

SITUATION OVERVIEW: Since late 2015 severe drought and saltwater intrusion linked to El Niño has affected more than 2 million people in 18 provinces. During the peak, more than 2 million people suffered from lack of access to drinking water; 1.1 million people were in need of food assistance; and an estimated 2 million people lost their income. As at August

2016, the drought has led to US\$ 674 million or 0.35 per cent of GDP direct and immediate economic loss. For the first time since decades, a negative agricultural growth has been recorded.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: UNDP's project will aim at: 1) rehabilitating livelihoods and incomes of the most affected people through a needs-based and empowering cash and technology transfer programme, prioritizing women and the most vulnerable; 2) making widely accessible information on drought risks, vulnerabilities and impacts, locally appropriate recovery solutions through online and mobile platforms; and 3) piloting alternative social protection mechanisms during emergencies and generating evidence



on how social protection policies can be improved to be more disaster responsive in future drought and disaster situations.

BUDGET: US\$ 5,018,200



3. UNDP PNG is implementing a national level DRM Programme, which includes supporting the government with the development of national level recovery policies and plans. Activities recommended in this project will provide specific examples for drought recovery, which will be integrated into the national level recovery policies and plans.

Latin America

In Latin America, El Niño aggravated the severe drought affecting Central America and the Caribbean, and exacerbated impact of recurrent floods. In preparations for highly expected La Niña, UNDP is leading in establishing early recovery clusters, involving UN agencies, IFRC and NGOs; and enhancing coordination with governments at different levels. Pilot initiatives have been implemented to restore livelihoods recovery and to strengthen capacities in information management and governance, which have the potential to be replicated.

COLOMBIA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: Over the course of 2015-2016, the temperature rate increased above historical records and the rainfall level decreased due to El Niño. Water shortages impacted over 285,000 people, and significant losses in agriculture were estimated at 650,000 hectares. In addition, more than 120,000 hectares were seriously damaged by forest fires.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The project seeks to strengthen recovery capacities at local level, placing emphasis in the development of efficient and innovative water management and livelihoods systems to increase communities' resilience, including: 1) improvement of information management systems to support decision making at the local level; 2) promotion of livelihoods recovery in community organizations; and 3) development of risk management capacities of local governments and communities.



BUDGET: US\$ 1,743,000



CUBA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: El Niño and La Niña provoke extreme droughts and intense tropical storms in the eastern region, affecting particularly the province of Santiago de Cuba. At a time when Santiago de Cuba has not fully recovered from Hurricane Sandy losses, it is now facing the most severe drought seen in the country in the last 100 years. In July 2016, the water supply sources in this province stood at 28 per cent of storage capacity.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: This proposal aims to expand the immediate response and resilience capacity of the municipality of Santiago de Cuba (460,000 inhabitants, 51 per cent women) to deal with the impacts of recurrent El Niño and La Niña associated drought, floods and hurricanes through: 1) ensuring water supply; 2) enhancing the current EWS from a short-term focus to address medium and long term water and climate monitoring; and, 3)

In preparation for highly expected La Niña, UNDP is leading in establishing early recovery clusters involving UN agencies, IFRC, and NGOs, and enhancing governance.

improving climate and disaster risk governance capacities at local level.

BUDGET: The total cost of the project, including in-kind contribution, is USD 1,987,000, the funds required to implement the project are US\$ 1,100,000.

EL SALVADOR

SITUATION OVERVIEW: El Niño aggravated the prolonged drought that started in 2012, highly affecting the eastern part of the country (90 per cent decrease in the water flow). The drought has led to a significant reduction in water supply; and the economic activities and livelihoods of those dependent on traditional agriculture practices were severely affected.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: This initiative aims to trigger recovery processes involving three associations of municipalities in diversifying and improving livelihoods, strengthening water governance and allowing access to safe water, using a resilience-based approach.

BUDGET: US\$ 900,000.

GUATEMALA

SITUATION OVERVIEW: 80 per cent of the crops were lost during the 2015-16 El Niño related drought, affecting 1.5 million people across 75 municipalities, mainly day laborers and subsistence farmers. The main needs are related to livelihoods recovery, community early warning and local governance.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: As part of the long term recovery effort led by the Government, this project aims to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience of communities severely affected in the municipalities of San Pedro Pinula and San Luis Jilotepeque, with focus on: 1) strengthening local governments' capacities for the climate-related information management and resilience building; and 2) restoring livelihoods and revitalizing local economies in 20 communities by strengthening business development initiatives on non-agricultural initiatives.

BUDGET: The funds required to implement the project are US\$ 1,200,000, out of USD\$ 1,310,000 in total.

HONDURAS

SITUATION OVERVIEW: Honduras is facing the most severe drought in the so-called Dry Corridor, affecting more than 2 million people. While the Government projected to allocate US\$27 million to address the El Niño-induced drought, UN HRP had received only 12 per cent of the requested funds, with a gap of US\$38.9 million (as at August 2016). Livelihoods recovery actions need particular support such as diversifying farming practices and developing new sources of income of small-scale producers.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: This proposal seeks to establish a basis of a more resilient development process



which takes climate variability and slow-onset events into account, including: 1) the improvement of livelihood recovery/diversification with strengthening small business initiatives; and 2) the establishment of local governments' escrow mechanisms for early recovery in livelihoods and basic social services.

BUDGET: US\$1,157,970

PARAGUAY

SITUATION OVERVIEW: El Niño aggravated the annual floods in urban and rural areas, forcing the evacuation of more than 130,000 people. With decreasing water level, the Government identifies as urgent needs the provision of housing solutions and basic services, solid waste management, and the rehabilitation of main roads, schools, and health units. In the contrary, La Niña represents the possibility of drought in the west, with the most immediate community needs related to improving access to water and livelihoods sustainability.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: This proposal aims to increase the resilience to climate risks under a gender and cultural sensitive perspective, with emphasis on safe water, livelihoods and governance. Innovative methodologies for ensuring direct support to the population will be implemented – cash for work and small grants programmes oriented to productive micro projects.



BUDGET: US\$ 1,116,519



Global Coordination and Response

SITUATION OVERVIEW: In response to the current El Niño crisis, UNDP's global project on crisis response has already enabled significant immediate support towards the strengthening of 21 country and three regional responses to the El Niño crisis. Yet, the slow onset nature of most of these crises and the possibility of an upcoming La Niña call for further support. The proposals, which UNDP has developed with 26 countries, reflect the three-pillar solution approach (resilient recovery, preparedness/EW, and resilience building). UNDP's activities in support of the approach will improve governments' capacities to prepare and respond to the El Niño crisis, provide support to households and communities, and strengthen resilience of the people. In addition, crosscutting themes such as gender and women's empowerment, south-south cooperation, information management, advocacy, and the interface between climate and insecurity, will be a core component of all work at the country level.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS: The component of global support will coordinate country initiatives, improve effectiveness through knowledge management, build the evidence base for long-term solutions (including using assessments and analysis such as PDNA etc), maintain and deepen standards through monitoring and evaluation and advocate for continued attention to tackling El Niño/La Niña risk in the long-term. Building upon UNDP's existing mechanisms for the El Niño/La Niña response, this proposal aims at continuing and, if possible, expanding the assistance already initiated to strengthen national governments' response and to ensure preparedness for next time, through the deployment of Early Warning, Early Recovery, Recovery and Resilience advisors in up to 14 countries and 2 regional organizations.

BUDGET: \$2,500,000



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