



United Nations Lesotho

Delivering as One

LESOTHO

Annual UN Country Results Report

2015

Summary on progress towards LUNDAP outcomes in support to the national development priorities from Result Groups and Non-Resident Agencies

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Key Development Trends

Lesotho is classified as a low human development country with a Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.497 and ranked 161 out of 188 countries in 2014 (UNDP HDR, 2015). Lesotho's 2014 HDI is below the average for countries in the low human development group (0.505). Lesotho is however classified as a "low middle-income" country. The country recorded a mixed performance regarding MDGs (MDG Summary Report of Lesotho, 2015). The country is unlikely to meet Goal 1 facing poverty and inequality with 57.1% of the population living below the poverty line and a Gini coefficient 0.54 in 2011 revealing extreme inequality. Poverty is more rampant in the rural areas. Unemployment rate is 25.3% (registered in 2008) and is more prevalent among the youth. The country has one of the highest adult literacy rates (94.6 %) in sub-Saharan Africa. Owing to the universal free education policy and school feeding programs, Net Enrolment Ratio (NER) in primary education has gone up over the years and stood at 76.6% in 2014. Disability and vulnerability of children have, amongst others, hindered Lesotho's progress towards attaining MDG 2. Lesotho has performed positively on the attainment of gender equality and women empowerment indicators, despite some slow down. At the primary school level, although boys' enrolment has outnumbered that of girls (96.1 %), the trend is reverse in the case of secondary and tertiary education with enrolment of more girls than boys. Women's participation in formal employment and governance has increased over the years. Women now hold a quarter of the seats (in 2015) in the Lesotho parliament. Lesotho's rank in the Global Gender Gap Index 2015 however, dropped further to 61 out of 145 economies, marking a substantial decline from its rank of 8 in 2010. The Gender Inequality Index (GII) computed in the 2015 Human Development Report also reveals inequality in human development achievement between women and men in the three GII dimensions of reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market.

The country is unlikely to achieve MDGs 4, 5 and 6 given the high rates of infant and maternal mortality and HIV prevalence. Following improvement in child nutrition and an increase in immunization against measles, under-5 mortality rate declined sharply from 117 per 1000 live births in 2010 to 85 per live births in 2014, while infant and child mortality have also dropped from 91 deaths in 2009 to 59 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2014, and from 28 to 27 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively during this period. The maternal health situation is grave in Lesotho with the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) increasing steadily since 2001 and stood at 1,143 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2011 despite various initiatives. Lesotho has the second highest HIV prevalence in the world amongst people aged 15-49 years at an estimated 22.9%, with devastating effect on the socio-economic development of the country, despite various initiatives taken by the government with development partners' support. Owing to the heightened uncertainties in the manufacturing and agricultural sub-sectors, Lesotho's economy was projected to record a lower growth of 3.1% in 2015 compared to that a year ago (3.6%). This is due to a decline in building and construction activities, the decline in crop production, manufacturing of food and beverages and services provided by the education sub-sectors. The continuous loss of competitiveness in the US market, coupled with the signing of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement by several pacific countries and the US poses a threat to Lesotho's manufacturing exports, especially the textiles and clothing industry. The mining and quarrying sub sectors and the services sector along with the second phase of the Lesotho Highlands Water project are however, expected to support the growth going forward.

Lesotho poor rural population is engaged in subsistence farming that is over-reliant on rainfed agriculture for food production. Arable land is declining due to soil erosion and urban sprawl. Yields of Maize, the food staple are in decline. Many rural communities lack adequate road and energy infrastructure. Rural livelihoods are vulnerable for climate variability (especially droughts and floods), food price volatility (70% of maize, the local staple crop is imported) and the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS. One in three Basotho children is an orphan. About 20% of the population is chronically food insecure. More than half of the food insecurity problem is mitigated by current social protection programmes. Nutrition is a challenge as 39% of Basotho children are stunted.

Sustainable Development Goals

Evidence based policy making is constrained due to the absence of timely, reliable and disaggregated data. UN system in Lesotho recognizes the urgent need to build up capacities of the government to build up robust data collection and management systems. This is extremely critical going forward for the 2030 Agenda on SDGs. Establishing baseline data, monitoring, implementation and reporting progress in SDGs remain critical areas. UN system has successfully convened consultations with the EU under the leadership of RC to mobilize resources for data for development project in partnership with Bureau of Statistics and Ministry of Development Planning. More than 1 mln USD will be allocated for the project implementation in 2016. 2015 has brought series of successful UN outreach activities around SDGs including consultations with the government, line ministries, Parliament, CSOs, SDGs launch at the UN House with participation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Minister of Youth, media, CSOs. Series of youth outreach initiatives were held in the capital and in all districts through youth centers as part of the joint UN inter-agency partnership including UNV under the UNDAF Innovation Facility youth project.

Following MAPs issuance UN system developed SDGs Roadmap to further support in rolling out the SDGs focusing on 1) Awareness building and sensitization; 2) Determining an appropriate forum for operationalizing the SDG Roadmap and sharing SDG progress in Lesotho; 3) Knowledge and Capacity Building; 4) Multistakeholder Partnerships / Promoting active involvement of relevant stakeholders. Discussions with the Government also focused on enhancing existing mechanisms to address cross-sectoral issues affecting health. Additional evidence-based recommendations and detailed costing of the interventions might be required to support the Government action plans.

R-UNDG Strategy in support of MICs in the agenda of the UNCT

Despite Lesotho's status as a Lower Middle Income Country (LMIC), it faces numerous developmental challenges characteristic of low income countries. The major socio-economic challenges facing the country are high poverty and widening inequalities, health challenges, high unemployment, spatial exclusion, a lower degree of diversification and low domestic savings leading to over-dependence on foreign capital inflows. In 2015 the UN system in Lesotho adopted the Strategy and contributed to its development having identified programmatic support piloting around three key priority areas: **Governance, Poverty and Health**. The key agreed strategies include so far: tackling the bottlenecks - joint policy support, sensitization among the government counterparts – effects of LMICs: partnerships building – engaging the private sector, South South cooperation; joint resource mobilization. UN system made an analysis of the key identified areas that trigger the development agenda in the country that include:

Poverty and inequalities: Although Lesotho was recently upgraded to the Middle Income Country (MIC) status, poverty and inequalities continue to be chronic challenges. 57.1% of the population lives in poverty and poverty is more prevalent in the rural areas. The country needs inclusive growth; build on a stronger private sector participation to be able to lift particularly young Basotho out of poverty, as more than half of the population is below the age of 24.

Governance: There is a general agreement both nationally and regionally that Lesotho urgently needs reforms in the governance structures. A set of various reform programmes have been proposed and this includes public sector reforms, constitutional reforms and security sector reforms. Lesotho's constitution has shown little reforms in almost 50 years of independence, while her civil service largely remains archaic. Lesotho's security forces have been in the center of almost every political conflict in the country. The country needs a conducive environment for democratic governance, where peace and security can be fostered. These will in turn effectively address a plethora

of political, socio-economic challenges, including poverty, the HIV/AIDS pandemic and gender inequality through strengthened institutions, accountabilities and leadership in all its manifestations.

Health, HIV and AIDS: Even though HIV prevalence has stabilized at around 23% among adults aged 15 -49 years with an incidence rate of 2.1% the number of new infections remains high. National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan (NSP) 2011/12-2017/18 has been developed, but in order to achieve desired results there is a need for strong political leadership and commitment at all levels, well-coordinated multi-sectoral response and accountability mechanisms for the AIDS response. The HIV and AIDS response is largely (76%) funded by external resources from Global Fund, PEPFAR and other donors. To achieve the fast track targets the country needs to increase, diversify, front load investments and accelerate progress over the next five years. There is need for innovative delivery mechanisms and partnerships to ensure no one is left behind especially young women and girls and key populations. The country needs to focus on locations, populations and programmes that deliver the highest impact, that ensure commodity security to sustain the AIDS response and address the health system barriers by investing in robust health systems. Whilst the access to health and essential drugs improved, it stagnated over the last years, even though 77.9% of ODA in 2013 were directed towards social services.

UN Reform

The UN Country Team in Lesotho continued to support the country's development agenda and brought continued support to the Government with regard to sustainable development. Since 2010, when the Delivering as One was adopted in Lesotho, the UN system's activities have continuously built on efforts to operationalize the DaO SOPs. The UNCT efforts continued focusing on the new working collaboration including on joint programming through integration of R-UNDG Strategy in support of MICs, mainstreaming SDGs, joint UNCT advocacy including on El Nino, HIV and AIDS, Health, Human Rights, Gender, Youth and other. Despite challenges of the various coordination structures related to staff workload or in some cases low capacities of staff, the UN system functioning in the *DaO modus operandi* remained a key instrument in joining efforts to deliver results. In particular, strong commitment of the UNCT members chairing the Results and Thematic Working Groups helped to ensure accountability and groups functioning.

The UNCT joint work and its positions were strengthened through the joint and high level advocacy. UNCT held series of discussions with the Ministry of Development Planning on the UN's work in Lesotho as well as substantial discussions on MDGs and SDGs, UN system has also convened advocacy workshops on SDGs for the Parliament followed by a joint meeting of both chambers to strategize jointly on how legislative bodies can be engaged in mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda. The UN system continued to play a leadership role in key inter-sectoral coordination platforms including on health, HIV and AIDS, emergency preparedness and response and other.

In 2015 seven UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes of the UN Country Team Lesotho participated in the UNCT retreat convened to build and strengthen visionary leadership of the UNCT and set the strategic priorities for the UN system to deliver the Post 2015 development agenda. These objectives were achieved through: an internal review and assessment of UNCT roles and responsibilities; discussing the strategic orientation of the UN system to address Post 2015 development agenda; Identifying the ways of linking the normative and operational agenda.

This two-day event provided the UNCT an opportunity to discuss certain priority issues. The meeting discussed actions around ensuring the key elements of DaO SOPs are in place, re-prioritizing as UN on the key areas of joint focus; identifying where the UN can make the biggest difference on the priority areas and to align this repositioning in the Post 2015 development agenda framework, finding venues for data for development interventions; addressing the heavy in-house coordination schemes; ensuring that accountability and national ownership and national priorities will drive the UNCT work through the revitalizing of the Joint National UN Steering Committee; agreeing to pilot Resource Mobilization under the R-UNDG Strategy on MICs in Africa linked to Programmatic

Support, Partnerships and other; identifying potential UN contribution to the resilience agenda; strengthening further UN's work in the areas of youth, HRs and gender; identifying concrete steps for the UN support in HIV and AIDS response.

Aid Coordination

In 2015 UN system continued supporting the major aid coordination forum - Lesotho Development Partners Coordination Forum (DPCF). Until June when the restructuring took place and the forum leadership was undertaken by the Ministry of Development Planning, the UN RC was in the leadership role to facilitate the engagement of donors, the government and other stakeholders, mobilizing resources for aid coordination projects and systems. In 2015 UN supported the establishment of DAAD system to monitor aid flow data. UN continues through the Office of the Resident Coordinator to serve the Secretariat role for DPCF. A number of IMF and other partners' missions were organized including the UN led thematic discussions around health, data for development, SDGs, resilience and emergency response, CENSUS, demographic issues and other.

The country is highly dependent on aid for implementing its social sector policies, particularly in tackling HIV issues. ODA disbursement has recorded an increase in 2013 and reached \$343 Mio., representing 15.4% of GDP. Going forward the country needs to explore alternative modes of financing its development agenda and SDGs by improving domestic resource mobilization, fostering public-private partnerships and tapping other channels and organizations.

UN Theme Groups

UN Disaster Risk Management Team

In 2015, the El Nino weather phenomenon began to impact Lesotho, leading to the declaration of the state of emergency by the Prime Minister on 22 December 2015. The country is experiencing the most severe drought in the past decades that could affect up to half of Lesotho's population. The UN system responded quickly in supporting the Government through high-level advocacy on preparedness and emergency response to mitigate the impact of El Nino. It also assisted the Government in the preparation of the drought mitigation and response plan, in conducting vulnerability assessments and the declaration of the state of emergency in December 2015. In addition to the Government's own efforts, the United Nations is continuing to provide assistance to the people and the Government of Lesotho in the fields of Health, Nutrition, Agriculture, Food Security as well as Water and Sanitation. The United Nations, in coordination with development partners strengthens the crisis response structures including resilience and early recovery mechanisms to mitigate the impacts of El Nino in Lesotho. It has played a crucial role in supporting the government, the Disaster Management Agency (DMA) and development partners in coordination and normative guidance, in order to ensure timely, effective and efficient response. Preparations for an application to the United Nations Central Emergency Response Funds (CERF) and a UN Appeal started in November 2015. DRR capacity assessment report has been developed and approved. Implementation of the Finalized Multi-Hazards Contingency Plan is foreseen in 2016, following a ministerial trip to Ethiopia in 2015. Consensus building workshop has been organized with stakeholders on resilience. As part of the South-South cooperation, a study tour was organized to Ethiopia, organized by UNDRMT, for the government delegation to attend the Resilience Agenda National Forum, Consultations with African Risk Capacity (ARC) have been convened to discuss on how Lesotho can manage weather related risks through insurance arrangements provided by (ARC). DRR/DRM strategy has been established.

UN Lesotho Theme Group on HIV and AIDS

UNCT established a UN Theme Group on HIV and AIDS in 2015, which brings together Heads of agencies for planning, managing and monitoring a coordinated UN response. It is accountable to the UN system's collective performance in support of the country's response. Under RC/UNCT leadership this forum continued advocating for political commitment, supporting the national leadership and coordination of the response. Through the UNCT platform, and with the objective of improving multi-sectoral coordination for the HIV response in Lesotho, a high-level joint advocacy at the Deputy Prime Minister level led to the re-establishment of the National AIDS Commission after a three- year closure. The UN system also provided financial and technical support towards the re-establishment of the National AIDS Commission. The UN facilitated resource mobilization through the submission of a successful \$62 million HIV and TB Global Fund new funding model application. UN system continued to support capacity building activities, normative guidance and monitoring and evaluation as well as contributing to an increased pediatric HIV testing.

UN Gender, Human Rights and Youth Theme Group

The systematic work of the newly established Gender Human rights and Youth (GHRY) group in 2015 enhanced the quality and coordinated efforts of UNCT in supporting the implementation of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) commitments of the country. A gender assessment of the HIV and AIDS and TB responses conducted in collaboration with the government and civil society had an overall aim building a better understanding of the HIV and TB epidemics and response from a gender perspective. This assessment led to in the development of the advocacy toolkit, a resource mobilization plan as well as a Policy Brief to inform the HIV and TB responses from a gender perspective. In addition series of policy support initiatives have been undertaken. The situation analysis of Adolescent Health (ADH) situation was updated flowed by the development of ADH strategic plan and M&E framework as well as Gender responsive Sexual Reproductive Health strategic plan. GHRY mapped the UN supported Youth programmes to develop a comprehensive picture for future joint programming. The team also supported the implementation of the UNDAF Innovation project with funding support from the UNDG. The joint collaboration among agencies strengthened partnership around youth programme and provide the opportunity of project implementation in close partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreation. The Youth from all district centers were equipped with knowledge on MDGs and SDGs to serve as SDGs change advocates and voice not only for the SDGs prioritization process but also as voice for influencing the new UNDAF design. The joint collaboration also played a catalytic role in developing new partnerships such as the partnership involving UNV Programme and national UNVs.

Several key international days were jointly commemorated including International Women's Day (IWD) which was celebrated including activities on gender sensitization for all UN Staff; International Youth Day under the theme Youth and Civic Engagement; International Day of the African Child; International Day of the Girl Child. During the 16 Days of Activism against violence against women and children, partnerships were formed and nurtured with various partners and stakeholders, including the Private Sector. The UN team participated in the 16 Days of Activism commemoration by stakeholders, which was hosted and led by Vodacom Lesotho. In collaboration with other development partners and private sector, the GHRY contributed to advocacy against sexual and gender based violence, gender equality and women's empowerment. In dedicating the month of May to Women in Resistance, an exhibition of portraits of international and national women in resistance was open to the general public for the month. Two successful panel discussions were hosted jointly by the UN system, the American Embassy, Alliance Francoise and Hillside Digital focusing on unleashing Women's Potential through Economic Empowerment and Women and Culture. During the 16 days against GBV, an online campaign "It is a Woman's World too", showcased Women working in traditionally male-dominated areas with the objective of inspiring and empowering the young females. The On line Campaign, reached 45,138 people, generated 5,275 engagements with over 300 comments. It was shared 171 times and generated 207 new page likes for the United Nations Lesotho web-page. Additionally

10,000 flyers of the same campaign were distributed through the three most read local newspapers. In December the team hosted an event for all UN staff as part of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence commemoration. The outdoor event comprised discussions on Inheritance Rights with UN Staff, entertainment acts including performance of a song on Gender Based Violence on this year's theme by three local artists, as well as interaction with the media around gender and related issues. GHRY in collaboration with OHCHR Pretoria held several consultations with the Government of Lesotho and Civil Society on strengthening national capacities in the area of Human Rights. An assessment mission was conducted in November 2015 by OHCHR ROSA's Treaty Body Capacity Building Programme, with UN support, to assess Lesotho capacity gaps to implement its Treaty Body reporting obligations.

Operating as One

The Business Operations Strategy (BOS) is an essential component of the LUNDAP. Within two years of BOS implementation, the UN in Lesotho has made significant progress towards integrating the strategy in its day-to-day operations. The BOS mid-term evaluation conducted in May 2015 outlined qualitative progress made during these two years. The OMT continued its efforts in strengthening the UN common services and ensuring that common business practices are effective to support activities of the UN programmes and projects. Under the BOS, use of Common Services has led to harmonized and cost-efficient operating systems within the UN House. Under common procurement, progress has been made in establishment of eight LTAs which will result in costs saving. Other achievements under BOS include establishment of infrastructure and staff for Common ICT and development of the design for the Common ICT. Once fully operational, Common ICT will result in reduced costs, use of advanced ICT technology, enhanced ICT service delivery and increased data safety for participating agencies. These achievements were also supported through the OMT jointly mobilized resources from DOCO US\$ 75,000 for BOS implementation under the UNDAF Innovation Facility.

Communicating as One

The UNCG has been actively engaged in the implementation of the DAO Communications Strategy. Series of activities have been widely advocated through UN Lesotho website and social media. In 2015 the UNCG organized and facilitated media representation major UN events including the SDGs launch, SDGs workshops at the Parliament, UN Day 70th Anniversary celebrations, commemoration of the 16 Days Against Gender-Based violence campaign and other observances.

RCO has been beefed up with the UNV on Communications that supported the UNCG coordination work. The UNCG with RCO support has further promoted the DAO messaging within the UN system in Lesotho through the production and publishing of the DAO toolkit, SDGs Booklet with localized data around MDGs achievements, and various other advocacy materials. RCO in consultation with UNCG led the work on establishing a new UN Lesotho Website based on HQ supported CQ5 platform. RCO and UNCG conducted training on the shared UN Calendar in eMIS. UNCG contributed the UNDAF Innovation Facility project implementation through organizing media advocacy on the SDG workshops for youth from all 10 districts and on the field training held with the Ministry of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreation. UNCG also organized media outreach during the SDGs workshops for the Parliament and during the SDGs joint wrap-up session for the Parliament and Ministries with media participation. RCO and UNCG developed and published the DaO Toolkit featuring the UN Lesotho work by LUNDAP outcomes. SDGs booklets and other outreach materials were produced to strengthen the SDGs visibility along with MDGs data. SDGs video with Prime Minister, Minister of Development Planning and UNCT was produced on the eve of the GA Summit and was aired on Lesotho TV. A good attendance by the media at the UN Day-UNCT press conference and great coverage of the UN Day activities was evidence of strengthened good relations between the UN and the media in Lesotho. The public awareness campaign activities were undertaken including packaging and dissemination of key messages, organization of public events such as flash mobs and art exhibitions. All activities aimed to present UN's

work and enhance partnerships with members of the public, donors and the international community. UN Day and 70th UN anniversary was widely celebrated on 24 October gathering around 500 participants including ministries, development partners, CSOs, youth and children with disabilities who were part of the UN70 art workshops. UN work in photos and art works of children with disabilities has been displayed during the UN Day. UN system work and achievements was presented by all six Results Groups representatives to the visitors. A team-building staff reception was organized by RCO and UNCG with major highlights on awarding staff who have excelled in various areas, including selflessly serving the UN for more than a decade. Under media and advocacy activities, the top four main media outlets have printed more than 60 articles highlighting the work of the UN in Lesotho in the last two quarters. The UNCG arranged interviews with the television broadcaster, Lesotho Television (LTV) during various UN events. Coverage of the flash mobs for the UN 70th Anniversary, which focused on promoting the SDGs. Series of TV interviews were organized with the UN Resident Coordinator, UNCG Chair/UNICEF Representative, other UNCT members. In order to strengthen relations with media and build their capacities in reporting human developmental stories, a media workshop was organized for journalists, and was facilitated by the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA). Media was strengthened in advocating the development issues which included human rights, gender, environment and others. UN agencies were also able present the UN system work and key results.

UN M&E

M&E Team continued to serve as analytical platform to monitor and track results of the LUNDAP outcomes. The team supported the UNCT in producing the LUNDAP results report, developed various reporting templates and facilitated consultations with the national counterparts related to NSDP and monitoring processes. To follow the 2015 UNCT Retreat recommendation, the M&E Team has successfully worked on the integration of the Common Budgetary Framework in 2015 that will serve as a planning tool and will support the analysis on the LUNDAP funding gaps for the resource mobilization purposes. M&E Team has actively contributed to the development and introduction of the electronic management system that incorporates the LUNDAP Results Framework and serves as a database for information management. Further efforts will be undertaken to upgrade the systems also with the new UNDAF design. M&E Team is instrumental in the LUNDAP review and UNDAF results matrix development processes.

Summary on progress towards Lesotho UN Development Assistance Plan outcomes in support to the national development priorities from Result Groups and Non-Resident Agencies

Result Group 1: Investment Climate, Manufacturing, Trade and Financial Services

Contributing agencies: UNDP, UNCTAD, UNECA

Under this outcome, UN is expected to contribute towards the following outcome indicators:

- Number of jobs created for women and youth
- Number of people accessing microfinance
- Number of people with decent employment

Achievements

A total of 75 (58 women and 17 men) new jobs were created through youth volunteerism programs, and economic empowerment programs implemented through UNDP and UN Volunteers. 37 youth (20 women, 17 youth) were engaged through volunteerism programs with UN agencies, private sector and government agencies, while 38 women established own micro enterprises through UN supported microfinance institution.

Further, in effort to foster women economic and financial independence, 227 people (186 women, 41 men) from 12 community-based women groups, were trained in entrepreneurship and business management. This improved their abilities to identify and utilise business opportunities in their communities for business gain, manage resulting funds effectively as well as improve employability. As a pilot for partnerships with private sector; and to broaden options for economic and financial independence, a UN is exploring collaboration with private sector in the areas of entrepreneurship development, financing and technology.

In order to improve national potential to create jobs, through the UN support, the One-stop Business Facilitation Centre (OBFC) established an on-line business registration platform in 2014. This has improved number of businesses accessing the registration service in 2015 by 5, 000. This indirectly contributed to improved private and public sector capabilities and potential to create jobs and employment opportunities especially among SMMEs. According to the World Bank Doing Business index, it takes 29 days to register a business in Lesotho, ranking Lesotho 112 (out of 189 countries).

For improved data and research on access to finance in Lesotho, UN is contributing to a study on access to finance for SMMEs to determine the bottlenecks and opportunities for financial services among the SMMEs. This is expected to result in recommendation for development of relevant SMME financial products and mechanisms to address existing gaps towards improved access to finance among the SMMEs.

Through the UN support, Lesotho has enhanced private sector national competitiveness through support to development of policy legal frameworks in trade and mining sectors. Through the UN technical support, national capacities for trade negotiations and prioritization of import and export procedures were enhanced. This also included drafting the necessary legislation and setting up of Lesotho national body for Trade Facilitation. UN further facilitated regularization of the mining and minerals sector through technical support for development of the mining and minerals legal framework.

Challenges in Achieving Results

The results in this outcome were constrained mainly by the following:

- ✓ Reluctant participation of the NRAs resulting in delayed delivery of results

- ✓ Lack of data to monitor progress on implemented policy interventions or programs.
- ✓ Lack of funding among agencies to support outputs.

Most of the activities were deferred to 2016.

Key Prospects/Plans (at strategic level) for 2016

Policy development and employment creation:

*Support to development and implementation of policy in key employment creating sectors including:

- Trade Policy
- Export prioritization and strategy
- Mining Policy and legal framework

*Promote private sector participation and partnerships for employment creation

Access to Finance:

*Commence implementation of a project aimed at supporting accelerated access to finance through building inclusive business ecosystems for mobile money in Lesotho.

*Support access to finance activities including

Result Group 2: Agriculture, Food Security, Environment, Natural Resources & Climate Change

Achievements

In 2015 the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Management Results Group made major strides towards supporting the poor and the most vulnerable segments of Lesotho's population. Key achievements include the following:

- **Food and cash assistance** – access to food was facilitated to around 25,000 households through public works programmes that sought to restore community assets in the form of degraded lands, water harvesting structures, community forestry and other land reclamation works.
- **Promotion of smart agriculture technologies** – different actors in agriculture and natural resources management have been trained and exposed to climate smart production technologies including conservation agriculture and appropriate home gardening techniques. The uptake of these technologies has improved food and nutrition security for the participating households
- **Agriculture and social protection** – a pilot initiative where cash grand beneficiaries were provided with small packages of vegetable seeds has clearly demonstrated the important complementarities between agriculture and social protection. These families produced impressive vegetables around their homesteads. Contrary to the popular notion that ultra-poor and labour constrained households have no production potential, this initiative clearly showed that with the use of labour saving technology ultra-poor households can have viable vegetable production around their homesteads in spite of their vulnerabilities and labour constraints.
- **Resource mobilisation** – sizeable resources have been mobilised in the area of sustainable land management, energy and climate change programming. Overall resource envelop that has been built over the last twelve months is \$15.3 million. These resources will be instrumental in increasing UN's footprint in natural resources management and climate change adaptation for the next four years.
- **Safeguarding environment and livelihoods** – Community Based Organisations have been empowered to take charge of managing and protecting environment and natural resources which form an important part of their livelihoods. In addition, knowledge sharing and innovation platforms have been established to showcase technologies on environment protection, climate change adaptation, and sustainable land management. These innovations include partnership with research institutions to demonstrate production

of commercial products (biofuel & tiles) using waste products (paper) and other organic products like algae.

- **Policy engagements** – engagements are underway to support the government of Lesotho in developing National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for climate change. The institutionalisation of NAP process and its ultimate implementation will go a long way in reducing vulnerability to climate change impacts and facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation into ongoing process at national and sub-national levels.

Challenges in Achieving Results

Achievements of results in this area would have improved substantially had it not been for the following chronic challenges;

- **Ownership** - although most UN projects are implemented through government structures many of them are barely mainstreamed into ongoing programmes of government. They are seen as external programmes that only get implemented with the facilitation of the UN staff. More importantly achievements made in implementing these programmes and lessons learnt do not seem to influence the design and implementation of programmes funded by government, which is a pity.
- **Coordination** - coordination and collaboration amongst different actors is also a major constraint to achieving the set goals and objectives. Different technical departments that should naturally be planning and implementing programmes together are hardly communicating to each other. Overlaps in institutional mandates that should ideally be providing platforms for collaboration are often a fertile ground for turf wars.
- **Implementation Capacity** - The capacity to implement programmes is also eroding as a result of the decreasing operational budget for extension and other advisory services. For instance over 95% of the recurrent budget for some technical departments goes to salaries, leaving close to nothing for normal operations.
- **Weak M&E system** - limited attention is paid on strengthening the M&E system in the sector. Functional M&E system only exists for donor funded projects. The sector wide M&E system, which is critical for tracking output, outcome and impact indicators, is very weak. Major government funded flagship programmes that deliver between 15 and 20 million dollars annually operate without an operational M&E systems while donor funded projects that deliver between one to three million dollars annually have operational M&E system. This is more tragic than ironic given the amount of leakages and lack of results from these government capital projects.
- **Transition between different administrations** – decision making is becoming extra ordinarily slow during the transition period and the frequent changes of Principal Secretaries is making matters worse.

Key Prospects/Plans (at strategic level) for 2016

- Mobilize resources for drought emergency response and facilitate collaborative implementation
- Facilitate an enabling environment for a coordinated and seamless implementation of the overlapping environment, energy, and climate change adaptation programmes
- Provide guidance to the National Climate Change Committee and facilitate the finalization of the National Adaptation Plan
- Advocate for environmental protection and building of resilient livelihoods

Results Group 3: Governance and Institutions

RG 3 interventions were guided by LUNDAP Outcome 3: By 2017, national and local governance structures deliver quality and accessible services to all citizens respecting the protection of human rights & access to justice, and

peaceful resolution of conflict; and LUNDAP Outcome 4: By 2017, national and lower level institutions make evidence based policy decisions.

Summary of achievements

- Through its **Electoral Support**, UNDP ensured that Lesotho's elections management body delivered a credible, free and fair, snap election in February 2015. In this way, democracy was upheld, the country's stability safeguarded, electoral disputes avoided and other development processes continued uninterrupted. Provision of voter education materials paid special attention to visually impaired persons, thus deepening access to more citizens. Voter education specifically targeting women resulted in increased women standing for elections, from 257 in 2012 to 337 in 2015. The potential for electoral conflict was reduced through support and capacity building to religious leaders who led national appeals for peace and facilitated dialogue among the political leaders. In the end, the IEC received 100% commendation of local and international observers, media, CSOs, Development Partners and international organizations for the transparent, orderly and professional management of the 2015 elections.
- The Deepening Decentralization Program (DDP) was the vehicle through which UNDP supported **local development, decentralization and capacity building for local governance**. Achievements include promulgation of the National Decentralization Policy (in collaboration with GIZ); movement towards devolution of functions by 7 ministries after the adoption of the policy; review of the Local Government Act for alignment to the newly adopted National Decentralization Policy and the drafting of the relevant Bill now awaiting review and enactment; and disbursement of local development grants which, besides paying for community-identified high-impact projects, has enhanced the capacity of local authorities in Public Finance Management.
- In terms of a **National Peace Architecture**, modest gains were made through the collaboration with Heads of Churches who have been fully sensitized on the concept and its relevance for Lesotho. Secondly, initial briefings were held with key members of government who are viewed as potential champions for the roll-out of the national peace mechanism.
- The next population and housing census enumeration will commence on the 10th April 2016. UNFPA Lesotho country office began its support from preparations for census in 2013. The support first started with advocating for adoption of electronic devices (tablets) to improve on the time to undertake census as well as statistical estimates. To further deepen this advocacy and as part of capacity building, UNFPA commissioned two census experts that included an IT specialist who has experience in adoption of electronic devices for census undertaking - to train and lead in development of census project document. UNFPA supported Bureau of Statistics staff members from different departments to undertake study tours to Cape Verde to learn census process adopting the electronic method, and Rwanda, and Senegal to learn best practices on Post Enumeration Survey and census processes in general respectively.
- UNFPA procured 80 tablets for training staff and piloting census questionnaire. The US Census Bureau supported trainings on Post Enumeration Survey, development of questionnaire applications and use of the tablets thereon. The UN Census Bureau will further support a follow up training on questionnaire application factoring in the pilot census experience.

Challenges in Achieving Results

- The country went for elections somewhat unprepared, as the elections had been moved forward by two years. Most electoral activities were faced with time constraints, causing staff in the IEC, NGOs and UNDP to work around the clock for the entire pre-elections period. Likewise, issues of funds, capacity and

organizational gaps within the IEC also caused significant challenges for conducting the elections, as many departments of the IEC were understaffed.

- The decentralization and local authority capacity building was slowed down by the collapse of the coalition government in 2014, the elections in early 2015, and the slow pace of settlement into office by the new government. Slow bureaucratic processes, inefficiency and low capacity also ate into the implementation time.
- With particular reference to the **professionalization of the civil service**, the in-fighting within the coalition government and its eventual collapse, the climate of political instability and general uncertainty denied the public service reform agenda the political will, leadership and priority focus to proceed. This will be pursued into 2016.
- The major challenge experienced so far is procurement of additional tablets using the government funds. The government preferred to procure tablets from the local suppliers as opposed to procuring them through UNFPA. However the local companies cannot be able to supply the required quantities at the expected time. UNFPA advised to assist by procuring on their behalf, the government is yet to provide feedback on this proposal.
- There is shortage of funds to procure machinery and electronic equipment. This amounts to M1, 729,000 (\$170,290)
- Consultants to back up in all stages are required, more especially on the use of electronic devices and post enumeration survey. BOS had not budgeted for such and only request for assistance when they see the need. UNFPA has been assisting as well as USAID. The cost estimate for 2016 is \$50,000. Other cost estimates are proposed within the 2016 AWP (attached for reference).
- Procurement of tablets and servers are behind the schedule

Key Prospects/Plans for 2016

- The central pillar for the pursuit of Outcome 3 in 2016 will be support to the **government's reform agenda** for which support has been requested. The articulated reforms include the **review of the constitution, reform of the judiciary and parliament, and of the public and security sectors**. The success of these reforms would have wide-ranging positive impacts on governance, institutional independence, and national stability and would be a major contribution to the achievement of Outcome 3.
- Other prospects include the building a **national capacities for peace and conflict prevention** through the establishment of a national peace mechanism; support to **electoral reforms, capacity of parliament and of local authorities; support to human rights** through the new National Human Rights Commission; and an enhanced focus on youth using the SGDs and the country's reform programme as entry points.
- UNFPA will continue to support the government effort in mobilizing the resource gap as identified
- Prospects in the census process will be to build capacity of census personnel- Training of trainers, supervisor's and enumerators
- Continuous support will be provided for Data Collection for main census and the Post Enumeration Survey (PES) pilot.
- Other prospects include building Bureau of Statistic capacity for data processing, cleaning and validation as well as Dissemination of 2016 PHC results countrywide.

Result Group 4: Skills and Innovation

Achievements

- In the 2015 reporting period, WFP reached 190,000 primary school children and 50,000 preschool children in the ten districts with two meals per day. Many positive results have been observed throughout the implementation. Supported schools have been able to maintain an attendance rate higher than ninety percent. Gender ratios have also improved in favor of boys over the years from a ratio that highly favored

girls in 2011 (1.12) to a more balanced ratio at the end of 2015 (1.02). Enrolment rates have also maintained a positive trend since 2011 despite lower rates observed for girls in the recent past, including the current reporting year.

- The National School Feeding Policy developed with WFP support was approved by the Government. To aid the transition of school meals to complete national ownership, WFP provided support to the MoET in undertaking a capacity needs assessment, which was completed in April 2015. This sought to identify gaps and develop MoET capacity strengthening plan, to be in place for the implementation of the National school Feeding Programme guided by the School Feeding Policy. While this plan has been finalized by WFP, it is currently pending validation by the Government.
- WFP's primary partner in the implementation of school feeding programme was the Government of Lesotho, particularly the MoET, the Ministry of Health, Agriculture and Food Security and the Food Management Unit. Three new partnerships were forged with local NGOs: Lesotho National Olympic Committee (LNOC), Help Lesotho and Lesotho Red Cross mainly for implementation of complimentary activities.
- Due to an increasing number of ECCD centres and reception classes, there is a need for continuous training of ECCD teachers especially those that teach at home-based ECCD centres as they are volunteers who do not even get a stipend as an incentive, so attrition rate is high. There is also lack of certified teachers. UNICEF has planned to support MOET and Lesotho College of Education (LCE) in training ECCD teachers through various training methods, to continue in-service certifying training for ECCD teachers to respond to high ECCD teacher turnover. UNICEF will utilize the opportunity of existing IECCD policy and its strategic plan to advocate for scaling up access to ECCD, increasing the yearly budget allocation for ECCD and improving quality. UNICEF supported the IECCD Department within MOET, which is meant to implement the IECCD policy and strategic plan. The recruitment of personnel for that Department is now complete and the Department is fully operational.
- UNICEF partnered with the Lesotho College of Education (LCE) and financially supported the College to continue to provide in-service training for early childhood education teachers. LCE conducted in-service training for 50 early childhood education teachers. Additionally, LCE introduced an off-campus training workshop model which targeted those experienced ECCD teachers who did not qualify for admission into the certificate in early childhood education in-service training programme. These additional 105 teachers brought the total of trained ECCD teachers to 156 in 2015 (LCE mid-year review report 2015). To ensure quality, UNICEF supported LCE to conduct supervision and mentoring of the ECCD future teachers during their training.
- In order to address the training needs of other ECCD teachers and address limited absorption capacity of LCE to enroll more trainees, the MOET offered in-service training to ECCD teachers using its area resource teachers' structure. This resulted in training of 3,700 ECCD teachers (report from MOET). The trainings happened in 101 resource centers nationwide, using the UNICEF supported curriculum and other learning materials.
- UNICEF financially supported the MOET to train 158 principals and teachers to implement Child Friendly School (CFS) standards and as result 37.2 per cent (300) schools are implementing CFS standards (MOET reports). Additionally, MOET was also supported to train 48 newly recruited inspectors on CFS standards and how to incorporate these standards during their inspections. Since CFS initiative is child-seeking and promotes inclusive education, both the teachers and inspectors were trained specifically on disabilities. Furthermore, UNICEF supported rolling out of the new integrated curriculum. In 2015 Grade 5 curriculum dissemination was carried out throughout the country. The new curriculum is child-centered and so child friendly. CFS and this new curriculum complement each other in the improvement of quality. UNICEF also supported the Examination Council of Lesotho to disseminate National Assessment Reports for 2012 and 2014 as a way of monitoring national educational outcomes and influence policy with hard evidence. UNICEF in partnership with the Lesotho National Federation of the Disabled (LNFOD), supported the MOET

with development of guidelines and campaigns for teaching disabled children since 2012 and the proportion of children with disabilities accessing primary schools has slightly gone up from 5.2 per cent to 5.6 per cent (Education Statistical Bulletin 2014). The existence of inclusive education and free and compulsory primary education policies created an opportunity to scale up interventions in the CFS domain. UNICEF will advocate for and support the design of disability-focused education interventions to address lack of awareness of the public about the educational rights of the disabled, lack of skilled teachers to teach disabled children and a lack of disabled-friendly schools. It will also advocate for a comprehensive disability policy to create a conducive environment for disabled children. UNICEF also supported education management information system (EMIS) through supporting data collection, capturing, analysis and data cleaning for evidence-based programming and knowledge generation resulting in available disaggregated education statistics and annual education sector statistical bulletin. However, the 2014 education statistics have delayed to be released due to technical problems with data capturing tool at MOET. UNICEF has therefore planned to continue strengthening EMIS including with a real time monitoring system EduTrac. UNICEF will also support the development of an Education Sector Plan. A Diagnostic Study is being carried out and some preliminary findings have been shared by the consultant undertaking the study.

- UNICEF in partnership with the Lesotho Association for Non Formal Education (LANFE), Good Shepherd Sisters, Juvenile Training Centre and Kick4Life gave financial support to the Lesotho Distance Teaching Centre (LDTC) of MOET to implement NFE programme. The NFE programme is offered in two modes; the first is the literacy programme that is offered by LANFE, and Kick4Life which used football as an entry point to attract street children and OVCs to their literacy and life skills programme. The other mode offered by LDTC, the Juvenile Training Center (JTC) and the Good Shepherd Sisters was the continuing education for children who dropped out of formal education. This initiative complemented the literacy programme in reaching children out of school.
- With the support provided, a total of 10,241 NFE learners was reached, of which 2,706 (26. 4 per cent) were under 18 years old (Education Statistical Bulletin 2014). The majority of NFE learners, 7,582, were enrolled in the literacy programme while the remaining 2,458 were enrolled in the continuing education programme (distance education). The highest number of literacy and numeracy learners (1,759) were in the Mokhotlong district, and were directly supported by UNICEF; almost all of them (1,759) were male, mostly herd-boys (Education Statistical Bulletin 2014). The herd-boy study is now ready and will be validated in 2016.
- The insufficient number of learning centres for herd-boys to access NFE and the long distance to learning centers in summer when herd-boys are in isolated herding posts, made it difficult to access NFE. The NFE had limited capacity to scale up interventions to reach 65,000 children out-of-school and there was also a limited number of skilled teachers leading to poor education outcomes. There was poor attendance of NFE learners due to competing priorities and lack of awareness of their employers who sometimes did not allow them to participate in NFE sessions. There is also no formal policy document on NFE. UNICEF will support campaigns to intensify awareness to generate demand for NFE programs, expand the number of learning centers so that more NFE learners will have the opportunity to attend classes, continue supporting training of NFE teachers and advocate for an approved NFE Policy.

Challenges in Achieving Results

- The provision of school meals was adversely affected by delays in the delivery of commodities.
- Weak government's structures for the implementation of the national school feeding programme, thus frustrating transition process from WFP to sustainable government ownership; and hampering capacity strengthening efforts
- External expertise required to guide Capacity strengthening initiatives
- Data from EMIS arrives with a one year delay
- The budget for ECD is 0.3% of the education budget

- The offer of ECD learning, centers and teachers is insufficient and thus only one child in three goes to an ECD center
- Social norms favor herding and keep young boys from going to school

Key Prospects/Plans (at strategic level) for 2016

- The capacity needs assessment process to be further refined and developed in order to inform the MoET capacity development plan
- Validation of the capacity development plan
- The capacity strengthening of MoET staff and stakeholders to be strengthened for the successful government's takeover of the school meals programme by 2018
- Continuation of joint planning and monitoring to enable the transfer of skills to the government
- Support the government to link local agricultural production to school feeding programme
- Support the government to set up a real time monitoring system for the education sector
- Support the government to draft an Education Sector Policy
- Support the government to draft a policy on Non Formal Education

Results Group 5: HIV and AIDS, Health and Nutrition

In the area of HIV, Health and Nutrition, the UN contributed to a number achievements in support of the Government of Lesotho's national programmes.

- In an effort to improve multi-sectoral coordination of the **HIV response in Lesotho**, the UN family provided technical and financial support towards the re-establishment of the National AIDS Commission after a three year closure. The UN also mobilized high level decision makers and civil society including key populations to engage in the response. As part of resource mobilization, the UN facilitated the submission of a successful \$62 million HIV and TB Global Fund new funding model concept note. Programmatically, the UN family also supported capacity building activities and strategic information generation to guide the response, provided normative guidance and, contributed to an increase in pediatric HIV testing and treatment by utilizing under-5 clinics as an entry point for reaching children (resulting in 7,090 children being tested in the two target districts and leveraging funds for scale-up in other districts. The UN also provided rehabilitation nutrition care and treatment support to 9,000 ART/PMTCT/TB clients as well as household food support to 10,500 ART/PMTCT/TB vulnerable households to mitigate food insecurity. With regards to social protection, the Cash Grants Programme increased in coverage from 43 to 46 councils and reached an estimated 23,500 households with 65,000 vulnerable children. The national registry for social protection (NISSA) was expanded from 103,000 households to 130,000 households. In the area of prevention, the Government was supported to develop and rollout the comprehensive sexuality education in primary and secondary schools countrywide, the development of the School Health and Nutrition Policy and implementation of an integrated HIV and SRH programme in 5 pilot districts.
- Lesotho has seen marked improvements in stunting levels among children under 5 as evidenced in the latest DHS 2014. Prevalence of stunting has been reduced to 33% (down from 39% in 2009). Factors that have contributed to this positive trends include the provision of blanket supplementary feeding of 24,028 beneficiaries (children 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women), accelerated support for families and structures at community level to adopt optimal **nutrition** practices. High level advocacy efforts by the UN have been instrumental in elevating nutrition in the development agenda, including review and dialogue around domestic spending in nutrition in line with the *Scaling Up Nutrition* (SUN) movement, the convening of a high level nutrition forum, which among other events, marked the designation of His Majesty King

Letsie III as AU Nutrition Champion. Finally, the UN provided technical and financial support for the review and updating of guidelines for the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM).

- In **health**, the UN provided strategic guidance through the development of national policies, plans and technical guidelines in the areas of Adolescent Health and, Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses, Nutrition, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD). These strategic documents will guide the acceleration of implementation of high impact interventions needed to improve health and reduce vulnerability of people in Lesotho. Technical and financial support was provided to strengthen the capacity of health institutions in the delivery of reproductive, maternal and child health and nutrition services. To identify bottlenecks that affect delivery of maternal health services, the UN supported the National Emergency Obstetric Care (EMOC) assessment and maternal death reviews which were conducted in 13 of the 15 hospitals. In addition, the UN supported the nationwide introduction of the pneumococcal vaccine for children including capacity building of health workers in neonatal, child and maternal health techniques. The UN further contributed to the strengthening of the health system through procurement of reproductive health commodities including FP commodities and essential nutrition commodities. The UN supported the development and review of data collection tools for maternal, child health non-communicable diseases. Finally technical assistance was provided for the generation of strategic information for use in policy decision making, strategy development and programming in reproductive, maternal and child health and non-communicable diseases. The UN also assisted in developing the tools and methodologies for rolling out the Community-Led Total Sanitation initiative aimed at supporting community to achieve “open defecation free” status.

Challenges in Achieving Results

- In HIV, the UN family continues to grapple with identifying root causes for non-attainment of national targets for prevention and treatment. Currently, treatment coverage is at 35% for adults and 30% for children compared to the 80% target. Similarly, the percentage of HIV positive pregnant women on ARVs remains stagnant at 74%, also below the Global Plan target of 95% by 2015. Results in nutrition have been hindered by insufficient resources necessary to implement a multisectoral response and for robust district and community level programmes. The health programme, as well as the nutrition and HIV programmes, overall continue to face similar systemic issues – including the generation and availability of reliable and timely data to inform programme and policy direction and by limited human resources need to accelerate key interventions.

Key Prospects/Plans (at strategic level) for 2016

- Emerging and on-going priorities for 2016 at system-level include support for the nascent National AIDS Commission in its efforts to coordinate and lead the multisectoral HIV response; support the country to identify bottlenecks and fine-tune implementation targets to in order fast track the attainment of national goals and to guide a more nuanced gender and age segmented response that considers the situation of vulnerable and at-risk groups more robustly; capacity development around the gathering and use of strategic information across programme areas; the introduction of new vaccines such as rotavirus vaccine and Injectable Polio Vaccine (IPV); the strengthening of the integrated management of childhood illnesses and the disaster risk management and response system. In terms of national frameworks and policies, the UN will provide technical and financial support adaptation of new HIV guidelines and Community-Led Total Sanitation Policy, the development of the Code on Marketing Breast milk Substitutes, and the official launching of the *Scaling Up Nutrition* movement in Lesotho. The UN family will support the Government of Lesotho to generate evidence on the economic and social cost of under nutrition by conducting a Cost of Hunger Study.

- Finally, the UN will continue to support the decentralization approach to health, HIV and nutrition programmes – ensuring adequate and quality service delivery at the lowest levels of care. It will provide its technical assistance to help identify innovative and context appropriate strategies to increase demand for services, and will aim to identify opportunities for integrating service delivery platforms to facilitate service uptake.

RESULT GROUP 6: SOCIAL PROTECTION

Achievements

The UN system has supported Lesotho to make significant progress towards building a child and gender sensitive social protection system by reaching the most vulnerable children (VC). This support entails:

- **Expansion of social protection coverage:** UNICEF in partnership with the EU supported the Ministry of Social Development (MOSD) to increase the Cash Grant Program (CGP) coverage from 43 to 46 community councils.
- **Strengthened governance and delivery mechanisms:** The integration of social assistance programs was boosted by the completion of the new National Information System for Social Assistance (NISSA) approach and tools that have also been piloted in 3 community councils. The NISSA coverage increased from 103,000 to 130,000 households. In order to facilitate management and linkage between NISSA and social assistance programs, a new generation of integrated management information system with a mobile application module has been developed.
- **Policy framework for social protection:** The social protection system strengthening was augmented by the launching and dissemination of the national social protection strategy.
- **Strengthened linkage with other sector** in partnership with World Vision and CRS at least 6 community councils were targeted to test a model of community based graduation using community participation and mobilization, economic and financial inclusion. The results of the pilot will provide Government with practical ways of enhancing graduation.
- **Support human development and increase pre and primary school enrolment:** WFP reached 190,000 primary school children and 50,000 preschool children in the ten districts with two meals per day. Supported schools have been able to maintain an attendance rate higher than ninety percent.
- **Provide support to enhance management of school feeding:** The National School Feeding Policy developed with WFP support was approved by the Government in July 2015. WFP provided support to the MoET in undertaking a capacity needs assessment and capacity development plan in April 2015.
- **Support to emergency affected vulnerable people:** The UNDRMT supported establishment of the government response plan to the effects of El Niño; UNDRMT working to effectively respond to current El Niño Phenomenon; and UNDRMT provided technical and financial assistance for the rapid assessment that is ongoing. It is envisaged that the assessment will be completed in second week of February 2015.
- WFP provided technical assistance to the Government of Lesotho on the development of a local purchase pilot as one of the possible models in view of the national school feeding programme. The process will continue in 2016”.

Challenges in Achieving Results

- The main challenge affecting the implementation is the weak coordination between programs and sectors, despite demonstrated Government commitment and leadership.
- The vacuum created by absence of Director of Social Assistance and other strategic positions (NISSA, community development) limits coordination between staff in the department of social assistance
- El Niño response need more coordinated efforts and response
- The provision of school meals was adversely affected by delays in the delivery of commodities.

- Weak government's structures for the implementation of the national school feeding programme, thus frustrating transition process from WFP to sustainable government ownership; and hampering capacity strengthening efforts.
- External expertise required to guide Capacity strengthening initiatives.

Key prospects/plans (at strategic level) for 2016

- Strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Social development to coordinate and lead the implementation of the national social policy and social protection strategy
- Expand NISSA nationwide
- Strengthen harmonization and integration of social protection programmes
- Strengthen linkages between social protection and other sectors to guarantee sustainable graduation of beneficiaries
- Continuation of joint planning and monitoring to enable the transfer of skills to the government
- The capacity strengthening of MoET staff and stakeholders to be strengthened for the successful government's takeover of the school meals programme by 2018.
- The capacity strengthening of MoET staff and stakeholders to be strengthened for the successful government's takeover of the school meals programme by 2018;
- Support the government to link local production to school feeding programme.

Overview of Non-Resident Agencies (NRAs) Work in Lesotho in 2015

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Lesotho Migration and Health Program Summary Report

Contributed to Cluster:

Result Group 5, Health and Nutrition & HIV and AIDS; Outcome 7, By 2017 equitable access to and utilization of high-impact, cost effective health and nutrition interventions achieved for vulnerable populations

- Since 2004, IOM's Regional Migration Health Team in Southern Africa has implemented regional programmes addressing health and population mobility, with a focus on communicable diseases (HIV, TB and malaria). Building on nearly ten years of experience in East and southern Africa, in 2014, IOM commenced implementation of the second phase of the 4-year bi-regional programme, **Partnership on Health and Mobility in East and Southern Africa (PHAMESA II)**. The USD 17,400 million funding received from Sida and the Kingdom of the Netherlands regional programme is managed by the team in IOM Pretoria, with on-the-ground implementation in **Lesotho**.
- The aim of the programme is to ensure migration responsive Policies; to improve monitoring of migrant health; improving access and use of migration sensitive health services in migration affected communities and strengthening multisectoral partnerships and networks for effective and sustainable response to the health vulnerabilities associated to migration and health in the region.
- IOM, in partnership with Ministry of Health and other partners including but not limited to TEBA, Lesotho ex Mineworkers Association, VSO, Phelisanang Bophelong, Community AIDS Response, CHAI, ICAP, is implementing comprehensive combination HIV/TB prevention and care interventions in mine sending communities of Leribe. IOM also established a Partnership Forum to coordinate Migration and Health related service delivery and strengthening referral systems in Lesotho. Cognizant of the food insecurity in the country, IOM in partnership with Voluntary Services Overseas is implementing livelihoods programmes in five districts and this has strengthened small business skills among the most vulnerable widows and orphans which resulted in the income generating activities. To date, the programme has improved

household income and adherence to TB and HIV treatment. At present, IOM in collaboration with Lesotho Ministry of Health and other key stakeholders, is finalizing the development of Lesotho Migration and Health Strategy which will guide a holistic approach to address the key health priorities affecting Lesotho.

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United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Contributed Cluster: 1, Investment Climate, Manufacturing and Trade and financial services; Outcome 1, By 2017, public and private institutions promote increased investments, manufacturing, trade and financial services and create decent employment in an inclusive and sustainable manner.

- In 2015, with reference to LUNDAP Cluster 1: Investment Climate, Manufacturing and Trade and financial services, Outcome 1 "By 2017, public and private institutions promote increased investments, manufacturing, trade and financial services and create decent employment in an inclusive and sustainable manner", UNCTAD assistance consisted in the implementation of the UNCTAD Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA).
- In implementing the ASYCUDA Programme, in 2015 UNCTAD assistance consisted in providing the relevant Ministries and private sector for trade negotiations and import and export procedures and in drafting the necessary legislation and setting up of Lesotho national body, for Trade Facilitation.

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Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

- In mid 2015, OHCHR provided in-country support to the RC, providing a preliminary human rights analysis leading to a light team assessment mission. The urgent deployment of a medium-term response 'Light Team' to Lesotho was endorsed as part of the recommendation to strengthen UN operational capacity, assist the UNCT in development of relevant national capacity, and engage on options for an SSR roadmap.
- OHCHR undertook a technical assessment mission to Lesotho from 23 to 26 November 2015 in order to consult with relevant actors to identify areas that the Treaty Body Capacity Building Programme in collaboration with the UNCT can support Lesotho in its state reporting. Consultations were held with relevant Government Stakeholders, UNCT and NGOs. Technical support was also provided to the State party in relation to preparation of written response to the list of issues prior to reporting under the CMW. Follow up was also made in relation to overdue reports. The results included:
 - ✓ The written response to the list of issues and the common core document were finalized and submitted to the Committee on Migrant Workers on 30 November 2015.
 - ✓ Further collaboration with UNICEF in Lesotho to support the State party to revise the report under the CRC, which was submitted to the CRC Committee but was returned because the State party exceeded the word limit.

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United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Contributed Cluster:

RG 1, Investment Climate, Manufacturing, Trade and Financial Services; Outcome 1, By 2017, public and private institutions promote increased investments, manufacturing, trade and financial services and create decent employment in an inclusive and sustainable manner³

RG 4, Skills and Innovation; Outcome 5, By 2017, learners at ECCD and Primary levels have equitable access to quality and relevant education

EDUCATION

- With the launch of the Education For All Acceleration Initiative (Big Push) in the region, Lesotho is one of the selected pilot countries and has identified the EFA Goal 2, Universal Primary Education, aiming to ensure “that by 2015 all children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances and those belonging to ethnic minorities, have access to, and complete, free and compulsory primary education of good quality”, with a focus given towards out-of-school children. An acceleration framework is in the final stages of development.
- On ICT, Lesotho participated to the UNESCO Southern Africa Regional meeting on Integrating ICT in Teaching and Learning Gaborone, 23-24 November, 2015.
- Activities on supporting teachers and teacher education in Lesotho are ongoing, with the development of a national curriculum for teacher education framework and the review of the teacher policy.
- In the context of UNESCO’s efforts in strengthening girls’ learning achievements in math and science, and as part of UNESCO’s collaboration with the GEMS foundation, teaching guidance tools were developed and piloted in selected schools to support teachers in ensuring gender- responsive teaching.
- HIV and AIDS sensitive indicators have been incorporated into the National Assessment instrument and in the Education Management Information System (EMIS). Life Skills Education (LSE) curriculum for primary and secondary levels (Form A to C) has been revised and approved by the Education Advisory Council (EAC). A study on school-related gender based violence was undertaken and a draft school health and Nutrition Policy is in place.

SCIENCES

- UNESCO launched the Hydro Free and/or Open-source software Platform of Experts (HOPE). Lesotho is actively participating in the development of the Hydro Free and/or Open-source software Platform of Experts (HOPE) and immediate benefits include the improvement of relevant engineering curricula in the country.
- A total of 25 government officials (including two from Lesotho) participated in the science, technology and innovation training for SADC senior officials of which 3 cycles have been completed.
- UNESCO providing technical assistance on establishment of national MAB Committee and technical support in Biosphere Reserve nomination processes, partnerships, governance, management and financing.
- UNESCO support in institutional strengthening in science and engineering teaching learning and research through its membership in the UNESCO project ANSTI.

CULTURE

- UNESCO supported Lesotho in assessing the current situation of the Department of Culture (DoC) in the Ministry of Tourism and Environment and Culture (MTEC). Recommendations were produced relating to programming, implementation and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). The process of reinforcing the application of the normative frameworks based on UNESCO Cultural Conventions continues. In addition, the representatives from the Lesotho MTEC participated in the sub-regional coordination initiatives related to the implementation of the 2003 Convention dedicated to the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.
- Lesotho is among the 5 countries in the region (Malawi, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe) chosen as pilots for the implementation of the World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism project funded by the Government of Flanders. The project aims to assist the selected World Heritage Properties (e.g. Maloti-Drakensberg National Park that comprises the Sehlabathebe NP on the Lesotho’s side) in developing a Sustainable Tourism Strategy that would also involve local communities. The Sustainable Tourism Strategy for 2016-2025 was finalized in December 2015. Its official endorsement by the relevant authorities should intervene within the first quarter of 2016.

- UNESCO also supported Lesotho in documenting Rock Art at the Sehlabathebe National Park (as part of the Maloti-Drakensberg NP). The support was provided through its World Heritage Fund (International Assistance Request) for an amount of US\$ 20,736.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

- UNESCO's IPDC also supported the establishment of Moeling Community Radio, Lesotho's second community radio, in May 2015, reaching about 100,000 people.
- Under a Swedish-funded project on "Empowering Local Radios with ICTs", UNESCO has provided radio broadcasting and ICT equipment to Mafeteng Community Radio Station and trained more than 40 of its reporters and correspondents on mobile phone reporting, ICT-aided radio production, gender reporting and investigative journalism.

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UN-Habitat - United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Contributed Cluster:

RG 2, Agriculture, Food Security, Environment, Natural Resources & Climate Change; Outcome 6, By 2017 Lesotho adopts environmental management practices that promote a low-carbon climate-resilient economy and society, sustainably manages natural resources and reduces vulnerability to disasters

- Urbanization in Lesotho is putting a remarkable strain on housing and serviced land. Urgent interventions are required to address the housing needs as well as those of 51 percent population of urban dwellers living in slums. UN-Habitat supported Government of Lesotho (GoL) through its Ministry of Local Government and Chieftainship (MoLGC) to address housing and slum upgrading challenges.
- UN-Habitat provided technical support to the elaboration a National Housing Profile for Lesotho, review the national Housing Policy and elaborate an Implementation Strategy in the framework of the Global Housing Strategy. The Profile was concluded in October 2015 and produced a systemic analysis of the housing sector in Lesotho and disclosed various aspects and constraints of the housing delivery system in the country. The Profile created the conditions for an informed policy review but also triggered action in other areas of the housing sector, namely on improving land registration systems and access to urban infrastructure. In October 2015, and drawing on the findings of the Profile, the Government, in collaboration with UN-Habitat and support from UNDP, started the policy review process and the elaboration of a strategy. Importantly, the government understood the importance of improving knowledge and information about the challenges and needs in the country as a first step means to designing effective policy responses. Through the different stages of project implementation – in the Housing Profile and the Policy Review – UN-Habitat has contributed to promote human rights principles and standards and contributed to set up a National Habitat Committee as consultation and deliberation platform for decision making and participation in policy formulation and implementation. Finally, the project has benefited from a strong political commitment of the country, in particular from the (MoLGC), and fruitful collaboration with other UN Agencies such as UNDP.
- As regards slum upgrading, national, city and community representatives as well as planning authorities were supported to assess urban development needs through applying a cross-sector approach and building ownership for the urban sector challenges. The process resulted in the development of a National Urban Profile as well as profiles for the local authorities of Maseru, Mafeteng and Maputsoe. The Urban Profiles have been an effective entry point and advocacy tool that triggered and influenced the formulation of the National Housing Profile that informed the National Housing Policy Review. Maseru City Council has further

advanced the outcomes of the water and sanitation section of the profile to implement strategic interventions that address water shortages as well as access to water for the urban poor.

Achievements and outputs - Slum upgrading sector

Outputs

- City and National Urban Profiles developed.
- Increased access to water by Maseru City Council residents.
- Adopted Participatory Slum Upgrading Approach methodology addressing the needs of slum dwellers.

Achievements

- National and local authorities demonstrate political will to utilizing the Urban Profiles for improved urban governance and decision making.
- Local authorities and city-level stakeholders have an improved capacity to assess urban development and slum upgrading needs.
- Strategic project implemented by Maseru City Council addressing access to water.
- Increased involvement and empowerment of NGOs and CBOs representing slum dwellers in assessing and following the burning issues in their cities.

Housing sector - Outputs:

- National Housing Profile formulated.
- National Housing Policy reviewed.
- Implementation Strategy formulated.

Achievements:

- Increased political interest and commitment to work with UN-Habitat.
- Increased awareness and commitment to addressing the challenges of housing.
- Increased awareness and commitment towards repositioning "Housing at the Centre" of national and city development strategies.

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International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Contributed Cluster:

RG 3, Governance and Institutions; Outcome 3, By 2017, national and local governance structures deliver quality and accessible services to all citizens respecting the protection of human rights and access to justice, and peaceful resolution of conflict

- Lesotho and IAEA have just completed implementing various projects under Technical Cooperation (TC) 2014-215 cycle. The projects helped address different issues national stakeholders identified in agriculture (crops and livestock), energy, water, health and regulatory infrastructure development for radiation protection. The following provides an overview of achievements, challenges and way forward.
- The technical cooperation that IAEA provides to Lesotho focuses on human capacity development (e.g., involving fellowships, scientific visits, group training), equipment (computers and software, laboratory facilities including consumables), expert/technical advisory services, development of mutant varieties, modeling tools as well as laboratory services. Also, experts and officials of the government of Lesotho have been supported to take part in regional and international meetings where the peaceful and secure use of nuclear science and technology within the MDGs/SDG umbrella has been discussed.

- The major achievements of this support in 2015 include the completion of preparatory work to establish the first Radiotherapy Center in the country, improved skills and knowledge in assessing and understanding the origin, age, quality, quantity, etc of the country's ground water resources through isotope hydrology techniques, enhancement of animal health and agronomic analytical practices by improving laboratories (e.g., molecular laboratory, tissue culture lab), training of staff and identification of more productive, disease resistant mutant varieties (e.g., potato) through irradiation, increased capacity in energy planning and a framework for more a robust energy databank (e.g., using MAED, MESSAGE). The country has also resumed work on the development of its core Ionizing Radiation Protection law.
- The implementation of the aforementioned project in 2015 entailed the utilization of a little more than Euro 217, 924.95 and this constituted about 89.6% of the available resources during the year. In 2015, the government of Lesotho has pledged to make USD 3.5 million cost sharing contribution which will be used to finance the development of human resources in radiation oncology, medical physics, nuclear medicine, oncology nursing, etc.
- The major challenge facing the IAEA and Lesotho TC is the absence of a radiation law and a regulatory body. These two typically provide the framework not only for the support that IAEA will be providing, but also the tools to monitor and manage radioactive sources that are being used in medical, construction, and manufacturing settings. Another emerging challenge is the potential high cost of the Radiotherapy Centre vis-à-vis the capacity of the government to finance the same. This requires a major resource mobilization effort. IAEA and the Government of Lesotho will count on the support of development partners including the UN family to mobilize funds.
- Looking ahead, it can be said that IAEA and Lesotho will carry on implementing TC projects and strengthening achievements in the new TC cycle (2016-2017) and within the SDG umbrella. Money allocated to projects in Lesotho in 2016 is about Euro 190,000, but this could increase if project implementation rates increased. The comparative advantage that nuclear techniques offer to address some of the long standing sustainable development challenges in the aforementioned sectors is evident and this is recognized by the government. The high level delegation (including three Ministers and an ambassador) that the country sent to IAEA General Conference in September 2016 goes to show the significance that the government attaches to its cooperation with IAEA.

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International Trade Center (ITC)

Contributed Cluster:

RG 1, Investment Climate, Manufacturing, Trade and Financial Services; Outcome 1, By 2017, public and private institutions promote increased investments, manufacturing, trade and financial services and create decent employment in an inclusive and sustainable manner

1. Progress

Output 1.2 Mechanisms that enhance regional and national trade development strengthened and private sector competitiveness increased

Key Actions

- 1.2.1. TA in the design and implementation of the National Export Development Strategy and Plan
- 1.2.2. TA in strengthening coordination of chambers of business and commerce, and making trade information/intelligence available to business sectors
- 1.2.3. TA in the design and implementation of export specific strategies in horticulture, and textiles subsectors

- 1.2.4. TA in the design and implementation of sector strategies and mechanisms for Public-Private Partnerships supporting WTO and SADC/COMESA/EAC Tripartite FTA for trade integration
- 1.2.5. TA in the design and implementation of export specific strategies in horticulture, and textiles subsectors
- 1.2.6. TA in building platform for businesses and related institutions to respond to environmental solutions
- 1.2.7. TA in building institutional structures required for enhanced enforcement of contracts linking Basotho to foreign businesses

Output 1.3 Financial services in rural and urban areas have improved and increased access particularly for women and youth

Key Actions

1.3.1. TA in building of financial Institutions/service partnership in financing SMEs businesses, especially for women and youth.

2. Challenges in Achieving Results

Activities have been postponed for 2016 due to lack of mobilised resources. It remains subject to funds availability.

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UN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (UNCDF)

Contributed to Cluster:

RG 3, Governance and Institutions; Outcome 4, By 2017, national and lower level institutions make evidence based policy decisions

- **Introduction:** The UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) has a unique financial mandate within the UN system to promote increased capital flows to the local level, reducing inequalities, improving services and increasing opportunities for sustainable and equitable local development. UNCDF's ability to provide capital financing in the form of grants, loans and credit enhancement and accompanying technical expertise in preparing portfolios of sustainable and resilient capacity building and infrastructure projects, makes its mandate complementary to the mandates of other UN agencies. It also positions UNCDF as an early stage investor to de-risk opportunities that can later be scaled up by other financial partners and private sector investors. UNCDF has proven its ability to deliver true leverage on smaller and more risky investments and interventions within its core areas of expertise.

UNDAF Outcomes and UNCDF contribution

Outcome1: Investment Climate, Manufacturing and Trade and financial services

- **Financial services:** UNCDF worked closely with FinMark Trust to develop inclusive financial systems and ensure that a range of financial products is available to all segments of society, at a reasonable cost, and on a sustainable basis. Key among the interventions is the implementation of Making Access Possible (MAP) roadmap to expand the mobile money activities in the country.
- **Investment climate:** UNCDF undertook a scoping mission to ascertain the suitability of introducing the Local Finance Initiative (LFI), a global programme that supports LDCs unlock domestic resources for transformative investments in local economic development. The projects that are un-bankable are de-

risk and taken to an investment ready stage where they are prepared to access commercial capital. The risks that are present at all stages of project development (pre-feasibility, investment, construction, implementation and operation) require significant capacity and experience of the developer in order to be properly managed and mitigated for investors, lenders, contractors, and other third parties. UNCDF provides this capacity through specific support activities that help projects to reach financial closure. Additional support is provided in the form of grants for technical studies, seed capital, subordinated debt, loan guarantees, credit enhancements and options that reduce last mile transaction costs. UNCDF's use of this approach is a critical element to leverage limited public funds needed to unleash private capital to scale up local development. Project formulation is planned for 2016.

Outcome 2: Agriculture Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

- **Climate change:** UNCDF undertook a scoping mission to identify the potential for introducing the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL), a global programme that supports least developed countries secure access to finance for the local level investments that increase their resilience and adaptation to climate change. The main outputs of the intervention is mainstream climate change adaptation into local government planning and budgeting systems; increase awareness and support for the role of the local government in climate change adaptation ; and increase the amount of finance available to local governments and local economy for climate change adaptation and resilience. Project formulation is planned for 2016.

Outcome 3: Governance and Institutions

- The responsibility for meeting the enormous demand for infrastructure and services has increasingly shifted from national to local authorities. Yet, local authorities often lack the capacities, financial resources, management systems, and pipeline of bankable projects to fulfil this responsibility. UNCDF as part of the joint programme on deepening decentralization funded by the EU provided local development grants (LDG) for capital investments in 7 districts and Maseru City Council that met the minimum conditions for accessing the grant. The overall objective of the grant is to improve local development funding to the local authorities specifically by developing the capacity of Local Authorities to plan, budget and provide resources for local development and basic service delivery; piloting a discretionary capital fiscal transfer system at the local level; and creating an incentivised environment for decentralization reforms. A total of 285 individual projects in the area of water and sanitation; health and social welfare; tourism, culture and environment; education and training; public works and transport; and trade, industry and cooperatives have been implemented by councils. The projects have contributed to improving access to essential services at the local level. The introduction of the discretionary and performance-based funding mechanism was a necessary catalyst. The 2015 assessment of the Local Authorities on accessing LDG provides evidence of improved capacities and compliance to LG rules and regulations. For instance financial and narrative reports, planning and budgeting, and council's sittings have become more regular and compliant for the majority of the Local Authorities. This intervention is aimed at attracting and providing larger and more strategic investment platforms at the local level. It offers valuable lessons learnt on channeling resources to the local level and has the potential to improve the local fiscal space as public financial management systems improve. It also has prospects to inform the fiscal decentralization reforms in Lesotho which would eventually impact on levels of poverty.
- *2015 Financial Delivery: USD 1,266,350.06 (This is under outcome 3)*
- *2016 Budget: 2,116,897.80 (This is for outcome 3. Other outcomes, the budgets will be determined during formulation)*

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2015 Financial Flow Information

1. UN Delivery by Agency

	Agency	Total Budget 2015	Core	Non-Core	Mobilized	Delivery
Resident Agencies	FAO	\$1,474,820.00	\$519,820.00	\$955,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,148,849.00
	UNAIDS	\$184,500.00	\$174,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$167,468.00
	UNDP	\$3,138,497.00	\$821,589.00	\$2,316,908.00	\$0.00	\$2,494,751.00
	UNFPA*	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	UNICEF	\$8,630,170.58	\$1,568,889.67	\$5,150,000.00	\$1,911,280.91	\$5,495,203.91
	WFP	\$13,133,433.00	\$13,133,433.00	\$0.00	\$5,379,219.39	\$5,379,219.39
	WHO	\$461,000.00	\$434,000.00	\$0.00	\$27,000.00	\$461,000.00
	Sub -Total	\$27,022,420.58	\$16,652,231.67	\$8,431,908.00	\$7,317,500.30	\$15,146,491.30
Non-Resident Agencies	UNCTAD	\$583,864.00	\$0.00	\$583,864.00	\$0.00	\$583,864.00
	ITC	\$703,029.00	\$101,293.00	\$601,736.00	\$0.00	\$703,029.00
	OHCHR	\$1,695.25	\$1,695.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,695.25
	UN Habitat	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00
	UN Capital Development Fund	\$1,266,350.06	\$396,347.90	\$870,002.16	\$0.00	\$1,266,350.06
	Sub -Total	\$2,644,938.31	\$589,336.15	\$2,055,602.16	\$0.00	\$2,644,938.31
	Grand-Total	\$29,667,358.89	\$17,241,567.82	\$10,487,510.16	\$7,317,500.30	\$17,791,429.61

*UNFPA data to be included

2. UN Delivery by LUNDAP Result Group

	Agency	Total Budget 2015	RG1	RG2	RG3	RG4	RG5	RG6	Delivery
Resident Agencies	FAO	\$1,474,820.00	\$0.00	\$1,459,820.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$1,148,849.00
	UNAIDS	\$184,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$184,500.00	\$0.00	\$167,468.00
	UNDP	\$3,138,497.00	\$333,047.00	\$358,204.00	\$2,447,246.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,494,751.00
	UNFPA*	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	UNICEF	\$8,630,170.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$839,908.00	\$1,360,000.00	\$4,265,262.58	\$2,165,000.00	\$5,495,203.91
	WFP	\$13,133,433.00	\$0.00	\$2,089,953.00	\$0.00	\$4,173,183.00	\$6,870,297.00	\$0.00	\$5,379,219.39
	WHO	\$461,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$461,000.00	\$0.00	\$461,000.00
	Sub-Total	\$27,022,420.58	\$333,047.00	\$3,907,986.00	\$3,287,154.00	\$5,533,183.00	\$11,781,059.58	\$2,180,000.00	\$15,146,491.30
Non-Resident Agencies	UNCTAD	\$583,864.00	\$583,864.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$583,864.00
	ITC	\$703,029.00	\$0.00	\$672,867.00	\$0.00	\$30,162.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$703,029.00
	OHCHR	\$1,695.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,695.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,695.25
	UN Habitat	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00
	UNCDF	\$1,266,350.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,266,350.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,266,350.06
	Sub-Total	\$2,644,938.31	\$583,864.00	\$672,867.00	\$1,358,045.31	\$30,162.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,644,938.31
	Grand-Total	\$29,667,358.89	\$916,911.00	\$4,580,853.00	\$4,645,199.31	\$5,563,345.00	\$11,781,059.58	\$2,180,000.00	\$17,791,429.61

*UNFPA data to be included

Key aspects of the proposed 2016 workplan (Resident agencies) and linkages to ongoing issues of concern within the country

- *Under Common Country Programming workstream the UN system's priority in 2016 include finalization of LUNDAP Review and Evaluation followed by the Country Analysis, Strategic Planning and new UNDAF design.* These processes will be closely aligned with the Government's NSDP and other national strategic processes. DAO SOPs will be used to support implementing its core elements. Key core DAO elements that have been progressing are put in place (new Business Operations Strategy, UN Communications Strategy, annual work planning by LUNDAP results groups and other). Further strategies need to be built how do operationalize an UNDAF at the outcome level using Joint Workplans and Joint Programmes, how to mobilize resources jointly for the implementation of the UNDAF. The processes will be led under strategic guidance of UNCT with support from RCO, M&E and PMT Teams.
- *The UNCT will convene its annual retreat jointly with NRAs* in February 2016 to strategize jointly on key areas of joint work and UNDAF design, discuss and agree how to prioritize and how to remain focused, how to ensure that the UN's support is well tailored in the country's context as LMIC vs poverty and other vulnerabilities.
- *MDGs/SDGs:* The key priorities of the UN system work in 2016 around SDGs will include: Strengthening national capacities for sectoral research; Advocating for an integrated outreach to national partners and stakeholders on the Post 2015 agenda for Government, Parliament, private sector, academia, CSOs, youth and others; Strengthening Capacities of the UN system and national capacities for domestication and implementation of the Agenda 2030; Mainstreaming – supporting the Government in integrating SDGs in national plans and strategies at national, sub-national and local levels. Support the Government in finalization of the MDGs Report and further presentation also reflecting the MDGs lessons learned and how they can be considered during the SDGs localization.
- *Human Rights:* In collaboration with the OHCHR Treaty Body Capacity Building Programme, enhance the capacities of the State party in regards to reporting on the treaty bodies and organize national trainings on treaty reporting in Lesotho. Put in place a system (a national coordinating mechanism) to fulfil Lesotho treaty body reporting obligations; Capacity building for civil society on how to engage with the Treaty bodies (shadow reporting, awareness raising, treaty bodies as advocacy tools, etc.); Support to the new independent National Human Rights Commission (*pending its establishment*) by organizing trainings for the Commission to build its capacities to monitor, investigate and report on human rights issues. Facilitate the Commission's networking and engagement with other human rights institutions in the region in order to capacitate the Commission in its work. Together with key civil society organizations, launch awareness campaigns of the new Commission; Work towards implementing the UPR recommendations by organizing a stakeholder workshop with participation of all line ministries. Develop an implementation tool to systematically and timely implement the UPR recommendations; Work with key CSOs to raise awareness of human rights in the local communities; how they link with the SDGs; and how Basotho as right-holders can work through civil society and key national right-based institutions to realize their fundamental human rights.
- *Gender equality and youth:* Key initiatives will include: Validating and disseminating the Gender assessment of the HIV and TB responses report and related products; Facilitating and supporting the finalization, dissemination and implementation of the National Gender and Development Policy; Providing trainings to CSOs on gender and Gender Based Violence; Organizing advocacy initiatives with the participation of young people and youth led organizations on leadership, including decision making at decentralized/community level and policy development; Organizing advocacy events and participate in appropriate international and national commemorative days; Facilitating capacity development for national engagement to address the

gender based violence and youth issues/challenges; Capacity strengthening of stakeholders and UN system in addressing Gender, Human Rights and Youth priorities and coordinating efforts; Facilitating the development and effective functioning of the following; National Youth Technical Working Group; Gender Technical Working Group / Theme Group; Continue work with Government of Lesotho towards implementing accepted UPR recommendations; Sensitizing relevant UN agencies on the accepted UPR recommendations and their relevance to their work; develop UPR implementation/monitoring plan for all GHRY members; Facing the continuation of El Nino weather phenomenon, the United Nations Country Team is envisaging to strengthen the support and guidance to the Government of Lesotho.

- *HIV and AIDS, Health and Nutrition:* Emerging and on-going priorities for 2016 at system-level include support for the nascent National AIDS Commission in its efforts to coordinate and lead the multisectoral HIV response; support the country to identify bottlenecks and fine-tune implementation targets to in order fast track the attainment of national goals and to guide a more nuanced gender and age segmented response that considers the situation of vulnerable and at-risk groups more robustly; capacity development around the gathering and use of strategic information across programme areas; the introduction of new vaccines such as rotavirus vaccine and Injectable Polio Vaccine (IPV); the strengthening of the integrated management of childhood illnesses and the disaster risk management and response system. In terms of national frameworks and policies, the UN will provide technical and financial support adaptation of new HIV guidelines and Community-Led Total Sanitation Policy, the development of the Code on Marketing Breastmilk Substitutes, and the official launching of the *Scaling Up Nutrition* movement in Lesotho.
- Finally, the UN will continue to support the decentralization approach to health, HIV and nutrition programmes – ensuring adequate and quality service delivery at the lowest levels of care. It will provide its technical assistance to help identify innovative and context appropriate strategies to increase demand for services, and will aim to identify opportunities for integrating service delivery platforms to facilitate service uptake.
- *Disaster Management and Emergency Response:* The United Nations will ensure high-level and technical coordination of government and development partners' efforts. Following the Government of Lesotho's appeal for support to the International Community, the United Nations in Lesotho will assist the government in resource mobilization and technical support for the monitoring and implementation of the emergency response programmes. As to the longer-term resilience building and preparedness perspectives, in 2016 the UN will also keep assisting the government of Lesotho define a resilience framework and corresponding programmes, including the setting up of a government-led Early Warning System. Partnerships with the private sector as part of the MICs Strategy will be foreseen. New partnerships and new joint programmes are explored and built to contribute resource mobilization efforts of the UNCT.
- *UN system to further contribute to aid effectiveness agenda and donor coordination* through supporting the Lesotho Development Partners Aid Coordination Forum and the Ministry of Development Planning as the key national lead institution.
- *UNCT will also ensure strategic advocacy* on the UN system positions and work including the *communication on results* is enhanced through more effective and coordinated efforts of the UN Joint Communication Group. UNCG will further support UN system work with development of the UN communications response plan on El Nino; Increase awareness on the SDGs and mainstreaming 2030 agenda, and in relation to LUNDAP/UNDAF; Organise internal Delivering as One campaigns to foster improved internal and external perceptions of the UN in Lesotho as a transparent and efficient system.
- The UN system will continue advancing the implementation of commitments anchored in the *Business Operations Strategy* for 2016 and will be integrating new BOS Framework into the new UNDAF. OMT will play a strategic role in this process. Beyond the continued work on the business processes simplification and integration of LTAs, the OMT Lesotho will enter into a new partnership with UN Tanzania on monitoring system of both programmatic and operational modules with DOCO support.