



United Nations Development Programme

PRESS RELEASE



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Spain Contributes to Community Stabilization and Resilience in the Border States of Sudan

March 31, 2015, Khartoum- The Government of Spain has allocated USD 600,000 to UNDP's Promoting Community Stabilization Programme. This generous contribution enables UNDP to support the Government of Sudan in immediate implementation of key activities in the target states.

The Promoting Community Stabilization and Enhancing Resilience of Vulnerable Communities project aims to contribute to the stability and resilience of selected communities which are at risk of being drawn into conflict in a number of regions: South Kordofan, Blue Nile, West Kordofan, White Nile, Sennar, North Kordofan and the communities bordering South Sudan.

Speaking of the contribution, H.E. Juan González-Barba Pera, Ambassador of Spain to Sudan says "stability in the Sudan is of outstanding importance for its development. That was the reason why we contributed to the DDR programme until its completion in 2013, and that's also the reason why we decided to consolidate its achievements supporting the Community Stability and Resilience Project".

In these communities, basic services and facilities such as water, markets, schools, and health centres are already in a fragile state, and with the influx of refugees and displaced populations from the ongoing conflict in South Sudan as well as internal conflict, additional pressure has led to friction between host communities and the displaced population. Livelihood opportunities are also overstretched.

New services and facilities that this project will initiate and support are expected to not only address the shortage of basic services at the community level but also provide durable solutions for regenerating the rural economy through interventions linked to value chains, micro finance and cooperatives; thus enhancing sustainable livelihoods.

"We are very pleased to receive this support from the Government of Spain. It further highlights the importance of this project in a region that continues to experience instability and where local communities are struggling in the face of complex social challenges and mounting economic pressures.", said Abdel-Rahman Ghandour, acting Resident Representative of

UNDP in Sudan.

This project will be implemented in consultation with the affected communities and in partnership with the Sudan DDR Commission and other relevant federal institutions, state-level line ministries, local authorities and locality commissioners as well as local NGOs and CBOs.

This contribution from the Government of Spain ensures full implementation of all planned activities within the Promoting Community Stabilization and Enhancing Resilience of Vulnerable Communities project, 2015 – 2016.

At the signing ceremony of the project document with the Government of Sudan 24 March, the Sudan DDR Commissioner-General Salah Al-Tayeb stated that the project is vital to sustaining stability in the war-affected areas in the Border States and praised the support received from donors. The project is currently supported by the Governments of Japan and Spain, and the Commissioner-General calls for additional donors to join the stabilization and resilience efforts.

For more information, please contact Ms. Margunn Indreboe Alshaikh, Team Coordinator UNDP Partnerships & Communication, margunn.indreboe@undp.org

* * *

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.