STRENGTHENING RULE OF LAW, A FOUNDATION FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Rule of Law is a critical enabler to peace and security, which supports the mitigation of conflict by addressing the root causes and thereby contributes to stability and prevention of relapse into conflict. Rule of Law response in the SLF context was to address relevant conflict drivers through targeted interventions aimed at strengthening Rule of Law institutions and restoring law and order. In this context, Rule of Law was identified as one of the four primary strategic priority areas for interventions to create a safe, secure, and stable environment for the return of the IDPs and refugees.

Root Cause Conflict Drivers in Darfur

- **Land**: Conflict over Land.
- **Rule of Law Institutions**: Absence of Rule of Law institutions/weak Rule of Law Institutions.
- **Resources**: Conflict over Resources including water and grazing land, violence and attacks on communities including reprisals.
- **Intercommunal**: Tension and Conflicts between communities, incidents including cattle rustling and crop destruction.

**5 PARTICIPATING AFPs**
- UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA
- UNHCR, UN Habitat

**BUDGET**
- $4,465,210.00

**11 UNAMID STAFF 8 POLICE OFFICERS**

**EMBEDDED**

GoSP/Prisons Officers & SPF Group Photo after Training Programme in El Daein, East Darfur
STATE LIAISON FUNCTIONS (SLF) - RULE OF LAW

Project Locations: North, South, East and West states of Darfur
Target population: Vulnerable Communities of Darfur including IDPs, and those in return areas.
Project Period/phase: January to December 2019/ SLF1

Purpose/Objectives of Programmes

The aim of SLF Rule of Law mandated priority programmes implementation are addressing conflict drivers through integrated mechanisms to build institutional capacity to strengthen Rule of Law institutions to create safe, secure and stable environments (protective environment) conducive for durable solutions, returns of the IDPs, and prevention of relapse into conflict.

Rationale for Programme Implementation

Building on the previous Rule of Law efforts, Multi-sectoral Integrated Technical Assessments comprised of state and local government institutions, UN entities (UNAMID and AFPs) and justice sector civil society organizations were conducted Darfur-wide to identify the existing gaps and determine interventions to address them.

1. Multi-sectoral integrated technical assessments conducted
   To identify the existing gaps and determine interventions to address them.

2. The scope of assessment
   The assessments also helped to identify hotspot areas, localities, and areas of return, what type of interventions were needed for the various IDP camps, and migratory routes as well as various security challenges noted.

3. The outcomes of assessments state capital locality level
   Critical weaknesses in Rule of Law institutions at state capital level, and complete absence of these institutions at locality level including logistics capacity.

4. The outcomes of assessments Urban centers level
   In urban centers where institutions were present, they were limited in terms of capacity to operate effectively and efficiently due to logistical and inadequate human resource capacity, with many of them ill equipped and prepared to deal with concerns of the communities.

5. The impact of identified challenges
   - Rampant dysfunctional institutions.
   - Widespread criminality across the Darfur region.
   - Prevalent incidents of sexual violence within and around IDP camps which exacerbate insecurity and tensions between different ethnic groups in Darfur, especially between pastoralists and farming communities.
   - Violence between segments of communities due to natural resources have become a normal occurrence.
   - Lack of trust and confidence in the police and justice institutions as well as a perceived bias by the law enforcement, security institutions, against some communities have compounded these challenges and hence contributed to making it difficult for the population and communities to access justice and feel secure in Darfur region.
In the Rule of Law area, UNAMID implemented its priorities in collaboration with five (5) AFPs (UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, UN-Habitat and UNFPA), who were selected on the principle of comparative advantages to implement multiple intervention for the IDPs resettlements several infrastructure projects and capacity building programmes for Police, justice and Prisons have been implemented through the SLF delivery mechanisms, including the following activities:

- **Activities in Support to SPF.**
- **Activities in Support to Justice Institutions.**
- **Activities in Support to the Prisons and Reform.**
- **Activities in Support to Mediation of Intercommunal Conflicts Including Land Related Conflicts.**
- **Activities in Support to Justice Institutions for Children and Juveniles.**
- **Activities in Support to Access to Justice.**

22 LOCALITIES
CAPACITY EMPOWERMENT ACTIVITIES

On capacity empowerment, **655 paralegals** and members of the legal networks trained to strengthen and enhance access to justice for the vulnerable groups and strengthen the legal aid systems; **90 District Court judges** in North, South and West Darfur have been trained on international fair trial standards, **137 Prosecutors**, police and military investigators were trained in the investigation and prosecution of serious criminal offences including CRSV and SGBVs, **612 SPF police officers** trained as trainers in the 8 critical areas of policing.

That is including Human Rights approach, criminal investigations, crisis management, community policing; **200 members of the civil society** including **31 women lawyers** and Bar Association trained in the 4 SLF Darfur States in trial monitoring, with focus on SGBV to empower them to monitor criminal trials; **384 prison officers** trained on Human Rights approach to prisons management including the use of SOPs in all the 4 Darfur States.

**156 Paralegals** including prisons officers trained on the provision of legal assistance to the vulnerable including prison inmates. **4 legal aid desks furnished in prisons across Darfur States.**

**225 Child Judges and Prosecutors** and **458 Family and Child Protection Units (FCPU) professionals** including social workers trained on justice for children manual and the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to improve the provision of specialized child protection quality services.

**150 Lawyers**, civil society organizations (NGOs) and legal counsels from the Ministry of Justice and legal counsel from the Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Department trained on supporting children during the various stages of the legal processes.

EXPECTED IMPACT

It is expected that restoration of law and order will lead to; improved access to justice in priority localities of return and holding of criminals to account would contribute to extension of state authority in the deep field and areas of return, to become a primary enabler and facilitator for the provision of conducive environment for durable solutions, and peaceful co-existence amongst different communities. Consequently, these would lead to peace and security, the principle prerequisite for recovery and development.

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