



SUDAN

Country Vision Note

Vision Note for a new Partnership

between the Government of Netherlands, IFC, ILO, UNHCR, UNICEF and the WB

Sudan

1. Situation Analysis

1.1 Context

Sudan is host to a large population of newly arrived and long-term refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons and migrants. Sudan is also a country of origin for migrants and asylum-seekers because of conflict, insecurity and extreme poverty. Sudan hosts 1,095,096 registered refugees and asylum-seekers; the Government estimates that the actual number is as high as 2 million, with the added complexity of secondary migration from Sudan towards Europe as the country stands at the crossroads of the Horn of Africa's complex migration route. The conflict that broke out in South Sudan in December 2013 displaced hundreds of thousands of civilians in South Sudan and continues to cause an outflow of refugees into neighbouring countries. South Sudanese refugees are the largest refugee group in Sudan. UNHCR estimates that there are over 857,775 South Sudanese refugees living across Sudan, including 414,341 refugees who have fled to Sudan since December 2013, and an estimated 443,434 who remained in Sudan following the secession of South Sudan in 2011 and are now unable to return. In addition, there are refugees and asylum seekers from other countries, including 120,009 Eritreans; 13,592 Ethiopians; 93,502 Syrians; 4,283 Chadians; 6,926 Central African Republicans (CAR); 3,569 Yemenis; and 1,778 refugees from other countries, including the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and

Somalia. In eastern Sudan, Eritrean and Ethiopian refugees have been hosted for decades. Approximately 78 per cent of all refugees in Sudan are women and children.

The Government of Sudan has hosted refugees for the past 50 years. Sudan is a state party to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, as well as the 1969 Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee problems in Africa, with a reservation to Article 26 (Freedom of Movement). In 2014, Sudan adopted the Asylum (Organization) Act, replacing the previous Regulation of Asylum Act, 1974. The new Act contains several positive aspects, including the recognition of the three durable solutions of voluntary repatriation, local integration and third country resettlement. Sudan also applies the Arab/Islamic notions of asylum with respect to some refugee nationalities – Egyptian, Syrian, Yemeni, Iraqi and Palestinian nationals – and they are allowed to remain in the country and are notionally treated as nationals with respect to social services. An estimated 79 per cent of South Sudanese refugees are living outside of the 11 established camps, in self-settlements that are geographically indistinguishable from the neighbouring Sudanese villages and towns. Many out-of-camp self-settlements are in areas not covered by humanitarian response, where partners and resources are extremely limited, with minimal public infrastructure. Refugees in these areas therefore face discrimination with respect to access to basic services.

Partners must work towards peace and development for forcibly displaced persons and affected host communities. Humanitarian action cannot build the resilience of communities and lay the foundations for solutions; development, peace and security approaches also have fundamental roles to play. Recent developments in Sudan have created the potential for renewed international engagement to support peace and development, including: the lifting of comprehensive sanctions on Sudan by the United States in October 2017, as well as the UN Secretary General’s decision to delist the Government Forces for the recruitment and use of children in 2018, after the latter’s full engagement and fulfilment of its action plan. In addition, during the Regional Conference on Refugee Education in Intergovernmental Authority of Development (IGAD) Member States in December 2017, the Government committed to integrate education for refugees and returnees into National Education Sector Plans, as well as to recognize the educational

qualifications of refugees and returnees across the IGAD region. Subsequently, refugee education has been incorporated into Sudan's National Education Sector Strategic Plan (2019-2023). A second IGAD led thematic meeting on Livelihoods is in the pipeline, with hopes for similar ground-breaking progress. Despite these milestones, Sudan faces complex constraints both within its own political economy and in its relations with the international community that could pose challenges for any new programming. For instance, Sudan's continued designation as a state sponsor of terrorism by the United States of America is one factor that precludes its access to international transactions and International Finance Institutions (IFI) instruments. Sudan remains highly-indebted in external arrears and has been in non-accrual status with the World Bank Group since 1994. This prevents Sudan from accessing support from multilateral funding institutions (e.g. WB IDA18), which limits the possibility of leveraging development funding for assistance to refugees as well as supporting host communities and local infrastructure. Since early 2018, Sudan has been experiencing an acute economic crisis, characterized by extreme inflation (63 per cent per annum) and shortages of basic commodities due to the inability of the Government to subsidize the imports of fuel, food, and pharmaceuticals, caused by the drastic depletion of the country's foreign exchange reserves. In Sudan, only one per cent of refugees can afford the local food basket. The crisis worsened the situation for refugees, especially those living in out-of-camp areas.

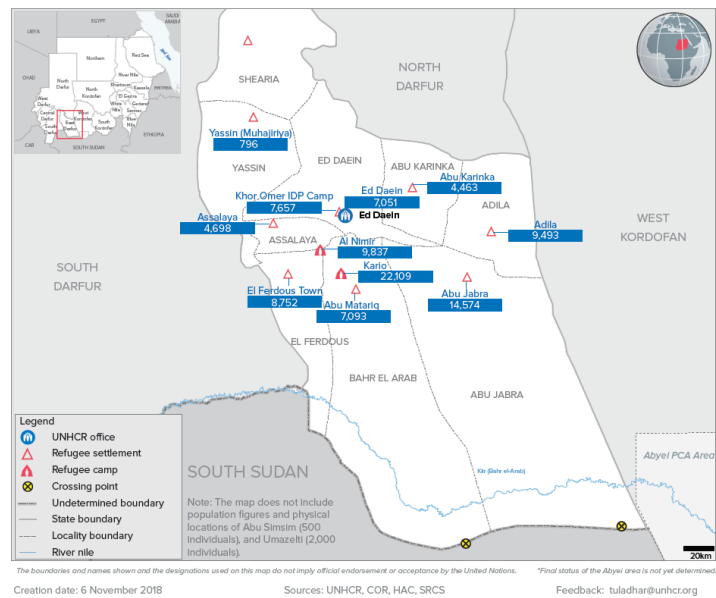
The situation of refugees and host communities is complex but not without hope.

Although Sudan is not a Comprehensive Refugee Response Plan (CRRF) pilot country, the Government has been aligned with parts of the CRRF approach, for example, in terms of self-reliance, allocation of land for refugees in eastern Sudan, out-of-camp approach for South Sudanese refugees, etc. Building on these positive policies towards refugee asylum, UNICEF, UNHCR, World Bank, ILO and the Government of the Netherlands will work closely with the Government to adopt progressive policies for alternatives to camps, freedom of movement, access to work and access to public services, enhancing Sudan's capacity to adopt the CRRF in future. Moreover, where policy meets practice, there is a clear gap in supporting the empowerment, skills building and linking to the markets, especially for adolescent and youth populations, that could be transformative and catalytic to enhance the resilience and self-reliance of refugees and host communities.

1.2 Focus on East Darfur and West Kordofan

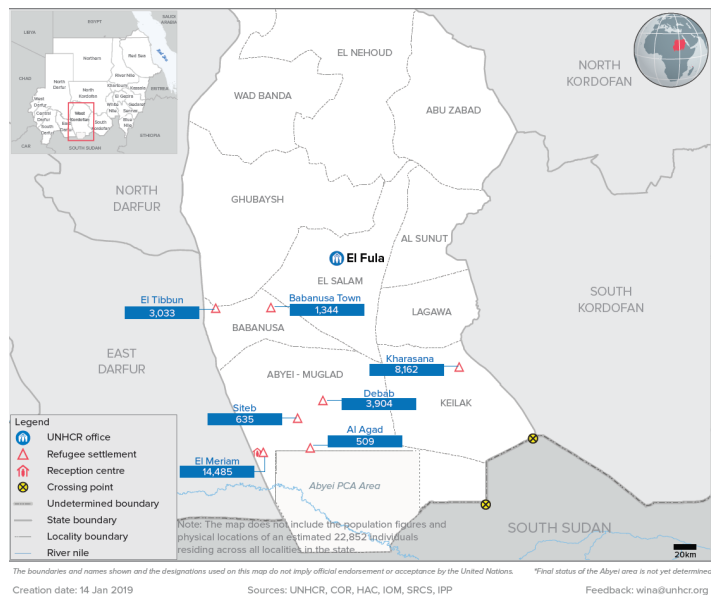
The partnership will focus on delivering change within the South Sudanese refugee, internally displaced, and host community populations in East Darfur and West Kordofan. Particular geographic focus will be on Ed Daien and Assalaya administrative localities in East Darfur state, and a smaller investment in Al Merram locality in West Kordofan, with possible expansion to other localities within the two states following assessments. Going into these areas together, the partners acknowledge the limited access to services and work, limited freedom of movement, discrimination faced by South Sudanese refugees, poverty in the host communities, and high levels of vulnerability to shocks. However, partners recognize the genuine political will from the East Darfur and West Kordofan governments to support these interventions and have already demonstrated this form of sharing of resources, which in light of the general scarcity, is promising. There are no public vocational training centres in these states, hence skills development happens either through informal apprenticeship in small businesses or in other non-formal settings. The partnership will explore the feasibility to expand education facilities, build new training centres, upgrade informal apprenticeship in partnership with local crafts associations, cooperatives and business chambers, and to promote community-based training. These states also have untapped potential in terms of value chain and private sector partnerships, which this program could support to transform, not just the lives of refugees in need of protection, but also vulnerable host communities living in extreme poverty. Ultimately, this partnership hopes to pave the way for a transformative agenda which will achieve protection and solutions for refugees and host communities, founded on the scaling up of this best practice example.

East Darfur hosts 99,023 South Sudanese Refugees, and about 68 per cent reside among host communities in self-settlements, while the remaining 32% are in two camps, Kario and Al Nimir. The population of the state is 2,172,108¹, of which 1,322,671 (61 per cent) live in rural areas, 349,540 (16 per cent) in urban settings, and 499,897 (23 per cent) are nomadic pastoralists. About 84 per cent of the inhabitants are farmers with natural resource-dependent livelihoods. East Darfur suffers low social indicators, exposing insufficient reach of government structures and services. Refugees in East Darfur have limited access to work and basic services, face discrimination from the communities and the service delivery points. The host communities are also vulnerable to shocks and tribal conflict, which cumulatively underpins the poor prospects for refugees and host communities in East Darfur. However, there is promising potential for integrated programming, if planned through this partnership with the expert technical capacities at hand and the comparative advantage of a deep and meaningful engagement with the government towards transformative changes in the lives of vulnerable refugees and host communities.



¹ East Darfur Statistical Bureau

West Kordofan hosts 54,924 South Sudanese refugees, and 100 per cent of the refugees are living in self-settlements across the localities of Keilak, Abyei-Muglad and Babanusa, which are remote from the state centre of El Fula. The population of the state is 2,001,051, of which 1,200,631 (60 per cent) live in rural areas, 800,240 (40 per cent) in urban settings. Twenty-five per cent of the state population (500,262) are nomadic pastoralists. About 70 per cent of the inhabitants are farmers with natural resource-dependent livelihoods. West Kordofan suffers low social indicators, and as a result refugees experience resource competition from the host community. This partnership has the potential to sustainably impact the areas where displaced populations and their host communities live, by providing non-discriminatory access to education, work, basic services, and livelihoods opportunities thereby enhancing communal harmony and creating a successful instance of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in action.



Challenges in East Darfur and West Kordofan include:

- I. **Poor access to education and training, and high dropout rate**, at primary school age and shortage of secondary education infrastructure leading to extremely low transition rates from basic education. Within this context, refugee children and girls are the most vulnerable as they are likely to not access school and for those that do enrol, only a few manage to complete basic education. The Government faces challenges in mainstreaming refugee children into the education system, ranging from availability of schools in the host communities, availability of basic school learning materials and facilities, adequate quality and relevance of education, and, most importantly, availability and continuity of teachers who can monitor the refugee children as they progress through the education system. With the majority of refugees being hosted in

impoverished areas in the states, the resource burden to provide education to refugees is a barrier. Refugee children and adolescents furthermore recede from the education services due to language barriers, negative attitudes and socio-economic stigmatization. According to the East Darfur State Ministry of Education, approximately 5,700 of the 17,573 school aged refugee children are attending schools, indicating that 68 per cent are out of school, slightly higher than the state average of 61 per cent out of school. The state-wide figures reach close to 50 per cent enrolment in basic education but drop to just 25 per cent in secondary education (refer to table below). Of these, the refugee children attending host community schools report facing discrimination, contributing further to the high levels of drop out. There is low investment by the Government in East Darfur host community schools; as reflected in the table below, disparity in investment in education at all levels, but most acutely in secondary education. This widens the gap for formal education to be a bridge to decent work opportunities, skills development opportunities and livelihoods.

Total domestic resources for recurrent spending on education in East Darfur <i>(Source: World Bank)</i>		2016-2017
Population 5-15 years old		422,000
Actual resources from Federal transfer to education (per capita)		84
Expected resources based on population 5-15 (per capita)		152
Gap (per capita)		68

Enrollment in education in East Darfur, 2016-2017 (Source: Ministry of Education)

Level			Enrolled in school			Out of schools			National GER		
Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Pre-school											
45,795	42,053	87,848	7,909	9,103	17,012	37,886	32,950	70,836			
			17.30 %	21.60 %	19.40 %				45.50 %	44.40 %	45%
Basic Education											
162,878	147,807	310,685	80,490	72,626	153,116	82,388	75,181	157,569			
			49.40 %	49.10 %	49.30 %				73.70 %	71.20 %	72.50 %
Secondary education											
52,706	47,010	99,716	12,460	12,631	25,091	40,246	34,379	74,625			

			23.60 %	26.90 %	25.20 %				38.10 %	42.20 %	40.20 %
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Enrollment in education in East Darfur, 2016-2017 (Source: World Bank)	
Technical and Vocational	
Secondary Technical Total Enrollment (Government assisted)	386
Vocational Total Enrollment (Government assisted)	25,901

- II. **Absence of a favourable protection environment** for refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced and any other persons on the move. The threats to children-at-risk², vulnerable women and persons with specific needs (PSN) include discrimination, exploitation, abuse and violence, and there does not exist a robust mechanism to address them. To create a favourable protection environment all vulnerable populations must be supported to contend with physical and gender-based violence, commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labour, child marriage, military recruitment and harmful traditional practices. This partnership will identify and strengthen the protection mechanisms in the state, and support the inclusion of vulnerable populations into the economy through jobs and livelihood opportunities, to enhance their resilience. East Darfur and West Kordofan states offer inadequate protection services, and even where they exist, they are limited and scattered, often lacking both quality and capacity to ensure protection for vulnerable populations.
- III. **Lack of access to livelihoods**, among the most vulnerable communities, and refugees' primary reliance on humanitarian assistance creates a situation of dependence. Livelihood access gaps compound food insecurity for refugee communities in the two states as elsewhere across Sudan. Refugees' lack of formal access to income generation mechanisms means that they are unable to pay the fees for essential services which is now a primary obstacle to immediately dismantling parallel service delivery systems for

² Unaccompanied and separated children, out-of-school children, children with disabilities, child head of households, among others

refugees. With income-generation systems in place for refugees, they may be mainstreamed into national service systems and subject to the same user fees as nationals, thereby adding to social cohesion and harmony. Many refugees and displaced persons find work in the informal economy, and their precarious status renders them vulnerable to discriminatory practices which can lead to exploitative and dangerous working conditions, the denial of fundamental principles and rights at work, and forced labour, bonded labour and child labour.³ Extensive advocacy with the Ministry of Labour is required to pave the way for formal work authorisations. Sudan's labour market suffers from high incidence of vulnerable employment, the limited availability of social protection and safety nets, and the fact that the bulk of employment is being generated in the informal economy. Sudan's growth is still underpinned by heavy dependence on commodity production and export of raw material, with little value additions and underutilization of local resources. Business development services, including financial services, are scarce and the business environment and policy frameworks are little conducive for private sector development, particularly to address the emerging needs of micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and the challenges related to the transition to formality of informal enterprises.

- IV. **Adolescents and Youth** (aged 14-25) make up the largest demographics of refugees and displaced persons in Sudan, and fare among the most underserved. In East Darfur state, up to 75 per cent of youth have missed out on formal education and training opportunities, which further holds them back from realizing their livelihood potential or lack the opportunity to use their talents and skills, often acquired informally, due to limited access to markets, recognition of qualifications or skills, or lack of dignified ways to earn a living. National youth (15-24 years) unemployment stood at 28 per cent in

³ ILO Guiding Principles on the Access of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to the labour market: https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/projects/WCMS_536440/lang-en/index.htm
ILO Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (no. 205): https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:3330503.

2015.⁴ The reality for this underserved and underutilized group is that many of them will try their luck elsewhere, often choosing to move onwards, at times using high risk means of movement. This is also true for Sudanese host community adolescents and youth, putting both groups at risk of engaging in illegal activities. Urgent action is needed to empower refugee and host community adolescents and youth, to build on their talent, potential and energy, to support socioeconomic resilience. Youth unemployment is also driven by structural and institutional factors including lack of employment services, career information, career orientation and ineffective labour market institutions.

- V. **Vulnerability to shock:** In East Darfur host communities and displaced persons are vulnerable to shocks as a result of shifts in the equilibrium between the fragile environment, marked by climatic variability, and unpredictable periods of shortage and sufficiency. The unsustainable use of natural resources, such as water, forests and lands on one hand, and the environmental degradation on the other, contributes to limited reduced livelihood. Conditions are very similar in West Kordofan, with the added uncertainty of seasonal floods causing inordinate suffering to vulnerable populations and limiting access for agencies. A clear example of this is the local conflict over natural resources that has resulted in further displacement and vulnerabilities. Any programme with a short-term view of supporting vulnerable families, without taking into account the high probability of shocks to that family, is likely to fail.

Despite challenges, there are some fertile ground and entry points. In these states, there are promising prospects for refugees and host communities, if concerted efforts in the area of inclusive access to education, jobs and livelihood opportunities can be made. There are promising value chain prospects for cash crops, such as groundnuts, sesame, etc. and existing limited links to the private sector.⁵ According to a research paper on value chain

⁴ Upcoming UNICEF 2018: MENA Generation 2030 report

⁵ For example, Samil buys groundnuts from East Darfur which it uses to produce plumpy nuts

potential in East Darfur⁶, in the last two seasons farmers in East Darfur grew groundnut on a large scale (98.9% of the total cash crops produced)⁷, followed by Roselle, sesame and Gum Arabic but at a small scale by few farmers (1.1% of total cash crops within same year). The report also shows that those at the production end of the value chain (i.e. the farmer, and often refugees as informal seasonal laborers) make the lowest return on investment. Nevertheless, the potential for improving the education and training infrastructure to remove discrimination against refugees, promote demand-led community based training and strengthened apprenticeship, and the fertile grounds for connecting decent livelihoods to viable markets in East Darfur and West Kordofan, makes them strong contenders as locations to demonstrate sustainable inclusion of refugees and affected host community in the same system.

2. Vision and Added Value of the Partnership

The Vision for this partnership is to establish and strengthen sustainable systems in Sudan that will enhance protection and basic services in areas where refugees and host communities are living, broadly mirroring CRRF principles. The initial systems to be targeted in the four years of this partnership have been mutually agreed by partners to be education – primary, secondary and vocational - livelihoods, including training and start-up support, and protection of displaced persons and host communities by strengthening prevention and response mechanisms. The partnership will achieve its objectives through economic

⁶ “Final Report: Value Chain Analysis for Groundnuts, Sesame, Gum Arabic, and Roselle,” Khalid Khalfalla Gasmelseed and Ahmed Mahmoud Ahmed Elamin, UMCOR, 2018

⁷ The reasons cited for favoring the groundnut which has a low ROI (7.45%) compared with Sesame (20.53) or Gum Arabic (20%) was:

- Currently farmers adopt self-finance for their production, so they cannot afford growing more than one cash crop.
- Farmers consider Groundnut as both food and cash crop, for that reason it is very essential for them to grow groundnut.
- Groundnut is easy to grow and harvest compared with the other three crops given that all agricultural operations are done manually.
- Groundnut is less sensitive to rainfall during harvest time compared to sesame
- Groundnut is easier to process and market.

inclusion and mainstreaming of services; it will empower refugees and host communities to meet their needs in a sustainable manner by reducing aid dependence and discouraging negative coping mechanisms through equitable access; it will invest in the host economy; promote non-discrimination against and prepare children – refugee and host community – for their futures; create inclusive policies and strengthen the service delivery systems. The partners are committed to work in the two states to roll out programmes jointly in order to create synergies and continuity between the humanitarian, and the development interventions of this programme.

In Sudan, the partnership will apply a two-pronged approach of policy advocacy and practice:

Policy advocacy

Strengthen the groundwork for Sudan to align to CRRF using Whole-of-Society approach. For a collaborative response to the needs identified, partners must focus on the areas where further advocacy and resourcing can take Sudan closer to CRRF. Over the course of the four years, this partnership will:

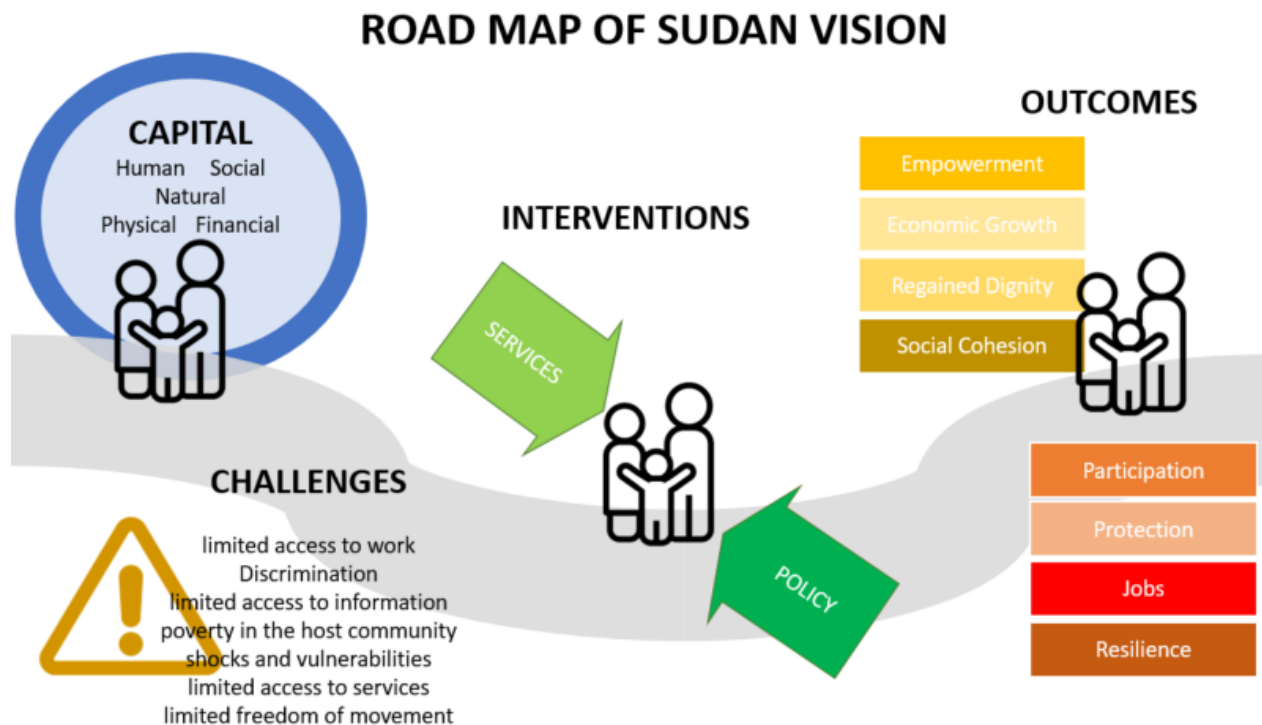
- Conduct a feasibility study on livelihoods and the utilisation of an integrated model of services and opportunities, such as the graduation model, as an approach;
- Conduct a series of diagnostics to understand what the private sector’s role could be in refugee hosting areas;
- Promote the adoption of policies and assist in translating into action strategies that support mainstreaming of refugees to public services and empower refugee and host communities towards self-reliance through enhancing national policies on Asylum, Education, Health, Child Protection, Civil Registration and Labour.
- Engage in strategic dialogue between partners to achieve economic inclusion for refugees through progressive access to services, work, and fundamental rights.

Practice

Demonstrate Good Practices to Invest in for Enhanced Refugee Self-Reliance and Host Community Resilience. Sudan has the potential to transform its asylum practices, by taking steps towards the second CRRF goal, “enhance refugee self-reliance”. Building on some clear entry points that could prove transformative with more support, the partnership will promote best practices for

empowering refugees and host communities through mainstreaming services, and enhancing self-resilience through increased access to education, skills development and access to income in East Darfur and West Kordofan. The partnership will empower women and girls, provide services for the prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV), strengthen local capacity for enhanced child protection, promote awareness against trafficking in persons, identify and engage with vulnerable youth, elderly and PSN, and prevent discrimination against refugees and asylum-seekers through awareness-raising and co-existence projects in the communities and ensuring civil registration, documentation and community-based protection networks. The programme will:

- Analyse refugees’ capacity-to-pay through generating household socioeconomic data;
- Mainstream refugee populations’ access to essential public services, and ensure the expansion and sustainability of services to maintain social cohesion;
- Create a favourable environment for co-existence through support to livelihoods for refugee and host community members particularly adolescents, youth and identified vulnerable individuals;
- Explore aspects of an integrated approach, such as the graduation model, that supports the most vulnerable out of extreme poverty to attain transformative change in the lives of their children and families, for selected communities.



Partnership Approach

A New Way of Working. While each of the partners brings their own comparative advantages and vision, this partnership brings about an opportunity to maximize synergies between partners. By leveraging organizations' comparative advantages, UNICEF, IFC, World Bank, ILO and UNHCR can collectively work both at an upstream policy level and at the community levels through targeted responses. For example, when considering how best to leverage each other's strengths to actualize a program that supports inclusive jobs and education for refugees and host communities alike, there are natural synergies between UNHCR and UNICEF's mandate for children and protection of vulnerable persons; WB, ILO and UNICEF's on going work on strengthening education systems, training and social protection in the country; UNICEF, UNHCR and WB's current interventions advocating for the inclusion of refugees in the national system; and ILO and UNICEF's work on working with adolescents and youth as next generation entrepreneurs. While IFC is not yet present in Sudan, the program serves as an opportunity for IFC to join the table in bringing their deep understanding of how to best partner with the private sector. IFC brings significant expertise and experience in promoting private sector development that can catalyze private investment, create employment opportunities, entrepreneurial activities and more efficient service delivery.

Beyond these existing complementary programs, this partnership promotes mutual accountability and learning.

Partners will support the Government, refugees and host communities in four ways:

- Resource partnerships, to provide financial, human and technical support to national responses,
- Knowledge partnerships, for sharing information, conducting evaluation and analysis related to the technical areas (e.g. Protection, Education, Livelihoods, CRRF approach, among others),
- Policy and governance partnerships, to develop and reform policies and governance models at national and local levels, and
- Advocacy partnerships, to promote core elements of the CRRF model.

The guiding principles for achieving economic inclusion relevant for the partnership:

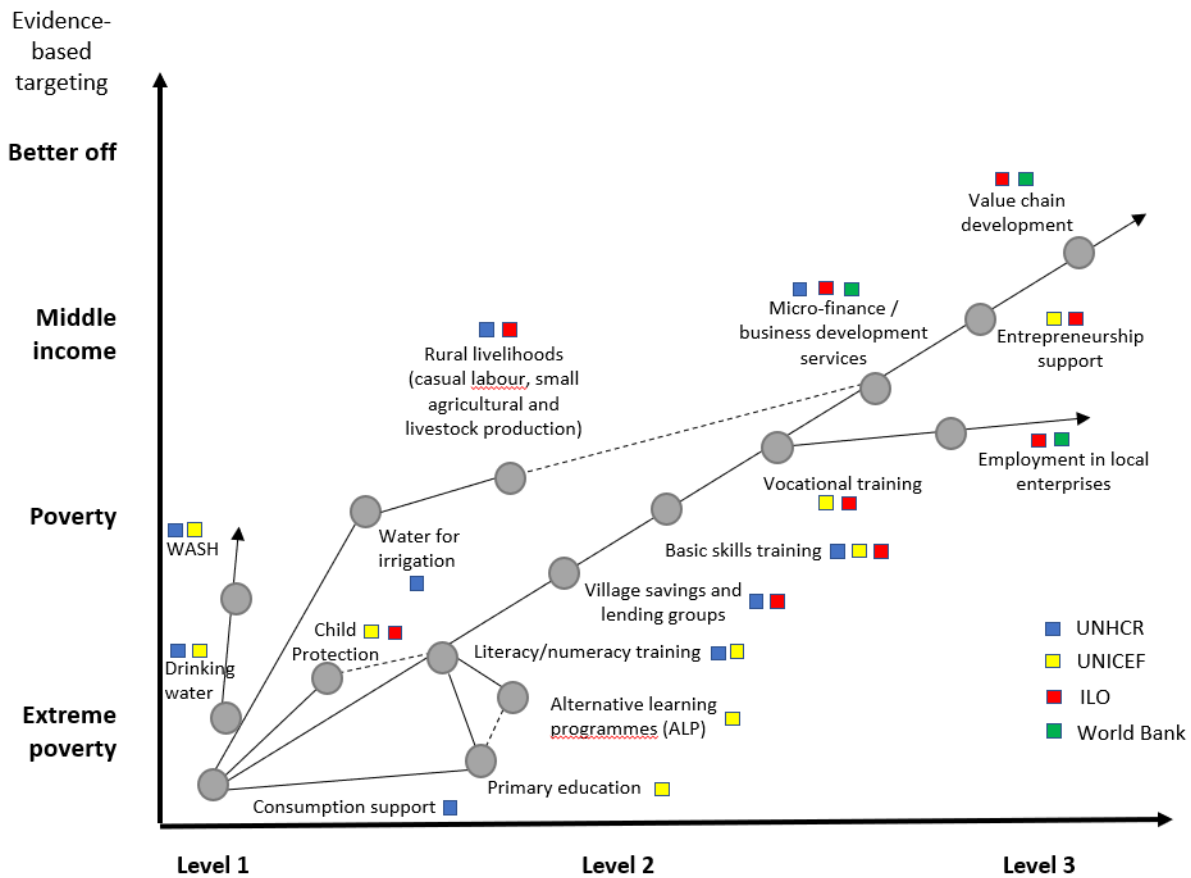
- Harmonising the delivery systems by collaborative work by all partners in each geographical area.

- Ensuring non-discrimination in the services offered to nationals and asylum-seekers.
- Reducing risks of social issues caused by exclusion (poverty, delinquency, radicalism, negative livelihoods strategies, etc.).
- Bringing diversity and richness to many areas such as the economy, culture, education, sports, and art.
- Complying with human rights conventions.

The partnership will strengthen coordination and complementary interventions to demonstrate results. With the limited resources, it will not be possible to tackle all barriers to building resilience and ensure self-reliance. As such, the partnership will focus on an agreed geographic scope, maximizing the possibility of success brought by synergies. Moreover, each partner will commit to amplifying the results of the joint program by supporting components outside the scope of the partnership with each organization's own resources.

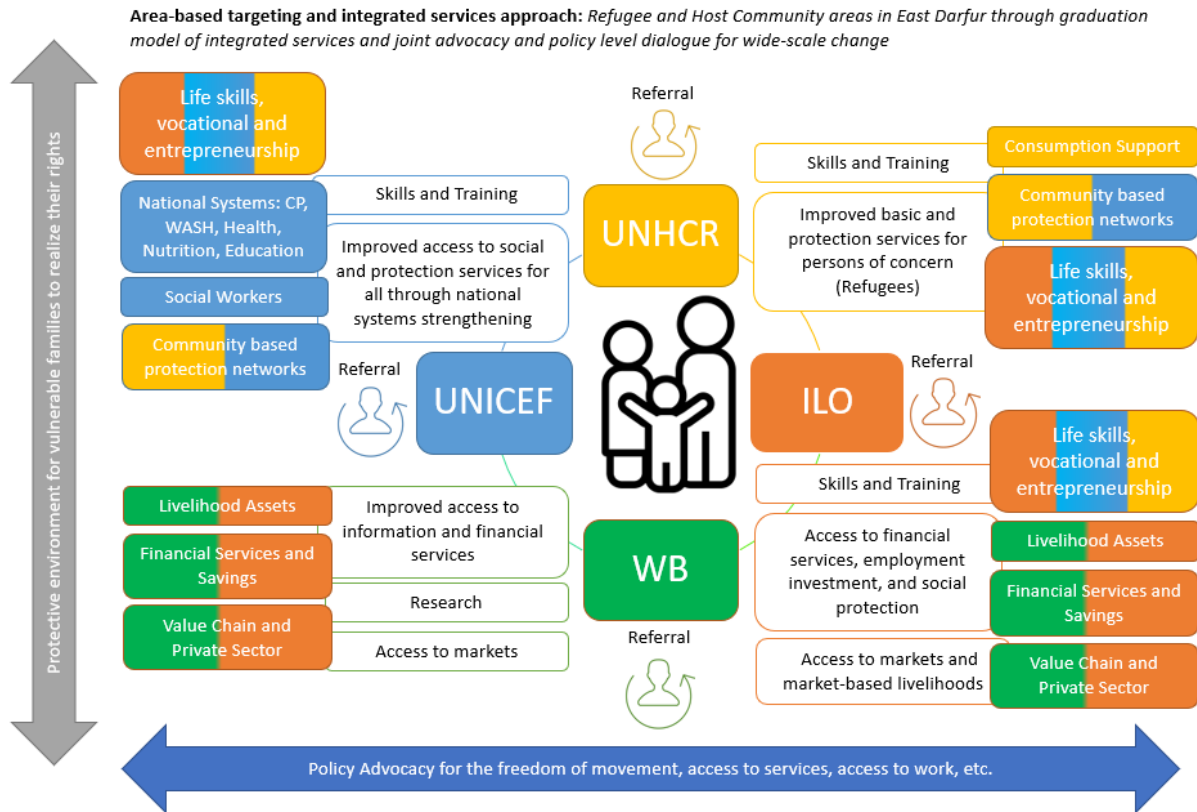
Below is an illustration of mutually reinforcing activities designed to pick up on the strengths of each partner, which when implemented in an integrated manner by all partners will achieve the vision for Sudan. This is particularly useful when thinking about the roles each organization can play in delivering a more integrated approach to support vulnerable refugees and host communities. An integrated approach, such as the graduation model requires each agency to play a part in lifting the refugee and host community families and their children from extreme poverty to self-reliance through a sequenced series of targeted access to education, training, jobs and livelihood opportunities, business development services, and psychosocial support, the last being particularly important for vulnerable families who may not be ready to engage unless specific thought has been given to their state of potential trauma and shock. Labour-intensive public works programs, community-based training, recognition of prior learning, and apprenticeships are common measures implemented to support economic empowerment of vulnerable refugees and host communities and will be explored through this program. During the first year of programming, utilisation of an integrated approach within the context of the two focus states will be explored by the partnership, through comprehensive assessment and analysis. Building on emerging experience in the region and elsewhere and informed by the baseline assessment and mapping of services and providers, the partners will investigate contextual adaptation of the graduation model. This innovative approach to building self-

reliance has the potential to be catalytic as a demonstration of how access to education and social, economic inclusion can turn vulnerable refugee and host community families from aid dependant “burdens” to productive and self-reliant members of their communities and societies.



Recognising that contributing to knowledge generation for the broader field is a priority, third-party monitoring and evaluation will be commissioned to measure program success and the reasons why specific outcomes were, or were not, achieved. This will be especially useful to expanding the body of knowledge on the impact of exploring an integrated approach, such as the graduation model, in a framework of inclusive response to displaced

populations and affected host communities. The partners propose to engage a third party for this purpose to ensure a comprehensive and integrated approach to measuring results.



3. Timeline

This partnership will be implemented through a phased approach to conduct research studies, programme implementation and policy advocacy. Partners will engage in collaborative efforts towards the main objectives of this partnership to ensure the protection and empowerment of vulnerable forcibly displaced populations and affected host communities in Sudan.

Annex 1. Opportunities vs. Challenges

	Opportunities & Entry Points	Bottlenecks & Challenges
Outcome 1: Sudan supports progressive policies towards refugees in line with the CRRF		
Sudan adopts progressive policies towards refugees in line with CRRF, including support to alternatives to camps, freedom of movement, and refugees' inclusion in national development plans, and socio-economic inclusion, including strengthening inclusive access to skills, employment, business development,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implements some CRRF approaches (e.g. mostly out of camp strategies for SSR; supports access to services for) • 76% of SSR are in self-settlement/out of camp situations • Asylum act 2014, 13.2: <i>"a refugee shall be granted such treatment, as may be better than the treatment, granted to aliens; provided that it shall, in no way, be less than such, as may be granted to aliens generally, in the same circumstances, with respect to the right to: (d) obtain a permit for purposes of movement and residence,"</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to access IFI instruments due to US sponsor of terrorism list • Constrained bilateral/multilateral development cooperation • Encampment policies for SSR and Eritrean • Humanitarian access to Urban refugees is constrained • For refugees in camps, permits are rarely issued, effectively meaning no legal movement
Outcome 2: Sudan supports enhanced self-reliance and resilience of refugees and host communities		
Quality education and training for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudan pledges at Djibouti declaration to mainstream refugee education into national education Sector strategic plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to quality education limited in host communities (infrastructure, learning materials, language barrier, teachers, school fees, etc.)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Education Sector Strategic Plan (2019-2023) now includes refugee education. • Innovative learning tools developed e.g. through “can’t wait to learn” program and by upgrading informal apprenticeships • Enhance outreach of formal and non-formal training offer for refugees through flexible, modular and community-based training approaches • Elements of system of recognition of prior learning in place through Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Apprenticeship 	
<p>Access to jobs and livelihoods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asylum act (2014, 18.1) <i>“subject to the provisions of the labour laws in force, a refugee shall be allowed to work, after his obtaining a permit therefore, from the competent labour office; provided that the office shall thereafter send a copy of the permit to the Commission, and the Ministry, within two weeks, of the date of issue thereof,”</i> • IGAD to host similar event as Djibouti event for jobs/livelihoods • Comprehensive mapping and assessment of labour market programmes (active and passive) provision at national, regional and local level undertaken, including institutional and policy coordination frameworks in place. The legal and policy framework will be reviewed with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permits are rarely granted • Available skills and talents are not matched with the market demands (e.g. 21st century skills) • Ineffectual intermediation institutions and multiplicity of players leading to a poorly organized labour market.

	<p>regard to provision of employment services and ALMPs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity of Public Employment Services strengthened to ensure a coordinated, properly regulated and progressive organization of the labour market for refugees and host communities • Cooperation with private and third sector employment services providers enhanced to improve service provision for matching of jobseekers and jobs including referral to active labour market policies • Policy and legal framework, tools and guidelines developed for harmonization and standardization of services across providers 	
Health systems for refugees and host communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asylum act 2014, 13.1: <i>“Any person, who has been granted asylum right, shall enjoy the rights, set out in the United Nations Convention and OAU Convention, without prejudice, to the generality of the foregoing, granted to the citizen, with respect to the following: (a) public relief and assistance, where they are available”</i> • National Health Insurance Fund Act of August of 2016, calls for the enrolment of all nationals and foreigners residing in Sudan and for the NHIF to become the main health care financing entity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to quality health services is limited in hosting communities (infrastructure, health staff, medication, specialized services, fees, etc.) • Currently, its UNHCR and NGO partners, in collaboration with the Sudanese government, who ensure that essential medical assistance is available to refugees and asylum seekers who need it.
Support for women and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National child marriage strategy under discussion • National campaign to eliminate FGM/C 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No law to banning FGM/C • Enduring social norms for child marriage and FGM/C

Continuum of care and protection for children on the move	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratification of Palermo protocol • Trafficking Act 2014 • Prevention of recruitment of children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laws are often not enforced • Security issues often trump children's rights issues
Empowering adolescent and youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNGA 2018 launches Young People's Agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No strategic discussions yet in the government on youth
Access to Civil registries and Reduction of Statelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF and UNHCR to support strengthening civil registry (AMIF 2017) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudan does not have a strong civil registry system and has not reached universal birth registration (MICS 2014: 67.3%)
Fostering good relations and peaceful coexistence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSR already in out of camps, integrated into host communities • Ethiopian closed camps who have integrated into host communities in the East demonstrates possibilities in local integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing pressure from economic crisis and climate change causing tension due to already overstretched resources in host communities

Annex 2. Individual Partner Profiles

The Government of the Netherlands is in the process of, step-by-step, stronger engagement with Sudan with the view of operationalizing the policy objectives of the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation as reflected in the policy document 'investing in Global Prospects'. The key objectives are 1) preventing conflict and instability, 2) reducing poverty and social inequality, and 3) promoting sustainable and inclusive growth and climate and climate action worldwide. This explicitly includes improving the protection and prospects of refugees and displaced persons in host countries in the region of origin, and preventing irregular migration. A cross-cutting goal of 'investing in Global Prospects' is to advance gender equality and improve the position of women and girls. Discrimination against women is visible in all aspects of society, which means that gender equality requires active attention in all areas of Dutch policy.

In Sudan, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands focuses on the protection and prospects of refugees and displaced persons and private sector led economic growth. To

accomplish these policy objectives in a country where agriculture is the backbone of the economy, a food security programme will be launched from 2019. Ongoing activities next to the RDPP that can feed into the activities of the partnership are the Netherlands Sudan Agricultural Linkages programme and the youth entrepreneurship programme 'Orange Corners'.

The geographical focus of Dutch policy and activities in Sudan is Darfur, Kordofan, Blue Nile and Eastern Sudan. In Eastern Sudan, the Netherland Enterprise Agency (RVO) will implement a private sector growth component of the EU Regional Development and Protection Programme.

International Finance Corporation (IFC)

IFC brings in expertise in private sector engagement; mobilizing and incentivizing private sector to invest in refugee settlements to improve provision of goods and services, create jobs and facilitate economic growth in hosting areas. This is in line with the current CRRF strategy. Private sector development is an integral part of economic growth and is key to pursuing the jobs/social protection focus area under this partnership. In order to identify the potential for private sector engagement in the refugee/host community space in Sudan and possible entry points, IFC will conduct in coordination with the other partners relevant assessments and studies building on existing diagnostics.

IFC's current engagement in Sudan is in investment climate reform projects in Sudan. IFC works with the Ministry of Trade about setting up a Public-Private Dialogue approach. During the first phase of the project 5 reforms were achieved.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

ILO pursues a comprehensive and coherent set of responses to the widespread challenges regarding resilient labour markets and decent work for host and refugee communities, in collaboration with its tripartite constituents and national and international partners. This integrated approach aligns with the three pillars of this programme – Protection, Education and Employment – and contributes to the goals of the CRRF. The ILO strategy will ensure that the three pillars are mutually supportive and reinforcing which requires cross-cutting programming and interventions that will be implemented in collaboration with the other

partners. The “Protection” pillar will focus on providing technical advice for the review, adjustment and improvement of national governance frameworks and their implementation, with a view to realizing international labour standards, decent work principles, humanitarian and human rights norms and inclusive labour market access for all workers, including refugees.

The ILO has supported the Government of Sudan, and social partners, in developing a Roadmap that led to the preparation of the National Employment Policy of Sudan. In addition, the ILO also accompanied the Government of Sudan and social partners in developing a Policy for Technical and Vocational Education and Training. Technical assistance provided to the Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Apprenticeship, the principal agency overseeing vocational training, in coordination with the National Council for Technical and Technological Education, included capacity building on occupational standard development, improved assessment methodologies, and approaches to upgrading informal apprenticeship in partnership with small business associations.

The ILO currently implements community-based training in vulnerable communities in North Kordofan and White Nile States applying the ILO’s Training for Rural Economic Empowerment (TREE) methodology, as part of an African Development Bank funded programme on Inclusive Service Delivery. Sustainable community-based safety-net platforms are combining training, business development and protection services through a pilot single window approach. Economic opportunity assessments, training need assessment, tailored training programmes, post-training support and investments in the training and business development environment will support local job creation and income generation for improved livelihoods of poor communities. While not directly targeting refugees, the intervention takes place in areas where refugees settle, hence benefits host communities. The approach can be extended to cover refugee communities.

The ILO provides support to the recovery of livelihoods for vulnerable farming and pastoral communities in Darfur, in partnership with FAO and UNOPS. Improving crop and livestock production through enhancing availability and access to water and diversification of livelihoods has been prioritized by the Darfur Joint Assessment Mission in 2012. In response to the urgent needs of the people in Darfur where agriculture and livestock based livelihood interventions receive the highest priority, the main outcome of the project is to improve the

food and nutrition security of 288,000 conflict- affected farmers and nomads by supporting their agriculture and livestock based livelihoods through enhancing access to sustainable water, certified seeds, veterinary and livestock services and inputs, and agribusiness skills; and by promotion of community natural resources management systems.

The ILO supports the construction and rehabilitation of access roads and crossing points through labour intensive technologies in Darfur. The ILO has more than 40 years of experience in mainstreaming Employment Intensive Investments Programmes (EIIP) which links infrastructure development with employment creation, poverty reduction and local economic and social development. In using local labour and resources, they create much needed employment and income, reduce costs, save foreign currency, and support local industry while increasing the capacity of local institutions. The ILO contributes to improved infrastructure and connectivity in Darfur, which in turn will bring considerable benefits to women, children and other vulnerable groups, such as elderly and disabled people. It is estimated that a total of 507,000 civilians (the majority being female heads of household) within the five States would benefit directly from the rehabilitation of the choke points. The ILO will ensure adequate coordination and facilitation of all project activities with the five States. This will be achieved through partnership with local authorities, NGOs, social partners, private and public sector, and all other stakeholders involved in the project.

The ILO also implements a regional project “the Free Movement of persons and Transhumance in the IGAD Region project: Improving Opportunities for Regular Labour Mobility”. This project strengthens livelihood opportunities in the migration corridor between Ethiopia and Sudan, conducting economic opportunity assessments that will lead to skills development and business development interventions, ultimately leading to employment generation. Project activities could be examined that could also provide additional benefit to the partnership programme.

The ILO provides technical assistance to national social security systems, conducting actuarial valuation services for the old-age, disability and death to be provided by the Actuarial Services Unit of the ILO’s Social Protection Branch, SOCPRO, (SOC/ASU) and employment injury benefits to be provided by the Actuarial Services of the Global Employment Injury Programme of the Enterprises Department (ENT/GEIP). It is aimed at

assisting the Board of the National Pensions and Social Insurance Fund (NPSIF) in ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of the Fund.

The ILO in collaboration with UNOPS is implementing a project under the UN Fund for Recovery, Reconstruction and Development. The project which is in Darfur supports the following protection and employment priorities: immediate labour contracting for infrastructure development; hiring of local communities for service work in affected communities; and start-up training for individuals interested in starting a business. The project is focused on improved physical access to goods, markets and administrative and social services through the creation of employment opportunities in feeder roads improvement. The project period is 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2018 has 3 outputs:

- (i) Community- based maintenance groups established and made operational;
- (ii) Labour- based methods for feeder roads improvement introduced;
- (iii) Feeder roads maintenance system developed and made operational.

Under this partnership, ILO will leverage its existing experience in working with the Government of Sudan to support policy development, occupational standard development with a view to promote recognition of prior learnings, community-based training to improve skills and employability as well as infrastructure development with employment creation and income generation. Furthermore, local economic development strategies, informed by local labour market and value chain assessments, will be designed and implemented at local-level, mainstreaming decent work principles. One of the areas of particular importance is the effective monitoring, prevention and elimination of child labour and an integrated action for the elimination of child labour will be piloted with partnership partners.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

UNHCR is mandated by the United Nations to lead and coordinate international action for the worldwide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems. UNHCR's primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. In its efforts to achieve this objective, UNHCR strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, and to return home voluntarily. By assisting refugees to return to their own country or to settle permanently in another country, UNHCR also seeks lasting solutions to their plight. UNHCR also works to protect former refugees

who have returned to their homeland as well as internally displaced people and persons who are stateless or whose nationality is disputed.

UNHCR's operation in Sudan started 50 years ago in Gedaref. Since then, UNHCR has been supporting the Government's Commission for Refugees (COR) to provide protection and assistance to currently nearly 1 million refugees and asylum-seekers⁸. UNHCR is working with specific priorities for the South Sudanese refugee population, the Eritrean refugee population, the Syrian refugee population, and for population vulnerable to mixed-migration along the Central Mediterranean route. UNHCR's prioritised response to each of these populations is defined by the particular needs identified through joint coordinated assessments using the frameworks noted above. The phenomenon of mixed migration continues to be a major area of engagement for UNHCR in Sudan to ensure that asylum-seekers and refugees caught in these movements have access to asylum procedures in the country. Moreover, UNHCR is working towards ending statelessness in the country, and to support voluntary repatriations of Chadian refugees in Sudan, as well as Sudanese refugees in Chad and CAR.

The primary objective of UNHCR in Sudan is to ensure that international standards of protection are met, upheld and applied to all persons of concern to UNHCR in Sudan. This includes:

- Improving Sudan's protection environment, including physical security and protection against refoulement for persons of concern, as well as improved access to protection services and other assistance;
- Supporting the security of civil, social and economic rights for persons of concern and maximizing opportunities for self-reliance;
- Advocacy with- and capacity-building for- the Government of Sudan to enhance protection mechanisms and improve asylum space in Sudan protection; and

⁸ The Government estimates that there are more than 2 million forcibly displaced persons- total from countries in the region – currently residing in Sudan.

- Pursuing durable solutions, including the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies to resolve protracted situations, and supporting opportunities for local integration, voluntary return or resettlement.

Key protection priorities for UNHCR in Sudan include 1) prevention of- and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); 2) child protection; 3) access to registration and RSD procedures; 4) provision of humanitarian assistance; 5) access to education; 6) enhanced resilience for refugees and support to host communities; 7) access to durable solutions; 8) responding to mixed migration and onward movement in Sudan; 9) prevention of statelessness; and 10) responding to newly displaced and newly accessible IDP caseloads.

UNHCR supports the coordinated response to refugees in Sudan collaborating closely with COR. Under the refugee coordination model, UNHCR co-leads the national inter-agency Refugee Consultation Forum (RCF). The RCF includes national-level sectoral Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) and field-level Refugee Working Groups (RWGs), which contribute to more effective coordination of the refugee response at each level.

As Protection and Emergency Shelter/Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) Sector lead for IDPs in Sudan, UNHCR works closely with partners in the Darfur States, South Kordofan and Blue Nile to identify priority needs and ensure a coordinated response. Coordination is undertaken jointly with the Ministry of Security and Social Development (for the Protection Sector) and HAC (for ES/NFI). UNHCR further promotes protection mainstreaming across other sectors. UNHCR also works closely with the Return, Recovery, and Reintegration (RRR) Sector and the Durable Solutions Working Group.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF through its advocacy and convening power and technical and financial support, has played a leadership role in the systems strengthening of child protection, education, health, nutrition and WASH. UNICEF's key partners in these efforts have included federal and state government, civil society organizations (national and international NGOs, academic institutions, religious leaders and the media), other UN agencies, bilateral donors, and children and their families.

UNICEF is also a trusted norm setting partner building capacities at national, state and community levels to provide education and child protection for children on the move, with

a strong emphasis on children forcibly displaced, children who are migrating – alone or accompanied – along critical migratory routes and child refugees and asylum seekers.

UNICEF sustains strategic partnerships with Private sector, NGOs and community-based organizations to provide outreach assistance and social welfare, rehabilitation, reintegration, and protection services, including legal services, life skills, psychosocial support, education and health services.

UNICEF also acts as a convener in knowledge management, bringing partners together to share best practices and collaborate on research and capacity development projects with national, regional and global academic institutions.

UNICEF is the lead of the education, nutrition and WASH humanitarian clusters and child protection sub-cluster and a major partner in the gender-based violence sub-cluster within the protection cluster. UNICEF is also providing crucial support to the Health sector/cluster which is led by WHO. UNICEF also chairs the MRM Working Group at the national level and leads working groups at the state level. UNICEF's has a leading role in monitoring, reporting, and advocating to end grave violations against children.

UNICEF plays a key role in strengthening formal and informal child protection systems in Sudan. UNICEF has already secured political commitment from the National Council for Child Welfare to position child protection a priority through the development of the National Strategy of Childhood 2018-2022, the costing of child protection services and adoption of a child-sensitive budget allocation and expenditure. There is continued commitment to establish a holistic systems-approach to child protection at the federal and states levels including the alternative care system, the justice for children system, and emergency response mechanisms. Political commitment to abandon FGM/C and child marriage also remains high. Ongoing partnerships with the media and national and state legislative committees will be critical to ensuring child protection is on the agenda during the upcoming election and development of the new constitution.

UNICEF is the coordinating agency for the Global Partnership in Education (GPE) in Sudan and all other education sector coordination including education sector strategy development. As coordinating agency, UNICEF in collaboration with UNHCR and other partners played a critical role to ensure that refugee education is included in the Education

Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) 2018-2022. UNICEF also played an instrumental role in supporting the MoE to develop an Alternative Learning Programme (ALP) and the E-learning programmes that are providing second chance education opportunity for out of school children, who missed enrolment in formal system, from both refugees and host community. UNICEF supported the cost and finance study and will use the findings to advocate increased public allocation for education.

UNICEF strongly engaged with the Government of Sudan on health and nutrition policy, advocacy and programming including Information management system as part of health system strengthen. Furthermore, UNICEF has been instrumental in increasing the ownership and leadership of the Government of Sudan for health and nutrition such as its support for Scaling Up Nutrition Movement and its networks, the development of One Health Plan, Joint Annual Reviews & the National Nutrition Investment Case. UNICEF also influenced Government's financial contribution for health and nutrition programming. UNICEF is also one of 7 signatories on the Letter of Understanding amongst the key UN agencies plus the World Bank to provide support for the establishment of national structures for the planning and implementation of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions across sectors to reduce stunting, wasting and nutrition related mortality in Sudan.

UNICEF is scaling up Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) with the Government of Sudan through three major systems strengthening initiatives: 1) Urban Water for Darfur project, which focuses on urban sanitation and water management for internally displaced persons who reside in urban areas as an example of tackling root causes of poverty and vulnerability through the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, 2) Scaling up sanitation through the National Open Defecation Free (ODF) Road Map, which aims at achieving nation-wide ODF by 2022, and 3) strengthening the information management system to ensure government ownership of critical data for water.

UNICEF is committed to social protection as part of its global mandate to advocate for the realization of children's rights. Within UNICEF's equity focused approach to development, social protection is a crucial policy tool for achieving equity and social justice. Social protection measures strengthen the capacity of families to care for their children and remove barriers to services that stand in the way of achieving goals and progress for

children. As a rights-based organization with a keen focus on the most disadvantaged, UNICEF promotes the development and strengthening of integrated child and gender sensitive social protection systems, which take a multi-sector approach and invest in sustainable national systems in order to more effectively and efficiently address the multiple vulnerabilities faced by children and their families.

Moreover, UNICEF also currently has several programs and projects that are directly linked to the outcomes of this partnership. For example, UNICEF has received support from DFID to strengthen systems of care and protection at the federal level for children on the move; BMZ supports integrated programs for children on the move in the Eastern part of Sudan, and the EU is supporting the policy level dialogue on integrating refugees into the national education system. In addition, UNICEF is supported by the Dutch government to demonstrate CRRF approaches on the ground with education as an entry point in West Kordofan. The cumulative effect of these interventions is to move the dial towards progressive inclusive policies and practices for refugees in Sudan.

The World Bank

The World Bank (WB)'s overriding goal to support the reduction of extreme poverty and improve the prospects for more shared prosperity in Sudan. In this context, the WB Interim Strategy Note (ISN) has been structured around two pillars: managing the economic transition; and addressing the socio-economic roots of conflict, with a crosscutting focus on governance and gender. The World Bank works across different sectors including education, health, social protection, Natural Resource Management, Sustainable Livelihoods for Displaced and Vulnerable Communities in the Eastern Management, Peacebuilding, Public Finance Management and Economic Diversification.

Basic Education Recovery Project: The World Bank is the grant agent for the GPE Sudan Basic Education Recovery Project had largely met its objectives pouring towards improving the learning environment and increasing the availability of textbooks in primary schools across the targeted areas. The project has worked all over Sudan in withy special focus in post conflict areas of Darfur States, Blue Nile and host communities in Eastern Sudan States. The project managed to have school census, it has a setup of various indicators with a continuity of five years' follow-up of data in a very simplified manner. That ensured the

easiness of data entry, analysis, and reporting. Two rounds of National Learning Assessment have been developed to assess the quality of education within two grades (three and six) in the Basic Education level. World Bank support has been extended to GOS in developing the ESSP 2018-2022 and the preparation for the next GPE supported programme.

Livelihoods: The Sustainable Livelihoods for Displaced and Vulnerable Communities in the Eastern Sudan Project has undertaken a wide range of livelihood activities in IDPs and host communities, in one of the most impoverished regions of Sudan. Since its inception in October 2013, the project provided livelihood opportunities to 911 households, of which 86% succeeded to increase their monthly income by 59.5%. Phase 11 of the project, has started and become effective in December 2016, two studies have been completed and more than 5,400 people (of which 8% are females), benefited from the project's activities. 37 Small Works (SWs) were identified, four (4) were completed, while 24 are under implementation (more than 10000 are expected to benefit from these SWs). A natural resource management campaign was conducted among the targeted communities and was attended by –approximately- 9000 community members. In Addition, ToT on Environmental awareness and integrated NRM was held and 50 participants attended (out of which 30% are females). The “community Environmental Action Plan” was conducted and 3505 participants attended from the communities.

Peacebuilding: Conflict between different livelihood groups over scarce natural resources in Sudan's peripheral regions is a major driver of fragility and instability. The Sudan Peacebuilding for Development Project implements a wide range of activities designed primarily to promote peace and reduce the incidence of violence between nomadic herders and sedentary farmers along livestock migration routes in Sudan's strife-ridden regions of Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile. In areas where the project has been intervened, the recorded number of violence incidents dropped to 430 in 2016 (compared with 1,184 in 2013, 1,124 in 2014, and 663 in 2015), by demarcating 34,987 km of livestock route and rehabilitating 76 water points. A total of 443,714 beneficiaries benefited from the different activities (234,142 of them benefited from the improved water sources).