UNDP New Deal Support Facility:
Implementation overview
Second quarter 2014

In the second quarter of 2014, UNDP continued to operationalize the New Deal support facility after its launch at the beginning of the year, and engaged with government and donor partners in g7+ countries to discuss support needs and opportunities. Two country allocations were provided from the facility to Sierra Leone and Liberia that will enable UNDP Country Offices to provide quick and flexible support and help ensure continued momentum in the New Deal processes in these countries. Existing UNDP grants in Afghanistan and Somalia continued to be implemented, and the UNDP Country Office in DRC also remained active in supporting New Deal implementation in this country. Opportunities in other countries, including Guinea Bissau and CAR, were discussed with Government representatives.

At the global level, UNDP’s support facility continued to enable g7+ participation in important meetings on a range of issues. The most significant events in the second quarter were the g7+ ministerial in Lome and the fourth global meeting of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding in Freetown. At these meetings, the leadership of the g7+ and co-chairing of the International Dialogue were transferred from the Minister of Finance of Timor Leste, Emilia Pires, to the Minister of Finance of Sierra Leone, Kaifala Marah. This transition marks an important milestone in solidifying the g7+, as well as strengthening the New Deal as the main approach to improve the effectiveness of international engagement in fragile states.

It is expected that activities will continue with increasing intensity in the second half of 2014, with several new allocations for country support and launch of new positions as liaison officers for the g7+ in New York and in Africa.

This implementation overview is the second provided by UNDP from its New Deal support facility on progress to date and is the first to provide financial information, including donor contributions and activity in Q1-Q2 of 2014, as well as an estimate for the rest of 2014. Based on current activities and demand, we expect to be close to projected spending figures in 2014. However, to date we have only received slightly less than half of the donor funding needed for the two-year budget. In order to meet the demand fully in 2014 and continue activities in 2015, it is crucial that we receive additional donor contributions within the next few months.

With this implementation overview, we have tried to strike a balance between background information, updates on developments in the second quarter, information on the specific support from the UNDP facility as well as the impact of this support. The overview does not aim to provide a complete summary of all New Deal implementation activities in the second quarter, but it contains the key information that was available to UNDP in July 2014. We have tried to keep it concise and have chosen not to repeat in full the more extensive background on some countries provided in the report from the first quarter.

UNDP will continue to provide similar quarterly updates from the support facility in order to ensure accountability and to provide a basis for joint decision-making on the strategy and overall direction of the support facility within the framework of the International Dialogue. We also see these updates as part of a collective effort with the International Dialogue Secretariat, the g7+ and other partners to ensure the flow of information on New Deal implementation and provide a basis for collaboration.

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1. Afghanistan

Afghanistan endorsed the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States in 2011 and has established a New Deal coordinating structure based within and led by the Ministry of Finance and also seconded a staff member to the g7+ secretariat based in Timor Leste.

Afghanistan established the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF) in July 2012 that builds on New Deal TRUST and FOCUS principles without explicitly recognizing this. The 5 thematic areas in the TMAF draw on the 5 New Deal PSGs, but do not cover them fully as security and justice are not included. In 2012, the Government’s aid management policy was finalized which builds on the TRUST principles.

In the first half of 2014, the Ministry of Finance, with the support of UNDP, has been in the process of developing a study for the 5 Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals that could inform and potentially translate into or provide strategic guidance to the upcoming national development plan for the Transformation Decade (2014-2019).

Work on the study, originally planned to be completed in late 2013, has been delayed to allow for a new Government to be in place to take the lead on the process. The RCO and UNCT are fully engaged on the ground through regular coordination meetings with MoF as well as with ND donor meetings. However, the overall level of inclusion of a wide range of stakeholders in this early stage of the study will be limited given the political sensitivities and the evolving political situation.

UNDP HQ has allocated $300,000 to support the New Deal process in Afghanistan through MoF, and UNDP Afghanistan is currently engaged with the Ministry in recruiting national, as well as international experts for the study with expertise related to the five PSGs.

MoF has indicated an interest in also conducting an assessment on better understanding the importance of transitioning from aid effectiveness to development effectiveness in the Afghanistan context by looking at using country systems, undertaking joint risk assessments, pooled financing mechanisms, linking up to the 2015 post MDG framework and the 22 National Priority Programmes.

UNDP Afghanistan in discussion with MOF and UNDP HQ is considering to organize a workshop on Using Country Systems in Afghanistan. The objective is to initiate a constructive dialogue to address common concerns, tradeoffs and potential benefits related to using national systems. Given the changing aid landscape and the commitment to help the Government be more self-reliant with greater ownership and leadership, using country systems becomes a vital issue.

UNDP’s contributions & impact in Afghanistan

- UNDP HQ allocated USD 300,000 in 2013 to support the New Deal process in Afghanistan with a focus on conducting a New Deal study to inform a future process.
- In Q2 2014, UNDP Afghanistan has continued to support the Ministry of Finance with the recruitment of national and international consultants to lead on the New Deal study and is also drawing from UNDP’s ExpRes consultant roster.
- UNDP HQ has shared extensive guidance and lessons learned on other New Deal processes and fragility assessments with stakeholders in Afghanistan and the guidance has been reflected in the New Deal study Terms of Reference.
2. Central African Republic

With the onset of the crisis in CAR, precipitated by the coup in March 2013, the debate about implementation of the New Deal came to a pause within CAR. Prior to this, CAR had made some steps towards the implementation of the New Deal including looking at aligning its national planning frameworks to the PSGs. Earlier in 2012, a series of consultations had taken place in Bangui aimed at promoting the New Deal and this included engagements on the issue between the Government, France, UNDP and the World Bank. Towards the end of the second half of 2012, progress had been made including preparations for a compact and a fragility assessment and the selection of the EU as the lead donor for the New Deal.

There has been little or no mention of the New Deal in strategic or planning documents related to the crisis in CAR both by the national actors or the international community, and any reference to the New Deal is absent in Security Council Resolutions, peace building declarations and the Report of the Secretary General on CAR. However, discussions on the New Deal in CAR have featured prominently in meetings of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and the g7+ most recently at the June 2014 meeting in Freetown, where Bienvenu Hervé Kovounbgo, CAR g7+ Point Focal led a discussion on entry points for using the New Deal in CAR. It was concluded that the International Dialogue would work towards a high-level, joint mission to CAR to promote stronger international engagement in the country based on the New Deal.

The CAR Ministry of Planning has indicated that it would like to place the Government’s Emergency Programme under the New Deal Process, conduct a fragility assessment with the support of the g7+ and potentially use the New Deal as re-engagement and planning framework for the post-conflict phase in CAR. The lead donors on the New Deal in country (EU and France) as well as the World Bank and the Africa Development Bank have indicated readiness to support the transitional authorities in this approach when conditions will allow this, and provided that the spirit of the New Deal will inform the preparations for a National Conference. In February a joint WB/EU/UN conflict analysis was conducted with a view to informing any New Deal fragility assessment that would follow later under the leadership of the Government of CAR.

In Q2 2014, UNDP has engaged in dialogue with the Government and the Ministry of Planning to explore opportunities for strengthening government participation in aid coordination and begin sensitization of stakeholders and local representatives of donor agencies in preparation for subsequent implementation of New Deal approaches. UNDP will consider an allocation from the support facility for these purposes.

UNDP is also engaging in the establishment of a UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund for CAR, in line with the New Deal’s focus on integrated and coordinated aid and pooled financing in close cooperation with the World Bank and other donors. The possibility of conducting a joint risk assessment as part of the process of launching the fund is being discussed.

3. Chad

Chad has been active in the g7+ and has taken steps towards engaging in the process. Three workshops have been organized with the support of UNDP and OECD in order to sensitize and train more than 70 government officials, the international community and the civil society in Chad on the New Deal. The PRSP II is structured along the lines of the Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals. However, no further follow-up has been agreed yet.

4. Comoros

A fragility assessment was carried out in Comoros in the second quarter of 2014, beginning with a series of workshops taking place across several of the country's islands. These workshops are being arranged around the five themes of the Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals: Legitimate Politics, Security, Justice, Economic Foundations and Revenues and Services.
It is expected that the results of the Comoros Fragility Assessment will feed into the national plan of the Comoros for 2015-19: The "Accelerated Growth Strategy of Sustainable Development".

5. DRC

A government led, inclusive fragility assessment was conducted in DRC in 2012 with support from UNDP. National development priorities for the five PSGs were identified as part of this exercise, and a fragility spectrum was developed. This has informed subsequent strategy and planning efforts, including by the UN. Furthermore, a list of draft national PSG indicators has been produced through further technical consultations, and the provisional list has been submitted for review by the national statistical office.

In 2013, the Addis Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for DRC and the Great Lakes Region was launched and a monitoring framework was developed, which includes many of the same issues and areas as the fragility assessment and indicator framework for DRC. An effort is now underway to combine the different monitoring frameworks into a single New Deal compact with associated monitoring process, which would inform the work on the PRSP II and the ‘Vision 2035’ planned for 2015.

UNDP plans to engage a team of consultants to support the Government in completing this work in the second half of 2014 with support from the New Deal support facility. UNDP has also committed to support the recruitment of a g7+ liaison officer for Francophone Africa to be based in Kinshasa.

6. Guinea Bissau

Following the 2012 coup, most international development partners have either stopped their aid or channeled their support through CSOs. Key traditional donors significantly reduced their staff presence in the country. Furthermore, staff and financial capacity of the UN system (UNCT, UNDP, UNIOGBIS) and IFI's is limited.

After two rounds of presidential election, on 13 of April and 18 May 2014, José Mário Vaz won the elections and it is hoped that the new Government will be in place and operating by end of July 2014 and this will allow for a full reengagement of the donor community and international actors who have downscaled their engagement.

Miguel Trovoada of Sao Tome and Principe was appointed in July 2014 to take over from Jose Ramos Horta as new SRSG for Guinea Bissau.

Following a g7+ mission to Guinea Bissau in March 2014 with UNDP support, key stakeholders in Guinea Bissau, including the transitional government, UN agencies, donors and UNDP CO indicated interest in implementing the New Deal, including a Fragility Assessment, Compact and work around a pledging conference and revised aid and financing architecture. The g7+ is committed to provide support for this process on a fragile-to-fragile basis. A possible New Deal framework would likely be integrated with other structures, such as the national high level planning commission under review by the Government to adjust its mandate, structure and composition. Guinea Bissau is currently facing the need for immediate financial support and this needs to be balanced with developing a structured medium-term vision and plan.

A draft roadmap for New Deal implementation is currently under development and will be discussed between the Government, g7+ and the UNCT. UNDP HQ visited Guinea Bissau in March and remains in close contact with the Country Office and stands ready to provide technical and financial support to the process from the New Deal support facility.
UNDP’s contributions and impact in Guinea Bissau

- Following a g7+ New Deal sensitization mission focused on a fragility assessment in March 2014, funded through UNDP’s New Deal facility, a UNDP HQ mission to Guinea Bissau was conducted to share methodological guidance and lessons learned on the New Deal process.

- These missions initiated a broader discussion on the New Deal in Guinea Bissau. In Q2 2014, the new Government and other key stakeholders are actively considering the New Deal as a post-election partnership re-engagement framework.

7. Liberia

The Government of Liberia with the US and Sweden as lead donors agreed in 2012 to implement the New Deal in Liberia, and a Task Force was created. A fragility assessment was undertaken and a fragility spectrum was developed, as well as a list of draft national PSG indicators. In 2013, a national plan – the Agenda for Transformation – and a vision document – Liberia Rising 2030 – were launched, reflecting the PSGs and based on the New Deal recommendations of ‘one vision – one plan’. Liberia also developed and launched a New Deal dashboard to track aid disbursement across the five PSGs. In early 2014, momentum picked up again with agreement to move towards a compact.

To support this process a mission from UNDP HQ visited Monrovia from 8-16 May 2014. As an outcome of this, it was agreed that compact will aim to achieve the New Deal PSGs and link these to the Agenda for Transformation as the ‘one plan’, and that its four pillars reflect the PSGs. Consultations on the compact will therefore happen in the AFT pillar working groups, and will engage actors across the Liberian government and international agencies. It was also agreed that a compact will provide a basis for increasing the use of country systems. The Government has signaled that it will aim for an ambitious target for this, based on an incremental process.

UNDP subsequently launched a consultancy on 22 May, 2014 with the goal of producing an inventory of the current use of country systems, which can provide background for this discussion and form a baseline for compact benchmarks. The consultancy was based on an innovative approach that can form basis for similar work elsewhere. At an event on 12 June, 2014 the consultants presented their preliminary findings for representatives from government ministries and international agencies and received positive feedback, which will provide a basis for completing the report and the mapping exercise.

The UNDP HQ mission in May also developed a proposal for funding from the New Deal support facility with an initial amount of USD 244,200 to cover the expenses of the use of country systems consultancy as well as support from consultants for consultations on the compact outline and the roadmap, as well as development of an indicator framework. The proposal was consulted and subsequently agreed by the Government and the lead donors. It was agreed that the allocation will be followed by a second allocation to strengthen the government capacity to monitor and report on the compact, once it is ready later in 2014.

The consultancy to develop an outline and a roadmap for the compact was carried out in mid-June and provided the basis for a high level meeting led by the Minister of Finance on 3 July that confirmed the agreement and the way forward. There was general appreciation of the renewed momentum and the prospects of implementing the New Deal initiatives and the compact. It was agreed that Sector Working Groups will convene meetings before September to review the indicators, and that these meetings will be followed by Pillar level retreats.

It was also agreed that the compact can become the basis for Liberia’s engagement with the
Peacebuilding Commission and that the existing Statement on Mutual Commitments could be combined with the compact. This can help streamline and simplify reporting mechanisms and provide a more comprehensive and unified overview of progress. UNDP is currently exploring to provide additional support through a consultant to develop national indicators and a reporting framework for the compact.

**UNDP’s contributions & impact in Liberia**

- A UNDP HQ mission supported consultations among key stakeholders in Monrovia in May 2014. This provided the basis for agreement on moving forward with a compact in Liberia.
- An initial allocation of USD 244,200 was provided as an allocation from UNDP’s New Deal support facility in Q2 2014.
- A consultancy financed from this allocation developed an outline and a roadmap for a compact that was subsequently confirmed in a high level meeting led by the Minister of Finance.
- A second consultancy was launched to produce an inventory of use of country systems and provides a basis for the TRUST part of the compact. Initial results were discussed in a workshop and provides the basis for a joint understanding of these issues.
- The consultancy is based on an innovative approach that can form basis for similar work elsewhere.

8. Sierra Leone

A nationally led and inclusive fragility assessment was conducted in June 2012 and a fragility spectrum completed. The Agenda for Prosperity (2013-2018) was subsequently launched in July 2013 with priorities covering all the 5 PSGs, and is considered the "One Vision, One Plan" for Sierra Leone. Draft national PSG indicators were also produced and are currently under review by the national statistical office. In Q1 2014, Sierra Leone agreed a Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) with its development partners and will be reporting on progress on the MAF results framework and the PSG indicators – as an integral part of the MAF - on a quarterly basis.

In Q2, from 26th May – 6th June, Sierra Leone conducted an update of its original fragility assessment, focusing on all the 13 Districts including the capital (Freetown). The country-owned and led process included discussions focused on the 5 PSGs and selected indicators. The exercise was supported jointly by the UNDP and the World Bank with a team of local and international consultants to facilitate gathering and sharing of information and writing of the report.

The aim of the exercise was to build on the country’s 2012 fragility assessment so as to provide a situational update of how Sierraleonians view fragility and resilience at the district levels and nationally. There was an overall good balance between state and non-state actors represented at every workshop. An outstanding and innovative achievement of the fragility assessment exercise was that it increased the awareness of the drivers of fragility especially at the local level in the 13 Districts. Most local participants were not aware before of the concept of fragility and the 2012 assessment. Furthermore, the final report will be able to show geographical patterns in fragility in Sierra Leone.

Also in Q2, the fourth global meeting of the IDPS was held on the 18th June 2014 in Freetown, hosted by the Government of Sierra Leone. The IDPS meeting had an ambitious agenda, and as such there was no time to present the findings of the updated Sierra Leone Fragility Assessment. Nonetheless the meeting was a successful event in other ways as participants greatly benefited from discussions (drivers of fragility and recommendations) on the current situation and the way forward in countries like Central African Republic, South Sudan, Somalia and Guinea.
Bissau. At the meeting, the Sierra Leonean Minister of Finance, Kaifala Marah was confirmed in his new position as co-chair of the IDPS, succeeding Emilia Pires.

As a first step towards developing a proposal for funding from UNDP’s New Deal support facility, a mission from UNDP HQ took place from 8-15th April that consulted with the Government, key donors, civil society and other stakeholders and developed a draft proposal with a total budget of USD 271,550. This includes funding for the Fragility Assessment consultancies and logistics, as well as support for government capacity to monitor and report on the Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF). Due to the Government’s limited resources and current lack of adequate capacity, a senior staff will be recruited to provide technical assistance to officials at DACO over the next two years with financial support from the New Deal facility.

After the election of Minister Marah as Chair of the g7+ and co-chair of the IDPS, it has also been discussed that part of allocation from the support facility can fund support capacity for communication and coordination related to his new roles.

**UNDP’s contributions & impact in Sierra Leone**

- USD 271,550 was provided as an allocation from UNDP’s support facility in Q2 2014.
- A team of consultants was recruited jointly with the WB to support Government in updating the Fragility Assessment.
- The consultations on the Fragility Assessment were completed, and this led to a strengthened joint understanding of remaining fragility issues among national and local stakeholders and will provide a basis for MAF reporting on fragility indicators.
- The methodology of local Fragility Assessment consultations was innovative and can be replicated in other countries.

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**9. Somalia**

After formally launching the New Deal on 14 May 2013, Somalia agreed a compact with its international partners at a conference in Brussels on September 16, 2013, and USD 2.4 billion where pledged. UNDP HQ allocated USD 250,000 to the Country Office for the process and seconded a staff member for 1 month to support the overall process from Nairobi and Mogadishu.

Somalia has fully embraced the New Deal as the main framework to define a new partnership between the government and the international community. Somalia has adopted its very specific New Deal process and decided not to conduct a New Deal Fragility Assessment but instead focused directly on developing a New Deal compact.
Following the establishment of the compact, Somalia and its partners developed the Somalia Reconstruction and Development Facility in Q4 of 2013 to implement the compact and operationalize the compact at the UN established a Multi-Partner Trust Fund as part of this. The UN MPTF supports priority interventions in all PSG areas and supports the immediate delivery and capacity development in close coordination between UN and WB, the donor community and the Government. The UN MPTF was established to ensure coherence and alignment function for on-going existing UN programmes and support new identified priority interventions. It has two funding streams to accelerate use of country systems, one stream for participating UN organizations (UN Agencies, UNSOM, UNSOA) and IOM and one stream that allows national entities to apply for funds through the government coordinating entity. All funding streams are situated within a common SDRF governance arrangement with the aim of building upon the New Deal compact to establish a common financing strategy/pipeline, common M&E framework, risk assessment and mitigation system. The government has set up an Aid Coordination Unit as key government interlocutor for the SDRF.

As of Q2, 2014, the SDRF, UNMPTF and the Government Aid Coordination Unit are operational and on June 12 the first meeting of the SDRF Steering Committee took place, chaired by the Somalia Prime Minister and co-chaired by the EU Ambassador. There was a broad representation from states and regions.

The Compact implementation has regained its momentum, which needs to be maintained. While previous meetings focused mainly on processes and establishment of the various SDRF governance bodies, for the discussions focused more on substance. A recently completed development assistance mapping exercise was highlighted as an important step towards more accountability and transparency in aid delivery in Somalia.

Moving forward, information-sharing and communication between states and regions needs to be enhanced and the Aid Coordination Unit needs to be strengthened. No agreement has yet been reached on the initial funding priorities under the UNMPTF and WB MPF, but there is now a proposed pipeline on the table for discussion, and all partners are now aware of the initial direction. PSG Working Groups will continue to meet regularly to coordinate program development, in line with the Compact partnership principles.

The Governments of Somalia and Denmark, among other partners, will be organizing a Somalia New Deal conference in November 2014 in Copenhagen to both keep the momentum of high level support among key development partners and to address and review key technical challenges of the compact implementation process.

**UNDP’s contributions & impact in Somalia**

- UNDP HQ provided USD 250,000 in May 2013 to finance national capacities and consultations in the lead up of the New Deal compact development.
- UNDP HQ seconded a staff member to support the national process in 2013, share guidance from the International Dialogue and lessons learned from other New Deal processes.
- In Q2 2014, UNDP Somalia and the Resident Coordinators Office remain key partners of the Somali Government in implementing the New Deal compact and provide support to the Aid Coordination Unit, PSG Working Groups, SDRF and UNMPTF.

**10. South Sudan**

A fragility assessment was conducted in the second half of 2012 with support from UNDP,
including a staff secondment, and a decision to establish a New Deal compact was made in connection with the South Sudan Economic Partners’ Forum in April 2013. An extensive consultation process was launched to prepare for the compact in the fall of 2013 also with UNDP support and financial contribution from DFID, the Netherlands and Denmark. The consultation included a series of local consultations in all 10 states of South Sudan. However, the finalization and signing of the compact was interrupted due to the fighting that broke out in December 2013.

In Q1 and Q2 of 2014, the current situation in South Sudan and lessons learned from the compact process were discussed among stakeholders, including at the fourth global meeting of the IDPS, and there was agreement that the New Deal process would be resumed as soon as the situation allows it.

As of Q2, 2014, the New Deal continues to enjoy high-level government support and buy-in from the highest political level, including from the Office of the President and Prime Minister. Timor-Leste continues to be a strong advocate of the New Deal process at the global level, and since stepping down as g7+ Chair in May 2014 Timor-Leste’s Minister of Finance Emilia Pires has become a Special Envoy for the g7+ and the New Deal and Timor Leste’s Prime Minister Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão a Special Advisor. While Sierra Leone has taken over as chair of the g7+, the g7+ secretariat will remain in Dili, Timor-Leste.

As the Government proceeds with its plans for New Deal implementation at country level including the development of One Vision, One Plan, the Compact, the Trust Assessment and a follow-up Fragility Assessment, UNDP continues to be engaged in consultations with the Government of Timor-Leste on possible new initiatives as part of the national New Deal process.

11. Timor-Leste

In 2013, Timor-Leste established a New Deal Implementation Task Force led by the Ministry of Finance. Timor-Leste also identified focal points from relevant government institutions for each of the five PSGs. A fragility assessment was undertaken in 2012. As part of this process, draft national PSG indicators were identified and a draft fragility spectrum was completed. The outcomes of the fragility assessment were presented at a workshop, attended by the UN Secretary General Ban–Ki Moon in 2012.

In 2013, the Government announced the establishment of the Development Policy Coordination Mechanism (DPCM) for the Government Five-year Programme 2012-2017 and the Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030. This mechanism will serve as a tool to coordinate and monitor governmental actions and development partner assistance under four sectors, namely Infrastructure Strategic Development Sector, Social Strategic Sector, Governance/Institutional Development Strategic Sector and Economic Strategic Sector. PSGs primarily relate to the two sectors: Governance/Institutional Development Strategic Sector and Economic Strategic Sector.

12. Yemen

Yemen established a Mutual Accountability Framework in 2012 and has since conducted a national dialogue. While these processes did not build strictly on a New Deal approach, they fulfil many of the requirements for a compact and a fragility assessment.

Yemen became a g7+ member in May 2014 in connection with the g7+ Ministerial meeting in Lome. The UNDP Country Office has engaged in a discussions with government counterparts to explore how the New Deal can be operationalized. UNDP has indicated that funding from the New Deal support facility would be available for this, including for strengthened aid management capacity.
13. Global Level Support

Travel facilitation (deliverable B)

In Q2 2014, UNDP supported travel for the following meetings and events at the request of the Secretariats of the IDPS and the g7+:

- Participation of 5 Somali regional representatives in meeting with DAC and g7+ Chairs in Nairobi. This meeting helped address the challenge of ensuring sufficient momentum in the implementation of the Somali Compact.

- Participation of the CAR g7+ focal point in the Spring Meetings in Washington. This enabled a stronger voice of CAR at the New Deal related side events at the Spring Meetings.

- 15 g7+ participants in the ministerial meeting of the g7+ in Lome. This meeting was a crucial step towards a stronger and more institutionalized g7+ with the transition of the Chairing role to Kaifala Marah and the adoption of a draft charter for the g7+.

- Participation of the g7+ co-chairmanship in meeting in Paris on future organization of the IDPS Secretariat. The meeting was an important preparatory step towards agreement on how to strengthen the functioning of the IDPS Secretariat.

- Participation of 3 g7+ representatives in Expert Meeting in Addis on indicators for post 2015 framework. The expert meeting helped lay the ground for the breakthrough agreement in the Open Working Group on including Goal number 16 related to conflict, justice and institutions.

- 29 g7+ participants in the fourth global meeting of the IDPS, and meetings of the Implementation Working Group and the Steering Group in Freetown. The meetings discussed and agreed on joint action to address the situations in four crisis countries, how to complete and strengthen the annual IDPS progress report and draw lessons learned from New Deal implementation until now, and how to strengthen the work planning and the Secretariat Function of the IDPS.

UNDP in cooperation with the g7+ Secretariat has confirmed that the g7+ travelers did participate in the meetings as expected. During this period, UNDP has also worked closely with both Secretariats to ensure that deadlines are met, which is crucial to ensure low ticket costs and avoid losses due to aborted trips. This remains a challenge. All trips supported in Q2 were on economy class according to UNDP’s rules, but it should be noted that the travel facility allows applications for permission for business class travel on an exceptional basis for cabinet ministers, and this could also contribute to increasing costs.

The total number of trips supported by UNDP in Q2 was 54, which is a higher level than planned for in the budget of the support facility. The total number of trips in the first half of 2014 was 81 against 70 expected for the whole year. Although, the number of trips in the second half of 2014 is expected to be lower, there is no doubt about the increasing trend, and that this will have implications for the overall budget of the facility if it continues. UNDP therefore suggest that members of the IDPS and stakeholders in the support facility consider the balance between the increased cost of travel and the important results achieved through participation in international meetings, and that this is discussed at a forthcoming meeting of the IDPS if necessary.

Strengthening of g7+ (deliverable C)

After discussions in Q1 on Terms of Reference for an g7+ liaison officer in New York with the Permanent Missions in New York, a final version was endorsed by the g7+ in Q2 and the process of establishing the post and advertising it was launched. This is now expected to be completed in Q3.

Discussions about the Terms of Reference of a g7+ liaison officer in Africa which is expected to be positioned in Kinshasa also proceeded and it is expected that this post will be launched in Q3. Support was offered to the Ministry of Finance in Sierra Leone to ensure coordination and communication capacity of the new g7+ Chair and IDPS co-chair to enable him to carry out his
tasks with substantial support from the respective Secretariats in Paris and Dili. The g7+ secretariat in Dili and Co-Chair will discuss and agree on the details of this arrangement. This support can be funded from the allocation provided to the Sierra Leone from the New Deal facility in Q2.

**Consultant Roster**

UNDP is continuing to add consultants under the New Deal profile of the Rapid Response Roster and is currently looking for more consultants with experience in risk assessment and risk management. A number of experienced French and Portuguese speakers have recently been added. CVs from the roster have been circulated to a number of UNDP Country Offices to facilitate local recruitment processes, including to support a fragility assessment in Sierra Leone and to provide technical support to the g7+ secretariat in Timor Leste. Consultants from UNDP’s ExpRes roster are currently also being considered for assignments in Q3 in Afghanistan, CAR, Guinea Bissau, Liberia and Somalia.
14. Financial overview

30 June 2014

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UNDP, July 2014

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<sup>1</sup> USD 1,072,607 of this received as first tranche in Q1-Q2 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Committed by the donor but not yet received in Q1-Q2 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Allocations made to Liberia and Sierra Leone. As of 30 June, USD 116,355 is spent from these allocations.

<sup>4</sup> Based on expected additional allocations to Liberia, Guinea Bissau, DRC, Yemen and Somalia as well as one-year allocation for support staff.

<sup>5</sup> Based on continued frequency of travel in second half of 2014.

<sup>6</sup> Allocations for two-year contracts of g7+ liaison officers.

<sup>7</sup> 8% General Management Services of grants according to UNDP policies and procedures mandated by the Executive Board.