



# ETHIOPIA

## Recovery Strategy for Ethiopia

### Disaster Context

Regional issues and disparities combined with man-made and natural disasters (particularly frequent droughts) have significantly affected socio-economic opportunities in some regions of Ethiopia. The country faced external distortions and internal imbalances that worsened vulnerability levels of the poor and posed the need for a recovery strategy (recovery not only from drought and war, but also from structural weaknesses). A general consensus has been emerging over the past two years (as also reflected in the commitment around the Food Security and Rural Development Strategies) on the existence of chronic, predictable, underlying structural challenges that need to be addressed in conjunction with the emergency presently facing Ethiopia. A recovery strategy for Ethiopia needs to be underpinned by interventions that would generate and develop the necessary capacity and an environment conducive to sustainable longer-term development.

The Government of Ethiopia, through its Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Commission, has formulated an “Assistance Requirements and Implementation Strategy for 2002.” This strategy calls for a comprehensive approach to linking programmes that save lives (relief) with development initiatives. Food security strategies and related rural development strategies have been elaborated and put in place, and a good series of policy packages have been outlined in the Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Programme. At this pivotal point in time, it is critical to build upon these and move the process forward, particularly through specific, targeted and urgent programme interventions that would help tackle many of the challenges that underlay the chronic nature of some of these problems.

### Project Title

Recovery Strategy for Ethiopia (ETH/02/002)

### Sectors

- Disaster recovery
- Disaster preparedness
- Multi-sectoral, including rural development and food security

### Funding

- UK Department for International Development (DFID) contributed \$506,000
- UNDP has contributed some TRAC 1.1.1 resources, however the amount is currently under discussion with the government: the Somali National Regional State government has made contributions in-kind

### Partners

- National and SNRS government institutions
- DFID
- Government of Norway
- Pastoralist Communications Initiative
- NGOs and CSOs
- UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UN country team, UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia (UN-EUE), International Organisation for Migration, and World Bank

### Programme Activities

As a “pilot” programme, UNDP has taken initial steps towards the forming of a process to address transitional and long-term needs in the SNRS. Based on demand asserted during last year’s UNCT meeting with the SNRS government, a number of missions to the SNRS, and UNDP’s mandate, areas of UNDP support are mainly:

- Coordination and planning
- Capacity-building at all levels;

- Standard setting for development interventions provision of technical services
- Information sharing, mobilization of potential partners and identification of long-term funding for development programmes

Following the recommendations of the Recovery Workshop and subsequent discussions with different government organisations and NGOs, the following actions are being undertaken:

- An information hub is being established to serve as a resource centre for the region, where development actors obtain access to e-mail, Internet services, and regional databases. The Regional Management Institute has provided a venue for the resource centre.
- UNDP is working with government institutions to appraise their ICT requirements both in terms of technology and training. Before the end of March 2003, the set up for Internet connectivity and ICT training will be discussed and finalized in cooperation with the government and other partners.
- A qualified gender consultant has been identified to conduct institutional analysis to advise the regional government on proper gender analysis and mainstreaming issues and to provide gender training for senior staff. The proposal received from the Women Development Initiative Project to train women groups in four *Woredas* is being appraised and trainers are being identified.
- In consultation with the Regional Cooperative Bureau, UNDP is supporting the establishment of Saving and Credit Cooperatives (starting with three salt cooperatives) to promote income diversification that could eventually grow into Micro Finance Institutions.
- DPPC has accepted a UNDP proposal to broaden the objectives of the existing Emergency Coordination Forum to address a wide range of development issues and expand the membership to involve relevant development actors in the region. Coordination and information sharing is now included, as is recovery, sustainable livelihood, asset protection, and longer-term development activities.
- UNDP is working with IOM to devise a methodology for reintegration of internally displaced persons. The first two communities

have been identified, and activities will start soon. In this respect UNDP is coordinating with UNICEF, the Mother and Child Development Organisation, Norwegian Church Aid and other relevant partners in the region.

- In view of linking relief efforts with recovery towards longer-term development, key partners are considering pilot employment generation schemes to promote asset protection and reduction of vulnerability. Jijiga, Shinile and Gode zones are seen as potential areas to initiate a pilot programme. To this effect, a multi-disciplinary task force will be established to carry out need assessments with the communities and prepare on-shelf projects.
- UNDP is supporting the development of a curriculum for the Regional Management Institute in cooperation with the Open University in UK.
- UNDP is working with the Pastoralist Communication Initiative (World Bank, DFID, Sussex-IDS, UN-EUE) to in order to continue networking and communication and supplement the information generating process with implementation of recovery and longer-term development projects.

Implementation of recovery activities might vary from region to region based on participatory assessment of priority interventions.