

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT 2/2010



The scientific sampling phase of UNEP's environmental assessment of Ogoniland, Nigeria was launched in April. The final assessment report is expected to be released in early 2011

Post-Crisis Environmental Assessment

Under the Post-Crisis Environmental Assessment pillar of the Disasters and Conflicts sub-programme, UNEP offers technical assistance to countries where critical ecosystems or natural resources have been directly or indirectly degraded, damaged or destroyed by conflicts and disasters. Field-based assessments using sound science and state-of-the-art technology identify environmental risks to human health, livelihoods and security with the aim of integrating environmental needs into relief and recovery programmes.

Oil contamination assessment in Ogoniland, Nigeria

Project implementation: Following the successful implementation of the reconnaissance phase of UNEP's environmental assessment during the first quarter, the scientific sampling phase commenced in April with technical training of UNEP project staff, as well as representatives from the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency, the Department of Petroleum Resources, the State Ministry of Environment, and Rivers State University of Science and Technology. The main focus of the training was to transfer knowledge on proper sampling procedures in the



UNEP's Disasters and Conflicts sub-programme is comprised of four operational pillars: post-crisis environmental assessment, post-crisis environmental recovery, disaster risk reduction and environmental cooperation for peacebuilding. While the Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch (PCDMB) is tasked with coordinating the theme across UNEP, the regional offices and several divisions play an instrumental role in programme implementation. Innovative partnerships with UN and other international organizations – including the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit and the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) – are also an essential feature of delivery.

various scientific disciplines, work safety in the field, and data management. The project team then made significant progress in the field during Q2, including the installation of over 100 wells for monitoring and analysis of groundwater quality, the collection of soil and sediment samples, and the gathering of flora and fauna samples to analyse the impact of oil on the agricultural and forestry sectors in Ogoniland. The scientific sampling phase will continue into Q3, during which field activities will be expanded to determine the impacts of oil contamination on public health.

Stakeholder consultations: Since the beginning of the scientific phase of the assessment, the project team has stepped up communication and outreach within the local communities in Ogoniland, and to wider audiences at the regional and national levels. Among recent initiatives was the inauguration of the Community Consultation Committee (CCC). Composed of local Ogonis representing youth and women's groups, traditional rulers, and other local stakeholders in Port Harcourt, the CCC creates a forum for positive and constructive dialogue and exchange of ideas on how to facilitate the implementation of the project, which still faces significant challenges, particularly due to the deterioration of the complex security situation. Despite these challenges, which have on occasion dictated temporary suspensions of field activities in certain areas, the project enjoys strong support throughout Ogoniland as well as from the state and national governments. The Governor of Rivers State, among others, has on a number of occasions explicitly expressed his unconditional support to the project.



Monitoring and analysis of water quality forms an important part of UNEP's environmental assessment in Ogoniland



Stakeholder consultations intensified in Q2, in an effort to promote dialogue and transparency on UNEP's mandate in Ogoniland

Democratic Republic of Congo post-conflict environmental assessment

Significant progress was made during the reporting period on a detailed, national-scale integrated environmental assessment covering issues such as environment and ecosystems, natural hazards, climate change impacts and associated social linkages, including poverty, health, migration and conflict. A major field mission – examining issues such as mining, forestry, water resources, agriculture, urban environment and fisheries – was carried out in central DR Congo, in the provinces of Bandundu, Kasai Occidental and Kasai Oriental. Highlights of the field mission included a visit to the country's leading mining enterprise in Mbuji-Mayi, as well as remote artisanal sites. A major food, water and fuelwood crisis exacerbated by poor roads, derelict infrastructure and geographic isolation was observed. The field team comprised UNEP staff and representatives from the central and provincial Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (MENCT). Partner organizations, including FAO, assisted the mission with provision of logistical support. In addition, site visits to the main water supply plants in Kinshasa were conducted. On-site water testing was performed and samples sent to Spiez Laboratory in Switzerland for analysis. In addition, extensive consultations on priority environmental challenges were conducted with various government authorities, civil society organizations and international agencies. UNEP's final post-conflict assessment report on DR Congo is expected to be released in 2011.



A major field mission was carried out in Central DR Congo during Q2, to examine issues such as mining, forestry and fisheries

Environment, Humanitarian Action and Early Recovery

UNEP's Environment, Humanitarian and Early Recovery programme further increased its exposure to the humanitarian community through a range of initiatives during Q2. The French NGO Groupe URD and UNEP co-organized two additional pilot training sessions on Mainstreaming Environment into Humanitarian Action, the first of which took place in N'Djamena (Chad) on 12-14 April, and the second in France on 3-7 May. The objective of the training was to provide environmental focal points within humanitarian organizations with the tools to identify key environmental issues for further follow-up in the context of early recovery. These sessions were attended by representatives from a wide range of UN agencies and humanitarian clusters, as well as major NGOs, who all recognized the need for integration of environment as a component of humanitarian action. In addition, a new online resource centre on Environment and Humanitarian Action (<http://postconflict.unep.ch/humanitarianaction>) was developed to facilitate access to existing guidelines, tools, training, case studies, best practices and other resources in order to further equip actors to integrate environment into humanitarian action. This centre was established after completion of a comprehensive desk study and consultation with cluster leads and partners, who expressed a strong demand for this type of resource. It is

<http://postconflict.unep.ch/humanitarianaction>



A new online resource center was developed to facilitate access to existing tools, guidelines, training and best practice on how to integrate environmental considerations into humanitarian action

targeted at a wide range of humanitarian actors including field staff, programme managers, country offices and policy-makers. Finally UNEP, together with the INSEAD Humanitarian Research Group and Unilever, developed a project proposal aimed at investigating possibilities to apply best environmental practice in "greening" the supply chain of humanitarian operations. The main partners in the project will be the IASC Shelter Cluster, Logistics Cluster, Health Cluster, and Wash Cluster, as well as MSF Switzerland, World Vision International, and CARE International. The objective is to develop approaches that would improve efficiency of the supply chain in order to reduce the environmental impact of humanitarian operations.

Emergency response by the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU)

Gulf of Mexico oil spill: The Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU) closely monitored the massive oil spill that began in the Gulf of Mexico following the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon oil drilling rig on 20 April, coordinating continuous information-sharing between UNEP and the US Environmental Protection Agency, the International Maritime Organization, and the European Commission, in addition to several key donor partners. An official Offer of Assistance was conveyed from UN Under-Secretary-General John Holmes to the US Ambassador to the UN, Susan E. Rice, and the US Government.

Outreach, advocacy and training by the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU)

Environmental Emergencies book launch: To mark its fifteenth anniversary, the JEU launched the publication “Environmental Emergencies - Learning from multilateral response to disasters,” on 22 April. The event, held at the Geneva International Conference Centre, was attended by 70 participants from UN agencies, NGOs, national governments, academia. Featuring a roundtable discussion on how environmental emergencies have been addressed by multilateral response around the globe, and the lessons learned from these experiences, the event was chaired by Ambassador Toni Frisch, Deputy Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Chairman of the Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies (AGEE). Copies of the book can be obtained from the JEU, or found online at: <http://ochaonline.un.org/ochalinkclick.aspx?link=ocha&docId=1163825>.

Awareness-raising on environmental emergencies: In mid-May, two staff of the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU) accompanied a Swiss delegation led by Ambassador Toni Frisch to Nairobi for meetings with the UNEP Executive Director and other senior managers. In addition, Switzerland hosted an informal ambassadorial luncheon, which was

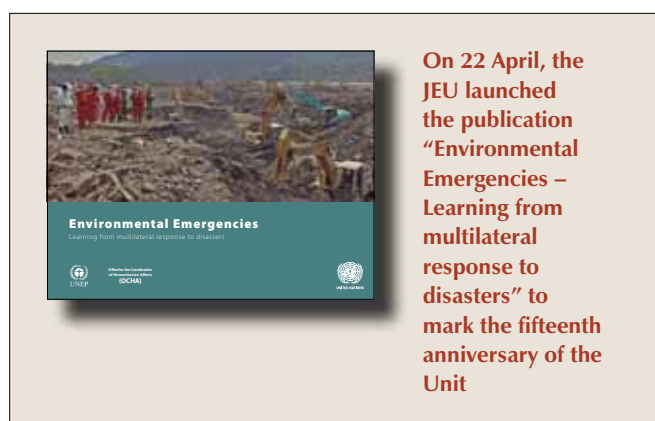


In May, the JEU organized and delivered the third Environmental Emergencies Training course in Arlington, USA

attended by several Member States. In particular, support was expressed by several participants for a potential Governing Council decision on crisis response, as well as for Switzerland’s organization of an ECOSOC side event on “Environmental Emergencies at Humanitarian and Environmental Crossroads” held on 15 July in New York.

Environmental Emergencies Training: The third Environmental Emergencies Training (EET-3) course was held for 30 trainees in Arlington, VA, from 3-7 May 2010, following previous EETs held in the Netherlands in August 2008 and in Singapore in November 2009. EET-3 was organized and delivered by the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (JEU), and hosted by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The five-day course draws largely upon the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) system training methodology, and is intended to prepare national environmental experts for international deployment in collaboration with UN emergency response teams in the field, thereby contributing to strengthening the international response capacity for environmental emergencies. EET-3 featured a day-long simulation exercise held at the training grounds of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, used to recreate field conditions encountered by environmental experts dispatched to an international disaster scene. The event marked a major milestone in expanding the resource network for environmental emergencies into the North American region, with participants from the US EPA, Environment Canada and the Netherlands.

Guidelines on Disaster Waste Management: With the support of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit finalized guidelines for dealing with disaster waste management – an often-overlooked aspect of disasters with a mandate that cuts across various UN agencies. The JEU plans to take these guidelines before the Inter-Agency Standing Committee in September, with the hopes of (a) having the guidelines endorsed by UN agencies and (b) having responsibility for disaster waste management assigned to one or more of the humanitarian clusters.



Post-Crisis Environmental Recovery

Based on the outcomes of environmental assessments, UNEP works to develop recovery programmes that encompass environmental governance, clean-up and rehabilitation, and ecosystem management projects. These programmes provide an initial anchor for UNEP in crisis-affected countries, which can be used as a basis for wider programming involving other priority areas. UNEP also acts as the focal point for environmental issues within the UN country team and works to integrate environmental needs into UN recovery programmes.

Sudan country programme

Political context and programme development: In April 2010, elections were held across Sudan for the first time since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (2005). The new National Unity and Southern Sudanese governments have given prominence to the environmental portfolio, with both Governments founding Environmental Ministries, and reciprocating the privilege to nominate Ministers. This is a

constructive step, indicating a willingness to engage broadly on environmental issues. In this context, UNEP's Integrated Environment Programme is well positioned, and is being sought out by leaders. While conflict and insecurity continue to pose significant challenges to movement in Darfur and Southern Sudan, UNEP has been able to foster environmental programming through strong relations with local actors and partners. Upon invitation from State Governments, UNEP is also increasing its presence in Eastern Sudan and Southern Kordofan.

Timber and Energy project: Building on the success of the Keep Juba Clean Campaign (2009), UNEP worked with local authorities during Q2 to launch a Keep Juba Green Campaign. Distributing seedlings, cloth bags and engaging through local radio and television as well as schools, the campaign encourages reduction of waste, promotion of sustainable livelihoods and awareness of climate change. Over the course of the year, the campaign will see an additional 500,000 trees planted across Southern Sudan states. Moreover, the second phase of the Darfur Forestry Project has begun. Consultations with community leaders, researchers and authorities have been positive, indicating a strong interest in an integrated natural resource management approach to forestry catchments. Site visits to



The Keep Juba Green campaign was launched in June to promote sustainable livelihoods and awareness of climate change. The campaign will see an additional 500,000 trees planted across Southern Sudan over the course of the year



UNEP's efforts to increase public awareness of responsible water use practices in Sudan have led to broad acceptance to engage in a collaborative process to ensure appropriate integrated water management systems are put in place

nurseries, resource centres and micro-enterprises in all three States underscore the importance of offering sustainable livelihoods opportunities. The programme design will be completed by September for implementation in the fall. Research encouraging the promulgation of alternative energy technologies has also begun. The experience of groups working with displaced and vulnerable communities in promoting solar cookers, fuel efficient stoves and other technologies is being documented to discern appropriate practices and means to scale up efforts.

Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) project:

In Q2, UNEP facilitated a highly successful knowledge exchange between Sudanese and South African officials working in water resource management. A mission by Sudanese officials to South Africa took place in May, during which participants explored legislation and public policy, inter-ministerial collaboration, infrastructure development and community-based approaches to water catchment management. The mission served as an important catalyst for increased dialogue and exchange amongst federal and state ministries. As a follow-up, newly formed inter-departmental committees hosted workshops, as well as a speaking tour by UNEP's South African and Sudanese experts. UNEP leveraged the mission and speaking tour to increase public awareness of responsible water use practices as well as encourage a wide spectrum of stakeholders to engage on options for improved management. As a result, a number of priority water catchments have been identified in Darfur and there is a broad acceptance to engage in a collaborative process to ensure appropriate integrated water resource

management systems are put in place. In addition, the first aerobic sewage treatment site in Juba was completed in April and is now fully operational. In combination with the construction of clean water dispensers and solid waste management systems, this is an important step to address water contamination problems in the Southern Sudanese capital. The Japanese government has also agreed to fund a study to introduce environmentally sustainable solid waste management practices and corrective measures to reduce water contamination from the current landfill.

Aid and Environment project: UNEP continued to offer technical advice to the humanitarian community on mainstreaming environmental considerations into its programming and operations in Sudan. Ongoing analysis indicates that to date, nearly half of all humanitarian projects integrated environmental activities as part of their programmes. Building on this, UNEP has been invited to provide environmental expertise to UNAMID and UNMIS for the preparation of integrated strategic frameworks. This is an opportunity to encourage environmentally responsible practices in peacekeeping operations.

Southern Sudan programme: The establishment of a new Ministry of Environment in Southern Sudan has given prominence to a number of institutes supported by UNEP, including the Environmental Information Centre and the Department for Natural Resource Management. As the Minister assumes office, UNEP experts have been called upon to assist departments to prepare for public consultations on Southern Sudan's first environmental act.

Afghanistan country programme

Political context and programme development: The political context of the reporting period was primarily dominated by reconciliation and the Peace *Jirga* that took place from the 3 to 5 June 2010. The final communiqué called upon government opponents to cease hostilities, and requested the Afghan Government to draft a multilateral peace programme as a national strategy for sustainable peace. The overall security situation, however, continued to deteriorate. In the lead to the Peace *Jirga*, on 17 May, Kabul witnessed a major suicide attack against a convoy of ISAF troops, killing six soldiers and fourteen civilians, and reportedly injuring 47 others. Other security incidents included shooting, injuring and kidnapping by the Taliban. Despite this background, UNEP's programme in Afghanistan made steady progress during Q2, and witnessed a number of changes. After six and a half years with UNEP in Afghanistan, Belinda Bowling, the Afghanistan Programme Manager, left in early April to pursue new professional opportunities. Recruitment of a new Programme Manager is underway. In addition, the new UNEP office and guesthouse compound in Bamiyan City were completed during the reporting period, and two international staff were relocated to pursue project implementation from the new office. Finally, a mid-term review and feasibility assessment for another phase of UNEP programming in Afghanistan was conducted by EC consultants in collaboration with UNEP staff from the 13 May to 1 June.

Institutional capacity-building: Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Authority (NEPA) made substantial changes in its organizational and staffing structures effective from 21 March 2010. In order to smooth the transition, UNEP provided institutional development support in defining and refining the mandate and scope of each division, as well as for the development of annual work plans. In addition, UNEP developed a gender-focused technical training programme for NEPA's women staff on environmental management issues. UNEP also continued working with the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) to develop two sub-programmes for Surveillance and Planning and Community-based Natural Resource Management for the period March 2010 to March 2011.

Environmental law and policy: In Q2, UNEP supported MAIL to finalize the Rangeland Law as well as to address the final amendments to the Forest Law, as suggested by the Environment and Natural Resource Commission in the Lower House of the Parliament. UNEP has also continued discussions with MAIL and NEPA regarding the development of Protected Areas regulations. On 26-27 May, a two-day Introductory Workshop on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA) was held on for selected NEPA, MAIL and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) staff.

Environmental impact assessment (EIA) and pollution control: A report was drafted by UNEP for NEPA to introduce three emission standards, on brick kiln, cement



Field surveys and analysis were undertaken for seven new Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) project sites in Badakhshan and Kabul provinces during Q2

kiln and industrial boilers respectively. Moreover, UNEP closely worked with NEPA's Sustainable Development Division to jointly review EIA regulations and procedures. In order to help improve the understanding of existing policy and regulatory documents, technical training materials were developed and provided to NEPA staff. UNEP, together with the NGO ECODIT, also provided technical assistance to NEPA in developing a brochure on EIA procedures. Finally, mentoring sessions focusing on evaluation of EIA project components, and on the issuance of Terms and Conditions for certificate/permits, were held throughout the reporting period for Division staff.

Environmental education and outreach: In Kabul, World Environment Day 2010 was celebrated by supporting NEPA and Centre for Contemporary Art in Kabul University. UNEP participated in an exhibition on reusing plastic and other materials to reduce waste material accumulation and to promote income-generating activities. In Bamiyan, the day was celebrated by involving school children, community groups members, and government partners, who held a short ceremony at Khushkak Valley in relation to the WED 2010 theme "Biodiversity, Natural and Healthy Ecosystems and Ecological Restoration." Participants also walked to the proposed Shah Foladi protected area. Moreover, UNEP has continued training sessions on different environmental education and awareness-raising topics for NEPA's Division of public outreach. UNEP has also helped NEPA to improve its relationship in dealing with the Afghan media. In addition, UNEP provided fifteen lectures to the undergraduate students in the Department of Environment at the Faculty of Geo-sciences at Kabul University. Finally, further to three environmental journalism workshops organized last quarter, UNEP has been supporting workshop participants through a common internet network to encourage them to report on the environmental issues.

Community-based natural resource management (CBNRM): Field surveys and socio-economic analysis were undertaken for seven new CBNRM project sites in Badakhshan and Kabul provinces during the reporting period. In addition, monitoring and evaluation of existing CBNRM sites was conducted to determine future field activities: fourteen CBNRM sites were monitored and fourteen Community Development Councils (CDCs) were provided informal training on approach to CBNRM and basic understanding of ecology. From 18-20 April 2010, a regional training workshop was conducted for 70 staff from nine MAIL provincial offices, including from Bamiyan, Dai Kundi, Ghazni, Kabul, Kapisa, Logar, Maidan Wardak, Panjshir and Parwan. The training provided presentations for developing NRM policy and law, as well as practical knowledge on field implementation of CBNRM projects. Finally, based on the recommendations of UNEP's 2009 "Rangeland Conflict Resolution Strategy," assistance was provided to MAIL for the development of a USD 5 million community-based pasture management programme for the Central Highlands region. The programme proposal is currently under discussion within the Ministry.



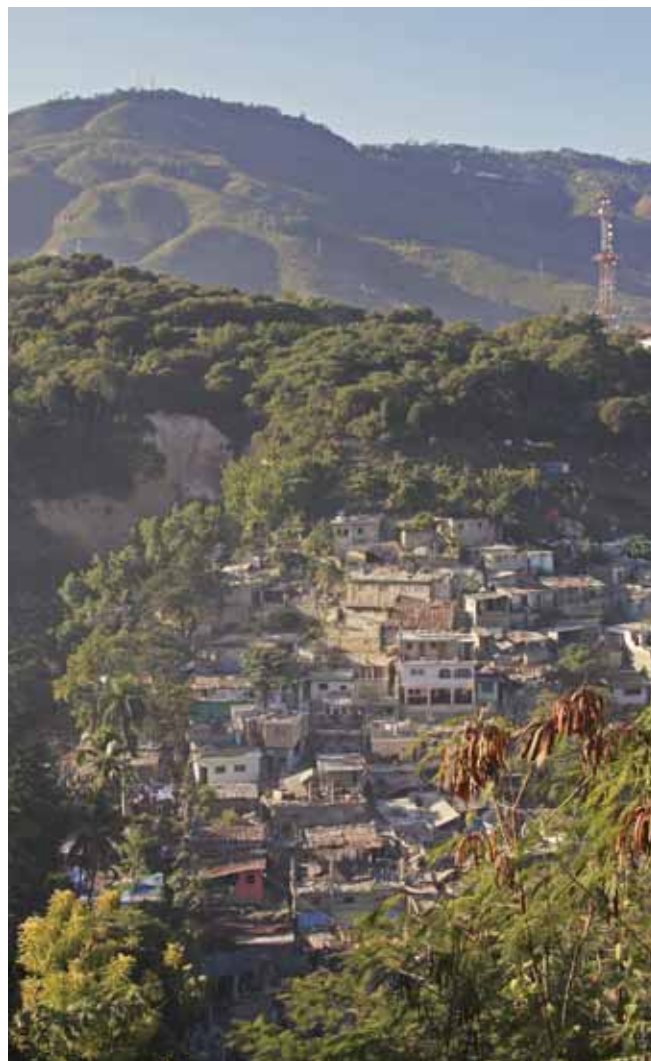
In Q2, UNEP continued to provide support to the Afghan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock on planning for 21 projects in Band-e Amir National Park

Protected areas: In Q2, UNEP continued to provide support to the MAIL Protected Area Division (PAD) in developing action planning for 21 projects in Band-e Amir National Park. In addition, significant progress was made in Q2 on the development of the Shah Foladi National Park in Bamiyan province, including through community consultation and the completion of surveys, cartography, ecotourism plans and a preliminary management plan. UNEP also implemented physical development projects in Shah Foladi (basic infrastructure, small-scale restoration work, hiking and trekking signs and local demonstration plots for ecotourism). In addition, UNEP engaged with PAD officers in developing a draft proposal for Kabul Botanical Gardens which is currently being considered by international donors for funding. UNEP also helped draft a proposal for a conservation area in Kabul city, as a conservation and river ecology demonstration site for the region. Finally, UNEP delivered the first unit of the Seminar on Protected Areas for Managers and government officials in Afghanistan.

Climate change: The Initial National Communication (INC) project made progress during the quarter through the delivery of several training sessions to the Climate Change cell in NEPA, the equipment of NEPA with office supplies for INC activities, the collection of information regarding greenhouse inventories in Afghanistan and support for the establishment of the National Climate Change committee. UNEP also worked with NEPA and the Climate Change Working Group to finalize and submit to GEF a climate change adaptation project proposal for USD 5 million, as a follow-up project to the National Adaptation Plan of Action for Climate Change. The official GEF decision is expected by the end of the year. During the reporting period, UNEP also supported NEPA staff with background material, technical training and discussion points for upcoming Climate Change meetings (regional and international, SAARC 15, Bonn, COP16).

Conflict and natural resource management: UNEP, in its capacity as the principal technical and management advisor, continued to support MAIL on its *Peace on Pastures* project, which aims to resolve the conflict between Kuchi (migrants) and Hazara (sedentary) groups for access to and management of rangelands in Wardak province. The project is based on one of the recommendations of UNEP’s 2009 “Rangeland Conflict Resolution Strategy.” During the reporting period, main activities implemented include: (i) a detailed root cause analysis of natural resource management in Wardak province, (ii) an additional stakeholder analysis, and (iii) the development of field guidelines, questionnaires and field surveys for community negotiation meetings. Furthermore, the Resident Coordinator invited UNEP to join a UN task-force (composed of UNHCR, WFP, UNAMA, OCHA) to propose potential solutions for the current conflict between the Hazara and the Kuchi, and to prevent similar occurrence of conflict in the future. UNEP’s role has been to provide technical inputs to the task force regarding the rangeland use in this region, and the potential technical solutions between the two communities in terms of community natural resource management.

Environmental coordination and joint programming: UNEP continued to provide technical support to the SAISEM, an environmental sustainability project jointly implemented by UNDP and FAO, by providing substantive comments for the expansion of the Provincial Environmental Advisory Council (PEAC), and for the development of environmental mainstreaming approaches in Afghanistan. The Sustainable Livelihoods Working Group under the UNDAF, which is co-chaired by UNEP, met twice during the reporting period; initial activities will be undertaken in the Dai Kundi province. UNEP also contributed to the drafting of a UN policy paper, led by FAO, entitled “Food Security in Afghanistan and the role of sustainable natural resource management.”



In Q2, UNEP’s activities in Haiti were principally focused on technical assistance to the relief effort, environmental coordination and recovery planning



The Peace on Pastures project, for which UNEP is the principal advisor, aims to resolve the conflict between Kuchi (migrants) and Hazara (sedentary) groups for access to and management of rangelands in the Wardak province

Haiti post-disaster environmental support

Following the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010, which resulted in some 220,000 deaths, destroyed over 250,000 buildings and affected some three million people, UNEP was mandated by Under-Secretary-General and UN Relief Coordinator John Holmes to coordinate the environmental response to the disaster. As the primary environmental actor on the ground, UNEP accordingly redirected and increased its pre-existing activities in Haiti in order to address the immediate needs of relief and early recovery efforts and support the governmental recovery plan in the country.

Environmental support to the relief, recovery and reconstruction effort: UNEP’s activities during the reporting period were principally focused on technical assistance to the relief effort, environmental coordination and recovery planning. The UNEP team on the ground continued to provide

wide-ranging technical assistance on environmental issues to organizations in a broad range of humanitarian clusters, and to engage with the inter-cluster coordination process at the country and UN levels, which helped to disseminate information on environmental issues and raise awareness of the importance of including environmental considerations in the planning and execution of relief operations. UNEP also developed and helped to launch a number of task teams focused on recalcitrant issues and emerging challenges such as improved stoves and LPG bottled gas, human waste disposal (biogas), and solid waste management. The majority of these teams are now well integrated into the Government of Haiti. Finally, following the completion of rapid environmental assessments in Q1, UNEP conducted a real-time environmental evaluation of the response given by the humanitarian and recovery community in order to identify environmental risks and opportunities. The progress report released in Q2 is based on an environmental performance rating system, noting the trend (improving, stable or worsening) and the key challenges yet to be addressed in the relief, recovery and reconstruction processes. The overall environmental performance for humanitarian relief was found to rate a 2 out of 5 (negative and stable), with major issues noted in the camp coordination, camp management, WASH and health clusters. The overall environmental performance for recovery and reconstruction was rated as 3 (mixed progress and worsening), as good early indications on intentions were found to have yet to be translated into practical action.

Global Environmental Outlook (GEO) for Haiti: With a view to providing detailed and updated information to help Haiti face the challenge of sustainable reconstruction, UNEP supported the Ministry of Environment on data collection, analysis, consultation of the GEO Haiti State of the Environment Report 2010, which was launched on 5 June 2010 in Port-au-Prince. The document is by far the most comprehensive compendium of environment documentation produced in Haiti to date, and includes additional data related to the environmental impact of the earthquake.



The GEO Haiti State of the Environment report, which was launched on World Environment Day in Port-au-Prince, is the most comprehensive compendium of environmental documentation on Haiti to date

The Haiti Regeneration Initiative (HRI): UNEP also continued to suitably amend and further develop the Haiti Regeneration Initiative, a long-term programme to be implemented by a coalition of national and international partners, aimed at reducing poverty and vulnerability to natural hazards through the restoration of ecosystems and sustainable natural resource management. The thematic and geographic focus of the HRI is the long-term sustainable recovery and development of rural Haiti. The HR initiative aims to support the Government of Haiti through improving the coherence, quality and lasting impact of the several thousand programmes and projects which will translate the government policies and masterplans into action. Specifically for 2010-2011, the HR initiative will support the implementation of the Haitian Government Action Plan for Recovery and Development (PARDN).

Clean Energy: UNEP is providing assistance to the Energy Planning Unit of the Ministry of Public Works in the early stages of policy development in the field of clean energy. Tasks to date have included developing a “who-what-where” matrix for the sector, delivering discussion papers, and creating and facilitating working groups with multiple stakeholders (private sector, NGOs, other UN agencies). In Q2, activities were mainly focused on clean energy policy and developing a strategy for expansion of the LPG bottled gas market.

Democratic Republic of Congo country programme

In consultation with the World Bank and civil society organizations, UNEP finalized the terms of reference for a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment feasibility study in Q2. In collaboration with UNDP and the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism, UNEP staff also participated in national World Environment Day celebrations on 5 June, giving radio interviews and delivering presentations as part of a conference on the role of biodiversity in sustainable development. In addition, the first preparatory phase of DR Congo’s National Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) was successfully completed in June, and preparations commenced for a second phase, for which the Congolese Government received an allocation of USD 5.5 million in March 2010. Extensive national consultations with various stakeholders were also held to develop a REDD+ strategy for the country.

Follow-up to the Gaza post-conflict environmental assessment:

High-level discussions continued throughout the reporting period with partner agencies and relevant governments with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the UNEP Post-Conflict Environmental Assessment report



UNEP is currently assessing the feasibility of using constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment in the Gaza Strip

published in September 2009, and further support to environmental recovery in the Gaza Strip. The report, which examines the natural and environmental impacts on the Gaza Strip caused by the escalation of hostilities from December 2008-January 2009, concluded that Gaza's underground water supplies, upon which 1.5 million Palestinians depend for agricultural and drinking water, are in danger of collapse as a result of years of over-use and contamination that have been exacerbated by the recent conflict. Based on UNEP's recommendations, UNICEF initiated a *Gaza Safe Water* project that aims to: 1) improve the provision of safe drinking water for children in the Gaza Strip, 2) initiate a behavioral change campaign to promote safer use of water, and 3) initiate a study on the quality of water supplied across the Gaza Strip. In the framework of this project, UNEP undertook a mission to the Gaza strip in Q2 to provide technical advice on reverse osmosis plants set up by the government, UNICEF, and the private sector, which purify drinking water by removing salt and other substances from water molecules. UNEP is now collaborating with UNICEF to develop a comprehensive proposal for enhancing the performance monitoring of those plants. In addition, UNEP is currently developing a technical proposal for UNDP to establish a constructed wetland for wastewater treatment in the Wadi Gaza. A constructed wetland system would enable the pre-treatment of wastewater by filtration, settling, and bacterial decomposition in a natural-looking lined marsh. The successful functioning of such structures would eventually lead to the reduction of the total pollutant load arriving into the Mediterranean Sea.

Côte d'Ivoire hazardous waste management project

The UNEP components of the joint UNEP-Basel Convention Secretariat hazardous waste management project in Côte d'Ivoire were completed during the reporting quarter with the furnishing of a new laboratory within the premises of the *Centre Ivoirien Antipollution* (CIAPOL). The laboratory



In June, 16 staff from the Centre Ivoirien Antipollution completed a two-year intensive training course delivered by UNEP as part of its laboratory capacity-building programme in Côte d'Ivoire

will house a new service, the *Service d'Evaluation Portuaire et d'Urgence* (SEPU), dedicated to the sampling and analysis of waste entering the Port of Abidjan and to responding to environmental emergencies. To ensure that SEPU is staffed by qualified personnel, UNEP provided sixteen CIAPOL trainees with 80 days of intensive training over two years. A final mission was conducted from 8-17 June to deliver the last module in the training course, in addition to the six modules already completed. The scientific instruments and equipment, which were procured for SEPU by UNEP, were also installed during the mission. The capacity-building programme was implemented in collaboration with the Swiss governmental SPIEZ Laboratory. A ceremony was held at CIAPOL's premises on 17 June to hand over the new laboratory and equipment to the Ministry of Environment, Water & Forests of Côte d'Ivoire. The purpose of the event was to mark the completion of the capacity-building programme with CIAPOL and to celebrate the other achievements of the project, including the development and adoption of a hazardous waste management plan for the district of Abidjan. The ceremony, which was covered by national TV and written press, was attended by approximately 70 members of government and international organizations, including the Minister of Environment, H.E. Karime Fadiga. The remaining components of the project are expected to be finalized by the Basel Convention Secretariat by end 2010.

Nepal early environmental recovery programme

UNEP's main implementation partners, WWF and IUCN, reported steady progress during Q2 on initiatives such as anti-poaching programmes, enhancement of security and monitoring infrastructure within selected national parks, and community awareness-raising and mobilization. The integration of environmental concerns in the new National Constitution is ongoing, and expected to be finalized and endorsed during Q3. The environmental recovery programme is on track and is expected to be completed in Q3 2010.

Disaster Risk Reduction

The disaster risk reduction pillar of the UNEP Disasters and Conflicts programme focuses on countries that have been identified as vulnerable to natural hazards, and on human-made disaster events with an environmental component. As well as producing environmental risk assessments, UNEP seeks to strengthen the hand of Member States for environmental management through developing responsive strategies, building capacity and implementing pilot projects to reduce identified risks, thereby contributing to long-term disaster risk reduction. UNEP also contributes to global policy development by producing policy toolkits and training modules that demonstrate good practices and lessons learned in reducing risks, and provides environmental data and expertise on sustainable management of shared natural resources.

Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction

As part of the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR), UNEP organized a special session on “Ecosystem Management and Disaster Risk Reduction” at the Third International Disaster Risk Conference held in Davos, Switzerland in from 31 May to 3 June. The special session focused on tools for ecosystems-based DRR. UNEP’s Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA)/Global Resource Information Database (GRID)-Europe and the Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch (PCDMB) shared results of the Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Methodology Project (RiVAMP), which demonstrates the role of coastal ecosystems in storm surge mitigation and beach protection. Other presenters included IUCN and the Swiss Development Cooperation, who shared field-level experiences in maximizing integrated watershed management approaches for risk reduction. The special



The Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR) was formally launched at the third International Disaster Risk Conference held in Davos, Switzerland

session generated good discussions concerning community participation, governance challenges and the role of the private sector. In addition, as an invited panel member at the Risk Reduction and Prevention Plenary Session, UNEP PCDMB gave a presentation on post-earthquake reconstruction challenges in Haiti. The Davos event was an important milestone for PEDRR, marking the public launch of the partnership. PEDRR is a global alliance that promotes environmental and ecosystems management as the key strategy to reduce disaster risk, increase local resilience and adapt to a changing climate. It has ten members: UNEP, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the ProAct Network, the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the United Nations University’s Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). For more information on PEDRR, consult: www.pedrr.net



UNEP organized a special event during the International Disaster Risk Conference to share the achievements and findings of the Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Methodology project, which was piloted in Jamaica in 2009

2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Reduction

UNEP also represented PEDRR in a meeting of contributing authors to the 2011 Global Assessment Report (GAR) on 17-19 May in Miami, USA. PEDRR will be developing a support study on ecosystems-based approaches and instruments for disaster risk reduction, which UNEP is co-leading together with ProAct Network. The meeting provided an opportunity for all contributing authors to present outlines of their respective studies and discuss key messages and emerging issues, as well as potential overlaps between the various studies. The support study on ecosystem-based DRR will be completed in October 2010.

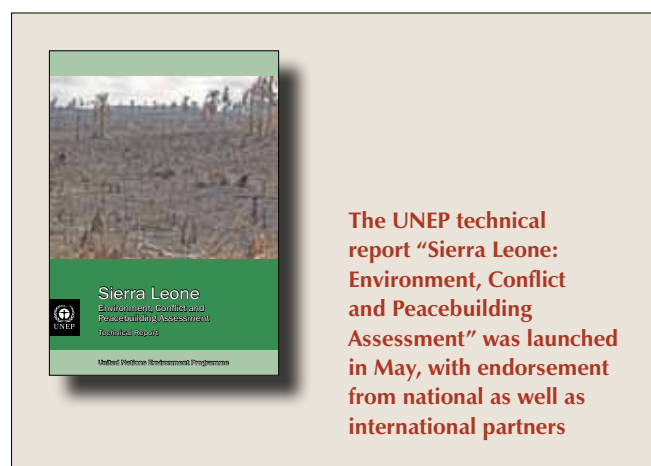
Environmental Cooperation for Peacebuilding

Under the Environmental Cooperation for Peacebuilding pillar of work, UNEP aims to use environmental cooperation to transform the risks of conflict over resources into opportunities for peace in war-torn societies. This includes assessing and integrating environment and natural resources issues within the peacebuilding policies and strategies of the UN, as well as using the shared management of natural resources as a platform for dialogue, cooperation and confidence-building within and between conflict-affected countries. To help address the environmental dimensions of conflict and peacebuilding effectively, UNEP has developed partnerships with the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO and DFS) in New York and the European Commission (RELEX) in Brussels. Similar partnerships are being developed with DPA and UNDP BCPR. UNEP has also broadened its expertise and capacity by establishing, together with IISD, an Expert Advisory Group on Environment, Conflict and Peacebuilding.

Programmatic workshop and UNEP assessment launch in Sierra Leone

UNEP, together with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), undertook a two-week mission to Freetown from 14-28 May, which had three main outcomes. First, the team prepared for and convened a joint workshop between the Sierra Leone Environmental

Protection Agency (SLEPA) and UNEP regarding government priorities on environment and natural resource management. Second, during the workshop, the team formally launched the UNEP technical report, “Sierra Leone: Environment, Conflict and Peacebuilding,” with endorsement from SLEPA and international development partners. Lastly, UNEP agreed with stakeholders on the way forward regarding the implementation of UNEP’s portion of the UN Joint Vision Programme 21, including the deployment of a UNEP project coordinator to Freetown to oversee the implementation of the activities funded by Delivery as One fund, which will be completed at the close of 2010. At the same time, recruitment is ongoing for a senior environmental advisor to the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General in Freetown, who will be brought in place in the fourth quarter to help coordinate the implementation of Programme 21.



The UNEP technical report “Sierra Leone: Environment, Conflict and Peacebuilding Assessment” was launched in May, with endorsement from national as well as international partners



UNEP and UNDP undertook a joint mission to Rwanda and DR Congo from 24 April to 14 May, to assess the linkages between natural resource management and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes in both countries

UN-EU partnership on natural resources and conflict pilot trainings

The UN-EU partnership on natural resources and conflict, of which UNEP is a Steering Committee member, held a pilot training and initial review of the four thematic guidance notes on managing natural resources in Nairobi, Kenya, from 11-14 May 2010. The training, led by expert conflict mediator Chris Moore of CDR Associates, included field-based practitioners from a number of African countries. The guidance notes and the training materials will be revised on the basis of the constructive feedback received, before additional pilot trainings are undertaken during the third quarter.

Mission to DR Congo and Rwanda on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)

From 24 April to 14 May, UNEP undertook a joint mission with UNDP to Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo to assess the linkages between natural resource management and DDR and community reintegration programmes in both countries. Livelihoods and the natural resources supporting the reintegration of ex-combatants, their dependents and conflict-affected community members were identified and opportunities to improve the sustainability of reintegration through incorporating natural resource management were assessed. A joint UNEP-UNDP expert consultant made programming recommendations for UNDP's Community Recovery and Reintegration Programme in DR Congo, and provided a set of recommendations and a concept note for



Through its partnership with DPKO and DFS, UNEP provides technical assistance to UN peacekeeping missions on increasing resource efficiency in the areas of energy, water and waste

the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission and One UN Rwanda.

Desk study on Climate Change, Migration and Conflict in the Sahel

Progress was also made during Q2 with regard to a desk study on Climate Change, Migration and Conflict in the Sahel, a joint project with IOM, OCHA and the UN University. The objective of the study is to identify how climate change could act as an exacerbating factor to existing environmental vulnerability in the region, and may contribute to conflict and migration in the Sahel. Following the review of the first draft of by agency partners, a revised document was shared with regional organizations in the Sahel for comment and review. This includes the CILLS (Comité Permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse), along with economic regional members. The study is expected to be completed and published by end 2011.

Environmental mainstreaming of peacekeeping operations

UNEP's technical cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Department of Field Support (DFS) was marked by a high-level meeting between the three respective Under-Secretary-Generals on 14 May in New York and the negotiation of an appropriate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The meeting reviewed the work accomplished in the first year of collaboration, in particular in support of the UN Support Office to AMISOM (UNSOA) and the UN Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) missions, and agreed to support the production of a policy report on peacekeeping and natural resources management, as well as the development of a training programme for peacekeeping personnel.

UNDG/ECHA Task Team on environment and conflict

In April 2010, UNEP proposed to the UN Development Group/Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (UNDG/ECHA) Working Group on Transition to establish a task team on natural resource management. This proposal was endorsed by the working group, and terms of reference were drawn up during the course of the second quarter. The main objective of the task team is to strengthen UN capacity to assess and address land, natural resource management and environmental governance challenges in transition settings and peacebuilding processes. The task team would be open to all UN agencies, departments and programmes working on natural resources or environmental challenges in transition settings and peacebuilding processes. UNEP is proposing to act as co-chair of the task team and is dedicating 25% of the staff time at the P4 level towards coordination and administration.

The Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC)

UNEP coordinates the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), a partnership of six international organizations that provides multi-stakeholder-based analyses of environment and security risks, and implements projects addressing the identified risks and environmental legacies in Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe, the Southern Caucasus and Central Asia. Specific regional developments during the reporting quarter include the following:

South Caucasus

At the beginning of the reporting period, ENVSEC responded to a request from the Armenian Ministry of Emergency Situations regarding Nubarashen pesticides burial site near Yerevan which, according to old records, contains over 500 tons of dangerous and banned organ-chlorine pesticides such as DDT. An international expert undertook an assessment of the burial site and revealed an emergency situation with uncovered pesticides exposing nearby village populations to imminent health risks. As a result of the ENVSEC assessment, the Armenian government committed financial resources to implement emergency measures. An in-depth feasibility study is currently under preparation by the international expert in close cooperation with the national and international stakeholders in Armenia.

Eastern Europe

A meeting of some 50 participants took place in Odessa on 7-9 June to discuss the status of implementation of the “Transboundary cooperation and sustainable management in the Dniester river basin” project. A new climate and flood component was launched during the meeting, and other potential fields of cooperation were discussed. Within the framework of the “Flood monitoring and Forecast in the Pripyat River Basin” project, ENVSEC partners organized two meetings on 12 and 13 April, respectively in Lutsk and Kuznetsovsk, Ukraine. Flow measurement equipment was presented to the Ukrainian Volyn Hydromet Department and field-tested in the two areas. In addition, on 3-4 June, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River’s Eighth Standing Working Group adopted a resolution supporting the development of a Danube Delta analysis and management plan, endorsing at the same time the related ENVSEC project proposal. Under the project on “Prevention of illegal cross-border transport of hazardous waste,” awareness tools for border and customs authorities were prepared, translated into region’s languages, and presented at OSCE’s 18th Economic and Environmental Forum in Prague in May. In addition, Belarus continued to assess the environmental impact from obsolete pesticides around the Brest and Petrikov stockpiles. Fieldwork at pesticide depots ended with winter, and resumed in May, when a visit to Belarus of Belgian and Czech project counterparts took place. Following the launch in November 2009 of a project-supported experimental unit in Minsk for the destruction of



The assessment of the Nubarashen pesticides burial site near Yerevan, Armenia revealed an emergency situation with uncovered pesticides exposing nearby village populations to imminent health risks

pesticides by high-temperature plasma technology, a design for an industrial-scale installation is currently being developed. In addition, by 24 June, over 3,100 tonnes of mélange from two of Ukraine's six storage sites (Kalynivka in the Vinnytsya region and Tsenzhiv near Ivano-Frankivsk) had been sent by the ENVSEC project to be eliminated at specialized chemical works in Russia. Arrangements are being finalized and funds raised for the next phase of the project to eliminate 2,900 tonnes from Radekhiv, in the Lviv region, which would clear western Ukraine of the toxic substance. Finally, media training and a press tour on awareness, public participation and education on environment and security risks and linkages was organized on 24-27 May in southern Belarus, for journalists from Belarus and northern Ukraine, with a team of peer journalist trainers from Ukraine, Switzerland and UK, bringing together more than 60 participants.

South Eastern Europe

The ENVSEC Regional Coordination Meeting for South Eastern Europe (SEE) took place on 20-21 May in Szentendre, Hungary, at the Regional Environmental Center's (REC) headquarters. The overall objective of this two-day meeting was to assess progress of the ENVSEC's SEE programme of work and to discuss priorities and opportunities for further collaboration in the region. The meeting gathered ENVSEC project managers, National Focal Points appointed in the Ministries of Environment and Ministries of Foreign Affairs, and other local partners working in the SEE region. Current priority areas under the ENVSEC Initiative were reconfirmed, while issues of climate change, energy efficiency, green economy and management of shared natural resources in the context of NATURA 2000 were additionally identified as relevant for the region. In addition, in the framework of the project aiming at supporting the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a national workshop was organized on 17-18 May in Sarajevo to agree upon the roles and responsibilities of national stakeholders in the implementation of the Convention. The workshop

gathered 25 representatives of the governmental and non-governmental sector from Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as experts from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and REC.

Central Asia

The ENVSEC Regional Coordination meeting for Central Asia took place in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 23 June. Presentations informed the participants about the reforms in ENVSEC, the status of ENVSEC's work programme and projects in Central Asia. The participants discussed the relevance of previously defined regional priorities and made new projects proposal for the region. After its launch in South Caucasus, the CASE (Civic Action for Security and Environment) project was extended to Tajikistan with a view to building the capacity of civil society organizations to address environment and security challenges. At the heart of CASE is a small grants programme that allows civil society organizations to implement their own projects in close cooperation with their governments. Projects are selected based on their contribution to national environment and security priorities, through a participatory selection process including local stakeholders. Throughout the project design and implementation stages, civil society organizations can rely on the services of the Aarhus Centres in their country. Meanwhile, the Aarhus Centres in Central Asia continued their activities at an increasing pace. With the addition of the Atyrau and Astana Aarhus Centres, the network in the region has reached six members. Activities include awareness-raising events on environmental issues, trainings on EIA processes, public hearings on industrial issues and environmental legislative development, and the provision of legal advice to the public regarding environmental rights. Finally, Aarhus Centre representatives from the region gathered on 22 June in Almaty, Kazakhstan to elaborate the Aarhus Centres workplan for 2010 and beyond. The potential role of Aarhus Centres as public outreach facilities for the ENVSEC Initiative was emphasized by several participants.

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