

Press Briefing on the Progress of the Peace Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda Implementation

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12th December, 2008

What is PRDP?

The Northern Uganda Peace Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) is a three year stabilization plan which aims to disaggregate the North from national sector plans. It establishes targets which are sensitive to the needs of the population and the variations of the three sub-regional contexts of the conflict backgrounds. PRDP elaborates and contributes to the PEAP pillars 1-5 and is a framework for all interventions in activities in the Northern Uganda. PRDP is not a project but a comprehensive planning framework intended to:

- a) Strengthen coordination of Recovery interventions in the Northern Uganda sub-regions,
- b) Enhance monitoring of nationally and internationally supported Recovery programmes and activities in the North.
- c) Enhance resource mobilisation for affirmative interventions in Northern Uganda

The implementation of the Plan has begun this financial year **2008/09** for the next three years

PRDP Goal:

The overall goal of the PRDP is **stabilization** in order to regain and consolidate peace in the region and lay the foundations for recovery and development of Northern Uganda.

Progress towards Resource Mobilisation:

- 1) Government shall contribute 30% of the **Ushs.1.1 Trillion** PRDP budget which averages to about **Ushs.120bn** annually for the three years.
- 2) This financial year, the Government has provided and ring fenced **Ushs.69.9 bn** as part its 30% counterpart funding of PRDP.
- 3) Ministry Of Finance, Planning and Economic Development will allocate an additional **Ushs.170.1 bn** to the PRDP districts next FY2009/10 and this money includes the balance of **Ushs. 50.1 bn** from this financial year 2008/09.
- 4) Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development will publicize all the funds released to the PRDP districts under this arrangement.

Enhancement of Capacity Building in the PRDP Districts

- i. With support from the Italian Corporation, Northern Uganda Rehabilitation Programme (NUREP), GTZ and UNDP the Northern Uganda Data Centre (NUDC) has undertaken capacity building training for the District technical officers from the Planning Departments in all the 8 districts of Teso sub-region .This is part of the *Local Government Enhancement Programme under Strategic Objective number One*.
- ii. The technical officers were equipped with Geographical Information System (GIS) skills. They have been empowered with skills to produce their districts' planning **maps** and locate district development activities, investments, opportunities and gaps for planning purposes in their respective districts. They are now capable of plotting the level of service delivery in the district up to the village or parish levels.

Each of the 8 Teso Districts has been equipped with the following equipments worth Ushs. 100 million to use for capturing data and processing information.

Enhancement of PRDP Coordination and Monitoring:

- i. A comprehensive Information Management Strategy based on Geographical Information System (GIS) has been designed.
- ii. The OPM Web site is being redesigned and will soon be launched through which regular updates on the implementation of PRDP will freely be accessed by any stakeholder.
- iii. Draft Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy is being developed.
- iv. Capacity of the district Planning Units are being developed for Monitoring of PRDP. The districts can now produce their own maps with details of activities covering up to the parish levels.
- v. Baseline information is being updated for all the 40 districts.
- vi. District sector situational analysis on data and information management capacity is being conducted in all 40 PRDP districts. District atlases showing the investment opportunities, interventions and service delivery gaps in each of the 40 PRDP districts are being produced. The Karamoja and West Nile atlases are being updated.

Enhancement of PRDP Monitoring

The PMC has been established as the overall policy and monitoring organ of PRDP implementation. It is chaired by the Rt.Hon.Prime Minister. Its role is very critical in providing policy guidance related to: Financial mobilisation, Supervision, Mobilisation of communities for development and Advocacy.

Through participatory monitoring, all stakeholders will be involved in the process to ensure transparency in the exercise. All information relating to the implementation of the plan shall be made available to the stakeholders.

Stakeholder involvement shall be very crucial in all the organs of monitoring and coordination of the implementation of the plan that include the Northern Uganda Policy Committee and PRDP technical Working Group.

Status of IDP Camps

A lot of investments were made in the IDP camps that led to significant improvement of the living conditions in the camps. The civilian protection was also greatly enhanced through establishment of 175 Police posts and Police deployments. The Anti Stock Theft Units (ASTUs) were also enhanced.

The former IDPs have been resettled using the GOU funds allocated to the Office of the Prime Minister. They have been provided with iron sheets and Hydraform machines have been procured to enable them construct permanent houses.

Resettlement of former LRA abductees

In the July –September FY 2008/09 quarter, the following progress has been recorded under the SO4 Programme); Mediation and Reconciliation Support Programme (CMR) and Amnesty and Reintegration of ex-combatants

- (68 reporters were received from LRA and have since received their amnesty certificates.
- 80 LRA reporters were trained in life skills at Lalogi sub-county and GUSCU in Gulu.
- Media campaign on the Amnesty Act, resettlement and reintegration was carried out in Kitgum on Pol FM radio by the Commission Officials.

Affirmative Interventions:

- District interventions with the GOU support,
- Sector interventions under the GOU support,
- There have been a number of NGOs, Humanitarian Agencies and Special Projects such as NUREP coordinated by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) delivering services in the region including Trauma Counseling Services.
- Pilot Projects are being coordinated under OPM using GOU funds.