



**Governing Council
of the
United Nations
Development Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

DP/CP/BOT/NOTE/4
5 March 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-fourth session
26 May-19 June 1987, New York
Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR BOTSWANA

Note by the Administrator

I. PROCESS OF THE PROGRAMMING EXERCISE

1. In early 1985 a joint detailed programme and financial review of the third country programme was undertaken by UNDP and the Government under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. Field representatives of the United Nations Children's Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities participated in the review.
2. As to resources allocated by sector, the review confirmed the validity of the focus on agriculture, infrastructure and industry, taking into consideration the small resource base of the third country programme for Botswana. Past experience led to a consensus between the Government and UNDP that short-term impact-oriented implementation should be given highest preference. This represents an important shift in programme orientation. At the project review level, a similar outlook prevailed and was supported by the participating United Nations system executing agencies. As a result, in 1985 the overall programme began to be better balanced in terms of its short-term and longer impact orientation. In this connection, the Government and the Office of the Resident Representative decided to utilize existing research data wherever feasible, rather than spend scarce development funds to generate new data.
3. It was agreed that UNDP, in consultation with the Government, would combine efforts to link the country programme financially and substantively with other multilateral and bilateral technical co-operation programmes, particularly in

drought relief and rehabilitation. This will result in significant Government programme and project cost-sharing, the use of UNDP resources for the private sector and increased co-operation with the community of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). An example of the use of a project-based cost-sharing formula is the Government decision to share the costs of United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) assigned to the Ministries of Health, Education and Home Affairs up to the proforma costs established by the Government for local posts with UNDP/UNV covering the difference.

4. The Sixth National Development Plan, approved by Parliament in November 1985, has identified the following priority areas: reducing rural poverty; manpower development and employment; development of horticultural farming and livestock; and economic diversification. These priority areas are already being supported by UNDP in the current country programme. Support to these areas will continue in the fourth country programme.

II. THE FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME

5. The projects selected for the fourth country programme are consonant with the orientation of both the African Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (UNPAAERD). If successfully implemented, the projects will make significant contributions to the solution of some short-term difficulties, as well as long-term structural problems of Botswana as the country moves towards recovery and development.

6. In response to five consecutive years of drought during the third cycle, UNDP has been increasingly involved through IPF and non-IPF resources in supporting the Government in most areas of its national food strategy (food storage, food logistics, seed multiplication, arable land development, etc.). Some of this ongoing technical assistance will continue into the fourth cycle, particularly as it relates to Government strategy for the expansion of arable farming and training in food management. In addition the Government wishes to use UNDP resources in the expansion of the country's industrial and commercial base.

7. The deteriorating political situation in South Africa has a disruptive effect on Botswana's development efforts. The result of this country's actions has been not only quantifiable physical damage and loss of life, but also a profound sense of insecurity in the population at large, particularly the refugee community. In addition, a significant but immeasurable amount of Government time had to be devoted to coping with this situation and to developing contingency plans to ensure the minimum welfare of the country. The political situation in southern Africa and persistent harsh drought conditions have diverted national and donor attention from development to emergency.

8. The Government has demonstrated increased awareness of the importance of:

(a) The role of women for sustained overall economic and social development. At the invitation of the Botswana authorities, a mission of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) co-operated with the Government and NGOs in identifying an active programme for enhancing the involvement of women in all

aspects of life in Botswana. The Knitwear Factory (BOT/86/002) represents a successful example of a project geared towards the private sector and the employment of women. Of the total of 224 employees in the factory, more than 200 will be women;

(b) Putting the utilization of Botswana's natural resources on a sustainable footing. Although a Senior Adviser from the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resource (IUCN) is making good progress in formulating a national conservation strategy with the authorities and some advances have also been made in the implementation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Clearing House mission recommendations of 1983, the Government and many donors remain concerned about the deteriorating environment of Botswana.

9. During the fourth cycle, the Government intends to provide the same proportion of programme cost-sharing as it contributed for the third country programme. Approximately \$8.4 million will be available to allow for the carry-over of a fairly good mix of projects from the third cycle, as well as new projects in key areas of development concern in Botswana. UNDP has successfully obtained third party cost-sharing from bilateral donors for the following projects: Perinatal Conditions (BOT/85/009), (\$344,100 from the Child Survival Fund of the United States Agency for International Development, Soil-mapping (BOT/85/011) (\$813,600 from the Netherlands Government), Small Dams (BOT/85/001) (\$420,000 from the Swedish Government) and Knitwear (BOT/86/002) (\$256,300 from the Norwegian Government). In addition, parallel financing has also been obtained for the BOT/86/002 project from the Botswana Development Corporation (\$230,000) and Barclay's Bank (\$100,000) and for the BOT/86/004 Trade Testing project from the Federal Republic of Germany (\$1,831,000). It is envisaged that the Operational Funds under the authority of the Administrator will include funds from UNV (\$750,000) and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) (\$3,064,000). As a result of the country programme exercise, WFP has firmly committed \$150,000 for Botswana. The Special Measures Fund for Least Developed Countries will also provide \$310,000, while UNFPA will contribute \$180,000.

10. In implementating the fourth country programme UNDP will emphasize:

(a) the use of local and regional training facilities employing the techniques of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC);

(b) a continuation of the use of UNV wherever feasible;

(c) an enhanced linkage of the country programme to other United Nations system programmes, particularly those for which UNDP has some administrative responsibility;

(d) a linkage between UNDP-supported development projects at the national level and relevant regional projects of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Council (SADCC);

(e) an expansion of the UNDP seed money approach through which Botswana could obtain additional resources for development from other multilateral and bilateral donors willing to co-operate in high priority Government/UNDP projects.

III. MANAGEMENT OF COUNTRY PROGRAMME

11. To ensure continued relevance of the country programme and the progress of implementation, the usual monitoring mechanisms will be used through tripartite reviews, annual reviews, evaluations and corrective measures that may be necessary. UNDP has successfully become the lead agency in a number of aid-co-ordination activities such as integrated drought relief assistance, socio-economic drought relief impact assessment and the identification of areas of co-operation between UNDP and selected NGOs. The food distribution network of Government, assisted by six United Nations system organizations (UNDP, FAO, WFP, UNCDF, UNV and the World Bank) which co-operated with the Botswana authorities in food logistics, transport management, storage construction, nutrition surveillance and training, constitutes the best example of successful inter-agency project planning and integrated project implementation in Botswana. Effective co-ordination continues with bilateral and multilateral donors in food aid planning, drought relief and the implementation of a package of projects for environmental rehabilitation and national conservation.

IV. RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

12. In the light of the foregoing, the Administrator gives unqualified endorsement to the fourth country programme for Botswana and recommends its approval.
