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S U P P O R T

OTHER FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES IN THE SAHEL REGION

Implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and  
rehabilitation programmes in the Sudano-Sahelian region

Report of the Administrator

Summary

The present report is submitted in accordance with decision 85/30 of the Governing Council adopted at its thirty-second session. The report deals with the activities that the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) carried out in 1985 under the mandate enjoining it to support the drought-related medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region which are members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).

### Introduction

1. The present report is submitted in accordance with Governing Council decision 85/30 of 28 June 1985 which, inter alia, requested the Administrator to continue to report annually to the Governing Council on the implementation of the medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region. The report provides an overview of UNSO's programme management, covering operational highlights and its progress in improving programme quality, relevance, effectiveness and co-ordination. The report should be read in conjunction with the annual report of the Administrator (DP/1986/11 and addenda) and with the other council documentation concerning UNDP activities in the respective African countries, especially the report of the Administrator on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (DP/1986/53).

2. The primary objective of UNSO is to assist the countries concerned in their medium-term and long-term recovery and rehabilitation programmes and in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification. UNSO's assistance is aimed at:

(a) Mitigating the effects of past and future droughts;

(b) Helping all the countries concerned in attaining self-sufficiency in staple food production;

(c) Enhancing the process of socio-economic development in the areas subject to drought through sectoral or multisectoral activities geared at restoring or protecting the productive capacity of the land;

(d) Arresting and, as far as possible, reversing the process of desertification in the region.

#### I. ROADS PROGRAMME

3. UNSO, in conformity with its objectives, continues to give highest priority to the construction, improvement and maintenance of a region-wide system of all-weather secondary roads in the Sahel. In addition to permitting food and medical supplies to be delivered to otherwise inaccessible areas during times of emergency, secondary roads are important in bringing the rural areas into effective contact with the socio-economic mainstream in the countries concerned. In this context, UNSO is involved in a continuing process of evaluation of the medium-and long-term transport and communications requirements of the States members of CILSS.

4. An increasingly important element of the programme, in the light of the magnitude of investments already made, is the matter of road maintenance. In order to protect the results thus far achieved through UNSO's assistance from the wear and tear of traffic and the elements and in order to enhance the effectiveness of future feeder-road construction programmes, a systematic survey of the countries involved was undertaken to determine their maintenance needs. This exercise led to the formulation of a maintenance programme to be supported through UNSO for an initial period of two years. This programme is intended not only to cover maintenance operations per se, but also to strengthen and reinforce the capabilities of the Government agencies and units involved in road construction and maintenance activities. UNSO's assistance therefore provides support to the overall maintenance machinery, including its organizational, mechanical, training and financial aspects. As a result, not only would this intervention guarantee the preservation of the benefits derived from road construction but it would also ensure that future UNSO resources can be utilized more effectively in new and expanded construction operations, thereby widening the area covered by UNSO's assistance and increasing the actual benefits accruing to the drought-stricken populations.

5. With the increased and pressing demands by many Governments for its assistance in feeder-road construction and maintenance, UNSO also undertook an evaluation of its administrative and financial arrangements, especially with executing agencies, in order to prepare for the coming expansion of the work-load and diversification of the programme content. This evaluation, which involved discussions and meetings with the donors of the roads programme, has resulted in renewed interest on the part of these donors, especially the regional development banks - the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the West African Development Bank (BOAD) - and the World Bank is now proposing new maintenance projects within the framework of UNSO's programme. The dialogue thus initiated has resulted in closer co-operation and joint undertakings with these institutions in the area of feeder-road construction and maintenance planning, formulation, appraisal, financing, execution and monitoring.

6. UNSO had operational construction projects in 1985 in Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, the Gambia, the Niger and Senegal. New programmes were also formulated for the Gambia (83 km) and the Niger (301 km), and negotiations were started to utilize BOAD funds for construction of rural roads in Senegal. AfDB provided some \$5 million for the construction of new feeder roads in the Niger.

## II. NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

7. The summaries of national programmes below describe mainly activities under the original UNSO mandate for recovery and rehabilitation. It should be noted that there are also extensive projects carried out in these countries under UNSO's desertification control mandate. These are described in the Administrator's report on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (DP/1986/53).

### Burkina Faso

8. The construction of the Djibo-Dori-Falagountou road continued in 1985. Although the co-financing arrangements called for parallel disbursements under UNSO's overall supervision, AfDB agreed to reallocate some of its own funds to cover activities that were not originally assigned to it. This action was taken in order to enable the Government-provided brigade to reintegrate the construction activities and accelerate the completion of the road, which is now envisaged for August 1986, by which time a total of 241 km of road would have been built, in addition to the necessary bridges and water diversion channels.

9. These proposed activities will complement UNSO's activities in reforestation, which include the establishment and rehabilitation of fuelwood plantations in the region of Bazega, involving 57 villages, and in the Koudougou region, where the planting of 1,200 hectares has been completed thus far, and others.

### Cape Verde

10. Construction of two airport runways of 800 metres each at Maio and Boa Vista started about mid-January 1985 and is now virtually completed. However, because of increased air traffic between Dakar and Praia and the resulting increase in economic activities in these islands, it became necessary to expand the runways to 1,200 m in order to enable them to support larger aircraft and greater traffic. This expansion programme was made possible through the Government of Cape Verde making available \$300,000 of its own resources, which were matched by an Italy-funded UNSO contribution of \$300,000. UNSO is also actively seeking to mobilize additional funds for the construction of approximately 42 km. of roads.

11. Other UNSO-supported activities include projects involving the conservation and development of surface and underground water resources, reforestation and erosion control aimed at combating desertification.

Chad

12. The road construction programme identified by UNSO, particularly in the Kanem Lac area, will become the backbone of the current programme funded by Italy and executed by the United Nations Development Programme Office for Projects Execution in that country.

13. For the purpose of reactivating or developing new priority programmes within the framework of the ongoing national planning activities of Chad, UNSO fielded two formulation missions to identify needs for the development of the rural sector.

The Gambia

14. As indicated in paragraph 5 above, all negotiations were completed in 1985 for the construction of 83 km. of road to start in March 1986. UNSO will be studying proposals for new roads in that country in 1986.

15. In the Gambia, the development of water resources and proper rangelands management is critical to optimize productivity of the land and improve the livestock population. UNSO has ongoing projects which aim at the development of ecologically sound management of watering points and the development of groundwater resources and their management. At the same time, UNSO has been supporting training programmes to enhance hydrological and meteorological survey capabilities and promoting improved cooking stoves in rural areas of the country.

Mali

16. The predominant activity in 1985 was the formulation of the roads maintenance scheme for which initial funding (about \$500,000) has now been obtained, and maintenance activities will start by May-June 1986.

17. UNSO continued its efforts to support projects involving multidisciplinary studies of the lacustrine zone of Faguibine, which led to the formulation of an integrated rehabilitation programme.

Mauritania

18. UNSO has been involved in the extension of a project dealing with agricultural statistics, which now includes livestock activities. UNSO is also contributing to equipment and maintenance programmes for deep bore wells.

## Niger

19. The First Brigade in the Niger completed its work in December 1985. The work of this Brigade is particularly significant because it illustrated the benefits of UNSO's co-ordinating and supporting roles in mobilizing resources, lowering costs and ensuring the timely delivery of project outputs and benefits. Indeed, the First Brigade, as a result of UNSO's intervention, completed the construction programme allotted to it two years ahead of schedule, thus preventing the cost escalation that would have naturally resulted from delays caused by the time lag necessitated for the signature of the AfDB loan agreement and the related conditions being met. UNSO thus saved \$2.5 million in Government borrowings that were planned and agreed to in April 1983. At the same time, in spite of reduced funding, the Brigade constructed an additional 41 km of road (Talcho-Abala) which, according to AfDB, was not included in the loan financing agreement with the Government of the Niger. As a result of its satisfaction with this joint undertaking, AfDB has now pledged an additional \$5 million to be spent on new roads jointly identified in January 1986.

20. UNSO's reforestation efforts have continued in the Niger through the ongoing project in the Bilma region, funded by the Government of Norway, which aims at containing sand encroachment upon the palm groves. UNSO has contributed further to the progress made by the green-belt plantation project around the city of Niamey with a new phase, also being funded by the Government of Norway, which would include the planting of 500 hectares of shelterbelts and the establishment of village woodlots, which has won the support of the local population.

## Senegal

21. UNSO's intervention in Senegal is financed from an Italian contribution through UNSO and the United Nations Capital Development Fund. Under this programme, which started in October 1984, some 22 km of road were built in 1984. The construction programme continued throughout 1985, building an average of 7-8 km per month. A salient development in 1985 was the agreement of the Government of Italy to incorporate into the project, without increasing the project budget, some 35 km of road (Boucle de Guidel) and the rehabilitation of the bridge over the Guidel river.

22. In Senegal, UNSO continues to provide needed support to elaborate a programme for the rehabilitation and control of salinization of the Tann zone or Sine Saloum.

### III. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

#### CILSS

23. UNSO continues to work in close collaboration with CILSS at the policy and operational levels.

24. CILSS, following the recent Conference of Heads of State, added Guinea-Bissau to its membership. It may be noted that Guinea-Bissau is one of the countries covered by UNSO's desertification control mandate. CILSS also expanded its scope to extend assistance to its member States beyond the establishment of programmes to cope with the problem of food self-reliance and to include, within the national and regional development plans of action, the definition of programmes to deal qualitatively and quantitatively with drought-and desertification-related issues.

25. UNSO continues to provide institutional support to the CILSS-sponsored Institut du Sahel (INSAH), which contributes to the rapid spread of new pastoral knowledge and skills through innovative livestock management and farming techniques. The institute is also promoting popular programmes for the introduction of fuel-efficient wood-stoves adopted in villages in all the CILSS countries. In addition, it provides support to a project for post-university training in integrated range management (Formation aménagement pastorale intégrée (FAPIS) - Institut du Sahel), and to the CILSS-affiliated centre for training and applied research in agro-meteorology and hydrology (Centre régional de formation et d'application en agrométéorologie et hydrologie opérationnelle - AGRHYMET).

26. UNSO participated in late 1985 in the Club du Sahel-sponsored Milan Conference, which reinforced the new structure and orientation CILSS has set for itself, with the role CILSS must play as an indispensable tool for integrated regional planning which will enhance coherent development policies at the local, national and regional levels.

#### Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD)

27. As has been noted in the Administrator's report on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (DP/1986/53), UNSO-funded missions and provided assistance in the preparation and establishment of the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD) which comprises the following member States: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda. The agreement establishing IGADD was signed at the first summit meeting of its Heads of State in Djibouti in January 1986.

28. Among its objectives, the Authority is to co-ordinate and supplement the efforts of member States to combat the effects of drought and other related natural disasters and to assist their development efforts as well as help them to deal with the problems of medium- and long-term recovery and rehabilitation. In so doing, the Authority will assist its member States in setting up guidelines and action programmes for drought and desertification as well as follow up the implementation of drought-related activities of subregional and regional interest. In assisting in the establishment of IGADD, UNSO made available to the member States the statutes, operating modalities, objectives and experience of CILSS.

Ministerial Conference to formulate an integrated strategy for desertification control in West Africa, Maghreb and the Sudan (COMIDES)

29. UNSO contributed to the second Ministerial Conference held at Dakar in November 1985, with the participation of CILSS, countries members of the West African Economic Community, Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia from the Maghreb; and Cameroon, Egypt, the Central African Republic and the Congo, by providing assistance to the Conference in its planning and conceptual approach and in the form of logistical support.

30. The Conference came as a follow-up to the first COMIDES held in 1984, which called for the reinforcement of South-South co-operation among the countries, while also drawing on North-South co-operation. It expressed the need to strengthen subregional and regional institutions such as CILSS, the Centre vert Nord-Afrique (CEVENA), IGADD, the Organisation Africaine du Bois (OAB) and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and at the same time focused attention on the implementation of identified priority projects.

International Symposium on Drought and Desertification

31. As noted in the Administrator's report on the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (DP/1986/53), UNSO provided financial and substantive support to the International Symposium on Drought and Desertification held at Howard University in October 1985 in Washington D.C. The symposium helped in consciousness-raising in an important developed country concerning the need for long-lasting solutions to the problems of Africa beyond the present emergency assistance, which can serve only as a stopgap.



International Conference on Trees and Forests (SILVA)

32. UNSO participated in the SILVA International Conference on Trees and Forests held in February 1986 in Paris. The Conference, acknowledging the efforts for concerted action within institutions such as CILSS, COMIDES and IGADD, emphasized, at the level of African States, the need for a greater integration of approach within national and regional development plans to include programmes aimed at giving high priority to the protection and development of trees and forests with the active participation of the rural populations, it being recognized that they should be considered as major components involved in the overall process of development in the respective countries.

33. The Conference addressed an appeal to the international community to mobilize financial resources to help to implement action-oriented programmes that would be initiated at the level of the African States to combat desertification and protect trees and forests.

V.FINANCIAL STATUS

34. Under its original recovery and rehabilitation mandate, UNSO continued to assist the eight States members of CILSS: Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal. The volume of funds mobilized by UNSO through the end of 1985 amounts to \$87.8 million with the following distribution: \$80.7 million for national projects and \$7.1 million for regional projects.



Annex I

**RESOURCE AVAILABILITY AND UTILIZATION a/**  
**(in millions of US dollars)**

	<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>ESTIMATED</u>
	1984	1985	1986
<b>I. Availability of resources:</b>			
Balance as at 1 January -	9.9	11.7	17.0
Additional resources received -			
Voluntary contributions	0.6	5.7	5.5
Cost-sharing contributions	6.5	11.7	12.0
Sub-trust fund contributions	9.8	1.6	4.5
Interest and other income	1.6	1.4	1.0
	18.5	20.4	23.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	28.4	32.1	40.0
=====			
<b>II. Utilization of resources:</b>			
Project expenditure (inc. sub-trust funds)	14.8	12.6	12.0
Reimbursement of agency support costs	0.7	1.0	0.9
Programme support and administrative services costs	1.2	1.5	1.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	16.7	15.1	14.4
=====			
<b>III. Balance of resources as at 31 December:</b>			
General resources (inc. cost-sharing)	8.9	15.9	23.1
Other resources (sub-trust funds)	2.8	1.1	2.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	11.7	17.0	25.6
=====			
<b>IV. Resources available for further programming:</b>			
General resources as at 31 December (as in III above) (inc. cost-sharing)	8.9	15.9	23.1
Less: Unspent project allocations	14.6	20.0	25.0
Balance available as at 31 December <u>a/</u>	(5.7) <u>a/</u>	(4.1) <u>a/</u>	(1.9) <u>b/</u>
=====			

a/ Provisional. Including non-convertible currencies.

b/ The excess allocations were made on the basis of pledges to UNSO by Governments but which have not yet been paid.



Annex II

UNSO PROJECTS APPROVED IN 1985

Recipient Country/ Project title	Recipient Government contribution \$	Financed from other resources		Total project value \$
		Amount	Donor	
<u>ETHIOPIA</u>		\$		
Establishment of Fuelwood Plantation for Debre Birhan (Phase II)	313 391	2 372 085	DENMARK	2 685 476
<u>GAMBIA</u>				
Promotion and Production of Improved Cooking Stoves (Phase II)	39 752	638 200	DENMARK	677 952
<u>MAURITANIA</u>				
Strengthening of the Nature Protection Department, Ministry of	-	862 000	DENMARK	862 000
<u>NIGER</u>				
Extension of Green Belt around Niamey	30 000	400 000	NORWAY	430 000
<u>SENEGAL</u>				
Development of New and Renewable Energy Sources and Strengthening of Energy Construction Activities	100 000	848 000	DENMARK	948 000
Centre for Ecosystems Monitoring	362 286	2 149 370	DENMARK	2 511 656
<u>SOMALIA</u>				
Forestry Development and Strengthening of the Forestry Department Project and Programme Formulation Missions	70 664	3 222 569	FINLAND	3 293 233
	-	993 454	UNDP/UNEP JOINT VENTURE	993 454
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>916 093</b>	<b>11 485 678</b>		<b>12 401 771</b>

