

PEACE RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR NORTHERN UGANDA (PRDP)

The PRDP will become operational on 1 July 2008. Below is a question/answer note on the PRDP – Office of the Prime Minister:

1. What is the PRDP ?

The PRDP is a combination of things: i) first, it is a special plan of action, adapted to the conflict contexts in the north, to strengthen coordination, supervision and monitoring of national and internationally supported activities to better achieve a common set of results.

The overall goal of the PRDP is stabilization in order to regain peace, recovery and development in Northern Uganda. This is to be achieved through four core strategic objectives:

- *consolidation of state authority;*
- *rebuilding and empowering communities;*
- *revitalization of the northern economy; and*
- *peace building and reconciliation;*

ii) second, it is a resource mobilizing tool in recognition that additional resources are required to achieve these objectives over the next three years; iii) third, it will be represented by an implementation mechanism responsible for coordination of all peace recovery and development activities in northern Uganda. The detailed structure and functions of this mechanism, and particularly whether it will be a channel of funding, are still being discussed with key stakeholders.

2. What is ‘northern Uganda’?

The PRDP describes northern Uganda as three sub-regions comprising 32 districts¹. These three sub-regions are: north western districts (West Nile); north central districts (Acholi) and north eastern districts (Karamoja). Included in the north central districts are the Teso and Lango districts which in the past have been affected by the war with the Lords Resistance Army, as well as the problems in Karamoja, but are now returning to peace.

3. How can the PRDP deal with the huge differences between such areas as the Karamoja and West Nile districts ?

The PRDP is a coordinating framework to achieve certain key objectives. It specifically recognizes that there are highly unique differences between the sub-regions of the north in its conflict analysis. As a framework, it provides for a combination of political/security and economic interventions which to a greater or lesser degree apply to all sub-regions. Some of those unique differences are explicitly recognized in the detail of the planning tables, annexed to the PRDP, that set out a different set of baselines of socio-economic indicators and targets to respond to the different needs in the respective sub-regions. In turn, the details of the respective program responses of the PRDP for each area will only be fully realized during the implementation stage when action plans, with precise timeframes and operational details, will be drawn up for each sub-region (this for example has been started by the Western Nile Development Conference).

4. Why is there not more analysis in the PRDP ?

¹ Adjumani, Arua, Moyo, Yumbe, Nebbi, Terego/Maracha and Koboko in **West Nile**; Amuro, Gulu, Pader and Kitgum in **Acholi** Sub-region; Lira, Amolatar, Dokolo, Oyam and Apac in **Lango** sub-region; Kaberamaido, Kumi, Bukedea, Katakwi, Amuria, Soroti, Pallisa and Budaka in **Teso** sub-region; Sironko, Kapchorwa and Bukwa in the **Elgon** sub-region; and Nakapiripirit, Moroto, Kaabong, Moroto and Abiim in the **Karamoja** sub-region.

A large amount of analysis has been undertaken by Government, non-government actors, UN agencies and academics over the years on the challenges confronting northern Uganda, including the problems of displacement, land ownership and socio-economic marginalization. The PRDP is an action plan - which needs to be straightforward and relatively concise - building off all this existing material.

5. What is the relationship between the PRDP and the PEAP?

The Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) is the government's national framework for all actors in the country aimed at achieving a number of key objectives in order to enable Uganda to meet its Millennium Development Goal targets and economic growth objectives. It is recognized that, due to conflict, insecurity and underdevelopment, the poverty targets for the rest of the country are not at the moment realistic for northern Uganda. A special effort is required which include political/ security as well as development objectives in order to create the conditions whereby the north is brought up to similar standards as the rest of the country. Within three years it is hoped that, with peace, the north is then able to be integrated within the PEAP and join in the national efforts at prosperity and poverty reduction.

6. What is the role of the Sector Working Groups and the PRDP ?

The Sector Working Groups (SWGs) are responsible for setting national standards and policies in line with the PEAP. The SWGs will be critically important in ensuring the application of those same standards and policies to the north and to assist in the implementation of the PRDP objectives and activities. However, the Government recognizes that a special effort is required for the north above and beyond sectoral planning, hence the creation of the PRDP, which will be coordinated very closely with the SWGs.

7. What participation and consultation has there been in the formulation of the PRDP?

The PRDP has been the result of a process of 12 months of consultation at the national and local levels. With the former, an Inter Ministerial Task Committee was created with a Secretariat, housed in OPM, responsible for interacting with the Sectoral Working Groups and line Ministries. In turn, the Secretariat has supported extensive district consultations which incorporate local government, civil society organizations and key stakeholders in drawing up local development plans which fed into the PRDP. The challenge is that such a process needs constant and ongoing participation of all stakeholders, many of whom are marginalized, such as displaced populations. To meet this challenge, the PRDP Secretariat is continuing its consultations up to the finalization of the PRDP document and into the implementation phase.

8. How will the PRDP be implemented?

The PRDP is not a separate project. It is a coordination framework for all programs and projects in the north setting out certain objectives and targets for northern Uganda. Those targets will be met by various activities undertaken through normal channels: national government, local government, UN agencies, non-governmental and civil society organizations and the private sector. As the PRDP is a new framework, and represents a special effort for the north, it will need a small supervising structure, comprising technical staff and a policy body to coordinate activities, and to review progress against the targets.

9. How much will the PRDP cost?

The overall cost of the PRDP is estimated to be near \$540 million. Some 30-40% of this is estimated to be met by current sectoral and line Ministry allocations. The funding gap is \$370 million (**Uganda Shillings 647 Billion**) which is anticipated to be met from domestic and international resources, including ongoing

programs. These costs have been calculated by an extensive and detailed analysis of baseline indicators in the north and the setting of realistic targets to be achieved in the next three years. Part of this funding gap has already been closed by the Government's commitment of Ug Shillings 18.5 billion toward the Emergency Humanitarian Action Plan (EHAP) which is the emergency precursor to the PRDP.

10. What is the relationship between the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC)/ EHAP and the PRDP?

The Joint Monitoring Committee was established as a joint Government and international body to supervise the implementation of a number of emergency actions in the north (as outlined in the EHAP). The EHAP is set to run until the end of March 2007 by which time the PRDP will be established. The emergency components of the EHAP are also incorporated within the overarching framework of the PRDP. Such emergency responses are anticipated to continue particularly in insecure areas until there is a full cessation of hostilities and return or settlement of displaced populations.

11. Why is the PRDP only for three years?

The PRDP is designed for three years as in essence it is what is called a stabilization program to create the necessary conditions for development. Once those conditions have been achieved then it is anticipated that the north will be fully integrated under the PEAP. In turn, the three year time frame is coherent with the Medium Term Expenditure Framework and the PRDP will be reviewed after the three year period to assess that the goals have been achieved.

12. What is the relationship between the PRDP and the national budget?

There is an in-built assumption that some 30-40 % of the PRDP targets are accounted for under the existing ceilings of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework, i.e. the existing allocations to the line Ministries under the national budget. This means that about 60% of the PRDP will have to be met out of additional domestic and international resources.

13. What is the relationship between the PRDP, the UN Consolidated Appeal and other international programs for northern Uganda ?

In estimating the funding gap of \$370 million (Uganda Shillings 647 Billion), the PRDP authors have not yet taken into account all the large internationally supported programs which support various activities in the north, including those of the UN agencies. Once those programs are accounted for, it is expected that they will as a total account for a considerable proportion of the PRDP effort.

14. What happens if the peace agreement with the Lords Resistance Army is not signed?

The PRDP makes a number of assumptions and in particular that there will be peace and a full cessation of hostilities in the central Acholi areas in the near future. If insecurity in those areas continues then the PRDP will, after its annual review, adjust its priorities and interventions for those affected districts accordingly. However, it plans to be launched in any event recognizing the special needs in West Nile and Karamoja as well as the ongoing emergency in north central.