



**OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION**

UN Country Teams' Strategy Paper

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| SUMMARY OF FACTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UN preparatory work on a coordinated regional support to the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for DR Cong and the region started with the meeting of UN Resident Coordinators (RCs) convened by the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa in Kinshasa, the DRC in July 2013.(Note that significant programmes at national level in support to PSC-F are already under implementation by UN Country Teams) ▪ Subsequently, in May 2014 in Kigali, Rwanda, Resident Coordinators and Regional Directors defined pillars/priority areas of regional programming and assigned agencies to lead on these. ▪ At technical meetings in Addis Ababa in November 2014 and especially in and since Nairobi, March 2015, O/SESG has worked closely with UNDP regional team and endeavoured to ensure that the outcome, the Regional Strategy Paper was strongly aligned with the SESG's 2015-17 Road Map. The regional strategy was also focused on the core area of conflict – the Eastern DRC and the four neighbouring countries – Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. ▪ RCs approved the UNCTs Regional Strategy Paper in Madagascar in June 2015. The strategy is now under review by the regional directors of the Funds and Programmes. Following the consultation with the regional organisations on August 25 the plan is for the Resident Coordinators to submit the final cleared version of the regional strategy for formal consultation with the five governments. ▪ The priority areas for joint programming are: 1. Sustainable natural resources management; 2. Economic integration; 3. Mobility of persons, workers, goods and capital; 4. Youth and adolescents; 5. Gender and fight against Gender Based Violence; 6. Justice and conflict prevention. |
| ANALYSIS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The consensus based UN Development Group system and the big number of concerned country offices, funds and agencies make the finalization and launch of the regional One UN programme a challenge. Recent personnel changes in DRC also slowed down finalization of the Strategy Paper. ▪ The UN Country Teams are not set or designed for cross-border programming and cooperation and some of the regional offices rather 'divide' by their set-up, than unite the Great Lakes region (DR Congo is managed by West Africa at some agencies). ▪ UNDP has played a coordinating role in the development of the Regional Strategy Paper and O/SESG especially during 2015 supported the development in a substantive way, but there is no clear leadership or process for the |



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| | development of such a regional strategy within UN Development Group system. The undg Regional Directors meeting in July 2015 nominated both WFP and UNDP as champions of the regional strategy, which should help to focus the undg work. | |
| NEXT STEPS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officially endorse the Regional Strategy Paper by all concerned RCs, regional directors, five governments and relevant regional organisations. ▪ Agree with UNDP's NY management about leadership roles and responsibilities and communicate this to RCs and regional directors. ▪ Develop a detailed One UN regional action plan based on the Strategy Paper and launch implementation. ▪ Approach donors for additional financing (around 50 million USD for 2016-17). | |
| MESSAGING | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNCTs, regional organizations and the World Bank Group are all eager to coordinate regional programming. ▪ SESG is ready to take a leadership role in coordinating regional UNCTs programming, including with regional organizations and the World Bank Group. ▪ SESG is ready to take a leadership role in resource mobilization for the One UN Regional Programme. ▪ Donors are invited to participate in final design and priority setting of the coordinated regional programmes' launch and oversight of implementation. | |
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