A word from the Director

As we face complex challenges across the Lake Chad Basin, the Sahel, northern Mozambique and in the Horn of Africa, our stabilization work becomes increasingly important. Bringing the humanitarian, development and peace nexus into action, the uniqueness and effectiveness of our stabilization efforts stem from letting local actors drive the process. UNDP works with communities to restore essential security, civil and economic infrastructure and services while providing livelihood support for economic recovery. This paves pathways to peace towards long-term development. Where others see the problems as intractable, stabilization is pushing the opportunity window open – quickening recovery in crisis contexts. During my October mission to Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Ghana, I witnessed firsthand the fruits of this work. The collective experiences in this edition of the RBA Digest take us closer to breaking with the ‘business as usual’ model. We must go deeper, and wider – adding speed and scale to how we roll out stabilization support.

Ahunna Eziakonwa

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

UNDP’s stabilization programme in northern Mozambique builds on the understanding that rapidly rehabilitating core infrastructures and providing income generation activities along with social cohesion interventions will lay the foundation for increased access for more long-term development. Learn how we are addressing urgent needs...

Spotlight on the Lake Chad Basin

Despite deteriorating security situations and the COVID-19 pandemic, progress has been made across the Lake Chad Basin. In August, UNDP and partners validated the extension of the Regional Stabilization Facility for the LCB, which has provided a proof-of-concept model for our stabilization efforts over the past 18 months. Our efforts received a further validation through positive testimonies from local actors and decisionmakers at the third LCB Governors Forum convened in Yaoundé to enhance regional cooperation.

Second wave of the Stabilization Academy!

Stabilization reaffirms the role of development actors in conflict settings. UNDP’s Stabilization Academy was born out of the need to fill a gap in our development toolbox. We have development professionals and crisis experts. We have to support people affected by crisis in rebuilding their lives. UNDP, European Union, and the African Development Bank drew in 80 participants from various countries in the region to join these new 9-week courses and explore how to do development differently. Watch the Regional Director’s video message...

Unveiling a new vision for the Sahel... with and for young people

Sahel’s youth are key to driving economic growth, creating sustainable green economies, and engendering peace in the region. The new Sahel Generation Unlimited initiative maximizes opportunities in the sub-region, and will equip 100 million young people with skills needed to thrive in the digital and green economy by 2030.

UNDP, in partnership with the YouthConnect Africa Hub, the UN Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel and the Generation Unlimited Initiative in the Sahel, launched the first edition of the YouthConnect Sahel Forum on 18 November, under the theme “Youth Rebranding the Sahel”. Join the event!