

'Building Urban Climate Resilience in South-Eastern Africa'

Second Regional Workshop

2nd Project Steering Committee (PSC) and expanded 7th DiMSUR Executive Board meeting minutes – 21 March 2022

Participants (as members or observers):

In-person

- Regional
 - Ms. Fruzsina Straus, Project Manager, UN-Habitat
 - Ms. Monica Gakindi, Finance and Administrative Officer, UN-Habitat
 - Ms. Selene Angelone, Urban Resilience Programme Specialist, UN-Habitat
 - Ms. Silvia Testi, Project Coordinator, Oxfam
 - Mr. Antonio Mancini, Grant Manager, Oxfam
 - Mr. Riccardo Sansone, External Programme Director, Oxfam
 - Ms. Benedetta Gualandi, Urban Resilience Expert, Oxfam
 - Ms. Lynn Chiripamberi, Zimbabwe Country Representative & Humanitarian Lead SAF, Oxfam
 - Ms. Jessica Valerani, Communication officer, Oxfam
 - Mr. Alex Banda, Senior Advisor, Disaster Risk Management Unit, SADC
 - Mr. Nuno Remane, Executive Director, DiMSUR
 - Ms. Marta Leite, Administrative Assistant, DiMSUR
- Malawi
 - Mr. Stern Kita, National Project Manager, UN-Habitat
 - Mr. Andrew Mkandawire, City Project Manager, Oxfam
 - Ms. Lingalireni Mihowa, Country Representative, Oxfam
 - Mr. Daud Kayisi, Media and Communications Lead, Oxfam
 - Mr. Patience Kayira, Acting Logistics Coordinator, Oxfam
 - Mr. Charles Kalemba, Commissioner, Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA)
 - Mr. Dyce Nkoma, Director of Risk Reduction, Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA)
 - Mr. Samuel Gama, Principal Mitigation Officer, Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA)
 - Ms. Mercy Dube, Director, Department of Urban Development
 - Ms. Tawonga Luka-Mbale, Director, Environmental Affairs Department
 - Ms. Lucy Mtilatila, Director, Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services
 - Mr. Davie Maunde, Mayor, Zomba City Council

- Mr. Fred Nankuyu, CEO, Zomba City Council
- Mr. Martin Kumbani, Director of Engineering Services, Zomba City Council
- Mr. Busta Chiona, Director of Health and Social Services, Zomba City Council
- Mr. Mayamiko Kabango, Civil Engineer, Zomba City Council
- Mr. Sosten Chiotha, Regional Director, Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) Southern and Eastern Africa
- Mr. Blessings Mlowoka, Malawi Red Cross Society
- Madagascar
 - Ms. Sandrine Andriantsimetry, National Project Manager, UN-Habitat
 - Ms. Tina Haingonirina, City Project Manager, Oxfam
 - Mr. Tiana Randrianasolorimina, Director General, Territorial Planning and Land Services, Ministry of Land Use Planning and Land Services
 - Mr. Elack Olivier Andriakaja, Director General, National Bureau for Disasters and Risks Management – incoming DiMSUR chair
- Mozambique
 - Ms. Marcia Guambe, National Project Manager, UN-Habitat
 - Mr. Sergio Zimba, City Project Manager, Oxfam
 - Mr. Belem Monteiro, Vice President, National Institute of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
 - Mr. Claudio Afonso, Director, National Directorate of Climate Change
 - Mr. Vasco Moiane, Mayor, Municipality of Chokwe
- Comoros
 - Mr. Hamid Soule-Saadi, National Project Manager, UN-Habitat
 - Ms. Salima Hamada, City Project Manager, Oxfam
 - Mr. Mohamed Abdou, Director, Directorate of Land Use Planning, Urban Development and Housing
 - Mr. Tackfine Ahmed, Director General of Civil Security – outgoing DiMSUR chair
- Academia
 - Mr. Isaac Tchuwa, Malawi University of Science and Technology
 - Mr. Alberto Mavume, Eduardo Mondlane University Mozambique
 - Mr. Christo Coetzee, North-West University South Africa

Online

- Regional
 - Ms. Laia Bonet, intern, UN-Habitat
 - Ms. Meremiya Hussein, intern, UN-Habitat
 - Mr. Theo Silberston, intern, UN-Habitat
 - Ms. Aya Mohanna, intern, UN-Habitat
- Madagascar

- Mr. Bruno Emmanuel, Technical Advisor, National Office for Risk and Catastrophe Management (BNGRC)
- Mr. Aritiana Fabien Faly, Civil Protection Corps Liaison Officer, National Office for Risk and Catastrophe Management (BNGRC)
- Mr. Jean-Michael Raharivelo, Technical Project Manager, Oxfam
- Ms. Rondro Herinirina, Research Officer, Adaptation Division, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD)
- Mr. Tiana Mahefasoa Randrianalijaona, Director, Multidisciplinary Department on Disaster and Risk Management (DMGRC), University of Antananarivo
- Comoros
 - Mr. Abdallah Mohamed, Mayor, City of Moroni
 - Mr. Toufael Hassane Rambou, Technical Project Manager, Oxfam
- Other
 - Yussuf Jim
 - Claudia Abatar

Outgoing Chairperson: Mr. Tackfine Ahmed, Director General of Civil Security, Union of Comoros

Incoming Chairperson: Mr. Elack Olivier Andriakaja, Director General of the National Bureau for Disasters and Risks Management, Madagascar

AGENDA ITEM	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
Opening Session	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Master of ceremonies, Selene Angelone, UN-Habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long way since the establishment of DiMSUR in 2013 achieving some great milestones like as the development of CityRAP methodology for participatory urban resilience planning, and the implementation of the Adaptation Fund project under which is taking place the regional workshop. - The Project Steering Committee is the overall decision-making body in terms of project coordination and orientation, meeting once a year at the regional level. It is composed by the same members of the DiMSUR Executive Board plus representatives of the four target cities. - During the last DiMSUR Executive Board and first Project Steering Committee meeting held in June 2020, it was decided to embed the Project Steering Committee in the structure of DiMSUR to strengthen the centre and enable its continuity beyond the project duration, hence the decision to make the Project Steering Committee the Executive Board of DiMSUR, holding in that way both meetings as one. <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p>Tackfine Ahmed, outgoing chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This meeting is of of paramount and strategic importance for the continuation of the activities that we have implemented over the past few years for urban resilience in our respective countries. - This meeting comes after the COVID-19 crisis which delayed our agendas and considerably affected the implementation of our activities within the framework of this project. - DiMSUR is now facing a strategic turning point that should enable it to strengthen its capacities and relaunch its activities for the benefit of our respective countries, in order to limit the impacts of disasters and strengthen urban resilience. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Adaptation Fund project is an opportunity to strengthen and relaunch DIMSUR activities. We must now think about the durability and funding of this institution to ensure that we are sustainable, for the benefit of the region. - the General Directorate of Civil Security is committed to the development of DIMSUR; an institution which constitutes for us a reference tool, essential for capacity building in our respective countries, and the promotion of excellence in the field. - The new president of DIMSUR, Brigadier General Elack Olivier Andriakaje, Director of the BNGRC, will spare no effort for the development of this young institution. His long-standing experience, your technicality and know-how will be of great interest for the development of DIMSUR. - Today, we are facing an unprecedented crisis linked to COVID-19, impacting all sectors. Strengthening urban resilience has an important role in tackling this crisis through better sanitation and the improvement of informal settlements. - I would like to thank our United Nations partners, more particularly UN-Habitat, OXFAM and SADC, who are increasingly committed to our countries every day. 	
<p>Adoption of the Minutes of the 6th DiMSUR Executive Board Meeting and handover of chair</p>	<p>Adoption of the Minutes of the 6th DiMSUR Executive Board Meeting</p> <p>Marcia Guambe, UN-Habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading of the decisions and recommendations from the minutes of the 6th Executive Board meeting. <p>Tackfine Ahmed, outgoing chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal adoption of the minutes. <p>Change of DiMSUR Executive Board chairperson from the Government of Comoros to the Government of Madagascar</p> <p>Tackfine Ahmed, outgoing chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The chairperson of the DiMSUR Executive Board shall be appointed from among the National Directors responsible for Disasters and Risks Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, in rotation, on a yearly basis. According to what was decided at the 6th Executive Board meeting, the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes were adopted with no remarks or additional comments from the Executive Board and Project Steering Committee members.

selection of the chair will follow an alphabetical order and Madagascar will be therefore the next chair after Comoros.

- The chair is therefore transferred from the outgoing chairperson, myself to the incoming chairperson Mr. Général de Brigade Elack Olivier Andriakaje, General Director of the National Bureau for Disasters and Risks Management from the Government of Madagascar.
- “We talk about urban resilience here. It is a plague; it is a disease in the African continent. Rural exodus. Cities have become a concentration of all problems. High concentrations, densities were observed. Informal, unsanitary habitats. Problems of water, hygiene and so on. The question is, in which life do we want to live tomorrow? We Africans also have the right to reside in cities like Rome and Nice, despite the constraints of all kinds. With our will and determination, and with our partners, I know that we can achieve this. Today, to see people like you in this room, and to accompany you in this wonderful adventure, it warms our hearts. I can't find the words to thank you. In the projects that we have predefined, the Covid-19 has unfortunately interrupted a lot of activities. Now Covid is behind us and we can resume activities. The people are waiting for us.”
- Wishes luck to the new president.

Elack Olivier Andriakaja, incoming chairperson:

- “It is an honour to take over the presidency of DiMSUR from this day forward. DiMSUR's efforts will be capitalized, recycled, and unified. As incoming President, my first order of business is to approve the new Executive Director, Mr Remane. He is the most qualified, most suitable candidate for this position. Based on his extensive experience in projects and institutions similar to DiMSUR.”

Endorsement of DiMSUR Executive Director appointment

Elack Olivier Andriakaja, incoming chairperson:

- The DiMSUR Executive Director, Mr. Nuno Remane, was officially introduced, receiving full endorsement.

Nuno Remane, DiMSUR:

- “It is an honour for me standing here in the Steering Committee, and this not only as a Mozambique representative but also as a regional representative to promote a better Disk

	Disaster Management for the Region. This is going to be done with all of you. Dear Mister President, members of the board, thank you very much.”	
Briefing on DiMSUR activities	<p>Marcia Guambe, UN-Habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Six sessions of the DiMSUR Executive Board have been held since the organization’s establishment - Two Biennial Work Plans (2016 – 2020) have been developed and approved by the DiMSUR Executive Board - DiMSUR’s relationship with SADC continues to be developed - The organisation has worked on four projects, three of which have been concluded: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mainstreaming Urban Risk Management and Resilience in Southern Africa (2018-2019) 2. Strengthening Urban Resilience in South-east Africa (2018-2020) 3. Building Urban Climate Resilience in South-eastern Africa (2018-2021) - DiMSUR Office Host Agreement made with Eduardo Mondlane University in 2020 	
Strategic Discussion	<p>Presentation and adoption of the draft DiMSUR Biennial Action Plan 2022-2023</p> <p>Nuno Remane, DiMSUR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DiMSUR is an entity that wants to make cities better, prosperous and more organized. - Four countries are involved: Malawi, Mozambique, Madagascar and Comoros. - The organisation has worked on four projects, three of which have been concluded. - DiMSUR itself is the solution. Knowledge that can be spread. Together we are better prepared to react. When we started, we did not have the number of devastating hazards that we have today. We are trying to address, but it is not enough and that is why we have here. We don’t have the time; we must react now. - Having technical and financial resources available is a critical need to be able to plan and implement activities. To structure DiMSUR as a centre, with all the technicians, and so on, we need more funds. These funds were not included in the Adaptation Fund project. - DiMSUR will meet its deliverables stated in its ToRs but it’s time to raise money to be able for DiMSUR to give the organisation the technical validation it needs. - We request SADC’s further participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize a profile of the organization to highlight “why DiMSUR” for dissemination. - Renew the online website’s homepage. - Generate new sources of fundraising. - Emphasize academia’s participation. - DiMSUR three-year (rather than two-year) action plan is approved without further comments.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DiMSUR offers: (1) Local capacity building, national appropriation, regional dissemination; (2) information, a repository knowledge hub and a scientific repertoire; and (3) inter-government partnerships, government strategic support and fundable projects. - DiMSUR should be sustainable and able to support other smaller institutions. - Membership fees are important part of ensuring sustainability. - The Pillars & Methodology of DiMSUR: Pillars - Planning / Budget / Team; Methodology: Analyze / Participate / Design. - Action Plan 2022-2024: Align under the 3Gs – Good plan, Good Team, Good Governance + Sufficient budget. When the 3Gs come together with enough budget to operationalize, the result is outstanding work. - Objectives: strengthening relationships with regional actors and governments, developing closer relationships with projects, visiting sites and so on, generating greater academic participation and legitimacy, and marketing the organisation, selling DiMSUR’s capabilities, it’s results and impact. Despite this, fundraising issues exist. <p>Discussion on the financial sustainability of DiMSUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership fees an important measure to ensure the organisations’ financial sustainability. <p>Participant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are there similar cases to look towards? What does the PSC know regarding membership fees functionality? - The activities must be budgeted and afterwards we can discuss financing, the contribution of each country. <p>Elack Olivier Andriakaja, incoming chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is not today that we will be able to give this answer, it is a question of reflection. <p>Participant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Give the Secretariat time to prepare this simulation and send it to the country for review and consideration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DiMSUR to create a portfolio document, presenting its achievements to date. - The next in-person Executive board meeting will be held in 2023 and hosted by Mozambique. Before that, a virtual one will be held in six-month time.
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Discussion on DiMSUR's expansion

Elack Olivier Andriakaja, incoming chairperson:

- How can we motivate SADC for full regional membership in relation to this idea of membership fees?

Stern Kita, UN-Habitat:

- In terms of approaching SADC, it's a long process but the procedure is that the Mozambique government through DiMSUR should make the request to the council of Ministers of SADC. It will only work if DiMSUR has an institution. I will liaise with the Executive Director.

Riccardo Sansone, Oxfam:

- The issue of sustainability is obvious. I would encourage to discuss with both new and existing donors. We have said today that action is important and not just talking – actions locally. There are donors that are more accessible than international NGO's. In the next 6 months we can work together to identify who our donors can be and look to create a multi-donor strategy for the next years. We as Oxfam we are more than happy to be on board and help in this direction.

Participant:

- Current states should be more involved. Maybe if more individual countries are involved, then this could cause peer pressure for SADC to be supporting new countries because they see the interest of the single countries.

Benedetta Gualandi, Oxfam:

- With the South Africa National Disaster Management Centre: it was a long process with SADC. The centre is not only national but had to go through international legal reviews, etcetera. We need to forecast time, the process is in the medium timeframe.

Fruzsina Straus, UN-Habitat:

- Indeed, there has been a bit of an ad-hoc process in the past in terms of new countries. There was interest expressed right before Covid-19. A lot of that impetus got lost. What we have been discussing with Nuno, is that now is the moment to revisit the previous interests from before but also have a broader SADC expansion (a short-term, and a long-term expansion to pursue) with the view of having DiMSUR with coverage of all SADC Member States. One thing that we have recently done, in Africa Working Group for Disaster Risk Reduction (AWGDRR) held in Maputo: there, Nuno was allowed to present DiMSUR at this regional platform, so we're hoping to take advantage of further such opportunities. Generate and push (peer-pressure) for more memberships.

Tackfine Ahmed, outgoing chairperson:

- I want to congratulate the new Executive Director and wish him good luck. The funding problem must remain the basis of our future reflections and actions. Structures like ours, there are always some that take a turn and leave afterwards. I hope that with our structure and with the technicians of Oxfam, I dare to hope that we will continue, and that we will not act like international institutions which land in a country and pretend to know everything, and which have solutions standardized keys. I would say that the second G (good governance), I can say that we are with you (as Comoros) for the synergy of this project and for the well-being of our populations. It takes much more action than talk. You have to plan. We are lagging far behind in our African cities. We cannot do without South Africa. We have the best team for DiMSUR, there is no reason for us to fail in this great adventure. We will always be with you, rest assured.

Christo Coetzee, North-West University:

- In terms of academics, it would be quite easy to get a lot of universities on board. Some universities have meetings where institutions can present their work. Later in October 2022, there is a conference on DRR here in Blantyre. There is a slot assigned to Urban Risk, which could be the DiMSUR session. It's an agenda item that I would take forward to make those connections.

Riccardo Sansone, Oxfam:

- In relation to the development of the DiMSUR work plan, it is necessary to seek the right skills to implement DiMSUR. We are open to new applications, but they are at the level of developing the work in progress. These could be criteria to guide the recruitment process.

Communications and outreach

Jessica Valerani, Oxfam:

- Greetings
- Regarding the project, the core part of this plan is the synergy of the different actors.
- We have different channels: Oxfam, UN-Habitat, DiMSUR and governments to send a common message.
- We will share common achievements as well as challenges, to have a clear picture of what our project is facing.
- We will also engage media around our communication. The objective for communication is to increase the visibility of our project, the outputs, outcomes, and the impacts, and to raise awareness of what is going on.
- Our key message is: we want to protect vulnerable populations and give access to basic services and infrastructure. We want also to say that DiMSUR is a key actor in the region.
- We have already started to collect and will continue to collect stories from the field. We are happy to invite you to follow our main channel with Oxfam.
- Our main goal is to use DiMSUR as a focal point for the project dissemination channel, always highlighting the work of everyone.

Nuno Remane, DiMSUR:

- We need to create a document that is a portfolio or a guideline of our results to present our work until the date of today. We must create a strategy for communication, but we need the people to support Jessica, she cannot do all of this herself. Let's not lose the opportunity to prove the principle of the inclusion of the academia in this board meeting.

Additional business

Elack Olivier Andriakaja, incoming chairperson:

- Regarding the next Executive Board meeting for DiMSUR, it may be appropriate to have another meeting before the next one in 6 months, for which the date should be discussed.

	<p>Tackfine Ahmed, outgoing chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Virtual or in person? Should the Covid-19 circumstances be taken into account? <p>Fruzsina Straus, UN-Habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As a point of clarification, it is my understanding, that after the project, the board will continue, but within the project we are trying to accelerate the DiMSUR opportunity. 	
<p>Final reflection from the four government representatives and closing remarks from the Chair</p>	<p>Madagascar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We approve what has been presented, we welcome the next meeting. <p>Malawi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have really approved all the issues that we have discussed, and we thank Mozambique for the hosting of the next DiMSUR executive board meeting. - We have seen [climate related] events are overtaking us – we need DiMSUR to be fully operational by the next meeting. <p>Mozambique:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We approve the results of today's meeting. <p>Comoros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thanks, congratulations to the representatives of this very fruitful meeting. 	