



Risk Management Unit (RMU)

CONTEXT

Originally created to support the UN, partners and donors in managing Somalia's devastating famine in 2011, the Risk Management Unit (RMU) continues to evolve in the face of momentous local, regional and global events. UN programmes in Somalia are exposed to significant uncertainties, while fundamental theories supporting Somalia's humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts require constant re-evaluation, making the work of the RMU increasingly relevant.

The RMU continues to orient towards strategic programme considerations by harnessing efforts of all stakeholders and enabling real-time support to improve programme planning and implementation. Our analytical capacity is dynamic and 'decision-supportive' through broad engagement, partnerships, and agreements with development, humanitarian and peacebuilding nexus partners.

INTEGRATED APPROACH

RISK ANALYSIS AND ADVICE

Applying international risk management industry standards, the RMU adopts a dynamic approach to risk analysis to generate assessments, reports and guidance for all stakeholders. This includes advice on allegations, document examination, proposal analysis and external verifications.

DATABASES AND INFORMATION SHARING

The RMU has developed two key web-based platforms. The Contractor Information Management System (CIMS) is a UN information-sharing platform of vendors and implementing partners. Containing contract information, capacity/risk assessments and performance ratings, it is linked to UN and other sanctions lists, debarred contractors (UN/World Bank) lists and related information.

Secondly, the Capacity Injection Reporting Tool (CIRT) was developed to share information on human capital support to government entities in order to reinforce institutional capacity. This platform enables coordination, harmonization and compliance with national policies.

LEARNING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The RMU delivers workshops on managing project risk to the UN, government officials, civil society and the private sector in both in-person and online learning formats. These modalities are maintained and customized to the profile of participants.

SUPPORT TO USE OF COUNTRY SYSTEMS

Since 2016, the RMU has supported operationalization and implementation of the National Funding Stream of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund through country systems.

Somalia's Public Financial Management (PFM) Act of the Federal Government of Somalia requires funds disbursed to the government institutions to be disbursed through country systems. The RMU leads UN due diligence activities associated with the assessment of the PFM and Supreme Audit Institution, by guiding UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes (AFPs) and liaising with government authorities for a smooth implementation. Further, the National Window Guidance Manual is being updated for UN AFPs on the use of country systems.

SUPPORT FOR LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON NGOS

The RMU is coordinating support to the Federal Government of Somalia for an enabling NGO Law. A draft Bill has been developed with stakeholders drawn from the Federal Government, Federal Member States, NGOs, donors and the UN. Work is ongoing for implementation of the law. Liaison activities are also ongoing with the Federal Member States.

DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF BEST PRACTICES

In light of the success of Somalia's risk management tools, similar approaches have been replicated in Afghanistan, Syria and South Sudan. The RMU also provides support to Libya, Lebanon, the UN Integrated Strategy for Sahel (UNISS), and continues to support Afghanistan after Taliban takeover of the country.

COLLECTIVE RISK MANAGEMENT

The Collective Risk Management Strategy and Implementation Plan has been developed through stakeholder consultative sessions and is currently being tailored by respective stakeholder groups to ensure that the plan is fit for purpose.

MONITORING

The RMU conducts verification and monitoring activities for the UN and partners, including joint agency and field monitoring activities, in order to bring additional resources and perspectives to due diligence activities. Support is also provided for monthly media monitoring reports on fraud and corruption, which are generated for stakeholders.



GROUPS LED AND COORDINATED BY RMU

UN Risk Management, Accountability and Quality Assurance Group (RMAQA)
A regular risk-information sharing platform (members: UN risk focal points)

Collaborative Risk Management Group
(members: Government, NGOs, UN, donors)

UN Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer Inter-Agency Group



CIMS

Contractor Information Management System

\$6.5B valued contracts

15 United Nations agencies

500+ partner assessments



CIRT

Capacity Injection Reporting Tool

2,500 Individual profiles

12 Contributing organisations



RMU

Risk Management Unit

4 RMU replications

3 coordinated platforms