



UNITED NATIONS
SOMALIA
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SOMALIA

UN MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

January - June 2018

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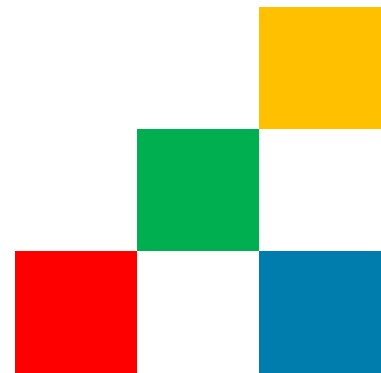
Welcome to the first semi-annual report of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN MPTF) for Somalia, covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2018.

The first half of the year represented a significant transitional phase for the UN MPTF with the winding down of several Joint Programmes and a transition to a next generation of Programmes across various thematic areas, particularly around Inclusive Politics and Rule of Law.

During the reporting period (as well as at the beginning of July), the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) Steering Committee endorsed pipeline inclusion of a number of new UN MPTF Joint Programmes, namely Strengthening Women's Capacities as Agents for Change in Peacebuilding, Reconciliation and Ending Violence Against Women (UN Women Strategic Note); Joint Justice Programme; Joint Corrections Programme; Joint Police Programme; Security Sector Reform; Construction and Rehabilitation of Key Justice Institutions; as well as the Joint Programme on Operationalizing the Somali National Strategy and Action Plan on Preventing and Countering of Violent Extremism. A second phase of the 'Strengthening Kenya Somalia cross-border reintegration and peaceful co-existence' project was also approved for further development.

Five years since the SDRF was established with the aim of enhancing coordination and alignment of external development assistance to Somalia, a wide variety of stakeholders convened in Mogadishu on 6 June 2018 for a workshop to collectively reflect how much has been achieved in the evolution of Somalia's Aid Architecture and how to ensure that it remains fit-for-purpose, both in terms of addressing strategic national development priorities and in the day-to-day administrative processes that keep the system operational.

Under the chairmanship of the Deputy Prime Minister and with representation across the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), Federal Member State (FMS) and Benadir administrations, civil society, the international donor community and the UN, the workshop resulted in a comprehensive set of recommendations across various workstreams for strengthening the strategic direction and operational coherence of the SDRF and Pillar Working Group structures. The UN looks forward to contributing to the implementation of these recommendations through the UN MPTF and its ongoing support to the Aid Architecture.



NDP Pillar

MPTF Joint Programmes

1. Inclusive Politics

- Support to Emerging Federal States
- Constitutional Review
- Parliament Support
- Electoral Support

2. Rule of Law

- Rule of Law
- Support to the Ministry of Internal Security
- Joint Justice Programme*
- Joint Police Project*
- Joint Corrections Programme*
- Integrated Security Sector Reform*
- Operationalising Somali National Strategy & Action Plan on P/CVE*
- Security Enhancement against Large Vehicle Borne IED Threats*

3. Effective, Efficient Institutions

- Local Governance (JPLG)
- Institutional Capacity Development
- Support to Aid Management & Coordination*
- Pilot Project to Strengthen National Service Delivery
- Enablers

4. Economic Growth

- Youth Employment in Somalia

5. Social & Human Development

- UNFPA Country Programme

7. Resilience

- Refugee Return & Reintegration
- Social Protection Project
- Sustainable Charcoal Reduction & Alternative Livelihoods
- Midnimo

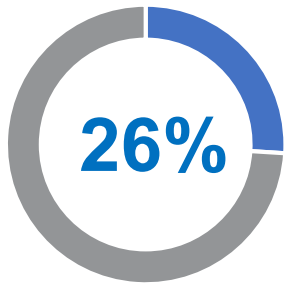
8. Gender & Human Rights

- Women's Political Participation, Leadership & Empowerment
- Joint Human Rights Programme*
- Strengthening Women's Capacities as Agents for Change*

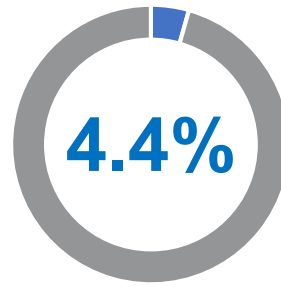
* SDRF Pipeline Approved/Under Development

	Committed (USD)	Deposited (USD)	Deposit %
Denmark	20,418,725	20,071,836	98.3%
United Kingdom	36,645,027	33,099,423	90.3%
European Union	57,653,586	53,408,171	92.6%
Finland	9,433,962	0	0%
Germany	12,226,425	12,226,425	100%
Italy	10,375,993	7,535,957	72.6%
Netherlands	2,355,200	2,355,200	100%
Norway	13,745,002	13,745,002	100%
Peacebuilding Fund	6,185,503	6,185,503	100%
Somalia	3,332,364	3,332,364	100%
Sweden	88,699,427	62,147,702	70.1%
Switzerland	9,485,277	9,485,277	100%
USAID	2,000,000	500,000	25%
Total:	272,556,491	224,092,861	82.2%

PORTFOLIO LEVEL RESULTS



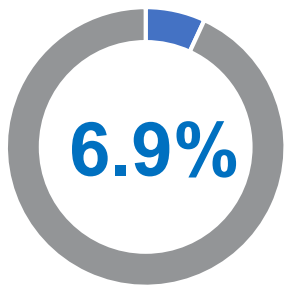
of UN funds channelled & reported through SDRF ³



of MPTF resources going to National Window ⁴

1 quarterly portfolio coordination meeting held during reporting period

DONOR ENGAGEMENT



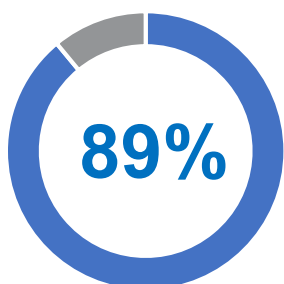
of Un-Earmarked Contributions ⁵

3 Months

Average time for donor disbursement after SDRF approval ⁶

US\$13,719,143 of disbursements to PUNOs during reporting period ⁷

QUALITY OF OPERATIONS



Disbursement ratio of active Programmes ⁸



Joint Programmes received SDRF pipeline approval during reporting period ⁹

1. The Joint Programme on Support to Emerging Federal States supported the Ministry of Interior Federal Affairs & Reconciliation to establish the Inter-Governmental Relations Forum on Federalism and State-building while the Joint Programme on Constitutional Review supported the formation of the Federalization National Technical Working Group to support negotiations between FGS and FMSs on key constitutional matters.
2. The Joint Programme on Women's Political Participation, Leadership & Empowerment supported the establishment of six platforms to facilitate grassroots dialogue and community-based discussions in Mogadishu and various FMSs with the aim to socialize the constitutional review process and amplify women's voices in demanding the codification of their rights in the legal framework.
3. The Joint Programme on Parliamentary Support supported a five-day visit of the Puntland House of Representatives and officials to Nigeria to gain insights into the workings of the Nigerian National Assembly and its committees, and to study the Parliament's financial and budgetary systems.
4. The Joint Programme on Electoral Support provided technical, logistical and budgetary support to National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) consultations with national and sub-national stakeholders which reached 6,000 people in thirty locations across Somalia. It was the first time that the NIEC undertook such extensive outreach to stakeholders and partners.
5. On 24 January, following support provided under the Joint Rule of Law Programme, FGS and FMS Ministries of Justice signed a political agreement outlining a more comprehensive Justice and Corrections Model. While several issues still need to be resolved, the agreement represents significant progress towards the federalization of the justice and corrections sectors in Somalia.
6. The Joint Programme on Youth Employment has been rolling out technical, trades, and vocational skills trainings, including for around 300 trainees in Kismayo and Baidoa training centers while 1,000 unemployed youth, including 400 women, received cash-for-work opportunities in collaboration with Benadir Regional Administration.
7. With support of the Joint Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Reduction, a two-day international summit on charcoal was convened in Mogadishu on 7-8 May with over 350 experts from the FGS, National Universities, Private Sectors, Somali Diaspora, Gulf Countries, Sudan Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, UN Agencies, INGOs, and Development partners. A unified roadmap to curb trade in charcoal was agreed at the conference.
8. With support of the Joint Programme on Institutional Capacity Development and the UN Integrated Office in collaboration with Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development and with funding from DFID, a workshop was held in June in which donors, government, civil society, FMs and UN officials discussed the functioning of the Aid Architecture and formulated recommendations for improvements.
9. The Joint Programme on Refugee Return & Reintegration contributed to the provision of shelter, clothing, basic medical assistance, basic literacy, psychosocial support and social services to 106 children formerly associated with Al-Shabab as well as 44 other vulnerable children.
10. Significant support was provided to FGS and international partners under the Joint Programme on Enablers on preparation and execution of the Brussels Somalia Partnership Forum held on 16-17 July.



JOINT PROGRAMME RESULTS



HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

During the reporting period, the Programme supported the Ministry of Interior Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) to establish the Inter-Governmental Relations Forum on Federalism and State-building, to contribute to the development of the Federalization Legal Framework – detailing policies that govern relations between the FGS and FMSs, such as power and resource sharing, devolution of administrative roles, and fiscal federalism.

Peace building efforts continued to be supported (e.g. reconciliation workshops and issue-based mediation) in conflict-prone areas, particularly Merka, Gedo, Galkayo, and Mudug. A notable achievement was the historic peace agreement between the North and South Galkayo Administrations on governance, security and power sharing structures.

Technical capacities (e.g. human resources and GIS lab) of the Boundaries and Federation Commission (BFC) were strengthened, paving the way for the establishment of sub-offices in each FMS, and further developing legal acts on administrative boundary demarcation between districts, regions and states. The Programme provided logistical support for in-service training for civil servants and state leaders from FGS and FMSs on core functional skills, conflict management, and federalism processes. Capacities of civil servants were also enhanced through a peer-to-peer knowledge exchange visit to Puntland, with a focus on enhancing ‘core functional skills’.

Technical consultancy support was provided to finalize the Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) for four FMSs, aligned to the National Development Plan (NDP). The process for government endorsement of the SDPs is underway. Organizational structures, including human resources plans, administrative regulations, and operating procedures, were established for ministries of the FMSs, further enabling them to unlock funds from the World Bank Capacity Injection Programme and initiating a salaried cadre of civil servants for their ministries.

Inclusive political processes were initiated by engaging state leaders/administrations, non-state actors (particularly women and youth rights groups) and citizens in dialogue on specific issues such as the federalism process, SDPs, as well as annual planning and budgeting for the states and their public institutions. In addition to promoting a culture of information sharing on public works/initiatives, these initiatives contributed to the gathering of public inputs and feedback, making development interventions more participatory and inclusive. Civic engagement in government processes was promoted for CSOs, led by women and youth, through sports activities and multi-stakeholder workshops, contributing to SDPs, conflict mediation, and federalism processes.

Logistical support continued to be provided (e.g. office equipment, vehicles and construction/rehabilitation of office spaces) to key FGS and FMS ministries and institutions creating environments conducive for the effective functioning of state administrations.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Somali Government institutions and development partners face the continuous threat of terrorist attacks necessitating costly security measures and slowing implementation. Political leadership and stability at the federal and state levels is often undermined due to clan-based partisan politics posing ongoing challenges to the achievements of project deliverables. Delays in the constitutional review process has affected establishment of ‘rules of the game’ on the state formation and building process. There are competing views between FGS and FMSs over the draft federal constitution which impedes a national consensus on a federalism model.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 624,558

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 2,298,517 ¹⁰

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The National Constitutional Convention (NCC) was convened in May by the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MOCA), the Parliamentary Joint Oversight Committee (OC) and the Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC) in Mogadishu. The purpose of the NCC was to garner support for the constitutional review process and its management. A final draft of a joint workplan was developed and agreed by relevant government stakeholders. The NCC brought together representatives from FGS, FMSs, civil society, youth, donors, and Somali diaspora. The NCC provided an opportunity to build consensus around strategies and timelines and to kick-off a national dialogue on outstanding constitutional priorities, to enable progress in other peace and state-building processes. A final joint declaration was issued that identified the next steps of the review process, including commitments to correcting technical errors in the constitution, promotion of political dialogue and agreement between the FGS and FMSs, and translating agreed amendments into the constitutional text. The declaration also committed the Government to the adoption of the constitution by parliament in 2019.

In January, a new structure, the Federalization National Technical Working Group (FNTWG), was established by the Prime Minister to support technical negotiations between federal and regional levels on key constitutional matters, particularly around power and resources sharing and intergovernmental relations.

From January-April, a joint visit was conducted by MoCA, OC, and ICRIC to Puntland, Jubaland, Hirshabelle and South West States to engage sub-federal stakeholders in the constitutional review process. The mission underscored the importance of fully integrating the FMS Executives and Legislatures into the process.

In April, an inaugural meeting of the FGS & FMS Parliamentary Committee on Constitution was held in Mogadishu resulting in the signing of a MoU to formally establish the OC Forum and to strengthen their working relationship. This forum will help regular sharing of information, cooperate and coordinate efforts regarding the review process, and the harmonization of state constitutions with the federal constitution.

Finally, operational support has been provided to MoCA and ICRIC, including the rehabilitation of offices; provision of equipment; salaries of young graduates and national/international experts, and other running costs. This support has strengthened the sustainability of gains in human and institutional capacity of these institutions.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The constitutional text does not reflect the current political realities, a challenge that MOCA will need to address to promote the rule of law and good governance. Some FMSs have already begun the process of developing their state constitutions, posing challenges in harmonization with the Federal Constitution. The absence of political parties, competing political ideologies, and a clear national vision risks reducing constitutional negotiations around interests of individuals and clans. The cost of implementing the constitution also may not yet have been given sufficient consideration. Given the limited time, it may not be possible to complete a comprehensive review of the constitution. It is therefore necessary to develop a realistic plan to address the most pressing outstanding issues during the term of the 11th Parliament.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 1,194,076

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 806,307

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In January, the Programme supported a five-day visit of the Puntland House of Representatives (HoR) and officials to Abuja, Nigeria. The delegation included the Speaker of Puntland Parliament and two MPs. The objectives were to provide an insight into the workings of the Nigerian National Assembly and its committees, and to study the Parliament's financial and budget systems, and to inform how MPs discharge their functions and manage constituency offices. The Nigerian Government organized a workshop at the National Institute for Legislative Studies of the National Assembly of Nigeria which deepened the delegation's knowledge on parliamentary standing committees, legislative practices and procedures, structure, management and administration of the National Assembly, budget enactment and reform, as well as legislative formulation processes. The delegation also visited the National Secretariat of Nigerian Legislatures and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A training on State Formation in Constitutional Review Perspective was held in Mogadishu in April which was attended by members of the OC with the aim of identifying approaches to the regularization of the Constitution, the state formation process, and to identify requirements for moving federalization and state building processes forward. As a result, participants resolved to consult with the Border and Federalization Commission (BFC) and other relevant institutions to commence work on amendments and adopt legislation to formally establish FMSs.

The inaugural meeting of the Forum of Federal & Federal Member States Parliamentary Committee on the Constitution took place in April. The aim of the meeting was to establish a forum to bring together all Parliamentary Constitutional Review Committees at the federal and state level. Participants issued a communique and signed a MoU to formally establish the OC Forum and to strengthen working relationships. They also committed to regular information sharing, improved coordination on the review process and the harmonization of state and federal constitutions.

In May, the OC and BFC met to share information and discuss how to best work together. Members discussed articles of the Provisional Constitution related to federalism and borders and agreed to hold regular meetings and discussions to ensure a common vision on federalism and borders in the constitutional review process.

To improve links between parliaments and the communities they serve, the Programme supported the Jubaland HoR to visit the Lower Juba region. A delegation of five MPs and one parliamentary staff visited Dhobley town and held meetings with local stakeholders on the most pressing issues in the area. Following the mission, findings were presented to the house and parliament who appealed to the humanitarian aid agencies, business community, Jubaland administration and FGS to urgently provide aid to the poor households in Dhobley town.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The delay in approval of the Programme's 2018 annual workplan was due to funding uncertainties, which posed challenges in implementing activities in the first half of the year. There is a \$3 million funding gap for 2018 for the second phase of the Parliament Support Project 2018-2021. However, UNDP and counterparts remain committed to the implementation of project activities and priorities using UNDP resources.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 0

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 0

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

During the reporting period, the “Joint Programme for Support to Universal Suffrage Elections in the Federal Republic of Somalia” – in short, the “Joint Programme on Electoral Support”- provided technical, logistical and budgetary support to National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) consultations with national and sub-national stakeholders across Somalia. The NIEC engaged 6,000 people in 30 locations across Somalia and abroad, including regional officials, elders, political parties, religious leaders, women and youth groups, CSOs, and Somali diaspora. It was the first time that the NIEC had undertaken such an extensive outreach campaign.

The Joint Programme continued to provide electoral legal advice as well as technical and budgetary support to the Electoral Law Working Group (ELWG) of the MOIFAR. The ELWG, jointly with other FGS actors, presented options and recommendations for Somalia’s future Electoral Law to the “Technical Committee for the Promotion of Federal Affairs”. The Committee, established in February 2018 and comprising FGS and FMS representatives, advised the country’s leaders during the Baidoa National Security Council (NSC) meeting in June on the Electoral Model. While the NSC confirmed “one-person, one-vote” for the next federal elections based on political multi-party competition and closed list-proportional representation, the issue of electoral constituencies requires further discussion. The NSC tasked the relevant government entities to implement the ‘Baidoa Agreement’ and to conclude the Electoral Law by December 2018.

From 14 to 16 May, the NIEC participated in a workshop on voter registration facilitated by the Joint Programme with the assistance of international experts. It was an opportunity for the NIEC to analyze the outcomes and implications of the Voter Registration Feasibility Study to inform the strategic and operational decisions required to model a successful voter registration process. In addition, the Joint Programme continued to assist the NIEC with the temporary registration of political parties. To date, fifteen political parties have received temporary registration certificates. Once voter registration is underway, parties will be able to proceed to the official stage of registration.

Finally, the Joint Programme facilitated the finalization of the construction of Phase 1 of the NIEC’s future headquarters in Mogadishu. While funding for Phase 2 will be necessary to establish a fully functional independent electoral office, the completion of Phase 1 represents a significant progress towards the NIEC’s institutional development.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Major challenges identified in the Roadmap for 2020 elections include the development of sound electoral building blocks for the process, such as the establishment of an electoral legal framework, the registration of political parties, an inclusive voter registration exercise, a sound electoral management body, and the establishment of an electoral dispute resolution mechanism. Additional challenges to conducting credible elections include security, limited capacity and funding, logistical and operational difficulties, the question of the type of federalism to be in place, and an incomplete legal framework. These factors are not fully within the scope of the Joint Programme nor the direct control of electoral counterparts such as the NIEC.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 3,469,158

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 2,049,197

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

During the reporting period, the Joint Programme on Women's Political Participation, Leadership & Empowerment supported the establishment of six platforms for grassroots dialogue and community-based discussions in Mogadishu, Kismayo, Garowe, Jowhar, Baidoa and Adado. These forums are aimed to socialize the constitutional review process and amplify women's voices in advocating for women's rights and participation in the development of the legal framework, particularly on the Constitution, Electoral Law and Political Parties Law. These platforms enable women to advocate their participation in the constitutional oversight committees (currently comprised solely of men), and other relevant national platforms and to advance accountability, inclusiveness and equal participation.

On 13 May 2018, the FGS launched the constitutional review process at the NCC in Mogadishu. The Joint Programme sponsored five Somali women from the diaspora and CSOs to participate. Participants discussed next steps in the review process and examined issues such as the distribution of powers and resources between the FGS and FMSs.

During the reporting period, the Joint Programme supported a delegation of six women from the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, FMS level women's ministries, as well as CSOs to participate in the 62nd Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York where they participated in a high-level side event on '*Lessons learned from the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda: Recommendations to advance the youth, peace and security agenda, among others*'. The delegation stressed the importance of mainstreaming gender in tackling climate change, given Somalia's struggles with recurrent drought and famine.

The Programme further supported the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development in the revival of the Inter-Ministerial Gender Coordination platform. The objective of this renewal includes creating and improving national gender coordination mechanisms; strengthening the capacity of key gender stakeholders and maximizing their service delivery; and promoting joint advocacy on the adoption of a gender-sensitive legal framework.

As part of enhancing women's political participation and representation in decision making bodies in Somaliland, the Joint Programme supported the Quota Task Force, led by Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and Family and women CSO networks, to continue high-level advocacy with both houses of parliament and Cabinet on including the women's quota in electoral laws. As a result, the Somaliland Cabinet approved a 20% quota for women (target is 30%) in the next elections. Advocacy will continue in support of advancing the 30% quota.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Nothing to report.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 0

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 151,492

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Following the NSC meeting in December 2017 and after numerous technical consultations, the FGS and FMS Ministries of Justice signed on 24 January a political agreement outlining a more detailed Justice and Corrections Model. However, some issues, particularly regarding the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, still need to be resolved before the model can be endorsed by the NSC. Despite this, the agreement represents significant progress towards federalization of the justice and corrections sectors in Somalia.

During the reporting period, access to justice increased with the expansion of mobile courts to two new districts in Jubaland and Galmudug, whose communities previously did not have access to formal courts. Additionally, four Community Dispute Resolution Centers (CDRC) have been established in Kismayo and Garbaharey in Jubaland and in Xuddur and Baidoa in South West State. The CDRCs are meant to increase access to justice and compliance with human rights, particularly women's rights, by enhancing the participation of women in alternative dispute resolution processes. To achieve this, training forums for 265 traditional leaders and women were organized in Puntland, Jubaland and South West State, focusing on their role in observing fundamental rights.

In the first half of 2018, three new Joint Rule of Law Programmes (Police, Justice and Corrections) were approved by the SDRF Steering Committee and the Rule of Law Pillar Working Group. These programmes are part of the UN Rule of Law Framework which defines the UN strategic intervention for the next three years and are designed to support the implementation of the National Development Plan and the Comprehensive Approach to Security (CAS). Focus will be placed on further developing and implementing the police, justice and corrections models and expanding services to the population. The Joint Police Programme has already commenced and the Justice and Corrections components will begin in August. A dedicated Joint Rule of Law Programme is currently being developed for Somaliland.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Due to the delay in the approval process of the new Joint Justice Programme, the project was only able to support a limited number of activities, focusing on supporting the continuation of the functioning of justice institutions and on the provision of essential services. For instance, mobile courts and inspection missions were reduced from monthly to quarterly.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 4,300,560

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 5,213,408

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The public administration and technical expertise of the Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS) was strengthened by recruitment, selection and appointment of twenty-one Somali mid/senior level advisors, civil servants and FMS coordinators covering line advisory management and coordination functions in accordance with the Capacity Injection Mechanism of the National Civil Service Commission. A unique feature of this staff injection was the decision by the MoIS to appoint, through the Programme, seven coordinators for each FMS and Benadir Regional Administration (BRA), to enhance communication and coordination.

The strengthening of the public administration capacity of the FGS MOIS has commenced with a training package by Ernest & Young on financial management, human resources management, and procurement & asset management delivered to 39 MoIS staff (11 female; 28 male) in May. UNDP also provided training on report writing for fifteen staff (4 female; 11 male) in June. The training was aimed at improving the skills and competencies of MoIS administration and is part of the on-going ministerial institutional reform in accordance with the MoIS Institutional Development and Capacity Building Plan 2018-2020.

During the reporting period, MoIS hosted a range of meetings with the FMSs, namely the Conference of Security Ministers meeting and the Conference of Police Commissioners meeting.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

MoIS is in temporary office space and has been allocated new facilities in the former Ministry of Tourism building. However, the building is currently occupied by IDPs as is the plot immediately next to it. Resettlement of IDPs is a sensitive matter for Somalia involving many stakeholders making this issue unlikely to be resolved in the near term.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 2,224,658

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 383,853

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In first half of 2018, the YES Programme entered the close-out phase of the Phase I implementation cycle. Agencies have been working to finalize outstanding technical assistance interventions and work to ensure the sustainability of programming once funding streams expire. Guiding this process has been the Programme Coordination Office which has been actively involved in the coordination of YES value chain upgrading, youth employment creation, and rural and urban infrastructure rehabilitation interventions. The recently approved No Cost Extension offered the Programme the opportunity to plan and implement close-out activities to align with key recommendations of the recently completed independent evaluation.

The Joint Programme continued its work on a number of technical, trades, and vocational skills fields at various training locations in the country. UNIDO and UNDP trained approximately 300 youth in their Kismayo and Baidoa training centers. The Programme worked in a number of areas of the fisheries, construction, and renewable energy value chains helping to generate jobs for youth across the various sectors targeted by the Programme.

Capacity building programming at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) has led to greater engagement from Ministry staff with the Programme on collaboration and programming. MoLSA's capacity at FGS and FMS levels has benefitted from strengthened communication flows along the regional technical advisors' network established under the Programme. The Ministry is playing an active role in the formulation of the National Employment Strategy through which its staff can support data collection processes while building their technical capacity to archive, manage, and analyze labour market and skills data.

Support to the BRA in developing their capacity to undertake civil works projects saw UNDP with BRA provide cash-for-work for 1,000 unemployed youth, including 400 women, in seventeen districts. These urban infrastructure upgrade initiatives created 52,000 workdays of short-term employment. Confirming the important role of infrastructure rehabilitation campaigns, an ILO assessment of the impact of road rehabilitation initiatives found that works benefited a strong majority of the respondents (87.1%). The assessment found that income earned was used primarily to buy food for the household (44.4%), paying of school fees (27.8%) or building/repairing of homes (16.7%).

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

A supplier delayed the delivery of tools and equipment to beneficiaries in Burco District in Somaliland causing delays in cash-for-work activities. In Berbera, Cyclone Sagar caused delays in training youth on Fish Aggregating Device fishing techniques and operation of the lift net. Construction of fish processing facilities in Berbera also faced delays due to Cyclone Sagar and the late receipt of land from local authority. Late release of funds to FAO delayed implementation of fisheries activities in various locations. Infrastructure interventions, such as the road rehabilitation project, requires long-term maintenance for benefits to be fully realized. However, despite the existence of organizations that can support with maintenance, this is not being done. In Kismayo, the Ministry of Youth and Sports requested to change the infrastructure targeted for rehabilitation resulting in all agreed designs and Bills of Quantities being cancelled.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 1,541,336

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 1,766,666

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

As part of capacity building and awareness raising initiatives, Letters of Agreements were signed with the Federal Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Range (MoLFR) and the Somaliland Ministry of Environment and Rural Development. Somali artists were engaged to promote awareness raising events on the reduction of the domestic charcoal use and trade through the local media. More than thirty local manufacturers, including five women, were trained on the manufacturing of fuel efficient cooking stoves by the Somaliland Ministry of Environment and Rural Development.

To support the implementation and coordination of the full-scale Joint Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Reduction & Alternative Livelihoods, four vehicles were procured and handed over to FMSs (Galmudug, Hirshabelle, South West and Jubaland).

For the alternative solutions to charcoal reduction, six-hundred Liquefied Petroleum Gas systems, three-hundred fuel efficient cooking stoves, and two tons of biomass briquettes were handed over to the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs & Disaster Management (MoHADM) and MoLFR to distribute to the most vulnerable IDPs in Mogadishu, host communities and women retailers.

A two-day international summit on charcoal was convened in Mogadishu on 7-8 May. Over 350 experts attended from the FGS, National Universities, Private Sector, Somali Diaspora, Gulf States, Sudan Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, the UN, INGOs, and other development partners. In his opening address, the Deputy Prime Minister reaffirmed the FGS' commitment to halting the illegal trade of charcoal and providing alternative livelihood and energy options. He also called for urgent action and support from the international community and charcoal importing countries. The aim of the conference was to build partnerships with Gulf States, private sector, and the international community to curb the illegal charcoal trade and unsustainable use of charcoal. A unified roadmap to curb charcoal trade was agreed and finalized at the conference.

With Joint Programme support, the peer review for the Draft National and Regional Policy for Charcoal Reduction has been finalized by the FGS. The Policy will be presented to the Federal Council of Ministers for approval and ratification. The Policy streamlines strategies and frameworks to minimize domestic use of charcoal and regional trade and outlines effective monitoring and enforcement of the charcoal trade ban.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Hosting of the International Charcoal Conference was often time consuming and impacted the implementation of on-the-ground activities. The 2018 annual workplan was revised to accommodate hindered activities.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 551,139

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 435,563

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

On 16 May 2018, the FGS Ministry of Finance and the project team handed over the completed and furnished Kismayo Regional Law Court facilities to Jubaland State authorities. The Project also handed over the finalized solar streetlights to Benadir Municipality. Benefits of this sub-project have already begun to manifest, with new street lights improving security and leading to new businesses being established in the vicinity due to improved security as a result of the streetlights which has injected a new lease of life to the area and its residents.

The construction of the Bandiradley district administration building and annexed courtroom was completed and the Regional Governor of Mudug (Galmudug) has pledged to fully equip the new facilities. The FGS Ministry of Finance in conjunction with the project team are planning to officially handover the constructed facility to Galmudug authorities. Likewise, the construction of North Galkayo district administration block has been completed and is awaiting official handover to Puntland authorities.

Due to competitive bidding processes and effective negotiations undertaken for the Kismayo, Bandiradley and North Galkayo works, the Project made savings of over USD 270,000. This has resulted in authorities in the three districts requesting that additional activities be undertaken, including equipping the two constructed facilities in Kismayo and North Galkayo, and installation of solar streetlights in Bandiradley and solar panels in the newly constructed district administration block in North Galkayo. These additional activities are on track to progress with the signing of Memorandum of Agreement between the FGS Ministry of Finance and the UN MPTF.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Delays were reported in the North Galkayo sub-project due to a work stoppage by workers due to currency fluctuations impacting their salaries, resulting in construction being finalized two months past the originally agreed completion date. Delays were also caused by an unexpected increase in the cost of construction materials in Puntland due to spikes in demand. The Project reiterated to the contractor that risks of inflation had been incorporated into the contract and consequently no amendments could be made to the agreed contract price.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 0

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 576,031

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

There has been demonstrable improvement in the capacity of local governments to plan, budget, procure and provide technical oversight for service delivery projects while providing adequate accountability. Procurement audits conducted in eight districts in Somaliland found a compliance rate of between 75-85% with procurement guidelines, demonstrating the impact of procurement systems in improving accountability and transparency in management of public resources.

The first human resource management training and Planning and Public Expenditure Management training was conducted at BRA. Gender training and training on the roles and responsibilities of the District Preparatory Committee and Technical Committee was conducted in conjunction with SomaliOne and the Ministry of Interior (MoI) of South West State. The Local Government Section of the Somaliland Civil Service Institute supported data collection which resulted in the development of District Development Frameworks for seven districts in line with the new District Participatory Planning and Finance Guide, (DPFG). District Planning Directors, key staff of MOI Regions and Districts and JPLG local staff were trained on the DPFG.

The Somaliland Ministry of Interior produced a new draft of the amended Local Government Law (No. 23/2002) to ensure harmonized revisions in line with the Decentralization Policy. The amended law will be validated by concerned stakeholders and submitted for final approval by parliament. The Somaliland government committed an additional \$340,000 per year towards decentralized education and health services. This represents a 465% increase from 2017 in their transfers to the districts for implementation of devolved service delivery functions.

The launch ceremony for District Council Formation for Baidoa and Baraawe was held in Baidoa with a subsequent opening ceremony taking place for the Baidoa District Formation conference on power sharing of the local council. A joint assessment of newly established district councils of Baidoa and Hudur was conducted by JPLG and South West State MOI.

Advancement of the Local Government Institutes demonstrates government leadership and engagement in accelerating the implementation of a uniform local government system in Somalia. Jubaland, South West, Galmudug and Hirshabele states have made important advancements in the enabling environment for local governance. Through dialogue forums and drafting of legislation, the ground is being prepared for local governments to operate based on the principles of accountability and transparency.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The slow pace of district council formation continues to be an impediment in the implementation of capacity building initiatives. Limited staff at the ministries and local governments, especially in new FMSs, is a challenge for advancing local governance across Somalia. The Somaliland MoI engagement in conflict resolution among fighting clans and the conflict in Tukaraq diverted much of the Minister's attention causing delays in implementation. The dissolution of Bossaso and Garowe district councils in Puntland affected all JPLG activities as programme interventions are predicated on the existence of functional councils.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 1,110,000

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 3,788,394

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Aid Coordination Unit (ACU) organized fifteen Pillar Working Group (PWG) and three SDRF Steering Committee meetings in the first half of the year. The Director of the ACU also led the FGS team involved in preparations of the Somalia Partnership Forum which took place in Brussels on 16-17 July. The team worked on the preparations with the EU and Sweden as lead coordinating donors of the event as well as with other development partners.

The ACU, in collaboration with Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED), with support from UNDP/UN Integrated Office and with funding from DFID, organized an aid coordination workshop which took place on 6 June to discuss the functioning of the SDRF and how to improve its performance, both operationally and substantively. The workshop was attended by PWG co-chairs, donors, government, civil society, FMSs and UN focal points. In addition, a National Development Council meeting was convened on 18 June which discussed issues on the relevance of the SDRF agenda as well as how to strengthen government partnerships.

The recruitment process for an international consultant for the development of an Aid Information Management System to be hosted by MoPIED was launched in June.

MoLSA undertook activities for the advancement of the Civil Service Law #5 which will be reviewed in Parliament before receiving final Presidential approval. MoLSA worked with the Solicitor General's office and received comments on the draft legislation. This was an important step in ensuring the development of a harmonized civil service law for Somalia. With the support of national consultants, the Somali Directorate of National Statistics made significant amendments to its economic statistics, notably in the form of a reweighted and rebased Consumer Price Index (CPI) to more accurately reflect price changes that impact households and to ensure that consumer data is accurate for the purposes of setting inflation rates. In addition, the CPI was overhauled to align with international best practice using the Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose (COICOP) system.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

While several draft policies and legislation have been proposed to FGS and Puntland Ministries, there is limited success in translating these into official government documents. This challenge has not yet been addressed in Puntland in relation to Civil Service Law #11 where the process appears to have stagnated at Cabinet level.

Many Somali government officials are unable to communicate in English, posing challenges, especially for Somalis who cannot understand documents prepared by international consultants in English. For instance, a recent Puntland Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs workshop evaluation found that those using the English versions of the Gender Toolkit seemed to not grasp the issues as well as the ones who had used the Somali version. In addition, Puntland has issued a decree requiring the translation of all official documents into Somali which will increase project implementation costs. There is therefore a need to establish government capacity for translating official documents.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 0

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 744,373

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In the first half of 2018, UNHCR in collaboration with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) enrolled a total of 277 (143 male; 134 female) students for skills training in Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya. The students successfully completed the course and sat recognized examinations administered by the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) and the Computer Society of Kenya (CSK). The acquired skills will be key in ensuring smooth reintegration of returnees in Baidoa, Somalia.

In March, two vocational and skills training centers were established in Dadaab and subsequently accredited by NITA as training and examination centers. The specific targeting of Persons of Concern (PoC) from Baidoa provided the opportunity to reach out to a community that traditionally does not embrace education, has a high prevalence of early marriage, and whose opportunities are limited to providing manual labor within the camps. A total of 136 female students (79 in tailoring and 57 in ICT) received training during the programme period. Meanwhile 26 (15 male; 11 female) PoCs from Baidoa region and 248 (160 male; 88 female) from mixed communities are currently enrolled in various training courses.

In Baidoa, a Community Based Monitoring and Evaluation Committee was established through IOM, comprising IDP, returnee and host community representatives. This structure facilitated Community Action Planning review processes and joint participation in priority public works as mechanisms for catalyzing social cohesion and ensuring that Somali returnees in Baidoa co-exist peacefully with their host communities and contribute to local employment creation and economic development.

In collaboration with WFP, World Vision implemented 31 kilometers of road rehabilitation across twenty-one IDP camps consisting of main roads and passages. Beneficiaries and residents are now building their own roads with the capacity acquired. In addition, three community shallow wells were commissioned, while the participants through the Food for Assets initiative constructed five shallow wells in three IDP camps.

Meanwhile, FAO, in partnership with Sustainable Development and Peace Building Initiatives, provided agriculture inputs and training to 160 returnees, IDPs and host community members. This resulted in a good harvest capable of supporting their cereal needs over the next six months.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The main challenge to the initial project plan was the staggered vetting for issuance of refugee movement passes resulting in the late placement in NITA training centers in Nairobi. The change in environment for the selected students and extended durations away from their families contributed to low interest in enrollment outside of the camps. These necessitated the establishment of vocational skills centers within the camps.

Initial technical skills trainings failed to attract female students. Of the 54 NITA center graduates in the first cohort, all were men. Additional skills courses have been included (e.g. tailoring and ICT) to accommodate more female PoCs after which female enrollment rose from 0 to 136. There was significant interest by prospective students towards institutions offering heavy machinery operation training. However, despite high registration figures, limited spaces and the low number of institutions offering the course meant not all students were enrolled. In response, motor vehicle mechanics was included to the course catalogue, thereby meeting demand.

Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 0

Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 1,509,891

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The first half of 2018 brought a strong new partner, MoLSA, into the Programme. With the government mandate for social protection now clearly sitting within MoLSA, it is important that they play a central role in Joint Programme activities and implementation. It also brings Somalia in line with international practice on mandate and leadership for social protection. While positive, this development posed challenges to the programme, particularly around the need to ensure that leadership and roles were agreed prior to moving forward with FMS consultations on the Social Protection Policy development.

Despite the delay in the consultation processes, there were important achievements made during the reporting period, with the formation and convening of the Joint Programme Steering Committee, agreement on the roles of relevant government Ministries, and the establishment of a Technical Working Group with representatives from a significant number of ministries engaged in the policy development process.

A consulting group was contracted to begin work on the communications strategy and implementation plan, to undertake a capacity assessment in conjunction with FMS consultations, and the development of SDG indicators and a realistic roadmap for Somalia. Recruitment processes are also underway for a specialist to assist in better understanding vulnerability, with a focus on exclusion and inclusion.

An Information Management Systems specialist has also undertaken two missions to map and analyze the databases utilized by the humanitarian community with the goal of better understanding vulnerability characteristics as they are captured in these systems. A first report of this exercise is currently being drafted.

Finally, a key senior member of MoLSA was supported in undertaking the World Bank's core course on Social Protection in Washington D.C., raising the capacity of the Ministry and building new relationships with external partners, including the World Bank.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The consultation process for policy development and other key activities were delayed due to the need for agreement within government around the division of roles and responsibilities. The planned capacity building session scheduled to take place within the Resilience PWG Sub-Working Group on Food Security, Nutrition & Social Protection was delayed due to an extended break between PWG meetings. While there is a preference to utilize the official Aid Coordination structures, activities will be undertaken separately as necessary to avoid further delays in the second half of 2018.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 0

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 146,500

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

IOM and UN Habitat worked with local authorities to successfully expand the Midnimo project from the pilot districts of Kismayo and Baidoa into five additional districts in Jubaland (Dollow, Afmadow, Garbaharey); South West (Xudur) and Hirshabelle (Bal-cad) States. The Project received overwhelming buy-in from multiple stakeholders and was accepted as a government-led intervention that ensures promotion of community-driven and owned solutions in areas with significant numbers of IDPs and returnees. The Project provides technical and capacity building support to municipal authorities and relevant government departments to facilitate durable solutions through community-based recovery and support to enhancing peaceful co-existence.

This is promoted through facilitation of community-based planning; sharing of community action plans with multiple stakeholders; implementation of community priority projects that improve access to basic services; community wide arts, cultural and recreational activities; dispute resolution; development of toolkits to facilitate management of existing IDP settlements; and, participatory land and urban planning grounded in land legal frameworks. The project enabled effective representation of different socio-economic groups through inclusive planning processes as a mechanism for catalyzing social cohesion and enhancing local leadership capacities to facilitate sustainable return, recovery, social integration and peaceful co-existence amongst IDPs, returnees and host communities.

IOM provided training to local authorities to improve coordination and information management, particularly in support of data collection and analysis derived from the planning and mapping processes in support of IDPs, returnees and host communities achieving durable solutions. The package includes laptops, data storage devices, and printer/scanners that will be donated to local authorities in support of building institutional capacity.

The project strengthened social cohesion through facilitation of community-wide arts, culture and recreational activities in Kismayo, Dollow, Xudur and Baidoa districts that stimulated positive social interactions and promoted common identity between IDPs, returnees and host communities across clan lines. Media INK, a contracted private sector company, is supporting implementation of communication and visibility initiatives utilizing radio, TV and SMS public information campaigns aimed at reinforcing social cohesion, peaceful co-existence and highlighting the benefits of working together to achieve a common vision amongst diverse groups.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The lack of regular and reliable flights in Xudur and Dollow posed logistical challenges during the reporting period. Internal procurement procedures have also delayed the implementation of a number of missions and activities. There have also been delays in implementation of community-based public works due to limited staff capacity. To help resolve this issue, IOM has hired an engineer and is in the process of contracting an engineering company to clear the backlog of architectural designs and Bills of Quantities.

Funds Received during reporting period: US\$ 0

Funds Expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 804,608

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

During the first half of 2018, the RCO provided support to the SDRF Aid Steering Committee and Pillar Working Group (PWG) meetings as well as to the organization of the 6 June workshop in Mogadishu on strengthening the Aid Architecture which resulted in comprehensive recommendations for strengthening the structures. In collaboration with the MoPIED and the World Bank, the RCO supported the Aid Flow Mapping process and production of the final Aid Flow Analysis report. RCO also translated the report into Somali.

The RCO supported the FGS and international partners on preparation and execution of the Brussels Somalia Partnership Forum (SPF) which took place in July. This included advisory support to the ACU, support in updating the Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF), drafting and negotiation support for the SPF Communique, and support to internal UN preparation for the conference.

In January, the Drought Impact Needs Assessment (DINA) was launched by the Prime Minister. Subsequently, the RCO contributed to the development of a methodology for use in prioritizing and sequencing DINA interventions. The resulting priorities form the basis of the Recovery and Resilience Framework (RRF). Support was also provided to the preparation of the RRF financing framework. In addition, the RCO contributed to the SPF sessions on “Economic Recovery” and “Resilience, recovery and humanitarian assistance”, and for the side event on “Private Public Partnerships” ensuring that resilience-building priorities were reflected at the Forum.

In January, the RCO supported the participation of a Somali delegation, led by the FGS Minister of Youth & Sports, to the ECOSOC Youth Forum in New York during which the RCO supported a government workshop on “Somali young people’s participation in state-building and economic development”. The RCO is also supporting UNDP and UN-Habitat to host the Open Innovation Challenge, which seeks youth-led solutions for tackling problems faced by IDPs. Currently over 100 youth-led ideas are being developed into full proposals.

UN Women continued work on building an enabling environment for Women, Peace and Security (WPS) commitments by supporting establishment of the chapters of the National Coordination Platform on WPS. Two chapters were established in Garowe and Benadir. UN Women also supported the finalization of the UN Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2020 which was endorsed in June. Technical support was also provided for the WPS side event of the SPF as well as contributing to the MAF and Communique to ensure that gender and the WPS agenda be robustly reflected in the SPF outcomes.

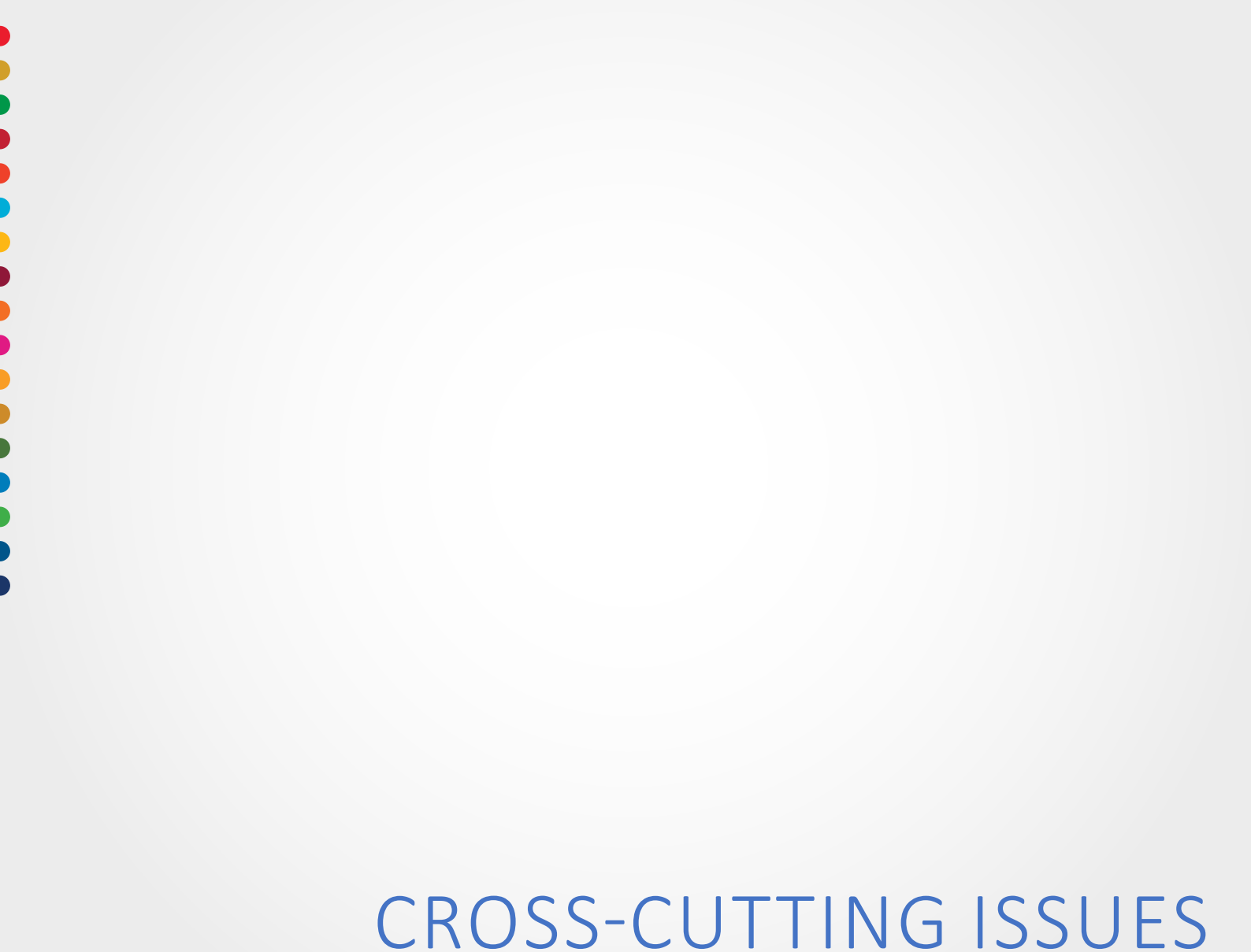
RMU, in partnership with the Multi-Party Risk Working Group, drafted an outline of the revised Collective Risk Management Strategy. RMU engaged with various partners on risk management including the FGS, donors, NGOs and UN Agencies and has set targets for increased cooperation with private sector and research institutions on collective risk management across the aid community in Somalia. Efforts have also commenced on establishing relationships with regional and international law enforcement institutions. RMU supported the UN Regional Office in Senegal on developing a Risk Management Strategy and helped the UN in South Sudan in establishing and implementing risk management functions and tools. Capacity development activities were undertaken with government officials on the use of country systems and procurement and construction oversight, which resulted in increased donor contributions through the national systems.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Support to the aid architecture was more challenging during the first half of the year due to irregularity of PWG meetings and due to a brief pause to the SDRF architecture as a result of funding shortfalls for the new Joint Programme on Aid Coordination. Downtime for about one month of RMU online databases, namely the Contractor Information Management System and Risk Management Induction Course, affected RMU’s work.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US\$ 340,018

MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US\$ 1,812,163



CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES



UN Women, through the Joint Programme on Women’s Political Participation, Leadership & Empowerment, undertook consultations in Mogadishu with rural women to advance their basic rights and to highlight issues they face relating to health, poor education, lack of access to basic needs, FGM and rape. Relevant government institutions were invited to hear the first-hand accounts to help inform their planning.

Of the 1,964 participants benefitting from training activities through the Joint Programme on Support to Emerging Federal States, 609 were women, representing over 30 percent of participants. The Programme also supported the training of women facilitators on statebuilding, peacebuilding and conflict management processes. Participants were selected from all FMSs and were provided a Training of Trainers in Mogadishu. The women subsequently conducted awareness raising workshops for various women’s groups across FMSs.

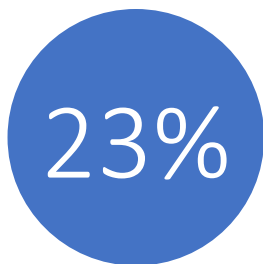
Under the Joint Programme on Constitutional Review, women representatives from women’s organizations, CSOs and FMSs actively participated in meetings, forums and dialogues, including the National Constitutional Convention. The Joint Programme on Electoral Support continued to enhance participation of women in electoral processes as potential voters and participants in electoral processes. Activities in support of the NIEC include capacity building of female personnel in electoral administration and field work, as well as the provision to establish a Gender Unit in the NIEC’s Secretariat.

Puntland recognized that gender equality requires the engagement of the Ministry of Interior (Mol) and Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs (MoWDFAFA) to develop the longer-term strategy for more inclusive and responsive local governance. In June, the Joint Programme on Local Governance, Mol, MoWDFAFA and the Office of Vice-President met to discuss the gender and inclusive politics output of the strategy. It was agreed that MoWDFAFA and the MOI Gender unit will lead on implementation.

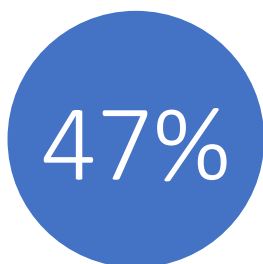
The joint Rule of Law programme continued to prioritize the increased representation of women in the legal profession, improved access to justice, and increased participation in alternative disputes resolution mechanisms. The programme also focused on supporting SGBV units at the Attorney General’s Offices in Somaliland and Puntland. Women and girls continue to be equitably represented in all project activities as interns and as beneficiaries of legal aid and scholarships. Female defendants continue to be prioritized in the provision of legal aid services.

The Joint Programme on Refugee Return & Reintegration introduced soft skills courses upon realization that initially planned programmes did not attract female POCs, resulting in a significant rise in the number of women registering for the new courses. The Joint Programme on Institutional Capacity Development continued to incorporate a UNDP directive that every Letter of Agreement (LOA) signed with a partner must be supported by a Female Graduate Intern to help build professional experience. The project supported three interns across various ministries in Puntland. The planned recruitment of six female graduate interns by the Joint Programme of Sustainable Charcoal Reduction & Alternative Livelihoods also formed part of the 2018 LOA with the Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Range. Through the Pilot Project to Strengthen National Service Delivery, twelve women received temporary employment opportunities in the Bandiiradley and North Galkayo projects

Vegetable production kits provided through the Youth Employment Programme focused primarily on women. Half of the over 800 youth trained through the Programme were women. Programme activities in Benadir created 1,000 short-term jobs, of which 400 benefitted women, while planned courses in food preparation, sewing and tie-dyeing helped increase the number of women attending training initiatives.



of outputs across Joint Programmes are gender specific ¹¹



of staff of all Joint Programmes have responsibility for gender issues ¹²

The Joint Programme on Inclusive Institutions of Parliament is promoting the inclusion of marginalized and minority groups in the nation-building dialogue, particularly concerning legislative and representation mandates, to ensure that their rights and interests are reflected in the policies and programmes of the executive, as well as in the legislative processes of parliaments. The Programme is making efforts to strengthen the promotion of women’s rights, improve social cohesion and ensure conflict sensitivity, peace and state building.

Somalia is a signatory to various international and regional treaties, conventions and covenants, including stipulations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) on voting rights and free and fair elections. The Joint Programme on Electoral Support is designed according to these fundamental rights with the aim of transitioning the country from a clan-based limited franchise electoral process to universal suffrage elections in 2020/21. Specific objectives in this regard, include enhancing the independence of the National Independent Electoral Commission, promoting inclusiveness during the voter registration, and ensuring a level playing field for all actors in electoral laws.

The Joint Programme on Support to Emerging Federal States continued to collaborate with the FGS and FMSs to engage in political dialogues with boycotted/minority clans as rights holders, thus making Somalia’s political process more inclusive. Several reconciliation conferences were organized to advocate for inclusive governance and involvement of minorities, including discriminated groups, in the state formation and peacebuilding process.

In support of upholding the human rights of Somalis, the Joint Rule of Law Programme support the provision of free legal representation to ensure the rights of the accused. Special attention is given to persons at the pre-trial stage and waiting to be tried for periods longer than stipulated by law. With support of the Joint Programme on Support to the Ministry of Internal Security (MOIS), the draft Institutional Development and Capacity Building Plan will include a commitment for the MoIS, as an oversight body, to ensure its forces and agencies are compliant with International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law and held accountable when not. It will also include a training plan for MoIS staff, including on Human Rights.

The Joint Programme on Refugee Return and Reintegration is being implemented in a manner that promotes full respect of human rights. For instance, community-based planning and community action planning quarterly review processes promoted participation and consultation of rights holders, particularly vulnerable groups across all socio-economic groups in the target communities. The process advanced vulnerable groups including women, youth, IDPs and returnees’ right to freedom of expression, association and assembly as well as right to nationality, movement and civic participation. The Population Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) component of the project tracks movements regardless of any ethnicity, political affiliation or otherwise. PRMN is used as a tool for protection interventions and support of victims of human rights violations. Similarly, the reintegration component of the project targets beneficiaries from all groups and supports return and reintegration of refugee and IDP returnees and enhancing absorption capacity in areas of return, which is of paramount importance to achieve peaceful co-existence.

69%

of Joint Programmes included protection risk assessments in their context analysis

47%

of outputs across all JPs designed to address specific protection concerns

39%

of outputs across all JPs designed to build capacity of duty bearers to fulfill human rights obligations to rights holders

The 2017 UN MPTF Annual Report was published and circulated to donors at the end of February 2018 which provided a comprehensive overview of key achievements across the portfolio of Joint Programmes throughout the year.

In addition, the Q4 2017 and Q1 2018 UN MPTF Newsletters were shared with donors, partners and colleagues on 12 March and 7 May respectively which contained success stories and updates from UN MPTF Joint Programmes.

The foreword was provided by UNFPA Representative for Somalia, Mr. Nikolai Botev, representing the newest UN Agency to participate in the UN MPTF. Mr. Botev described the innovative approach to Agency funding being spearheaded by UNFPA through the UN MPTF with the support of three major donors, Sweden, Finland and Italy, who have pledged to co-finance a substantial portion of the UNFPA Country Programme through the Fund.

The 29 March UN MPTF donor briefing also provided a comprehensive overview of the UNFPA's experience in funding their Country Programme through the Fund. The briefing also included a retrospective on Joint Programming achievements from 2017 as well an update on the Joint Risk Management Strategy for the SDRF.



Adherence to reporting timelines ¹³



Newsletters Published



Quarterly Donor Briefings Held



Risk Management Group meetings held

Following an independent review of the UN MPTF Joint Risk Management Strategy (JRMS) in 2017, the Risk Management Group (RMG) under the guidance of the Fund Administrators (UN, World Bank and African Development Bank), identified key lessons learned and an agreed a way forward on implementation of the next phase of the Strategy.

Several weaknesses were identified on the implementation on the previous iteration of the JRMS including the narrow scope of assessments, with analysis largely being provided by the Fund Administrators. Limited government engagement, inconsistent donor participation and the lack of clear linkages to decision-making processes also limited the ability to respond to evolving needs and to inform strategic discussions on risk management related matters.

In response, the Strategy (JRMS2) was revised in 2018 to reflect a new approach in the implementation of the strategy and changes in institutional arrangements and tools. As such, JRMS2 adopts a two-pronged approach to risk analysis.

The first approach aims to undertake more strategic and in-depth analysis with a broader participation of technical experts on a number of thematic areas. The UN, World Bank, and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) have already started work on its first in-depth analysis on SBGV to help identifying collective approaches to addressing gaps in this area. The second approach of the JRMS2 is for more regular collective risk updates with lighter touch analysis based on demand from Fund Administrators and SDRF co-chairs.

Finally, in addition to ongoing support to UN MPTF Joint Programmes and partners, risk management support was provided to the national funding stream through oversight, consultations and capacity development activities which resulted in additional donor funds being channeled through the National Window.

Looking into the second half of 2018, the UN, in collaboration with government and donor partners, will continue to support the implementation of the recommendations emanating from the 6 June 2018 workshop on improving and strengthening the SDRF and overall Aid Architecture in Somalia.

In addition to the roll-out of new Joint Programme approved by the SDRF in the first half of the year, including new phases of existing Programmes, development of new areas of programming through the Fund will continue. In line with the Strategic Objectives of Somalia's Recovery and Resilience Framework (RRF), the UN will strengthen the Fund's focus on building the resilience of Somali institutions, society and population.

A new allocation of Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) resources is supporting the development of new Joint Programmes and expansion of existing ones through the UN MPTF. A new phase of the Midnimo project is currently under design with the objective of enhancing local leadership capacities to facilitate the sustainable return, recovery, social reintegration and peaceful co-existence of displacement affected communities in Galdmudug and Hirshabelle. Building on the first phase of the Programme, Midnimo II will include a stronger livelihoods and employment component in order to enhance the sustainability of the proposed interventions. A new phase of the Support to Stabilization project will be at the core of the UN's stabilization efforts in Somalia and a key factor in supporting government-leadership of the process, at the federal and state-level. The Supporting Peace in Urbanizing Contexts through Land Dispute Resolutions project will build on experiences in Puntland and Somaliland in integrating customary law with formal judiciary systems to resolve disputes over land and foster reconciliation between communities. The final PBF funded initiative, the Reconciliation and State-building project, will ensure that political dialogue and reconciliation underpins the fragile relationship between the FGS and FMS as part of the nascent federal structure and in line with the National Reconciliation Framework.

New Joint Programmes on Reconciliation, Federalism & Effective Institutions will be further developed while possibilities for the establishment of a new a new Joint Programme to support sustainable energy sector development will continue to be explored.

A new Joint Programme focused on preventing Female Genital Mutilation, GBV and supporting Children Affected by Armed Conflict will be further elaborated while the Joint Programme on 'Strengthening Women's Capacities as Agents for Change in Peacebuilding, Reconciliation and Ending Violence Against Women' (UN Women Strategic Note) will come online.

To ensure that both donors and FGS have greater visibility and oversight of the UN MPTF forward-looking pipeline and portfolio to facilitate a more strategic engagement with the Fund, the UN MPTF Secretariat will issue periodic updates on the status of the overall Fund to the SDRF Steering Committee, including on existing and upcoming Joint Programmes and the funding status across the portfolio.

Finally, the launch of this report will be followed within a week by the release of the second quarterly UN MPTF Newsletter of 2018. The Newsletter provides the very latest information on the UN MPTF, along with human-interest stories from the various Joint Programmes.

ANNEXES

1. Support to Emerging Federal States
2. Constitutional Review
3. Support to Building Inclusive Institutions of Parliament
4. Support to the Electoral Process
5. Women's Political Participation, Leadership & Empowerment
6. Support to the Rule of Law
7. Support to the Ministry of Internal Security
8. Youth Employment in Somalia
9. Sustainable Charcoal Reduction & Alternative Livelihoods
10. Pilot Project to Strengthen National Service Delivery
11. Local Governance & Decentralized Service Delivery
12. Institutional Capacity Development
13. Refugee Return & Reintegration
14. Social Protection
15. Midnimo
16. Enabling Services

ENDNOTES

¹ MPTF Gateway as of 31 July 2018

² Most indicators are cumulative if not otherwise indicated.

³ Target for 2015 (10%), 2016 (25%) and 2017 (50%). 26% result taken from Aid Flow data - Feb 2018.

⁴ Target for 2015 (5%), 2016 (10%) and 2017 (15%).

⁵ Target for 2015 (10%), 2016 (20%) and 2017 (30%).

⁶ Target is 3 months.

⁷ Target is over USD 60 million.

⁸ Target is >90%. (Disbursement ratio = total expenditures/allocations).

⁹ Target is 5 per year. 3 Joint Programmes received SDRF pipeline approval in first 6 months of 2018: *UN Women Strategic Note; Strengthening Kenya Somalia cross border reintegration and peaceful co-existence project; and the Joint Justice Programme.*

¹⁰ Please note that expenditures reported for all Joint Programmes are uncertified. Certified annual expenditures will become available with 2018 Annual Financial Report of MPTF Office (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/45000>) in May 2019 upon submission of certified financial reports by participating UN Agencies.

¹¹ Gender specific outputs are those that are specifically designed to directly and explicitly contribute to the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. Gender indicators are not colour coded as others as targets have not yet been established.

¹² Staff members are those contracted to undertake work for the Joint Programme including full time staff, consultants, advisors, interns, etc. Staff members with responsibility for gender issues are those who have gender related activities included in their Terms of Reference.

¹³ First 2018 MPTF Semi-Annual Report sent on time on 31 July 2018.



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