



MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

Dear Partners,



Welcome to the second quarterly UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN MPTF) Newsletter of 2018.

This update comes at a time of transition and re-formulation for UNDP's engagement with the UN MPTF. With the conclusion of several Joint Programmes aligned to the previous Somali Compact, UNDP has taken a strategic portfolio-wide approach towards supporting the Government's National Development Plan (NDP) through the Somali Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF), across the NDP's pillars.

New phases of support to Inclusive Politics, including integrated programmes with UNSOM on Reconciliation and Federalism, Constitutional Review, Support for Universal Elections, Women's Political Participation, and Parliamentary Support are being rolled out. With partners across the UN system, we are advancing new support in the Rule of Law and Security Sector with new Joint Programmes on Justice, Police, Corrections, Security Sector Reform, P/CVE, Human Rights and Land Dispute Resolution.

In line with the Somali Government's Resilience & Recovery Framework (RRF), we are working within the UN country team to further strengthen our resilience-based programming through expanding work on climate change resilience, alternative livelihoods, employment generation, durable solutions for protracted displacement, as well as sustainable energy sector development.

We remain collectively committed to strengthening institutional capacities at Federal, State and local levels. We appreciate the strong engagement we have had with partners to successfully move JPLG into its third phase, and are committed to continue strengthening core of Government functions such as planning, M&E, and aid management through new programmes currently being finalized.

With ever-increasing engagement through UN MPTF Joint Programmes, UNDP, now more than ever, remains committed to One-UN and multilateral engagement through the SDRF to ensure that development efforts are truly Somali owned and led. This commitment is reflected in the large proportion of our programme, nearly 80%, channelled through Integrated and Joint Programmes and the UN MPTF.

Finally, on behalf of UNDP and all participating UN agencies, I would like to convey my thanks to the dedicated group of donor partners for their ongoing support to UN MPTF and its array of Joint Programmes.

George Conway

UNDP Somalia Country Director

UN MPTF OVERVIEW

- 17 Joint Programmes
- 13 Donor Partners
- \$272m Commitments
- \$228m Deposits

FUND CAPITALIZATION

- Denmark: USD 20.4 m
- European Union: USD 57.7 m
- Finland: USD 9.4 m
- Germany: USD 12.2 m
- Italy: USD 10.4 m
- Netherlands: USD 2.4 m
- Norway: USD 13.7 m
- Government of Somalia: USD 3.3 m
- Sweden: USD 88.7 m
- Switzerland: USD 9.5 m
- United Kingdom: USD 36.6 m
- USAID: USD 2 m
- UN Peacebuilding Fund: USD 6.2 m



SUPPORT TO EMERGING FEDERAL STATES

Reconciliation through inclusive dialogue is the first step towards establishing peace and harmony amongst clans in Somalia. In support of this objective, StEFS has devised a tripartite approach to peacebuilding that supports reconciliation efforts, the federalism process, and establishment of public structures and functions.

This approach focuses on political settlement at macro level (how the country will be governed) and creating an environment conducive to peace at the micro levels (the delineation of roles and responsibilities between federal and state institutions).

StEFS supports targeted reconciliation efforts and issue-based conflict mediation, particularly in Jubba, Mudug, Hiraa and Middle/Lower Shabelle regions, which contributes to the establishment of a political roadmap towards a federal Somalia, agreement on a legal framework on federalism, boundary delineation, and reconciliation.

To enhance state legitimacy, it is also essential that public service delivery responds to the needs and expectations of the population. StEFS is developing government capacities to better engage with its citizens, including through townhall meetings, public accountability forum meetings, and public outreach through media campaigns, sports and cultural programmes, and celebratory occasions. These interventions provide clarity around Somalia's federalism model through the delineation of roles and responsibilities around public service delivery.

It is envisaged that support to reconciliation efforts, the establishment of a stable federal framework, and the improved provision of public services at all levels of government will enhance state-building efforts and the realization of a more peaceful and stable Somalia.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW SUPPORT

A review process of the Somali constitution was officially launched during a historic three-day National Constitutional Convention in Mogadishu from 13-15 May. Opened by Prime Minister of Somalia, H.E. Hassan Ali Khaire, the convention was attended by over 350 representatives from the Federal Government, Federal Member States, civil society, and Somali diaspora. International representatives and ambassadors were also in attendance.

It is expected that the review process will lead to a permanent constitution of Somalia, replacing the provisional constitution adopted in 2012. The new constitution is anticipated to be finalized in 2019, in time for the 'one-person, one-vote election' scheduled for 2020.

In his opening address, the Prime Minister reiterated his Government's commitment to the process. "I confirm that my government has pledged \$3 million for the constitutional review process to be finalized. This pledge should produce a Somalia-owned document, and a new Somali unity that rebuilds the Somali nation we have lost," he said.

The event closed with attendees issuing a declaration on the next steps of the review process, which includes a commitment to correcting technical errors in the constitution, promoting political dialogue and agreement between the Federal Government and Federal Member States, and translating agreements into articles in the constitution. The declaration also committed to the approval of the revised constitution by parliament in 2019.

The Speaker of the House of the People, H.E Mohamed Mursal Sheikh Abdirahman, officially closed the event with a message from President Mohamed Abdullahi 'Farmaajo'. "I hope that this process will bring political stability, protect and promote human rights, strengthen federalism and democracy, and bring about peace and harmony within Somalia and the region," the President's message said.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT

When the term of the National Federal Parliament comes to an end in late 2020, Somalia will be at a historic crossroad with the country committing itself to organizing 'one-person, one-vote' elections for the first time since 1969.

During a meeting of the National Security Council (NSC) held on 6 June 2018 in Baidoa, federal and state leaders agreed on the future electoral model, an important step that paves the way for the development of the Electoral Law. The agreement stipulates that the Members of the Federal Parliament will be elected through universal suffrage elections based on a multi-party and closed list-proportional representation system. The NSC tasked relevant government entities to finalize the Electoral Law by the end of 2018.

In a joint statement, the UN, African Union, European Union, Inter-Governmental Authority on Development, Ethiopia, Italy, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States welcomed the outcomes of the meeting.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

A training on State Formation in the Constitutional Review process was held in Mogadishu on 17 April 2018 with the participation of 20 members of the Joint Parliamentary Oversight Committee.

The aim of the training was to identify approaches to the regularization of the constitution, the state formation process, and to determine the next steps required to advance the federalization and state building agenda.

During the workshop the participants discussed relevant articles of the Provisional Constitution and international best practices. The importance of regularizing the Constitution by removing technical and translation errors to proceed with the review process was emphasized. As a result of the training, Oversight Committee members resolved to consult with the Border and Federalization Commission and other relevant government institutions to begin work on initial amendments to the constitutional text and adopt the required legislation to formally establish Federal Member States.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT

A key component of the work of the Joint Programme on Women's Political Participation, Leadership and Empowerment is to advocate for an increase in women's political participation and representation in all decision-making bodies across Somalia. To this end, the Programme has been supporting the Quota Task Force led by the Somaliland Ministry of Social Affairs and Family and Women CSO Networks to engage in high-level advocacy for the inclusion of the women's quota in electoral laws.

At a meeting on the 7 June 2018, chaired by H.E. President Muse Bihi Abdi and Vice-President H.E. Abdirahman Abdilahi Ismail, the Somaliland Cabinet approved a 20 percent quota for women and minority clans in the upcoming Parliamentary and Local Councils elections. As a result, women will be allocated 18 of the 82 seats of the Somaliland House of Representatives.

Responding to the decision, Asmahan Abdisalan Hassan, Chairperson of the Nagaad Network and Quota Task Force member, praised the move stating that "We congratulate the women of Somaliland for achieving this milestone and thank the Somaliland President and his Cabinet for approving the quota".

Another Task Force member, Sa'dia Abdi also welcomed the development while noting "This is a historical day for Somaliland women but there is a long way to go. Our message to parliament is clear, we are calling for your approval for the quota".

The Joint Programme will continue to support advocacy initiatives for the realization of the 30 percent women's quota.

RULE OF LAW

With the support and funding from the EU, Mobile Courts services were extended to new districts in Federal Member States where communities have limited access to the formal justice system. The new districts include Garbaharey, Jowhar, Bal'ad, Warsheikh, Balanbale and Galkaiyo. The mobile court teams, which are made up of judges, prosecutors, registrars and lawyers, address the key grievances among the communities dealing with a variety of cases, mostly related to land disputes.

Mobile courts are now operational in five Federal Member States: Jubaland, Southwest, Galmudug, HirShabelle and Puntland, and handled a total of 115 cases in the first half of 2018. In the context of Somalia, mobile courts play a critical role in improving access to justice, especially for the vulnerable sections of the population, by bringing justice services closer to the people. Furthermore, expanding justice services to the regions and promoting the formal justice system is crucial for Somalia's peacebuilding and state-building journey.

SUSTAINABLE CHARCOAL REDUCTION AND ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS

At the opening of a two-day conference on charcoal held in Mogadishu on 7-8 May 2018, the Federal Government of Somalia called for international, African and Gulf States cooperation in halting the illegal export of charcoal from the country. The export of charcoal from Somalia has been banned, both by a 2012 UN Security Council resolution and by the Somali Gov-

ernment, due to its destructive effect on the environment and its exacerbation of conflict and humanitarian crises.

An estimated 8.2 million trees were cut down for charcoal in Somalia between 2011 and 2017, increasing land degradation, food insecurity and vulnerability to flooding and drought. Over 80 percent of charcoal produced in Somalia is exported to Gulf States and neighbouring countries. Illegal trade in charcoal is recognized as a key contributor to insecurity in Somalia, providing a major source of funding for militias, terrorist groups, and other actors linked to conflict, who illegally tax exports.

In his opening address, the Deputy Prime Minister of Somalia, Mahdi Mohamed Guled, reaffirmed the Somali government's commitment to halting 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.

"We need a holistic response to address the issues of charcoal in Somalia. Both the demand and supply side have to be tackled – to do this we need cooperation to implement the UN Security Council Resolution and ensure the environmental, economic and human losses that happen because of illegal charcoal trade are curbed," said the Deputy Prime Minister. A unified roadmap to curb charcoal trade was agreed and finalized by conference participants.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON LOCAL GOVERNANCE (JPLG)

Over 30 Jubaland State representatives met with Federal Government officials on 10 April 2018 in Kismayo to finalize the development of a Local Government Institute (LGI) in the State which will support the standardization of training on local government service delivery. With JPLG support, the development of LGIs and state level consultations form part of the ongoing federalization process in the country through creation of formal linkages between the three levels of government – Federal, State, and Local.

Delegates from the Jubaland Ministry of Health, Ministry of Planning, and Ministry of Public Works and Housing attended the event, along with Kismayo district and Lower Juba regional leaders, and civil society representatives.

Deputy Governor of Lower Juba, Mr. Jama Abdullahi Ugas, opened the event urging delegates to work with the LGI once established. Mayor of Kismayo, Mr. Ibrahim Mohamed Yussuf, highlighted the importance of the Institute for improving service delivery for citizens stating, "standardizing and ensuring the quality of local government training in Somalia is a major step in improving the caliber of district staff and the services they deliver," he said.

Consultations on local governance and establishment of LGIs in each Federal Member State will inform the development of a National Local Government Capacity Development Policy which will form the basis for transforming district governments into effective institutions for local administration, governance and the service provision for the Somali people.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SOMALIA (YES)

The Joint Programme on Youth Employment in Somalia (YES) utilizes cash-for-work schemes to support value chains in targeted areas. YES supported road rehabilitation works to generate short-term employment, build skills, improve commercial flows for agricultural producers, and reduce transport times for communities and businesses.

The Programme recently undertook an impact assessment on the use of a cash-for-work model for the rehabilitation of rural infrastructure which identified several positive spill-over effects. Road rehabilitation projects have created employment opportunities for both youth and vulnerable women through on-the-job training which not only boosted wages and morale of youth, but also proved an important mechanism to enhance community level commercial activity.

Poor road surfaces had previously prevented farmers from transporting their produce markets and restricted the transport of agricultural machinery to land. Following the rehabilitation works, farmers could more readily access local agricultural produce and markets while livestock production improved due to easier access to veterinary services. The increase in public transport vehicles operating on the improved roads has reduced fares, thereby increasing the mobility of low-income households in the vicinity.

Such initiatives demonstrate that interventions with the primary objective of stimulating economic activity can often have knock-on effects on other aspects of life, be they social or economic, to the benefit of the wider community.

MIDNIMO

Through the Midnimo programme, IOM and local authorities in Jubaland's Dollow district hosted a sporting event on 16 May 2018. The football tournament attracted 300 participants including IDPs, returnees, host community members and local authority representatives. The IDPs and returnees were pitched against the host community with the winning team, Alta-Juba, representing IDPs and returnees. Prior to the event, IOM distributed sports kits through the local administration and youth and sports committees.

19-year-old Mohamed Ali, a striker on the Alta-Juba team, said "Sports contribute to physical fitness, well-being, self-discipline, and improved social interaction which in turn reduces stress, trauma and distress caused by displacement and other hardships. When playing any sport, everyone is the same on the field whether you are rich or poor, a soldier or host community member, IDP or returnee. We all play together as a team. Sport unites us equally."

The tournament was held with the aim of promoting unity, reintegration, social cohesion and peaceful co-existence among the displaced, returnees and host community populations. It also acts as a strategic platform for dialogue while building rapport and trust between local authorities and the population.

Sports can cut across barriers that divide societies, making it a powerful tool to support conflict prevention and peace-building. The next scheduled event in Dollow will focus on female-oriented activities and competitions, including preparation and presentation of traditional dishes, attires and games.

PILOT PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY

Courts are the primary means for dispute resolution and a mechanism where all citizens have the right to bring claims and a platform where those accused of a crime can mount a defense. They undertake an essential role in ensuring that justice is administered in accordance with the law in a fair and impartial manner. However, following three decades of conflict, much of Somalia's legal infrastructure has been destroyed, including the Law Courts in Kismayo, Jubaland State.

During project facilitated consultations with in 2015, construction of Regional Law Courts in Kismayo was identified as a priority by local community representatives and the Lower Jubba Regional Authority. Work commenced in July 2017 and was completed at the end of the same year.

On 16 May 2018, the Federal Ministry of Finance and Pilot Project staff handed over the facilities to the Jubaland Deputy Minister of Justice and Religious Affairs, H.E. Aden Inshar, High Court Judge, Abdishakur Sheikh Mohamed, and Jubaland Attorney General, Mohamed Osman. The new buildings will house the Court of Appeals, Supreme Court, Regional Court and office facilities.

Addressing young Judges at the Courts, Federal Deputy Minister of Finance, H.E. Abdullahi Sheikh Ali (Qalo'ow) concluded, "You are young but tasked with heavy responsibility. I ask of you to take care of these buildings and serve the community wholeheartedly".

REFUGEE RETURN & REINTEGRATION

The number of children in Somalia recruited by armed groups reached over 1,900 in 2016, double the number from the previous year, the majority of whom were recruited by Al-Shabaab. However, even if they manage to escape, children often face suspicion and hostility from the communities to which they return.

Through the Kenya-Somalia refugees and peacebuilding cross-border pilot, the most vulnerable children are provided shelter, clothing, basic medical assistance, basic literary, psychosocial social services in Baidoa, South West State. Children formerly associated with Al-Shabaab have been supported to reintegrate back into their families and communities. UNICEF partner INTERSOS has established contacts with families of children released from armed groups and is working towards their reunification.

The education component of the project also provides education services and training to children formerly associated with armed groups in addition to other vulnerable children. Enhanced access to protection services, including medical and psychosocial support, improved access to vocational skills trainings and formal education, as well as increased awareness on prevention of child recruitment continues to be provided.

Through support to former child soldiers and prevention work to tackle future recruitment, the project continues to help children look towards a brighter future with their families and communities in Baidoa.

DALDHIS

One of the main features of the technical assistance provided by UNIDO under the Daldhis project is the strengthening of connections between value chain upgrading in the construction sector, involvement of the private sector, and delivery of market driven training courses that leverage on-the-job training activities. This approach is unique within the vocational training sector in Somalia as it involves the development and application of knowledge and capacities in an intensive learning environment that focuses on improving outcomes for enterprises working within the construction value chain.

26-year-old Hussein Abdullahi used to work in Kismayo's seaport until he developed an interest in construction after observing tradesmen in the city. "I learned about the sector by watching what was happening at construction sites in the town. I did not attend any training institution but was fortunate enough to get the opportunity to work with a local construction company. Shortly after, I was enrolled in a UNIDO training course on construction trades which taught me a lot about the sector".

Through hard work and commitment, Hussein successfully completed the course. "Before the training I knew very little about construction trades. Now I have more experience and practical skills in mixing cement, measurement, plastering, paint-work, leveling, and more importantly personal and worksite safety. With these new skills I now have the confidence to do my work even better."

Hussein is working in a local construction company and with his improved earnings is now able to send his children to a local school.

ENABLING SERVICES

Five years since the SDRF was established with the aim of enhancing coordination and alignment of external development

assistance to Somalia, the Office of the Resident Coordinator with UNDP and DfID supported the Aid Coordination Unit and the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED) to organise a workshop to reflect on achievements of the Aid Architecture and to examine areas requiring further improvement.

Held on 6 June 2018 in Mogadishu, the workshop drew participants from a wide range of stakeholders, including the Federal Government, Federal Member States, civil society, UN and the international donor community.

In his opening remarks Deputy Prime Minister, H.E. Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid, noted that "Through the SDRF, we have institutionalized a mechanism by which development challenges are discussed and how best to address them collectively". He continued, "While we have come a long way, there is always space for improvement. We want to ensure that the work that we undertake under the SDRF and within the Pillar Working Groups result in tangible benefits on the ground which improves the lives of the Somali people. We can and must be better." He continued, "We must endeavour to improve the functioning of the aid coordination architecture so that it remains fit-for-purpose, both in terms of addressing strategic priorities but in the day-to-day operational and administrative processes that keeps the system ticking."

The rest of the workshop focused on in-depth discussions of the various aspects of the of the Aid Architecture and identifying key recommendations for improving its operations across all workstreams. The workshop closed with a renewed commitment by participants to do their part to build on progress made over the past years in bringing together all development partners in pursuit of common objectives. Work will now advance on translating these recommendations and commitments into results.

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