



MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

Newsletter - Q3 2018

Dear Partners,

Welcome to the third quarterly UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund newsletter of 2018 covering the period from 1 July – 30 September. This installment includes stories from eleven active Joint Programmes across the Fund.

The third quarter saw the UN MPTF reach a milestone with over \$300m being committed by our 13 donors since the Fund's inception in 2015. The UN MPTF also continued to witness a transition to a new generation of Joint Programmes designed to support Somalia's development priorities over the coming years.

In July, the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) Steering Committee approved for further development the Joint Corrections Programme, Operationalizing Somali National Strategy and Action Plan on Preventing and Countering of Violent Extremism, Construction and Rehabilitation of Key Justice Institutions, and Joint Police Programme, all of which have since received final approval. In August, the Steering Committee further approved a new package of support under the Peacebuilding Fund through four new Joint Programmes: Supporting Land Reform in Somalia, Midnimo II, Reconciliation and Statebuilding, and Support to Stabilization II.

On the 16th and 17th July, representatives from 58 countries and 6 international organisations, including the UN, gathered in Brussels to participate in the second Somalia Partnership Forum (SPF). The high-level gathering ended with a renewed commitment to support Somalia's progress in a range of areas. The Forum saw the adoption of the updated Mutual Accountability Framework of the New Partnership for Somalia (MAF) which articulates joint commitments of Somalia and its international partners in the areas of political reforms, security, economic development, and recovery and humanitarian assistance. The UN remains committed to supporting the Somali government's priorities as outlined in the MAF, including through the UN MPTF under the SDRF Aid Architecture.

Finally, and as always, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all our donor partners who continue to provide generous support to the portfolio of UN MPTF Joint Programmes across all sectoral and thematic areas of the Somalia National Development Plan.

UN MPTF OVERVIEW

- 19 Joint Programmes
- 13 Donor Partners
- \$311m Commitments
- \$240m Deposits

FUND CAPITALIZATION

-  Denmark: USD 20.9 m
-  European Union: USD 57.7 m
-  Finland: USD 9.4 m
-  Germany: USD 12.2 m
-  Italy: USD 14.2 m
-  Netherlands: USD 2.4 m
-  Norway: USD 39.1 m
-  Government of Somalia: USD 3.3 m
-  Sweden: USD 88.7 m
-  Switzerland: USD 18.7 m
-  United Kingdom: USD 36.6 m
-  USAID: USD 2 m
-  UN Peacebuilding Fund: USD 6.2 m

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

In July, a five-day Joint Planning Retreat for key players in the Federal Government of Somalia took place in Mogadishu. The event was organized by the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs and the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation and was facilitated by the Federalisation Negotiation Technical Committee. The purpose of the retreat was to discuss the legislative and constitutional implications of the electoral model and resource-sharing agreements recently reached in Baidoa by the National Security Council. Attended by 70 dignitaries, the retreat was opened by H.E. Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khaire and the UN Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia, Peter de Clercq. Key issues discussed were elections, the justice model, allocation of powers between the Federal Government and Federal Member States, and sharing of mineral resources.

An engagement forum was held in July to inform, engage and advise the public on the Baidoa Agreement on Resource Sharing and the Electoral Model. Panelists from the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation, the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the Federalization Negotiation Technical Committee, and the National Independent Election Commission attended. The Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources briefed participants on the Baidoa Agreement, stating that its purpose was to foster a common vision between the Federal Government and Federal Member States on resource sharing.

A similar public engagement forum was organized in July by the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs on the Constitution and its compliance with Islamic Shariah Law. The Deputy Minister of Constitution, Dr. Hussein Abadi Elmi, explained that the Somali Constitution adheres to the principles to Islamic Shariah and federal power-sharing. He highlighted that the Somali Provisional Constitution urged respect for human rights, women's rights, and the rule of law. The Secretary General of the Somali Religious Scholars Association, Sheikh Ali Wijz, discussed the importance of the constitution in a Muslim society.

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.

The Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) continued to work together in consultation with other members of the federal government and the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) on the drafting process of the country's Electoral Law. The Ministry is expected to shortly submit the draft to the Cabinet, for the Government to meet its commitment to finalize the Electoral Law by the end of 2018. The UN Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG) is providing technical and logistical assistance to MOIFAR for the development the Electoral Law.

On 16 and 17 July, the European Union, Sweden and the Federal Government of Somalia, hosted the Somalia Partnership

Forum (SPF) in Brussels. The event aimed to inform international partners on commitments and progress and encourage the international community to continue support for Somalia's efforts to build a more secure and prosperous future following years of conflict, including universal suffrage elections. The SPF took note of the Baidoa meeting in June between Somalia's Federal and State leaders, where it was agreed on the country's electoral model for "one person, one vote" elections based on political multi-party competition and closed list-proportional representation. The NIEC Chairperson was a keynote speaker on Inclusive Politics session at the SPF, underscoring the determination to adhere to the constitutional framework and subsequent timelines to hold multi-party universal suffrage elections by 2020 when the term of the Federal Parliament expires. The Chairperson urged all stakeholders to fulfil their responsibilities, highlighting women's representation as a critical factor for the development of an inclusive, responsive, and transparent democracy.

During the reporting period, the IESG with the support of electoral advisors from both UNDP and UNSOM, continued to strengthen the institutional capacity development of the NIEC through provision of electoral advisory support, tailored workshops, hands-on assistance, development of national advisors, and joint planning on electoral preparations.

The NIEC organized in July a workshop on voter education with the participants coming from different national political entities and CSOs to seek input on the development of a voter education curriculum. The NIEC highlighted that the political parties and political associations can contribute to the development of the voter education curriculum that will help them to develop strategies for their party's awareness raising campaigns.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

In July, over 50 staff members of the Somali Federal and State Parliaments took part in a training on administration of parliaments as part of an initiative to build parliamentary knowledge. The training covered legislative processes, committee development and comparative experiences, and best practices of parliaments around the world. By completing the training, the Secretariats of Federal and State Parliaments expanded their knowledge and capacities to support MPs to carry out their legislative, oversight and representative duties more effectively.

In August, the Parliament Support Project provided administrative, logistics, operational and transportation support to the Oversight Committee and supported the recruitment of experts and young graduates, including a legal advisor, a constitutional expert, and a public relations and communication expert. Ten young graduates have also been recruited to support the Oversight Committee in day-to-day activities and in assisting in the implementation of its workplan. The Oversight Committee of the Federal Parliament is tasked with overseeing, directing and approving the work of the Independent Constitution Review and Implementation Commission.

In September, President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed 'Farmaajo,' officially opened the fourth session of the House of the People of the Federal Parliament of Somalia in Mogadishu. The Prime Minister, H.E Hassan Ali Khaire, the Speaker of the

House of the People, Rt. Hon. Mursal Mohamed Sheikh Abirahman, Members of the House, and representatives from the international community attended the opening ceremony. In his opening speech, the President spoke about the current security and economic situation in the country and in the East Africa region and on the fight against Al-Shabaab.

RULE OF LAW

The Federal Ministry of Internal Security and Benadir Regional Administration hosted a three-day public consultation in September to present the Government's security initiatives and hear the views and concerns of Somalis on security and justice in the Benadir region. The purpose of the meeting was to understand and address the challenges faced by Somali communities when interacting with security forces, and to further highlight the importance of public awareness and collaboration in creating safe communities.

The meeting was supported by the Joint Rule of Law project with funding from Germany. The Federal Minister for Internal Security, Mohamed Abukar Islow Duale, the Mayor of Mogadishu and Governor of Benadir, Abdirahman Omar Osman, and religious leader Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Salad were key speakers at the event.

In his opening speech, Minister Duale highlighted the importance of public cooperation with security forces in ensuring safety for all Somalis. "The outcome of this meeting will be reviewed by both the Ministry of Internal Security and Banadir Regional Administration and included in a comprehensive Banadir Security Strategy. This is in line with the Ministry's mandate to provide security and safety to all citizens and the State," he said.

The Security Transition Plan for Somalia and strategies on community policing were presented, and the duties and obligations that the public and government both have towards one-another in fighting crime and terrorism in Somalia were discussed.

Recommendations for building better collaboration and trust between members of the public and security and police forces were made by participants during the event. These included strengthening coordination, accountability, and transparency of district and regional justice institutions and their capacity to adhere to human rights law and strengthening community policing initiatives for better community outreach and collaboration. Communities also requested to hold weekly and monthly meetings with Banadir Regional Administration on security in each district and discussed how security institutions can better work with businesses and households to prevent terrorism and extremism.

In his closing remarks, Mayor Osman thanked participants and reiterated the commitment of Banadir Regional Administration to continue to consult with communities on security issues. "I urge the 17 Banadir district commissioners to closely work with the people in their districts and to continue to build trust between themselves and communities. I give my assurance as Mayor that we will continue to work to ensure the Banadir Region is safe and secure for all," he said.

The three-day public consultation event is one of a series of consultations taking place around Somalia on peace and security, with the aim of building trust in security and justice institutions. The events are being led by the Federal Government in collaboration with Federal Member States, and with support from the UN and international donors.

SUSTAINABLE CHARCOAL REDUCTION AND ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS

Sixty people received training in Hargeisa to build energy efficient stoves under a programme run by Somaliland's Ministry of Environment and Rural Development under the Joint Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods. It is envisaged that the new skills will allow the trainees to earn an income from producing and selling stoves, which will reduce the use and production of charcoal in Somaliland.

Felling trees for charcoal and firewood has led to large scale deforestation and ecosystem destruction across Somaliland. The new energy efficient cooking stoves will burn 50% less charcoal than traditional cooking stoves, which will help to reduce demand the fuel. Initially, with funding from the project, the stoves will be distributed free of charge to IDP and low-income communities, and vendors will be supported to transition from selling traditional stoves to the new energy efficient versions to build a market for the product.

Addressing participants on the opening day of the training, Minister of Environment for Somaliland, Ms. Shukri Haji Ismail Bandare, noted that "The manufacture of these energy efficient cooking stoves will bring employment for you and also long-term job opportunities by ensuring that you can teach and pass on these skills to others".

JOINT PROGRAMME ON LOCAL GOVERNANCE

The Federal Government in July launched the third phase of the Joint Programme on Local Governance (JPLG) for Somalia at a high-level meeting in Garowe, Puntland. JPLG works to improve the lives of Somali people and promote peace through accountable and effective local government. The programme has been working since 2008 in Puntland and has seen services improve with schools, health centres, roads and marketplaces built and developed through participatory planning with local communities.

Speaking at the launch, the Director General of the Federal Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation, Mr. Ali Mohamed Mohamud, congratulated the Puntland government in hosting the event and on its success with the programme. "We can now build on the success achieved with local government in Puntland to deliver systems and policies that work to other Federal Member States across Somalia," he said.

The Vice President of Puntland, Mr. Abdihakim Haji Abdullahi Amey, said the benefits of the programme were visible in Puntland. "JPLG has been one of the most successful programmes

in promoting participation and ownership of development and local government processes by Somali people, and the Puntland government is committed to supporting it”, he said.

Mr. Dmitry Pozhidaev, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Regional Advisor, thanked donor partners Denmark, the EU, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, the United Kingdom, USAID, and the UN Peacebuilding Fund for their support.

“More services are reaching the people because of stronger local governments. About 1.2 million Somalis have benefitted from the road infrastructure built with JPLG support; more than 61,000 students in 272 schools gained access to new classrooms and latrines for girls; new market and community infrastructure has boosted socio-economic opportunities for thousands of Somalis, including women and girls, across the country,” Mr Pozhidaev said.

The third phase of the programme will see the Federal Government, in partnership with state and local governments and the UN, start to roll out successful local government systems developed under the first two phases of the programme to all Federal Member States across Somalia.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SOMALIA (YES)

In Somalia, it is a reality that development interventions are mainly driven by the external development actors in which the governments often have limited control. The Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, H.E Salah Ahmed Jama, has emphasized that development interventions must be Somali-led and Somali-owned. This is also one of the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation of the Joint Programme on Youth Employment in Somalia (YES).

Against this background, YES has taken a new turn in its planning and implementation processes to strengthen its coordination mechanism, led by government, by working closely with its partners and stakeholders at all levels. The YES Coordination Team has started their efforts in developing capacities of the focal points of the line ministries, such as coordination, monitoring and reviewing, reporting, financial management and oversight roles. Continuous support is being provided to develop the capacities of the focal points, using a learning by doing method. As a result, the sub-national authorities are becoming more aware of their roles and responsibilities.

Line ministries in the Federal Member States are initiating and taking the lead in the ongoing stakeholder consultative processes to contribute to the design of the second generation of YES in their respective states with technical support from the YES Coordination Team. This will strengthen accountability and sustainability of the interventions, while complementing government efforts toward strengthening local governance and decentralization.

MIDNIMO

Through the Midnimo programme, IOM, UN-Habitat and local authorities in Afmadow and Garbaharey (Jubaland) launched Community Action Plans (CAP) on 28 and 29 September. “Today is a historic and unforgettable day for Afmadow District. We

are very excited to see the community identified projects from our own hearts that have been accepted and taken forward to the implementation phase, As the government, we have never ever seen a project like Midnimo where the community are full drivers of the process and we are here officially to launch the CAP and lay the foundation for six community projects,” said Sheikh Mohamed Dakane, Afmadow District Commissioner, during the launch.

In Garbaharey, IOM will support four projects identified in the CAP, namely, the construction of the airport terminal hall, a health centre, meat market, and extension of Gogol Primary School. The community’s enthusiasm was voiced by Adan Shimbirolays, a Somali-American singer from Garbaharey. “We have already supported and constructed Jalle Siyad hospital in Garbaharey and let me assure you again that I will take this action plan, do fund raising around the world with big concerts and music shows using my talent as a singer and finally support community projects listed here”, he said.

A town planning workshop took place in August in Hudur, a town that has suffered from decades-long negligence due to civil war, conflict, instability and insecurity. The mayor of Hudur, Mohamed Maalim Ahmed, highlighted the importance of having a new town plan for future development and unlocking investment opportunities since the last exercise dated back to 1983. A follow-up workshop was organized in Baidoa on 26 and 27 September 2018 where a team from Hudur District Council led by the Deputy Mayor presented consolidated town plan draft to officials from state government ministries. The future growth of Hudur will be directed to the southern and south-western part of the town, while the northern part of the town will be preserved for the livestock market and the slaughterhouse, upgrading of the airport, and water sources.

Additionally, the draft legislation for the Urban Land Management Law was reviewed by the Inter-Ministerial Council of South West State on 20 September 2018. The draft law received full endorsement by the council. The aim is to develop a formal legal framework that responds to land conflicts in the urban centers which have been identified as a major conflict driver and threat to peace and stability. It also stipulates the formation of a state Urban Land Committee that facilitates and oversees the drafting of urban development plans, land use schemes and large-scale infrastructure projects.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

As part of the process for the development of the Somali government’s Social Protection Policy and prior to the commencement of the consultations, a desk review was undertaken which highlighted the fundamentals required for successful social protection in Somalia. The desk review found that stable financial support (both in terms of revenues for federal and regional governments as well as budget allocation and prioritization on the national agenda) is a pre-requisite for the building and implementation of a government-owned, shock-responsive social protection system. Additionally, future progress in the development of the social protection system will also depend on capacity support to the federal and regional governments in the form of technical capacity and human resources, as well as systems to formalize revenue collection and service deliv-

ery. Moreover, economic development will be key in protecting Somalis from shocks. This will require policies, regulations and legal frameworks for inclusive development of the economy, facilitation of private sector investment, formalized financial and banking systems, and formal instruments for insurance and credit particularly for average Somalis. Finally, social protection programmes in several developing countries have highlighted key pre-conditions and circumstances that help support the successful adoption of a social protection policy. The enabling environments must have political commitment (especially at high levels), strong administrative capacity, financial sustainability, community participation, transparency and accountability, strong relationships between ministries and external development partners, and early adoption of comprehensive management information systems.

Three of the consultations focused on vulnerable communities in Baidoa and Mogadishu with IDPs, female headed households and youth. Many spoke about the drought and the conflict situation caused by clans, military forces, militia and militant groups. Preoccupations like displacement, disease and loss of livelihoods were common themes within the discussions. Participants talked about community and the support networks particularly in times of shocks. People also imagined a Somalia that is peaceful and where the government provides security and services. Despite the negativity, people were hopeful for resolution of conflict and the ability for the government to play a role to improve the lives of Somalis.

UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMME

In September 2018, UNFPA Somalia received its first contributions from donors (Sweden and Finland) through the UN MPTF. Under this innovative financing modality, donors contribute un-earmarked resources to the entire Country Programme and not to specific projects or thematic areas.

The 2018-2020 Country Program Document (CPD) for Somalia was approved by the Executive Board of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in September 2017 and endorsed by the Steering Committee of the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) in October 2017. This is the first Country Program (CP) of a UN agency to be endorsed and channeled through SDRF. The CP is financed through core and non-core resources. Sweden, Finland and Italy are co-financing the CP. Other donors have also expressed interest in the co-financing arrangement.

As part of the SDRF/MPTF requirements, a Steering Committee (SC) was established comprising Somali authorities, donors, and

UNFPA Somalia. The SC is responsible for providing strategic guidance and for overseeing the allocation and utilization of resources, as well as for monitoring the implementation of the CP. The SC is served by a Technical Group which supports the committee in data gathering, analysis, and technical reviews so as to adequately inform the SC on matters pertaining to the Country Programme. The SC discussions and decisions are informed by the outcomes of semi-annual review and planning meetings at the technical level and also by the relevant Pillar Working Groups. The SC however does not replace the oversight role of the UNFPA Executive Board, or of other oversight mechanisms.

The Steering Committee met in Mogadishu on 20 September 2018 and reviewed and endorsed the proposed financial allocations by thematic area. Implementation of various projects under the CP will commence in Q4 of 2018.

REFUGEE RETURN & REINTEGRATION

As a community leader in Ramadan IDP camp in Baidoa that benefited from a road project supported by the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) cross-border project on refugee return and reintegration, Mohamed Nur Issack knows well the positive impacts that the road project has brought. In Q1 2018 issue of this newsletter, we featured cost savings, ease of access to business centres and basic services, including health care. In this edition, we talk about the impact of the project on local businesses as well as improved sanitation within Ramadan IDP camp attributed to the PBF project.

“Since the rehabilitation, access to the camp has completely been transformed. Business improved, women started selling their goods in front of their houses while performing their daily household activities. At a personal level, I used to park my Tuk-tuk, which I use as an income generation project, in a garage in Baidoa town every night and pay rental fee of \$2 per night. Now I can comfortably park it besides my house because of the good road brought to us by this PBF project” stated Mohamed. These positive developments have led to reduced protection incidences that women incur as a result of seeking self or wage employment opportunities away from home.

“Besides the road project, we have benefited from three shallow wells that have been dug in the vicinity of Ramadan IDP camp. This has significantly improved access to clean water. Water has been a big challenge in the past leading to poor hygiene and sanitation but now we are better. We will continue to protect what we have for the benefit of the community,” Mohamed concluded.

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