



UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund

QUARTERLY UPDATE

October 2016

From the UN Somalia: UN Women



Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to present the third instalment of the quarterly MPTF Newsletter. This comes at a time of significant transition and transformation with the finalisation of the National Development Plan and the electoral process, both of which have massive implications for Somali women.

It is within this context that UN Women has con-

tinued and indeed increased its engagement through the MPTF. Starting 2017, all UN Women engagements will be through the MPTF. Under the Joint Programme on Enablers, UN Women delivered a chapter on gender in the NDP following extensive lobbying and negotiations with the Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development. UN Women, through the UN Gender Theme Group, also led the process for completion of the UN Gender Strategy 2017-2019, which will serve as an accountability framework for the UN in its response to the NDP and upcoming UN Strategic Framework.

Through the Joint Programme on Rule of Law, UN Women has continued to build the capacity of legal and law enforcement institutions to better investigate and prosecute cases of Sexual and Gender Based Violence and has undertaken analytical work on the needs of women inmates in Somali prisons as well as the situation of women police officers across Somalia.

To strengthen reporting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment across the MPTF portfolio, UN Women, supported by the Office of the Resident Coordinator, developed a number of gender specific indicators which have been reflected in the MPTF 3rd quarter report. These indicators are based on the UN System-Wide Action Plan for Implementation of the UN System-Wide Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP). UN Women views this as a stepping stone to institutionalising a gender lens through which all UN Joint Programmes, new and existing, are assessed. Such indicators will also inform the pipeline and entire MPTF portfolio going forward.

Looking ahead, UN Women as lead agency, with UNDP and UNSOM as PUNOs, will start implementing the Joint Programme on Women's Leadership & Empowerment, which will be reporting in the next quarter. In addition, a new Joint Programme on Human Rights, Women and Security will be pipelined later in the year.

Finally, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the international donor community for your support to the work of UN Women and other UN agencies, on promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment through the MPTF. Indeed, it is only through gender equality and the genuine participation of women at all levels of society that an equitable path to peace and prosperity for all Somalis can be forged.

- Caroline Rusten, UN Women Country Programme Manager for Somalia



UN MPTF Secretariat Update

- The MPTF Secretariat provided capacity development and technical support to the first National Window Project on Strengthening National Service Delivery, which began implementation in September.
- Programming of the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) has progressed and two proposals, 'Midnimo' (unity, under the fast track package) and Daldhi (build your country, under the standard package), are being submitted to the next SDRF on 17 November for approval.
- The latest Joint Programme, on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, is starting its implementation.
- The MPTF Report for Q3 was issued to donors on 31 October, now with extended reporting on gender indicators.



Fund Capitalisation

Multi-year Pledges
USD 167.3 million

Paind-in Contributions
USD 122.9 million

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Denmark: USD 19.4 million

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European Union: USD 35.3 million

Germany: USD 5.2 million

Italy: USD 4.9 million

Norway: USD 10 million

+

Sweden: USD 24.9 million

+

Switzerland: USD 6.3 million

United Kingdom: USD 32.7 million



USAID: USD 0.5 million



UN Peacebuilding Fund: USD 28.1 million

Highlights from the Joint Programmes



SUPPORT TO EMERGING FEDERAL STATES (StEFS)

In its efforts to strengthen the inclusion of women and civil society into the political state formation processes, the StEFS JP held a workshop in Kismayo, Jubbaland, on federalism and governance for civil society organisations and women groups. "I enjoyed participating in the workshop, such debates and workshops should be held in other parts of the region as well. This will educate our citizen on the federalism process", said a female participant at the workshop.

The JP also supported various reconciliation and peacebuilding efforts, for example by strengthening the ceasefire in Merka that was reaffirmed by the two dominant clans signing an extension of the ceasefire reconciliation agreement. The inter-clan conflict between those two clans has been mitigated since March 2015.

Other reconciliation efforts include a reconciliation conference between clans and community in Galkayo, which has experienced recent inter-clan violence that triggered the displacement of over 75,000 people. The conference hosted over 100 participants, including 30 women, and is a significant step towards ending the conflict in Galkayo.

Finally, the StEFS programme constructed a multi-purpose building in Baidoa for the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation of South-West State. The building was officially inaugurated on 27 September, with Ambassadors, UN and government leadership present. The building consists of a conference centre and administrative offices, and will be also used as a major hub for activities related to the ongoing 2016 electoral process.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

The JP is currently finalising its mid-term review that is expected to provide information on the impact, effectiveness, relevance and efficiency of the support provided by the JP to parliaments in Somalia and Somaliland since its start in 2013. It will also inform future support for Parliaments, in particular with regards to the (new) Federal Member States.

With support from the JP, Puntland held its 37th successful session of the House of Representatives, where a number of bills were passed, including a quality control bill, fishery services fees bill, NGO bill and a sexual offenses bill. Both the NGO and sexual offenses bill are a significant step towards a vital engagement between government and civil society and to ensure the rights of vulnerable groups, such as women and girls.

A counter-terrorism bill workshop for the Somaliland House of Representatives and Security Committee was held in Nairobi, where a review of the current counter-terrorism bill was undertaken and required amendments to the bill were discussed. The revised bill will be submitted to the House of Representatives and Security Committee for debate and endorsement.

A series of workshops were held in Baidoa for the South-West State Legislative Assembly on 'Principles of Democracy and Democratic Societies', where functions of parliament, multiparty politics, access to information, freedom of media, civil society engagement, universal human rights and other topics were discussed. The workshop helped participants in understanding their role as parliamentarians to hold the government accountable, as well as to strengthen these institutions as center of reconciliation and dialogue in establishing a federal system in Somalia.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT

The ongoing electoral process in Somalia has kept the JP occupied with preparations on various levels and at the same time moving forward on progress towards the 'one person one vote' electoral goal in 2020.

In particular, the JP held the Federal Indirect Electoral Implementation Team's (FIEIT) first information-sharing session with all Federal Member States (FMS). The representatives discussed roles and responsibilities of the FIEIT and SIEIT, electoral operations (including selection of delegates and criteria and registration for delegates and candidates), security issues, the role of the traditional elders, and the need to ensure the 30% women quota. In addition, ideas were exchanged on how to best raise awareness about the 2016 electoral process with society-at-large.

Within that commitment, and the goals of the Electoral Support Programme, the JP team has made extensive efforts to inform the public about the electoral process and raise awareness and civic engagement through various channels. One example is the radio talk show in cooperation with Radio Mogadishu, Radio Baidoa, Radio Bar-Kulan, SBC Radio and Radio Kismayo that addresses various aspects of the electoral process, such as women's participation and how the selection of Upper and Lower House members works.

In addition, various short videos and infographics have been published on UNSOM's and UNDP's online channels to explain the electoral process to the public and to raise awareness about the 30% women and 20% youth quota.



PSG2/PSG3 Security & Justice

RULE OF LAW & POLICE STIPENDS

A highlight for the JP on Rule of Law and Police Stipends in the third quarter of 2016 was the reestablishment of the Puntland BAR Association. In a conference that addressed gaps in the justice system and help lawyers on developing their profession in the region, over 40 lawyers elected a new board of the BAR Association of 11 members, 5 of whom are female lawyers.

"A huge number of qualified professionals are now available to the justice sector. They serve as judges and lawyers thanks to the support we got from the Programme", said Salah Abdullahi, Minister of Justice, Religious Affairs and Rehabilitation in Puntland.

A further highlight was the finalization of the legal aid policy by the Legal Aid Unit of the Federal Government, a significant step towards strengthening national Rule of Law and justice institutions across Somalia.

Finally, the Traditional Dispute Resolution Workshop, held in Mogadishu in August, trained over 40 participants on how to strengthen relationship between formal and informal justice mechanisms and the best way forward on ensuring that each segment of the national Constitution contributes to fair access to justice and rights guaranteed for all. The participants appreciated the mix between practitioners from formal and informal justice systems as well as participation from various regions, which allowed a fruitful exchange of ideas, knowledge and experiences of diverse traditions and cultures across the regions and communities.



PSG4 Economic Foundations

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SOMALIA (YES)

"The youth can take part in changing the city because they are instrumental in everything. Those who are educated can take part in sensitisation and awareness campaigns." – a statement by Abdi Karim Ahmed, a young participant who was very vocal at the JP's 'The City Youth Need' event on the role Somali youth can play in Somalia's future. The event took place at the One-Stop Youth Centre in Mogadishu and marked one of the highlights of the YES programme in the past quarter. The urban campaign event was a prime opportunity for youth to define a clear vision of what their city could look like. Almost 700 young people participated in the event, together with various ministers, youth organisation leaders and UN representatives.

In the past quarter, the YES JP started exploring job creation possibilities in new sectors, in particular the renewable energy sector. For that, a leading regional energy and equipment distributor, Solargen Technologies, was brought on board, to explore skills gaps and interventions needed for job creation in that sector. 60 young people have been selected so far to undergo a first training by Solargen Technologies. The JP is currently analyzing the employment potential for young Somali women and men in this sector.

SUSTAINABLE CHARCOAL REDUCTION & ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS

The Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods JP held a launch and awareness raising event in Adado, Galmudug, in order to inform the local public about the programme but also about the environmental aspects of sustainable charcoal reduction.

The JP is continuing to strengthen gender components during its early implementation phase, for example through the recruitment of women interns for the Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Range and by targeting women for empowerment through alternative livelihoods.



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The JP continued its essential support for the recruitment of key staff members in government institutions and, in particular, the recruitment of a National Strategic Planning advisor to work on the revision of the Puntland 5-year Development Plan, to be aligned to the NDP.

In its efforts to support empowerment of women and gender mainstreaming, the JP signed an LOA with the Minsitry of Women and Human Rights Development to support capacity gaps and the development of tools, strategies and plans to mainstream gender across government.

The JP's support to the finalisation of the NDP and its M&E framework has been significant, whether through the organisation of various workshops and roundtables or through the dedicated consultant to the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, who coordinates the drafting of and consultations for the NDP.

Finally, the JP has been a key actor in promoting various capacity development efforts across Somalia through a joint communication project under the coordination of the UN Information Group. The JP is becoming increasingly successful in engaging more and more Somalis in the discussion around capacity development, which provides a direct channel for feedback on not just the JP, but on the UN's overall capacity development efforts.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON LOCAL GOVERNANCE (JPLG)

"JPLG is the most successful programme that contributes to local development and conflict resolution and peacebuilding", concluded Vice-President of Puntland, Abdihakim Abdullahi Haji Omar, at a high-level meeting in in Garowe, where JPLG's impact on policy implementation, municipal finance, public service delivery as well as the role of women and the future focus of the joint programme was discussed. Both government and UN representatives called for stronger coordination among different actors, institutionalising the process and tools of decentralised service delivery and the expansion of the programme. Findings and action plan of this review meeting will inform concrete improvements for the JPLG programme in Puntland.

Various efforts to promote and raise awareness about the JPLG in Puntland have also yielded success: The Observatory of Conflict and Violence Prevention, a local organisation providing data on peace-building and governance, shows that between 2013-2015, awarness about the JP increased from 43% to 73% in Garowe district.

In the margins of JPLG's focus to reach out to (new) Federal Member States, the JP conducted a workshop with Ministers and technical staff in Kismayo, Jubbaland, on how decentralization can contribute to sustained stability, peacebuilding and development,

and how to ensure that women and men become equal parties to local political processes and development planning. The participants learned how to develop action plans and how to deliver a comprehensive policy in line with legal and technical frameworks.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON ENABLERS

Besides its regular support to the monthly SDRF meetings in Mogadishu, the RCO has coordinated the integrated UN engagement in the NDP process, including various FGS-UN roundtables and consolidation of strategic-level feedback to the NDP drafts. The RCO's Youth Advisor was engaged in particular on efforts to mainstream youth throughout the NDP.

The RCO has led the coordination and design of new programmes funded by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). The programmes apply the CRESTA/A approach (Community Recovery and Extension of State Authority and Accountability), which combines local community recovery interventions with support to governance mechanisms and the use of the National Window.

In addition, the RCO coordinated and led the production of an infographic and video on the cost of doing business in Somalia, showcasing various enabling services, including security and risk management, that are required for the UN and partners to operate across Somalia.

RMU has launched a new Contractor Information Management System (CIMS), which allows to share informal performance ratings through a Capacity Assessment and Multi-Rating Tool.

Finally, UN Women contributed a chapter on gender to the NDP

with targets and milestones and financed, led and coordinated the work of the Gender Theme Group to complete the UN Gender Strategy 2017-19. UN Women furthermore continues work with the MPTF Secretariat on improving gender indicators for MPTF reporting and gender mainstreaming throughout the Join Programmes of the MPTF.



National Window

PILOT PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY

The first National Window project on strengthening national service delivery commenced its implementation in Q3 with an open procurement process to select the design and supervision contractor for infrastructure projects. The infrastructure projects include the construction of the regional and district courthouse in Kismayo and the installation of solar street lights in Banadir. These are expected to demonstrate the capacity of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), under the Ministry of Finance, to deliver services.

In order to identify capacity building requirements, the PIU undertook an internal capacity assessment exercise. Following the exercise, a team from the Joint Programme on Enablers provided a five-day workshop in Mogadishu on project cycle management, M&E, public procurement, financial and progress reporting, audit, risk management, communication and visibility, and 'do no harm'. The comprehensive capacity development plan is currently being drafted.

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