

## UN PEACEBUILDING FUND AT A GLANCE

The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund was established in 2005 to complement the work of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Support Office by providing the UN system with early and strategic funding for catalytic, innovative, and risk-taking peacebuilding interventions. Since funding its first project in Somalia in 2009, the PBF has steadily increased its investments in the country. As of 2019, the PBF has invested 46 million USD in Somalia through 24 projects implemented by eleven UN agencies in close partnership with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), the Federal Government of Somalia, the Federal Member States, and civil society. Investments are guided by the Peacebuilding Priority Plan for Somalia and aligned with the overarching National Development Plan through the international aid coordination architecture under the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility.

A PBF Secretariat, based in the Integrated Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, was established in 2017 to support the coordination of the portfolio in Somalia and the design of new peacebuilding projects.

#### UN SOMALIA PEACEBUILDING PRIORITIES

- Building State legitimacy
- Supporting local reconcilliation processes
- Promoting broad-based and inclusive economic and social growth
- Building capacity of Federal Government & Member States to deliver public services

# INTEGRATED APPROACH

The PBF has contributed to positioning the UN at the forefront of peacebuilding and State-building efforts in Somalia. Because of the Fund's high tolerance for risk, flexibility and focus on innovative approaches, the PBF has enabled the UN to explore new approaches to peacebuilding and expand programming to areas that have not yet attracted traditional donor funding. With the emphasis on support to the local level and area-based approaches, the PBF has played an important role in extending the reach of the state beyond urban centres in line with the National Stabilisation Strategy and ensured public participation in the implementation of activities.

**UN Partners:** UNDP, UN Women, ILO, IOM, UNCDF, UN-Habitat, UNFPA, WFP, UNHCR, UNIDO, FAO, UNICEF, UNSOM, UNODC, UNOPS

Through its emphasis on using national systems for transferring funds under the National Window of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund and strengthening national ownership, the PBF projects have shown that these systems work and that administrations at the local level have the capacity to manage funds directly – something which is becoming increasingly important in light of Somalia's progress toward debt relief and the potential of budget support from international partners. Furthermore, the PBF has supported the development and implementation of the National Stabilisation Strategy and the state-level stabilisation plans, against which the international community has committed to align its funding and recognised that the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation together with the UN shall coordinate stabilisation efforts in Somalia.

As a funding modality, the PBF promotes joint programming and close cooperation between the UN, government authorities and civil society, which is illustrated by the active portfolio. With PBF support, the UN has spearheaded efforts to address protracted challenges in Somalia that cut across traditional development, humanitarian, or peacebuilding approaches in line with the principles of the New Way of Working and Delivering As One.

Overall guidance and oversight for the PBF portfolio in Somalia is provided by a senior-level coordination committee co-chaired by the Minister of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia, with members representing implementing UN agencies, federal line ministries, the Federal Member States, and civil society.

### LOOKING FORWARD

Somalia is making strides on its peacebuilding and State-building agenda. While the country continues to face challenges to the positive trajectory, they are often resolved through political dialogue — a sign of the growing political maturity and integrity of Somalia's institutions. The Federal Government of Somalia has embarked on an ambitious agenda centred on security, economic recovery, and constitutional and electoral reform. Recent development in the Horn of Africa region presents an opportunity to promote peace and development within and between border communities. Despite the progress, Somalia is entering a volatile period. Its federal structure

is complete but remains fragile in view of the ongoing constitutional review process and the upcoming general election in 2020/21. Concerted efforts are required to foster reconciliation and dialogue both internally within the newly formed member states, and between the federal member states and the federal government, to further deepen federalism in Somalia.

A new generation of PBF-funded projects was approved in 2018 and will continue to support Somalia's efforts to consolidate and further advance the peacebuilding and State-building gains made over the past decade. With the expiry of the current Peacebuilding Priority Plan at the end of 2019, Somalia will undergo an eligibility assessment for continued PBF funding and submit a formal request to the Secretary-General. The UN in Somalia, through the PBF Secretariat, will work closely with the Federal Government of Somalia to support this process. Somalia remains a country at the forefront of innovative peacebuilding approaches and the opportunities are plenty for further growing the PBF's investments and partnerships in the country, including increasing the support to civil society actors active in the field of peacebuilding.



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