



UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund

QUARTERLY UPDATE

February 2017

From the UN Somalia: UNICEF



Dear colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the fourth instalment of the quarterly UN MPTF Newsletter.

The support that UNICEF has received through the MPTF has contributed to strengthening the rights of, and services to, the most vulnerable, notably women and children, through a range of activities

in the Joint Programme on Rule of Law (RoL) and the Joint Programme on Local Governance and Decentralised Service Delivery (JPLG).

Within the RoL Programme, UNICEF has worked closely with federal government and federal member states (FMS) in the development of legal and policy frameworks. Through such support and significant capacity building of legal service providers, Rule of Law has made steadfast progress across the country, for example with the introduction of the Juvenile Justice Law in Puntland and the Alternative Care Policy in Somaliland. On the community side, UNICEF has continued to foster access to justice for women and children and to build the capacity of civil society, who have been strong advocates and partners in providing legal support, fighting social stigma and reporting instances of gender-based violence.

To increase community members' access to education, health and water services, and to increase accountability of local authorities towards their citizens, UNICEF's participation in the JPLG has focused on civic education, participatory planning, decentralised service delivery and social accountability efforts. Under the theme 'Voice and Accountability', UNICEF has supported the development of locally-owned civic education strategies and toolkits, and public sensitization and dialogue campaigns. As a result, 200,000 community members and 10,000 school children now have an improved understanding of, and are increasingly participating in, local governance processes, while over 250 government officials are now more apt to engage community members, women and youth in particular, in local decision-making.

Through bottom-up consultation processes, UNICEF has enabled communities in Puntland and Somaliland to engage in drafting District Annual Work Plans. The service delivery model, a mechanism through which local authorities are empowered to take ownership of their service delivery functions, has led target districts in Somaliland to increase their education budgets by 70%. Such initiatives allow communities and local authorities to jointly plan and monitor service provision at local level.

UNICEF is aiming to replicate these participatory approaches in the (new) FMS by supporting the formation of new district councils and equipping them with the skills and tools to engage constructively with community members. I look forward to continuing UNICEF's engagement in the MPTF and with partners to enhance our collective commitment towards accountability for citizens through the provision of quality and accessible social services to all Somalis.

– Steven Lauwerier, Representative UNICEF Somalia



UN MPTF Secretariat Update

- The MPTF Secretariat welcomes Sweden as the first donor to the UN MPTF Somalia to contribute funds to the National Window .
- The MPTF Secretariat initiated the development of a multi-year MPTF strategy with the key objective to strengthen the MPTF's added value and effectiveness.
- Indicators on Human Rights and Protection are being developed in coordination with OHCHR/UNSOM Human Rights Office and UN agencies.
- The MPTF Annual Report for 2016 was issued on 28 February, with a fully upgraded layout based on donor feedback



Fund Capitalisation

Multi-year Pledges
USD 188.2 million

Paid-in Contributions
USD 153.8 million



Denmark: **USD 19.2 million**



European Union: **USD 43.4 million**



Germany: **USD 8.3 million**



Italy: **USD 4.9 million**



Norway: **USD 10 million**



Sweden: **USD 28.2 million**



Switzerland: **USD 9.4 million**



United Kingdom: **USD 32.4 million**



USAID: **USD 0.5 million**



UN Peacebuilding Fund: **USD 28.1 million**

Highlights from the Joint Programmes



PSG1 Inclusive Politics

SUPPORT TO EMERGING FEDERAL STATES (StEFS)

The Joint Programme on Support to Emerging Federal States (StEFS) focused its activities on building the capacity of the Boundaries and Federalism Commission (BFC), the Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs, and the Office of the Prime Minister. The BFC was equipped with a Geographic Information System and Global Positioning System, combined with trainings to staff members on strategic planning, data collection for boundary demarcation and reporting techniques.

Civil society organisations were engaged in civic participation and were involved in drafting strategic plans for the South West, Jubbaland and Galmudug Administrations and facilitated civic dialogue on best practices in peacebuilding and conflict sensitive approaches. Through the Joint Programme, civil society has been enabled to play a stronger role in strategic planning, state formation and state development.

The Joint Programme furthermore initiated the establishment of Public Accountability Forums to bring newly formed states closer to their citizens and thereby enhance their legitimacy and the level of trust with citizens. The first Forum was launched in Jubbaland in late October 2016 and will soon be replicated in other Federal Member States.

Finally, the Joint Programme streamed numerous public gatherings and events via TV, radio and social media and informed the Somali population about the ongoing state formation process and the meaning of federalization. In line with increased efforts for civic education, in particular on federalism, initiatives to increase awareness and inform the public will be further explored in 2017.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

With support from the Joint Programme, four key bills were passed by the Puntland House of Representatives with support from the Joint Programme: A quality control law, Fishery Service Fees law, the NGO law and the Sexual Offenses Law – which is expected to strengthen the rights of women and children and decrease Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

In Somaliland, the House of Elders (Guurti) developed its first-of-a-kind Strategic Plan for 2016-2021 through a participatory and consultative process. The Plan is an important step towards the institutionalization of the Upper Chamber of the Somaliland Parliament.

A public perception survey that was conducted to measure how the Somaliland public perceives their elected members of the House of Representatives will be published in the first quarter of 2017 and will contribute to the communication and outreach strategy for 2017-2020 and to strengthening accountability of the House. Complementary to this reflective exercise, a workshop on public outreach and engagement was held for both houses of Parliament. "I now understand the complementary roles of civil society organizations and the parliament. When I go back to my office, I would like to start working with them for better engagement with the public" concluded Mohamed Ahmed from Sool regional office.

The Joint Programme's support to The Young Graduate Program of the

Federal Parliament has proven to be a flagship programme in developing and safe-guarding human capacity in the institution by supporting sustainable skills transfer. Currently, opportunities of replicating this programme are being explored for other parliaments.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT

The Joint Programme's capacity was fully dedicated to concluding the electoral process, with support ranging from civic education and outreach activities to raise awareness and inform the public about the electoral system and process, direct logistical and technical support at the local voting stations, and advocacy support to women and youth who aspired to sign up as candidates.

The uniquely created electoral management structure with nine temporary electoral bodies (one FIEIT, seven SIEITs and one IEDRM team) required significant financial management support by the JP through overall 2016 elections budget, procedural and procurement/logistical assistance, budget planning support, and payment of vendors for the necessary goods and services to execute their mandate.

In support of the aspired 30% women quota in Parliament, the establishment of a Committee of Goodwill Ambassadors was a good demonstration of the will of the federal government and the National Leadership Forum to support women's enhanced political representation. With the 25% female MPs, a glass-ceiling has been broken and a new reality has been created for strengthening Somali women's role in decision-making and leadership. This will hopefully inspire many more women, particularly young women, to join politics and usher in a path to even greater representation and participation in the future 'one person, one vote' elections and beyond.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT

The Joint Programme on Women's Leadership and Empowerment played a crucial role in enhancing women's representation in the electoral process and contribute to reaching 25% of female MPs in the new Somali Parliament. Through debates, symposiums and consultations with over 300 elders from Mogadishu, South-West State, Jubbaland and Galmudug, the Joint Programme urged elders and other stakeholders to adhere to the National Leadership Forum's decision on women's quota and to raise awareness about the importance of the inclusion of women in politics.

In collaboration with media, through TV debates, podcasts and radio shows, the Joint Programme sensitised the public on women's political representation and established a 'situation room' to coordinate and monitor the electoral process, with hotlines available to record incidents from women, civil society organisations and ministries and to offer advice and support to women candidates.

To capture learning from the electoral process, including instances of misuse of women's quota to further advance political power by men, a research project was commissioned that takes a critical look at how the quota was applied in the elections. The paper is expected to inform effective ways to support women's political representation in the lead up to the 2020 elections and is due to be released in the coming weeks.



RULE OF LAW & POLICE STIPENDS

While sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) remains a serious concern, Amira Abokor, a Police Women based at Abdiaziz Police Station in Mogadishu, says she is now in a better position to help Somali Women and Children, who are often victims of SGBV, after she had benefited from a training organized by the Joint Programme and Somali National Police Force on Investigating and Preventing Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

Preparations for legal training courses were finalised with the support of curriculum development experts. The courses, which will be held at the University of Mogadishu, will train 100 judicial personnel and 30 support staff.

By the end of 2016, the Joint Programme has enabled the resolution of 3,332 cases by Community Dispute Resolution Houses in Puntland. Alternative Dispute Resolution has provided essential justice services to Somalis and increasingly Somali women, who brought over a third of the cases forward. These services have proven to be less formal, inexpensive and quicker, and thus available to a much wider segment of society.

In Somaliland, judges and prosecutors were trained on the criminal trials process and sentencing guidelines. A total of 55 Somaliland Judges and prosecutors were trained and 15 identified volunteers will support mentoring of newly recruited judges and prosecutors on the process of criminal trials, thanks to the capacity they gained during the training.



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The Capacity Development Joint Programme supported Puntland's Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in drafting its three-year Development Plan, which is aligned with the Somalia National Development Plan. The Plan constitutes a revised version of Puntland's previous Development Plan launched in 2014, incorporating outcomes and lessons learned of the past years.

In line with the UN's stronger focus on good governance, the Joint Programme supported the Puntland Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Bureau to hold consultation meetings with government institutions and civil society groups to raise awareness on good governance and the role citizens can play in building strong government institutions. "With the support from UNDP, we are able to focus on key issues related to introduction of government policies, which are important for good governance, through capacity building for the staff of the Bureau to effectively fulfil their functions." – Abdirahman Ali Gureye, Director General of Puntland Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Bureau.

"The successful conduct of general elections will constitute a big step forward in the peace process and progress of Somalia towards the attainment of normalcy, development and stability," noted Assistant Commissioner of Police Francis Ayitey Aryee. In support of the Electoral Process, the Joint Programme co-trained a first batch of police officers from various police stations in the Banadir region. Among the topics officers were taken through is the importance of elections and election security, voting systems, electoral justice, election security targets, threat assessment, security measures to counter identified threats and the causes and prevention of electoral violence.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON LOCAL GOVERNANCE (JPLG)

"JPLG is the most successful programme that contributes to local development and conflict resolution/peacebuilding" – said Vice President of Puntland during a joint JPLG-government/district administrations meeting on implementation of local governance initiatives, and urged to "sustain the success by expanding the programme, creating stronger local ownership and increasing access to services, public infrastructure and empowerment of the communities."

The participants of the meeting presented the impact the JPLG programme made in policies implementation, municipal finance, human resource management, public services delivery and increasing the role of women in governance. They called for better coordination among the different actors, institutionalizing the processes and tools as well as expansion of the programme.

The JPLG furthermore supported the adoption of the Fiscal Decentralisation Strategy in Somaliland and Puntland, which includes a set of policies that increase revenues and/or fiscal autonomy of local governments. This directly contributes to strengthening national systems and enables local governments to realistically plan regional investment and development.



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SOMALIA (YES)

The Joint Programme kicked off its 'Shaqeyso' training programme with a 3-month training course for 180 trainees (173 graduates), out of which 91 were young women (88 graduates). The trainees were a mixed group of marginalised young people, with 53 IDPs and 120 young people without any formal education.

The female trainees of the Shaqeyso programme are being taught in classes jointly with their male counterparts and have been passionate about skills on the production of cement floor tiles.

In October, over 890 youth participated together with government and UN leadership in 'The City Youth Need' campaign in Mogadishu and Kismayo. The campaign provided a platform for the young participants to discuss political, economic and social inclusion of youth, and in particular the youth's role in the Somali National Development Plan.

Finally, all YES JP activities were reviewed with focus on increased need for women inclusion. The new workplan and revised M&E framework now put special emphasis on measuring success and impact on women economic empowerment in Somalia.

In line with increasing the role of women and youth in governance, the JPLG has focused its efforts to strengthen accountability in local service delivery on restructuring community committees, which now have a greater representation of women and youth. This has also contributed to an increased understanding among committee members of their roles and responsibilities towards providing space and encouraging empowerment to marginalised parts of the society.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON ENABLERS

In recent months the Risk Management Unit (RMU) was fully mobilised to support the Electoral process by screening all candidates, delegates, and other entities against UN Sanctions Lists and related lists. Over 12,500 entities were screened in total, which allowed the UN to ensure no payments would be made to individuals or organizations who appear on any UN Sanctions list in the world. The use of RMU and its systems was the first of its kind for the UN – a lessons learned exercise will be conducted in February, which could inform similar efforts in other countries.

Through the Joint Programme, UN Women is initiating the design of a new initiative on Human Rights, Women and Security. The initiative will include links to the Comprehensive Approach to Security and will be informed by a second stage of research on women's access to justice and security, which was undertaken in the last quarter. The research's outcomes should also feed into background material for the London Meeting in 2017.

The Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) coordinated the UN Strategic Assessment Exercise, as mandated by the UN Security Council, which will inform UN strategies, operations and posture in the next four years, and will result in a new UN Strategic Framework for Somalia later this year.

A new strategic initiative to increase support to People with Disabilities was launched, with initial consultations across Somalia highlighting the relevance of the issue, and the need for the UN to spearhead a mul-

ti-stakeholder effort at policy, advocacy, legal and programming levels.

The RCO continued to coordinate a comprehensive socio-economic integration response to the need to support IDPs, returnees, host communities and host authorities. By the end of 2016, joint analyses and action plans had been finalized for Jubaland and similar efforts were underway for SW and Benadir.

Finally, the RCO also continued to perform its MPTF Secretariat functions, with the release of the MPTF Annual Report for 2016, the Newsletter, and the initiation of the development of a multi-year MPTF strategy.



National Window

PILOT PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY

Through consultative sessions in Bandiiradley and Galkacyo with representatives of youth, women groups, elders, minority groups, business community and local administration, the Pilot Project identified community development priorities and the communities decided on two sub-projects in each district: construction of district offices with annexed district courthouse and installation of streetlights for Bandiiradley, and the construction of the Mayors' office and installation of street lights in Galkacyo. The assessment, design and implementation of the projects will start in 2017, with the aim to contribute to local peacebuilding and in line with do no harm principles.

The capacity building of the Project Implementation Unit was highly prioritized in this first phase of the Pilot Project. In that regard, the undertaken internal capacity assessment exercise has continued to inform concrete capacity development needs and will be used to guide trainings and workshops in 2017.

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