



SOMALIA

Newsletter - Q1 2018

MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

Dear Partners,



It is my pleasure to introduce first quarterly newsletter of 2018 on behalf of the newest UN Agency to participate in the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN MPTF) for Somalia.

We at UNFPA are proud to be spearheading an innovative approach to Agency funding through the UN MPTF. Three major donors, Sweden, Finland and Italy, have pledged to co-finance a substantial portion of the UNFPA Country Programme through the Fund. This will represent the inclusion of Finland for the first time as a contributor to the UN MPTF, in addition to UNFPA as a participating UN organization.

With a total budget of USD 44.7m, of which USD 39.4m is being funded through the UN MPTF, the UNFPA Country Programme 2018-2020 seeks to improve the quality of life of the Somali people. With an overall vision of improving maternal and neonatal health in a country where maternal mortality is among the highest in the world, our Country Programme will focus on integrating development and humanitarian interventions, and building individual, community, institutional, as well as system resilience, while maintaining a contingency fund and emergency response capacities to respond to humanitarian crises.

We see the channelling of our Country Programme through the Somali Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) as an expression of our commitment to ensure Somali ownership and leadership in our efforts to improve the quality of life of Somali people, especially women and girls. This will also promote transparency in decision making under the government-led aid architecture. By funding most of our Country Programme through the UN MPTF, we believe that overall coherence will be improved, and transaction costs reduced, not only for UNFPA, but also for our Government and donor partners.

I would once again like to express my sincere gratitude to our donor partners for their generous support for the UNFPA Country Programme and we look forward to reporting to you on our contribution to Somalia's development, particularly for the most vulnerable women and girls.

Nikolai Botev

UNFPA Representative for Somalia

UN MPTF OVERVIEW

- 17** Joint Programmes
- 12** Donor Partners
- \$227m** Commitments
- \$217m** Deposits

FUND CAPITALIZATION

-  Denmark: USD 20.3 m
-  European Union: USD 57.5 m
-  Germany: USD 12.2
-  Italy: USD 7.5 m
-  Netherlands: USD 2.4 m
-  Norway: USD 13.7 m
-  Government of Somalia: USD 3.3 m
-  Sweden: USD 35 m
-  Switzerland: USD 9.5 m
-  United Kingdom: USD 36.6 m
-  USAID: USD 0.5 m
-  UN Peacebuilding Fund: USD 28.1 m





SUPPORT TO EMERGING FEDERAL STATES

One of the most important processes in Somalia is the institutionalization of federalism as part of the state-building process. Towards this goal, the StEFS project is playing an instrumental role in building political cohesion and synergies (in areas of reconciliation and federalism) and core public sector capacities. Progress has been made in establishing an Inter-Governmental Relations Forum, aimed at developing a Federalization Legal Framework, detailing cohesive policies that govern relations between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Federal Member States (FMS), such as power and resource sharing, devolution of administrative roles, and demarcation/delimitation of boundaries and territories.

StEFS's supported the first round of meetings of the 'Federalization Negotiation Technical Working Group (FNTWG)', held in Nairobi in March. As state building is a continuous process of negotiation and conflict resolution, the project is supporting the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) with the establishment of the National Reconciliation Commission/Forum to prepare and implement the National Reconciliation Framework of Somalia. Technical capacities (i.e. human resources and GIS lab) of the Boundaries and Federation Commission (BFC) continued to be strengthened, paving the way for development of legislation, demarcation of administrative boundaries between districts, regions and states, and establishment of sub-offices in each state. Consultancy support is being provided to FMSs to finalize Strategic Development Plans (SDPs), organizational structures and Administrative Regulatory Frameworks for ministerial departments and subsidiary bodies.

Technical competencies (in areas of core functional skills, conflict management, and federalism processes) of Somali civil servants have also been enhanced through a peer-to-peer knowledge exchange visit to Puntland, and in-service training workshops. StEFS also promoted civic engagement in government processes through 'Community-Government Dialogue' and 'Public Accountability Forum' meetings, promoting a culture of public consultations, thereby making government policies more participatory and inclusive.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

In March, the FGS Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA) conducted the fourth MoCA Forum in Baidoa. The Forum brought together the FGS MoCA, FMS (Puntland, Jubaland, South West, Galmudug and HirShabelle) and Banadir Regional Administration (BRA). The Fourth Forum took place at a time that MoCA is preparing the National Constitutional Convention, where a unified vision and understanding regarding review of the constitution is required between the FGS and FMS MoCAs. During the Forum, work plans of the Ministries of FMSs and BRA, implementation plans of Civic Education and Public Outreach, preparation of National Convention, and potential solutions on the Constitutional Review Road Map were discussed.

In February, FGS MoCA, the Parliamentary Oversight Committee (OC) and the Independent Constitutional Review and Im-

plementation Commission (ICRIC) visited Garrowe, Puntland. The purpose of the visit was to ensure active participation of various stakeholders and create a united vision on the constitution review process and agree on the need for political dialogue on outstanding disputes. A joint mission of the three National Constitutional Bodies (MoCA, OC, and ICRIC) visited HirShabelle State which met with deputy president of HirShabelle, speaker of parliament, permanent parliamentary and constitutional committees, the cabinet of the HirShabelle and representatives of civil society. The mission updated stakeholders on the Constitutional Review Process, the tripartite agreement and MOU between MoCA, OC & ICRIC, and the work plan for the constitutional review process.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

The Parliamentary Support project supported a five-day exchange visit of the Somali House of Representative (HoR) and officials to Abuja, Nigeria in January. The Somali delegation included the Speaker of Puntland Parliament and two MPs. The objectives of the exchange were to 1) provide the HoR with an insight to the working of Nigerian National Assembly and its committees; 2) study Parliament's financial and budget systems; and 3) inform the delegation on how MPs discharge their functions and manage constituency offices of the parliament.

In support of the visit, the Nigerian Government organized a weeklong training workshop at National Institute for Legislative Studies of the National Assembly of Nigeria. The workshop deepened the delegation's knowledge on parliamentary standing committees, issues pertaining to the legislative practice and procedures, structure, management and administrations of the National Assembly, Budget Enactment and Budget Reform, as well as legislative formulation processes. The delegation also visited National Secretariat of Nigerian Legislatures and undertook a visit to the Speaker House of Representative to discussed challenges confronting parliaments in African states.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT

From late December 2017 until March 2018, the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) held consultations with national and sub-national stakeholders. During this period, the NIEC conducted regional consultations in 31 different locations across Somalia and abroad, reaching out to approximately 6,000 people, including officials, elders, political parties, religious leaders, women and youth groups, and CSOs.

The NIEC consultations were widely covered on social media as well as on radio and television. Visits were undertaken to Puntland, Galmadug, HirShabelle, South-West, Jubaland, Benadir and the Somaliland community in Mogadishu. The NIEC concluded its consultations in March with engagements with Somali diaspora communities in the US, Canada, Europe and Kenya. These engagements were part of the 90-day regional consultations undertaken by the NIEC to facilitate discussions on preparations and challenges for the 2020 universal elections, as instructed by the National Security Council (NSC) in November 2017. The NIEC will brief the NSC on its consultations and findings at an upcoming meeting.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT

During the first quarter of 2018, the Joint Programme supported four delegates (including government officials and CSOs) to attend the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the UN in New York. The delegates were led by the Minister of Women and Human Rights Development (MoWHRD). As a result of Programme support, Ministry officials were able to effectively participate in various panel discussions including: High-level side event on the lessons learned from the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda; Ministerial Round Table on 'Good practices in the empowerment of rural women and girls, including through prevention of gender-based violence and through access to justice, social services and health care; and Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in fragile and conflict affected situations.'

As a result of the Programme's support, Somalia was able to advance its agenda through a dedicated paragraph for conflict affected areas in the 'Agreed Conclusions' of the Commission. Supported delegates stressed the importance of tackling other mainstream issues for rural women such as climate change and the need for accurate disaggregated data on rural women.



RULE OF LAW / SECURITY / JUSTICE

RULE OF LAW

Galkayo is the capital of the Mudug region in Somalia and is one of the most diverse towns in terms of clan composition. It is politically divided into two zones: The North being administered by Puntland, and the South by Galmudug State. In December 2017, the Galkayo Peace Agreement was reached, which enabled the establishment of a Joint Police Patrol Unit (JPPU), currently comprising 200 police officers from both States. Building on this agreement, the Joint Programme on the Rule of Law provided a police training programme and supported two workshops on Community Policing for youth and traditional elders from both communities. The training and workshops were supported by the authorities from both States representing a significant breakthrough in ensuring peace, stability and security in the area.

Fifty police officers from the JPPU participated in a ten-day training on Somali law, criminal justice system, human rights, crime investigation (including on SGBV) and community policing principles, to increase their ability to act as a peace building force in Galkayo and surrounding areas. The training was provided by Mobile Training Teams (MTT) of the Somali Police Force and supported by both the Puntland and Galmudug Ministries of Security. The MTTs were established by the Federal and Puntland Ministries of (Internal) Security in 2017 with support from the Programme.

In addition, the Programme facilitated a five-day community policing seminar with the Galkayo Joint Police Committee, local authorities, community elders, women and young people from both North and South Galkayo town. This resulted in the establishment of two community policing com-

mittees. Furthermore, 30 youth volunteers who had been trained in community policing in 2017 continue to work with the JPPU and the policing committees to further strengthen community involvement in improving security in the area.



EFFECTIVE & EFFICIENT INSTITUTIONS

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

After three years of working on the redrafting of the near obsolete Civil Service Law #11, the FGS Cabinet finally approved its procession to the Lower House of Assembly for debate. The drafting process involved consultations with other FMSs, different stakeholders, labor and civil society groups across Somalia. The finalization of Law #11 is a major step in the implementation of civil service reform, setting standards and appropriate expectations on what civil service management is to achieve and how the management arrangements are to be further developed. It is expected that the Law will be assented to in the second quarter of 2018.

The Programme organized and supported the Puntland Civil Service Commission to travel to Kigali, Rwanda for a three-day working visit to the Rwanda Public Service Commission in March. The meetings were chaired by Rwanda Public Service Commission's CEO, Mrs. Angeline Muganza, and facilitated by Mr. Olivier Kanamugire, their Human Resources Director. The exchanges focused on legal frameworks for the smooth running of public service commissions, how to improve gender mainstreaming in the public service, the use of technology and innovations in the management of the civil service, as well as other related topics.

The Capacity Development Programme continued to support the Aid Coordination Unit (ACU) and the Ministry of Planning Investments and Development (MoPIED) with aid management and coordination for the Drought Impact and Needs Assessment (DINA) and Recovery and Resilience Framework (RRF) processes. In January, MOPIED and the ACU conducted and led six validation and consensus building consultations on the findings of DINA within FGS line ministries and sectors affected by the drought, Banadir Regional Administration (BRA) and Puntland, Southwest, HirShabelle, Galmudug and Jubaland States.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON LOCAL GOVERNANCE

In 2014, JPLG led efforts to pilot decentralized service delivery, in line with the Somaliland decentralization policy and roadmap. The pilots, known as Service Delivery Models (SDMs), have supported districts to perform their devolved service delivery functions in the areas of education, health and water (UNICEF), natural resource management and roads (ILO), and solid and biomedical waste management (UN Habitat), in coordination with sector ministries.

In April, the Somaliland Ministry of Interior brought together representatives from key sector ministries and district authorities to review their experience of implementing decentralized service delivery over the past four years. They were able to

share their perspectives on the successes and challenges of the SDMs and formulate recommendations for extending and sustaining district-led service delivery in the future. Berbera, Boroma, Burao and Gebiley districts have invested close to USD 1.1 million from local sources towards the SDMs since 2014. In 2017, 56% of the total SDM budget came from domestic sources (local revenues and contributions from sector ministries). In Berbera district alone, enrolment in public schools increased by 32% between 2014 and 2017, while girls' enrolment increased by 36% over the same period, following district investments in the rehabilitation, maintenance, payment of utilities and security costs, and teacher top-ups in these schools.

A number of challenges remain in sustaining decentralized service delivery, including the need for greater investment in districts' human resource capacity, more predictable inter-governmental transfers and greater investment from central government, implementing partners and donors in districts' service delivery role. As JPLG enters its third phase of programming, it will prioritize support for the implementation of sector decentralization strategies developed in 2017, in line with the Somaliland government's local governance expansion strategy. The Ministries of Education and Health have also pledged a total of USD 340,000 towards district-led service delivery in 2018. This represents a significant increase in their contributions from previous years and reflects their growing trust and support for localized service delivery in Somaliland.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON ENABLERS

The 2017 Drought Impact Needs Assessment (DINA) led by the Federal and State Governments of Somalia, identified the drivers and impact of recurrent drought and outlined long-term solutions that can prevent famine as a result of drought. The findings of the DINA form the basis of the Recovery and Resilience Framework (RRF). This RRF is the implementation component of the National Development Plan (NDP), aimed at preventing future humanitarian crises through investment in long-term recovery and resilience solutions. By aligning with NDP, the RRF will help to ensure that available resources are being used effectively to address needs in both the short- and medium-term. The Prime Minister of Somalia launched the guiding principles and roadmap for developing the comprehensive package of activities under RRF on 30 January. Throughout the first quarter of the year, the RCO, along with UN, World Bank, EU and Somali Government partners, continued to play a key role in the development and operationalization of the RRF.

The Joint Risk Management Strategy for SDRF Funds has been revised with contributions from the three fund administrators - the UN, World Bank and African Development Bank. This revision was based on lessons learned from the implementation of the Strategy with the aim of better contributing to the risk informed decision making. The current version reflects adjustments of the risk analysis approach from regular updates, to a two-pronged approach: deep dive risk analysis of the substantive topics with broader participation of technical experts from partners, and a lighter touch version of the risk updates. The Trust Fund administrators have also identified substantive topics for in-depth analysis in 2018, including on Gender Based Viol-

ence risks which will bring together expertise from donors, UN and the World Bank to commission analysis, identify gaps and recommend follow-up action.

To enable UN agencies and staff to safely operate and provide much needed assistance, UNDSS continued to provide its Medical Emergency Response Teams (MERT) in Garowe, Hargeisa, Galkayo, Bossaso and Dollow.



ECONOMIC GROWTH

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN SOMALIA

The Joint Programme on Youth Employment welcomed the recruitment of a new Programme Manager to coordinate the various technical assistance components that anchor YES programming in the country. One of the first initiatives to be addressed was to finalize and endorse the independent Mid-Term Evaluation for the programme and take stock of its various recommendations to strengthen programme logic and implementation rates in the field.

Through the work of the Programme Coordination unit as well as the Technical Working Group, YES interventions focused on refining the value chain methodology and being more aggressive in the delivery of youth inclusive job creation platforms.

This re-commitment to supporting value chain upgrading in the renewable energy, construction, and fisheries sectors brought together YES agencies to target various value chain segments that exhibit high youth employment creation potential. For agencies like UNIDO and UN HABITAT, this meant implementing construction and trade related skills training sessions in a number of inter-related construction trades. Trainings were oriented towards building the capacity of a One Stop Shop, the rehabilitation of a Ministry of Agriculture office structure in Kismaayo, as well as enhancing security and infrastructure/facilities in the Baidoa Central Prison through the training of detained youth.

In the renewable energy sector, UNDP and ILO worked to help to grow the renewable energy market as well as expanding solar technologies and installation services in Mogadishu, Baidoa, and Berbera. ILO's partnership with Somalia Working showed a strong private sector focus in providing potential solutions for youth unemployment in the sector. In the Fisheries value chain, UNDP and FAO engagement demonstrated the benefits of collaboration along a value chain. Technical assistance in the sector was strengthened with the acquisition of land and the roll out of training delivery in Puntland and Jubaland.

SUSTAINABLE CHARCOAL REDUCTION

Under the Joint Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods, 600 Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), 300 fuel efficient cooking stoves, and 2 tons of Biomass Briquettes were procured. The items will be handed over to the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Manage-

ment (MoHADM) and the Ministry of Livestock, Forest, and Range (MoLFR) to distribute to the most vulnerable IDPs in Mogadishu, host communities and women retailers. Biomass briquettes made of organic materials, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders and fuel-efficient cooking stoves, along with development of alternative livelihoods and other alternative energy solutions, can help reduce the production and use of charcoal in Somalia.

Preparatory activities for hosting the Charcoal Conference in Mogadishu were finalized. The Conference is planned to take place on the 7th -8th May 2018 in Mogadishu and will be attended by experts from the FGS, National Universities, Private Sectors, Somali Diaspora, Gulf States, Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, UN Agencies, INGOs, and Development partners. The expected outcome of the conference is to have an agreed roadmap for the ban of Charcoal trade in Somalia.

Finally, the Peer review for the Draft National and Regional Policy for Charcoal Reduction was finalized by the FGS. Developed with Programme support, the Policy streamlines strategies and frameworks to minimize domestic use of charcoal and regional trade and outlines effective monitoring and enforcement of the charcoal trade ban.



RESILIENCE

REFUGEE RETURN & REINTEGRATION

Mohamed Nur Issack has seen some real changes since the feeder road leading to Ramadan camp for IDPs was rehabilitated.

“This project has not only supported our livelihoods but eased our accessibility problems. Initially the road conditions in the camps were extremely bad, rocks protruding, very rough and muddy during the rainy season. Most residents used Tuk-Tuks as a means of transport within the camp. Tuk-Tuk owners spent most of their income on repairing their vehicles due to the condition of the road.” Says Mohamed.

Mohamed understands the situation all too well. He is the chairman of Ramadan IDP camp located in Baidoa in South West State. Before settling here, the father of ten and his family lived in Dadaab Refugee camp in Kenya. In 2017, he was among the many refugees that voluntarily requested to be repatriated back to their homes in Somalia. As part of the return package, UNHCR gave him money to ease his reintegration which he used to buy one Tuk-Tuk.

“Vehicles couldn’t enter inside the camp because of the road conditions. Residents were forced to carry women in labour, sick people and luggage on their backs up to the main road where they could access transportation” Mohamed recalls. Critical services, such as ambulances, can now easily reach the camp in case of any emergency. In addition, medical and nutrition supplies and water tankers can easily access sites without getting stuck, even during the rainy seasons.

The community also contributed to the project by donating materials such as the stones used to renovate the road. “We came together and agreed to contribute some money which we have used to buy materials. We are proud that we are the owners of this project as a community” concludes Mohamed.



NATIONAL WINDOW

PILOT PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY

The idea of involving local communities and FMSs in the prioritization and implementation of projects is not only to put into effect projects with highest impact on the population, but also to provide the community with a sense of responsibility and ownership.

This sense of ownership is being felt in Bandiradlay (Galmudug State) where community members are volunteering in the construction of the District Administration Office and Courthouse. This has contributed in the completion of the project ahead of schedule. These Projects have made a significant contribution to the local community by providing employment to around 125 people over the past nine months. Osman Ali, a resident of Bandiradley, was employed to work at the site from outset until the completion of construction. “This project does not only provide a source of income, but functions as a positive youth engagement tool in preventing dangerous migration to Europe, US and other countries”.

Baruud, a mother of eleven who fled southern Somalia and is now resident of an IDP camp in North Galkayo, makes a living from selling prepared meals to project site workers. In addition, her four children and husband work at the site. “The earnings we make here cover for our daily expenses, school fees and bills”, said Baruud.



PEACEBUILDING FUND

MIDNIMO

In the first quarter of 2018, the Midnimo project saw the successful expansion into Doolow district (Jubbaland), Xudur district (South West) and Balcad district (HirShabelle). As a result of the expansion, Midnimo has facilitated stronger relationships between government and citizens through the establishment of community-based dialogue platforms. The project has also supported participatory processes aimed at identifying priorities and plans to address the basic needs of IDPs, refugee returnees, and host communities in target districts. In Doolow and Xudur districts, this effort resulted in new community action plans to guide future support to the communities. In Kismayo and Baidoa, Midnimo enabled improved access to social services through upgrading of essential infrastructure that had been prioritised through a community-driven process. The improved access to social services in the two districts has increased the absorptive capacity of

communities that host a significant number of IDPs and returnees, with reduced tensions as a result.

Furthermore, Midnimo provided short-term employment opportunities to 120 vulnerable youth, women and men to work on the community-identified projects on a cash-for-work basis, concurrently enhancing their skills and access to income, and promoting peaceful coexistence. In South West State, training and consultations were held to address tensions around land, a key driver of conflict in Somalia.

DALDHIS

In the first quarter of the year, 200 youth (48% women) at-risk in Kismayo (Jubaland) and Baidoa (South-West State) undertook a 3-month psycho-social rehabilitation

and training course which included mentoring, counselling and civic education. Those who completed the course have now been enrolled in a 4-month market-oriented vocational/life-skills training and job placement initiatives. The selected trainings undertaken by the youth include masonry, catering, fishing, beauty salon, entrepreneurship, tailoring, auto-mechanic and driving, mobile and electronic repairs, and electrical installation. The youth will complete their training courses in June 2018, and many will be assigned to jobs in their respective areas of interest.

In addition, 121 youth have been trained in eleven different technical courses in Baidoa and Kismayo to date. Focus in Q1 has been on investing in strengthening training infrastructure, technical capacity and matching training with market needs in four training centers in Baidoa.

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