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Dear Partners,

I am delighted to share the 2019 annual report of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN MPTF). It is the first annual report since my return to Somalia in August 2019 as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator.

Globally, the Somalia UN MPTF is recognised as a flagship mechanism for collective and coordinated programmatic action in fragile and complex country settings. Locally, support is apparent through the continued and growing donor commitment to the Fund and its Joint Programmes. The Somali leadership role in the UN MPTF’s Joint Programmes is evident through the Government’s status in the Somali Development and Reconstruction Facility. The UN MPTF has also had a profound and positive impact on the integration of the UN system in the country, and I am confident it will continue to do so as we enter the next phase of cooperation in Somalia.

The recently endorsed National Development Plan 9 (NDP9) and the key priorities and benchmarks of the Mutual Accountability Framework, as agreed by the Federal Government of Somalia and the international community at the Somalia Partnership Forum in October 2019 has provided us a clear framework through which to align our collective work. The UN’s new Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025) will replace the current UN Strategic Framework (2017-2020) and set out UN’s response to the priorities of the Somali Government and people as outlined in the NDP9.

Going forward, the UN is committed to implementing durable solutions to Somalia’s multi-dimensional and protracted humanitarian, development and peace-building challenges and delivering more effectively across the nexus. Somalia continues to face acute humanitarian vulnerabilities, a fact exemplified by the increase in the numbers of people in need from 4.2 million in 2019 to 5.2 million in 2020. Shifting from an annual humanitarian response to a long-term developmental trajectory necessitates a reinvigorated, multi-dimensional, collective and coordinated response from the international community, including the UN system, in Somalia. Multilateral funding instruments under government oversight, such as the UN MPTF, will play a central role as a driver of such joint action.

The UN will focus on the commitment under Agenda 2030 to “leave no-one behind” and strengthen efforts to address root causes of vulnerability, particularly of the most marginalised segments of society in Somalia’s development journey. We will undertake a systematic examination of our resilience-oriented portfolio of Joint Programmes under the UN MPTF and strengthen programming in this field. Joint Programming and pooled funding mechanisms must be our reflexive preference and the UN and donor partners must refocus on the UN MPTF as a central pillar of delivery. For that, I call on all partners to support a strategic upscaling of the UN MPTF to meet the future peacebuilding and development needs of Somalia over the coming years.

To ensure that we provide adequate support to Joint Programmes and donor partners in the context of an expanded and increasingly ambitious Fund, we will reinforce the UN MPTF Secretariat with additional dedicated human resources and capacities.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to you, our partners, for the warm welcome afforded to me and your continued support for the UN in Somalia, including through the UN MPTF. I look forward to continuing our collective dialogue on the UN MPTF in this new phase of Somalia’s path to sustainable development and peace along Agenda 2030.

Warmest regards,

Adam Abdelmoula

Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator
### MPTF Joint Programmes

#### NDP 8 Pillar

1. **Inclusive Politics**
   - Reconciliation & Federalism
   - Constitutional Review
   - Parliament Support
   - Electoral Support

2. **Rule of Law**
   - Joint Security Sector Governance Programme
   - Joint Justice Programme
   - Joint Police Programme
   - Joint Corrections Programme
   - Operationalising Somali National Strategy & Action Plan on P/CVE

3. **Effective, Efficient Institutions**
   - Local Governance (JPLG)
   - Aid Management & Coordination
   - Enablers

4. **Economic Growth**
   - Youth Employment in Somalia

5. **Social & Human Development**
   - UNFPA Country Programme

6. **Resilience**
   - Social Protection Project
   - Sustainable Charcoal Reduction & Alternative Livelihoods

7. **Gender & Human Rights**
   - Women’s Political Participation, Leadership & Empowerment
   - Joint Human Rights Programme
   - Strengthening Women’s Capacities as Agents for Change

### DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Committed (USD)</th>
<th>Deposited (USD)</th>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
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</table>
PORTFOLIO LEVEL RESULTS

52% of UN funds channelled or reported through SDRF (26% in 2017, 35% in 2018) Target: Increase proportion year-on-year

9.6% of MPTF resources going to National Window 4.5% in 2018 annual report Target: Cumulative increase in proportion between reporting periods

DONOR ENGAGEMENT

8.6% of Un-Earmarked Contributions (9.6% in 2018 annual report) Target: Cumulative increase in proportion between reporting periods

US$ 91,082,291 of disbursements to PUNOs during reporting period Target: Over US$ 60m per reporting period

11 Active Donors to the MPTF Based on commitments or deposits made in previous 12 months (12 in 2018) Target: Increase number of active donors year-on-year

QUALITY OF OPERATIONS

71% Disbursement ratio of active Programmes Annual Target: 90%
1. Implementation of peace agreement between Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama and President of Galmudug in Dhusamareb has enabled the advancement of the reconstitution of Galmudug institutions and raised hopes for the permanent end to the conflict. Reconciliation conference held in Galkayo for two neighbouring clans providing neutral platform for peaceful conflict resolution to long standing issues.

2. Oversight Committee and Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission completed the technical review of Chapters 1-15 of Somalia’s Provisional Constitution. Public consultations have commenced.

3. Anti-Corruption Bill, Public Financial Management Bill, Revenue Bill, Petroleum Bill, Health Professional Bill, and Amendment of the Public Procurement Law and Revenue Bill approved by Parliament. The legislations support the provision of social services and financial reforms required for debt relief, increased resource mobilization and economic recovery in Somalia.

4. The House of the People pass “National Electoral Law at Federal Level” bill. National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) began identification of potential voter registration sites in South West State, Hirshabelle, Galmudug and Banadir. Twenty-four political parties provisionally registered, bringing the total to 63 by end of 2019. 29 women in Puntland elected to local councils from 116 contested, (25 per cent), an increase from the 14 per cent before the 2019 elections. First female deputy mayor elected in Badhan district.


6. Sixteen alternative dispute resolutions centres resolved 5,051 cases, mobile courts expanded from 8 to 16 teams and registered 1,040 cases, and legal aid services provided to 4,068 people.

7. Consultations held with 353 elders to re-establish trust between elders and government representatives, as well as discussing the potential role of elders in possible peace processes. 150 religious leaders engaged in the establishment of local networks to promote Islam as a religion of tolerance and peace.

8. 1,334 unemployed young people received long-term employment, having set up 70 micro-enterprises or obtained jobs in construction, fishing, renewable energy and other sectors. 863 youth received short-term employment opportunities through labour-intensive and apprenticeship initiatives.

9. National capacity strengthened in sexual and reproductive health resulting in around 600,000 beneficiaries being reached through ante-natal care, family planning and normal delivery services.

JOINT PROGRAMME RESULTS
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Following the adoption of the National Reconciliation Framework (NRF) by the Council of Ministers of the Federal Government in March, the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) has taken the lead in internalizing the NRF within FGS institutions by engaging line ministries through inter-ministerial dialogues. In recognition that reconciliation is a process that requires long and short-term interventions to be sustainable, MoIFAR also developed a Preliminary National Reconciliation Implementation Plan in May to operationalize the NRF which is expected to be rolled out in early 2020.

The NRF and its implementation plan were presented at the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)-funded inception workshop on ‘Reconciliation and State-building’ on 17-18 April. MoIFAR also consulted with South-West State and Hirshabelle State authorities on the NRF and its implementation plan.

Building on Somalia’s rich cultural capital, the Programme was able to operationalize the concept of Dhab-u-heshiin (true-conciliation) through its implementing partners at FGS and Federal Member State (FMS) levels. Somalia’s time-tested notions of dispute resolution distinguishes between ‘true-conciliation’ (Dhab-u-heshiin) and reconciliation (Dib-u-heshiisiin). The former is a view that reconciliation is undertaken internally, without a third party. This approach invokes a sense of local control and ownership of the reconciliatory process. The Programme has integrated this concept into its interventions with the aim of achieving indigenous, locally-led and enduring peace.

In addition, traditional mechanisms for reconciliation based at clan/community level in the Somali context assign a greater and decisive role to traditional elders, usually at the expense of the participation of women and youth. However, the Programme ensured inclusivity by involving these constituents in it supported reconciliation processes.

The Boundaries and Federalism Commission (BFC) continued its outreach in FMS to build consensus on boundary demarcation which has nurtured a common understanding between the Commission and FMS, enabling greater cooperation on the process. The BFC presented its quarterly report to the Federal Parliament in April outlining the status of the boundary demarcation process and related challenges.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The complexity of state- and peacebuilding processes in the present political and security environment, including political tensions between the FGS and FMS, the insurgency threat from Al Shabaab and other security-related challenges, presented various challenges during implementation.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 3,141,687
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 1,811,837 3
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Following the completion of the technical review of Chapters 1-15 of the Provisional Constitution, the constitutional review bodies of the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA), Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC) and Parliamentary Constitutional Review and Implementation Oversight Committee (OC) began public consultations with various constituents, including women, youth, civil society organisations (CSOs), religious representatives, as well as key relevant institutions at the FGS and FMS levels.

In early March, the Programme supported a five-day retreat in Djibouti with the three constitutional review institutions to develop a common strategy and workplan for the consultation process for the Constitution. Participants identified key issues requiring consultation and outlined the key stakeholders to be consulted on the reviewed chapters of draft Constitution. The Rules of Procedures for the adoption process and the technical proficiency of the draft text were also discussed.

From 6-8 April, the Federal MoCA (MoCA-FGS) held the sixth MoCA Forum meeting in Kismayo, Jubaland. The Forum was attended by MoCA-FGS, FMS (Puntland, Jubaland, South West, Galmudug, Hirshabelle) and Banadir Regional Administration (BRA). The Forum engaged all the key political actors at both Federal and State levels on the reviewed of 10 constitutional chapters and other critical issues requiring consensus.

A technical committee comprising nine members from the three mandated institutions (OC, ICRIC, MoCA) met from 15 – 17 September and reviewed the roadmap of the constitutional review process. The committee agreed the implementation of the roadmap on the review process is on track but made some readjustments to timelines for some public consultations. On the way forward, the three institutions unanimously agreed on extending the December 2019 deadline to June 2020 for consultations. It was also agreed that public consultations should be undertaken in collaboration with the FMSs and BRA.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The planned timeline for the completion of the constitutional review process was set to be in December 2019 as outlined in the joint roadmap for the Constitution Review process. However, negotiations and consultations were delayed due to political disagreements between FGS and FMS. The deadline for completion of the review has been extended until June 2020 to allow time to reach political agreement on key areas of the constitution, undertake nation-wide public consultations and adopt the amended Constitution.

In a fragile and fast-changing Somali political landscape, the constitutional review process is a highly sensitive endeavour that touches upon the core contentious issues between FGS and FMSs. The lack of cooperation between the two Houses of the Parliament (Upper House and the House of People) and mistrust between FGS and FMSs are the major challenges in the smooth implementation of the Programme.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 4,084,946
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 3,519,567
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

A number of key bills were approved over the course of 2019, including the Anti-Corruption bill, Public Financial Management Bill, Revenue Bill, Petroleum Bill, Health Professional Bill, and Amendments of the Public Procurement Law and Revenue Bill. The legislations support the provision of key social services and financial reforms required for debt relief, increased resource mobilization and economic recovery in Somalia.

The Joint Programme provided valuable support to the constitutional review bodies resulting in the completion of review of chapters 1-15 of the Provisional Constitution.

The Programme also supported capacity development for new MPs from the Puntland House of Representatives who received training on Parliamentary processes, practices and procedures. The Parliament also approved a law establishing the Puntland Civil Service Commission and the Puntland Budget for 2020. To strengthen the voices of marginalised groups, a CSO Advisory Board was established in Puntland to address the representation of women, youth and marginalized populations in Parliament.

In Hirshabelle, the Joint Programme helped to enhance the knowledge of thirty-five members of the Hirshabelle Assembly on the protection and promotion of human rights, resulting in increased engagement of MPs on protection issues, including unlawful imprisonment, torture and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

During the reporting period, MPs in Somaliland increased their understanding of the Parliament’s role in realizing the 2030 Agenda and in holding the government to account on realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Following an extensive self-assessment exercise to support the advancement of the SDGs in their functions, MPs from the National Federal Parliament (NFP) and Somaliland Parliament developed actions plans to advance the 2030 Agenda.

Finally, a number of knowledge products and toolkits were developed for MPs of the NFP supporting advocacy on the Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment agenda, including in the areas of gender-sensitive legislation, constitutional review, budgeting and leadership.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The lack of cooperation between the two Houses of the Parliament (Upper House and the House of People) and mistrust between FGS and FMS are the major challenges in the smooth implementation of the Programme.

Mogadishu and regional capitals continue to face regular attacks from Al Shabaab, thereby limiting secure options of venues and posing accessibility difficulties for both counterparts and Programme staff. Enhanced security for the parliaments and assemblies, such as the construction of a security screening room, is necessary to mitigate these security challenges.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 997,935
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 1,396,788
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In preparation for Somalia’s first ‘one-person, one-vote’ elections since 1969, the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) started this year with the planning for the voter registration exercise to be conducted in the first half of 2020 followed by elections later this year. With technical assistance from the Joint Programme, the NIEC developed a draft concept of operations and tentative budget for the 2020 voter registration exercise, including the provisional voters list display and voters card distribution. In April, NIEC announced the decision to adopt electronic voter registration system with facial recognition features to reinforce the integrity of and trust in the electoral process. Following the announcement, the Joint Programme launched a procurement process for biometric voter registration. However, the process was put on hold due to the delay in passing electoral legislation.

The NIEC established field offices in each of the FMSs over the course of the year. The offices have four staff officers along with a number of ancillary personnel such as guards, drivers and cleaners. The Programme supported the purchase of a vehicle for each of the six NIEC field offices to enable electoral staff conduct outreach activities and manage the transportation of electoral materials.

Following a GIS desk study in late 2018, the NIEC undertook field verification exercises in May in South-West State, Hirshabelle, Galmadug and Banadir to determine the location and feasibility for the establishment of voter registration centres. This exercise was conducted in all the FMSs except Puntland and Jubaland where the process remains stalled due to political differences between FGS and FMS. The NIEC identified and provisionally approved 279 voter registration sites which will be shared with the National Electoral Security Task Force (NESTF) who will conduct security assessments of each site. The NESTF, comprising sixteen members from FGS, FMS, AMISOM and NIEC, was established in September and is chaired by the Police Commissioner.

On 28 December, the House of People passed the draft Electoral Bill and submitted it to the Upper House for review. The Bill does not guarantee 30 per cent women’s representation in parliament. The IESG discussed with the NIEC the various provisions of the draft Electoral Bill and the Political Party Law (2016) and requested the NIEC to share the technical recommendations with the ad hoc parliamentary committee reviewing the Bill to strengthen the electoral legal framework and to provide clarity on a number of key articles to ensure an effective and efficient electoral operation.

With the agreement of the project board, funds were committed for the construction of the voter registration data centre at the new NIEC compound. Construction work was initiated in October with completion expected in the first quarter of 2020.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The new electoral model with 275 single seat constituencies and the transition from a clan-based system to ‘one person, one vote’ elections presents multiple challenges. Major issues identified in the Roadmap for 2020 Elections include the development of sound electoral building blocks for this process, such as the establishment of an adequate electoral legal framework, the registration of political parties, an inclusive voter registration exercise, a sound electoral management body, as well as the establishment of an electoral dispute resolution mechanism.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 3,402,777
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 738,752
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

As part of a series of capacity building sessions, the Joint Programme supported leadership training for 43 women MPs, with 12 of them receiving a Training of Trainers (ToT) course. Additionally, a leadership toolkit was developed to support the gender sensitive analysis of legislation while enhancing mentoring capacities to support other women in politics and decision-making positions. A communiqué was issued at the Women Parliamentarian Conference, attended by 150 individuals, demanding affirmative provisions in the Constitution and Electoral Law. The women MPs who led the conference handed over the communiqué to the President of Somalia.

To enhance institutional capacities and sustainability, the gender team staff of the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MoWHRD) and the Puntland Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs (MoWDAFA) were provided with ToT training on leadership skills. Similarly, MoWDAFA embarked on a district-wide campaign and advocacy, including support towards capacity building, campaigning among the elders and fund raising for women seats in the Puntland local elections. As a result of these efforts, twenty-nine women were elected to local councils in five districts out of 116 seats available for contesting, equivalent to a 25 per cent representation – an increase from the 14 per cent representation before the 2019 elections. The first female deputy mayor was also elected in Badhan district.

In Somaliland, dialogue resulted in the signing of commitments for the inclusion of a women’s quota by three political parties and the parliament caucus. Additionally, the capacities of 50 women candidates across the three political parties were strengthened and their visibility enhanced through a workshop, which also served as a networking platform for Somaliland women candidates. The workshop resulted in a unified advocacy platform for the women’s quota within the political parties’ nominations.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Women in Jubaland, Programme interventions led to the reduction of the registration fee for women political candidates by 50 per cent, which in turn resulted in more women candidates contesting seats. Consequently, an increased representation of women in the state assembly was achieved, from the previous three seats (4 per cent) to the current eight seats (11 per cent) from a total of 74 seats.

For the first time in many years, MoWDAFA, through support from the Joint Programme, developed its five-year National Strategic Plan (2019-2023) through a state-wide consultative process. The consultative process brought together over 50 individuals from across Puntland, including heads of gender departments within various Ministries.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The lack of a legally binding provision on the 30 per cent women’s quota in all levels of government is widely believed to have affected its implementation and enforcement. The quota was viewed by many women politicians as a mere political statement which lacked binding force. The lack of institutionalization of the quota was linked to the lack of political will from political and clan leaders as well as opposition to FGS commitments on women’s participation in leadership.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 1,276,409
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 957,974
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Joint Justice Programme (JJP) has increased the capacity of formal justice institutions with judicial training on critical knowledge, skills and transformative dialogue on what it means to be good and effective judges. Judicial training has been remodelled to include a six-month comprehensive basic training programme. Focus was placed on developing a programme that could later be embedded within the Judicial Training Institute once established by instituting capacity in a pool of Somali judicial trainers to deliver trainings to their peers. The administration and functioning of courts have also improved with standardization of case management processes, establishment of case recording systems, pilot electronic case management systems in three courts and the introduction of public information helpdesks to guide users through the court system.

Complementary to this, the Programme has also supported access to justice through legal aid services, alternative dispute resolution centres and mobile courts. Collectively, these have expanded access to justice for 12,837 individuals (legal aid services: 4,068, alternative dispute resolution centres: 5,051 and mobile courts: 1,040). These have brought justice mechanisms closer to communities, particularly in rural areas and increased access to justice for marginalized populations.

While strengthening the capacity of key justice institutions to deliver quality justice services and improving the access to justice to reach more people, the Programme is also driven by a forward-looking approach and has initiated projects to encourage transformational change for justice reform. Training on non-violent communication and community conversations have introduced new tools and opportunities to dialogue on justice, security and land issues in an inclusive manner in a safe space. Since the non-violent communication trainings, women now sit with traditional elders on the decision panel at the alternative dispute resolution centre, for example, in Baidoa, to hear and solve cases together. This has opened the space for women to give their views of the cases, share their experiences through stories, and engage in the decision-making process. Early results of community conversations indicate greater inclusion of women and marginalized populations, and a diverse cross-section of communities in general, as active participants in this community-led effort. These new approaches will also pave the way to improve justice for women, both procedurally and substantively.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The lack of agreement between the FGS and FMSs on several important political issues constitutes one of the main challenges for JJP in achieving key programme goals. The limited progress on reaching an agreement on a federated Justice and Corrections Model has left several programme objectives pending, including a review of the legal framework and establishment of key institutions.

Commitment and political will by the FGS to take greater ownership and invest in building the capacity of formal justice institutions and actors, to function in tandem with community-oriented and community-led approaches to justice reform, is urgently needed. Furthermore, security challenges in Mogadishu and Kismayo have impacted the design and implementation in legal aid and community conversations. However, implementation accelerated during the second quarter of 2019 when the security situation somewhat stabilised.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 9,245,853
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 8,376,855
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Joint Corrections Programme (JCP) acted swiftly to address early challenges faced by the Programme in preparation for implementation through the necessary channels and with oversight of relevant counterparts and national authorities. Funds from the UN MPTF were transferred in June which set in motion the next steps for implementing partners. Respective programme officers and focal points were able to engage with target facilities, meetings were facilitated with national authorities and workplans established for respective field office teams. This has been particularly evident in Baidoa, Beletweyne and Garowe.

As funds were received, procurement processes were initiated and most have reported smooth delivery to end users (in particular, targeted facilities, prisoners and officers), while others have estimated delivery to coincide with trainings, workshops or events forecasted for the remaining months of 2020.

Successful briefing and consultation with the then newly appointed Prisons Commissioner on planned activities has given implementing partners the leverage to begin implementation. The Commissioner and Ministry of Justice (MoJ) are both aware of activities to be implemented and of those that are on-going. Through UNODC monitoring mechanisms, useful, up-to-date and relevant feedback and guidance was provided to implementing partners. For example, what types of vocational training courses are most desired in prisons, approval of equipment to be used by officers of the Somali Custodial Corps (SCC), and the vision in terms of support to the SCC as a whole, was communicated and put into practice.

The impact of such achievements, although very early in the implementation phase, has resulted in a strong footing for the JCP. Oversight of the progress of these activities is carried out through monthly consultations with implementing partner focal points and mentors present on site.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Changes in leadership of both the Attorney General and the Prisons Commissioner resulted in programmatic delays as new relationships and lines of communications had to be established before any activities could move ahead. The UN agency originally identified to implement the Community Reintegration in Garowe indicated that they are unable to implement. This caused a delay for that activity line, particularly in terms of establishing the local implementing team in Garowe and fund transfers at the MPTF level. This has since been resolved and the implementing team has been well established. Human resources processes were initiated as of December.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 5,350,000
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 481,037
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Security sector governance institutions at the Federal and Member State level have been operationalised by the recruitment of consultants and advisors, supported by Terms of Reference linking the deliverables of each staff member to key national security policy instruments, such as the Security and Justice Roadmap, the National Security Architecture and the Transition Plan. Workshops supporting the development of Institutional Development and Capacity Building Plans (ID&CBP) have provided the newly hired staff with the opportunity to directly participate in the process of improving each institution and to own the process of agreeing on key development areas for the respective institutions.

The capacity of the Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS) staff to provide security and oversight in accordance with human rights and rule of law has been increased, as has gender awareness and resilience to the difficult working environment. Three human rights awareness training sessions were delivered during the reporting period, reaching a total of 73 participants. A two-day workshop on gender awareness and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda was delivered for a total of 73 MoIS staff. Lastly, prompted by the 2018 attack on the MoIS, a two-day workshop on trauma and stress management was organized by the MoIS with support from the Programme, with 107 participants. The MoIS has linked these efforts to their 2019 key achievements, which include enhanced coordination and oversight role of the security services and agencies; enhanced coordination between the MoIS and the FMS ministries of security; creation of the Human Rights Directorate and the Audit Directorate within the MoIS; capacity building on gender and human rights awareness for the MoIS personnel; and the operationalization of the Maritime Police Unit Working Group.

The Defence Committee of the House of the People, a crucial security sector governance institution in terms of discussing, drafting and approving legislation related to defence and security, has increased its capacity through the ID&CBP. The Defence Committee also faced severe equipment shortages and requested support from the UN Integrated Security Sector Reform (I-SSR) Section. The SSR Project, that has now been folded into the Joint Programme, handed over office equipment to the Defence Committee of the Federal Parliament in Mogadishu.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The casualties caused by the MoIS in the July 2018 attack severely affected the morale of the MoIS staff, and damaged the MoIS building, causing disruption to the regular functioning of the Ministry during 2019. As a result, not all staff have been working from the building which has decreased operational capacity and slowed progress on institutional capacity building. On 16 June, another close-by attack resulted in some damage to the MoIS office building. Stress management training was held on 24-25 June to improve resilience and provided an opportunity for the staff to discuss the challenges they are facing.

The development and capacity building of the Ministry of Security (MoS) in Jubbaland has been delayed by the tense political situation, providing a challenge to Joint Programme implementation in the state. Similarly, the upcoming elections in Galmudug have temporarily hindered progress in terms of supporting the MoS. It is hoped that the situation in both states will improve in 2020, allowing the pace of progress to increase in improving the capacity of the respective ministries.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 3,119,395
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 1,715,929
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The capacity of MoIS staff to provide security and oversight in accordance with human rights and rule of law has been increased, as has gender awareness and resilience to the difficult working environment.

As noted in the Joint Security Sector Governance Programme report, three human rights awareness training sessions were delivered, reaching a total of 73 participants. A two-day workshop on Gender Awareness and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda was provided to a total of 73 MoIS Staff members. Prompted by last year’s attack on the MoIS, a two-day workshop on trauma and stress management was organized by the MoIS with support from the Joint Security Sector Governance Programme, with 107 participants.

The increased functionality and capacity of the MoIS resulting from the support, trainings and guidance provided by the MoIS support project has led to a number of key achievements over 2019. These include: 1) The coordination and oversight role of the security services and agencies has been enhanced as has coordination between the MoIS and the FMS ministries of security; 2) Creation of the Human Rights Directorate and the Audit Directorate within the MoIS; 3) Implementation of the financial management rules and regulations at the MoIS; 4) Implementation of the Human Resources Management Operational Guideline; 5) Implementation of Public Procurement and Asset Management Operational Guideline; and, 6) Operationalization of the Maritime Police Unit Working Group.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

See reporting on constraints and challenges from the Joint Security Sector Governance Programme.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 0
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 1,064,893
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Traditional elders play a crucial role in Somalia’s clan-based electoral system and will likely be influential in the 2020/21 electoral process. In 2019, in an attempt to influence the electoral system, Al Shabaab reached out to elders to re-negotiate allegiances. To address this emerging challenge, the PCVE Coordination Unit in the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), together with the FMS PCVE Focal Points, launched nationwide consultations with Somalia’s traditional elders to counter the Al Shabaab initiative.

Further consultations were held with 353 elders in four FMS to re-establish trust between elders and government representatives, as well as discussing the potential role of elders in a possible peace process with Al Shabaab.

One hundred and fifty religious leaders were also engaged in the establishment of local networks of like-minded religious actors to promote Islam as a religion of tolerance and peace. Religious leaders and actors were engaged in the development of a manual on counter-narratives to Al Shabaab’s distorted version of Islam for political purposes. Furthermore, mosques and madrassas in one district of Hirshabelle were registered and a committee of religious leaders was formed to identify and address extremist views amongst religious actors.

Thirteen PCVE Platform meetings were organized in eleven at-risk locations in four FMSs which resulted in the production a list of 39 grievances identified as drivers and root causes for violent extremism. The findings were reported to the respective FMS PCVE Committees, thereby notifying respective line ministries of PCVE-related challenges identified and prioritized by communities for further action. The priorities were also relayed to the OPM for knowledge sharing, trend identification and federal follow-up action where appropriate.

The OPM PCVE Coordination Unit held consultations with relevant federal line ministries to finalize the PCVE Communications Strategy. A PCVE Communications Task Force was established with a term of reference developed, detailing the roles and responsibilities of different government actors to harmonize PCVE related messaging and to respond to Al Shabaab propaganda in a coordinated, structured and swift manner.

During the reporting period, the Comprehensive Approach to Security (CAS) Strand 4 group evolved from a sporadic information sharing forum to a platform showcasing engagement and collaboration of different actors. The meeting regularly engaged PCVE actors from FGS line ministries, FMS focal points and civil society representatives.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The PCVE focal point for Jubaland was nominated to become the new Auditor General in early 2019. Due to the current political tensions between FGS and the state of Jubaland, the nomination of a new PCVE-FMS Focal Point in Jubaland only materialized in November, despite efforts by the OPM-PCVE-Coordinator to expedite the nomination process. Due to the internal political tensions in Galmudug, staff have so far been unable to visit the project site to undertake the small action research planned in the State.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 899,582
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 1,057,547
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2019, the Aid Coordination Unit (ACU) in the OPM supported the organisation of 33 Pillar Working Group (PWG) and 6 Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) Steering Committee meetings, thereby bringing together various stakeholders, including the international donor community, FGS and FMS representatives, civil society, private sector and Parliamentarians. The SDRF helped to improve intergovernmental dialogue, including with FMS, particularly through the consultative process aimed at agreeing on a refined aid architecture.

Most bilateral and multilateral donors and Funds operating in Somalia reported aid delivered in the country. Donors increased their contributions to SDRF Funds in 2018 to US$ 183 million, compared with US$ 161 million in 2017. However, as the overall volume of development aid also increased by 20 per cent, the share of aid channelled through the SDRF Funds decreased from 22 per cent in 2017 to 21 per cent in 2018. Preliminary observations of aid data collected in 2019 show an increase in the share of aid delivered through the SDRF in 2019.

Strengthened FGS leadership in addressing national development challenges and monitoring implementation of development plans and programmes has been observed with the development of a new NDP9 and four government Roadmaps which identify priorities and milestones in the areas of inclusive politics, economic development, social development and security and justice. The Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) was affirmed at the Somalia Partnership Forum (SPF) in October 2019 as the key tool to monitor implementation of commitments of both the FGS and development partners in order to achieve key ‘must-not-fail’ development benchmarks.

Aspects related to the MAF implementation, the distribution and modality of aid flows, the implementation of the government roadmaps and the formulation of the NDP9 have been increasingly discussed at SDRF Steering Committee and Pillar Working Group meetings. Key projects proposed and approved under the aid architecture include, amongst others, those on durable solutions, infrastructure development, rule of law and civil service reform.

Furthermore, consultants tasked with developing and adapting the Aid Information Management System (AIMS) progressed with the establishment and testing of the tool. The platform will be launched in early 2020.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The funding situation remained precarious for staff working at the ACU. The Joint Programme supported salaries of ACU FMS focal points until 31 March and covered salaries of the rest of ACU staff until the end of 2019. The expectation was that the government would pay the salaries for these staff members so that the aid coordination function becomes sustainable. However, by the end of the reporting period, this had not occurred. The ACU approached the international community with a proposal for six core staff members to be supported. A decision had not been reached by the end of the reporting period.

At different periods in 2019, political clashes between the FGS and FMS, reduced state-level participation in SDRF Steering Committee and PWG meetings. However, FMS were consulted and provided positive feedback in the process of refinement of the aid architecture.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 0
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 320,189
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

With Programme support, the local government has been engaging in local service delivery, increased their contribution from internal revenues, increased service coverage and improved consistency. For example, Somaliland increased their Service Delivery Model (SDM) contribution by over 500 per cent compared to (SDMs) in 2014. In 2019, a total of US$1,595,801.00 was invested in health SDM with 81 per cent contribution from the government (70 per cent from local governments). Similarly, a total of US$1,961,793.00 was invested in Education with 73 per cent contribution from government (53 per cent local government). The local governments in Puntland increased contributions SDMs by one per cent (from five to 6 per cent) and the central government by five per cent (from ten per cent to 15 per cent) which is a total of 21 per cent contribution.

Successful bids were received from female contractors for local development projects in Hudur, Baidoa and Gardo. The first Local Development Fund (LDF) funded projects have begun in Hudur and Baidoa (South-West State) and three districts (Karaan, Hamarweyne, Daynile) of Mogadishu Municipality. All community projects utilized open procurement procedures demonstrating accountability and transparency.

The urban / city visioning exercises were completed in Hargeisa and prepared in Mogadishu that will culminate in production of master plans for the two cities. The city visioning included gathering views from school children on their ideas for their city. The experience of Somaliland Hargeisa Visioning Exercise was shared at a Global Platform – at the First International Child Friendly Summit held in Cologne in October.

Somaliland Local Governance Institute and Ministry of Interior (MoI) carried out revenue assessments of Borama, Buroa and Gabiley districts. As a result, the districts developed action plans for 2019-22 aimed at increasing revenue on average by 47 per cent (from US$ 539,426 to US$ 791,391 in the selected tax categories) by 2022.

An induction training was conducted for over 150 new Municipality of Mogadishu / Benadir Regional Administration (BRA) and newly elected council members of Warsheikh (Hirshabelle) and Bardale (South-West State).

The vice president of Somaliland gave the JPLG a Certification of Appreciation for the Programme’s support to decentralization and local governance. Local Governance Institute became operational in Somaliland, strategic plans for Puntland were developed and policy agreed by the FGS.

JPLG enabled national coordination discussions for the FGS and the FMSs through community Decentralization Dialogue Forums and state coordination meetings.

Finally, in Puntland, numerous peer-to-peer learning visits for government officials from the new Federal States were carried out with the support of the Programme.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The Puntland presidential election in January disrupted the implementation activities early in the year and diverted attention of government officials both at the local and central levels. The subsequent appointment of a new government took longer than expected which delayed programme implementation. Delays in funding for service delivery at the local government-level impacted SDMs implementation. Finally, despite local government commitments, limited resources have prevented the expansion of SDMs, even in the existing JPLG districts.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 18,624,020
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 12,100,374
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In fish value chain development, 140 young fishers became self-employed and generating incomes for their households of around 1,000 members in Bossaso, Kismayo and Berbera. Having acquired technical and entrepreneurial skills as well as having access to 10 fish processing facilities, micro-grants and business development services, young fishers established 24 fishing cooperatives/micro-enterprises in Bossaso (12), Kismayo (6) and Berbera (6).

Additionally, 120 fishing families, with around 900 members, received 40 fiberglass reinforced fishing canoes, in Mogadishu, Bossaso, Berbera, Kismayo, Baidoa and Beletweyne. Regional Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) guidelines on seafood safety and export were developed for Jubaland, Puntland and Somaliland. Over 150 representatives of the governments, fishery associations and businesses were orientated in the new regulations.

Of the 1,523 young people trained by the Programme, 1,116 people (73 per cent) gained employment in the public and private sectors, especially in construction in Mogadishu, Kismayo, Bossaso and Berbera. Forty-eight trained youth established and managed 16 micro-, small- and medium-enterprises (12 in Mogadishu involving 36 youth and 4 in Kismayo involving 12 youth). At least 30 at-risk youth became self-employed having set up their own businesses in Hudur in South-West State while 75 at-risk youth improved their skills in market-oriented vocational trades and entrepreneurship having completed psycho-social counselling, literacy and numeracy sessions.

Seven hundred and ninety-six young people graduated from various training programmes, using a combination of skills training and on-the-job work experience to construct and rehabilitate various infrastructures in youth training centres and ministries in Kismayo, Baidoa, Dhobley, Beletweyne and Mogadishu. Moreover, 426 young people acquired skills in fisheries and vegetable production in training sessions in Bossaso, Berbera, Kismayo and Mogadishu. An additional 384 youth improved their skills in solar panel installation and maintenance and entrepreneurship in Mogadishu, Baidoa and Kismayo. As a result, over 52 households and public facilities were provided electricity in the cities through the installation of solar panels.

The National Employment Policy (NEP) was developed and approved by the FGS Council of Ministers. A roadmap for the NEP implementation was developed which resulted in the development of a Somalia Employment Programme.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Limited capacities of federal and local officers in programming remained a key challenge in implementation. Lack of clarity on the roles and responsibilities of state-level authorities created misunderstandings between different government departments. Implementation was further affected due to the fragile security situation in Mogadishu and other parts of the country.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 3,084,266
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 6,924,997
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

UNFPA’s support to health at the institutional level has translated into evidence-based results including national capacity improvement, mainly in the health human resources’ capacity as well as the midwifery regulatory framework and practice. The development of the 3-year Midwifery Associations’ Strategic Plan yielded strengthened national capacity. The development of a deployment and retention policy for qualifying midwives as well as the support to 27 Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (BEmONC) centres and 9 Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (CEmONC) sites across the country, contributed towards the goal of zero preventable maternal mortality.

The development of the capacity of 166 health care service providers on family planning, 28 national staff on the minimum initial service package (MISP) for reproductive health in emergencies, graduation of 180 midwives, the development of two independent monitoring and performance tools for the midwifery schools as well as the students, the leading role of UNFPA within the Reproductive Health Working Group and task forces, the provided training package of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) trainings and sessions, and advocacy events in the areas of fistula social reintegration and harmful practices including female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage, all together yielded to provide a total of 466,994 ante natal care (ANC) cases served, 98,552 normal deliveries, and 3,708 Cesarean sections performed in the five FMSs as well as in Somaliland. A total of 7,480 family planning/birth spacing clients were served during the year 2019 nationwide. Additionally, a total of 514 midwifery students, including the 144 students from Somaliland, were enrolled into the national midwifery programme at 15 accredited and UNFPA-supported midwifery schools across Somalia in 2019. Out of these students, 180 qualified midwives graduated. The performed fistula repair surgeries reached 165 cases ranging from perineal tear to more complex utero-vaginal fistulas. In total, 194 fistula cases were repaired during 2019.

Within the framework of the joint UNFPA-UN Habitat Peace-Building Fund (PBF) supported initiatives, a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) was established for the first time in Somalia. It aims at ensuring better engagement of youth in the Somalia peacebuilding and reconciliation process, as well as at creating space and equipping youth with tools so they can play a positive and decisive role in bringing peace, social and economic prosperity to Somalia.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

It has been observed in 2019 that there have been shortages of reproductive health supplies and family planning commodities in some parts of the country. Some areas of the country are well resourced in these supplies thanks to an on-going project funded by a donor. However, large sections of the country have very limited, or otherwise non-existent, public funds available for these supplies. UNFPA continues to advocate for and mobilize resources to fill this gap.

Somalia operates under strict cultural and religious norms that are increasingly resistant to changes that will improve the social status of women and girls to facilitate their participation and access to services. UNFPA mitigated such challenges through more interventions at community level and working with faith-based leaders, religious leaders and Imams.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 19,454,016
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 17,810,323
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Social Protection Policy was adopted in August by Cabinet and launched on 17 September. The Policy highlights the need for social protection in Somalia based on the chronic vulnerability, especially for children, women, elderly, persons with disabilities, youth, larger households, migrants and displaced people and minorities. The implementation framework and communication strategy for the Policy were subsequently drafted.

The inter-ministerial social protection technical working group met quarterly in 2019 to discuss issues relevant to social protection coordination and harmonization with other forms of assistance, especially food security and humanitarian interventions. In terms of capacity building, Somalia joined the Africa Community of Practice on Cash Transfers, a UNICEF-World Bank supported network of government officials responsible for social cash transfers. Three high level officials participated in the May annual meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, where participants learned from the experience of other African countries on linking cash transfers to human capital development and established contacts with peers.

A multidisciplinary team composed of FGS and UNICEF staff participated in a free online programme entitled: “The Practice of PDIA: Building Capability by Delivering Results” of the Building State Capabilities programme at the Centre of International Development at Harvard University. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) also undertook technical trainings and workshops in the country as well as abroad. Ministry staff were also provided salary top-up support. Finally, MoLSA received furniture and equipment as part of office rehabilitation works following the terror attacks of March.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Notwithstanding the achievements described above, the implementation of the Joint Programme has been constrained due to two main challenges. Firstly, a terror attack at the MoLSA on 23 March claimed the lives of the Deputy Minister and high-level officials. The death of the finance focal person hampered the financial and administrative management of the programme, due to the delay in the recruitment of his successor and time needed to get familiar with UN procedures for cash disbursement. Secondly, changes to the Ministry’s leadership led to the delay in adoption of the Social Protection Policy by Cabinet. This was reflected in the delay in the design and implementation of the communication strategy and the implementation framework.

The research on access of excluded populations to social services in two communities and humanitarian/development support was delayed with the field work finally concluded on 31 October. Furthermore, the deliverables submitted by the consultant at the end of the contract did not meet the expected quality. As a result, they have not been used to inform future UNICEF programming as intended.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 0
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 303,986
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In the last six months, 11 awareness raising workshops and seminars were implemented across Somalia. More than 350 people (30 per cent women) have participated. Key Somalia telecom companies, television and radio stations were engaged to send out broadcasts and mobile messages on environmental conservation and promotion of alternative energy sources reaching out to more than a million people.

In April, UN Environment hosted a meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, with representatives of FGS, Gulf state ambassadors and programme implementing UN agencies, leading to enhanced commitment from the ambassadors in supporting Somalia to curb the illicit trade of charcoal. This has been successful as the Gulf states have intensified the implementation of the Somalia charcoal export ban by intercepting shipments holding falsified documents of origin. Consequently, since August 2018 no charcoal has been shipped from Jubaland ports.

The National Charcoal Policy was finalized and validated at a workshop held in August in Mogadishu by the FGS, and Puntland, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, South-West State and UN implementing agencies. The meetings have significantly contributed to the creation of the consensus conducive to the elaboration and validation of the charcoal policy and its implementation.

To strengthen the role of media professionals on environmental reporting, 15 local journalists were trained in June by the FGS and UN Environment. The training of journalists has helped in highlight Somali voices on the unsustainable use of charcoal and helped to deliver strong messaging to reduce the charcoal consumption at the household level.

In the third quarter of the year, 16 youth entrepreneurs in Somaliland benefited from an innovation camp to pitch scalable innovative ideas, such as green prosopis charcoal, biomass briquettes, solar cooking and fuel-efficient charcoal stoves to reduce charcoal use. This raised awareness of young entrepreneurs and provided opportunities to start up their production through grants.

In the last quarter of the year, 2,000 households (95 per cent headed by women) in Somaliland transitioned to the use of 44 per cent subsidized Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders, while in Puntland 400 households (95 per cent headed by women) transitioned to the use of LPG. Also, 2,400 sets of LPG sets were procured for the FMSs. Eight solar water heating systems were also installed in teashops, a hospital and orphanage school to demonstrate how solar heating systems can be utilized to reduce and transition from charcoal use.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Full realisation of the Programme objectives will only be possible with the availability of funds. The Programme budget has a shortfall of 69 per cent. Political changes in FMSs and tensions at federal level have impacted the implementation of 2019 activities and full engagement of government focal points in Joint Programme implementation. Security has been an overwhelming challenge and has prevented technical staff from travelling to the field.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 2,258,634
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 1,420,803
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout 2019, human rights capacity-building training was conducted that improved and strengthened the capacity of government institutions to defend and mainstream human rights in their programmes and services, and to ensure the overall protection and promotion of human rights in the country. The training improved: (1) basic understanding of human rights, (2) understanding of source and scope of commitments – Universal Periodic Review (UPR), treaty bodies, etc. (3) knowledge on thematic issues – rights of persons with disabilities, child rights, women’s protection, Protection of Civilians (PoC), torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and (4) awareness of the roles and responsibilities of duty bearers. Out of 16 ministries, ten ministries have at least four staff trained in human rights, with a total of 127 staff. With the support of the inter-ministerial Task Force, four draft bills, one completed policy paper and one draft policy paper have been developed in line with human rights standards. The national effort to promote and protect human rights has also been strengthened through coordination mechanisms (Inter-ministerial Task Force and the re-invigorated Civil Society Forum) that started to regularly convene.

Other key stakeholders were engaged, particularly selected civil society organisations, including Marginalised Communities Advocate (MCA) and Institute of Education for Disabled People (IEDP), with training provided on human rights reporting, accountability and effective implementation. They were also supported with low value grants to deliver human rights training and advocacy on different thematic areas.

Significant progress was made towards fulfilment of Somalia’s human rights reporting obligations, specifically in the submission of the State Party Reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention against Torture, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (overdue by 29 years) and the mid-term report for the UPR.

Advances were made on the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly with the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Disability outreach facilitators visited Banadir, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubbaland and South-West State for information-sharing sessions and to document issues and challenges faced by persons with disabilities, which will be considered for the scope and content of the draft Disability Rights Bill.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Although Programme delivery has increased, the pace of implementation still needs to accelerate much further, which can only happen with greater urgency on the part of the FGS and FMS to improve its protection of human rights. Other challenges include the lengthy process of recruiting qualified personnel to deliver against planned activities, including developing work-plans and stakeholder engagement.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 1,723,854
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 1,117,247
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Joint Programme continued to work with the FGS, FMSs and relevant ministries throughout 2019 to strengthen the role of women in peace- and state-building processes.

In March, the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (MoWHRD) convened a three-day Convention which brought together over 300 women from across the country (MPs, government officials, CSOs, youth, IDPs, persons with disabilities, media and diaspora) to develop and submit to the Prime Minister and Parliament a joint ‘Somali Women Charter’. The Charter demands the inclusion of women’s rights in the Constitution, electoral laws, etc. It further calls for a 50 per cent women’s quota at all levels of governance, a zero tolerance for GBV, passage of pending Sexual Offences legislations, promotion and protection of women’s socio-economic rights, and other steps to promote women’s rights and empowerment. MOWHRD was further supported to review and mainstream gender in the NDP9.

With MoWHRD, UN Women initiated the process of developing a National Action Plan (NAP) on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on ‘Women, Peace and Security’. A mapping of progress towards the development of the NAP was completed and the review is expected to contribute to the creation of an evidence base that will contribute towards the formulation of the Plan.

In partnership with the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ), the Joint Programme conducted a gender-sensitive training for a group of 50 (36 women) radio, TV, print and online journalists to equip them with a better understanding of gender equality issues in media reporting.

At the federal level, the Council of Ministers passed the Sexual Offences Bill in May, a positive step in addressing sexual violence and strengthening the provision of support to survivors. The Bill is awaiting endorsement by the Parliament.

The year also witnessed the first convictions of perpetrators of rape under the Puntland Rape Act. In Somaliland a similar bill was passed by the Cabinet of Ministers. However, it is now on hold due to concerns raised by religious leaders regarding the age of marriage. A committee subsequently proposed amendments which were rejected by the civil society women organizations. UN Women, UNFPA and CSOs are working to mediate the impasse.

Regional consultations on the development of a draft FGM Bill are in their final stages at federal level and will be presented to Cabinet once complete. The draft Bill on FGM in Puntland was endorsed by Cabinet and will soon be presented to Parliament.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Political disagreements between FGS and FMSs affected collaboration between different women ministries across various levels of government. Women in decision making positions continue to align themselves along clan lines and do not necessarily advocate for the Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment agenda once in power. Capacity-building and influence of national gender advisors needs to be further enhanced to bring about transformational change.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 1,099,730
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 747,222
HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2019, the RCO supported regular technical coordination meetings among partners working on durable solutions and supported the International Advisory Group for the elaboration of the Policy for IDPs and Refugees Returnees, National Evictions Guidelines and HLP Protocol. Engagement with Governments and other partners also resulted in the adoption of the Durable Solutions Joint Programming Principles which are now informing partner approaches to durable solutions.

The RCO fielded five missions by international experts during the year to investigate how urbanization processes can become a resource in the fight to reduce forced displacement. The missions’ findings informed the review of a Joint Programme to Promote Durable Solutions for Displacement-Affected Communities. The RCO also coordinated the publication of two flagship inter-agency reports on durable solutions in September, namely 1) “Towards Sustainable Urban Development in Somalia and IDP Durable Solutions at Scale”; and 2) “Displaced populations and urban poor no longer left behind.”

The UN Youth Advisor supported inter-agency coordination on youth affairs, particularly through the Inter-Agency Working Group on Youth. Implementation of the UN Youth Strategy continued, with significant progress related to establishing and strengthening mechanisms of youth participation. The UN Youth Advisory Board was formally established on 12 August. Comprising eighteen young men and women, the Board provides a mechanism to improve the relevance, mobilization and outreach of UN initiatives among young people in Somalia and to help the UN to improve its response to the needs of youth. On 15 September, the Board met with visiting Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco who told attendees of the importance that the UN attaches to young people’s role in national peacebuilding initiatives.

The RCO provided significant operational, logistical and substantive support on preparations and execution of the SPF which took place in October. The Office continued to support the day-to-day operations of the SDRF as well as the consultative review process on the architecture. The Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED) was assisted in the formulation of the 2019 Aid Flow Report.

The Risk Management Unit (RMU) continued to enhance risk analytical support and cooperation with UN Agencies, especially on information sharing on Contractor Information Management System (CIMS) and substantive risk management discussions. Contract value in CIMS has reached US$ 5.5 billion. The RMU, with the World Bank, supported the development of Capacity Injection Reporting Tool (CIRT) database. The database enables the uploading and reporting on the advisors embedded within the government structures and funded by development partners. In 2019, 538 participants (government officials, UN, NGOs, private sector and donor community) attended Managing Project Risk / Risk Management class-based courses.

Through UNDSS, the Security Aircraft was regularly serviced and kept operational and made several critical reconnaissance missions to collect data that informed security systems and plans.

KEY CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

The 1 January mortar attack on the UN Compound in Mogadishu caused significant disruption to the UN’s work due to risk mitigation measures being implemented and diversion of staff resources to supporting UN systemwide security risk management initiatives. An additional attack on the Camp on 13 October further impacted Joint Programme operations. The implementation of the ongoing UN Development and Resident Coordinator System in Somalia, including some delays in rolling out of global recruitment processes, meant that the RCO was operating below capacity for much of the year. Despite many positive developments, participation of some UN organizations in risk management efforts and information sharing remains a challenge. The RMU is exploring how to attract agencies to mutually contribute and benefit from common approaches and best practices.

MPTF Funds received during reporting period: US$ 2,900,000
MPTF Funds expenditure during reporting period: US$ 2,737,187
CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES
Please note that the Joint Programmes on “Women’s Political Participation, Leadership and Empowerment” and “Strengthening Women’s Capacities as Agents for Change in Peacebuilding, Reconciliation & Ending Violence Against Women” are not included in this section as Gender Equality & Women’s Empowerment is a central function of these projects.

Gender equality is an important part of reconciliation efforts. As such, women have been an integral part of dialogue and debate in all workshops supported through the Joint Programme on Federalism and Reconciliation. Special efforts have been made to include the viewpoints of women which has helped to shift perceptions on gender roles. Similarly, the Joint Programme on Constitutional Review continued to ensure the inclusion of women and representatives from women’s organizations to actively participate in consultations on the constitution review process. Under the Joint Programme on Support to Parliament, the capacities of 17 parliamentarians on reviewing legislation from a gender perspective was enhanced. The Programme also supported parliamentary women caucuses of Federal Parliament and worked with women MPs in other legislatures and assemblies to establish women’s caucuses and to provide specialized training to women MPs. The Joint Programme on Electoral Support continued to assist the NIEC to promote participation of women in electoral processes, including as potential voters, candidates and election officials.

The Joint Justice Programme specifically focuses on access to justice and participation in justice reform for women and vulnerable groups. In the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms, the Programme enhanced access to justice for women by increasing and ensuring their participation and addressing their issues in the ADR centres. Training was provided to elders and religious leaders to help them transform their perceptions of women and change social norms. An extensive study to evaluate key formal and informal justice mechanisms in Somalia and analyse their inclusiveness and responsiveness to women, children and other vulnerable groups, particularly minority clans and IDPs, was completed. The results highlight the barriers that prevent these groups from accessing justice and propose recommendations and entry points to improve inclusivity across both formal and informal justice mechanisms, which will be used to inform the Programme’s implementation.

Under the Joint Corrections Programme, the procurement of prisoner welfare items has addressed the needs of female prisoners, including purchasing of feminine products, creams, soap and sanitary items. Under its plans, the construction of Kismayo prison will have complete separation of female prisoners who will have their own section that is not accessible or visible to male counterparts.

Under the Joint Security Sector Governance Programme two training sessions focused on gender awareness were delivered to 73 MoIS staff members. The sessions focused on key gender concepts, mainstreaming and equality against the background of international instruments such as UNSCR 1325, and how the Women, Peace and Security Agenda is implemented in Somalia via the National Gender Policy, National Security Advisor (NSA) and how this relates to the MoIS.

Under the Joint Programme on Operationalizing the National Strategy and Action Plan on PCVE, key stakeholder consultations focused specifically on women, leading to a joint Peace Forum held in the capital Mogadishu. This process empowered women across Somalia to raise their voices and ensure their roles and responsibilities in the peace process are taken into account at the highest political decision-making levels. Findings from these consultations informed the revision of the national PCVE Strategy to become more gender sensitive, responsive and actionable.
Trainings undertaken through the Joint Human Rights Programme continued to be conducted in a manner to not only increase general awareness of rights, but also build in specific thematic issues such as women’s rights. Furthermore, significant effort was dedicated to the work on the National Action Plan on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict and addressing SGBV.

In the final quarter of 2019, more than 2,400 households (95 per cent women headed households) transitioned to the use of Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) Cylinders with the support of the Joint Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods. Demonstrating sustainable LPG use will result in less pollution and dangerous emissions in homes and in the environment, which can disproportionately affect women, boys and girls. During the same period, 7,480 women headed households and 80 women retailers in Puntland transitioned to energy efficient cooking stoves. Alternative livelihood options were implemented in Jubaland with 4,950 beneficiaries (50 per cent women) receiving agricultural inputs.

Under the Joint Programme on Youth Employment which expired at the end of 2019, young women represented 54 per cent of the youth employed within the programme. A majority of the young women found employment in the construction sector challenging normatively held perceptions on the employment opportunities available to young women in their communities.

The UNFPA Country Programme facilitated consensus building in 90 communities with the declaration of intent to abandon FGM. During 2019, UNFPA supported GBV interventions throughout the country and co-chaired the GBV sub-cluster together with MoWHRD resulting in the strengthening of the capacity of staff from different entities and line ministries on different GBV related issues.

Capacities of adolescent girls was built on life skills and peer-to-peer education on communicating positively for the need to change behaviour to end Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The Programme supported the implementation of the provisions of sexual offences legislation in Puntland and supported advocacy for the adoption and implementation of sexual offences legislation in Somaliland and the formation of a strategic advisory council of religious leaders to push for acceptance and consensus on the legislations and pro-zero tolerance to FGM fatwas.

UNFPA further supported education for young girls on “know your bodies”, and strategies for individual protection against GBV through the women and girl safe spaces. The Programme also supported the finalization of the Somalia Women’s Charter and the development of its action plan. The Programme also supported awareness raising, education and advocacy-based activities with young adolescent boys and girls, and Parliamentarians, who have called for the re-introduction of the Sexual Offences Bill into Parliament for reading and enactment.
Please note that the Joint Human Rights Programme is are not included in this section as Human Rights is a central function of this project and is therefore reflected under its regular reporting.

In June 2019, the Joint Programme on Support to Parliament delivered a training on human rights attended by 35 MPs from the Hirshabelle parliament. The Programme also promoted the inclusion of marginalized and minority groups in various dialogue, particularly on legislative and representation mandates, to ensure that their rights and interests are reflected in the policies and programmes of the executive, as well as in the legislative process of parliaments. The Joint Programme on Electoral Support continued to enhance the independence of the NIEC, promoting inclusiveness during the voter registration process and ensuring a level playing field for all actors in the different electoral laws.

The Joint Programme on Women’s Political Participation, Leadership and Empowerment conducted a pre-consultative meeting for rural women in Mogadishu to highlight the basic rights of Somali rural women and communicate problems that they face on a daily basis, including health-related complications, poor education, lack of access to basic needs facilities including food and clean water, FGM and rape (sometimes gang rape). Relevant government institutions were invited to hear the first-hand information and plan for accordingly.

The Joint Justice Programme reinforced the institutional capacity of Attorney Generals offices to promote access to justice for victims of SGBV and address the particular protection challenges relating to women and girls. The Programme also supported the deployment of trained social workers within the Puntland Government to expand this initiative to other member states. The aim of the programme is to ensure survivors are given sufficient support throughout the legal process and, conversely, that children in contact with the law (either as alleged perpetrators of crime or other) are provided age appropriate guidance and support to understand their legal rights and to navigate administrative processes.

Under the Joint Security Sector Governance Programme, three human rights awareness training sessions were delivered in April to 73 participants from MoIS focused on key human rights concepts foreseen in the Provisional Constitution against the background of national, regional and international human rights instruments and the role of the State in promoting human rights.

The Joint Programme on Operationalizing the National Strategy and Action Plan on PCVE ensured the active participation of minority clan members in PCVE consultations and platform meetings at the local level. The guidelines for PCVE-FMS Focal Points to engage with communities encompass a dedicated section on how exclusion constitutes a root cause for radicalization, and how PCVE FMS Focal Points can prevent similar issues when engaging with communities. When developing pilot projects, the PCVE-FMS Focal Points received a dedicated training on human rights-based approaches to programming, and specifically on the do no harm principle, with a specific view on the risk of stigmatization when labelling community members at risk of radicalization. Finally, PCVE has proven to be an entry point for the development of training to state security providers on the relationship between human rights abuses and triggers for people to join Al Shabaab.
The UNFPA County Programme implemented a rights-based approach to service provision, data protection for GBV survivors, and advocacy for enactment and implementation of legislations to protect women and adolescent girls from GBV and FGM. Specifically, for GBV service provision, the survivor-centered approach for the provision of services to GBV and FGM survivors was utilized, with their rights to privacy, confidentiality and safe services safeguarded. Referral actors gained capacity in implementing the survivor-centred approach both in the provision of services and data security for GBV information management systems. In addition, the Programme supported safe houses and transitional shelters that provided protection and safety for women girls fleeing FGM, intimate partner violence and stigmatization/isolation as a result of rape.

In order to close the gap in health services, a basic human rights issue, the Programme focused on increasing the number of health care providers to address the most critical components of maternal health. In 2019, the Programme responded to two humanitarian crises which focused on reaching the hard-to-reach population, especially women and girls, with maternal and reproductive health services. In addition to protecting their basic human dignity, the interventions provided essential reproductive health care services, that are at the core of right to health.

The Joint Programme on Youth Employment continued to recognize and support beneficiaries’ rights, in obtaining decent work and standard of living. Men and women were further empowered through the creation of job opportunities, development of vocational and entrepreneurship skills and establishment of micro-enterprises. Beneficiary youth developed collaborative and adaptive capacities, having become involved in planning, implementation and management of Programme activities. Household earnings of employed youth and women from disadvantaged families strengthened their voices in discussions with the local authorities. This enabled the youth to engage decision-making processes at FGS, FMS and district levels. On several occasions it was noted that the duty bearers at regional and local levels were becoming more accountable to the rights holders and ensuring that the communities’ priority needs were met.
The 2019 UN MPTF Semi-Annual Report was published and circulated to donors on 19 September 2019 and provided a detailed overview of the most significant Joint Programmes achievements during the last year. In addition, the Q2 and Q3 2019 UN MPTF Newsletters were shared with the donors, partners and colleagues on 27 September and 7 November respectively. The newsletters focused on success stories and updates, providing concrete examples of how Joint Programmes support resilience and peacebuilding in Somalia. All reports and newsletters have also been published on the newly launched UN in Somalia website (somalia.un.org) to ensure the widest coverage.

The Q3 Newsletter foreword was written by the recently appointed Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia, Adam Abdelmoula. Mr. Abdelmoula appreciated the great strides Somalia has made in achieving its peacebuilding and state-building agenda and expressed hope that UN MPTF will continue to serve as a valuable mechanism to support the country’s priorities as it continues down the path of stability and prosperity.

The UN’s Country Results Report for 2018, which reports on the totality of the UN’s contribution towards Somalia’s peace and development priorities as articulated in the NDP, was published in May. The report outlines the contribution of the UN MPTF to these priorities within the context of the overall umbrella of UN support provided in Somalia.
During the reporting period, cooperation continued between UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes on risk management, accountability, quality assurance and information sharing. This resulted in an expansion in the scope of the UN Risk Working Group (UN-RWG) to address such matters and to establish better cooperation between development and humanitarian interventions in the area of risk management. Eleven UN-RWG meetings took place in 2019. The Risk Management Unit (RMU), UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, OCHA increased their joint efforts to synchronize risk management and response approaches, to share best practices and to strengthen joint activities in response to fraud and corruption allegations.

In 2019, 538 participants (government officials, UN, NGOs, private sector and donor community) attended Managing Project Risk / Risk Management class-based courses. The RMU identified 12 potential co-facilitators among the participants who will undergo a more advanced risk management learning in 2020 to enable them to deliver the courses in the Somali language. In an effort to develop collective risk management tools across the aid community in Somalia, a consultant was identified to develop the Collective Risk Management Strategy. The consultant will undertake consultations with different constituencies in the first quarter of 2020. The RMU, in close cooperation with the World Bank, supported the development of the Capacity Injection Reporting Tool (CIRT) database, which was operationalized in 2019. The database will enable uploading and reporting on donor funded advisors embedded within government structures and help identify duplication of assistance for similar positions and will help facilitate in the harmonization of salaries in compliance with the World Bank developed capacity injection salary scale.
This year will undoubtedly bring many critical and transformational changes to Somalia. With the first universal elections since 1969 currently being prepared, Somalia’s future is full of potential for growth, peacebuilding and State-building opportunities. The UN, together with Government and donor partners will aim to harness this potential and build on the momentum to ensure Somalia is supported in striving towards an inclusive society with equitable economic growth, stability and resilience. The new NDP9 also provides the UN and the broader international community, to realign our collective support to identified priorities.

The UN will continue to align various strands of support with Government priorities as we develop our new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNCF) over the course of this year.

Anchored in Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the UNCF will guide the UN system’s work in Somalia in the coming years. The UN MPTF will have a pivotal role in the UN’s delivery of the UNCF in support of the NDP9.

With the ongoing implementation of the UN Secretary General’s reform agenda, Member States have called on the UN development system to do more and better in inter-agency pooled funding globally. They recognise that pooled funds bring the UN together, strengthen coherence, reduce fragmentation, broaden the donor base, allow sharing of risks with partners and tackle multi-dimensional challenges with comprehensive, innovative solutions.

While we in Somalia have been implementing through the UN MPTF since 2015, and through Joint Programmes in general from even earlier, a new generation of UNCF offers an excellent opportunity to further scale and improve its efficiency, effectiveness and strategic focus. These discussions will take place over the coming months within the context of the development of the UNCF, a discussion in which it is key that Somali and international development partners play a central role. However, while 2020 promises to be a year of significant change, the UN will continue to implement against the Strategic Priorities of the UN Strategic Framework (UNSF) through its final year. As such, in the weeks following the publication of this report, we will release our new One-UN Country Results Report for 2019 which will outline the UN family’s collective contribution to Somalia’s peace- and state-building achievements over the course of the year, to which the UN MPTF made significant contributions.

Lastly, within a week of the launch of this report will follow the publication of the fourth quarterly UN MPTF Newsletter of 2019 which will provide an overview of key achievements over the last three months of the year and contain stories that demonstrate the impact that Joint Programmes have on improving the lives of all Somalis.
ANNEXES

1. Reconciliation and Federalism
2. Constitutional Review
3. Support to Building Inclusive Institutions of Parliament
4. Support to the Electoral Process
5. Women’s Political Participation, Leadership & Empowerment
6. Joint Justice Programme
7. Joint Corrections Programme
8. Joint Security Sector Governance Programme
9. Support to the Ministry of Internal Security
10. Preventing & Countering Violent Extremism
11. Aid Management & Coordination
12. Local Governance & Decentralized Service Delivery
13. Youth Employment in Somalia
14. UNFPA Country Programme
15. Social Protection
16. Sustainable Charcoal Reduction & Alternative Livelihoods
17. Joint Human Right Programme
18. Strengthening Women’s Capacities as Agents of Change
19. Enabling Services

ENDNOTES

1 MPTF Gateway as of 29 February 2020
2 Most indicators are cumulative if not otherwise indicated.
3 Please note that expenditures reported for all Joint Programmes are uncertified. Certified annual expenditures will become available with 2019 Annual Financial Report of MPTF Office (http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/4SO00) in May 2020 upon submission of certified financial reports by participating UN Agencies.
4 Gender specific outputs are those that are specifically designed to directly and explicitly contribute to the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment. Gender indicators are not colour coded as others as targets have not yet been established.
5 Staff members are those contracted to undertake work for the Joint Programme including full time staff, consultants, advisors, interns, etc. Staff members with responsibility for gender issues are those who have gender related activities included in their Terms of Reference.
6 2019 MPTF semi-annual report sent on 19 September 2019.