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PROGRAMME ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Period: 2019

Project Name	Support to Aid Management & Coordination Project
Gateway ID	00113235
Start date	1 November 2018
Planned end date (as per last approval)	31 December 2020
Focal Person(s)	(Name): Pau Blanquer
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Participating UN Entities	UNDP
NDP Pillar	PWG 3 Building Effective and Efficient Institutions
UNSF Strategic Priority	Improvement of how the government is organized and the way it works and strengthening of the elements that allow government to operate
SDG(s)	National programme
Location	Somalia
Gender Marker	Gen2

Total Budget as per ProDoc	USD 5,327,211
MPTF:	USD 2,355,000
Non-MPTF sources:	PBF:
	Trac:
	Other: USD,1,500,000

Total MPTF Funds Received				Total non-MPTF Funds Received		
PUNO	Semi Annual 2019 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2019	Semi Annual 2019 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2019
UNDP	0	520,104	0	621,827	2,121,827	2,121,827

JP Expenditure of MPTF Funds ¹				JP Expenditure of non-MPTF Funds		
PUNO	Semi Annual 2019 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2019	Semi Annual 2019 (2)	Cumulative	Annual 2019
UNDP	92,268	509,264	320,189	768,014	1,432,201	1,432,201

¹ **Uncertified expenditures.** Certified annual expenditures can be found in the Annual Financial Report of MPTF Office (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/4S000>)



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ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

1. The Federal Government of Somalia hosted a successful Somali Partnership Forum (SPF) meeting on 1 - 2 October 2019 in Mogadishu. The SPF endorsed an updated Mutual Accountability Framework that sets key monitorable commitments for the Government of Somalia and the international community to undertake in the 2019 and 2020 in the areas of Inclusive Politics, Economic Development, Social Development, Security and Justice, and Partnership Principles.
2. The 2019 Somali Aid Flow Report was finalized and translated into Somali before being distributed to a wide audience. The capacity to undertake such tasks shown that the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development of the Federal Government of Somalia is becoming stronger in the execution of its duties related to the analysis and dissemination of information on aid flows in Somalia.
3. The development of an Aid Information Management System is nearing completion. Several tests to remove bugs have been carried out and aid data collected from development partners in 2019 has been uploaded in the system. What remains now is to launch the platform in early 2020 for general use by the Government, development partners and public.
4. The ACU cumulatively organized 6 Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) Steering Committee and 33 Pillar Working Group (PWG) meetings in 2019. This shows that the ACU is gathering more clout in the ability to convene all stakeholders to propose, discuss, implement and evaluate government projects in one platform.

After a wide consultation process, the government has shared a proposal of refinement of the Somali aid architecture which simplifies existing arrangements and aligns to the structure of the new National Development Plan (NDP 9) and government roadmaps. By the end of the reporting period the proposal, which is expected to be endorsed in the first SDRF Steering Committee meeting of 2020 was being reviewed by development partners. Besides feedback from stakeholders consulted, the proposal draws on results of surveys conducted by ACU in 2019 to assess perception of Somali SDRF membership on the functioning of the aid coordination structures and the views of SDRF Funding Windows administrators on the effectiveness of the funds.

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Aid Coordination Unit managed to coordinate and deliver 33 Pillar Working Group Meetings and 6 SDRF



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Steering Committee meetings bringing together various stakeholders such as the donor community, representatives from the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States, civil society, private sector and Parliamentarians. The SDRF managed to improve intergovernmental dialogue, including with Federal Member States, 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 the 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%, the share of aid channeled through the SDRF Funds decreased from 22% in 2017 to 21% in 2018. Preliminary observations of aid data collected in 2019 show an increase in the share of aid delivered through the SDRF funding windows in 2019.

A strengthened leadership of the Federal Government of Somalia in addressing national development challenges and monitoring implementation of development plans and programs has been observed with the development of four government roadmaps which identify national development priorities and milestones in the areas of inclusive politics, economic development, social development and security and justice, and the National Development Plan 2020-2024. The Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) was affirmed as the key tool to monitor implementation of commitments of both the Federal Government of Somalia and development partners in order to achieve specific must-not-fail development benchmarks. The MAF, serves to measure effectiveness of the partnership between the government and development partners, oriented policy discussions in the Somali Partnership Forum.

Aspects related to the implementation of the Mutual Accountability Framework, the distribution and modality of aid flows, the implementation of the government roadmaps and, to a lesser extent, the formulation of the National Development Plan 2020-2024 have been increasingly considered in discussions of the SDRF Steering Committee and Pillar Working Groups. Key projects that were proposed and approved include those on durable solutions, infrastructure development, rule of law and civil service reform among others.

Furthermore, the consultants tasked with developing and adapting the AIMS system progressed with the setting up and testing of the system. Several tests for bugs and efficient operationalization were carried out and the platform will be launched in early 2020.

SITUATION UPDATE

The project continued to provide support to government institutions -namely the Aid Coordination Unit in the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development- in implementing their responsibilities related to the promotion of aid coordination and aid information management,



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respectively. Key among the concerns of the stakeholders have been the need to sustain the relative peace experienced in the country, preparations for the next elections, constitutional reform, finding durable solutions for the country's vulnerable IDPs and the implementation of the National Development Plan goals. The aid architecture system in Somalia is composed of 9 Pillar Working Groups that are co-chaired by the donor community and government representatives. The secretariat sits in the Aid Coordination Unit at the Office of the Prime Minister and its staff was fully supported through the MPTF funds.

During the year the perception and expectations of Somali institutions, stakeholders as well as development partners on the functioning of the Somali aid architecture was captured through an aid effectiveness survey and analysis by the Aid Coordination Unit. A questionnaire on the functioning of the SDRF funding windows for fund administrators and the carrying out of consultations for the refinement of the Somali aid architecture was administered. Some of the main challenges identified as necessary for an improved functioning of the framework are the need to improve engagement and meaningfulness of the participation of Federal Member States in the SDRF bodies, the need to strengthen the analytical work of Pillar Working Groups by identifying investment gaps which impede or delay the achievement of National Development Plan targets and the implementation of MAF benchmarks, the need to improve communication and collaboration amongst aid architecture actors, particularly between peace, development and humanitarian. The above-mentioned surveys and consultations resulted in concrete recommendations to improve the systems, which have been considered in the development of a refined aid architecture.

Ensuring a sustainable aid coordination function in Somalia in the mid-long term is another priority of the project. In comparison with units responsible of managing and coordinating aid in other countries, the ACU has been over-staffed since its inception. Number of staff salaries paid by this project has been reduced from 19 at the beginning of its implementation in November 2018 until 11 in December 2020. The Office of the Prime Minister is aware of the need to make the Aid Coordination Unit more sustainable and is working on integrating part of their functions and staff in its structure. However, the government has requested the project board to support the payment of a limited number of six core staff in 2020.

During the second half of the year the Federal Government of Somalia, under the leadership of the Aid Coordination Unit/Office of the Prime Minister, carried out multiple consultations within the government, with Federal Member States, non-State actors and development partners, in order to reach an agreement on a refined aid architecture. There is broad consensus on the need to ensure alignment with the National Development Plan 2020-2024 and government roadmaps, building on the structures which already work and reducing the complexity of the existing structure. By the end of December 2019 the Office of the Prime Minister shared a proposed aid



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architecture by the government to donors for feedback and has communicated their expectation of having it endorsed in the first SDRF SC meeting of 2020. Issues related to project approvals and relations with the international community are being discussed internally in the government in the meantime

In the same period, the Federal Government of Somalia finalized the drafting of the National Development Plan (2020 – 2024) which will be the iPSRP compliant, which is a requirement to engage in the HIPCC process. The government will start the implementation of the NDP implementation in January 2020.

While the Federal Government of Somalia had made progress in recovering and stabilizing areas near Mogadishu, the capital, concerns of insecurity remained mainly due to Al-Shabaab terrorist attacks. At the same time, it is to be noted that Somali security forces, working with AMISOM, and international partners, are making progress in recovering and stabilizing areas near Mogadishu previously held by Al-Shabaab. The relationship between the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States showed some signs of improvement following meetings held in Garowe on the margins of the inauguration ceremony of the new President of Puntland, Said Abdullahi Mohamed Deni, on 26 January 2019. This was the first meeting between leaders of the Federal Government and Federal Member States since June 2018. During the third quarter of the year the United Kingdom signed an agreement with UNDP to support the implementation of the project with £1 million. The support would be transferred in three tranches, the first half of the total amount in 2019 and the other two tranches in 2020. In addition, during the last quarter of the year Switzerland signed an agreement with UNDP to support the implementation of the project with USD 684,000, to be transferred in two tranches. The first one (USD 316,000) was transferred in 2019 through the UN MPTF funding window.



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ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT RESULTS MATRIX

OUTCOME STATEMENT

Capacity for aid coordination processes is improved and increasingly Somali owned and led

INDICATOR	TARGET	PROGRES ON OUTCOME INDICATOR ²	
		Reporting Period (2019)	CUMULATIVE
Stable and representative participation of FGS and FMS government, Private Sector and Civil Society, as well as international community representatives at SDRF meetings	ACU tracks and analyses consistency of participation in SDRF SC and PWG meetings	YES	YES
Level of international donor financing channeled through SDRF funds (%)	International donor financing channeled through SDRF funds as a proportion of overall support increases yearly	21% ²	21%
Level of adherence to SDRF Operations	All PWGs fully adhere to SDRF	Partial adherence of all PWGs ³	Not yet assessed ⁴

² Data collected through the ad hoc aid mapping exercise carried out in 2018 and whose results were published in July 2019. 2019 aid data has been collected and analysed and a preliminary report drafted, but not yet validated by the government. Cumulative % not possible to be measured at this point.



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Manual (% of PWGs)	Operations Manual by the end of the project		
Existence of tools and plans for development diversification	At least one plan for diversified funding sources for aid coordination and/or increased sustainability developed by the end of the project	NO	NO ⁵
Sustainability of Somali aid coordination function	ACU salaries/costs transition from UNDP support onto the government budget	NO	NO ⁶
SUB-OUTCOME 1 STATEMENT			
Strengthened Effectiveness and Coordination through the SDRF Aid Architecture			
Output 1.1: SDRF progressively shifts towards a more efficient and strategic decision-making body			
INDICATOR	TARGET	PROGRESS ON OUTPUT INDICATOR⁷	
		Reporting Period	CUMULATIVE

³ A tracking sheet with indicators related to the SDRF operational manual has been developed. PWGs partially adhere to the indicators.

⁴ The aid architecture is being refined and this is expected to result in a slight modification of the Operations Manual. ACU proposed to update the Operations Manual once the aid architecture is refined and then assess adherence by Working Groups.

⁵ 2 consultancy options are being considered to address this target aimed at increasing aid sustainability: the exploration of options for diversification of financing sources for development in Somalia, and/or the exploration of options for sustainable functioning of the Aid Coordination Unit. Project Board is expected to decide in the first meeting of 2020 on the consultancies to be implemented in 2020, considering relevance and availability of funds.

⁶ ACU staffing structure supported by the project has been reduced from 18 in Nov 2018 to 12 in Dec 2019. ACU is requesting project support for payment of 6 core staff in 2020.

⁷ Fill in only the numbers or yes/no; no explanations to be given here.



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		(2019)	
Frequency of briefings to PWG core group members on the SDRF Operations manual	PWG core group members briefed on SDRF Operations manual once a year	3 ⁸	5 ⁹
Number of PWGs that comply with agreed minimal requirements for effective and strategic-focused management	All PWGs that comply with agreed minimal requirements for effective and strategic-focused management	8	8
Number of SDRF SC meetings that comply with agreed core requirements for effective management and strategic focus	Increased percentage of SDRF SC meetings comply with agreed core requirements for effective management	6	6

⁸ During the first semester of the year, ACU has briefed the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the Operations Manual. PWG 3 was updated on the Ops Manual on 3 April.

⁹ Two more meetings were held in the fourth quarter by the ACU to update through a Government retreat for the DGs of all Ministries (including from the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States) as well as to gather feedback on the functioning of the aid architecture, mutual accountability and effectiveness of aid flows.



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	and strategic focus		
Issues relevant to FMS are increasingly considered in the SDRF	Each FMS report back on challenges and progress made against components of PWGs AWP which are relevant for them at least twice a year	YES ¹⁰	YES
Somali Partnership Forum organized regularly in a successful manner	Somali Partnership Forum is organized twice a year ¹¹ in a successful manner	1	1
<p>UNDP ONLY:</p> <p>SOPs developed:</p> <p>Records/Minutes of PWG meetings held</p> <p>Signed Attendance sheets for meetings held</p>			
Output 1.2: National capacity for aid management and coordination enhanced			
National stakeholders trained satisfactorily on	At least 4	4 ¹²	4

¹⁰ FMS report on development priorities and highlights in SDRF SC meetings and state their challenges in PWG meetings, but not in a systematized manner.

¹¹ While in the past 2 SPFs (previously called HLPF) were organized per year, government and development partners have agreed on the frequency of these meetings in the future is under discussion between Government and development partners and may be subject to change

¹² (40 men and 20 women were trained) from the ACU, OPM and SomInvest on different topics such as Monitoring and Evaluation, Blended Finance, Risk Management and Finance Management. A cumulation of the workshop ratings shows that at least 90% were satisfied with the content and delivery of the content.



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<p>relevant topics which enhance institutional capacity for effective aid management and coordination</p>	<p>training activities are organized and rated as satisfactory by at least 80% of participants</p>		
<p>Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and/or guidance packages for improved aid management developed</p>	<p>At least 4 Standard Operating Procedures are documented and rolled out with clear role and responsibility distribution, with associated comprehensive guidance packages (when required)</p>	<p>0¹³</p>	<p>0</p>
<p>UNDP ONLY: Records/Minutes of PWG meetings held Signed Attendance sheets for meetings held</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">SUB-OUTCOME 2 STATEMENT</p> <p>Monitoring NPS, MAF, UCS implementation</p>			

¹³ During the process of refinement of the aid architecture a number of themes and processes have been identified and reflection carried out for the development of Standard Operating Procedures and/or guidance packages. These will be developed once the refined aid architecture is approved, which is foreseen in early 2020.



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Output 2.1: Improved national capacity to monitor NPS, MAF and UCS			
MOPIED and ACU have the capabilities to monitor NPS implementation	At least 1 aid coordination workshop organized per year in line with need	1 ¹⁴	1
Progress on MAF implementation regularly monitored and reported	2 MAF progress reports produced per year	YES ¹⁵	YES
Aid flows analysed and reported regularly	At least 1 annual progress report produced for aid flows per year	1	1 ¹⁶
AIMS is operational by the end of 2019		0	0 ¹⁷
UNDP ONLY: sources of evidence (as per current QPR) Minutes of Aid Coordination Workshop Pictures from meetings Meeting reports			

¹⁴ ACU organized an Aid Coordination Workshop on 16 September 2019 to discuss the aid architecture

¹⁵ A draft report of progress of implementation of 2018 MAF benchmarks was prepared in the first half of the year, while a monitoring of the status of implementation of the 2019-2020 MAF was prepared by the end of the year

¹⁶ The aid flow report 2019 was publicly disseminated in July 2019. The 2020 Aid flow report has been drafted but not yet been validated.

¹⁷ Ongoing work. After the beta launch of the AIMS prototype in March and feedback gathered from national stakeholders and international community, the consultants, in collaboration with the MOPIED IT Unit, have advanced in the development of system features. A testing of the system by government officers, donors and UN was run in July and counterparts proposed to simplify several features, which has been done in the last months of the year. The system is by the end of this reporting period almost completed and has incorporated aid data collected in 2019. The launch is expected to be organized in early 2020.



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NARRATIVE

Reporting against Impact: Somali owned aid coordination and management that supports state building priorities, contributes to stability and responds to citizen needs

The ACU has in the reporting period strived to ensure that PWG and SDRF SC meetings are held on time, with minutes taken and circulated. Important projects on water rehabilitation, durable solutions for IDPs and host communities, health, education were discussed in the PWG meetings before being referred to the SDRF SC meetings for approval. The SDRF bodies enabled the donor community to meet in the same platform with government, Federal Member States and civil society stakeholders. In a survey conducted by the ACU in April 2019, respondents noted that although the system of the aid architecture could be improved it had largely improved transparency and efficiency in the processing of projects meant to respond to national development in the FGS and the FMS.

Reporting against Outcome: Capacity for aid coordination processes is improved and increasingly Somali owned and led

In the reporting period 33 PWG and 6 SDRF SC meetings were held in Somalia facilitated by the ACU. At the beginning of 2019, the ACU developed a tracking tool to measure adherence to agreed good practices in the preparation and management of SDRF SC and PWG meetings. The data collected in the reporting period using this tool shows the participation of the different stakeholders as given in the table below:

	SDRF SC	PWGs
FGS	35.1%	34.0%
FMS	20.8%	34.6%
DONORS	27.0%	9.1%
UN	12.5%	13.3%
CIVIL SOCIETY/NGOS	3.2%	5.3%
PRIVATE SECTOR	0%	3.2%
PARLIAMENTARIANS	1.4%	0.5%
WOMEN	19.7%	26.4%
MEN	80.3%	73.6%



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Level of international donor financing channeled through SDRF funds (%)

The 2019 aid mapping exercise show that 21% of development aid (USD \$ 182.6 million) was channeled through SDRF funding windows in 2018. While the total volume of aid channeled through SDRF pooled-funding mechanisms was higher (US\$ 183 million) in 2018 than in 2017 (US\$ 161 million), the share against total aid delivered in the country decreased by 1%. Preliminary observations of aid data collected in 2019 show an increase in the share of aid delivered through the SDRF funding windows in 2019.

Level of adherence to SDRF Operations Manual (% of PWGs)

With close follow-up by all stakeholders, especially greater ownership by the core groups, there are some improvements in some of the pillars. The issue of frequency of the meetings, bringing to the table more bilateral updates, strategic agenda setting and quality participation from the Federal Member States continued to be areas of interest. It is to be noted that the refinement of the aid architecture is expected to result in slight changes in the SDRF Operations Manual.

Reporting against Sub-Outcome 1 - Strengthened Effectiveness and Coordination through the SDRF Aid Architecture

Output 1.1: SDRF progressively shifts towards a more efficient and strategic decision-making body

The ACU through the reporting period monitored the work carried out by the PWGs with a view to ensure that they comply with the agreed minimum requirements for effective and strategic focused management of the aid architecture. The successful coordination of the PWG, SDRF SCs and the SPF are all testimony of the progressive ability of the SDRF to become an efficient process.

With regards the management of the SDRF SC meetings, the expected deliverables were successfully achieved albeit with room for improvement. Documents circulated in meetings were compiled and archived in the common ACU Google Drive and those of interest to the public were accordingly shared. Minutes of the respective PWG and SDRF SC meetings were taken and shared. Checklists for preparation of meetings were developed and used. In almost all the meetings, meeting invitations were sent out more than one week before they took place. What would have made the provision of information easier would have been a dedicated website for the ACU, which is foreseen once the refined aid architecture is endorsed.

In the 4th quarter, the ACU proposed a refined aid architecture to the donor community. The proposed structure



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which is aligned to the National Development 9 (2020 – 2024) as well as the government roadmaps, would simplify the current framework by making it less bureaucratic as well as reducing its functioning costs. The proposal includes maintaining the Somali Partnership Forum as the apex body of the aid coordination architecture, addressing the limited existing coordination and sharing of information between the development and peace/security streams, giving more weight to aspects related to gender equality and human rights, or setting up an Integrated Coordination Team with varied membership which would be responsible of the overall management of the architecture. As for the frequency of meetings of the SDRF SC, it was proposed that they would be kept at a quarterly stream with a review of the mandate with an increased focus on aid effectiveness and partnership. In order to adjust to the NDP 9 and roadmap structure, it is proposed that the number of Pillar Working Groups is reduced from 9 to 4. Three of them (Inclusive Politics, Economic Development and Social Development) would report to and feed discussions of the SDRF Steering Committee, while the six CAS Strand Working Groups which will be renamed as Security Justice Committee Working Groups would remain unchanged and report to the Security and Justice Executive Committee (currently called CAS Executive Committee). The government proposes the establishment of an Integrated Coordination Team manned by the proposed Four Roadmap Leads from the OPM, the Head of the ACU, MOPIED, Ministry of Finance, UN focal points for the three SWGs and the head of the existing CAS/SJC secretariat in UNSOM. This proposal is being reviewed by development partners by the end of the reported period.

Output 1.2: National capacity for aid management and coordination enhanced

This component of the project focuses on enhancing the capacity of national stakeholders in the government and Federal Member States to be able to effectively manage and coordinate aid. In this regard six trainings were conducted in the reporting period. All of them were rated as satisfactory by at least 80 per cent of the participants. It is important to note that some of the skills on risk management, reporting and monitoring and evaluation are already being used by the ACU staff and other government departments in the implementation of their day to day duties. Findings of the consultations carried out in the process of the refinement of the aid architecture and of the aid effectiveness survey carried out by ACU will serve to develop Standard Operation Procedures which are expected to provide guidance to improve processes of the refined aid architecture. These will focus on improving engagement of Federal Member States in the aid architecture, the provision of guidance to working groups to facilitate a more strategic focus of the SDRF, or the improvement of the logistic organization of SDRF meetings and management and sharing of information. A fourth SOP will provide a guidance for the organization of Somali Partnership Forums, based on lessons learned from previous experiences.

A Monitoring and Evaluation training was carried out by UNDP/UN Integrated Office for ACU staff on 3 March



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at ISTAR meeting room in MIA, Mogadishu. The workshop was attended by 10 ACU officers and focused on the “Support to Aid Management & Coordination in Somalia” monitoring and evaluation framework. On 21 March a training on financial management, monitoring and reporting to finance officers in ACU and MOPIED was carried out by Mr. Yosief Abraha, Finance Specialist in UNDP. The training focused on LOA management, Funding Authorization and Certificate of Expenditure (FACE) and Supporting Documents for RDPs (check list) and included theoretic and practical sessions. A two-day Strategic Communications training workshop for the ACU and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) Communications Department officers took place on 18 and 19 June 2019 at the SKA compound in Mogadishu. The training was held by Mr. Mohamed Almoghayer, Communications & Partnerships Specialist at the UNDP Regional Service Centre for Arab States in Amman and focused on understanding the best ways to effectively and efficiently communicate strategically across all levels. It included best practices of communications with diplomacy, how to communicate in a virtual world, and written communications etiquette, among many other things. On 25-26 November, three government officers from the Aid Coordination Unit and SOMINVEST (Somali Investment Promotion Agency, associated to the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development) participated in the Executive Programme on Blended Finance & Impact Investment held in Amman, Jordan. Participants rated the training, which served to strengthen interest of the government and understanding of participants of different options of financing for development, as satisfactory. In December, the Risk Management Unit of the UN Integrated Office in Somalia delivered a training on Risk Management & Use of Country Systems, which benefited 19 Government officers from the Aid Coordination Unit and the Office of the Prime Minister and the training was rated as satisfactory or very satisfactory by more than 80% of participants. This training is expected to be the first of a series in response to the strong interest of the government of strengthening the capacity of the Office of the Prime Minister in risk management.

Reporting against Sub-Outcome 2 – Monitoring NPS, MAF and UCS implementation

Output 2.1. Improved national capacity to monitor NPS, MAF and UCS

During the reporting period, focused on setting up and strengthening systems that ensured the implementation of the different components of the Somalia aid architecture.

The ACU organized an Aid Effectiveness Workshop on 16 September 2019 in which options for a refined aid architecture aligned to the government roadmaps and the NDP 9 resulting of consultations with SDRF and CAS membership were presented and discussed. Key processes and arrangements related to strategic focus, coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement were addressed. The workshop was followed by a High-Level meeting between H.E. Prime Minister, high level government officers and Heads of Development Cooperation



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Agencies to discuss on the need to align aid to national development and stabilization priorities, increase the use of country systems and share risk.

The Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) has been positioned as the key tool to measure progress in the implementation of must-not-fail benchmarks related to the implementation of the four government roadmaps and NDP 9 pillars (Inclusive Politics, Economic Development, Social Development, and Security and Justice), besides the Partnership Principles commonly agreed between the Federal Government of Somalia and the international community. The MAF guided discussions of the Somali Partnership Forum which was successfully organized in October. In the preparations of the forum the MAF Task Force met several times and agreed on specific monitorable benchmarks to be achieved during the period 2019-2020. Earlier, a draft report of progress in implementation of 2018 benchmarks was produced. The SPF was organized on 1-2 October. It is the highest platform for strategic political dialogue between the Government of Somalia and the international partners. The first day of the Somalia Partnership Forum mainly focused on the thematic discussions of the government roadmap key pillars. In the end, a Mutual accountability Framework (MAF) outlining shared commitments by the government and international partners in the five thematic areas for 2019-2020 was endorsed. It was agreed that the MAF will be regularly monitored. The MAF task force will take the lead in the monitoring of the implementation of the commitments. Pillar working groups of the refined aid architecture will contribute in this effort.

To ensure that aid flows are analyzed and reported, the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development, with project support, undertakes an annual aid flow data collection and analysis process. The Somali Aid Flow Report 2019 (with data collected in 2018) was publicly disseminated in Quarter 3. In September aid data was collected from donor and implementing partner agencies. During Quarter 4 data was validated and a preliminary aid flow analysis drafted, but not yet validated by the end of the reporting period. Data collected and analyzed in Quarter 4 has been used by the Ministry of Finance in the budgeting process and fed into the Aid Information Management System.

The Aid Information Management System has been developed and was going undergoing several validation tests by the end of 2019. The initial plan was to have it launched in December back-to-back to the launch of the NDP 9. The postponement of the launch of the NDP 9 resulted also in the postponement of the launch of the AIMS, which is now expected in early 2020. After the launch a training of user agencies will be conducted, as well as of the ICT Unit in the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development, which will host the AIMS.

Other Key Achievements

The convening of meetings between the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States in the



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different platforms such as the Pillar Working Groups. SDRF SC as well as the SPF can be commended for strengthening and aiding the coming together of stakeholders who at times would not have met or sat down to discuss development matters on Somalia. The openness with which discussions on national development, structures and financing is important as it ensures growth and improvements in the different partnerships between the FGS, the FMS, civil society and the international community.

Challenges (incl: Delays or Deviations) and Lessons Learnt:

Several operational challenges have been identified which affect the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the department. These relate to day-to-day challenges of the Aid Coordination Unit and of the SDRF and they are as followed:

Funding challenges: The funding situation remained precarious for staff working at the ACU. The project has supported salaries of ACU Federal Member States' 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 take care of the salaries for these staff members so that the aid coordination function becomes sustainable. By the end of the reporting period, this had not come to fruit. 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.

Political challenges: At different periods in 2019, there were political clashes between the FGS and one or the other Federal Member States. Notable ones were between the FGS and Jubaland as well as Puntland on issues related to elections. While these differences did not scuttle the aid coordination processes, they made contributions and cooperation difficult. Over the course of the reporting period, became difficult to engage with the FMS especially and their participation in SDRF SC and PWG meetings was reduced. However, FMS were consulted and provided positive feedback in the process of refinement of the aid architecture.

Logistical matters: The Aid Coordination Unit had one operational vehicle for all its tasks. This proved to be insufficient to provide effective support to local transport, particularly those days in which more than one event was organized in Mogadishu.

Office Equipment: The ACU noted that its electronic equipment was obsolete and old and thus made it difficult to work for most of its staff members. The internet connectivity for the ACU was noted to be often slow. The ACU plans to have a website when the refined aid architecture is approved.

Security challenges: Mogadishu is inundated with security threats on a daily basis. Due to the unpredictability of security threats, there is the risk that meetings are cancelled at the very last minute when Federal Member States'



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representatives have already travelled to Mogadishu.

Peacebuilding impact *(for Joint Programmes receiving PBF funding only)*

N/A

Catalytic effects *(for Joint Programmes receiving PBF funding only)*

N/A

Gender

Progress in advancing the gender equality agenda under the leadership of the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development in 2019 was recorded. The achievements included the submission of the Initial State Party Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the signature of letters of Agreement with Federal Member States; House of the People and Upper House and Office of Attorney General under the Joint Programme through which these entities follow up on Government's human rights and gender obligations; or the launch of the Somalia Women's Charter (and Convention), the representation of the Somali Government in key forums as well as in international events such as the Oslo Conference on Combatting Sexual Violence. Pillar Working Group 9 on Human Rights and Gender met on several occasions during the reporting period. A number of relevant gender equality issues were discussed, including preparations of the National Somali Women Convention, which successfully took place in Mogadishu in the first week of March. The landmark Women's Charter for Somalia was issued by the delegates at the three-day event. The Women's Charter issued at the Convention calls for full inclusion of women across the political, economic and social spectrum in Somalia, as well as for fifty per cent quota across all three levels of government, including in the security and in the public administration sectors, for zero gender-based violence, and for women's rights to be enshrined in the revised Constitution and in the finalized electoral, security and political laws. Moreover, socio-economic rights in the form of women's equal access to land, economic opportunities and technologies, to ensure long term resilience and stability is also a key priority. Inputs to the Charter were given over the three days of the Convention by 300 delegates from FGS and FMSs' women and youth groups' representatives, disability organizations, private sector, and members of academia from across the Federal Member States.

With regards the human resources aspect, the Aid Coordination Unit filled two vacancies during this period for the positions of SPF & SDRF Coordination and Reporting and Communications officers. The recruitment process was conducted in line with both the UNDP and ACU agreed procedures. The selection of two women for these



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positions contributes two improved gender parity in the unit.

Internally, the Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister, Ahmed Nur held a meeting with all of the female staff of the OPM in order to establish a platform where they can come together and share dialogue regarding any and all grievances they may have. The first meeting was held in the ACU’S conference hall on 16 June, 2019 where thirty-five women came together for the first time. The PS emphasized the need for greater female political participation at various levels within the government. Nur discussed several relevant gender equality issues such as: the importance of acknowledging the challenges and difficulties women face on a daily basis within the workplace; the importance of establishing a gender unit or platform within the office, finalizing a technical committee that can work and take responsibility and the lead role on identifying and addressing the needs of women; working towards strengthening the capacity of women advocacy organizations and looking for opportunities to engage in national discussion and policies. By the end of the meeting, the technical committee was established, with the committee consisting of a good mix of female advisors as well as civil servants.

Proportion of gender specific outputs in Joint Programme ¹⁸	Total no. of Outputs	Total no. of gender specific Outputs
	3	2
Proportion of Joint Programme staff with responsibility for gender issues (<i>as of end of 2019</i>) ¹⁹	Total no. of Staff	Total no. of staff with responsibility for gender issues
	18	2 ²⁰

Human Rights

The project does not have any specific output directly aimed at promoting human rights. However, it supports the functioning of the aid coordination framework, an inclusive space for multi-stakeholder dialogue that also includes pooled funding mechanisms and aims at promoting aid effectiveness. The project supports the implementation of the National Development Plan, which mainstreams promotion of human rights, and the functioning of the Pillar Working Group 9 on Human Rights and Gender Equality, which brings together under the leadership of the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development multiple stakeholders to discuss,

¹⁸ Gender Specific Outputs are those that are specifically designed to directly and explicitly contribute to the promotion of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.

¹⁹ Staff members are those contracted to undertaken 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.

²⁰ The ACU Gender & Human Rights Pillar Working Group Coordinator, and the ACU Director



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prioritize actions and monitor implementation of projects and programs aimed at achieving human rights outputs stated in the National Development Plan. The NDP and other frameworks largely pin their work on the United Nations' achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals which, among others, focuses on economic, social and cultural rights such as the right to food, water, gender equality as well the right to peace. The work carried out by the ACU in managing and coordinating aid in Somalia seeks to achieve these same human rights and development goals. Some of the human rights achievements discussed and followed up by the PWG 9 in 2019 are the submission of the Initial State Party Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and of the State Party Report on the Convention against Torture (the first in 29 years since ratification); the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; the passing of the disability Agency Law; the establishment of the Temporary Selection Committee which identified and submitted 9 candidates to Cabinet for membership of the Human Rights Commission; the establishment of a joint cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Security on FGS obligations under the Mine Ban Treaty, including consultations on and development of the victim assistance plan presented at the Oslo Review Conference; the submission of Mid-Term Review report highlighting key positive developments by the FGS on its commitments under the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review; or the MoU signed with Qatar on support to national implementation of human rights obligations 2019.

Has the Joint Programme included a protection risk assessment in its context analysis, including on gender issues, and taken measures to mitigate these risks to ensure they are not exacerbated, or new risks created?	Result (Yes/No)
	NO
No. of Joint Programme outputs specifically designed to address specific protection concerns.	Result (No.)
	0
No. of Joint Programme outputs designed to build capacity of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations towards rights holders.	Result (Number)
	0
Other	
Does the Joint Programmes have a national cost-sharing component (i.e. funds and/or other resources provided by the FGS and/or FMS (including in-kind contributions)? (if 'Yes', describe below).	Results (Yes/No)
	NO
Have FMS(s) been engaged in one or more of the following: design, planning, implementation, coordination and/or monitoring of the Joint Programme.	Results (Yes/No)
	YES



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Describe nature of cost sharing:

N/A

Communications & Visibility

The Aid Coordination Unit organizes meetings of all SDRF aid coordination bodies, namely Pillar Working Groups, SDRF Steering Committee and the Somali Partnership Forum. For the later one, which is the highest-level political body of the facility, ACU/OPM assures high level visibility. The ACU is active on social media platform – Twitter and uses the handle @acusomalia. Thus far, the handle has 353 Tweets and 2415 Followers from across all walks of life as well as in the diaspora and at home in Somalia. Evidence of meetings, engagements can also be found in the pictures section on the twitter handle. The ACU continues to work on setting up its own website.

Looking ahead

A refined aid architecture aligned to the ninth National Development Plan and the four Government Roadmaps is expected to be endorsed in the first SDRF SC meeting of 2020, foreseen in February. The preferred option by government has been shared with development partners, who are expected to provide feedback which help reach a final agreement. Once the aid architecture is endorsed, efforts will be focused in establishing the new proposed structures and start implementation. The refined aid architecture is expected to be nimbler than the current one, as the number of working groups will be reduced (in line with the lower number of pillars of the new National Development plan), as well as the frequency of meetings. This is a widely extended request amongst SDRF membership. This simplification of the architecture may translate into reduced implementation costs, which will impact the budget of the aid management & coordination project, whose budget may have to be adjusted accordingly.

In the SDRF survey conducted by the Aid Coordination Unit in 2019, it was noted that the improvement of the aid architecture could take into consideration issues pertaining the participation of the FMS by for example, ensuring that future SDRF Meetings were held in the different FMS capitals or providing VTC connectivity Another suggestion was that the FMS could have a stronger role in agenda setting for the SDRF. A further suggestion was made that FMS should have prior meetings in their respective capitals so that they are able to present clearer and focused plans in the SDRF meetings.



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ANNEX 1. RISK MANAGEMENT

This section can be used to update or use the risk logs developed during the project development stage and provide any mitigation measures being undertaken by the project. (State whether the risk is from the ProDoc or is new, whether the Joint Programme was exposed during the reporting period (2019) and what specific mitigation measures were applied.

Type of Risk ²¹	Description of Risk	Mitigating Measures
Political	Change of Ministers and senior staff in the Ministries	There have been no changes of ministers and senior staff positions in the two main government institutions supported by the project (OPM and MOPIED). Political disagreements between FGS and FMS has resulted in reduced participation of FMS in SDRF meetings. As a mitigation measure, ACU has kept communicating and sharing information with FMS and is planning to organize a FGS mission to all FMS to improve their engagement in the national aid architecture.
Security	Serious deterioration of the security situation	The situation is closely monitored, and instructions by DSS are followed although it comes with a heavy financial burden.
Coordination	Lack of agreement on coordination and cooperation arrangements	The project has recruited an international and a national consultant who have reviewed existing aid coordination and management arrangements in Somalia and are carrying out consultations to capture views and expectations of State and non-

²¹ Environmental; Financial; Operational; Organizational; Political; Regulatory; Security; Strategic; Other.



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		State actors for a refined aid architecture which is aligned to the NDP 9 and the roadmaps.
Operational	Delay in Recruitment of project management and International and national full-time technical staff	Recruitment is planned well in advance, and engaging HR contractors is explored to ensure timely deployment of required staff- both national and international.
Technical assistance	Absence of qualified consultants to implement the assignments	UNDP is using its rosters for the present assignment as well as a recruitment company. This has allowed to recruit international consultant for the refinement of aid architecture. ToRs of consultancies are shared and agreed with project board members.
Capacity	Capacity to absorb change is slower than rate of delivering change	ACU has identified capacity development needs (including system and policy development) based on recommendations of independent capacity assessments and is requesting the project to respond to these priorities.
Adaptation to changing environment	Scope creep / changing requirements	Program management monitors short project stages to enable adjustments and better management of scope, given the volatile political and security situation and changing environment.
Programme management	Programme Board failure	Project board has enough authority to make decisions on strategy and budget.
Aid architecture	There is a tendency to develop coordination arrangements for different ‘programmatic’ entries in separation from the Aid Coordination Architecture. Aid Architecture becomes too	Continuous advocacy for a simple and single aid coordination structure is being conducted. A survey has been carried out to understand perception of Somali institutions, stakeholders and



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	fragmented with multiplicity of arrangements hindering efficiency and engagement in NDP aid structure and driving costs upwards which may not be met by current Joint Project	partners on the aid architecture and how it can be improved.
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ANNEX 2. MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES <list here the monitoring and oversight activities undertaken during reporting period (2019).

Monitoring Activity	Date	Description & Comments	Key Findings / Recommendations
Micro assessment audit as mandated by the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) framework of the UNDP	March 2019	Areas subject to assessment were human resources, finance, procurement, asset management, cash management, and general administration.	ACU has been rated as “satisfactory” overall on a scale of satisfactory/unsatisfactory/not applicable. This is the first time, in relation with past audits or assessments, that there were no new weaknesses noted.
Federal Government of Somalia’s annual audit by the Office of the Auditor General	Feb 2019	The Office of the Auditor General conducted assessment on the wider OPM including ACU around human resources, finance, procurement, asset management, cash management, and general administration.	ACU has been rated “satisfactory”. However, there were two reporting weaknesses highlighted regarding government reporting procedures.
The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of UNDP	August 2019	Independent Country Program Evaluation	UNDP has been central to the design of the first aid coordination architecture in the country, manages one of the three trust funds (MPTF) and through the Effective Institutions portfolio (SIP project) supported the establishment of the Aid Coordination Unit (ACU).



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ANNEX 3. TRAINING DATA

#	Target Group		Dates	# of participants			Title of the training	Location of training	Training provider
	Ministry. District or UN staff	Others		M	F	Total			
1	ACU		3 March 2019	9	2	11	Monitoring and Evaluation training	Istar, MIA, Mogadishu	Pau Blanquer: UNDP
2	ACU	OPM	21 March 2019	10	7	17	Financial Management Training	Mogadishu	Yosief Abraha, UNDP
3	ACU and OPM Communications Department		18 – 19 June 2019	12	3	15	Strategic Communications training workshop	SKA, MIA, Mogadishu	Mohammed Almoghayer: UNDP Regional Service Centre for Arab States
4	ACU	SOMINVEST	25 – 26 Nov 2019	2	1	3	Blended Finance and Impact Investment	Amman, Jordan	UNDP Jordan, University of Zurich
45	ACU	OPM	15 – 16 December	7	7	14	Risk Management Training	SKA, MIA, Mogadishu	Merita Jorgo, Abas Abdi and



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#	Target Group		Dates	# of participants			Title of the training	Location of training	Training provider
	Ministry. District or UN staff	Others		M	F	Total			
			2019						Dirk Stoelherst, UN IO
				40	20	60			